

S. Michael's Chronicle.

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» CONTENTS «

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|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Editorial. | 6. The Union Jack. |
| 2. Fishing Trip in Natal (concluded) | 7. School News. |
| 3. London to Lands End on wheels
(continued) | 8. Football. |
| 4. The Cadet Encampment | 9. Cricket. |
| 5. S. Michael's Day. | 10. Our Contemporaries. |
| 11. Notices to Contributors. | |
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EDITORIAL.

THE fourth issue of the *Chronicle* occurs at a period in the history of the School which is not only eventful but possibly epoch-making. The negotiations which for some time past have been going on between our Rector and the Diocesan authorities, with a view to the latter taking over the School and establishing it as the Diocesan College for boys, are now almost completed, and it depends on the people of Natal and the Church people especially whether they will support the decision of the Diocesan Committee appointed by the Bishop to arrange the matter, with their subscriptions, and help to found a school in Natal of a kind which the Diocese—alone of all other South African Dioceses—at present lacks, and which in a short time we hope will become a worthy rival to St. Andrew's College and Rondebosch, not to mention smaller Church Schools in Bloemfontein and Pretoria. Natal is last in the field—for reasons, alas! we know too well—but she need not be “least,” and if her people but give us their help she *shall* not.

The School has now been in existence for two years and a half, and, we understand, was started by our Rector at great financial risk to gauge the possibilities of success a Church School (on a very liberal and tolerant basis, of course) would have in the Colony, and then to transfer the same to the Diocese as a going concern. That the School is “going” is apparent to all, even to our far-away contemporary, the Reptonian, *i.e.*,

“going strong,” and we feel sure the Church people of Natal need only be told of the intense pride taken in the School by all concerned in it, and the cruel blow it would be to the personal feelings of every master and boy in it if its life, so to speak, were suddenly to be cut short, for them to enthusiastically come forward with their generous support and give Michaelhouse a fair chance of doing a really great work, and becoming, perhaps, ultimately, one of the the gre test schools in South Africa.

The past few months have been somewhat anxious, but the return of the Bishop—whom we rejoice to hear has so far recovered from the recent recurrence of his illness as to be able to attend the Provincial Synod at Capetown—will have, we doubt not, the effect of considerably smoothing the way for us, and rendering our course for the future more easy and straight.

It was a great sorrow to have to say “good-bye” to our friend the Archdeacon, whose efforts lately on our behalf, during the Bishop’s absence, have more than ever endeared him to us. We trust most sincerely he will come back to Natal, and be soon again on the platform of a new Michaelhouse, to distribute those special prizes which we trust will always bear his name.

Where that new Michaelhouse will be no one can at present say; possibly at Camperdown, possibly not. A great deal depends on water literally, and the absence of cold water metaphorically, but by next Easter we hope to give our readers a very good description of the place we are going to, that is to say, if we are not already in it.

But to leave the future and consider the present. We are very glad to see Mr. Dobree back again, so far recovered as to be able to play football again with some vigour, but regret to have to record the departure of Bennett, who was one of the few now left who was present on the opening day. His place as Senior Prefect and general “factotum” out of school will be hard to fill. More than that, he was an exceptionally good athlete, and both teams will miss him terribly, especially the “Fifteen,” as he was undoubtedly the mainstay of the team and the back-bone of the rear division. His methods of inculcating keenness and of teaching the game, if somewhat original and boisterous, were at any rate surprisingly efficacious. He had learnt, moreover, to realise the duties of a Prefect to a very considerable extent, and to perceive the pleasure to be derived from a conscientious appreciation of responsibility. That his successor will do equally well and that the School will not suffer in this respect by his departure we have every hope.

“Be loyal, Michaelhusians all,
Happy in Michaelhouse to be;
But doubly loyal Prefects call,
Blest with responsibility.”

A FISHING TRIP IN NATAL.

(Concluded.)

THE next day everyone arrays himself in the oldest garments available. The younger members of the party appear barefooted and remain so for the rest of their stay. The elder and heavier don tennis shoes to protect their feet from the sharp barnacle-like projections on the rocks. Some of us, indeed, could barely say with as much truth "that exchange was no robbery," if they, like the Irishman in the story, changed clothes with a scare-crow. After an early breakfast a start is made about half-an-hour before low-water to a group of rocks some quarter-of-a-mile to the south of the hut. The day is perfect for this kind of fishing; there is a light wind which slightly ruffles the water without bringing in heavy rollers. The sky is not too bright. Bait is ready to hand, but in a form that would escape the notice of the uninitiated. Just at the edge of low water mark the rocks are covered with a quantity of knob-like excrescences which, from time to time, emit thin jets of water. These, on being cut open, display a soft jelly-like zoophyte of the size and colour of the inside of an orange. Paterfamilias, furnished with a sufficient supply of this and armed with stout bamboo rod, the butt end of which is strong enough to use as a leaping pole on occasion, makes for the leeward edge of a reef of rocks, from which a number of Kafir women, in collecting mussels, have, unconsciously, "ground baited" for him. No sooner has he cast in his line than a series of sharp tugs justify his choice of position. After some loss of bait an extremely pretty little fish of nearly all the colours of the rainbow, green predominating, is landed. Some half-a-dozen of the same or similar species are pulled out one after the other, in some green, in others blue or yellow, being most conspicuous. As these fish are useless except for bait a move is made further along the reef. Here the bait is at once taken with a rush by a fish of evidently different disposition. He at once takes out nearly thirty yards of line and finally tries to break himself free by jumping out of the water. This manœuvre is defeated by lowering the point of the rod. Finally, after a little play, a small Cape salmon of some six or eight pounds is towed in on the top of a wave and left stranded on a flat rock. Landing-nets are out of the question in surf fishing. Our fisherman, having allowed his line to drift near the edge of the reef, next fancies that he has hooked a portion thereof, a not unfrequent experience in coast-fishing. On attempting to free his line he, however, soon feels that he has something more desirable at the end thereof. Whatever he has hooked simply opposes its dead weight to his efforts to bring it to the surface. At last a thick-set rock-fish of dark-brown colour and with barely per-

ceptible vertical stripes of a darker shade is brought to the surface and secured. A shoal has evidently been lighted on, for seven or eight are landed, varying from one to three pounds in weight. The rising tide warns the fisherman to retire further along the reef. At this next standing place the line, when stretched to its furthest by a receding wave, is taken by a game little fish of a pound or so, which succeeds in taking out some yards of line before he can be checked. He proves to be a beautiful silvery fish, rather deep in the body, with a curious black smudge on either side of the tail as if he had been grasped by a pair of dirty fingers. Hence his local name "black tail." These vary from half-a-pound to a pound-and-a-half in weight. If, on their first rush, these little fellows do not succeed in snapping off the hook at the bend, it being often only partly imbedded in their hard parrot-like mouths, they are very easily secured. They are evidently biting well to-day, and continue doing so nearly up to high water, an occasional small bream, of somewhat similar shape, but coloured primrose underneath instead of having the two black smudges of the other fish, varying the take. One of these "blacktails" has an old and very rusty hook imbedded in his back, and paterfamilias lands another with one of his own lost hooks still in his mouth.

Several other of the fishermen have had equally good sport. One of them who has donned a pair of trowsers he considers rather too good to spoil rejoins the rest of the party in what are apparently a pair of scarlet stockings. He has turned up his lower garments to be out of the reach of the salt water and pays the penalty for exposing a somewhat fair skin, unprotected, to the coast sun by being the possessor of a pair of legs blistered from ankle to knee. Another of the party has amused himself by crayfish-hunting. Running his hands along the crevices at the edge of the pools left at low water, he comes across the feelers of the crustacean. These he is careful not to pull on as they would immediately be shed in his hand. He follows them till he can grasp the thick spiny excrescences from which these spring, by means of which he is able to drag the reluctant crayfish to daylight. He has already procured some fifty of these and should be contented to leave well alone. However, after flourishing a particularly fine specimen before the gaze of his friends on the beach, he again thrusts in his arm. This time, however, he yells out in a voice that is heard even above the noise of the breakers, "Something has got my finger." "Don't pull it out, it's an eel and will let go again," suggests a bystander whose own fingers are safe in his pocket. Our crayfish-hunter, however, resolves to save a part at least of his finger and abruptly withdraws it scored with four deep longitudinal grooves from which the blood pours. This and the rising tide cool his ardour, and he rejoins his friends on the beach.

It might be thought that paterfamilias had had a good enough catch to satisfy anyone but the veriest glutton for sport. However, the sight of a large octopus which one of the children has caught in a pool, and which is a killing bait for large fish, determines him to try his luck with a long cast-line by moonlight. The tackle being necessarily coarse for this kind of fishing, night is generally the most favourable time for it. A large mussel-covered rock in front of the hut, situated at the end of a reef and separated therefrom by a natural canal, which can be jumped at low water, offers the best site for operations. Some hundred yards of line are held carefully coiled in the left hand. Weighted by a running sinker of half-a-pound, it is then thrown out. As the sinker drags over a submerged plateau of rock, a series of sharp tugs show that the bait, a carefully scraped tentacle of octopus, is evidently appreciated by something. On striking at one of these tugs a fish of some kind is evidently hooked. About twenty yards of line are hauled in when a sudden hindrance is felt. After a considerable wait, the hook being apparently jerked out of the mouth of the fish into a rock an attempt is made to break it free. After a terrific pull something which feels like a heavy piece of coral is hauled in. It proves to be a rock-cod of about 10 lbs. perfectly dead. The fish has evidently taken the bait into a hole and has been crushed to death in its forcible exit. A somewhat vexatious loss of bait, evidently from smaller fish of the same kind, ensues. The line is then thrown in another direction where the bait is taken by a fish that evidently means business. The line is nearly jerked out of the hand to start with; and the catch resists landing to the last by a series of tugs which would do credit to a good-sized goat at the end of a tether. He proves to be a burly "mussel-cracker" of some 15 lbs. weight. During the operation of removing the hook the fish shows that he well deserves his name, for closing his jaws he with his hard knob-like teeth takes a nick clean out of the blade of the knife. The bait is nearly at an end, when nearly the last morsel thereof is taken by a fish which promises to be the catch of the evening. Though the line is stout enough to render such a proceeding generally unnecessary, playing is imperative in this case. Several times the fish rushes straight out to sea with nearly the whole length of the line. At last, however, he gives in. He proves to be a Cape salmon of fully 30 lbs. weight. Just as he is being landed he slips off the hook on to a ledge of rock which, for the moment, is left dry by a receding wave. He is promptly grasped before he can be floated off and landed in the fisherman's arms tail uppermost, with which member he beats a lively tattoo on his captor's face the while. This and the rising tide causes the latter to come to grief in negotiating the canal above mentioned and to leave a considerable portion of the skin of one shin on the rocks. The fish, how-

ever, is safely beached. As the two last catches are still alive they are placed in a bath of salt water just within the hut, intended to be kept fresh as a pleasant surprise to the other inmates on awakening in the morning. One of the fish however; promptly leaps out and lands on the head of one of the sleepers, who cannot be persuaded to go to sleep again till all three have been caught over again for his benefit.

This day and night's sport is only a sample of many. One morning most of the inmates awake to find themselves reclining in pools of water. A sharp thunder shower has during the night sent a fine body of water across the floor of the hut, which is built on a slight slope. A trench dug on the upper side thereof prevents the recurrence of such an episode; the bedding is soon dried in the hot sun; and as none of us are feather-bed campaigners no ill effects follow.

One afternoon we vary proceedings by visiting the kraal of the Kafir who supplies us with milk, on the occasion of one of his sons' second marriage. A walk of two miles along a low breezy ridge of hills parallel to the beach and dotted with park-like clusters of trees bring us to the usual beehive-shaped circle of huts. Paterfamilias, an old resident in this district, is greeted by the head man by his Kafir name, which signifies "water." This has probably been given him from his fishing proclivities; not, as he asserts, from his placid and benign expression of countenance. The head man is a fine specimen of the Kafir, Though from what he tells us he must be quite an old man; he appears barely middle aged. Both he and his son are ringed. It may be mentioned that many natives are by no means anxious for this distinction to be conferred on them, and often submit to several fines from their chief rather than at once comply with his order to assume the head ring. They consider that by so doing they, to a certain extent, relegate themselves to old fogeydom and must perforce give over their attentions to the unmarried of the opposite sex, which attentions a native never seems too old or too numerously wived to pay. We are ushered into the hut of the son's first wife. She informs us that she will, as soon as the ceremony is over, return to her father's kraal. Her husband will have to fetch her in person, thus showing that he has not taken a second wife because he is tired of her but only to add to his social importance. While at the kraal we notice two of the oldest Kafir women we have ever seen. These poor old creatures are quite imbecile and amuse themselves by planting mealies and hacking them out again. Their heads are covered with scanty tufts of yellowish-white wool and their withered skins hang in folds over their bodies like that of an Indian rhinoceros. They turn out to be our host's mother and aunt. They have saved his life as a small child, he tells us, by hiding with him in the bush during one of Chaka's raids when

all the rest of the kraal were killed. Hence his care of them. His story is borne out by some of our party finding remains of skulls in the bush in the neighbourhood. These poor old women accidentally burnt themselves to death a few months afterwards by lighting a fire against the side of their hut instead of in the centre. Our host, however, would have it that it was a case of arson by another native who had a grudge against him. In the face of the evidence the local Shallow remitted the case to Durban, with the sole result of costing the Government nearly a hundred pounds and providing a host of witnesses with a week's sojourn in town gratis; for the accused was, of course, acquitted. During our visit we cannot help remarking the natural good breeding of the raw native. He is perfectly easy in his manner of receiving his guests and does not pester them with undue curiosity. On our departure our host sends one of his wives with a portion of the beast which is killed on these occasions as a present. The old lady on her arrival at the hut is presented with a few pounds of sugar, the parcel containing which she receives in both hands, as, indeed, she would receive a pinch of snuff. This is the manner in which Kafir etiquette teaches the recipient to assume to be overcome by the magnitude of a gift.

Our return journey is marked by nothing more startling than a state of chronic anxiety as to whether the Kafir driver will enable us to catch the last train to Durban, which, stimulated by the promise of a shilling, he eventually does, though only "by the skin of his teeth."

Lest some of our readers, incited by the contents of this article, may aspire to go and do likewise, we are sorry to have to tell them that the possibility of similar sport is a thing of the past, on this part of the coast at least, owing to the wholesale destruction of the fish by dynamite. We cannot sufficiently execrate such a proceeding. To shoot into a covey of partridges sitting, or the coolie practice of clearing our streams of small fish with a blanket net, is sportsmanlike in comparison. We believe such a proceeding is illegal. But laws in Natal often resemble piecrust and ladies' promises, in being made to be broken. And this is emphasised by the fact that this wholesale destruction of fish is not confined altogether to the loutish hobblederoys of the vicinity, when home for the holidays, who are too lazy and unskilful to catch fish in sportsmanlike fashion. We believe the local member frequently countenances the practice by his presence. Not five per cent. of the fish destroyed are recovered, the rest float out and attract crowds of sharks. Not only is every fish destroyed within a certain radius of the explosion, but the fish thus destroyed are never replaced, for fish caught in the breakers are, with a few exceptions, of totally different species from those which are caught out at sea. However, a considerable

number of cheap feeds are secured, which fact would outweigh most other considerations with people of this kind. In any other part of the civilised world public opinion alone would have put down this practice. But we can expect nothing but this in a colony whose Government allows the hippopotami which have been preserved for years at Seacow Lake to be slaughtered off. This proceeding has provoked no very flattering comments from the English papers, but is taken as a matter of course in the Colony itself.

It would be much the same if the Zoological Society in London were to grant permits to Cockney sportsmen to shoot the inmates of their hippopotamus tank in the "Zoo."

To return to the subject of fish-destruction. Perhaps the only argument which will reach people who are guilty of such a practice is the following, which appeals to their pockets.

Up-country visitors generally like to indulge in a little sport of the kind described. They will naturally not go to a part of the coast where such is impossible. With this remark we close our paper.

TO LAND'S END AND BACK ON WHEELS.

(Continued.)

FITZHEAD, in Somersetshire, is a pleasant resting place for the weary traveller, and the meeting with our old Cambridge friend in his father's Vicarage was enhanced by the fact that being a cyclist himself he immediately promised to accompany us on the morrow. Riding out of the village, the road—a rough one—took us over the spurs of the Quantock Hills to the main road between Bridgwater and Ilfracombe. Crossing this we got our first glimpse of the sea at Watchet, a pleasant little fishing village on the eastern curve of the bay in the Bristol Channel facing South Glamorganshire. From Watchet, Exmoor rose up across the bay in all its grandeur, and Dunkery beacon revealed beyond doubt that Lorna Doone's country was lying before us. Repressing a desire for an immediate bathe, we rode gaily along the shores of the bay through Dunster, famous for its castle and beautiful Gothic Church (which we visited) to Minehead, a prosperous little watering place in North Devon. Here our friend left us, thinking that his knowledge of the Porlock Hill justified his being discreet rather than Quixotically valourous and we were left to reach the top of Exmoor without his cheering company. To compensate us, fortune was very kind, for half

way up the steep ascent we were overtaken by a Carrier who, seeing us panting by the hedge-side, insisted on taking our machines to the top in his cart and regaled us the while with story after story about his life and the country we were going to. With him we felt in touch with John Ridd and his people, and the way his nag, "Lil darling," as he called her, pluckily answered his calls to proceed was an education in itself. Once at the top we found ourselves in a glorious moorland country with the sea to our right, Dunkery beacon behind us, and the Doone Valley away down a declivity to our left. The sight of the sign-post by the road "To Oare," awakened recollections of that most glorious of modern English romances, "Lorna Doone," and sorely tempted us to leave our course, but our friend the Carrier dissuaded us by describing the valley of the Doones as being now quite tenantless, and the road therefrom to Lynmouth almost unrideable. Our hopes too of seeing an Exmoor stag were disappointed, as a driving mist came on, which rendered it no easy matter to see our way and we were not sorry when an appreciable fall in the road for some distance and a new view of the sea told us we were on the heights just above Lynmouth. The descent almost defies description; only one thing could be worse, viz., to descend the Porlock Hill, but some idea of what the Lynmouth Hill was like can be formed from the fact that both my brother and friend ran into a steep hedge to save themselves, whilst when my machine brought me to the bottom the brake—a very powerful one—was red-hot and the "tyres" smoking, and even then, backpedal as I would, I was whirled on through the little street only to be at last brought up by the hotel 'bus blocking up the way and saved from a plunge over the pier to a watery grave.

On the following day occurred one of those catastrophes which, though humorous in reality, are irksome at the moment. Our luggage had gone on by train to Ilfracombe, and saving our macintosh capes and bedroom toggery we had nothing with us; consequently a complete drenching we got in the morning up the river by "Watersmeet" necessitated a whole afternoon's stay in bed with nothing but guide book literature, and cider to console us (one particular guide of the district did amuse us; after a most gorgeously florid description of the beauties to be seen, it informed the reader that fuller information could be found in a work published in Exeter.) On seeing our clothes, after they had been by the fire, we felt as the Psalmist did of man, that however green they might have been in the morning, in the evening they were certainly cut down, dried up, and withered. Lynmouth is a perfect little paradise of the Clovelly order, but roomier; it lies underneath a cliff, on the top of which stands Lynton, and the two are connected by a winding road of three miles and by Mr. Newnes' "Cliff railway" (a contrivance partly

railway and partly lift, worked by water and an endless chain, one car descending pulling another up). We chose the latter means of ascent, and bicycles and all were left standing on the top in a very few minutes. After another lingering look at the quaint little pier and village we enquired our way for the famous "Valley of the Rocks" beyond Lynton and reached it in half-an-hour. Sitting there on a huge boulder perched high above the sea, we saw the next stage of our journey—the undulating country between Lynton and Barnstaple, the hills over Ilfracombe lying right across the bay before us. One more peep at the Bristol Channel and the grand cliffs, and we struck inland and were soon on the main road to Ilfracombe, which we reached about mid-day.

Ilfracombe is the finest watering place in North Devon, and one of the pleasantest altogether in England. It was holiday season and we found much to amuse us, and after the wilds of Exmoor and the uncanny desolateness of the Valley of the Rocks, we felt as glad as the Trans-Afric explorer to be back in such civilisation. More than that, we rejoined our luggage there, which was no little comfort and we were very glad of the change. Sending it on again to Bideford we left Ilfracombe about four o'clock and crossed the toilsome hill which lies between it and Barnstaple, arriving at the latter place about six, revelling in the thought that we were near Kingsley's country and would reach Bideford that night. The road from Barnstaple is very beautiful, running along the estuary of the Taw for about half the distance and then up the estuary of the Torridge, up which Bideford stands; across it on the way lie the weather-beaten old villages of Appledore and Northam, with Westward Ho! just at their back. The Torridge is a very fine river and few towns are more picturesque than Bideford, with its noble bridge of many arches spanning the broad estuary. At Bideford we arrived very tired and thirsty and were not long in provoking a comparison between the respective merits of Devonshire and Somersetshire cider. The cider was good, but alas, not so the beds, and Bideford must be remembered as the only place in our tour in which we were particularly glad to get up next morning,

An hour's ride before noon next day brought us to Clovelly, perhaps the most perfect little place in England; it has no streets, no carriages, no hotels, no real shops, nothing but itself. Imagine a very steep cliff with two lines of houses built facing each other almost down to the water's edge, creepers of all kinds climbing up them, steps for a street, a dear little pier just jutting out into a glorious high-cliffed bay, a few primitive looking fishing boats and a few primitive looking fishermen, and there you have Clovelly. It is absolutely unique and is worth going a very long way to see. The church is at the top of the village on the coast road and contains a monument of Charles Kingsley, "poet,

preacher, philosopher," whose connection with the whole place renders it, if possible, still more interesting.

From Clovelly our cycles took us to Hartland village, but before we got there we were doomed to another forced stay in bed, as we arrived absolutely soaked. Lying in bed of an afternoon for three or four hours is trying at all times, but doubly irritating in our condition, for we believed our clothes were taking a great deal longer to dry than was necessary, but being minus them none of us could go down stairs to see. However, when we did get them we revenged ourselves on the ham and eggs and Devonshire cream and chatted far into the night, with three masters from Blundell's School, Tiverton, who were on a walking tour in the district. They kindly told us as much as they could of the roads and scenery in North Cornwall as well as of the school they hailed from—so interesting to every Englishman from its connection with John Ridd.

An hour's ride in the morning brought us to Hartland Point, the "finis terrae" of North Devon, and a very bold headland it is, commanding a fine view of Lundy Island to the north and the Cornish hills to the south. Directly we touched Cornwall the aspect of the country seemed to change, growing wilder and wilder and more difficult to traverse, with few houses and fewer signposts, no railway (we were keeping close to the coast), and with the hourly increasing impression fastening upon it that it was in reality outside England, a country the Saxon did not care to take. The style of the houses and churches reminded us very much of the Isle of Man and parts of Ireland, and the people as being distinctly Celtic and un-English. Passing through Kirk Stratton we arrived at the charming little village of Bude, where we had a bathe in the breakers rolling in from the Atlantic and then climbed up a terrible hill to St. Columb Major, thence down to Boscastle and Tintagel, immortalised in Arthurian legend. After passing the famous Delabole slate quarries we put up for the night at a little out-of-the-way village called St. Teath. My only recollections of it now are that we awarded it the palm for Devonshire cream—in fact we were greatly surprised to find throughout Cornwall that both cream and cider were better even than what we had obtained in Devonshire, at any rate in the towns.

The following day we determined to reach Land's End, and accordingly kept steadily on over very hilly country to Wadebridge and Newquay—a very new but rapidly growing watering place, with fine cliffs and glorious sands. Thence a terrible climb of two hours brought us to Redruth, a large mining centre, from which place, after a good and much-needed tea, we cycled past sea-girt, little St. Ives, to Penzance, and thence another 10 miles in the darkness to the "First and Last Hotel," Land's End, about one mile from the Rocks, a primitive farm house

which does duty as a hotel in summer months. Being of Ruskian mind we thought it better to rough it there than to join the Philistines in the up-to-date hotel, a modern erection, on what we regarded Holy Ground, at the very Land's End itself.

Next morning—which was a grand one—we walked down to the rocks and stood looking at the sea-gulls soaring and dipping in the Atlantic breezes over the wide dark sea below us. The place is one for reflection and, like Freshwater, close to the Needles, should attract a poet of a similar order to Tennyson to live and write there some day. As we saw a fine vessel beating upwards and heard the sea breaking on the beach in the pensive stillness of morning, we could not help remarking that it was on some such spot as this, and with such sounds in his ears as we heard, that the great poet, just then dead, had felt inspired to write those never-to-be-forgotten lines:—

“ Break, break, break,
On thy cold gray stones, Oh! sea;
And I would that my tongue could utter
The thoughts that arise in me.”

“And the stately ships go on
To their haven under the hill;
But, Oh! for the touch of a vanish'd hand
And the sound of a voice that is still.”

THE CADET ENCAMPMENT.

(Reprint from the “*Natal Witness*,” Tuesday, June 29th, 1898.)

THE encampment of Natal's cadets, which has rightly become a yearly function, began yesterday at Maritzburg under most favourable and promising auspices. The Agricultural Show-ground has been set apart for the encampment, and no better site could be obtained for the purpose. It is walled in, the grounds are well adapted for the objects in view, and the proximity to the City serves the double purpose of bringing the cadets within easy distance for visitors and of bringing the cadet movement itself under the notice of the public. Col. W. Royston, Commandant of Volunteers, is in command, a fact sufficient to show that everything will be conducted on the best lines. Major Bru-de Wold is senior staff officer; Capt. Lugg has oversight of the messing; Capt. Wales, the tent and hospital accommodation; Capt. Molyneux, drill and training; and Capt. Choles, camp equipment, stores, and ammunition. All the district adjutants are present. The show grounds, under the guidance of Capt. Choles and Molyneux, have been admirably laid out. Bell tents to the number of about 130 have been erected on the north side of the showground, for the accommodation of the

cadets, staff and masters. Where the tents are erected the ground is dry and porous, but each tent has its floor covered with dry hay as a precaution, while the bedding equipment has been supplied with liberal hand and with due regard to the comfort of the young soldiers. The large shed near, the poultry shed of the showyard, has been set apart for the boys performing their ablutions, and water, soap, basins and towels are there in abundance. The permanent hall of the Agricultural Society has been transformed into a mess room, which is capable of seating about 600, and a marquee has been erected near, large enough to supply mess room for the other 600. At the south end of the grounds, near the new hall, there has been erected a marquee for the staff, one for the headmasters, and another for the assistant-masters and instructors. There is, in addition, a large tent set apart for reading, which is liberally supplied with magazines, books and newspapers. A hospital has also been fitted up for emergencies, although from the healthy looks and physiques of the cadets, there appears little probability of it being called into requisition. Early in the forenoon the different contingents began to arrive, and by evening it was estimated that the strength of the camp was, 9 headmasters, 19 assistant-masters, 27 instructors, and over 1,000 cadets. The first corps to march into camp were from Dundee, Newcastle, Richmond and Ixopo. The following arrived later in the day:—Weenen Government School, Estcourt Government School, Weston College, Hilton College, Stanger, Doesburg, Umzinto, Durban High School, Durban Boys' Model School, Pinetown, Camperdown, Ladysmith, Greytown, and the City corps. During the afternoon the camp was lively with the cadets and with visitors, while the officers had a busy time. Thanks to the excellent arrangements, however, there was no confusion, each corps and company being able to march straight to the quarters allocated to them. This morning camp life will begin. *Reveille* will sound at half-past six and the business of the day, shooting, drill, camp duties and recreation will proceed until 9.45, when "lights out" will be heard. There will be a due admixture of drill and relaxation. This afternoon the Carbineers' band will play in camp, and to-morrow the 7th Hussars will enliven things with a Wild West Show, and in the evening a grand concert is to be given in the Town Hall, at which H.E. Sir Michael Galwey will be present. To-day the main business will be the shooting competition, when it is anticipated that some of the cadets will give proof of being capital shots. Camp life will go on until Friday when the first contingents, those from a distance, will leave for their homes, and the camp will be broken up on Saturday. Everything promises to a most pleasant outing for the boys and one that will be of invaluable service to them regarded both from the training and the health points of view.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The Showground, Maritzburg, Michaelhouse Quarters, Monday, June 28th, 1898, 11 p.m. On arriving here this afternoon we were at once marched to our tents, Nos. 49—51, which, like the rest, had been erected by the regulars last week. After stacking our arms we fell in again to go and receive our new caps—just out from Home—from one of the officers of the staff, who was distributing them. They are like the French “Képi” caps, and have a white covering to keep the sun off the neck. It took some time to get caps which fitted, and then we had our kit bags to find, no easy matter, as they were all piled up in hundreds outside the orderly room, and it was no easy matter to distinguish “meum” from “tuum.” Having at length extracted them successfully we set to work to make ourselves comfortable and have a look round till tea time—for which we had not to wait long, and a good thing too as we were getting precious hungry and thirsty. Our table we found in the hall at the back of the grand-stand, and the “grub” showed signs of being better than last year. Even though the tea was weak and rather watery, it did very well to wash down the bread, butter, jam, and treacle, all of which were A1. We had soldiers for waiters, and, judging from this evening, I think they’ll have their work pretty well cut out for them. They were here, there, and everywhere at the same time, or if they were not occasionally, the cadets thought they ought to be. This evening we have been entertained by the band of the Carbineers till 10 o’clock, and we have just turned in. No more news so I’ll extinguish my dip. Good night.

Tuesday night, 10.30 p.m. *Reveillé* sounded this morning at 6.30 and no one was anxious to stir from under his rugs, as it was icy cold; however, as we were not our own masters, to get up was imperative. At 7 a.m. the bugle sounded for parade, which was rather trying as it was difficult even to hold one’s carbine, with the intense cold. We were precious glad of breakfast, which was very much the same as our last night’s tea, and it went down surprisingly well I can assure you. No more parades were held in the morning for competitors in the shooting competitions, and for the rest one only at 9 a.m., after which general leave was granted till 12.30. Most of the cadets not shooting went up town. At one we had dinner (stew and plum duff) and in the afternoon a parade at three o’clock, and nothing more beyond pillow-fighting after tea, which, though not down in the staff orders, had the pleasing effect of making the Showground look as if a thousand odd geese had been plucked there. In the shooting the following were the results:—

SENIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD.

Winners, Maritzburg College—205.

Best score, Hulley—44

We (Michaelhouse) came ninth, with 153, Bisset, ma., and Moor being thirteenth and sixteenth, with 37 and 34 respectively.

In the Junior Competition for the White Cup, Estcourt won with 190. We were ninth, with 127.

The shooting was not quite so good perhaps as last year owing to a very unpleasant hot wind blowing from the north-west.

Wednesday, 10.30 p.m. Spent the time between breakfast and morning parade in the reading room, a very excellent institution and much patronised by the cadets. After parade Captain Molyneux said there would be no work in the afternoon as the 7th Hussars were going to give their performance, "The Wild West Show," during parade time. We all went to see it, of course, and thought it very good. After tea we all fell in and marched to the Town Hall to attend the concert given by the cadets, and which was a great success throughout and elicited unstinted praise from Mr. Russell, the Superintendent of Education, and the Attorney-General, the Hon. Henry Bale, who were both present for the occasion. Altogether, what with easy work, the Wild West Show and concert, we have had a slack but enjoyable day. I am none the less tired now so must turn in for a good "shuteye."

Thursday, July 1st. A regular routine day of parades and drills, followed by a fancy dress ball in the Town Hall, to which a good number have been invited. The review comes off tomorrow and most of the fellows left have turned in early.

Friday, 12 p.m. At *Reveill * this morning the cadets who had been to the ball last night seemed heartily to wish there were no such things as encampments, with quixotically early hours for getting up. The morning was spent in a general clean up of everything, in preparation for the review, and in showing friends round the camp. No leave was granted to anyone. After dinner the "fall in" was sounded earlier than usual as we had to march all the way to the Polo Ground, where the review was to be held. Arriving there we found two water carts awaiting us, which were a great blessing as most of us were very hot and thirsty. After quenching our thirst we all fell in in two lines, and awaited the arrival of the Acting Administrator, Sir Michael Galwey, K.C.M.G. We (Michaelhouse) were in the front rank, immediately opposite the place the Governor was to stand. After the various exercises had been gone through and the "march past" over, we formed up in square formation to witness the presentation of the shields and medals to the successful teams and competitors. The Estcourt team, under Inspector Harburn, were marched to the front, and Col. Royston introduced Mr. R. White, the donor of the Junior Cup, to make the presentation.

Mr. White, in addressing the Estcourt team, said it was a very great pleasure for him to have the opportunity of present-

ing the cup, which they had shot for and won on Tuesday last. He sincerely congratulated them on their success, as being the first winners of that trophy. He was sure they would exert themselves to the utmost to again gain this prize, now that they had secured it once. This could only be done by assiduous application, constant drill and practice. They must not try alone, but with the assistance of their school-fellows endeavour to have the name of their school engraved on the cup as often as possible. To mark the event he had had medals made to enable them to keep fresh in their memory this auspicious occasion, so that in years to come they might look back with honour on what they had won. In order that there might be no favouritism, he had ordered similar medals for coming years. He then presented the medals to Sergt. Gereadeau, Corpl. Beattie, and Cadets Saunder, Shum, Turpin, and Wilkinson, who composed the Estcourt team, and handed the cup over to Sergt. Gereadeau.

Col. Royston, addressing all the cadets, said that they must feel grateful to Mr. White for his gift, and called upon them to give the generous donor three hearty cheers.

The cadets responded lustily.

The 20 individual prize winners in the Challenge Shield competition and the 20 cadets who secured prizes for the highest individual scores recorded, while shooting for the White Cup, were then marched to the front and presented with money prizes by Col. Royston, who, in making the presentations, had an encouraging word for each. The members of the Maritzburg College team were each presented with a half-sovereign, the gift of Mr. Thrash, Camperdown, who is an old "college boy," and an admirer of the team.

Mr. R. White, who hails from Middleburg, Transvaal, is a great admirer of the cadet corps, and when he was in Durban and saw the corps there he was so pleased with them that in recognition of their smartness he offered to present them with a banner, but on the advice of Col. Royston he presented a trophy for competition instead. Fearing that the winners of the cup in subsequent years might not receive medals, he has sent to England an order for five dozen, which will last for the next ten years. The medal, which were presented yesterday, were the work of Mr. John Pardy, Durban. On the one side is a floral design, surmounted by a small crest, the relief work being tastefully executed, while on the other side the names of the cup-winners and the date are engraved.

The cup, which stands about 18 inches high, was designed by Mr. Venner, Government School of Art, Durban, and executed by Mappin & Webb, England. The cup rests on three models of cadets—a bugler and two "privates," with their rifles—and the whole is surmounted with the Natal coat of arms.

After the presentations we formed up again and marched

back to camp, and immediately began to pack up our kit. In the evening all cadets who liked could go to Fillis' Circus free, being paid for at the public expense. Many of the cadets brought their kit-bags with them to the Circus and went straight home afterwards. Accordingly we are only a few together to-night and shall have plenty of room to end up with. To-morrow morning we shall have breakfast and then go peacefully home as we like, after a very successful and, on the whole, most enjoyable encampment.

S. MICHAEL'S DAY.

OUR yearly festival was celebrated for the third time under happy auspices, and the weather, though threatening, did not seriously mar any of the proceedings.

This year, owing to a request from the Weston College XV. to play us on Michaelmas Eve, the prize-giving was postponed to the day after Michaelmas Day—which day, as usual, was celebrated with a dinner, garden party, and cricket match (Boarders v. Day Boys). To describe our festival in detail.

Wednesday, Sept. 28th: Work stopped at the break, and the rest of the morning was spent in forecasting the chances of the Weston College XV. turning up, as the days before had been abnormally hot, and this day was no better, and also our chances of winning if they did. Our doubts as to there being no match were dispelled by the arrival of the whole Weston team about 2 p.m., eager and ready to play. After watching our XV. being photographed with the Ellis Cup, there was a general dispersion till half-past four, the time fixed for commencing the match on the New Ground at the Park. Both teams turned up punctually and the issue was not left long in doubt, as our opponents, though perhaps as heavy and strong as we were, were comparatively new to the game, and in spite of pluck and doggedness were completely outclassed and beaten by 40 points to nil. Next year, however, they will be considerably harder to beat. In the evening, as usual, the whole school attended Divine Service at S. Saviour's, at 7.30 p.m. The preacher was the Rev. William de la Poer Beresford, B.A., Curate of S. Peter's Cathedral, and the text of his sermon was Hebrews I., 14, "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister to them who shall be heirs of salvation?"

On Thursday, Oct. 30th, Michaelmas Day, the whole school attended Divine Service in S. Saviour's Cathedral at 7 a.m. After breakfast an early start was made with the cricket match, and by lunch time it was pretty clear that the Boarders had fully made up their minds to avenge their defeat of last year, the scores then standing at 167 (Boarders) to 36 (Day Boys). The

follow-on rule was suspended, and resuming at 3 p.m. the Boarders still further increased their advantage and won handsomely at 5 p.m. by 110 runs. Full scores:—

BOARDERS.

<i>1st Innings.</i>				<i>2nd Innings.</i>			
Bennett, c Bissett, b Forder	...	...	1	c Forder, b Button	...	...	15
Edmonds, c Button, b Baylis	...	...	36	l.b.w., b Button	...	...	6
Levy, c Button, b Bisset	...	...	27	c and b Button	...	...	0
Findlay, c Button, b Bisset	...	...	26	b Bisset	...	...	2
Tatham, b Button	...	...	9	c and b Bisset	...	...	3
Harvey, b Button	...	...	8	b Button	...	...	7
Moor, ma., not out	...	...	13	b Bisset	...	...	2
Emmett, c and b Bisset	...	...	12	b Button	...	...	3
Barnes, c Baylis, mi., b Forder	...	...	5	b Bisset	...	...	9
Moor, mi., b Bisset	...	...	4	not out	...	...	3
Prince, b Bisset	...	...	0	c Baylis, mi., b Button	...	...	7
Extras	...	...	26	Extras	...	...	26
Total	...	...	167	Total	...	...	83

DAY BOYS.

<i>1st Innings.</i>				<i>2nd Innings.</i>			
Arbuckle, b Edmonds	...	...	8	c Harvey, b Bennett	...	...	3
Forder, ma., c Moor, ma., b Edmonds	...	...	0	b Bennett	...	...	2
Bisset, run out	...	...	11	c Emmett, b Edmonds	...	...	26
Button, c Edmonds, b Bennett	...	...	0	l.b.w., b Bennett	...	...	5
Baylis, ma., run out	...	...	6	c and b Bennett	...	...	2
Payne, ma., c Levy, b Edmonds	...	...	0	c and b Edmonds	...	...	4
Baylis, mi., c Levy, b Edmonds	...	...	2	not out	...	...	2
Forder, mi., c Prince, b Bennett	...	...	2	c Emmett, b Edmonds	...	...	1
Egner, c Edmonds, b Bennett	...	...	0	b Edmonds	...	...	3
White, mi., b Bennett	...	...	0	c and b Edmonds	...	...	1
Flack, not out	...	...	1	c Emmett, b Edmonds	...	...	9
Extras	...	...	6	Extras	...	...	8
Total	...	...	36	Total	...	...	57

During the afternoon, at the invitation of the Rector and masters, the ground was visited by about one hundred people, who seemed thoroughly to enjoy the game and to appreciate the comforts provided for them by our worthy matron—whose efforts, by-the-way, throughout the whole festival deserve special acknowledgment. Just as the match was over rain began to fall, and, to our disappointment, put an untimely end to a most pleasant and happy gathering.

In the evening Mr. Dobree got up an Impromptu Concert, which was much enjoyed. A great deal of thanks is due to Miss Todd and Mrs Tryon for their singing, and to Mr. Mellor for his excellent playing. Mr. Dobree and Mr. Tatham both sang, and Mr. Hannah recited. At 10 p.m. the whole company stood to sing the grand old German chorale, "Nun Danket Alle Gott," and from the way it was taken up, everyone seemed to realise how much was owed to the Unseen Hand which had guided the destinies of Michaelhouse through two very anxious years.

On Friday, the morning was spoilt by rain for making any expedition (such as was made last year) in the country.

The event of the day, of course, was the Prize Distribution in the afternoon, and we can do no better than append the account of it as reported in the *Natal Witness* and *Times of Natal*:

“The annual presentation of prizes in connection with St. Michael's School, Maritzburg, took place yesterday afternoon. Despite the unfavourable weather there was a goodly attendance of parents and friends, and the pupils mustered in force. The Ven. Archdeacon Baines presented the prizes, and the Rector (Rev. Canon Todd) presided.”

THE RECTOR'S REPORT.

The Rev. Canon, after welcoming the visitors, read his annual report, which was as follows:—“For the third time we celebrate St. Michael's Festival at Michaelhouse. Already we are beginning to look upon ourselves as an institution of some standing in the short period of Colonial history. We have a past as well as a future. And first let me speak of the past—of the year that has elapsed since my last report. Our numbers show a small but satisfactory increase; we began the half with 47 on the books. I need not tell you that my two original colleagues, Mr. Tryon and Mr. Dobree, are still with me; none of us could imagine what Michaelhouse would be like without them. To our great regret Mr. Rigby left us at Christmas; his place has been taken by Mr. Hannah, whose work we all appreciate, not only in the class-room, but in the cricket field. Our thanks are due to Mr. Bigby and Mr. Underwood (now of Weston College) for their help at times of pressure. Archdeacon Baines and Mr. Watson have most kindly given us assistance in the divinity classes, and Mr. Rousseau, of the Dutch Church, has been good enough to take a Dutch class. Mr. Lewis (of the Surveyor-General's Office) has taught geometrical drawing. The music is in the hands of Baron Himmelstjerna. Mrs. Jackson continues to manage the house and all of us, and if you want to know whether she does it well you must ask the boys to say if we enjoy life at Michaelhouse or not. The work of the year has been fairly satisfactory on the whole. We have a small number of studious boys and a small number of habitually lazy ones; the majority occupy the middle ground and pursue their “*via media*” not without some small acquisition of learning. We have been doing much more advanced work this year than before. Our list of successes in public examinations shows a great improvement. We have gained one success in the Cape Matriculation, one in the Law Society's Preliminary, and seven in the Oxford Junior Local. As to the future, you have no doubt heard some of the rumours afloat. I am sorry to say that I am not yet in a position to announce definitely the changes which the future may be expected to see, but this I can say, that I have very good reason to hope that before another Michaelmas comes we shall have ceased to be a “private academy,” and become the Diocesan School for boys. I need not say what a step this will be. It will secure continuity and permanence, and enable us to recognise that we are really

members of a corporate establishment, with a life and a future far exceeding the range of any one man's influence, or the duration of his existence on earth. I need not say with what thankfulness to Almighty God I regard this approaching realisation of my wishes after little more than two short years of work. In order to establish the school on a satisfactory basis it will be necessary to appeal to the generosity of friends of education and of the church; but from what I have already heard before the scheme is yet in the hands of the public I have little doubt of the result. What the constitution of the school may be I cannot yet say, but we need feel no doubt that our Bishop will grant us one which will be in the best sense born conservative and liberal. As soon as I can speak more fully and definitely I will let the parents and the public generally know what is decided. (Applause.) It is with great regret that we look forward to losing Bennett, who has been a prefect since Michaelhouse was opened. We shall miss him in the House and in our Football and Cricket, though we hope he will continue to play in our league matches during the present season. We wish him every success in the profession he is going to adopt. (Applause.) In conclusion, let me repeat what I said last year, that we are not able to do anything of ourselves towards the accomplishment of our great task of training up immortal souls for life here and life hereafter, but we have sure confidence in the goodness of God, in the guidance of the great Archangel whose name we bear." (Applause.)

THE PRIZE LIST.

The prize list read by Canon Todd was as follows:—

Upper Fourth Form (Classics).—(Prize presented by Archdeacon Baines and Mr. Watson).—Button, Leslie, mi.

Lower Fourth Form (Latin).—(Prize presented by Mrs. Todd).—Mortimer.

Upper Third Form (Latin).—Barnes.

Lower Third Form (Latin).—Baylis, mi.

Class III. (Mathematics).—(Prize presented by Mr. Clark).—Leslie, ma.

Class II. (Mathematics).—Allanson.

Class I. (Mathematics).—Tatham.

Essay Prize.—(Presented by Mr. F. S. Tatham).—Mortimer.
Extra prizes.—Bisset, Sission.

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

Cape University Matriculation.—Leslie, ma.

Natal Law Society's Preliminary.—Bennet.

Oxford Junior Local.—Allanson, Bissett, Gibson, McLaren, Moor, Mortimer, and Sisson.

Cape Musical Preliminary.—Cameron, Gibson, and Morcom.

Archdeacon Baines said as far as he could gather from the report—although one would like to have more time to consider it—there was in the opinion of the Rector nothing in the results of the work of the past year unduly to elate those who were responsible for it, and a very great deal to encourage them. There was nothing to justify any regret on the part of the staff of Michaelhouse on the more serious side of their work, but plenty to show them that good work upon material which was not always best had its reward. He said the more serious side of school work, because he thought in these days athletics ran riot a little, and athletics were not the objects for which the school existed. They were most valuable helps to keep up the healthy tone of the school, bringing boys and masters together in a very pleasant and happy way, they taught the boys to work together for a common object, they taught them also to work under authority, and he thought, besides that, looking back upon one's own schooldays, they gave a boy an opportunity of learning how to succeed without being conceited, and also how to fail without being envious and ungenerous toward those more successful than himself. At the same time, a school such as Michaelhouse did not exist for the sake of athletics and success in athletics. It existed for the purpose of laying a foundation of knowledge which the boys would be able to build upon after they had left school. It was that they might be taught how to learn for themselves. The time that a boy was at the school was very short, and most boys, after they left school here, did not go on to the university either at the Cape or at Home, and, therefore, very great responsibility rested with those who were responsible for the teaching of Michaelhouse to make the best of the opportunities they have. They all listened with great interest to the reference made in the Rector's report to approaching changes; or, at any rate, to rumours of approaching changes. Whatever these changes might be he was perfectly sure of this, that they all most sincerely hoped that Michaelhouse would continue, and, more than that, it would continue under its present headmaster. (Applause.) It would be a loss to the Colony and a loss to the church, to say nothing of the pain it would cause them to lose Canon Todd. He did not want to be indiscreet in any remarks he might make on the subject of approaching changes. Some of them had heard that there was a prospect of the school being moved into the country. He only made reference to that so that parents of day boys who might be present might make a great effort to continue sending their boys to Michaelhouse. If of value to their boys while in the town the school would be of even greater value to them in the country, if it was removed to the country. Discipline in any school must be better when it was rather further removed from the parents of the boys. He was going to say something very rude, but mothers, generally fault-

less in other respects, had sometimes two faults when their boys were in question. One was that they thought they could manage the school as well as the headmaster, and the other was that their own boys were not capable of doing anything that was wrong. (Laughter.) That made it a little difficult for even the most independent character of the Rector of this school. One thing which was not referred to in the report, and indeed could not well be referred to by the Rector, was the gentlemanly bearing of the boys of Michaelhouse. Of course, good manners were by no means everything, but if good manners and gentlemanly bearing sprang from respect and consideration and thoughtfulness for the feelings of others, they meant a great deal and the school which sent out boys with such bearing was a school that might be justly proud of its position. (Applause.)

The Archdeacon then presented the prizes, the winners receiving many rounds of applause from their fellow-students.

Mr. Penderell-Longlands, on the invitation of Canon Todd, then made a few remarks. He had, he said, been brought up at a public school, and he knew something of public schools. From all he had heard and from all he had learned himself as to the manner St. Michael's School was conducted, he thought it marked almost an epoch that they should have in Natal such means of education given as at that school. (Applause.) Mr. Longlands referred to the value of athletics in school life, and mentioned an interesting speech on education given at the Cape by the Hon. Mr. Merriman, which he advised all boys as well to read. In congratulating Canon Todd and the masters on their success, Mr. Longlands said he hoped that St. Michael's School would continue to flourish. He did not, he said, believe much in Government establishments, and, as far as he had seen in Natal, he believed that St. Michael's School and Hilton College were the true colleges and the true homes of education in Natal. (Applause.)

The Rev. Mr. Watson next addressed the meeting in appropriate terms.

The Tatham Essay Prize, won by Mortimer, included an account of the Union Jack and a vivid description of the "Battle of Waterloo." The latter, we think, owing to the extreme hackneyed character of the subject, does not admit of publication, but the description of the Union Jack is interesting and well described, and will be found elsewhere. We congratulate Leslie, ma., and Levy on being the two "Proxime accessits."

After a vote of thanks to the speakers was proposed by the Rector and his thanks to the ladies and friends for their attendance, the proceedings, which throughout had been unusually interesting from the nature of the information given, terminated in the hall and an adjournment was made to the Lower IV. form room through the rain for tea.

In the evening Michaelhouse resumed its normal appearance, and at 7 o'clock everyone was busily writing his usual weekly mail, and in another three-quarters of an hour the familiar bell ushered us all in to work or choir practice, greatly refreshed by the three day's rest and cheered by the announcements made by the Rector and by the very many kind words said by innumerable friends at the cricket match and prize-giving about the school and all connected with it.

THE UNION JACK.

To clearly understand the details of the construction of our National Flag, a slight knowledge of the elements of heraldry is necessary. The three colours which go to make up the "Union Jack" are Red, Blue, and White, the technical names for which in heraldry are "Gules," "Azure," and "Argent." Of the above Gules and Azure are known as "Tinctures" and Argent as a "Metal." By a law of Heraldry, tincture must never meet tincture, nor metal metal. St. George's Cross, or cross "gules on a field Argent," was the national flag of Great Britain until early in the 17th century. It was incorporated as the national ensign in the thirteenth century.

When England became united to Scotland in 1603, by the accession of James VI., of Scotland, to the English throne, the flags of the two countries were blended into one. The cross of Saint Andrew is a saltire argent (*i.e.*, a white cross in the shape of an X) on a field azure. Tradition says that this was the form of cross on which the patron Saint of Scotland was crucified. At its addition a white border was added to the cross of Saint George, which gives the whole a much more artistic appearance. This border, called the "fimbriation," was and also necessary because of the law which I have mentioned, *viz.*, that tincture cannot encroach upon tincture, nor metal upon metal.

At the union with Ireland in 1800, a further addition was necessary, and the national flag of Ireland, the cross of Saint Patrick, a saltire gules on ground argent, was introduced in January 1, 1801.

But if this cross were added in its full size it would completely cover the white saltire of St. Andrew, as the two correspond both in size and position. Hence the two diagonal crosses are divided into strips, St. Patrick's being half of its former width and St. Andrew's one-third, and to the latter also was added the fimbriation. These three strips were joined together side by side, the gules of St. Patrick's saltire being in the middle. But the compound stripe thus formed is not arranged in the same way in every quarter of the flag. In the first quarter (the top left hand, a place of honour in heraldry) the white strip re-

presenting St. Andrew's saltire is placed uppermost, because Scotland is the senior member, and this arrangement is repeated in the bottom left hand quarter.

But, to prevent Ireland being represented on the ensign as the most insignificant member of the union, the saltire of St. Patrick is placed uppermost in the second and fourth quarterings.

Two explanations are given of the derivation of the word "Jack." One is that the coats of uniform on which St. George's cross were first embroidered were called "Jacks," and another that King James used to sign himself "Jacques" (pronounced "Jack"), the French equivalent for James. The former is the most widely accepted theory.

In this way then, by a gradual process of composition and blending, has the national flag of our country been formed and derived its title of the "Union Jack." At the sight of it every Briton, be he Englishman, Scot, or Irishman, feels his heart beat proudly within him, both with the memory of the glorious deeds that have been done beneath its waving folds and the knowledge that Freedom has chartered it as, "facile princeps," her special banner all the world over and uses it as her favourite "Ensign and Emblem of Emancipation and Liberty."

H. E. MORTIMER.

SCHOOL NEWS.

Masters.—The Rev. W. L. Rousseau has been appointed Professor in Dutch.

Prefects.—Findlay (senior), Edmonds, Button, Arbuckle.

New Boys.—Boarders : Goodricke, Harvey, Moor, mi. Day Boys : Arbuckle, Egner, Payn, ma., Payn, mi., Woodhouse, Mason, ma., Mason, mi.

Valete.—Bennett (Lower House), senior Prefect, Upper IV, 1st XI., 1st XV., (Captain, 1898). Leslie, ma. (Day boy), Prefect, 1st XV., Choir (bass). McLaren (Day boy), Prefect, 1st XI., (Captain, 1897-98), 1st XV., Choir (tenor). Allanson (Day boy), 1st XV., Choir (bass). Christie (Day boy), 1st XV., Choir (bass). Markham, mi. (Upper House), 2nd XI., 2nd XV. Forder, ma. (Day boy), Prefect, 1st XI., 1st XV., Choir (bass). Field (Upper House), Choir (treble). Bisset, mi. (Day boy), 2nd XI., Choir (treble).

Football.—1st XV. : The Rector, Mr. Dobree, Mr. Hannah, Bennett, Findlay, Leslie, ma., Shepstone, Button, Gordon, ma., Levy, McLaren, Forder, ma., Allanson, Christie, Gordon, mi. Also played—Sullivan (O.M.), Markham (O.M.), ma., Markham, mi., Prince, Arbuckle, Mason, ma., Bisset, and Barnes.

Choral Class.—Trebles : Emmett, Tatham, Hodgson, Flack, Forder, mi., Sutton, Morcom, Mason, mi., Egner ; Altos : Leslie, mi., Mortimer, Baylis, mi., Cameron ; Tenors : Bisset, Mr. Dobree ; Basses : Edmonds, Leslie, ma., Findlay, Shepstone, Nicolson, Arbuckle, Mason, ma. Report : Works practised—"Hosana in the highest" (Sir John Stainer) ; "Ave Verum" (W. H. Hoyte) ; "O, Saviour of the World" (Sir John Goss) ; "Adeste Fideles" (V. Novello). Progress, very fair.

The Gym.—A general improvement must be recorded, and the competition in December should show a distinct advance on last year's performance. Sergeant Greasley, of the Leicesters, is the present Instructor.

Literary and Debating Society.—During the last quarter some entertaining evenings have been passed under the auspices of the above Society, and much better promise has been shown by several, notably Goodricke, Gibson, Findlay, Bennett and Cooper. The subjects debated were varied and wisely chosen. "That the English and not the Native language should be used to and by kafir servants."—(Lost). "The respective claims of Cricket, Association Football, Rugby Football, to be the best form of athletics for the development of the physique and noble moral qualities."—(Socker won).

On Saturday, September 24th, Mr. D. M. Eadie, of the *Times of Natal*, read a short but instructive and interesting paper on "The Responsibility of the Individual viewed in the light of Sociology."

S. Saviour's Choir.—Michaelhouse Contingent : Trebles—Tatham, Hodgson, Emmett, Flack. Basses—Mr. Dobree, Findlay, Leslie, ma. Practice is held every week in the School, and it is hoped that the number of boys willing and able to sing church music will rapidly increase.

The Library. Shepstone is Librarian. No books have been added this quarter.

FOOTBALL.

WE have some reason to be proud for we have won the cup, but quite as much reason to be humble for we have got to keep it. Any advance made this season must be kept up in the next, and our present success will, let it be hoped, be only an encouragement to further improvement. That distinct improvement has been made no one can deny. The game is much faster and more open, the following and backing-up better, and the passing and running more scientific and regular. In matches we

have generally been considerably lighter than our opponents, and this disparity in weight, to our advantage, forced us to adopt tactics which have had the best of results. Any team that played against us towards the end of the season could be assured of a fast, open and interesting game, and even if somewhat heavier, knew it must play up pretty hard to win.

The only match in which we were really "walked over" was that against the Old Hiltonians league team, assisted by Messrs. R. M. Tanner and J. W. D. Adam. In our matches against the Natal Police and College, though opposed to heavier players, we more than held our own, and showed unmistakably that there was some real keenness and "life" in our methods. The forwards, we are glad to see, have taken the remarks in our last issue to heart and have shown they realise the great duties of keeping on the ball and tackling, much better than hitherto.

It has been a great pleasure to see the Rector playing regularly in all important matches, for his absence would have been severely felt. Mr. Hannah must be congratulated on having picked up the game quickly, and Mr. Dobree on having recovered sufficiently from his illness to join in the game this quarter. The Rugby "nines" were a new experiment, and we think a successful one. They were well contested and brought an exciting season to a merry close.

RECORD OF MATCHES.

Matches played 10. Won 5. Lost 4. Drawn 1.

CHARACTERS OF THE 1ST XV.

BENNETT (Captain, Threequarter). A strong and tricky runner, very difficult to stop. A remarkably good drop kick. Made a very keen captain. Has left.

LESLIE, ma. (Forward). An honest and hardworking forward, always on the ball. Tackles well. Has left.

FINDLAY (Forward). Has very much improved and is now one of our most useful players. Is particularly good in the loose, and can play threequarter.

BUTTON (Half-back). Plays a clever, and at times, a brilliant game. Should practice long punting in touch more.

LEVY (Full-back). Has greatly improved, and is now thoroughly reliable, keeps a cool head and is a safe kick.

GORDON, ma. (Half-back). Light, but well worth his place. Passes and stops rushes well.

SHEPSTONE (forward). Considerably improved all round. Shines well at times in the loose. A poor kick.

MASON, ma. (Threequarter). A very fast and powerful runner. Kicking greatly improved.

ARBuckle (Forward). New to the game this quarter, but should be a very useful man next season.

BISSET (Threequarter). A capable, though light threequarter, who knows how to pass and when to kick.

GORDON, mi. (Forward). Plays as hard as ever and knows the game. Must try hard to grow.

PRINCE (Forward). Was handicapped by an accident, from playing half, but picked up the forward play most creditably, and will develop into a useful man in either place.

LEFT AT THE HALF SEASON.

FORDER, ma. (Forward). Very useful man, always played a hard and dashing game. Has been much missed.

McLAREN (Threequarter). Improved on last season's play and did well in league matches.

ALLANSON (Forward). Picked up the game quickly and well earned his place. We were sorry to lose him.

CHRISTIE (Forward). Learnt the game quickly and played hard and conscientiously. Did well in the league matches.

SULLIVAN (O.M.) and MARKHAM (O.M.) must be thanked for their invaluable assistance, and the former especially for the brilliant play in league matches.

ACCOUNT OF MATCHES PLAYED.!

MICHAELHOUSE V. COLLEGE.

April 20th :—Played on the College Ground, and resulted in a win for us by 14 points to 13. Gordon, ma. had to retire hurt at the beginning of the game, but Mr. Dobree took his place at half and immediately threw the ball across the ground to McLaren, who raced in. The College equalised, but Bennett, Mr. Dobree, and Findlay, quickly gaining additional tries, placed the matter beyond doubt. One of the tries was converted by Bennett. Altogether the team played most pluckily, and being the first match of the season earned great encouragement.

COMBINED SCHOOLS V. THE WANDERERS.

(From the Natal Witness.)

Played on Maritzburg College Ground, Saturday, April 30th. The Wanderers started, and from a scrimmage on the centre line, the Schools gained a little. Langley, however, kicked into touch. From a subsequent touch, the Wanderers broke away, and dribbled the ball down within their opponents' 25, where Langley took the opportunity of a shot, but the ball went high. The ball having been picked out of a scrimmage, the Wanderers were awarded a free kick. Langley kicked, regained possession, and started a run. He was brought to the ground, and Joliffe neatly picked up the ball and ran beautifully behind. Langley was entrusted with the kick, which he failed to convert. The Wanderers were

awarded another free kick, and Bennett capturing the ball well down the field, endeavoured to have a drop for goal, just missing the uprights. Dobree made a splendid run, and was nipped by Langley near the Wanderers' 25. While the scrimmage which followed was being pressed the whistle blew. Half-time :— Wanderers, 1 try ; Combined Schools, nil.

After the resumption the Schools increased their pace, Dobree and Bennett, jun., becoming conspicuous. The former again headed a fine run, and a free kick by Langley concentrated play at mid-field for some time. Langley gaining possession, went off, and passing to Joliffe, the ball was carried close to the line. A touch and a scrimmage made matters exciting, but the ball crossed over to the low side of the field, where a succession of touches and scrimmages near the Schools' goal line followed. Eventually the Schools were successful in getting the leather freed. The strictness of the referee was frequently commented on, but Pte. Bairstow knew the rules too well to have any fault shown against him. G. Bennett played an excellent game and was instrumental in stopping many runs. The Schools forward line organising for a run, some splendid passing was witnessed, and the ball reached very near the Wanderers' goal line. Levy dropped with the ball, but the referee declared no try. A scrimmage followed, and the ball was again carried to centre, when time was called, the score standing :—

Wanderers, 3 points ; Combined Schools, 0. Teams :—

COMBINED SCHOOLS :—Carbutt ; Bester, Bennett, McLaren, and Levy ; Baillie and Dobree ; Canon Todd, Loram, Hulley, Leslie, Forder, Paton, and Findlay.

WANDERERS :—Markham ; Juul, Langley, Lawrenson, and Joliffe ; Bennett and Mowat ; Tanner, Money, Molyneux, Player, De Villiers, Wilde-Brown, and Bigby.

Referee :—Pte. Bairstow, O.S.C.

MICHAELHOUSE V. MR. J. W. D. ADAM'S TEAM.

Played on the School Ground on Wednesday, April 27th, and lost, after a very good game, by 3 points to nil.

MICHAELHOUSE V. MR. GEORGE BENNETT'S TEAM.

Played on the School Ground, May 4th, and resulted in a crushing defeat for the School by 23 points to nil.

MICHAELHOUSE V. COLLEGE (LEAGUE).

Played on the Rugby Union Ground on Monday, May 23rd, at 4 p.m. A very stubbornly contested game from start to finish and won by the narrow margin of a drop goal (4 points) to a try (3 points). Shortly after the start Mr. Langley, for our opponents,

made a fine run and scored a try. After the ball had been dropped out from the 25 we worked it up towards their line and Bennett scored with a magnificent drop kick. From then right on till the whistle sounded for time, our opponents were pressing us, but by dint of hard work by the whole team we succeeded in keeping them out, and won as above stated. Considering the fact that both Mr. Dobree and Forder were away it was a glorious victory and reflected the greatest credit on all who played in it.

MICHAELHOUSE :—Levy ; Bennett, McLaren, Markham, Sullivan ; Button and Gordon, ma ; The Rector, Mr. Hannah, Leslie, ma, Findlay, Shepstone, Allanson, Christie, and Gordon, mi.

MICHAELHOUSE V. COLLEGE (FORBES-TAYLOR CUP.)

Played on Saturday, June 4th, on the New Ground. At the outset Michaelhouse were awarded a free kick, and the College pressed very hard. Bennett, however, had a fine run, and passing to McLaren, the latter was collared within a few yards of the College goal. The College had decidedly the most of the game, but half-time arrived without any scoring.

Bester, at the opening of the second half, initiated a beautiful run, which brought his forwards within the Michaelhouse 25. From a scrimmage on the high side of the field Bailey got away and successfully placed. Todd, however, kicked badly. The College pressed hard, Anderson making his mark. Michaelhouse played a splendid defence, and the game closed without any further addition to the score. Result :—

College, 3 points ; Michaelhouse, nil.

MICHAELHOUSE :—Levy ; Bennett, Sullivan, McLaren, and Markham ; Button and Gordon ; Forder, Leslie, Findlay, Allanson, Christie, Shepstone, Gordon, and Barnes.

COLLEGE :—Carbutt ; Todd, Bester, Anderson, and Stalker ; S. Bailey and F Bailey ; Smythe, Stuart, Turner, Tranmer, Hulley, Loram, Parker, and Paton.

Referee :—Sergt. Bairstow, A.O.C.

MICHAELHOUSE V. NATAL POLICE.

Played on the Park Ground and won by 9 points to 5. This was one of our most creditable victories during the season. Our team was much strengthened by the inclusion of Mr. George Bennett and Mr. Bigby. Though playing against a very much heavier team than ourselves, we had slightly the best of a well-contested game all through. During the first half we pressed them most of the time till George Bennett eventually got in with a fine run, and scored. Soon afterwards, M. Bennett got the ball nearly at the half-way line and made a grand drop goal with his left foot. Shortly before time, they scored a goal, and when the whistle sounded we won as above stated.

MICHAELHOUSE V. COLLEGE.

Played in the Park on Wednesday, June 15th, at 4 p.m., and drawn, after a desperately contested game, with a score of three points all. Sullivan was in grand form, and but for his brilliant picking up and kicking, apart from the fact that he scored the only try for us, we might have fared badly. Both sides kept at it, "hammer and tongs," till the whistle sounded, and a very evenly contested game ended in a draw as above stated of three points each.

MICHAELHOUSE : — Levy ; Bennett, McLaren, Markham, Sullivan ; Gordon, ma. and Button ; The Rector, Mr. Hannah, Findlay, Leslie, Forder, Allanson, Christie, Shepstone.

MICHAELHOUSE "A" TEAM V. BLENHEIM.

Played on the College Ground on Saturday, May 14th, and resulted in a win for us by 15 points (5 tries) to 6 points (2 tries). In this match we played a team consisting of half our 1st XV and half our 2nd XV. Just at the first we were hard pressed, and they scored a try in the first few minutes. Afterwards we got through several times, and won easily as above stated. Our tries were obtained by Bisset, Button, Gordon, ma., Levy.

MICHAELHOUSE V. WESTON COLLEGE (HIGHLANDS).

Played on Michaelmas Eve, in the Park, at 5 p.m., and won with ease by 45 points to nil. Bennett, Button, Mason, Bisset, and Mr. Dobree all got tries, and Findlay, Bennett, and Levy kicked the goals. Our opponents played a plucky and gentlemanly game throughout, and their severe defeat is attributed largely to their being new to the game, and unused to the fast play of a match.

MICHAELHOUSE.—Levy ; Bennett, Bisset, Edmonds, Mason ; Button and Gordon ; Mr. Dobree, Findlay, Leslie, Shepstone, Gordon, mi., Prince, Barnes, Arbuckle.

2ND. XV. MATCHES.

MICHAELHOUSE 2ND V. COLLEGE 2ND.

Played on our ground and won by 31 points to nil. Tries for us by Mason, Edmonds, Bisset. Goals by Mason, Edmonds, Bisset, Moor.

MICHAELHOUSE.—Emmett ; Mason, Moor, ma., Edmonds, Bisset ; Gordon, ma., and Button ; Barnes, Gordon, mi., Nicholson, Baylis, ma., Prince, Gordon, mi., Symons, White.

RUGBY NINES.

Played on Monday, Sept. 5th., and Friday Sept. 9th. Result :

		Rector's	Dobree's	Bennett's	Findlay's	Leslie's	Pts.
The Rector's Team	—	L	L	D	L	1	
Mr. Dobree's	...	W	—	L	W	D	5
Bennett's	...	W	W	—	W	W	8
Findlay's	...	D	L	L	—	W	3
Leslie's	...	W	D	L	L	—	3

CRICKET.

ALTHOUGH nearly a month has now passed since we started cricket, it is very difficult to foretell anything. In the few matches we have played, the team has shown extraordinary in-and-out-form. In our first match we ran up a total of 260 for 8 wickets and won with the greatest ease, and then a week or two later the team collapses in a most deplorable manner for 33. Turning to individuals, the team has suffered an irreparable loss since the season began, in Bennett, who in the one match he did play for the school made 114 not out, besides running up several large scores in school games. The loss of his bowling, too, will probably be very severely felt during the season. Of last year's team, now that Bennett has left, we have only four left. Bisset seems to have come on very much in batting this year, as he plays in very much freer style. His bowling, too, appears to have lost none of its sting. Edmonds and Button have both done well at times, and ought, with more practice, to do better. Edmonds has completely changed his style of bowling this year, and is now quite a slow bowler. Although fairly successful, it is rather a pity that he has given up bowling fast, as there is no doubt a really good fast bowler to take Bennett's place is what the team really wants. Tatham began the season very badly, but has quite picked up during the last week or so, and if only he could be persuaded not to just touch rising off balls, would be as good as anyone in the team. Of the boys new to the XI. this year, Moor, ma., has done best. He has played one or two very nice innings. Findlay and Levy have also made runs at times, though both are much too inclined to try and make 100 in the first over; Forder, ma., has bowled steadily, and with increased experience, should prove very useful. Of the new boys, Arbuckle, Mason, ma., and Harvey show most promise. None of them have done much in matches yet, but nervousness probably had something to do with it. What the team really wants is a little more steadiness. We have plenty of boys who can, and do, make a lot of runs occasionally, but hardly one that one could be

at all sure of to keep up his wicket at a critical moment. There is, in consequence, a very glorious uncertainty about the team. It is to be hoped this may be remedied as the season advances. We are shortly to have the occasional services of Webb (the Hampshire professional) to coach the boys. This ought to have a most beneficial effect on the cricket throughout the school.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

The Editor begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following Magazines:—Barrovian, Bradfordian, S. Andrew's College Magazine, Carthusian, Cantuarian, Cuthbertian, Reptonian, Fettesian, The Leys' Fortnightly, Elizabethan, Shirburnian.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS, ETC.

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