OUR ALMA MATER.

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"OUR ALMA MATER."

OUR present issue is the first number of a new volume. Begun in December, 1886, *Our Alma Mater* was published annually till '94, in which year it appeared at mid-winter also. In that year, too, its shape was changed from ordinary book form to its present size, and various other improvements were effected. For the design on the cover of the present number, our sincerest thanks are due to Mr. Forster, S.J., of St. Aloysius College, from whom we have already received many kind favours.

This number contains interesting accounts of the Ex-Students' Union; an article on Paris from the pen of Dr. Beattie, one of our warmest friends; and another on the good work effected by Father Ring in London from Mr. Plummer, who is ever kind and ready to contribute to our columns. Our Ex-Students also have supplied us with many items, and we have especially to thank Mr. Henry Keating and Mr. Chris. Brennan for their kindnesses. In doing this we wish to call the attention of our Ex-Students to the fact that the pages of *Our Alma Mater* are always open, and that it is to their interest, no less than ours, that our magazine should be a success no less in point of interesting reading matter than finances. For this end we would ask them to contribute to our funds, and by circulating the present number among their friends, gain for us new patrons and subscribers.

The year just completed has, on the whole, been most successful in every way. At the University Junior Examinations we secured high places, a medal, and a *proxime*; and at the examinations conducted within the College, the marks obtained have, in most cases, been higher than those of previous years. On the score of games we have upheld the honour of Riverview. The victory of our Rowing Club restores us to our old position as head of the River; whilst our success in cricket, football, and shooting, although not quite so brilliant as we deserve, still assures us that our *Alma Mater* has not departed from its first determination of being in the van.

What now remains for each and everyone of us is to be loyal to our colours, and, standing close together, strive to place the name of Riverview above all others. No boy can be said to be a true Riverviewer unless he sacrifices himself for the general good, sinks all party interest, and works manfully for the common end. In the school-room, as well as on the play-ground, he is called upon to unite with others, and in doing so, for a time at least, to lay aside his own aspirations; but when the victory comes, he can feel satisfaction in the thought that the victory of all is the victory of each, as the sacrifice of each was the sacrifice for all.

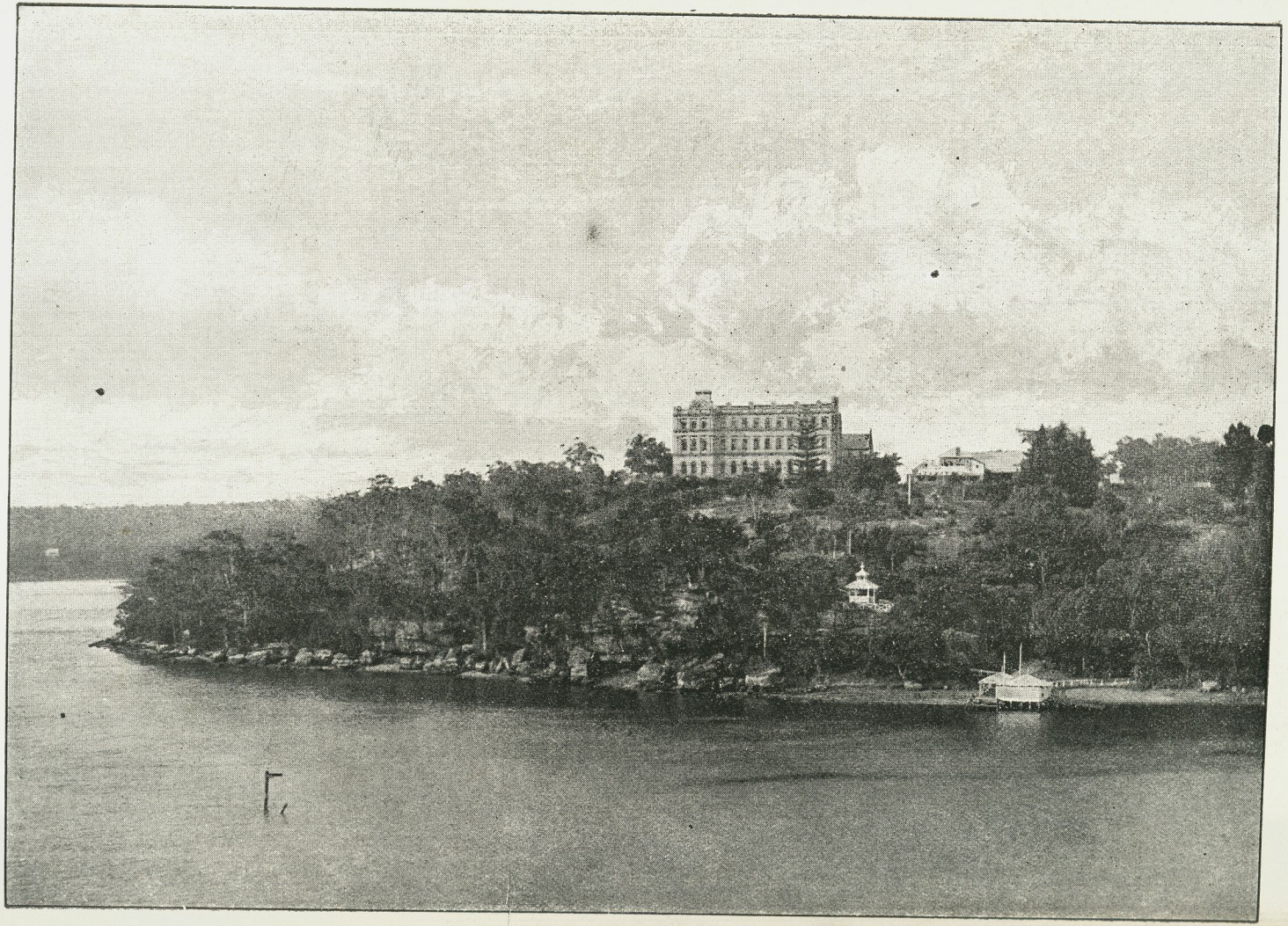
WISDOM.

BECAUSE he felt against his hundred years
The beating of the wings of Azrael,
The Master, wakeful over Afrit fears
To build the Temple, incorruptible,

Palm-propt on guile of cedarn wand, uprears
His dreadful stature in the crystal cell
That thence, tho' death unsaint their Magian spheres,
Erect, his eyes should dwell, implacable.

So, when at length the worm-pierced cedar snapt,
And at the sound of his great fall the Djinns
Sail'd clamorously towards Eblis, disabused,

Long since his temple-tomb had stood, and apt
Where we might feel the night that haunts our sins
Vaster, that once a mighty spirit mused.



OUR ALMA MATER.

NOON.

FIRE in the heaven and fire along the hills,
And fire made solid in the flinty stone
Thick-mass'd or scatter'd pebble, fire that fills
The breathless hour that lives in fire alone.

This valley, long ago the patient bed
Of floods that carv'd its ancient amplitude,
In stillness of the Egyptian crypt outspread
Endures to drown in noon-day's tyrant mood.

Behind the veil of burning silence bound
Vast life's innumerous busy littleness
Is hush'd in vague-conjectured blur of soun
That dulls the brain with slumbrous weight, unless

Some dazzling puncture let the stridence throng
In the cicada's torture-point of song.

C. BRENNAN.

THE MISSION OF THE ENGLISH MARTYRS.

AN OBJECT LESSON FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS.

OF the hundreds of students who have left Riverview for the purpose of commencing the battle of life, and found their way to the "old country" with the view of winning success in the professional pursuits to which they may have devoted themselves, I wonder how many have become acquainted with that part of the British metropolis lying within the shadow of the Tower of London. To myself it is a familiar region, for I was born within a stone's throw of the place of execution, the scene of so many cruel martyrdoms, and as a lad became intimate with many of the historic spots within the venerable fortress, from the ramparts of which might be obtained a glimpse of the vast human warren, stretching away from the Tower moat, then a muddy ditch, far away beyond the Mint, in the direction of Whitechapel and Ratcliff Highway.

Here, half a century ago, was to be found a motley population of Jews, Irish, and representatives of almost every nationality under the sun; a people among whom drunkenness and irreligion were rife, and who formed the despair of the social reformer. There were public houses of the lowest type in abundance, and scenes of riotous violence were frequent. The priests attached to the various Catholic chapels did what little they could to promote a better state of things among those who recognised their religious ministrations, but the first indications of improvement became apparent when Father Matthew, the great temperance reformer, appeared on the scene. His impassioned oratory had a great influence on Catholics and Protestants alike. I have seen him head a procession several thousand strong to the place of meeting, and at his bidding the whole of the vast assemblage would kneel, each repeating the words of the temperance pledge and making the sign of the Cross.

So great was the social improvement effected by the labours of Father Matthew, one of the world's truest heroes, that several attempts were made to follow up the good work, one of the most successful being that known as the Mission of the English Martyrs, which arose out of the labours of a Catholic association known as "The Society for the Relief of Distress." The secretary was William Gilbert, father of W. S. Gilbert, of comic opera fame, but it included Catholics and Protestants alike within its range of operations, which were perfectly unsectarian. Its members comprised individuals of both sexes, moving in the highest walks of society, and—here comes the object lesson for Catholic students, not only at Riverview, but all the world over—these great-hearted men and women made it their duty to make periodical, unostentatious visits among the Catholic poor, relieving all deserving cases, and doing their best to encourage them to make their homes as bright and cheerful as their circumstances would admit. But the people thus assisted never knew who their visitors were—that the kind-hearted lady who brought a pair of shoes for the baby was a peeress of the realm, or the sympathising gentleman who promised to secure a place for the eldest boy was an officer in Her Majesty's Guards. Yet so it was; and very proud were the unknown visitors of the humble, yet sincere, friendships made by them.

Then came the idea of establishing a centre of missionary effort, the practical result being the organisation of the Mission of the English Martyrs, the presiding spirit of which was Father Ring, whose devotion to the good work did much to insure its success, but who subsequently perished, with Lord Farnham and others, in the disastrous railway accident at Abergele. He told me that his idea was to do everything in his power to promote the spiritual and material welfare of the East London Irish, leaving other religious denominations to look after their own people. "If every man swept



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his own doorway," he said, "we would soon have a clean street."

The marvellous changes effected by Father Ring and his fellow missionaries awakened my admiration, and, although belonging to another creed, I promised to assist him in every way possible, especially in giving publicity to the good work in which he was engaged. In this I was assisted by two friends of mine, the late Earl of Denbigh and Lady Georgina Fullerton, who laboured enthusiastically to promote the success of the mission, which, starting in a private house in Goodman's Fields, rapidly grew until it was found necessary to build a large school, the formal opening of which, by the Princess Marguerite d'Orleans, was an event long to be remembered in the neighbourhood. For once sectarian animosity was conquered, and on the platform, side by side with leading Catholic prelates, stood the Protestant rector of the parish; Sir John Bennett, Protestant sheriff of London; and several prominent Protestants residing in the neighbourhood, all of whom bore enthusiastic testimony to the value of the work achieved by the mission.

The mission has prospered exceedingly since that time. It has a beautiful church, commodious schools, and a large band of devoted workers, who have assisted in making the Irish population of East London one of the most orderly and progressive communities in the United Kingdom, a result of which those who have done so well in giving effect to the wishes of Father Ring may well be proud.

Now for the moral. If English noblemen and ladies of high degree, poets, painters, scientific men, and others did not think it beneath them to assist the humbler members of the ancient faith, why should the Riverview students in their after life not feel tempted to follow the example? It would be a grand thing if each old Riverview student were to say to himself, "Let me devote a few hours in each week to doing what I can to promote the happiness of my poorer fellow men, to smoothing the thorny path of the weak and suffering; to encouraging the despondent, and diffusing the blessed light of charity throughout the world." "Many a mickle makes a muckle," as the Scottish philosopher says, and mankind would be all the better for it.

JOHN PLUMMER.

Northwood,
Lane Cove River.

GENERAL NOTES.

THE Intercollegiate University boat race, though rowed during the Midwinter vacation, proved interesting to the boys who remained at College. St. John's crew won easily, a result which again reflects credit on our oarsmen, as, out of the five occupants of the boat, three were past Riverviewers.

At the junior examinations this year we were fairly successful. Cecil Loneragan secured the University medal for Greek, and William Campbell was *proxime* in English. The muses, it seems, have an especial affection for Riverview, as we are generally able to publish at Christmas the portrait of our Greek medallist.

St. Ignatius Day was passed very pleasantly. Although the weather was not all that could be desired, still our outing proved enjoyable. At the invitation of the authorities we paid a visit to H.M.S. Royal Arthur, and inspected all the *apparatus belli*. Then we steamed towards Manly to experience some of the effects of the late storm. In the evening a cinematographic entertainment brought a pleasant play day to a close.

When we returned after the holidays we noticed that many familiar faces were missing, and amongst others that of our old friend and master, Mr. Golding, S.J., who had left for Europe to complete his studies. On September 29th Father Maher, S.J., arrived from Ireland, and accompanying him was Father Brennan, S.J., who will be remembered by many of the old boys.

The Saturdays and Sundays before the Association Regatta were busy days on our river. The various clubs from Sydney came up to practise, and amongst the members we noticed many old friends and ex-students. Percy Power seems not to have lost any of that resonance of voice for which he was remarkable at our debates, nor has his gift of persuasion at all been left uncultivated, as was evidenced by the way in which he coxed the University Eight.

On Sunday, September 17th, we had a visit from his Lordship Dr. Murray, and in honour of it a full play-day on the following Tuesday.

On the Feast of the Assumption, to keep up a good old custom, a paper chase was an-

nounced. After morning study all assembled, and the hares selected were Michael Gleeson and Robert Douglas, this time the Hehirs being among the hounds. The direction of Willoughby was taken, but in spite of their fleetness they were out-distanced after a good run.

On St. Stanislaus Day a pleasant surprise had been prepared for us by the Rector. Classes had begun as usual, when at about ten minutes past nine the large bell began to ring. A joyous shout went up when it was announced that there would be a picnic to Clontarf. We are afraid, however, that a plot had been suspected, for many questions were asked as to when schools would end. The day turned out beautifully fine, and the trip down the harbour was most enjoyable. Many of us spent our time playing cricket, whilst others went for short rambles in the bush, or walks upon the sandy beach. At half-past five the signal to return was given, and at seven we were back again at Riverview.

Our candidates for the Senior Examinations this year were :—J. Coen, P. Griffin, P. Dalton, A. McKillop, and A. Walker. The results have just been published, and, as we expected, are highly satisfactory. We publish elsewhere a detailed list.

The competition in the Class Championship Examinations this year was very keen, as may be seen from the high percentage of marks obtained all round. We sincerely congratulate the successful ones, and expect to see next year even a harder struggle for the much coveted gold medal. We would advise all who are intent upon securing it that a good start goes a long way to winning a race, and no amount of intention is useful unless assisted by hard work.

PARIS!

(A Sketch in Black and White.)

NÔTRE DAME.

FIRST COMMUNION DAY.

EASTERTIDE in Paris! A keen joyance is in the morning air, crisp and invigorating; laden with vernal blossom, suffused in sunshine, and vocal with the song of bird. Light showers during the night have made everything look fresh and beautiful and in holiday garb. It is early yet, but already the thrifty citizen is astir, and hither and thither the human stream begins to trickle through rue and avenue and boulevard, where, by-and-bye, it will surge in impetuous torrent, with that composite and indescribable hum, rolling ever on in quest of pleasure or of gain.

I am on my way to the far-famed Cathedral of Nôtre Dame. Some others there are of apparently similar destination. As one approaches this venerable Gothic fane, it takes but a brief space to realise that the glorious façade now before us, so strikingly impressive, is one of the most beautiful and perfect specimens in existence of mediæval architecture; as its history is also one of the most varied interest among the Christian churches of the world.

The central spire, soaring to a height of over three hundred feet, with its magnificent and superbly-picturesque rose-window and massive square tower on either side, the noble line of regal figures appropriately adorning the Cathedral of the Capital of France; the grotesque gargoyles on the gallery beneath the towers, and parallel with the roof-ridge; and surmounting all, the Mighty Angel of Judgment, sounding the Trump of Doom; each detail of the exterior of this majestic and sublime edifice stands in distinct outline against the bright blue sky. A modern author has well observed, "the strength of its mighty canopy, the noble proportions of its front, its great shadows and saliences, its vast scheme of ribs, piers, and far-stepping buttresses, balance and make a harmony like solid music."

Irresistibly does the contrast force itself between the clear morning air of fair and favoured Paris and the fogs and vapours that wrap the dome of St. Paul's, and, in the London dawn, bedim classic Westminster in their sombre hues.

Solemn and deep tolls the great bell as I enter within the historic precincts, and tread my way along one of the five naves that run the whole length of the building. I take a place among a group of worshippers in one of the side-chapels, where an altar is lighted for the celebration of Mass. Presently, slowly approaches a venerable priest, bent with the weight of years, and vested for the ceremony. He is preceded by two youthful acolytes. How many years, I wonder, has this aged saint ascended those altar steps! For more than half a century of summer and winter mornings have these consecrated hands been extended there in suppliance. Generations have come and gone, and governments and dynasties have

fallen since his big manly voice first uttered the immemorial words, *Introibo ad altare Dei, qui laetificat juventutem meam*, and now the voice is childish treble, the lissome limbs are feeble, and the snows of eighty years crown a brow wrinkled and placid and pale. Well may he appear the *genius loci*, yet his span is but of yesterday, and hundreds of celebrants like him have served from youth to age for nearly eight hundred years, from the sainted pastor, Maurice de Sully, down to the latest successor of our own day, within those hallowed walls.

The vicissitudes of its chequered past awake the reverent sympathy as well as the awe and and horror of the visitor to Nôtre Dame. Over the ancient portals, as one enters, aggressively conspicuous and incongruous, emblazoned in ominous rouge, the legend is obtruded, "Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité." Hence horrible shadow! unreal mockery! spurious claptrap! depraved platitude, for ever associated in the minds of honest men, in the words of Edmund Burke, with the extinction of chivalry and the advent of an age of sophisters, calculators and economists. Here and there may be observed evidences where in the course of ages the sculpture of this world-renowned church had suffered demolition. The culmination of its indignities, however, was reached in the Reign of Terror, 1793, when the last deep cup of wrath was drained to the dregs. The notorious Convention of this period desecrated here the High Altar of God by the blasphemous enthronement thereon of a scandalous ballet-singer, Madame Maillard, as the goddess of Reason, whom all present were commanded to adore.

Sir Archibald Alison, referring to this dark episode, makes the following reflection: "After being embraced by the President, she was mounted on a magnificent car, and conducted, amidst an immense crowd, to the Cathedral of Nôtre Dame, *to take the place of the Deity*. There she was elevated on the High Altar, and received the adoration of all present. A number of young women belonging to the opera, all of bad character, were her attendants, and so disgraceful and licentious were the scenes witnessed in the noble building thus desecrated, that even Robespierre afterwards declared 'that Chaumette, the ringleader in this sacrilege, deserved death for the abominations he had permitted on that occasion.'"

The opening of the century now drawing to a close saw the restoration of our holy religion in this sacred temple, and in 1802, on Easter Sunday, the glorious notes of the *Te Deum* resounded once again through the vast edifice, and Cardinal Caprava pronounced the Papal Benediction. As late as May, 1871, Nôtre Dame only escaped destruction as by a miracle, when the incendiary Communists piled up in the choir three hundred chairs and rubbish saturated in petroleum, with the diabolical intention of reducing to ashes the House of Prayer.

Once again we usher in a new century, and once yet again, within the old consecrated walls, in gratitude for the oft-manifested protection of the Most High, we sing aloud *Te Deum laudamus, Te Dominum confitemur.*

Unobserved by me whilst absorbed in these reveries, the centre of the vast Cathedral has been noiselessly thronging with happy faced children, boys and girls in their respective places. All appear similarly attired in white, with blue sashes and silver medals—the insignia of the Children of Mary or kindred sodalities. They are mustered in hundreds this morning under the tutelage of the good Christian Brothers and gentle Sisters of Charity.

These devoted Religious, some of whom look little older than the more grown of the children, can ill suppress their happiness on the present occasion. One can perceive somewhat of a struggle between their personal humility and a pardonable pride and self-gratulation in the issue of their work—the reverential demeanour of their numerous charges. This, then, is the Day of Days in the life of the young Catholic—First Communion Day. The day which the great Napoleon is said to have declared after all the battles, sieges, fortunes that he had passed, to be the happiest day of his whole life. Ah, look at those faces! What ardent spiritual love! What high and holy hope! What fervent faith! Devotion sovereign and soul-transfiguring manifested in each glowing feature, in every movement, in every glance.

Children of Mary, the Virgin Mother, gathered at the altar rails for the first time, to partake of the heavenly banquet of the Body and Blood of her son Jesus. Where else in this wide world may there be found such happiness as this? The brief record of their past holds no day so bright, so glorious, so divine; and in the unknown future, the blessedest, most memorable day shall in comparison with this be dull and dreary and chill. Yes! youths and maidens, ye of beaming face and sinless soul! There be times in our lives when one may weep for very joy. And in

the words of the great priest-poet, Faber, "O, could the transport last," then indeed were Paradise regained. What a Paris, what a Europe, what a world, if only our children and ourselves could continue ever thus! But soft. Hark to their united song, "*Laudate pueri Dominum*," now bursting into triumphal chant, and anon softening into soul-subduing melody. Lord! although I am not worthy, yet is it good for us to be here.

Above the luminous flood of a thousand tapers let the incense ascend in circling cloudlets to the pierced feet of the Crucified, and linger in sweet fragrance round the Tabernacle of Our Sacramental Lord. Swell full the vocal tide till from floor to dome its diapason ring and its echoes resound afar in an ocean-choir of crescent and refluent harmonies. *Et Verbum Caro factum est: et habitavit in nobis!* Mysterious yearnings of The Divinity to dwell among the children of men—on our altars and in our hearts. Marvellous instance of infinite appeal, dazzling the sense and entrancing the soul in this her hour of uttermost and supreme exaltation.

And now at length, after thanksgiving, while the silvery notes of the hymn usually concluding our Catholic worship float out in fading cadences over our low-bowed heads—*Laudate Dominum omnes Gentes*—I slowly depart from Nôtre Dame, with the music of Dante palpitating on my lips and in my heart.

"Then glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost
Rang aloud throughout all Paradise,
That with the song my spirit reeled
So passing sweet the strain:
And what I saw was equal ecstasy—
One universal smile it seemed of all things:
Joy past compare, gladness unutterable,
Imperishable life, and peace, and love,
Exhaustless riches, and immeasurable bliss."

J. A. Beattie.

PARIS—THE MORGUE.

HAVE you ever wandered in listless curiosity through the streets of a strange city? I have, and found a fascination in it.

New sights, new sounds, and—be it not omitted, more especially if the region approaches the Oriental—new smells. Multitudinous variety of scene and sensation, incessant vivacity of *va et vient*, sating eye, and ear, and brain in bewildering unfamiliarity. Not that the present is my first acquaintance with *la vie parisienne*. Years before I had spent a holiday in Paris, and at the time participated with a common eagerness in the milder dissipations and frivolities of the gay metropolis. I was young and knew no better then. Most people don't. It was *from*, not *to* Dover the proverbial goose had been sent, and, indeed, I must confess that in my instance, despite my first French experiences, I long retained more or less of my anserine character. All that was to be seen, of course, I saw. Saw uninquiringly and content with a surface glance. I invested in *fiacres* and *voitures* to an extent out of all proportion to my bursal resources; in fact, I requisitioned everything on wheels—automotors had not then arrived—from the bourgeois omnibuses rumbling in interminable procession along the grand boulevards to the more *distingué coupé* and pair which bore me, *en grand seigneur*, up and down the Rue de Rivoli, Avenue de l'Opéra, the Champs Elysées and the Bois de Boulogne. I have loitered before the sparkling wares exhibited in the shop windows of the fashionable thoroughfares, tarried in the mammoth bon-marchés, and sampled the resources of the numerous and luxuriously-appointed cafés. Hour after hour have I sauntered through the many public gardens and parks, and lazily listened to the military and other bands. Days have flitted by unobserved while exploring the never-tiring art treasures in the magnificent galleries of the Louvre, and in inspecting with mazy curiosity the countless objects of interest in the Musée Luxembourg and other famous repositories of Art, Science, and Natural History. The Eiffel Tower—that metallic Colossus—had not, at the date of my visit, reared its head aloft, like some mechanical giraffe, among the diminutive creatures of brick and mortar all round; but a survey of the civic panorama—unique and glorious—from the top of the Arc-de-Triomphe, is memorable among my recollections of Parisian enjoyment.

Visits to the Madeleine, the Mausoleum of Napoleon in the Invalides, the Grand Opéra, La Sainte Chapelle, the Panthéon, Conciergerie, Palais de Justice, The Trochadero, Comédie-Française, and hundreds of other places of more or less celebrity, including churches and theatres, I cannot now even enumerate, much less particularise. They are in a sort of hazy jumble in my memory. That peculiar jumble not unpleasing, and yet with just a tinge of regret. A jumble of super-added excitations, with a somewhat febrile cumulation and a languid rout.

Paris! gay, festive queen of cities, bright,

sparkling, æsthetic, and intensely alive. Seat of Lycées of every cult; of Académies of Music, of Letters, and of the Arts. Throne of the pleasures and the luxuries of life. Centre of embassies and equipages and all the dazzling *entourage* of the follies and the fashions of the world.

Would that I could stop here. But whither do I find myself wandering this calm afternoon along the bank of the placid, bridge-adorned Seine? What is this repugnantly plain and dismal building now confronting me with its square walls, its dull windows, and its dark and open door. This is the Morgue. I could have guessed it was immediately from the sinister something that seems to hang about the place. There is an illboding and unwholesome stillness brooding like a funeral pall over the house of death, portentous of the ruin within.

A few stragglers, shabby and occupationless, shamble about with a look of sullen misery.

One frequently encounters them in the neighbourhood of the Faubourg St. Antoine, about parts of Mont-Martre and such cloacal haunts of want and misery as the Rue des Saules, and other obscure and slimy boulevards of poverty-stricken Paris.

Those 'breadless, homeless starvelings,' for whom, says that miry and murky scribe, Zola, 'there is no place in the sunlight.' Units of the vague, swarming, despairing herd—spectres of destitution, apparitions of grief and fright—types of the pariahs of the slums of this mighty Babylon, nocturnal prowlers so well pourtrayed by M. O. d'Haussonville as *la clientèle du cabaret ou de la guinguette.*

I enter, following one of these, and instinctively doff my hat.

A glass partition runs midway along the whole length of the bare apartment, making a complete and equal division of this chamber doleful and dim. On the other side of the glass partition, out of reach of the public, may be observed a series of marble or stone blocks or tables of couch-like proportions, each fashioned with a cold, unyielding pillow, so elevated as to facilitate the fullest view of the face and form of a dead body laid upon it. Upon these gruesome couches, when burdened with a corpse, there flows a copious jet of iced water.

On the nearest bench I observe some remnants of female attire, pathetic relics of some ill-fated fellow-being vanished for ever into the void. There is a bedraggled hat with faded mud-spattered ribbon and sorry feather, and in front of a frowsy wisp of clothing is a lady's boot. Such articles are retained by the police for purpose of identification long after it has become necessary to dispose of the unrecognised and unrecognizable remains of the wearer. It not unfrequently happens, I am informed, that missing friends and relations have been traced by sorrowing enquirers here, through such stained and tattered habiliments as these. Perchance upon an afternoon as calm and sombre as this, some weary wayfarer with faltering step may enter here, and as he stands where I stand now, in the shock of a sudden revelation the storm-gates of pent-up grief shall be sundered, and the scalding tears of a bitter and irrevocable past well up from out an o'erfraught heart. I cannot help another wistful glance at this pitiful little boot. It was evidently no peasant foot which its superior construction and material had enclosed. No tread of age or infirmity is betokened in the wear. How wonderment guesses if the poor owner, now mouldering in nameless obscurity, were conscious of the cruel path in which her last luckless steps were bent, or was the delicate foot within this dusty cover outwearied in wandering over those long and lonely pavements, all garish and cheerless and strange. No one is there now to tell, and none to make the inquiry. Trivial memento of ended anguish and wretchedness, my eyes ache to look upon it. As I glance round I see exposed in rows in a large glass case upon the wall, numerous photographs of young and old of both sexes, and apparently of every social condition. Some have been quite recently added, and stare at the onlooker with a painfully sharp distinctness; others, etiolated and blurred from long exposure, have acquired an additional weirdness. All have been the victims of an untimely and violent end. Above this case is inscribed a single word of classification—brief, with a cold, a brutal brevity. The true official record, and yet how hatefully harsh it reads: "Inconnus." O, God! what hidden histories are here. Surely this is the saddest picture in all this sad, sad world. Unknown! unclaimed! Gone out of existence in misery and in pain, as if they had never been. Bright faces, too, among them, and young; features that were once lighted with words of sympathy and radiant with looks of love, bespeaking dumbly, yet with what eloquence, youth's buoyant hopes and sunny auspices. Some there are whose eyes of dreamy languor all too awfully betray the wild delirium of passion's lethal wine.

Gathered also here are lineaments of penury and age, with shrivelled, wrinkled, haggard

aspect—faces sinister and grim—as if glad with the furtive chuckle of despair to shuffle off their mortal coil, and incontinently ring down the drop-scene on the horror and the havoc of life's tragedy or farce. Terror hideous, exquisite, and unspeakable is stamped so vividly upon several of the portraits, that one cowers in affright at the death-shriek subjectively audible. And occasionally I come upon a visage of such demoniac criminality—so malignant and ferocious—so unsexed, simian, and ghoulish—so sin-distorted, livid, and blood-smeared, that even at this distance my gorge rises at the phantom.

Is it possible in this Christian land that so many citizens of high and low degree could have been done to death by 'cords or knives, poison or fire, or suffocating streams,' and not one of kith or kin to harken hither and give the wretch a name? Alas! unhouseled shades! each one of you was once the object of parental solicitude. You smiled with your fellows, grasped the hand of friendship, and whispered the accents of affection in childhood's happy days. And could it be that none of all that once were dear came for old time's sake while you held dumb reception in this tragic court, to pay the tribute of one last look, before your festering ashes were swept into the earth. O Asrael! angel of the dead! Is it not a fearful thought that human lives should be of such little account? What a stern and stark realization of our personal insignificance, the unreality of human brotherhood, the futility of human life! And yet, apart from the violated sentiment of our inevitable egoism, that in this connexion hath a little dashed our spirits, what does it really matter, oblivion being our destiny unshunnable and ultimate?

> The past is nothing, and at last
> The future can but be the past.

Abysmal indeed our hopelessness if this Byronic pessimism shrouded our souls. But the Divinity, stirring within us, points out that hereafter, and intimates that eternity, which as Catholic Christians we believe in and aspire to, and which the noblest Pagan philosophers dreamed of and sought after. "This pleasing hope" of Plato, "this fond desire, this longing after immortality, this variety of untried being, this wide, unbounded prospect."

Even here in the presence of the King of Terrors, with horrors accumulated on horror's head, beholding sights to make heaven weep—all earth amazed—so that nothing remains to be added to the deep damnation of the scene—Ay! even here can the depressed soul buoyantly respond to that sempiternal sentiment of humanity so nobly expressed by the Roman orator:—

* *Non enim temere nec fortuito sati et creati sumus.*

* * * * * * *

Portum potius paratum nobis et perfugium putemus.

But yesterday I knelt within a moment's walk of where I stand to-day, and within and around the hallowed walls of Nôtre Dame, the smile of Heaven wrapt in its suffusing beam my happy spirit. There and then I uttered the yearning plaint, "Oh! could the transport last." Now the polar extremity of contrast subdues and enthrals me as I dimly try to realise the counter-influence of sanctifying grace and ruin-wreaking sin, and the imminent co-existence of peaceful innocence and God-forgetting guilt. After all, in face of this direst calamity—even though destruction sicken—how tranquillising to the mind, perturbed and distraught by the mystery of life and death, comes the sweet echo of that prophetic voice from far-off Patmos:—

> "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and death shall be no more; nor mourning nor crying, nor sorrow shall be any more."

But stay! What is this object on the last stony couch which I am now approaching? A young sailor this morning found drowned in the Seine. The flush of youth is on his beardless cheek, and flaxen curls cluster in tangled knots upon his forehead. The lips are parted as in the smile of sleep, and the full blue eyes are wide, wide open, as in a trance. Yes, he is dead and cold and still. His seaman's tunic is sodden and awry, and weeds and sand are in its folds. The hands are begrimed with clay, and the fingers are semiflexed and seem to have been grasping something in the final effort for dear life, and his marble-white bosom is broad and bare. Had I come upon his recumbent figure elsewhere, I must have surely tried to awake him: even now I hold my own breath to catch a glimpse of the motion of his chest, and reluctantly abandon the illusion that he is about to speak, so natural is his look, so comely his almost girlish face, and his attitude so suggestive of rest after travel o'er stormy seas. O the pity of it! Alas! and alas! Who may speak the heart-piercing truth to the aged mother in the far-away home? Will she ever learn what became of him, and shall he, too, be numbered with the "Inconnus." Long has she lingered by the cottage door, and looked far down the

*Cicero, Tusc. Quaest i., 49.

lane, where, when spring smiled in the hedges, he waved her his last adieu. Ah! but the soughing of autumn winds and the rustle of withered leaves shall note the close of many long and weary days, and yet the brave boy shall not return. For ever hushed is the voice whose cheery laugh she loved, and rigid are those arms that shall embrace her never more. There he lies insensible to the gaze of passing strangers, and ere yet the ruthless finger of decay has commenced his cruel effacement, it is easy to yield to the persuasion of fancy that he is but dreaming of his boyhood's hours, 'mid woodbine trails and blooms of eglantine, and that he listens to the far-off chimes of village bells welcoming the wanderer home.

With throbbing head and aching heart I hasten from this scene of torture, and, passing out into the cool and quiet street, emotions of sympathy with my kind, deep and wide as the sea, stir my soul, while still pondering on the mystery of human anguish, and particularly upon such harrowing evidence of its presence in our great cities as the Paris Morgue.

J. A. Beattie.

CLASS CHAMPIONSHIP, 1899.

On Sunday, November 26th, at 8.45 a m., in the Junior Study Hall, in presence of Rev. Father Rector and the community, the results of the Class Championship competition for 1899 were announced. There was, as usual, much speculation beforehand as to the winner, and much excitement when the time for disclosure drew near. All the classes had dangerous representatives. It was said that Beattie, of Rudiments, was sure to win, provided Mulcahy, of II. Grammar, did not step in—not to mention the extreme likelihood of one of last year's champions, Brennan (II. Grammar), or Douglas (Juniors) carrying it off. Michael Veech, too, of III. Grammar, was perilously high last year. Then, too, there was Pat. Griffin (Seniors), a host in himself, and moreover, a veteran Medal-winner (he won the Gold Medal twice)—Aubrey Cahill (Sub-seniors), who came second a couple of years ago—Charlie Maher (Juniors), and a couple more from Rudiments. Amidst so many favourites, surmise was at a loss.

All then being duly assembled in the Junior Study Hall, the Junior half of the school facing North, the Senior half opposite them, facing South, the Community in a line at right angles, along the wall, the results were published.

The Prefect of Studies announced that forty-one boys had gone through the Examinations for the Class Championship. The average marks obtained were much higher than in previous years. The marks of the winners were the highest yet attained in this competition; according to the "Regulations," seventy per cent. on the total must be obtained, in order that the 3rd and 4th prizes be awarded. This year the 4th boy secures 78 per cent., and the winner of 1st place 83 per cent. The highest of previous years was 79 per cent., on which Patrick Dalton won the Gold Medal for II. Grammar in 1895. Before reading out the winners' names, the Prefect of Studies said that his knowledge of the work in the College during the past year enabled him to say—and he was glad to be able to say—that the prizes had gone to classes and to boys who deserved them, for their constant application and hard work; this was especially true of the first two names on the list.

In catechism, the highest marks were attained by Patrick Griffin (Seniors). Patrick Griffin (who finishes his course at Riverview this year), holds the unique distinction of having on two occassions, viz., in III. Grammar, 1894, and Juniors, 1896, won the Class Championship Gold Medal. This announcement produced an ovation of cheering in honour of Pat Griffin. The next highest scores in Catechism were those of Lionel M'Donald (Rudiments), and Francis Mulcahy (II. Grammar).

In Latin, 1st, Cecil Loneragan (Sub-Seniors); 2nd, Austin Curtin (Sub-Seniors). In French, Percy Beattie (Rudiments), George Dawson (Rudiments), Albert Walker (Seniors). In English, Hubert Chadwick (Sub-Seniors), James Murray (Juniors).

In Arithmetic William Brennan (II. Grammar), and Robert Douglas (Juniors), Charles Maher (Juniors), Charles Manning (Rudiments). Then came the result of this year's competition. Deafening cheers greeted the announcement that the Riverview Class Championship for 1899 had been won by the Class of RUDIMENTS; the First place and Gold Medal having been awarded to

Percival Beattie

of that class.

The Silver Medal, and the 3rd and 4th places were awarded as follows:—

2nd place and Silver Medal, Charles Maher, Juniors

3rd Prize in Books (£1), Francis Mulcahy, II Grammar.

4th Prize in Books (10s.), Aubrey Cahill, Sub-Seniors.



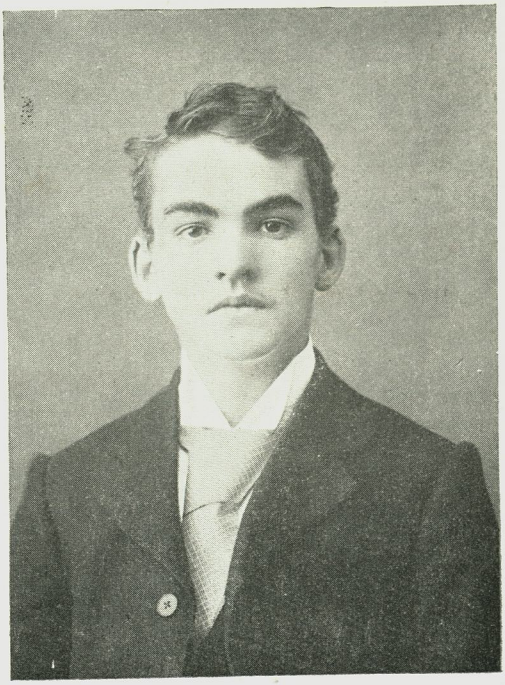
PERCY BEATTIE.
Gold Medal.



FRANCIS MULCAHY.
Third Prize.



AUBREY CAHILL
Fourth Prize.



CHARLES MAHER
Silver Medal

CLASS CHAMPIONS.

We subjoin the marks of the first 10 on the list:

NAMES.	Class.	Catechism.	Latin.	French.	English.	Arithmetic.	TOTAL.
		100	100	100	100	100	%
1. PERCIVAL BEATTIE ...	RUDIMENTS	90	83	92	63	87	83
2. Charles Maher	Juniors	73	80	77	81	89	80
3. Francis Mulcahy	II. Grammar	91	80	82	57	85	79
4. Aubrey Cahill	Sub-Seniors	86	76	70	76	82	78
5. Lionel McDonald... ...	Rudiments	91	83	70	69	72	77
6. George Dawson	Rudiments	90	70	86	68	66	76
7. William Brennan ...	II. Grammar	90	70	39	69	97	73
7. Robert Douglas	Juniors	80	72	44	74	95	73
8. Patrick Griffin	Seniors	95	60	77	57	66	71
9. Michael Veech	III. Grammar	82	69	68	64	67	70
10. Austin Curtin	Sub-Seniors	60	84	67	68	66	69

RIVERVIEW CLASS CHAMPIONS.

(From Reports in *Our Alma Mater.*)

Year.	Names.	Class.	Per cent.	Year.	Names.	Class.	Per cent.
1893—1st	BERTIE MCEVOY ...	SUB-SENIOR	72	1896—1st	PATRICK GRIFFIN...	JUNIOR	70
2nd	Ambrose Power ...	Junior	66	2nd	James Rynn ...	III. Gram.	65
3rd	Richard Loneragan	Sub-Senior	64	3rd	Mark Perraud ...	III. Gram.	63
4th	Patrick Dalton ...	Rudiments	63	4th	Patrick Dalton ...	Junior	60
1894—1st	PATRICK GRIFFIN..	III. GRAM.	69·5	1897—1st	PERCY POWER ...	SENIOR	71
2nd	Patrick Dalton ...	III. Gram.	69	2nd	Aubrey Cahill ...	II. Gram.	67
3rd	B. Norris	II. Gram.	67	3rd	Patrick Dalton ...	Sub-Senior	66
4th	J. Hentage	II. Gram.	65	4th	William Baker ...	Senior	62
1895—1st	PATRICK DALTON...	II. GRAM.	79	1898—1st	FITZROY MARMION	II. GRAM.	68
2nd	Mark Perraud ...	Rudiments		2nd	William Brennan ...	III. Gram.	67
3rd	James Heritage ...	Junior		3rd	Robert Douglas ...	II. Gram.	67
				4th	James Rynn ...	Junior	63

NOTES ON OUR EX-STUDENTS.

FRANK LYONS and A. J. Thynne, solicitors, have entered into partnership as "Lyons and Thynne" at Cairns, Queensland.

Major Lenehan threatens to add cricket to his other field accomplishments. "Bob" came into action on Sunday, the 19th November, about noon, at twenty-two yards. One round of blank was fired, and then, at the request of the umpire, the battery limbered up.

Fred Lawler, the great bat of the 1887 team of brilliant cricketers, has again taken up the game. He plays for Manly, and is showing good form.

Patrick Meagher, who played the part of Falstaff so well on the Riverview stage, holds a commission in the Irish Rifles.

H. F. McHugh, always an enthusiastic supporter of the Union, and looked upon as one of its leading musicians, has been promoted, and recently left Sydney for Wellington to take up his new duties.

E. B. Fitzpatrick is developing as an oarsman. He stroked the St. John's College crew to victory in the inter-collegiate race. In the John's boat P. Clifford rowed number two and P. Power coxed. At the Association Regatta "E. B." stroked the University crew, winners of the Maiden Fours.

Gregan McMahon was married in October to Miss Hungerford, and in November Claude Healy led Miss Sullivan to the altar.

Our one-time champion shot, A. Rankin, has commenced practice as a solicitor at Newcastle.

Among the newly-appointed justices of the peace we notice the names of Michael Dalton and Peter Clifford.

E. B. Dalton passed the second section, and W. P. Fallon and A. Deery the first section, Law Examination in November.

Among the ex-students it seems to be generally accepted that a member of the Union high up in the Council, "a proper man as one shall see in a summer's day," is endeavouring to follow the sound advice given by the Rector at the Inaugural Dinner. Past and present students hope that his efforts to become a benedict will meet with success.

We notice with pleasure the appointment of J. P. O'Sullivan as associate to his Honor Mr. Justice Real.

The brilliant success at the recent intermediate law examination of Mr. Lionel Cahill is worthy of all praise. Out of fifteen candidates thirteen passed, Mr. Cahill obtaining second place in the order of merit with the high percentage of 82. Seeing that the law examinations are now very properly of a very high standard, the success of Mr. Cahill, who is serving under articles to the well-known firm of Laurence and M'Lachlan, solicitors, of this city, is certainly very gratifying. At the same examination Mr. J. J. D'Apice also secured a creditable pass.

THE KEATING PRIZE.

This year the Keating Prize consists of Green's History of England, in eight volumes, in special binding. The prize was on view for some time previous to the examinations, and served to stimulate those who were competing to greater earnestness and hard work. When we reflect upon the amount of preparation that is to be gone through, and the hours of recreation sacrificed in order to give time for reading up matter, we cannot but be persuaded that the Keating Prize is worth striving for, and that the successful competitor is deserving of his reward; and also that the unsuccessful ones merit a meed of praise for their earnest endeavours.

We are glad to be able to say that for the future this handsome prize will be awarded by the Ex-Students' Union, and will be looked upon as their especial prize to their *Alma Mater*.

RECORDS OF SENIOR DEBATING CLUB.

In last issue of *Our Alma Mater* we gave a retrospect of the history of our Club, as chronicled in the pages of *Our Alma Mater*. We said:—"The first mention on record of this Club occurs in *Our Alma Mater* No. 1, Christmas, 1886." We now are in a position to tell of the doings of the Club in the pre-historic period, viz., during '85 and '86. Mr. J. F. Jennings (O.R.), has sent us a M.S. volume, of whose existence we were ignorant, entitled, "Minute Book of Debates for the year 1885, as held in the College of St. Ignatius, Riverview." It is an accurate record of all the meetings held, and subjects discussed, during 1885-86, mentioning the members present on each occasion, the names of those that spoke, and the result of the voting. We shall give the list of subjects presently.

The first entry (after the name of the President, Rev. P. Keating, S.J., and a list of nineteen members—amongst whom we notice, J. Jennings, T. Kelly, S. Burke, C. J. Brennan, and others) is "First debate held this year, 19th of March, 1885, 'Feast of St. Joseph.'" And the first subject is one that ought to interest us now—

> "Was the conduct of the Government worthy of censure or praise in sending troops to the Soudan?"

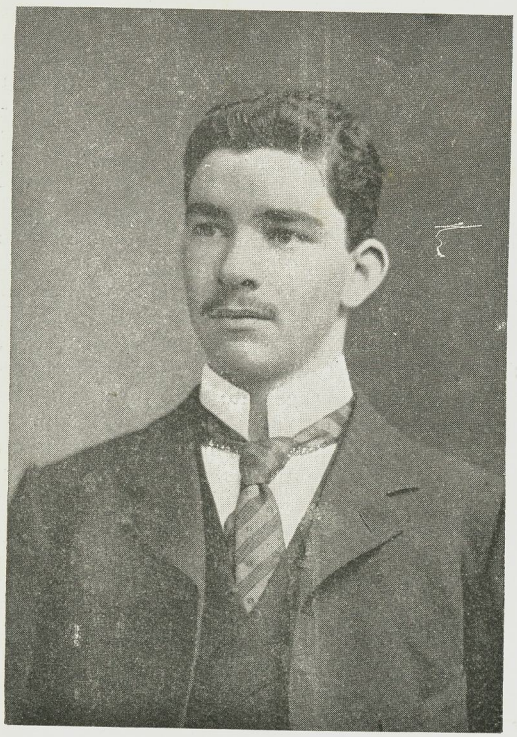
The result was in favour of the Government by one vote. At the same meeting it was proposed and carried that—"As it was a new Club started, there should be an entrance fee of one shilling, and a subscription of sixpence per month." The proceeds seem to have been devoted to the Debate Library. The subscription system does not seem to have lasted long—certainly there is not even a tradition of it at present. Perhaps it wasn't such a bad idea to make members pay for the privilege of making a speech, on the principle that to set a high price on a commodity enhances its value in the

eyes of most people. However, even with this enticement the speeches didn't always succeed in pleasing the keeper of the records. It is interesting to note that even so far back as 1885, there were general complaints of the tendency to *read* speeches instead of delivering them. This abuse called down prohibitive legislation on itself. In September it was enacted that "Every member shall *speak* two out of every three speeches, otherwise they will be liable to be expelled from the Club."

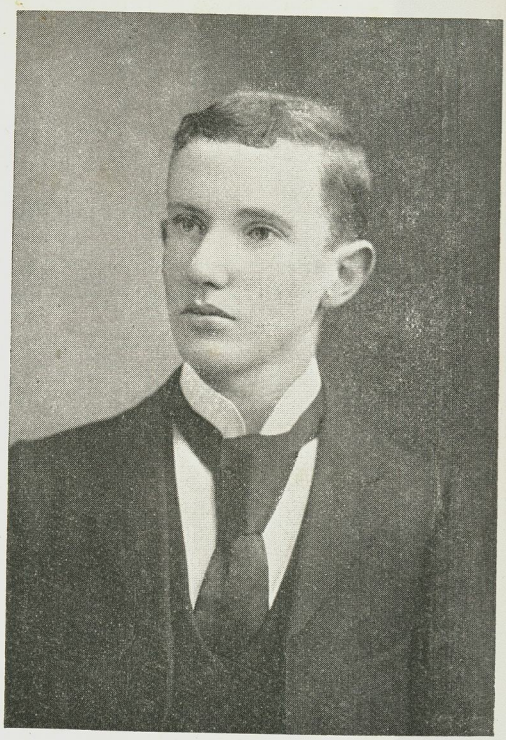
Two members who were to speak excused themselves on the ground that "some ill-disposed persons had taken their speeches from their desks and they had no time to compose another."

A law was passed that "No member shall be allowed to give his vote on either side of any question if he does not make a speech; unless he has a satisfactory excuse."

The debates seem all to have been "one-night" debates. At what time they took place



WILLIAM CAMPBELL.
"Proxime" in English.



CECIL LONERAGAN.
Medallist in Greek.

UNIVERSITY DISTINCTIONS.

At the end of each report there is a short appreciation of the quality of the speeches. For example, "General improvement in speeches," "Speeches on the whole exceedingly poor; so much so that it was thought advisable to leave it (subject discussed) an open question." "A decided improvement."

Particular criticisms are in one or two cases pointed. "Mr.——made a speech which caused the whole Club to almost burst its sides with laughter—not so much on account of the wit it contained as on account of the foolishness of his statements."

is not stated, but the length that one took (the last in '86) is given :—"Mr. M'Donnell's speech occupied about twenty-five minutes, the other speakers occupying about one hour and a half."

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED during 1885-1886.

(Supplementary to list in *O.A.M.*, July 1899.)

1885. March 19.—(*a*) Was the conduct of the Government worthy of censure or praise in sending troops to the Soudan?

April 13.—(*b*) Were the American colonies justified in rebelling against England?

„ 23.—(*c*) Which has been more beneficial to mankind, the Printing Press or the Steam Engine?

May 7.—(*d*) Was the invention of gunpowder beneficial to mankind?

„ 21.—(*e*) Have the Crusades been beneficial to mankind?

June 4—(*f*) Is it advisable to continue Capital Punishment?

Aug. 21.—(*g*) Was the execution of Charles I. justifiable?

Sept. 10.—(*h*) Whether is England rising or falling as a nation?

Oct. 29.—(*i*) Should Ireland have a separate Parliament of her own?

Nov. 12.—(*j*) Should Members of Parliament be paid?

1886. May 26.—(*k*) Should the United Colonies of Australia have a fleet of their own?

June 9.—(*l*) Same as (*h*).

Aug. 11.—(*m*) Will Australia rise to be a great nation?

„ 25.—(*n*) Whether is loss of sight or loss of hearing the greater affliction?

Sept. 8.—(*o*) Whether has hope of reward or fear of punishment the greater influence on the minds of men?

„ 23.—(*p*) Same as (*f*)

Oct. —.—(*q*) Should the Chinese be tolerated in Australia?

Nov. 24.—(*r*) Would Australia be benefited by an Imperial or Colonial Federation?

SODALITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN.

THE Sodality has been progressing as usual with its weekly meetings, having one week a discourse, given, as a rule, by our director, or sometimes he asks another of the community to take his place; then, in the following week, we recite the office of the B.V.M. For a month or so the director was away, and during that time we had once an interesting discourse, given by Father Superior. No new members for our Sodality have been elected during this term, as most of our division are already members. We hope to have another election soon after we return from the holidays, when, no doubt, there will be some new boys and some of the second division placed into the first.

The old custom has been revived, namely, of the Sodalists hearing mass at times by themselves, as, for instance, on the feasts of the Sodality, with a short discourse before it. This takes place in the library upstairs, adjoining to which there is small room where the altar stands, and there there is plenty of room to kneel in the library itself, and the adjoining room takes the place of the sanctuary. A real Sodality chapel for the use of the Sodalists alone is what is needed, but that, of course, is something to expect in future years, when Riverview is a larger college and her buildings completed.

On one of the Sundays of October the members of the Sodality were received into the Apostleship of study, after the director had explained its object and had read its rules. At present, when *Our Alma Mater* is going to press, we are preparing for the great feast of our Sodality—that is, the feast of the Immaculate Conception—by a novena, and shall keep it with great solemnity.

WILFRID E. CHADWICK.

OBITUARY.

JOHN LALOR.

WE regret to have to report the death of another of our promising Ex-Students in the person of Mr. John Lalor, of Queensland. Mr. Lalor was the second eldest son of the Hon. James Lalor, of Roma, and studied at Riverview from about 1887 to 1890. The cause of his death, which occurred somewhat unexpectedly, was pneumonia. We beg of all, and more especially of those who knew him at College, to pray that he may soon enjoy that everlasting reward promised to the saints of God.

Requiescat In Pace.

A SCENE IN THE MOUNTAINS.

FROM our cottage on the hillside we look down a valley upon the plumy forest far below. A green gloom marks the course of the creek, whose streamlet babbles over the stones, dives under roots, and reappears further on like a crystal, clear and sparkling.

Slowly upwards, from the foot of the hills, which are covered with innumerable trees, chiefly of the wattle, blackwood, sassafras, and gum species, rises the morning mist, like Nature's incense offered to the great Creator. Through this thin curtain the sun shoots his piercing shafts, revealing behind the mist-cloud patches of the finest cobalt.

Descending into the valley, which lies smiling in all its natural beauty before us, we wend our way in silent admiration through the undergrowth of bracken and ti-tree, on which the dewdrops scintillate like a thousand pearls, and dainty spiders' webs are spun like finest gossamer. Butterflies of varied hue flit about from shrub to shrub, seemingly intent on enjoying their short lives to the utmost ; while, from the tops of the higher trees, locusts sound their noisy drums, and here and there golden beetles slowly " wheel their droning flight."

A dome, designed by Nature's architect, and built by her children in the shape of young trees and twining creepers, throws a shadow on the brook beneath, making everything dim, moss-grown, and mysterious.

In this haunt the birds are blithely carolling their hymns of praise, and seem to like best the thick fringing of undergrowth which skirts the babbling creek. Here we can see the blue wren, daintily hopping from branch to branch. Yellow tits can be perceived, diligently seeking food, examining each leaf above and beneath, their slender bodies poised so lightly that even the veriest twigs scarce bend beneath their weight. Woodpeckers rapidly scale the tree boles in perplexing spirals. The native thrush flutes from the tree-top, and the yellow robin, clinging to the bark of the blackwood, watches us with clear and trustful eye. At intervals the whipbird cracks his phantom lash behind his imaginary team, and the laughing jackass looks down from his perch on a dead limb with coldly critical mien. Overhead, black cockatoos wail forth their dejected screeches, and that marauder, the butcher bird, having doubtless impaled his latest victim, bursts into a delirious flood of wicked song.

All these sounds, together with the ring of the woodman's axe and the tinkling of the cowbells, harmonise with the beauty of the scene.

But as we stand gazing, enchanted by the scene before us, the new-born day begins to ripen into the prime of its existence, and so we turn our footsteps uphill in the direction of the many vine-clad cottages, from which the blue smoke is curling in ever-increasing circlets, convinced that a finer picture could not be presented to admirers of Nature than a spring morn in Australia.

S. N. Rorke,
Sub-Seniors.

MELBOURNE TO SYDNEY BY EXPRESS.

ARRIVING at Spencer-street a few minutes before 5.15 p.m., we find our train drawn up by the platform ready for its long journey. All around is a scene of hurry and confusion. Porters may be observed here and there directing passengers to their carriages or shifting huge piles of luggage which threaten to fall on everybody's head ; fussy old ladies who want to go St. Albans, Essendon, or some other suburban station, boarding the Sydney express and being rescued at the last moment, children looking for their parents and parents for their children, and everywhere news, fruit, and cushion vendors all loudly proclaiming the merits of their own particular commodity.

Here may be seen a large, stout old gentleman fumbling in his pockets for his ticket. His companion suggests that he may have put it in his overcoat pocket. Immediately the overcoat is dragged from the valise, its pockets ransacked, but no ticket found. A porter strongly advises him to take his seat or he will miss the train. Reconciling himself to the inevitable, he snatches up his travelling bag and proceeds to his carriage, where, after having been seated and having recovered his equanimity, he finds his troublesome ticket securely hidden in his pocket-book.

As the time approaches the bustle becomes more intense. Presently the engines are coupled, the carriages jolt, and at 5.15 p.m. to the minute, the guard blows his whistle, the engines shriek, the porters close and lock the doors, yell to the people to stand clear, the train moves, and we are off. Passing through North Melbourne and its labyrinth of railway lines, and close by Flemington racecourse, the scene of so much excitement and speculation, we notice that the number of the houses quickly begins to diminish, and soon we are in the country. Speeding along over almost level ground, we come to Beveridge, where we notice a curious hill which somewhat resembles a human head. Shortly after we leave this town, the aspect of the country changes, and

one moment the train is panting up this side of a hill and the next, rattling down the other. Now, after rushing through several small townships, we cross the Goulburn, and shortly afterwards pull up at Seymour, where several minutes are allowed for refreshments.

Darkness has now closed in, and once started we do not stop again until Benalla is reached. Nothing can now be seen except the dull flickering oil-lamps as we swirl past some country station, and no sound is heard save the low rumbling of the train or the occasional screech of the whistle. A few miles beyond Benalla is the small town of Glen Rowan, chiefly remarkable as the scene of the dispersal of the Kelly gang and the capture of its daring leader. At Wangaratta we meet with the first narrow-gauge line constructed in Victoria. Thence on to Wodonga, where we cross the Murray and come within New South Wales territory.

At Albury we change trains, and as it is now close on midnight, we settle down for sleep, and when morning dawns find ourselves approaching Moss Vale, a pretty little township and a great holiday resort. Here breakfast is partaken of, and again boarding the train we are soon skimming along the Blue Mountains, past many a prettily-situated township, along the ridge of many a hill, and now we begin to descend. Down into the level plain we rush, passing here and there large mobs of cattle grazing, here and there comfortable looking dwellings, until we finally come to the rather important town of Liverpool. From this onward we notice the number of houses increasing, and now suburban Sydney is reached. Soon we rattle into Strathfield, and a moment later arrive at Redfern, where, having collected our belongings, we leave the train, after accomplishing a journey of 600 miles in 17¼ hours.

D. Gavan Duffy,
III. Grammar.

SENIOR DEBATING CLUB.

President: Rev. A. Power, S.J.

Committee:

R. Douglas, Hon. Sec. — T. Campbell
P. Griffin — A. Walker
C. Loneragan — P. Dalton
J. Allan.

(report by the hon. secretary.)

First Debate.

On October 8, at 5.45, the members of the Senior, Sub-Senior, and Junior classes, betook themselves to the First Division Library, which was for the time "the House of Commons," while the boys of the lower classes in sadness and in gloom walked moodily to the Study Hall But "the members" are done with study for the time, and after the community had arrived, and matters calmed down, we observed the following gentlemen on the Government Benches :—

Mr. Douglas (Premier	Thursday Island
Mr. Walker	Parramatta
Mr. Loneragan	Mudgee
Mr. Chadwick	Toowoomba
Mr. Allan	Gormanston

and on the Opposition Benches :—

Mr. Griffin (Leader)	Sydenham
Mr. T. Campbell...	Greymouth (N.Z.)
Mr. Dalton	Orange
Mr. Jas. Gleeson	Dannevirke (N.Z.)
Mr. Oxenham	Randwick
Mr. W. Campbell	Dubbo

The Chairman started proceedings by announcing that the Government maintained

"THAT LAND BATTLES HAVE HAD MORE EFFECT ON HISTORY THAN SEA BATTLES."

Mr. Douglas (Premier), after a brief introduction of the subject, dwelt upon the great effect Greece has had on Europe, and argued that Marathon and Platea were the decisive battles in Grecian history. In touching on Roman history he said that the great struggle between Rome and Carthage was decided by the battle of "the Metaurus," after which Rome no longer had any great opposition to extending her sway over the whole world. The battle which rescued Christendom from the rule of the Mahometans was the great land battle of Tours.

Mr. Griffin (Leader) impressed upon us that we must form our opinion on this subject from the united authority of several men. The decisive battle between Greek and Persian was Salamis. The Athenian Empire was founded by the battle of Eurymedon, and destroyed by the battles at Syracuse and Ægospotami. It was the naval battle of Actium which prevented the rending of the Roman Empire, in the confusion which followed the death of Cæsar. The struggle of the 16th Century—Christian v. Turk—was decided by the naval battle of Lepanto.

Mr. Walker argued that it was quite unnatural for a man to fight on water if he could possibly help it, and therefore it followed that the most important battles would be fought on land. As usual, he and the Leader (Mr.



SUB-SENIOR CLASS.

Griffin) engaged in some most amusing verbal passages of arms.

Mr. Dalton declared that the three most decisive battles fought before Christ were Salamis, Syracuse and Actium, and after Christ the two great struggles of Cross and Crescent, Lepanto and Navarino, were sea battles, and, lastly, the Armada and Trafalgar were of the greatest importance to Britain.

Mr. Loneragan divided the battles of the world into three divisions—Grecian, Roman, and Modern. He dwelt at some length on each of these, and affirmed that it was quite ridiculous for any one to dispute that land battles have been most decisive in the history of the world.

Mr. Thomas Campbell then rose amidst continued applause, and in a calm, cool, and deliberate manner, delivered a very fine speech :

The question seems to me to have been treated in too confined a manner. It would be ridiculous to deny that land battles, as well as sea battles, have been decisive, but why should we be bored to death with Marathon, Platea, Arbela, Tours, Saratoga, Blenheim, Waterloo, or the numerous other battles named? Why not conduct the discussion on a broader principle? It would be an act of insanity to deny the influence of Marathon, but is that sufficient reason why we should consider the Government measure worthy of support? . . . . .

Whatever tends to civilisation seems to me incomparably greater than any project carried out through the ambition of man, and having as its aim the gratification of one man's desires. And, gentlemen, you will find naval warfare has achieved more for civilisation than land battles have.

Consider for a moment the glorious position of our Mother Country. To what does she owe her supremacy? Is it not to her efficiency on the sea? For what fleet can cope with hers? Again, what is it that causes the rise of nations? Is it not the possession of an extensive sea border, so that they may have an outlet for their fleets? Is not this the reason of Russia's present position? With what intention is she constructing this Trans-Siberian railway? Is it not to have an opening on the Pacific for her fleet?

Consider again how is it we hear nothing of Switzerland? Is it not because she has no fleet wherewith to proclaim her name? These are no figments of the imagination, but they are hard, stubborn facts, and it is the broad fact that embraces the whole subject that will win the day—not the enumeration of battles.

Gentlemen, I shall go further and assert without fear of contradiction that of all the nations that have swayed the world each and every one based its supremacy on its naval power. The Carthaginians, the Athenians, aye even the Romans, then the Venetians, then the Spanish, and, finally, England, these all worked their way to the fore, either through the galleys or the old wooden walls.

Mr. Allan said that naval battles have only become important since 1600, when the English navy rose to prominence. Greece and Rome both rose and fell through the agency of land battles.

Mr. James Gleeson dwelt on the great importance sea battles have been to England. He took as examples the Spanish Armada, Rodney's victories in the West Indies, the battle of Copenhagen, and Nelson's two great victories at the Nile and Trafalgar.

Mr. Wilfrid Chadwick spoke in direct opposition to Mr. James Gleeson, maintaining that Britain had gained her power principally by land battles. He argued that it was through land battles that the Indian Empire and Canada were won and the United States lost.

Mr. Oxenham informed "the House" that as this was his maiden speech it would be "short and sweet"—and it was. However, he found time to make a determined attack on Mr. Loneragan, and the result was a sharp side debate between the two members.

Mr. W. Campbell spoke on the influence of the naval engagements of ancient history, especially those of Greece; and also on the naval battles of England and their influence on the nations of Europe.

Mr. Griffin, in his final speech, endeavoured to prove from history, and from the nature of battles themselves, that sea fighting is much more decisive than land fighting. He took numerous illustrations from both ancient and modern history.

Mr. Douglas, in summing up for the Government, (mainly) confined himself to criticising and pointing out historical blunders on the part of the Opposition. Mr. T. Campbell, especially, was the object of his attack, but that honourable gentleman bore the storm with philosophical unconcern.

The vote was then taken, with the following result :—

For land battles	...	...	8
For sea battles	...	...	9

The House then adjourned.

The Transvaal Debate.

Immediately after the conclusion of the debate on battles (which debate by the way led to the rifling of all the books on battles that could be found, and led, too, to the addition of several volumes to the Debate Library. Creasy, of course, came in for a large share of attention—especially by the land side, as of his 15 battles 13 are land struggles—but Fitchett's two books, and the Story of the Sea, Lives of Nelson, etc., were much in request), it was found that the Boer difficulty

called for immediate and definite expression. Public opinion was in a highly charged condition. Hence the following subject was announced as the subject for a debate to take place in a fortnight's time :—

"THAT THE PRESENT WAR WITH THE TRANSVAAL IS, ON THE BRITISH SIDE, A WAR OF UNJUST AGGRESSION."

Premier, Mr. Thos. Campbell. Leader of Opposition, Mr. Douglas.

This was a public debate, *i.e.*, all the senior students attended, and the first and the third sittings took place in the Theatre instead of the First Division Library. We believe this was the first time a debate has taken place in the theatre, and many thought the change, in the case of the greater debates, a very desirable one. The space immediately in front of the stage was fitted out in the usual parliamentary style—rows of chairs down each side, tables for the Government and Opposition (leaving a broad clear space down the middle)—the President's daïs and chair facing the stage, visitors ranged out in line on either side of the chair. The debaters had ample room and verge enough for gesture and voice-production.

On Monday evening, October 30th, at 5.30, the first sitting took place. A few minutes after the boys had assembled, Father Rector and the community entered amidst applause, amongst the visitors being Fathers Kirby and Murphy (Pymble), and Mr. Thos. Kelly, B.A. (O.R.), who came up specially to hear the debate on the Boers, and "have the question settled definitely, one way or the other." His name appears on the first list of Riverview debaters in 1885. He was much impressed with the development of the Club since that date, and both during the debate and in a short visit to the first division playroom after tea, congratulated the debaters on their speeches and the high-class excellence of the debate in general. We may remark *en passant* that during this year (1899) there has been considerable improvement in the style and delivery of speeches. There has been practically no "reading" of speeches. This "reading" is an evil very hard to contend against, but it is quite ruinous to a debate, so that stringent regulations had to be made. "Either no speech at all, or else a delivered speech," was the order of the day. As a result, there was a good deal of very careful preparation, much more preliminary reading up of the subject, and, consequently, more lively interest. The Committee deserve thanks and praise for the energetic interest they displayed in working up the debates this half.

The PRESIDENT having taken the chair,

Mr. THOS. CAMPBELL (N.Z.) rose to open the debate on behalf of the Boers. The first quarter of his speech was historical, devoted to a statement of the facts necessary to understand the position. Then he proceeded to ask and answer two questions: Is the war legal? Is it just? Under the first point he stated Mr. Chamberlain's alleged reasons for going to war, and showed that to interfere on these grounds would be inconsistent with Mr. Chamberlain's own previous statement that "England had no right of interference in the internal affairs of the Transvaal." Then, to show the injustice of the war, he took up and examined each of Mr. Chamberlain's reasons for going to war. The Boers have a perfect right to restrict the granting the franchise, in self-defence, to keep their country for themselves. He then dealt with finance, monopolies, and the labour question, and ended a vigorous and telling speech with a strong denunciation of the British policy.

Mr. DOUGLAS considered that the root of all the trouble in the Transvaal was the treatment of the Uitlanders by the Boers. He dwelt on the franchise question, the railway fares, the gold tax, the dynamite monopoly, and other grievances. He maintained that Britain had the right to protect her subjects wherever they may be, and accused the Boers of having traitorously tried to oust Britain from her position in South Africa, and continually menacing the peace and prosperity of South Africa.

Mr. WALKER argued that the real cause of the war was the suzerainty This was evident from the fact that Mr. Chamberlain admitted that the Boers made satisfactory proposals as regards the franchise. England had no right to insist on suzerainty, because she had denied holding any such position. In the 1883 Convention the suzerainty clause was struck out.

Mr. LONERAGAN began by sketching a brief history of events down to the present crisis, showing all along that the Boers were in the wrong. He declared that Great Britain was right in supporting the cause of her suffering subjects, and in demanding a redress of grievances.

Mr. M. GLEESON gave one of the most stirring speeches that have been heard in the Riverview Debating Club. He spoke as an Irishman, and therefore compared England's

treatment of Ireland with the treatment of the Tranvaal. He accused Mr. Chamberlain of having forced war on the Transvaal because he was urged to do so by South African capitalists, and he urged "the House" never to support so treacherous and cruel a country as England.

Mr. GRIFFIN, in a slow and solemn voice. requested his hearers to judge all arguments by the true standard of Justice. He dealt with the grievances of the Uitlanders, particularly in regard to the franchise. He emphasised the fact that England was quite justified in championing the rights of her oppressed subjects, in maintaining her prestige, and, in fine, accepting a war begun by the Boers themselves.

At this stage, one of our visitors (Mr. THOMAS KELLY), an old member of the Debating Club, gave us some reminiscences of his experiences in debating at Riverview, and declared that he was a warm supporter of the Imperial policy in regard to South Africa.

Mr. OXENHAM accused England of being grasping and greedy. To quote his own words, "She had all the toys, and wanted the big doll too." He declared that £60,000,000 of gold had been exported from the Transvaal in a month, but after making this marvellous statement he got confused, and in the end resumed his seat, amidst great applause.

Rev. FATHER RECTOR then rose, amidst great applause, and expressed the pleasure which he had felt in listening to the debate, but refused to express his opinion on the question before the "the House."

Second Night.

On the following night (Tuesday) in the senior library the debate was continued by Mr. W. CHADWICK, who is as staunch an Englishman as Mr. Gleeson is an Irishman. He accused Irishmen of being prejudiced, and read a letter from an Irishman which contained a full account of the religious disabilities in the Transvaal.

Mr. DALTON declared that the whole history of the Transvaal was one continuous struggle against the grasping Englishman. The Boers had let the Uitlanders settle in the country and grow rich, and now why should they grant them the franchise?

Mr. S. HEHIR made his maiden speech, and spoke well for the Opposition, and we think that, with a little more practice, he will blossom into a first-rate debater.

Mr. R. MCKILLOP defended President Kruger's policy with great warmth, and, judging by his speech, we think he knows a considerable amount about the question, and is a promising debater.

Final Night.

On Wednesday, November 1, after tea (at 7.30 o'clock), the whole House repaired to the theatre to listen to the final speeches on the Transvaal. The 2nd and 3rd Divisions had been having such hot discussions all the week that they felt the only relief to their feelings would be to come and listen to the 1st Division hammering at the Boers—so they applied for leave—and as the holiday (All Saints') made it feasible, they came, and were an enthusiastic and very satisfactory audience indeed. The numbers listening to this historic debate were greater than ever attended a debate at Riverview before. The sitting this evening began at 7.30; the voting took place at 8.45. The whole debate took about four hours.

Mr. J. GLEESON denounced the barbarism of the laws imposed on the Uitlanders by the Boers. England cannot stand by and see her subjects treated like dogs by the uncivilized Boer. If she did so it would be a serious blow to her prestige.

Rev. FATHER MASTERSON then rose, and in answer to, and as a protest against, statements made by Mr. Chadwick, read a striking passage from Cardinal Newman on Ireland and the Irish people.

Mr. W. CAMPBELL continued for the Government, and endeavoured to persuade "the House" that England was entirely in the wrong.

Mr J. ALLEN accused President Kruger of shamefully violating his promises, and made some criticisms on Mr. M. Gleeson and the witty Mr. Oxenham.

Mr. T. CARLTON made his first appearance before a Riverview audience amidst deafening applause. He quoted Olive Schreiner:—"Well may the Boers say: 'They use the gold they gain from us to enslave us, and when they have rifled our earth and picked the African's bones bare as the vulture clears the carcase of their prey, they will leave us with a broken skeleton.'"

MR. DOUGLAS, in summing up, denied the truth of several assertions made by the Government. His remarks about Ireland provoked more than one appeal to the Chair, and finally (owing to want of time) he had to leave many things unsaid. In concluding, he urged the House to show with the rest of the Empire its patriotism, and to vote for the British.

Mr. Thos. Campbell then rose to close the debate. He called attention to the fact that not one of the opposition had attempted to deal with his refutation of Mr. Chamberlain's five reasons for war. He reiterated that refutation, and ended with a stirring appeal.

The chairman then rose to put the question to the vote. All those (boys) who had been present at the debate all three nights were allowed to vote. This included all the boys of the senior study and some of the boys of the junior study.

The result was :—

For the Boers	...	20
For the British	...	31

A vote of thanks to the visitors was proposed and carried, and "the House" then adjourned.

Robert Douglas.

ST. IGNATIUS' COLLEGE EX-STUDENTS' UNION.

It is again with pleasure, and a small quantity of pardonable pride, that we report sure and steady progress. The Union is daily increasing in popularity and numbers, and the great interest taken by the "old boys"—some of them far from Sydney—shows clearly that the foundation has been well and truly laid.

It is our privilege to still have Father Dalton at the head of affairs.

The third Annual Meeting was held at the Oxford Hotel, on Monday, the 4th September. Among those present were :—Messrs. T. F. Kelly (presiding), G. E. Flannery, F. W. J. Donovan, P. J. O'Donnell, T. Cussen, H. F. McHugh, F. Lawler, C. A. McBride, M. Foley, J. M. Toohey, M. A. Casey, J. J. McEvoy, H. E. Manning, J. E. S. Henerie, A. Deery, P. Lenehan, E. S. McDermott, F. Du Boise, I. C. O'Donnell, W. P. Fallon, E. B. Fitzpatrick, T. J. Hurley, P. H. Power, B. P. McEvoy, J. O'Donnell, A. Du Boisé, F. Punch, C. Healy, J. D'Apice, J. F. Walton, J. Punch, M. O'Farrell, L. Cahill, F. Gow, J. Ryan, B. A. McBride, &c.

The reports of the Secretaries and Treasurer were adopted. One amendment was made in the constitution. Rule 6 was altered to allow of five Vice-Presidents instead of two.

The election of officers then took place, with the following result :—

Patron.—Rev. Father Dalton, S.J.

President.—T. F. Kelly.

Vice-Presidents :

G. E. Flannery — Rev. M. Flemming
F. W. J. Donovan — Dr. M. O'Gorman Hughes
Alfred Jennings

Secretaries :

B. A. McBride. — Arthur Deery.

Treasurer.—P. J. O'Donnell.

Committee :

T. Cussen — J. McCarthy
C. A. McBride — F. Du Boisé
I. C. O'Donnell — P. H. Power
H. E. Manning — E. B. Fitzpatrick

As the addresses of many ex-students are unknown to us, we shall be glad to receive any information which will assist us in successfully assailing them personally or by proxy.

B. A. McBride, Arthur Deery } Hon. Secs.

THE ANNUAL DINNER.

(Taken from the "Freeman's Journal.")

The Third Annual Dinner, under the auspices of St. Ignatius' "old boys," was held last Tuesday evening, and despite a large apology list, due mainly to the prevailing epidemic, was most successful. The trysting-place, as last year, was Beach's Café Française, and the menu was all that could be desired. At this stage it may as well be stated that harmony rather than long (and in no case academic) speeches was the order of the occasion, and the result was most satisfactory.

The President (Mr. T. F. Kelly) occupied the chair, having on either side of him the Very Rev. L. Murphy, S.J. (Rector of St. Ignatius' College), and the Rev. J. Brennan, S.J. Amongst those seated at the festive board we noticed—and we must crave pardon if any are omitted—G. E. Flannery, B.L., Dr. O'Gorman Hughes, P. J. O'Donnell, T. Cussen, M. MacMahon, J. M'Carthy, C. Coghlan, F. Lawler, C. M'Bride, J. Molony, M. A. Casey, H. Healy, J. M'Evoy, A. W. D'Apice, I. C. O'Donnell, F. Duboisé, J. E. S. Henerie, F. Punch, A. Gow, T. J. Hurley, A. Makinson, D. O'Sullivan, P. H. Power, J. O'Donnell, R. S. Goodsall, J. Punch, F. Gow, H. O'Connor, W. Fallon, R. Craven, P. Lenehan, E. B. Fitzpatrick, J. Slattery, M.

H. E. Manning. A. Deery. J. T. McCarthy. F. J. Donovan. P. H. Power.



Photo. by Grouzelle, 308 George Street.

M. O'G. Hughes. P. J. O'Donnell. T. F. Kelly. G. E. Flannery. B. A. McBride.

OFFICERS OF THE EX-STUDENTS' UNION

O'Farrell, F. Deery, H. Hensleigh, F. M'Donald, R. Henerie, J. Payer, E. O'Connor, and the energetic hon secretaries, Messrs. B. A. M'Bride and A. Deery. Apologies for unavoidable and much-regretted absence were received from the Very Rev. Father Dalton, S.J., the Rev. Father O'Connell, S.J., the Rev. Father Gartlan, S.J., Messrs. R. Brown, H. F. M'Hugh, F. J. Donovan, W. Hughes, H. M'Mahon, H. Manning, P. Meagher, W. Fraser, L. Anivitti, J. Beck, T. Bourke, A. Duboise, E. Dalton, S. Donnelly, C. Brennan, W. M'Donald, M. Foley, W. Lawler, P. Clifford, L. Cahill, G. Gilhooley, and F. Rourke. From the venerable and genial patron of the "old boys" as he is the revered Founder of St. Ignatius' College, the Very Rev. Father Dalton, a characteristic letter was read, the following passage from which is too good to be missed :—

"I must in the first place thank you for your kind invitation to the Ex-Students' annual dinner on November the 7th. In the next place I must ask you to assure my good friends, the Ex-Students, of my great regret at not being able to be present on the festive occasion. At last I feel I am getting so old and feeble that I must lay down my bat—'out for 83'—not so bad. Tell them also that my 'growing pains' are the only cause of my absence—I have no idea of going to the Transvaal, where I might shoulder my crutch and show how fields are won. Nor have I any idea of going with the Governor to Melbourne for the 'Cup Day'—the only cup that would have any attraction for me now would be the 'cup of kindness for Auld Lang Syne,' with the old Ex-Students. Though absent in body, I shall be present with you in heart and soul, and I feel certain that some kind friends will whisper 'I wish he were here.' With a fervent prayer that God may bless your Union, that your members may go on increasing from year to year, *ad majorem Dei gloriam*, and that all and each may be ever true to Faith and Fatherland, I once more thank you."

In his usual humorous strain, Father Gartlan, S.J., also regretted his absence. Mr. J. G. Dalley's absence was explained as the result of his cousin's death, news of which had just been received by cable. The toasts of "the Pope" and "the Queen" having been duly honoured,

Dr. M. O'Gorman Hughes, in proposing the toast of "Our Patron," regretted the absence for the first time from their annual dinner of Father Dalton. But whether present or absent their patron's "health" would be sure of a hearty reception at the hands of the "old boys." (Applause.) Over twenty years ago Father Dalton, with a handful of students, had made their Union possible by the establishment of St. Ignatius' College ; and if Riverview as a great scholastic institution was to be regarded, as it rightly should, as helping in the formation of an Australian nation, then Father Dalton's connection with its inception and development entitled him not alone to the recognition of his old students, but to the recognition of the great Australian public.

The toast was received with enthusiasm, the President responding for the absent Patron.

Mr. G. Flannery, in proposing "Our College," said that in choosing the toast of the college as a rallying point the ex-students of Riverview laboured under a comparative disadvantage ; and such a toast, if proposed to an assemblage of ex-students of Clongowes, Stonyhurst, Eton, Harvard, or—to come nearer home—the King's School, would conjure up before the minds of each of the auditors the vision of a pile of buildings hallowed perhaps by ages, but certainly the common arena of their common past. With them it was not so. To some the cottage was, and is, the college ; to others the brick building recurred, while only to the younger and more favoured of his auditors the college was the college. This was regrettable, but since flux is necessarily incident to progress, an inevitable state of affairs. They seemed to have fought their schoolday battle on different fields. That they should have served under different generals was unavoidable. That the commissariat should have proposed different schemes of scholastic diet for their mental digestion was, considering the march of the times, a matter to be expected, and, in his opinion, not to be regretted. A list of the subjects purporting to form the basis of a proposed school examination, and exhibited on the college notice-board the other day, filled him with thankfulness that he was no longer a boy, and with admiration for the Admirable Crichtons now in embryo. He would admit that deportment and the use of the globes were not in the category, but everything else appeared to be there. But though Riverview ex-students had lived their schoolday lives under different roofs, he asserted that in love and veneration for their college they would compare favourably with the old boys of any house or foundation in the world. The consistent success of the annual dinner, the growing popularity and influence of the Union showed that the memory of their common past, the influence of their common

training, were bonds of no mean strength, and that to the ex-students of Riverview their Alma Mater was something more than a name—something higher than a memory. It would be rash to conjecture how much the loyal respect of the ex-students to the college is due to the personal influence of Father Dalton. He re-echoed every word that had fallen from Dr. Hughes in proposing their Patron's health, and he asserted that what Arnold had been to Rugby, Jowett to Balliol, Father Dalton was to Riverview. To common reminiscences and recollections the college spirit owed much, and how many of the common memories centred round Father Gartlan! Some of the earth earthy—mainly connected with eating; others relating to certain occasional spasmodic flights into French literature, most of aquatics and of the quaint and peculiar humour of the popular captain of the boats. Of the centre of these recollections—of Father Gartlan himself—there was but one common memory—that of the genial master and sterling friend. Father O'Connell was another landmark in the scholastic waste. Of him they had kindly memories. He and Father Brennan, Father Keogh, Father Keating, and Father O'Malley were the stars of the *dramatis personæ* of a play in which the old boy had been at once "a crowd" and the audience, and they had liked both the play and the players. Of the Rectors it was hardly necessary to speak. Father Dalton, Father Keating, and Father Ryan had in turn loomed large in the vision of Riverview boydom, and had, he believed, each left the impress of their influence on its character. The present Rector, their honoured guest, was a worthy successor of the good men who had preceded him. Under his guidance the destinies of Riverview would, as ever, tend *ad majorem Dei gloriam.* (Cheers).

The toast having been duly honoured,

The Very Rev. Father Murphy, S.J., briefly responded, thanking the ex-students for the many kind things said on their behalf by Mr. Flannery, and so warmly endorsed by them.

The Rev. Father Brennan, S J., in proposing "The Union," expressed his pleasure at being amongst the old Riverview boys once more. After his long absence from the colony it was specially gratifying to him to find himself surrounded by his old friends, and in a position which enabled him to congratulate them upon their brilliant achievements. Another source of rejoicing was that the occasion enabled him to meet in the ranks of their Union a number of new friends. A Union like theirs was rich in possibilities. While it gave them opportunities of meeting old fellow students, it also taught present students to emulate the examples of the old. To themselves also it was useful, inasmuch as when leaving school they entered upon the battle of life, and needed the encouragement of their fellows; and who could give them needed encouragement better than those whose good offices in their school days, however reprehensible from a college point of view, reflected credit upon their warm hearts—their old schoolmates? (Cheers.) It was perhaps in a spirit of revenge for the old school days, when as Prefect he (Father Brennan) hemmed them in with ascetic restrictions, that they now placed him in the position of an accomplice and instigator of a toast (laughter); but if so he had little hesitation in responding to the office and heartily proposing "Prosperity to the Union." (Cheers.)

In responding on behalf of the members, Mr. T. F. Kelly could not disregard the understanding arrived at that nobody should speak for more than five minutes. This was the third occasion on which they had met in this agreeable fashion, and on which he (the president) had been called upon to respond to the toast of themselves collectively. An especial pleasure that evening was to welcome as a priest from the old country their former Prefect, whom in the old days they had both loved and feared as Mr. Brennan. (Cheers.) With their *Alma Mater* they were bound up in loyalty and kindly associations, and he hoped some of the reunions would take place in the college itself. (Applause.) They (the ex-students) were making their struggle in the world, he hoped with credit to themselves and their college. They filled every position consonant with the principles inculcated in their college days; and it was because as ex-students their practice was supposed to carry out the instincts inculcated in their college training that they (the "old boys") looked upon each other with such pleasure. (Cheers.) There was much upon which they might fairly congratulate themselves, but then much was expected of them. The true value of the Union might be largely enhanced by each member's influence—each who recognised its worth doing his share by bringing that worth before the notice of others. In conclusion he trusted that individually and collectively the members of their Union would adopt as their motto—"Floreat Riverview." (Cheers.)

Mr. J. E. S. Henerie, in compliance with a general call, also responded in briefest form.

Mr. J. M'Evoy, in a few heartfelt phrases,

proposed the health of "Our Old Prefect—Father Brennan," which was enthusiastically received.

Father Brennan, in response, expressed once more the pleasure it afforded him, in the personal sense, as well as in his capacity as an old Riverview teacher, to be amongst ex-students who proved themselves so worthy of their Alma Mater. By their attendance at such gatherings they proved that their old masters occupied a warm corner in their hearts—(applause)—that, in the words of the old song, they were "faithful to their colours, red and blue." (Applause.)

The toast of "The Press," felicitously proposed by Mr. E. B. Fitzpatrick, and suitably responded to, brought the toast-list to a close. Prior to an adjournment to the music room, where half-an-hour or so was enjoyably spent, Mr. M. O'Farrell suggested that the ex-students might attain even closer union than at present by the engagement of club rooms in some central city position, where members might, with little expense, attend to their mutual advantage. The suggestion, whether it will be immediately carried out or not, was received with much favour. Altogether, the third annual dinner of the Riverview "old boys" demonstrated the admirable character of the Union, its decided progress as a social "unit"—to use a word made familiar in recent military parlance—and its promise of continued and increased usefulness.

SODALITY OF THE HOLY ANGELS.

President: Rev. J. Healy, S.J.
Prefect: Master A. Curtin.
1st Assistant: Master P. Gleeson.
2nd Assistant: Master G. Makinson.

At the beginning of the term a special council was formed, comprising the three office-bearers and three others, for the purpose of electing the candidates and members, a duty formerly entrusted to the whole sodality.

On the 14th of October the following candidates were elected as members by the council:—

E. Real	P. Beattie	F. Polin
R. McKillop	F. Mulcahy	J. McLaughlin
D. G. Duffy	G. McFarlane	W. Duffy
E. McFarlane	G. Dawson	

On the 15th of the same month the newly-elected members were received into the sodality by the Rev. E. Masterson, S.J., the Director of the Senior Sodality. The oratory chapel was prettily arranged for the ceremony. After delivering a short sermon on our obligations to our Guardian Angels, he blessed the medals, recited the acts of faith and consecration, in which he was fervently joined by the members about to be received. He then distributed the medals. The whole sodality approached Holy Communion.

At the first meeting in September the Rev. Father Kenny, S.J., gave a short and stirring instruction on the Apostleship of Study. In response to this sermon the sodalists expressed their desire to become members of the Apostleship. Shortly after this they were enrolled in the first degree with the members of the Senior Sodality.

During the course of the present term it was proposed to the sodalists to subscribe for a statue of the Guardian Angel. Next year we hope to see one adorning the chapel.

Masters. G. Baxter, W. Murray, and J. Murray were privately received on November 26th.

On the same day the sodalists had their annual picnic. We had a delightful day. On the way back to the college we had a long distance boat race to Riverview. By a clever manœuvre the prefect's boat was victorious.

The sodality, as a whole, is in a very flourishing condition, and has increased considerably. We hope that the same zeal and fervour which was so conspicuous this half, will always continue with our Sodality.

V. Power.

JUNIOR DEBATING CLUB.

President: Rev. J. Healy, S.J.

Committee:

V. Power	A. Cahill
E. Real	H. Barry
A. Curtin	P. Gleeson
S. Rorke	D. G. Duffy

W. Brennan (Hon. Sec.).

In the last report we mentioned our intention of holding the debate early in the following term. And so, shortly after the vacation, the Committee met together, and after three very interesting meetings decided upon a subject treating of the ancient empires of Rome and Greece.

It was as follows :—

"HAS ROME BEEN MORE BENEFICIAL TO THE WORLD THAN GREECE?"

This question involved a good deal of preparation. It was not, therefore, until the 20th of September that the opening night of the debate took place. On that night, when their inner man was completely satisfied, both active and passive members of the Debating Club had soon occupied their seats; the Rector and community then arrived, and the President read the question proposed for debate. The Hon. Leader of the Government next read the rules of the Junior Debating Club. When these formalities had been complied with, the Hon. Leader arose amidst exciting cheers. He looked excited, too. In his speech he put the whole question clearly before the House, and brought forward some very convincing arguments maintaining the superiority of Rome, her extraordinary civilising power through the system of colonisation, her beneficial influence on England, our native country—(cheers)—and the great part she played in the birth and growth of Christianity. At this point, heated by the fervour of his eloquence, he denounced in flowery language the hateful influence of Greece in bringing about, by her own corruption, the corruption of Roman simplicity and Roman civilisation. His delivery was too hurried, and spoilt an otherwise convincing speech.

Nothing disturbed by the previous speaker's bitter invective, the honorable Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Power) threw new light on the question, and thus changed the impression left by the previous speech. "Greece," said he, "was the birth-place and home of literature, science, art, and oratory; in fact, of everything intellectual and refined. These priceless treasures she bestowed on the whole world." After entering then into these points in full detail, he concluded a well-arranged and telling speech by explaining with force and clearness how Greece annihilated the invading armies of the eastern despots, and in so doing checked the advancing tide of slavery and barbarism. Many of the arguments missed fire, owing to continual reference to his manuscript.

Second Night.

It was evident that the general feeling was with the Opposition, and so Mr. REAL endeavoured to weaken that sympathy by striking a blow at the Hon. Leader. He then showed that Rome was the patron of literature and oratory, and that she, by enforcing the Latin tongue in all her numerous colonies, spread this intellectual life, as well as advanced legislation, throughout the whole civilized world. Then, referring to the birth and growth of Christianity, he clearly showed how heathen Rome, becoming Christian Rome, converted the whole civilised world, and his distinctive and impressive delivery greatly enhanced the value of his arguments.

Our next speaker, Mr. CURTIN, praised in very laudatory terms the Greek nation as one highly civilised and intellectual. He referred especially to the surpassing excellence of their literature. By way of contrast, he then stated in terms of great disgust that the Roman people were a luxurious, pleasure-seeking and cruel race, and in this appealed to the refined taste of his audience (a rather diplomatic move).

MR. BRENNAN, after attacking the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, compared in minute detail the system of Roman Colonisation with that of Greece. His speech lost some of its influence from his rather modest style of delivery.

And now advanced the defender of Grecian athletics, Mr. KENNEDY. He startled his audience by recounting many extraordinary feats of the Greeks. Among which was the almost incredible record of a 30-foot long-jump.

This was especially galling to Mr. CAHILL, who could not understand how such an athlete as the Hon. Mr. Kennedy should so strongly support the cause of Greece, and explain to his fellow debaters the benefits of athletics. Mr. Cahill then entered upon a deep discussion as to the innumerable benefits conferred on the world by Roman Colonisation, *e.g.*, the spread of law, literature, art, sculpture, peace and comfort. He gives great promise if his delivery improves.

MR. F. RORKE then poured out against the Romans a very deluge of invective. They were, said he, a fawning and flattering set of men, lovers of feasting and debauchery, gamblers, and frauds.

Third Night.

On this night we were honoured by the presence of the Rev. Father Kenny, S.J., and Father Rector.

The debate was resumed by Mr. D. G. DUFFY, who advocated the cause of Rome. He had firm belief in the effect of vigorous metaphor and hyperbole, and found no difficulty in calling Greece a mere semblance of power, and, later on, a veritable pigsty, whereas Rome was the

ideal of everything great and noble. Some of his deductions were very powerful in their astonishing results.

Mr. H. Barry, evidently knowing how to elicit the sympathy of the younger portion of the House, described in vivid terms the cruelty of the Roman system of education—Babies in arms obliged to go to school, school to begin by four in the morning, floggings frequent, no time for meals, merciless teachers. He attained his object, for the third divisioners were glowing with indignation, and fully determined to vote for Greece.

Mr. Carr arose, he said, not to add to the already strong series of proofs of his co-orators, but to lay bare the exaggerated views of the opposition. This occasioned much cross-questioning, and the speaker discovered he had undertaken a very difficult task.

Mr. Mulcahy irritated by a few remarks of Mr. Carr and others, preluded his speech by a few very neat attacks. He then reviewed the lives of some of the great men of Greece, and, in a nicely-composed speech, disclosed the nobility of their work, and left a very favourable impression on his audience.

Mr. L. Barry went through the history of Roman athletics, and, in showing their ability and excellence, opposed a very strong barrier to Mr. Kennedy's laudatory oration on Greece.

Fourth Night.

Mr. F. Coffee, our first speaker, was quite a surprise; we had not expected so much eloquence in so small a frame. At one time he was full of enthusiasm, at another intensely sarcastic, according to the matter he was delivering. Time after time he was loudly applauded, but when, at the end, with true dramatic tone and gesture, he called upon all honorable men to vote for Greece, the whole House rang with applause.

Mr. P. Gleeson, in a short but well-arranged speech, explained how Rome herself, the empress of the world, was, as it were, the seed from which sprang into existence the nations of the modern world.

Mr. J. Murray discoursed on Roman oratory. His speech was one of the best ever delivered in the junior debate.

Mr. W. Murray, whose quiet and modest demeanour is likely to leave a wrong impression on the ordinary observer, soon had us all in a hearty laughter at his witty and humorous remarks.

Mr. McFarlane's oration was short and sweet.

Mr. Beattie explained how the short existence of the Greek Empire was due to their mountainous surroundings, love of the sea, and desire for independence, and these very characteristics, he said, were exceedingly beneficial, not only to Greece itself, but to the whole world.

Fifth Night.

As the debate advanced the conviction was continually growing stronger and stronger that Greece was the more influential. And so it was under very favourable conditions that Mr. Power delivered the summing-up speech for the Opposition. Some of his attacks were exceedingly well planned. In addition to the arguments of his introductory speech, he set forth the following motives for urging his audience to vote for Greece :—

Rome, by her system of Government, continually advocated avarice.

Rome was always waging civil war.

Rome was the destroyer of Grecian literature.

Rome was the cruel persecutor of the hapless slave.

Mr. S. Rorke, as leader of the Government, had a big task to perform, and he went about it courageously. He attacked the individual members of the Opposition with great vehemence, and depicted the cause of Rome in its brightest colours, but he was unable to change the views of the House, as the vote afterwards proved.

The voting resulted in the defeat of the Government by a majority of twelve votes.

SOCIAL.

President: Rev. J. Healy, S.J.

ENTERTAINMENT I.

We were not long back from our "Midwinter Holidays" when we celebrated, with fitting splendour, the festival of "St. Ignatius of Loyola," the patron of the college. The chapel that morning assumed an appearance of unwonted grandeur. The refectory also was artistically adorned with flowers and niceties of a different kind, always attractive to the youthful appetite. Sports and games of all kinds made the hours slip quickly by; and so we naturally expected a very interesting entertain-

ment as a fitting conclusion to the day's enjoyment, and we were not deceived. It was a complete departure from our ordinary style of entertainment, and consisted of a combined gramophone, cinematograph, and magic lantern display.

Every selection on the gramophone was very enjoyable, but perhaps the most enjoyable of all was the cornet solo, "Killarney." For it was reproduced not only clearly and distinctly, but with great expression and feeling. One of the other items, "The Laughing Song," proved very catching, as we could not but join in the laughing chorus at the completion of each verse.

We were just heartily enjoying this when we were introduced to the second and what proved to be the most interesting part of our programme, "The Cinematograph." This invention is remarkable not only for its simple working, but also for its truly excellent results. Its views are very fascinating, for you see depicted in full reality the ordinary scenes of every-day life. Every twist and turn is reproduced with wonderful exactness. Now you imagine yourself on the boulevards of Paris gazing at the ever-surging crowds. At one time you see the slow and sleepy motion of the heavy draught horse, at another the quick and lively trot of a well-bred carriage pair. When in the midst of this throng, however, you suddenly find yourself standing on the beach of some sea coast village across the Channel:

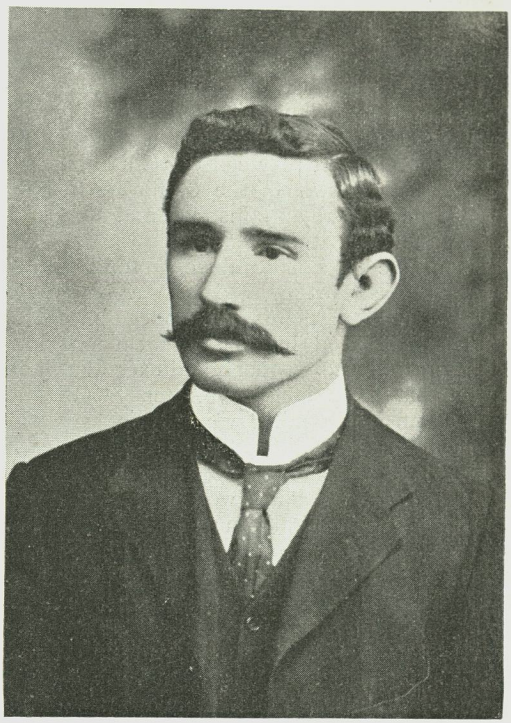
> Watching intent the slow-paced waves advance
> One after one, and spread upon the sands
> Making a slender edge of pearly foam
> Just as they break, then softly falling back.

Again aroused, you find yourself an onlooker at a diving competition, and wonder at the skill of the youthful competitors who, in diving, barely disturb the glassy surface of the water. And so, scene follows scene, until all too soon we enter upon the third part of our programme.

We have had many interesting and enjoyable magic-lantern displays, but perhaps this one excelled them all. The views were exceedingly numerous and varied. At first we examined the lofty heights of snow-capped Kosciusko,



Mr. I. C. O'Donnell.



Mr. J. O'Donnell.

OUR INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALLERS.

saw its various points of interest, and became acquainted with the modes of travelling customary there. We then journeyed to Venice, saw various points of it by moonlight; crossed to Rome, where we viewed its magnificent structures, and then winged our flight to the "Lakes of Killarney," which surpassed our highest expectations. Having examined the various points of interest in the world, we ascended to view the clouds, and had some magnificent snapshots of fork lightning. We then examined some successful results effected by the X Rays, and so brought to a conclusion an entertainment both highly enjoyable and very instructive.

ENTERTAINMENT II.

The Rector's feast was fast approaching, and we were especially anxious to have a real enjoyable concert. This time we were determined to make Riverview entertain Riverview, so we resolved upon a short play called "Chiselling," as the *pièce-de-resistance* of the evening. Besides this we had vocal and instrumental solos, as well as a few recitations.

When the Rector and community were seated, the concert opened with a pianoforte solo by Mr. McMenemin, the college professor of music. I need hardly say that it was rendered with masterly touch and execution, and received loud applause. Master J. Gleeson then advanced in military garb, and sang the rather humorous ditty "The Tin Hussar." When "Jim" appeared some very small boy was heard to exclaim, "My word, Jim, you'd do credit to our 'Australian unit.'" His brother Michael, of established fame as a violinist, gave us a delightful rendering of "Irish Airs." His violin solos are always a great source of pleasure to his audience, and this time proved no exception. But of all the items, Mr. L. Campbell's "Motor Car" was by far the most enjoyed. The dilapidated looking old horse, when harnessed to the motor car that wouldn't go, suddenly feeling himself compelled to move by the motor car, that somehow or other at that particular time began to go, and the gradual increase in speed of the spiteful machine bringing out to the full the racing powers of the unwilling hack, were all so vividly and so naturally pictured, that we felt ourselves speeding along with the pair, and at the same time laughed ourselves sick at the ridiculousness of the whole scene.

Then followed "Chiselling," the second part of our entertainment. The following are the *dramatis personæ* :—

Larkspur (Sculptor)	...	Master H. OXENHAM
Trotter (Larkspur's man)	...	,, T. CAMPBELL
Mrs. Piper (Landlady)	...	,, J. McLAUGHLIN
Mr. Stoneleigh (Art Connoisseur)		,, R. DOUGLAS
Kate (Stoneleigh's Niece)	...	,, J. ALLAN

I think I can say with truth that this has been one of the most successful and humorous farces acted at Riverview, and each of the actors deserve great praise for the histrionic powers they displayed. This is especially true of Master T. Campbell, who, as Trotter, impersonated a very difficult character. For in that part he acted the triple character of the servant and confidant of Larkspur, the statue proper—the statue after it has thrown off all restraint. The first was a light, humorous part; the second, graver and dignified; and the third partook of the nature of low comedy. In each of them he acquitted himself admirably. Master R. Douglas also must be complimented on the exceedingly natural way in which he played the part of the old "art connoisseur."

At this concert we were honoured by the presence of Mr. Hayden and an old friend of ours, Dr. Beattie. At the end of the entertainment, Rev. Father Rector, in a short speech, thanked the boys sincerely for the interesting display they had provided in his honour, and he also thanked, in an especial manner, Mr. L. Campbell and Mr. McMenemin for their kindness in so ably assisting to the success of the evening. Dr. Beattie then stood up, at the invitation of the Rector, and, after seconding the Rector's thanks, expressed his especial delight at the dramatic powers displayed by our youthful actors, and hoped that at his next visit he would see selections from the great master-dramatist staged. He then offered a five guinea special elocution prize for competition next year, and, as he resumed his seat, was greeted with cheer after cheer Mr. Hayden then confirmed the views of Dr Beattie, and expressed the same hopes of seeing our boys acting selections from Shakespeare. With that closed one of the happiest evenings we have ever spent at Riverview.

OUR SPEECH DAY.

THIS year our annual distribution of prizes took place on December 13th. His Eminence Cardinal Moran presided, and included in the large number of people, who responded to the invitations issued by the rector of the college (the Very Rev. Luke Murphy, S.J.), were the

Rev. Dr. O'Haran (private secretary to the Cardinal), Rev. T. Kenny (provincial of the Jesuits), Very Rev. J. Dalton, S.J., Very Rev. T. P. Slattery, O.F.M., Very Rev. C. Nulty (president of St. Aloysius' College), Very Rev. A. Sturzo, S.J., Right Rev. Monsignor O'Brien, Hon. W. J. Lyne (the Premier), Hon. E. W. O'Sullivan (Minister for Works), Hon. John Hughes, M.L.C., M. Biard d'Aunet (Consul-General for France), Mr. W. L. Merewether, Mr. D. O'Connor, Hon. T. Dalton, M.L.C., Rev. F. Burch, O.F.M., Alderman A. M'Elhone, Dr. Kelly, Dr. Odillo Maher, Rev. T. Gartlan, S.J., Rev. Father O'Connell, S.J., Rev. Father Huatt, S.M., Rev. Father Pionier, S.M., Rev. Father Morell, S.M., Rev. F. Guilloux, S.M., Brothers Clement and Laurence (Marists), and others. The visitors were accommodated in three large marquees pitched on the lawn, so as to form three sides of a square, and the various exercises were carried out by the pupils on a sheltered stage occupying the place of the fourth side. Owing to the excellence of the arrangements, a shower of rain that promised to interfere with the proceedings caused little or no inconvenience.

The programme, which was not a very lengthy one, began with a recitation—"The Cameron Men," by Master Frank Coffee, which was excellently given. Then followed the final speeches for the Oratory Prize Medal. The subject, "That Orators, as compared with Men of Action, have had but Little Real Influence on History," had been debated on the previous Sunday evening, and the speeches then delivered were of such excellence that it was decided to repeat them on the Speech Day.

The speakers were Edward Real and Robert Douglas, the former for and the latter against the motion. Both spoke with great clearness and distinctness, and the arguments were listened to with great interest. Speaking in favour of men of action, EDWARD REAL said :—

"Battles are the hinges of the world's history. Battles are the great unmanageable rocks that lie in the course of history, and divert its flow into new channels. They lie scattered at irregular intervals in the bed of the majestic ever-flowing stream of the events of human life. At times battles follow quickly on one another, and then the world's history is turbulent and stormy; at other times events run along without a ripple on the surface. But be the rocks few or many, in clusters or at intervals, battles are the means by which the world's history has been decided, even for centuries of years after they have been fought. The intervals of peace, when the boom of the cannon and the clash of arms are no longer heard, are filled in with oratory, with a magnificent tumult of words which glorify, as with song, the bright period of peace. But amidst the rush of war, who thinks of song or of oratory? Battles determine the course of history, and battles are the deeds of men of action.

He then went on to say that "had not Marathon been won by men of action, Western Europe would now be a dependency of an Asiatic despot; had the oratory of Demosthenes been effective, Macedonia would have never risen, Alexander have never conquered, Asia have never received the light of Hellenic civilisation.

"Had not the golden-tongued orators of France met the fate they deserved at the hands of the French Revolutionists, Napoleon would never have led his countrymen to conquest and glory; Waterloo would never have been fought, and the reputation of England as leader of the nations never have been established. It was to men of action we were to look for the shapers of the world's history, and not to orators, whose only end was to find fault with what had been done, counsel what was never done, and condemn what was being done."

ROBERT DOUGLAS, in the course of his speech, dwelt upon the influence of the orators of Greece, of Rome, and of Great Britain.

"Greece was raised to her pinnacle of fame as originator and protectress of the fine arts by the energy and intellect of the citizens of Athens, chief among whom, and the principal movers of whom, were Themistocles and Pericles, both orators. Themistocles saved Greece from the Persian invader by rousing his countrymen to action. Pericles raised Athens to her lofty eminence as leader of Hellenic cities, and adorned her with all that was beautiful and lovely, and Pericles was nothing, if not an orator. Demosthenes, too, was a landmark in history. It was of him that Phillip spoke, when he said, 'The eloquence of Demosthenes is of more avail against me than all the fleets and armies of the Athenians, and I have no enemy but Demosthenes.'

"Rome," he went on to say, "was the home of oratory. This was the one branch of the fine arts that her citizens cultivated really thoroughly and *con amore*. Every Roman was an orator. Her generals were orators. Julius Cæsar, the greatest perhaps of all generals, was distinguished for his powers of oratory. His oratory won him many a battle, saved him many a defeat, roused his solders to many a deed of bravery, and gained for himself the highest position a Roman could command.

"Rome ruled the world. Rome is the end and summing up of ancient history; the origin and fountain head of modern nations. Rome ruled the world; oratory ruled Rome. Who, then, can say that orators have not had the greatest influence on history?"

Turning then to England, he spoke of the influence exercised by British orators in raising their mother country to her present position. A great deal of that influence was due to William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, who during the years of her severest trials, held the reins of government in England, and, by his stirring appeals to his countrymen, induced them to rise from that state of lethargy into which they were fallen, and save for the land of their fathers her title of Queen of the Nations. But William Pitt was not the only orator who toiled for the good of his country. Their names were legion, as their deeds were great.

"Coming to our own beloved home, Australia, we find that all the good that has been done in this fair land of ours, all the benefits bestowed, all the success achieved, can be attributed only to oratory. Who have brought Federation within measurable distance of fulfilment but the orators. And when Federation comes, as come it will, to whom will Federated Australia consign the high duties of guarding its rights? To whom will the men of

this land, so jealous of freedom, entrust the immediate jewel of their souls; entrust that liberty which, more than everything on earth, they value and cherish; to whom but to the orators?"

At the conclusion of the debate, the junior pupils gave a gymnastic display on the parallel bars, which was warmly appreciated. Some of the exercises were exceedingly well done, and gave evidence of careful practice and preparation; Gerald Baxter and Ranald McKillop, if we were to single out individuals for praise, are especially to be complimented for the earnestness and zeal they showed in the daily practices.

When the last item on the programme had been rendered, Cardinal MORAN, in a brief speech, congratulated the officials of the college and the pupils upon the success that had attended their work during the past year, as evidenced by the excellent programme visitors had had the pleasure of witnessing. Making an allusion to the subject of the oratory contest, he said that Australia was in need of men of oratory and men of action. He hoped that there would be no lack of men with both qualities combined—men who coupled with the doing of wise deeds the expression of wise, well-considered thoughts. He hoped that the efforts of those who left the college would be crowned with the success they deserved if they were faithful to the principles of truth, justice, and consideration for others which were inculcated at this institution. (Applause.)

Mr. D. O'CONNOR and M. BIARD D'AUNET made short speeches, and the proceedings closed with expressions of thanks by the Very Rev. Luke Murphy (rector) to Cardinal Moran, the visitors, and the donors of prizes.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PREFECT OF STUDIES.

YOUR EMINENCE, REVEREND FATHERS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

REPORT OF YEAR'S WORK.

THE Report I have to give of the work in this College during the past year is a favourable one in almost every particular. The Results of the Junior Examination showed weakness in one subject—Arithmetic; and more energy and attention has consequently being devoted to that subject, with satisfactory results.

In English there has been a marked improvement. The Sub-Senior and Junior Classes secured very good marks in English in the Class-Championship Competition. WILLIAM CAMPBELL won a "Proxime" for the First place and University Medal in English in the Junior Examination, and of our five Senior candidates three secured First Class Honours in this subject.

In Greek we have maintained our reputation. The University Medal for First place in Greek in the Junior Examination was awarded to CECIL LONERAGAN, and in the Senior of the six places awarded on the First Class Honours list in Greek we have won the second and fourth, PATRICK GRIFFIN being "Proxime" for First place and University Medal. He also secures First Class Honours in English.

In the same Senior Examination PATRICK DALTON wins First Class Honours in both Latin and Greek, being 3rd in Latin, 4th in Greek; and First Class Honours in English and French. I may remark that besides him only three other candidates (out of over a hundred) secured First Class Honours in both Latin and Greek.

ALBERT WALKER secures third place on the First Class Honours list in Ancient History, besides First Class Honours in Latin, English, and Algebra.

ARCHIBALD MCKILLOP, First Class Honours in Algebra and Geometry, being 3rd in Geometry, 5th in Algebra.

All five boys are placed on the Matriculation Honours list in Latin, Greek (one did not present Greek), and Mathematics, and PATRICK DALTON in French besides.

PATRICK GRIFFIN and ALBERT WALKER passed in all the ten subjects presented (the maximum number allowed), ALBERT WALKER securing First Class Honours in four, and Second Class Honours in three, subjects.

In the College Examinations the most coveted distinction—The Gold Medal of the Class-Championship Competition—has been won by PERCIVAL BEATTIE of the class of RUDIMENTS, his total average being eighty-three per cent., the highest yet attained in this Competition.

The Silver Medal was won by CHARLES MAHER of the Junior Class.

The Keating Prize for Ancient History and Modern Literature—a valuable prize presented annually by ex-students of the college—has been awarded to PATRICK DALTON, of the Senior Class. To PATRICK DALTON also has fallen the Special Prize for French presented by the "*Comité de l'Alliance française.*"

The details of other special Prizes and of the various Class Prizes will be found in the Prize list which follows this Report, and they are evidence of the good work done by the boys—as the rule has been strictly adhered to of not awarding a prize unless a high standard of excellence is reached, the minimum marks required being *two-thirds* of the total.

Before concluding my Report there is one point in the Regulations regarding the Senior Examinations which calls for some remark.

AGE LIMIT OF THE SENIOR.

There is grave objection to be taken to the present age limit for the Senior Examination. In practice, at least, the Senior has come to be recognised as a suitable "leaving" Examination for Secondary Schools. That is, the work expected from a College like ours is satisfactorily tested by the Senior and Matriculation Honours Examination; so that a boy who, after his course of six, seven, or eight years here, passes with credit the Senior Examination, may be considered to have spent his time well, and his success in this examination is sufficient to show that the College has done its part for him, at least so far as intellectual training goes. In other words, those competent to form a judgment on the matter—for, unfortunately, a large section of the public, and an influential section, too, since in its ranks are a great many Fathers and Mothers, is inclined to take a "pass" in the *Junior* Examination as sufficient evidence that a boy is fit to give up going to school—those competent to form an opinion consider the Senior a good test to find out whether a boy has that knowledge, taste and mental development which are to be expected at the end of his College course, and when about to enter the University.

With this opinion I fully agree. The standard in the Senior and Honour Matriculations is high. The examinations in the Classics and in History are conducted in such a liberal spirit as to encourage not only accurate, but wide, reading, and no boy can pass these examinations creditably without lengthy and careful preparation.

Such is the Senior Examination; and it being such, one would naturally expect that the age limit for distinctions, medals, etc., would be about the age at which young fellows leave College for the University—say from eighteen to twenty years. It is a little astonishing, then, to find that the age limit is not twenty—but TWENTY-FIVE YEARS—that is, an age limit which is about the same as that set in some Universities for winning Studentships and other distinctions only open to M.A. graduates!

The age limit for winning distinctions in the Junior Public Examination is the reasonable one of seventeen; but a candidate may allow *eight* years to elapse between passing the Junior and the Senior and yet be eligible for prizes in the latter.

Now this is very unfair to the majority of Students. A boy of talent passes his Junior, say, at the age of sixteen and a half. He wins, perhaps, a medal or two, and otherwise gives promise of distinguishing himself later on. He then devotes two and a half years—this is the term which in practice the majority of candidates allow to elapse between Junior and Senior—to preparation for the Senior and Matriculation Honours, enters for that Examination at the age of nineteen, and finds that, although he may win First Class Honours in several subjects, yet all hope of medals or other distinctions is cut off by the fact that amongst the hundred or so candidates whom he has to compete with, and who, like himself, have for the most part taken only two and a half years to prepare, there are a few who have waited three, four, or five years after passing the Junior before presenting themselves for the Senior, and who consequently have such an advantage over him that competition is out of the question.

This year, for example, some of the Candidates who win the highest number of First Class Honours and distinctions in the Senior, passed the Junior Examination so far back as June, 1895, four and a half years ago, and some even not for the first time in that year.

Now this I consider an unfair state of things. Some who have no experience of the tendency nowadays, and in this country, to cut down the boy's schooldays as much as possible—to expect that Colleges shall, to keep pace with the general advance in scientific methods, impart as much knowledge and training by the time a boy reaches the age of sixteen or seventeen as was done formerly by the time he reached nineteen or twenty—such may ask, "Why not keep your pupils, then, for three, or four, or five years after the Junior?" The answer is simple.

For an examination of the standard of the senior, few boys can afford to wait this length of time. After all, it is only an Honours Matriculation Examination, that is, an Entrance Examination to the University. When a boy passes it, no matter how brilliantly, he still has his University career to begin, and it is neither possible, nor even desirable in most cases, to

spend more than two years on it. This, I say, is the rule. But there are exceptions; and, unfortunately, the age regulation, as it stands at present, leaves it open to the three or four exceptional cases where the candidates *can* wait, to do so.

Thus the regulation is altogether in favour not of the vast majority of candidates, but of the exceptional few.

And thus every year an unfair handicap is given which tends to discourage effort on the part of the average student.

That I am rating the Senior Examination at its proper value is shewn by the practice which obtains in the majority of cases of not devoting more than two and a half years after the Junior to preparation for the Senior, and also by the age limits fixed in certain cases of appointment to positions on "passes" obtained in the Senior. For example, for clerkships in the Mint the age limit is *twenty* and the qualification a good Senior "pass" Again, a Queensland Scholarship is awarded in connection with the Senior Examination and yet the age limit is *nineteen.*

What is the remedy? Either of two remedies would, I think, meet the difficulty.

1. Fix *twenty* as the age limit for distinctions in the Senior. This would allow a full two and a half years for preparation between Junior and Senior, even in the case of those boys who do not pass the Junior until they have nearly reached seventeen years of age.

2. Or let there be a regulation made that in order to qualify for medals or other distinctions at the Senior and Honours Matriculation Examinations, Students must pass the Senior within two and a half years after the Junior. For example, those who pass the Junior in June, 1897, must pass the Senior in November, 1899; and in the case of those who have not passed the Junior at all, that they must be under twenty years of age.

This regulation would have the further desirable result of inducing parents and schools not to send up boys for the Junior much before the age limit of seventeen. This would tend to raise the standard of the Junior pass, and to keep a good many boys (not more than a sixth of those that pass the Junior ever go on for the Senior) a year or two longer at school—which, I think, all are agreed would be an immense gain for Secondary Education.

SENIOR AND MATRICULATION HONOURS EXAMINATION, NOV., 1899.

	Greek	Latin	Anct. History	Modern History	English	French	Arithmetic	Alg'bra	Geom.	Trigon.
Joseph Coen, M.E.	—	B	C	f	B	C	C	B	C	B
Patrick Dalton, M.	A	A	C	C	A	A	f	B	C	B
Patrick Griffin, M.E.	A	B	C	C	A	B	C	B	C	C
Archie McKillop, M.E.	B	B	C	f	C	C	B	A	A	C
Albert Walker, M.E.	B	A	A	C	A	C	C	A	B	B

Riverview College sent up five candidates—the whole Senior Class—and all passed.

All five qualified for Matriculation, and for entrance to the faculties of Law, Medicine, and Science of the University.

Four out of the five qualified in addition for entrance to the Department of Engineering (marked M.E.)

Patrick Griffin and Albert Walker passed in all the ten subjects presented (the maximum number allowed). Only 24 others (from all other schools) passed in an equal number.

In Latin and Greek all five obtained either "A" or "B."

Besides Patrick Dalton, only three other candidates in the whole Senior Examination obtained "A" in both Latin and Greek.

Besides P Griffin and P. Dalton, only four other candidates obtained 1st class in Greek.

Besides Albert Walker, only seven others obtained 1st class in Ancient History.

P. Dalton and A. Walker obtain four "A's" each.

Amongst the First Class Honours (indicated by "A" above) the following high places were secured:—

P. Griffin, "*Proxime*" for 1st place and University Medal in Greek, and fifth on First Class Honours' List of Matriculation Honours.

P. Dalton, 3rd place in Latin, 4th in Greek.

A. Walker, 3rd in Ancient History, 7th in Latin.

A. McKillop, 3rd in Geometry, 5th in Algebra.

Matriculation Honours.

Latin.—Walker, 1st place in Second Class; Dalton, 2nd in Second Class; Coen, McKillop, Griffin, Third Class.

Greek.—Griffin, First Class (5th place); Dalton and Walker, 1st in Second Class; McKillop, 2nd in Second Class.

French.—Dalton (2nd class).

Mathematics.—A. McKillop, 1st in Second Class; Walker, 2nd in Second Class; Dalton, Coen, and Griffin, Third Class.

JUNIOR PUBLIC EXAMINATION, June, 1899.

The following students passed from Riverview College with distinctions mentioned below:

James Allan	Francis Cullinane
William Campbell	Arthur Du Boisé
Wilfrid Chadwick	Cecil Loneragan
Austin Curtin	Percy Rogers

James Allen secured four "A's" and three "B's" in his seven subjects, and a Matriculation Pass.

Cecil Loneragan won the University Medal for First place in Greek.

William Campbell was "Proxime" for the University Medal and First place in English.

In Latin, all the candidates secured either "A" or "B"; of the seven who presented Greek, four obtained "A," two "B," and one "C."

PRIZE LIST.

Special Prizes.

Patrick Griffin—Christian Doctrine.

Percival Beattie—Class Championship Gold Medal.

Charles Maher—Class Championship Silver Medal.

Francis Mulcahy—Class Championship Third Prize.

Aubrey Cahill—Class Championship Fourth Prize.

Cecil Loneragan—University Medal for Greek.

William Campbell — Special Prize for English "Proxime" in University Public Examination.

Patrick Griffin—Special Prize for Greek "Proxime" in University Public Examination.

Patrick Dalton—The "Keating" Prize.

Patrick Dalton—College Classical Gold Medal.

Archibald McKillop—College Mathematical Gold Medal.

Patrick Griffin—Gold Medal for English.

Patrick Dalton—Special Prize for French.

William Brennan, Edward McFarlane, George Dawson—Highest Averages in Weekly Examinations.

Robert Douglas—Gold Medal for Oratory.

Thomas Campbell—Senior Debate Gold Medal.

Edward Real—Junior Debate Gold Medal.

Robert Douglas—Special Declamation Prize.

Edward Real—Special Reading Prize (Senior).

Diarmaid Gavan Duffy—Special Reading Prize (Junior).

Daniel O'Sullivan—Drawing.

Robert Douglas—Writing (Senior).

William Ricketts—Writing (Junior).

Leslie Barry—Bookkeeping.

Frederick Carr—Shorthand.

Harold Hunter—Special Music Prize.

Senior Matriculation Honours Class.

Patrick Griffin—Imperatorship, Christian Doctrine, Algebra.

Patrick Dalton—Greek, French, English.

Albert Walker—Latin, Ancient History, English Essay.

Archibald McKillop—Arithmetic, Geometry.

Joseph Coen—Trigonometry.

Sub-Senior Class.

Hubert Chadwick—Imperatorship, Christian Doctrine, Latin, Algebra.

Austin Curtin—Greek, French.

William Campbell—English.

Cecil Loneragan—Ancient History.

Aubrey Cahill—Geometry.

Robert McKillop—Arithmetic.

Sydney Rorke—English Essay.

Junior Class.

Robert Douglas—Imperatorship, English.

Charles Maher—Greek, French.

James Murray—Christian Doctrine.

William Murray—Latin.

Humphrey Oxenham—English Essay.

James Gleeson—Geometry.

Frederick Carr, Francis Mulcahy, *ex aeq.*—Algebra.

Edwin Fitzgerald—Arithmetic.

Second Grammar.

Francis Mulcahy—Imperatorship, Greek, Latin, French, English, English Essay.

William Brennan—Christian Doctrine, History.

William Craven—Geometry.

Lionel McDonald—Algebra, Arithmetic (A.).

Terence Ahern—Arithmetic (B.).

THIRD GRAMMAR.

SANDERS JOHNSTONE—Imperatorship, Greek, Latin, English Essay.

MICHAEL VEECH—Christian Doctrine, French.

VICTOR MACKEN—English, History.

GERALD BAXTER—Arithmetic, Geography.

RANALD MCKILLOP—Algebra.

RUDIMENTS.

PERCIVAL BEATTIE—Imperatorship, Christian Doctrine, Latin, English Essay, History and Geography.

LIONEL MCDONALD—English.

FRANCIS COFFEE—French.

WALTER PINES—Arithmetic.

HAROLD HUNTER—Reading.

ELEMENTS.

ALICK CAMPBELL—Imperatorship, Reading, Spelling, Arithmetic.

LEA HOGAN—Christian Doctrine, English poems.

ALBERT ABEL—Grammar, Tables, German.

ST. IGNATIUS' COLLEGE ATHLETIC CLUB.

OFFICERS OF THE CLUB.

President: Rev. W. O'MEARA, S.J.

Hon. Sec.: J. COEN.

Committee and Handicappers—Ex-Students:

Messrs. P. J. O'DONNELL, B. MCBRIDE, A. DEERY.

1st Division:

M. L. GLEESON, J. COEN, D. O'SULLIVAN.

2nd Division:

Rev. R. MURPHY, S.J., V. POLIN, A. CURTIN, G. BAXTER.

3rd Division:

Rev. E. WHITE, S.J., S. HOGAN, A. ABEL, G. DAWSON.

Stewards:

Messrs. W. CHADWICK, R. DOUGLAS, H. OXENHAM, C. MANNING, P. GRIFFIN, J. GLEESON, T. CAMPBELL.

Timekeeper:

Mr. H. WILLIAMS.

OUR annual sports this year took place on September 30th. Notwithstanding the threatening aspect of the weather there was a fair attendance. Special steamers were running during the day, and amongst those present were the Very Rev. Father Kenny, S.J., Rev. Father Maher, S.J., Rev. Mr. Fallon, S.J., the Hon. E. W. O'Sullivan, Minister for Works; Mr. and Mrs. G. Barry, Mr. and Mrs. W. Brennan, Mr. L. Bonython (Adelaide), Mr. and Mrs. Pinchoff (Melbourne), Messrs. T. Kelly, B.A., J. O'Donnell. Mr. Armstrong kindly acted as starter, whilst Messrs. Hogan and Barry ably fulfilled the duties of judges. During the afternoon the Permanent Artillery Band, under the direction of Captain A. P. Luscombe, discoursed appropriate music.

Punctually at 2.20 Mr. Armstrong opened the proceedings by sending the second divisioners off the mark. Baxter had no difficulty in winning the championship as last year. Curtin was second, and H. Barry third.

The Rector's gold medal was won after a good race by H. Oxenham, with M. Gleeson second.

The 100 Yards 3rd Division (under 12) was won by Leo Coffee.

The 440 Yards 2nd Division was won by W. Murray; Baxter, 2nd.

100 Yards Handicap (3rd Division).—D. Gavan Duffy, 1; G. Dawson, 2; S. Hogan, 3.

Norman Campbell, a coming sprinter, whom we hope to hear of later as a champion, won the Maiden Handicap in fine style.

120 Yards Hurdle Championship (1st Division).—M. L. Gleeson, 1; H. Oxenham, 2; J. McLaughlin, 3.

The Sack Race was won by W. Duffy, of 2nd Division.

The Cricketers' Handicap fell to: M. Gleeson, 1; W. Murray, 2.

The Class Champion Race was very interesting. Three representatives were sent by each class, and each had its own colours. The race was decided on points, 3rd Grammar being the winners.

The Egg and Spoon Race caused much amusement, and was won by W. Brennan.

220 Yards Champion Event.—H. Oxenham.

The Ex-Students' Race was well contested, and was won by A. Deery, who also succeeded in carrying off the coveted prize last year.

H. McIntosh won the Obstacle Race for the second year in succession.

Hurdle Handicap (2nd Division).—G. Baxter, 1.

The Siamese Race was won cleverly by H. Barry and P. Gleeson.

The Half-mile Handicap brought forth a host of competitors, but the small boys had too much start. L. Barry won from the 200 yards mark.

M. Gleeson won the 1st Division Handicap Hurdle Race, H. Oxenham being second.

The Consolation Race only consoled C. Baxter, who proved himself an able sprinter.

The following events had been decided on the previous Sunday:—

1st Division.

Long Jump.—M. Gleeson, 1; J. Coen, 2.

Handball Championship.—J. Molloy, 1; M. Gleeson, 2; H. Oxenham, 3.

Swimming.—M. Gleeson, 1; O. Carroll, 2.

Calisthenics.—H. Oxenham, 1; J. Molloy, 2.

Kicking Football.—M. Gleeson, 1 (61 yards 2 feet); E. Long, 2; J. Gleeson, 3.

Throwing Cricket Ball.—M. Gleeson, H. MacIntosh.

High Jump.—M. Gleeson, 1 (5 feet 1 inch); J. Coen, 2 (5 feet).

Throwing Hammer.—T. Carlton, 1; M. Gleeson, 2.

2nd Division.

Kicking Football.—G. Baxter, 1; J. Kennedy, 2.

Throwing Cricket Ball.—J. Kennedy, 1; G. Baxter, 2.

High Jump.—V. Polin, 1; P. Gleeson, 2; V. Power, 3.

3rd Division.

Kicking Football.—G. Dawson, 1 ; A. Abel, 2.

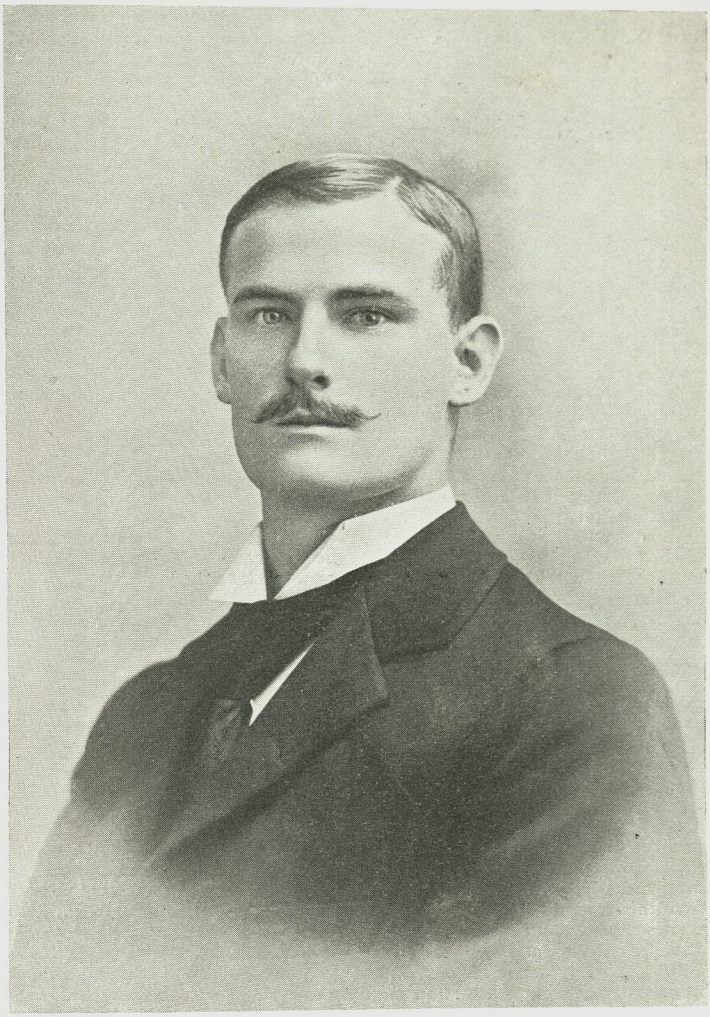
Throwing Cricket Ball.—G. Dawson, 1 ; G. Rorke, 2.

High Jump.—G. Dawson, 1 ; H. Rose, 2.

On totting up the points the committee found that M. L. Gleeson had annexed the Championship of the College, with the right of having his name inscribed on the walls of the Library.

The President and Committee desire to return their sincere thanks to the following for donations to the prize fund :—

The Very Rev. T. Kenny, S.J.	Mr. Chas. McBride
The Very Rev. L. Murphy, S.J.	Mr. H. Oxenham
The Very Rev. C. Nulty, S.J.	Mr. R. Armstrong
	Messrs. Jas. Martin & Co.
	,, Gowing Bros.
	,, Biddell Bros.



MICHAEL GLEESON—Our Champion Athlete.

The bell rang for all to assemble at the pavilion, and the Rector, in a few pleasant words, introduced Mrs. Barry, who distributed the prizes.

Mr. M. Gleeson called for three cheers for Mrs. Barry, and they were given in true school-boy fashion.

The grateful thanks of the committee are due to Messrs. Barry and Hogan for their kind assistance during the day ; to the starter, Mr. Armstrong ; and to Brother Doyle and his able assistants.

The Venerable Archdeacon D'Arcy	Messrs. Butler & McKye
The Rev. Dr. Carroll, V.G.	,, Gregory & Outram
Rev. J. Brennan, S.J.	,, Butcher & Co.
Rev. T. Gartlan, S.J.	,, John Pope & Co.
Rev. A. Sturzo, S.J.	,, Denham & Co.
The Hon. John Gavan Duffy, M.L.A. (Vic.)	,, Buzacott & Co.
	,, W. H. Paling & Co.
	,, Stanley & Co.
The Prefects	,, Finn Brothers

The Rowing Club
Mrs. H. G. Barry
Mrs. W. Brennan
Mr. M. Hogan
Mr. C. Maher

Mr. J. Searle
,, R. Morgan
,, J. Fitzsimons
,, N. Joubert

ST. IGNATIUS COLLEGE FOOTBALL CLUB.

President: Rev. W. O'Meara, S.J.

Captain: M. L. Gleeson.

Committee:

J. Coen. D. O'Sullivan.
M. L. Gleeson.

Our Record this Year was:—

Matches Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.
23.	15.	5.	3.

SUMMARY OF THE FOOTBALL SEASON, 1899.

Our expectations of the coming season rose very high when, at the beginning of the season, we found that our captain, Mick Gleeson, was coming back, and also that we had a powerful acquisition in a new comer, Tom Carlton. The season, however, opened poorly enough; most of our earlier matches we had to record on the side of defeats. But, fortunately, the ill-success of our first matches was not without its reasons. Four of our prominent footballers were also oarsmen, and were at this time training might and main for the coming All-schools' Race, so that they were unable to render us any assistance. But after the brilliant win on the Parramatta River, we were at once fired with enthusiasm, and our fortunes on the football field took a considerable change for the better. The following Sunday we repaired somewhat our previous losses by defeating a strong combination of ex-students. Henceforth we went at football with a will, and Saturday after Saturday success crowned our efforts. But it was to our meeting with the redoubtable King's that we looked forward to having our full strength put to the test. Our expectations were not unrealised. The King's School match proved for us a most fast and even game. At half-time the score stood three points all; and in the second half both sides worked with such a will that the whistle finally sounded without any change in the score. But we had still opponents to meet, whose real strength we little guessed. The Sydney Grammar School match came off the following Saturday, which proved to be a wet and disagreeable day for football. We were rather late in starting, but the Grammars rushed off from the start, with the result that they had scored three tries before the first 10 minutes were over. Then at last we livened up, and, especially in the second half, made the game very warm for our opponents. But our efforts were unavailing, for we had allowed the other side at the start to establish too much of a lead.

This was our first real defeat, but, nothing daunted, we were determined to make it our only defeat. The fates, however, were against us. The following week our two first-rate New Zealand players, "Mick" Gleeson (captain) and "Jim" Gleeson left for home. In spite of this great loss we made a great battle with Newington the following Saturday, and were barely beaten by three points to *nil*. Thus was brought to an end our first half's football, which, on the whole, was a rather satisfactory record.

In the second half we were very fortunate in only losing one of our first team, in the person of hardworking Percy Rogers. Our Captain, "Mick" Gleeson, had returned, and was all enthusiasm over the prospects of our final half at football. We were rather overwilling to get going again at football, for the Saturday following the reopening, with no real practice, and very few of our team as yet returned, we embarked on a match with the North Shore Grammar School. The match would have fared badly with us did we not exert ourselves to the utmost in the latter portion of the game. Luckily enough we made it a draw. If the match had no other result, it enforced on us the wisdom of Napoleon's dictum, "Never despise an opponent." We seemed to have taken the lesson to heart, for the next time we had the pleasure of meeting our N. Shore friends we beat them by 6 points to *nil*. The ex-students seem to be very unfortunate against us. Although they number among their ranks players who have done valiant work for Australia against England, still this term also we managed to defeat the ex-Riverviewers by 9 points to 3. But, alas! even the peaceful horizon of Riverview is not wholly destitute of an occasional black cloud. There was an unfortunate split in our team, and the resignation of our old captain led to some confusion, and the necessity of a new one being elected. Thanks to this fact and the weather conditions, our training before the second match with King's School was marked with much apathy. None of us seemed to realise the fact that next Saturday we would again have a hard tussle with the King's. The week passed, Saturday came, and our team made its way to Parramatta. But it was not the same well-organised team that fought against the Kings so well a few months before. For the first few minutes the game was of a very even nature, but excellent play on the part of the King's and bad organisation on our side did not take long to demoralize our team. It was with heavy hearts and downcast heads we made our way that night back to the College. We had suffered a bad defeat, the King's had beaten us by 26 points to *nil*. Our spirit, however, was not broken; we roused ourselves again to make a last big battle with the Premiers, the Sydney Grammar School. The forwards trained with a will; and, by plenty of running, mustered up considerable staying powers for the following Wednesday. The day at last came; and every man of us stepped on the field with the firm resolve to dispute every inch of ground with our opponents. We wanted to retrieve somewhat our lost laurels. From the very beginning our forwards forced the game, and kept the ball very dangerously near our opponents' touch-line. By a splendid kick Mick Gleeson scored for us the first points. But the Grammar fellows rallying themselves, by a good piece of back play, managed to score a fine try in the person of Webb. The match from beginning to end was well contested on both sides; but our forwards were evidently the superiors of the opposing pack. When Mr. Hardcastle sounded the finish of the game, Riverview had added another draw to her record, but this time with the champion school. To see how meritorious this was for us I have only to add that a few days later the Grammar School easily defeated the King's School. Reviewing the season as a whole, whilst finding much to praise, and praise highly, we find, also, some room for censure. There is one thing our team would do well to realise, that to win matches we must sink all differences, be more tolerant towards one another, and fight manfully shoulder to shoulder. The season has been a most successful one, as compared with some previous seasons, and is, I hope, only the harbinger of a glorious one next year.

With reference to a statement in a recent issue of the

King's School Journal that two St. Ignatius College players were cautioned by the referee, Mr. Armstrong, the referee in question, has no recollection of cautioning our players. But he asserts that he cautioned two of the King's School players.

Riverview v. Premier.

On July 15th we played the Premier Football Club. Our team was a very weak one, owing to the fact that all our first team had not yet come back from vacation, and so their places had to be filled from the second team. After a good game Premiers won by 13 to 3. Gleeson brothers, Douglas, and Clifford were conspicuous for the College.

Riverview v. Sydney C.E.G.S.

9—9.

Played at North Sydney on July 22nd.

RIVERVIEW.—Full back, Cullinane; three-quarters, McIntosh, Gleeson (1), O'Brien; five-eighth, J. Coen, E. Fitzgerald; half, J. Gleeson; forwards, D. O'Sullivan, R. Douglas, T. Carlton, W. Chadwick, W. Campbell, T. Campbell, S. Hehir, Griffin.

C.E.G.S.—Full back, Carey; three-quarter, Larkin, Reid, Jacques; five-eighth, Fisher, Sayers; half, Hickson; forwards, Abraham, Adams (1), Adams (2), Usher, Carey, Grant, Lomax, Christmas.

The School won the toss, and College kicked off. Soon after starting College made a fine passing rush from Carlton to Gleeson to Coen, which ended on the School's line, who, though they rallied finely, were hard pressed for a considerable time. Gleeson (2) got the ball from the scrum, passed to Coen to Gleeson (2) to McIntosh, who scored a good try and placed the ball behind the posts. Coen failed to convert. Score: Riverview 3—0. In play again Riverview pressed the School hard, but, owing to the fine defence, could not break through. The School now broke away and carried the ball past the full back, where Lomax scored an easy try. Score: 3—3. Encouraged by this the School played up finely, and after about five minutes again carried the ball over the line and scored their second try. Score: School 6, Riverview 3.

Coen's kick-out was blocked, and, the School forwards following on, again scored. Score: School 9, Riverview 3.

Half-time was now called.

After the interval Riverview seemed to put more life into their play, and they soon had "the School" in difficulties. Shortly after starting Riverview were awarded a free kick at about half way. Sullivan took the kick, and put up a beautiful goal. Score: Riverview, 6; School, 9. From this out play was hard and fast, Riverview having slightly the better of it. Just on the call of time Coen, going at full pace, took a fine pass from Griffin, and, beating the full back, scored a good try. The kick at goal failed. Score: Riverview, 9; School, 9. Full time then sounded, the game thus resulting in a draw.

For the College Gleeson, McIntosh, O'Sullivan, Fitzgerald and Coen were prominent; while for the School Lomax, Fisher, Carey and Abraham were best.

Mr. Armstrong refereed.

v. Newington.

On the 12th August we journeyed to Newington; the day was very wet, and the ground covered in water, so that good play was not to be looked for, the ball being too greasy. The game resulted in a draw, neither side scoring.

v. King's School.

On the 19th August we went to Parramatta to play King's School, and received a severe defeat at their hands. Owing to some changes made in our team it was not so strong as usual, and this, perhaps, may account for our defeat.

The King's School were very fast, their backs especially, though Riverview defended well for a time. The score at half-time was 3—0 in favour of King's School. After the interval King's School played up finely, and their superior condition won them the game. They eventually won by 27 to nil.

Mr. Armstrong was referee.

Riverview v. Ex-Students.

On Sunday, 30th July, we met a strong team of Ex-Students, and, though not expecting to win, we succeeded in doing so. Their team consisted of such champions as I. and J. O'Donnell, while we were without the services of Gleeson (1). Ex-Students were the first to score, after a fine rush, in which I. O'Donnell was conspicuous, and McMahon drew first blood for the old boys. This was destined to be their only score, for Riverview played up finely, and kept them on the defensive throughout. Gleeson (2) was the first to score for Riverview, the kick at goal failing. Soon after, O'Sullivan crossed the line for Riverview again, thus making the score 6 to 3 in favor of the present students. From this out College had things all their own way, and further succeeded in increasing the score to 9 by means of Griffin, who scored a good try. The College thus won by 9 to 3.

Riverview v. Sydney Grammar School.

Grammar School won the toss, and St. Ignatius kicked off. Some exciting play followed, Riverview defending finely; but soon St. Ignatius was able to make the score 3 to *nil* in their favor through the instrumentality of Gleeson, who kicked a fine goal from a penalty. Play now became fast and furious, St. Ignatius repelling all attempts to score. At last, however, a fine passing rush by Grammar School ended in Webb crossing the line for Sydney Grammar School. Score: 3—3. Play was uneventful till half-time. After the interval, both sides played with great determination, St. Ignatius' forwards being far superior to their opponents. Riverview were again awarded a free for off-side, and Gleeson again succeeded in piloting the ball over the bar. Score: Riverview, 6; Sydney Grammar School, 3. After this Sydney Grammar School rallied, and Manning and Gow were conspicuous in a fine passing rush. From a line out Manning secured and passed to Gow to Close to Webb, who, running strongly, succeeded in scoring again for Sydney Grammar School. Full time sounded shortly afterwards, the game resulting in a draw, 6—6.

St. Ignatius' forwards deserve special mention for their plucky play; they repeatedly beat their opponents, both in close and open play, and to them is due, to a great extent, the merit of our success. Chadwick was, perhaps, the best, Campbell, O'Sullivan, and Carlton also playing well. Among the backs McIntosh, Fitzgerald, Miller, and Gleeson were most noticeable.

Mr. Armstrong was referee.

St. Ignatius College v. C.E.G.S.

Towards the close of the season we again played the school. Their fifteen had improved since our previous match, and, having defeated St. Joseph's College, their hopes were high. The day was somewhat warm, and the heat told on the players. The game was not fast or scientific until the second half, when the players on both sides livened up. Our forwards played well, and we won by 6 points to nil. For the College Coen, M. Gleeson, Chadwick, and O'Sullivan did best, and amongst the School Fisher and Holtermann were most conspicuous.

OTHER MATCHES.

Training College.—Our match with this College was played under circumstances unfavourable to good football, as the ground was wet from recent rain. Riverview won by 15 points to 3.

Stanmore Institute.—Resulted in an easy win for the College by 13 points to 7.

University III.—Resulted in a win for Riverview by 8 points to nil.

Honour caps for good play during the season were awarded to W. Chadwick, J. Coen, and M. L. Gleeson.

ST. IGNATIUS COLLEGE CRICKET CLUB.

President: REV. W. O'MEARA, S.J.

Captain: E. J. FITZGERALD.

Committee:

J. COEN. E. J. FITZGERALD. C. MANNING.

IN our previous summary we wrote that our eleven, although comprising many young players, shaped so well as to give promise of success next season. The eleven have not disappointed expectations, and we have to chronicle only two defeats so far. We succumbed to the fast trundlers of the King's School, but, thanks to the efforts of J. Molloy and N. Clifford, who brought our total from 45 to 88, we were only defeated by 24 runs. As the school holds the championship for the year, we do not regard this as a great defeat. Owing to hot weather preceding the Grammar School engagement, we did not practice so well as of yore, hence we attribute the small score totted up by our firsts to that reason.

The services of P. Gleeson, a small boy in knickerbockers, were required for the eleven in the batting department. So well did the second divisioner shape that he has the large average of 61 runs. Our fielding, on the whole, was not up to the mark, and when disaster came, it was mainly due to our losing heart at the downfall of the first batsmen.

However, the season has begun well, and it rests with our eleven to keep up the success already achieved.

The average bat was won by J. Gleeson, who also received a presentation one for his total of 72 against Newington. C. Manning also received a bat for his fine play against the same school.

The following are the principal averages:—

P. GLEESON (not qualified) ...	61
J. GLEESON	25·6
C. MANNING	12·71

The medal for best bowling average was won by our captain, E. J. Fitzgerald, with an average of 10·09, followed closely by N. Clifford with 11.06.

The prize for fielding was not awarded.

SYDNEY C. OF E. GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The proverbial saying, "It is sure to be wet for North Shore," was not verified this half, for the 14th turned out an ideal cricketers' day. The wicket was good, and, as will be seen from the scoring and bowling analysis, our eleven made very good use of these favourable circumstances. Fitzgerald and Clifford for their fine bowling, and Jas. Gleeson for the creditable score of 55, deserve especial praise.

C.E.G.S.—1ST INNINGS.

Fisher, b Clifford	20
Hordern, b Clifford	14
Hickson, b Clifford	9
Holtermann, b Fitzgerald	14
Way, lbw, Fitzgerald	2
Adams, b Clifford	0
Barton, c Veech, b Clifford	0
Jacques, b Fitzgerald	0
Lomax, b Fitzgerald	0
Middleton, b Fitzgerald	0
Sayers, not out	3
Sundries...	3
Total	65

Analysis.—Fitzgerald, 5 wickets for 7; Clifford, 5 wickets for 21.

ST. IGNATIUS.—1ST INNINGS

Coen, b Hordern	0
McGuren, b Hordern	1
J. Gleeson, b Fisher	55
Manning, b Hordern	4
O'Sullivan, c Hickson, b Fisher ...	14
Molloy, b Fisher	3
Veech, run out	0
M. Gleeson, b Fisher	1
Fitzgerald, b Hordern...	5
Maher, c and b Hordern	2
Clifford, not out	1
Sundries...	4
Total	90

C.E.G.S.—2ND INNINGS.

Hordern, b Clifford	10
Hickson, c Coen, b Fitzgerald ...	0
Fisher, b Fitzgerald	0
Holtermann, run out	3
Way, lbw, Fitzgerald	20
Adams, b Clifford	9
Barton, b Fitzgerald	0
Jacques, lbw, Fitzgerald	0
Lomax, b Clifford	4
Middleton, not out	5
Sayers, c Gleeson, b Coen	11
Sundries...	6
Total	63

Analysis.—Fitzgerald, 5 for 27; Coen, 1 for 6; Clifford, 3 for 28.

ST. IGNATIUS.—2ND INNINGS.

O'Sullivan, b Fisher	10
Manning, c Holtermann, b Hordern...	1
McGuren, run out	3
Veech, lbw, Hordern	9
Fitzgerald, lbw, Hordern	9
Clifford, c Hickson, b Hordern ...	0

Coen, b Hordern ...	...	...	0
J. Gleeson, not out	...	...	10
Sundries ...	...	...	5
Total for 7 wickets		...	47

Riverview thus won by three wickets and four runs.

THE KING'S SCHOOL.

Mainly owing to the excellent bowling of Clifford and Manning, we were only beaten by this, the champion school, on their own grounds, by 24 runs. Indeed, it seemed as if we were going to win, when two of the champions had been disposed of for 9. Ryrie, however, who made 44, saved the collapse; but he was eventually stumped by Molloy from one of Manning's breaks.

KING'S.—1ST INNINGS.

Cox, c O'Sullivan, b Clifford ...	...	...	13
White, c J. Gleeson, b Clifford	...	...	6
F. Futter, c McIntosh, b Manning	...	...	2
Ryrie, std Molloy b Manning	...	...	44
Doyle, b Clifford ...	...	...	23
V. Futter, c M. Gleeson, b Clifford	...	...	1
Lord, c Manning, b Fitzgerald	...	...	1
Debenham, std Molloy, b Manning		...	0
Body, c Manning, b Clifford ...	...	...	15
Stiles, c Fitzgerald, b Manning	...	...	0
Sundries.. ...	...	...	3
Total ...	...	...	108

Analysis.—Manning, 4 for 24; Clifford, 5 for 56; Fitzgerald, 1 for 11.

ST. IGNATIUS.—1ST INNINGS.

O'Sullivan, run out ...	...	...	2
McIntosh, b Doyle ...	...	...	13
J. Gleeson, b Doyle ...	...	...	7
Manning, b Doyle ...	...	...	2
McGuren, lbw, Richards	...	...	2
Veech, b Richards ...	...	...	1
M. Gleeson, b Richards	...	...	5
F. Cullinane, b Doyle ...	...	...	1
Fitzgerald, b Richards...	...	...	0
Molloy, not out ...	...	...	20
Clifford, b Richards ...	...	...	10
Sundries	...	...	21
Total ...	...	...	84

NEWINGTON.

In this match, which was played on our own ground, our eleven totalled 271, the record score among the schools for this season. Although the match resulted in a draw, yet it was a virtual win for Riverview, for, when time was called, there were only two wickets to fall with 122 runs to make. Manning 54, J. Gleeson 72, M. Gleeson 24, P. Gleeson 22, are worthy of special mention for their fine scores.

ST. IGNATIUS.—1ST INNINGS.

Manning, b Millican ...	...	...	54
O'Sullivan, run out ...	...	...	9
J. Gleeson, run out ...	...	...	72
Coen, c McCourt ...	...	...	13
P. Gleeson, run out ...	...	...	22
Fitzgerald, c Redgrave, b Millican		...	9
McGuren, b Redgrave...	...	...	20
M. Gleeson, b Finan ...	...	...	24
Molloy, b Finan ...	...	...	3
Maher, b Finan ...	...	...	0
Clifford, not out ...	...	...	0
Sundries ...	...	...	45
Total ...	...	...	271

NEWINGTON.—1ST INNINGS.

Mackay, lbw, Clifford ...	...	...	26
Moses, b Clifford ...	...	...	1
Hawken, c Coen, b O'Sullivan	...	...	33
Brown, c McGuren, b O'Sullivan	...	...	17
Finan, b O'Sullivan ...	...	...	5
McVicar, b O'Sullivan ...	...	...	0
McCourt, not out ...	...	...	24
Millican, c Manning, b Clifford	...	...	15
Parker, run out ...	...	...	0
Channos, not out ...	...	...	3
Sundries ...	...	...	25
Total for eight wickets...			149

Analysis.—O'Sullivan, 4 for 31; Clifford, 3 for 47.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

This proved a rather bad defeat for us. Owing to want of practice, we were not up to our usual form. It seemed at first as if we were going to repeat our performance of the previous Saturday, but the bowling of McKenzie and Cotter was too good for our batsmen. The scores are as under :—

ST. IGNATIUS.—1ST INNINGS.

Manning, b McKenzie...	...	...	15
O'Sullivan, c Gow, b McKenzie	...	...	7
J. Gleeson, b Cotter ...	...	...	0
Coen, c and b McKenzie	...	...	0
P. Gleeson, not out ...	...	...	15
Fitzgerald, lbw, Cotter	...	...	0
M. Gleeson, b McKenzie	..	...	6
Maher, b McKenzie ...	...	...	0
Molloy, b McKenzie ...	...		0
Chadwick, b McKenzie	...	...	0
Clifford, b Cotter ...	...	...	5
Sundries... ...	...	...	11
Total ...	...	...	59

S.G.S.—1ST INNINGS.

Rogers, c Manning, b O'Sullivan	...		0
Close, c and b O'Sullivan	...	...	14
Gow, c Clifford, b Fitzgerald ...		...	71
Johnson, c J. Gleeson, b Fitzgerald		...	38
Cotter, c P. Gleeson, b Fitzgerald		...	23
Johnson, b J. Gleeson ...	...	...	0
Griffiths, b Fitzgerald ...	...	...	0
Bond, c P. Gleeson, b Coen ...		...	16
Manning, c and b Fitzgerald ...		...	11
Allen, not out ...	...	...	11
McKenzie, b Clifford ...	...	...	15
Sundries... ...	...	...	15
Total ...	...	...	208

Analysis.—Fitzgerald, 5 for 51; O'Sullivan, 2 for 23; Coen, 1 for 22; J. Gleeson, 1 for 33; Clifford, 1 for 46.

ST. IGNATIUS COLLEGE V. RIVERVIEW EX-STUDENTS.

This match was played on November 11th, and resulted in an easy win for the present boys. The scores were: Riverview, 162; Ex-students, 75. J. Gleeson, Veech, and P. Gleeson batted best for Riverview, whilst Mr. Healy and I. O'Donnell were the principal scorers amongst the Ex-Students.

ST. IGNATIUS COLLEGE V. ST. ALOYSIUS EX-STUDENTS.

The Ex-Students were at the wickets first, and compiled 57, of which Carroll contributed 12 and Mahoney 9. Owing to the vigorous hitting of M. Gleeson, who made 55, Riverview's scores reached 120. St. Aloysius again went in, but were unable to put together more than 49, for which O'Connor (16) and Carroll (14) were principally accountable.

OTHER MATCHES.

RAILWAY AUDIT OFFICE.—This resulted in a win for Riverview by 41 runs. Seale made 32 in grand style for our opponents. He is an ex-intercolonial player, and did good service for his side with the ball. Scores: Railway Audit Office, 57; Riverview, 118 (J. Gleeson 15, and C. Manning 30, batting well).

A TEAM V. B TEAM, RIVERVIEW, resulted in a win for the A Team by 37 runs. J. Gleeson 17, and F. Cullinane 21, did most service for the A's, and McIntosh 10 for the B Team.

EX-STUDENTS.—An eleven of the ex-students inflicted a crushing defeat on the A Team. The visitors comprised such heroes as McMahon, Lawler, F. Punch, J. Punch, A. Gow, P. J. O'Donnell, T. Hurley, A. Deery, I. O'Donnell, and W. Fraser. No wonder then that they totted up 201 (F. Punch 58, A. Gow and F. Lawler 35 each). Our A team just reached 55 runs, owing to the destructive bowling of the popular captain, P. J. O'Donnell, and the trundler of '95, W. Fraser.

SECOND ELEVEN.

Captain: R. DOUGLAS.

Committee:

R. DOUGLAS, H. McINTOSH, W. CHADWICK.

Matches Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.
9.	6.	0.	3.

Our second eleven have not had very good luck this half in the way of obtaining matches, as on most Saturdays teams either did not turn up or else it was raining. However, on September 8th a mixed team, composed mainly of seconds, played Rockdale College. The visitors made 32, and we replied with 100 for 5 wickets (Douglas 22 being principal scorer for the seconds' part of the team.

Our most important match was played against North Shore Grammar School. They made 60, and we compiled 115 for 7 wickets (McIntosh 49 not out, W. Chadwick 19, Cullinane 15, M. Veech 12). In this match Chadwick took 3 wickets for 10 runs, and J. McLaughlin 2 for 9.

The batting average was won by McIntosh with an average of 22·6, McKillop coming second with 15·5, and J. McLaughlin easily last with the unparalleled average of .6. Douglas captured the bowling average at the cost of 12·6 runs per wicket.

SECOND DIVISION NOTES

THE third football team, which gave such good promise in the early part of the season, fully justified the confidence placed in it. Despite that two of our best men went up to the first division, the team, by dint of energy and hard work, maintained their supremacy to the end. They had an unbeaten record for the season. It is almost too far away now to make any reference to individual matches. But I think no one who witnessed it will forget the final match against Sydney Grammar School 1st Lower School XV. The excitement was only equalled when the 1st XV. played a drawn match with the Grammar's 1st XV. After a most exciting game, in which the nerve and energy of every man on both sides was tried to the full, St. Ignatius' "Thirds" were returned victors by 9 points to 6.

Of individual players it is particularly hard to speak. Whether one looks at the actual excellence or the improvement in form several names stand out. Among the backs, G. Baxter was *facile princeps*. But he was ably supported by H. Barry, F. Rorke.

A. Curtin, V. Polin, and W. Brennan deserve special mention for the great improvement they showed on their earlier form. A. Curtin especially proved a most valuable five-eighths. A word of praise is due to him; also for the excellent way he captained the team. He succeeded to P. Gleeson, whose health prevented him playing for a time. He is to be congratulated on his success in a difficult office.

P. Gleeson, owing to an operation which he had to undergo, could not play for some time. He joined the team for the last match or so, and played again in his own excellent style.

But what to say of the forwards? Where to begin? If I begin where shall I end? The two front row—I need not mention their names; anyone recently at Riverview will know who they are. They were small in height if big in other ways, and for their want in stature they made up in activity and determination.

Anderson, the two Murrays, Carr, all did excellently, and kept up a spirit of work and combination along with an excellent *bonhomie* that made us all regret that the football season closed so soon.

Before I leave the football I must say a word about the inter-class championship. This was the first year a trophy has been provided for annual competition for classes in Second Division.

The matches this year were splendidly contested. The season saw some good games on the Second Division Ground, but few, if any, equalled the excitement of the Inter-class Championship.

I have only to wish for a like spirit for the future, and a very pleasant item will have been added to the Second Division football programme.

For a time I thought that the Second Division had spent all its energy on football, and that there was none left for cricket. It took us a long time to get started, and then unseasonable weather set in. However, we did at length get going, and going in our old style.

We had an excellent captain in V. Polin, and he had a good and willing crowd to draw upon.

The old coach was at his place again this year, and, at the cost of many sore throats to himself, managed to get a fairly straight bat to all, while some well exceeded his expectations.

Rain stopped the Newington match. The Grammar L. School XI. beat us. We have to thank ourselves for this. There was a lack of energy, and the fielding (which really lost the game) was very poor that day. However, we had our revenge by beating the Grammar School 3rd XI. King's was a draw in our favor, as also St. Aloysius.

With the bat V. Polin, V. Power, G. Makinson, P. Barry and P. Gleeson showed splendid form. P. Gleeson was picked on the first XI., and in three matches got an average of 62. I think a like honour has not been paid to the thirds before this year.

Perhaps no one improved so much as L. Barry. With bat and ball he has done excellent work. We shall hear more of him if he perseveres.

The bowling was weak—want of practice during the short play hours is chiefly accountable.

One word of criticism. It is not yet an accepted principle with all that they can only learn cricket by hard, persevering work at it. It does not do to practise up for a match. If a soldier were only content to sharpen his sword and polish his rifle before going into battle, and neglected to learn the use of these weapons and to perfect himself in them, he would be a poor soldier. So we must set to work and learn to play cricket to become perfect, independently of making a score on the following Saturday. We must learn to do the dry work of fielding and practising ourselves in the weak spots in our batting —then we shall make scores and win matches.

The Social Committee did not provide us, I am sorry to say, with any entertainments after Midwinter. I think every one regretted this.

ST. IGNATIUS COLLEGE RIFLE TEAM.

CONSIDERABLE interest has been taken this half in our rifle shooting, and in the selection of a team for the Schools Challenge Shield—(1st) from a strong determination to win back, if possible, that much coveted trophy, the Shield; and (2nd) from a desire to be classed as a winner of one of the many prizes offered for our encouragement. These consisted of the College Gold Medal, a trophy for second and third places, also one for the highest score on the day of the Shield match, and a first and second prize for the highest aggregate of 10 best scores made in practice at 300 yards. Early in the half we had a small amount of practice, but the test practices did not commence until the 7th September, and were continued as often as weather permitted till 7th November. The conditions for the first three prizes were four shootings at 200 yards, and six at 300 yards, with the score made on the day of the Shield Match added; each competitor to name the day for having his score counted before he commenced to fire.

During this half we had two matches fired on our own range, the first with a team of students from the University, introduced by Mr. J. Slattery, and the second with a team of ex-students (Riverview). In both of these the College team was successful. These matches were of great benefit to us in our training, inspiring us with courage, and we hope in future years to have more of them.

THE SHIELD.

The morning of Wednesday, the 8th November, broke on us threateningly with heavy clouds and appearance of rain, so that when the time came for our team to march off to the convincing grounds, the order "Great coats to be worn" was given, and at 11 a.m. away we went with our neat uniforms hid from the public gaze by our cloaks. The day, however, turned out to be, from a rifleman's point of view, a fine one, although a strong wind was blowing from S.S.E. to S., and later in the day changed to S.W. by S. At 3 p.m. the contest began, and soon our hopes of a win ran high, as the scoring at the 200yds. showed our team to be in the lead, and we retired to the 300yds. range 10 points to the good. There we continued to hold our own, and it was not till after the last shot was fired by Newington College team that we knew our score (a record one—530) was three points behind that scored on our opponents' card, and thus the shield was won by Newington.

The shooting this year was much superior to that of any other year, and we give our opponents, as well as take to ourselves, credit for the scores made. N. Campbell was the best of the team, making 60, and won the gold medal. Prizes have also been won by Robert McKillop.

BILLIARDS AND DRAUGHTS.

DURING the long spell of wet weather which occurred about the middle of the term, most interesting tournaments took place amongst the members of the First Division. In billiards, after some very close finishes, the two left to play for the final were James Gleeson and Frank Cullinane, the former of whom, after a very exciting game, was successful in securing the handsome medal awarded. In draughts, also, keen competition took place, and it was only after a very hard struggle that H. McIntosh was able to corner his opponent.

EXCHANGES.

The Editors of OUR ALMA MATER beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the following exchanges:—

The Beaumont Review, *Castleknock College Chronicle*, *Cooerwull Magazine*, *Dial*, *Fordham Monthly*, *Georgetown College Journal*, *Hawkesbury Agricultural College Magazine*, *The King's School Magazine*, *Mangalore Magazine*, *St. Peter's School Magazine*, *South African Catholic Magazine*, *Stonyhurst College Magazine*, *Stylus*, *Sydneian*, *Torchbearer*, *The Xavierian* (St. Francis Xavier's College, New York).

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