

Prince Alfred College

CHRONICLE.

Vol. I.—No. 6.]

ADELAIDE: APRIL 30, 1885.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

EDITORIAL.

How often we hear it said: "Oh, I wish I were back at school again; there's no time half so happy as schooldays; I was foolish to want to leave so soon?" Yet schoolboys in general take a very different view of this period of their lives; their desire is to be free from the restraints, work, and woes of school, to throw off the boy and to get out to see something of the world. "If schooldays were only as they used to be," say they, "and as we read of them in books, then we might enjoy them; but they have become so tame now-a-days that there is actually no fun in them." Though this is a false supposition, still there is a gleam of truth about it. It is perfectly evident to everyone that schooldays are not as they used to be: whether they have improved or degenerated remains to be proved. The average schoolboy is rather inclined to accept the latter proposition, but happily he is wrong. Everyone is acquainted with thrilling and romantic stories of school life, with which literature is teeming, still when we come to consider the question we find that we much more enjoy reading them than we should have relished being the actors in them.

It is only of late years that people have come to learn that youth is the tenderest and most critical part of one's life; then we are most susceptible of impressions from without, then the character begins to develop and strengthen, and the future man depends largely upon the training of the boy.

Not very many years ago violence and force, often brutal, were regarded as necessary for the education of the young; and it was the practice to endeavour to frighten children out of their fears. Thus they were kept in constant terror and their fears, instead of being removed, were increased by the unkind treatment they received. "Nicholas Nickleby" is no exaggeration of the state of many schools but a few years ago; indeed, Dickens tells us that a certain Yorkshire schoolmaster was very wrath against him, because this gentleman thought that he was the original from which the character of Squeers had been drawn: so well did the cap fit. This state of affairs was exceedingly injurious to sensitive minds. Instead of being gradually strengthened by kindness and wise training, they were crushed and distorted by inhuman treatment. But now people perceive the error of this and such things have been entirely changed, and the schoolboy is even protected by the law.

Another great evil in schools was bullying. Though but little trace of this is found now, it was very common some years ago. Little boys were victims to the bigger ones, and those who possessed but little physical courage were unmercifully abused by their fellows. The readers of "Tom Brown's Schooldays" will understand what bullying was, and will recall the "tossing" and the brutal and contemptible Flashman.

The characters of children of timid and delicate natures, with unchristian masters on the one hand and cruel bullies on the other, were in many cases ruined; whereas if they had been properly trained they would doubtless have made more than ordinary men.

But all these are things of the past, and the system of education has been altogether changed since then; and when we again come to weigh the matter we find that our lot is much more favoured than that of boys of thirty or forty years ago, and that our schooldays are really very pleasant times after all.

THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY.

During the last few months our University has been widely extending its sphere of usefulness; and not the least of its new features is the establishment of Evening Classes. Through the energetic efforts of many influential citizens, and the munificence of Sir Thos. Elder, these classes have at length been organized, and the number attending them is promising to begin with, though it is to be feared that many will be ready enough to attend for a while, and will then fall away; but surely there are many who, having matriculated, though prevented by their ordinary occupations from attending during the day, will be

ready to take advantage of these evening classes.

Garfield's advice to every boy and young man was to do his level best to get an education; and we re-echo the words of that departed hero. One will be none the worse for having had an education; he will be all the better for it. He will make a better citizen, and will better be able to perform his duties in life and to grapple with its difficulties.

Therefore we would urge upon all who have just left, or are about to leave school, to make use of these evening classes; besides, boys leaving school are just fresh from the work, and find less difficulty in continuing their studies than those who have laid them aside for a year or two. Moreover, we ought to have a special interest in these classes; for Mr. Churchward, B.A., our Second Master, has been appointed mathematical lecturer.

The second new feature is the establishment of a Musical Chair, which is the first in these colonies. The honour of having founded it falls to His Excellency the Governor, who, being a musical man, was desirous of seeing this chair established at our university, and liberally offered to raise the necessary funds, which he soon did. All arrangements were at once made, and Professor Ives was brought from England to occupy the Chair; and we hope that many will take their degrees in music. A large number of people have objected to having to pass the Matriculation before beginning their musical studies; but we cannot see why they should be exempt any more than a man wishing to study medicine.

We have a large interest in the University, as many of our old boys are attending it; but in future we should like to see the number much larger.

OUR UNIVERSITY FRIENDS.

(BY ONE OF THEM).

No. V.—*Their Festive Outing.*

"Brightly-gilded youths were they,
Taking their annual holiday."

—Gold-smith.

Every dog (like every domestic servant) will have his day. It is not surprising, therefore, that the 'Varsity pack make a grass-dinner an annual institution.

THE MEET.

Those of us jolly dogs to whom a square meal, eaten from the horizontal lap of mother Earth, seemed more than ordinarily attractive, assembled one fine morning at the close of last year in the academical yard, with every hair on end. Our intention was to hunt the trail of neither fish, flesh, fox, nor even good red herring, but simply that of a good lark. So, when time was up, several reeking (with tobacco) couples—the bond of chumship yoked them—were seen to drag their slow lengths along until they confronted the depôt where railway tickets for s(o)up-positively enjoyable journeys southwards are vended.

THE "THROW-OFF."

We were just in our proper places, when "Hark-away" bellowed the station-tinkler, "Toiks" screeched the guard-whistle, and a "Tally-ho" blast from the locomotive trumpet followed. Then we dogs "threw off" our coats and our reserve. The snorting coal-black steed, whose lead we followed, after dashing through the western part of the city and past the suburbs of Goodwood and Mitcham at the pace that kills—female enjoyment—had to do some up-hill work, so it groaned and gasped like a boiled owl in a fit, but its

cries were unheeded in the adjectival admiration which the scenic beauty excited. Pat quotations from dogs-eared tomes by erudite puppies were inadequate to describe it. The picturesque view induced many to look out of the window, especially when some idiots told tales full of sound and fury signifying nothing. Cheerful chaff and buoyant banter, intermingled with convulsive clutchings, as we entered each terrible tunnel, the darkness of which was just made visible by the dim light of an oil lamp smiling sickly from above at our fears, enlivened the proceedings, till at Mount Lofty station we left the track of our leader to take a short cut.

CROSS COUNTRY.

After a modest quencher at the nearest saloon, we trotted off again with renewed vigour, and were soon traversing scrubby hill and unshaven dale at a corporation improvement rate—the greatest possible. While making a descent we whistled merrily, when ascending, we groaned dismally. A breezy milkmaid confronting us with a stare, "Box" tried to look sentimental, but failed. Then he winked, but without success. Finally, my readers, after repeated haltings *en route*, ostensibly to admire the scenery, really to recover breath, we reached that mount called by a polite fiction "Lofty."

A HALT

was then made, though a halter would have been more fitting in the case of some. But hang it all! we had to execute our plans; so, having disentombed some viands, we re-buried them with choking rapidity. The reservoir of the local observatory (that red wragge to the punster-in-chief) supplied the teetotal faction with their pet beverage, but the weaker-principled of our number took something stronger. Then "full of

kick-shaws and modern mince-stances" we unbent ourselves, the non-smokers lighting the pipe of peace, the Raleighites the pipe of briar. Although the sky had a fit of the blues, Sol gave us a warm reception, and the unremitting attentions of sundry flies, the clinging affection of divers grass-prickles, the tenacious embraces of various ants, and the unsolicited songs of certain cicadas to which we were treated, prove that if we didn't enjoy ourselves it wasn't our fault.

THE SCENT LOST AND REGAINED.

Just as most of us were on the snooze, one dog, whom the ubiquitous insects kept awake, suddenly yelled out in a bar(k)itone voice that the scent was lost. "The Joker," a rum card (a trump and no knave) although an official, at once proffered his odoriferous cambric as a substitute, but it made things worse. However, after several ideas had exploded harmlessly, "The Joker" to whom the hills are as familiar as his spectacles, opined that the good lark was to be found near the Eagle on the Hill, on the principle of "birds of a feather." Consequently, we again took to the road that winds serpent-like around those everlasting hills, kicking up considerable row and dust, hailing weary wood-carters, tired teamsters, and staring stone crackers; spinning hanks of "yarn," discharging quivers full of pointed jokes, etc., until "Box," who has "a heye like a heagle," declared he could see that animal on the hill. A spurt, and we stood before the prince of the powers of the air—a bar-vester. Though on an elevation, he was down in the dumps, and when we wished him a merry Christmas, he leisurely opened one eye, shut it, opened the other and kept it opened. Only this and nothing more. Inside the hotel-

parlour we obtained some light refreshment at a heavy price; but as we were gratuitously treated to the groans and moans of an un-musical box, which took up half the room, we didn't demur; we simply cleared out. Another *mal quart d'heure* on the road, and "Steeven's gardens" lay before us. Being an hungered we entered, for

Beneath a spreading mulberry tree
A rustic table stands,
Where (if you pay) you may take tea,
Prepared by woman's hands.

"THE DEATH" AND THE BRUSH.

While the meal was a-preparing, the pack scoured the gardens, but soon the smell of "gunpowder" brought the wandering heroes to a focus. When all was ready and grace said, the death of the victuals took place, very cold-bloodedly. Then a dog, who had been bred in St. Peter's kennel got up, and clearing his throat, said, "Gen'l'men (Ear Ear) and ladies. ("Amen" from the old woman) It is with a feeling of tea-er-fulness (Uproar) blended with kindness (a voice, 'The milk of it.') that I address you. 'The Sticker,' B.A., (cheers) has stuck to his work like a—a—a (a voice, "a salve plaister.") no like a Salve-a-shun Army band on a sleepy Sunday morning, (sympathetic groans) and in the words of the poet (cries of 'which?') has not laboured in vain. ('Encore.' 'Heard that before.' 'Pass the jam, Dick.') I therefore propose his never-failing health." The toast and tea were drunk with enthusiasm. "The Sticker," who was cordially received (some lime juice was thrown at him), intimidated by gesture that his heart (other authorities read "his mouth") was too full to express his real sentiments (general weeping) but he was sure we meant well. cries of "Oh no," and tears, also applause.)

By this time the tea-pot was empty, so deferring the rest of the toasts, we rose from the festive board. The cateress being in at "the death" got "the brush" and proceeded to whisk the crumbs off the table cloth. Then the clock striking the hour for retiring we took the hint and left this modern Eden.

THE FINISH.

We had still a two-hours' journey to accomplish, so we struck out as vigorously as your prize fighter; and soon a substantial hovel, Mountain Hut by name, was in sight. A very spider-like landlord asked us to walk into his parlour, but as none of us felt very fly, we declined. We were compensated, however, by "The Joker," whose amusing anecdotes and consequent cachinnations kept us in a continuous roar. Songs, ancient and modern, were sung by the company with varying degrees of merit, until, pitying the terror-stricken Glen Osmond inhabitants, we desisted. At Parkside one of our number left for the asylum, and the rest, toiling on, reached the city about 10 p.m. Then we

"Put away the pickled spider,
And the cold-pressed picnic fly,
And the decorated trousers,
With their wreath of custard pie,"

until next time. Olive oil!!!

(To be Continued.)

(ILLOGICAL ?) LOGIC.

Those whose mathematical knowledge is not extensive are not required to weaken their brain power in attempting to follow the profound reasonings of which this article consists, therefore they had better treasure this up as a prize until they have

attained their B.A. degree, when they will be able to understand the proofs of the three propositions which I put forth, without severe mental exertion.

(N.B. I would strongly advise those who intend to read further to lay in a large stock of medicine, say two tons, before doing so).

I now proceed to enunciate and prove proposition 1.

To prove that—

A discouraged nurseryman = a cauliflower thermometer.

Now, fruit preserved = sweetmeat

∴ a garden of sweet melons = sweetmeat

∴ a (sweet) melon garden = (sweet)meat

∴ a melon garden = meat

∴ a melon gardener = me(a)TER

But a meter = an instrument for measuring

∴ a melon gardener = an instrument for measuring

But a spirit thermometer = an instrument for measuring

∴ a melon gardener = a spirit thermometer

∴ a DEJECTED melon gardener = a DEJECTED spirit thermometer

∴ a dejected (melon) gardener = a (melan)choly thermometer

∴ a dejected gardener = a choly thermometer

∴ a dejected FLOWER gardener = a choly-FLOWER thermometer

i.e., a discouraged nurseryman = a cauliflower thermometer

Q.E.D.

Not wishing my readers to unduly exert themselves I shall not give the other propositions until they have had sufficient time to recover from the effect the first proposition will have had on them.

A. E. M.

PREPARING SKELETON LEAVES.

A very pleasant occupation for leisure moments is the art of preparing or skeletonising leaves. The old method, as most readers are aware, was simply to immerse the leaves in water for several weeks, until the epidermis and parenchyma had decayed then to take them out, rub off decayed or fleshy matter in a bowl of clean water. To say the least of it, this method was very unsatisfactory, and often yielded results far from pleasing, without taking into consideration the great amount of patience needed to complete the process.

Now, thanks to chemistry, we have another and a better plan not occupying as many hours as the old method did weeks.

An excellent recommendation for processes of this kind is their simplicity, as anything complicated or requiring expensive materials for its performance, is sure to be scouted or at most to gain but few adherents.

First dissolve four ounces of common washing soda in a quart of boiling water, then add two ounces of slaked lime, and boil for about fifteen minutes. Allow this solution to cool; afterwards pour off all the clear liquid carefully into a saucepan. When the solution reaches boiling point, place the leaves carefully in the pan and boil for one hour. Boiling water ought to be added occasionally to supply the place of that lost by evaporation. The epidermis of some leaves will more readily separate than that of others, therefore the leaves should be tested after they have been boiling for about an hour, and if the cellular matter does not easily rub off between the finger and the thumb, beneath cold water, boil them again for a short time. When the fleshy matter is found to be sufficiently softened, rub them

separately but very gently beneath cold water until the perfect skeleton is exposed.

The skeletons at first are of a dirty colour; but to make them pure white, and therefore more beautiful, all that is necessary is to bleach them in a weak solution of chloride of lime. The best solution is a large spoonful of chloride of lime to a quart of water, and, if a few drops of vinegar be added, it is all the better. Do not allow them to remain too long in the bleaching liquor or they will become very brittle and cannot afterwards be handled without injury. About fifteen minutes is sufficient to remove all colour from them.

After the specimens are bleached, dry them in white blotting paper beneath gentle pressure.

Simple leaves are best for beginners; but vine, poplar, beech, and ivy leaves are the most beautiful. Never collect leaves in damp weather, and none but perfectly matured ones should be used.

PRINCE ALFRED COLLEGE DEBATING SOCIETY.

In this number of the paper will be found the record of four meetings, which have been, on the whole, fairly well-attended. The first meeting of our second half-year took place on February 28, when the time-honoured question—"Is the Payment of Members of Parliament Desirable?"—was discussed. The affirmative had as champion J. M. Solomon, who was opposed by H. W. Crompton. A rather one-sided, but yet spirited debate withal, followed the opening speeches, and although some members wandered considerably from the subject, still, one of the essential qualities

of a good debater, viz:—the ability to refute an opponent's arguments, was shown to be possessed to a considerable extent by members. The voting was as follows:—For the affirmative, 2; for the negative, 15; majority for the negative, 13.

"Can we rely on the Teachings of Phrenology as a means of Estimating Character?" was the point at issue on March 14. That we can do so was maintained by B. W. Newbold; that we cannot, by A. Wyllie. The wordy conflict waxed exceeding hot. The doughty knights of Phrenology hurled spear after spear of flashing eloquence against the steely bosoms of the sceptic foe, who, in their turn, presented their "tough bull-hides" of facts and arguments to the fiery darts of the opposing host. Eventually the contest was,—like the battle of Edgehill—left undecided, neither side being able to claim the victory.

On March 28, that subject so often discussed—the incidence of Taxation—was dealt with in the question—"Which is the better way for the Government to raise Revenue; by a Tax on Income and Property, or by the Customs?" The former method was upheld by A. F. Robin, whilst Mr. Sunter supported the latter. After the defence of the Taxation Act by the first speaker, Mr. Sunter, in a remarkably Socratic oration, condemned the, in his opinion, inquisitorial and unreasonable character of that measure, and contrasted it very unfavourably with the simpler and less direct method of the Customs. Political economy had, however, apparently but few charms for members, the discussion which followed being exceedingly short. The meeting decided in favour of Customs by a majority of two votes.

Impromptu speeches were the order of the evening on April 18. The Subjects

debated were—"Music, The Ladies, Bees, Evening Classes, Shorthand, The Soudan War, and Railway Management." One useful result of the meeting was that several members who had hitherto not aided the Society much as regards speeches, overcame their bashfulness for once, and let us hope, also for all time.

It is my misfortune to have to chronicle in this report the fact that a grievous lethargy has overtaken the members of our Society. What are the reasons of this? Be they what they may, members may rest assured that if they take no interest in the Society, it is not because the Society takes no interest in them. It is very old and hackneyed, but yet a very true saying, that "Union is strength." May we therefore unite to make this, like so many of our other school institutions, one which we can point to with pride, as a monument of patience, of perseverance, and of courage.

A. F. R.

GENERAL GORDON.

The news of the death of this noble soldier has been transmitted to us from Egypt, the country where he has been engaged in suppressing the rebellion of the false prophet, El Mahdi. We believe it has not yet been officially announced that Gordon is dead, and every true English heart will still hope as it were against hope, that the report of his death is unfounded.

During his service in the army throughout the world, and especially in Northern Africa, he has passed through dangers as great, and perhaps greater than the present, and he may yet have surmounted this.

During his service in China he acted with firmness, decision, and kindness, and it is reported that although he led forces

against the enemy, he himself carried no weapon, entering into the fight with but a stick in his hand.

He seems to have possessed an enchanted life, entering the ranks of the enemy without any visible means of defence, and proposing and carrying out terms of peace when war seemed inevitable.

His life is an example to the world of a firm Christian character, which considers no danger insurmountable, no difficulty too great to be overcome. He not only taught lessons by which all may be benefited, but he applied them to himself.

In his death not only the English army, but the English nation have sustained a loss which will not easily be repaired; for firmness, military knowledge, and kindness are rarely found combined in the human breast.

But why should we speak thus, for Gordon may still be alive, awaiting assistance from his fellow-officers, and if so, every nerve should be strained to rescue the man who deserves, above all others, a death far different to the one which has lately threatened him, although he may still die doing his duty.

THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, ROSEWORTHY.

This institution is a commodious building situated three miles from Roseworthy station, six miles from Gawler, and 350 feet above sea level. The building is constructed on the Elizabethan style, which is a rarity in this part of the colony. On entering, one finds himself in a large hall, at the end of which is a staircase, and opening from each side are doorways; the one on the right hand leads to the library, where in the evening are to be seen the

students pursuing their studies on agriculture, botany, bookkeeping, &c. Further on is the dining-room, a very large room, which is capable of holding many more during meals than it does at present. It is connected with the library by a door close to which are placed specimens of the different kinds of wheat, oats and barley, which have been grown on the farm. On the left side of the hall a door opens into the Principal's room, and a passage branches off to the platform of the lecture-room. This room has the desks arranged in rows raised one above another, and holds about sixty comfortably. Upstairs, bedrooms and bathrooms are provided in the best possible manner, while at the back are the kitchen, laundry, &c.

The subjects at present studied are agriculture, botany, forestry, veterinary surgery, bookkeeping, and surveying and mensuration. Next session, when a teacher will be appointed, in addition to those subjects already mentioned, chemistry and geology will be taught.

The system of teaching is by lectures delivered by Professor Custance, and farm classes, which are taken by him each day at the most suitable time. The farm is 817 acres in area and is divided into sixteen paddocks, which are used for various purposes, as pasture and experiments. Last year the most interesting experiments were those with thousand-headed kale and mangels. The kale did better than was expected; in November it reached a height of from three to four feet, and the plants measured sixteen feet in circumference. The crop was then cut and sold, and now a second crop is looking very well, having resisted the scorching weather splendidly.

Some thirty varieties of wheat were experimented with successfully. The Indian, Fillbag, and African did best.

This year the students are putting in thirty odd varieties of wheat, oats and barley for experiments, and the results are looked forward to with great anxiety.

About 400 sheep are kept on the farm, consisting of pure bred merinos and cross bred, and the pigs, chiefly Berkshires, are in very good condition.

There are fourteen students at present at the college who are examined every Saturday on subjects appointed beforehand. The amusements are cricket and football, with, on alternate Saturday evenings, a meeting of the Agricultural College Debating Society.

A NIGHT AND A DAY.

The sun was going down like a ball of fire in the west, not a breath of air was in motion, as the last glorious beams of the dying sun lent a glorious radiance to the placid surface of the little lake that nestled in the bosom of the big hills so securely. The scene was a rare one; one of those glorious insights into the great Creator's handiwork that are so great a pleasure to the lover of nature.

In the foreground is a small circular lake, a seeming counterfeit of the calm, cold moon that has just arisen in all her silent splendour over the distant ranges, and is now casting a flood of gentle light over hill and dale. On the further side of the lake, in fact all round it, lies a dense thicket of saplings, that have grown together as thickly as a field of wheat, and present an impassable barrier to animals.

When these trees were mere shoots the wild cattle and other animals that were in the habit of coming to the lake to drink had trodden down two paths, and constant traffic has kept them open.

These pathways are covered with trees

that meet overhead, and thus form a natural shade, so that the pathway looks more like a huge wooded rabbit burrow than anything else. Formerly this and all the surrounding country was occupied by cattle stations. The cattle did not do very well, however, so that when the war between Turkey and Russia raised the price of wool this tract was turned into sheep runs.

Many cattle and numerous horses escaped from the fenced paddocks round the stations and betook themselves to the mallee scrub, where they soon became wild.

Wild horses, however, are extremely difficult to approach close enough to get a shot at, as they can gallop very fast for a mile or two in scrub that a mounted horseman can follow no faster than at a walk.

Cattle are much easier to approach if not to kill. These cattle are enormous brutes with long sharp horns, and an expression that plainly shows the determined spirit within.

Wild cattle of the opposite sexes seldom travel together, so that the rider either comes across two or three bulls, or a herd of cows and calves.

Suddenly a low sullen bellow echoes through the gully, then another a little louder, and a magnificent white bull with a black head appears over the crest of the opposite hill. The wind is blowing toward us, so there is no danger of detection.

The animal sniffs the air suspiciously for a few moments, and then, apparently satisfied that all is safe, descends to the water to drink. He is presently joined by two more bulls, and the trio make their way slowly through the wooden tunnel in single file.

Every moment the scene becomes more animated; first a troop of wild horses, then a flock of emus, followed by a dozen or so

of kangaroos; and so the scene before us keeps on changing during the livelong night.

"A fortnight later and we shall have a full moon," remarks my companion, "and then— But, I say, I feel hungry, a little tucker would go high," remarks the stockman, and we ride off.

It is mid-day, hot, stifling mid-day; the glare from the burning sands, coupled with the parching hot wind, is intolerable; and the party that have just arrived are only too glad to rest under the grateful shade of a dense pine that grows near the entrance to the lake. Presently a sound of shouting and swearing, intermingled with the pistol-like reports of a bullock driver's whip, warn us that the dray with the tent, guns, etc., is approaching.

Nothing would astonish a bullockey so much as to ask him not to swear. So accustomed have most bullocks grown to the blasphemy of their driver that they actually won't budge unless they hear the customary oaths.

Presently the dray with its team of four panting bullocks was halted under the friendly shade of the pines. The bullocks were unyoked, the tent pitched, tea boiled, and in half-an-hour all was quiet.

We now composed ourselves for slumber, and in a few minutes were all fast asleep.

Just before sundown we had taken up our post on the opposite side of the thicket, and were eagerly waiting for game of some sort to appear.

We are in a splendid position. Nothing can pass through the path without coming within twenty yards of us. "Then woe to any animal that I shoot at," says C.; "that is, if they do come," he adds; for C is a little sceptical about the glowing accounts of the number of cattle we saw last fortnight.

"What about that turkey you missed this morning?" enquired W. "Hush," says C.; "talking will scare the game."

For quite two hours no one spoke, but at last the silence was broken by C., who muttered something about bulls, and said, "Am going to sleep; shan't be disturbed by your guns. Good-night;" and in five minutes he was snoring loudly enough to frighten anything that came within gunshot of us.

Just as somebody was seriously contemplating waking him, a large mosquito lit on his nose; we watched with satisfaction. Up went the mosquito's legs, in went its sting, and it began operations. At this moment C. suddenly awoke and made a furious plunge at his own nose with the intention of murdering the mosquito, but the insect sailed calmly away, and the nose suffered.

The long night slowly dragged to a close; not a single animal had appeared as yet, and it was far into the night; still we all sat patiently waiting, nothing rewarding our patience, however, and we set to work thinking why we could not see any animals. The problem was a deep one, and we fell asleep.

In the morning one by one we all opened our eyes. How it was that we had not made the least noise and yet not one animal of any description had come near us we wondered. As we walked back through the avenue we heard an unearthly yell, then another, quickly followed by a sound of dull thuds on some soft body. The stockman had gone before, and we feared some accident had happened to him.

Breathlessly the whole party moved forward. A most ludicrous sight met our eyes; the stockman lay writhing on the ground, and punching desperately at the face of the unlucky cook. The latter had

secured a firm hold of the long beard of the stockman, and he was pulling at it with all his strength.

C. and W. rushed forward and quickly separated the combatants. As soon as the stockman had gained his breath he began bestowing a number of uncomplimentary epithets on the unlucky cook.

"What has the man done?" asked C. "Done; why what hasn't he done? Let me at him, Sir; I'll—I'll——" "What has he done?" sternly interposed C. "Why, he has been getting drunk, and has tried to follow us and stumbled, and his foul carcass has blocked up the way and scared every man-jack of the cattle away. And, oh! just let me at him," howled the passionate stockman.

Everybody looked rather crestfallen, but C. looked more abject than the others at this explanation of the absence of game.

However, we soon forgot our disappointment as we ate our breakfast, and sent the cook off to catch the horses.

"Our best plan will be to follow up the tracks of any bull we come across, and then go after them, as they will not come to us," advised C. To which we all agreed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir—Before the excitement caused in rowing circles by the holding of the Annual Regatta on Torrens Lake has had time entirely to subside, I, as an old boy who takes a keen interest in all the athletic pursuits of the present scholars of his Alma Mater, would like to address a few remarks to them on the subject of rowing.

I am sure every partisan of the "pink and whites," who witnessed the contest between the two Colleges on Saturday last

must have felt his heart beat more proudly and the blood course more freely through his veins as he saw Price and his merrie men row clean away from their dreaded opponents, and win as they liked by six or seven lengths. The final heat with Whinham's College, rowed on Monday afternoon, was a capital race; and I, with every other P.A.C., felt proud as we saw our plucky fellows pass their opponents and arrive at the winning-post a length ahead. These annual contests on the water are certain to be productive of considerable good to those who engage in them; still it seems to me a great pity that rowing is not as it should be, a pastime for, and a great benefit to numbers of boys attending the college. I see no reason why you should not form a properly-constituted club, elect a captain, committee, &c., and go in for rowing as thoroughly as you do for cricket and football. There may be some small difficulties in the way of procuring boats, &c., to be overcome at first, but any trouble you may be put to will be far more than repaid by the vast amount of good that will be done to the health and physiques of those who indulge in aquatic exercise when the club is once fairly formed. Rowing, besides being a most pleasant pastime, will give you pluck, will teach you endurance, and, above all, if judiciously indulged in, it will tend to give you health and strength. At Geelong Grammar School, in Victoria, nearly every boy in the school rows; and what is the consequence? I will venture to say there is not a college or school in the colonies that turns out a more finely-developed, manly set of young fellows than that grammar school. We have only to look to the Geelong football team for confirmation of this. They are, and have been for some years, both in skill and physique, far and

away the finest footballers in the colonies, and a great proportion of their players come from the grammar school. If some of the leaders in athletics amongst you will only start a club and give rowing a fair trial, although at first it may be hard work, yet in the end your exertions will be well repaid.

Of course I do not for one moment advocate the abandonment of cricket or football, far from it; by all means stick to cricket and football, but give rowing a trial too; besides, it is not everyone who cares for cricket and football, and it is especially important to those who do not care for such games that they should find a substitute for them, and rowing will make a very good one.

As regards raising the necessary funds to start a club, I think something might be done in that direction by subscriptions, and, perhaps, in addition, by a concert (at which both past and present scholars could cooperate) to be held at the college. I, for one, would be quite willing to take charge of a subscription list, and also to give what little assistance I could in any other way, as I feel convinced that if once a club is started on a proper basis it will prove both a source of substantial benefit and great enjoyment to numbers of Prince Alfred boys. Trusting that you, Sir, will use the influence you possess through the columns of your paper to get this matter taken up, and that you will communicate with me if I can be of any assistance,

I remain yours, &c.,

“EVANDER.”

A CADET CORPS FOR P.A.C.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Considering the unsettled state of European affairs and the probability of

war, I think, Sir, that a cadet corps should be organized at our College, so that if we should be molested here by the Russians or anyone else, we shall be able to augment the forces of our gallant defenders.

But there would be other advantages to be derived from such a step. Many, if they are acquainted with the drill, might be induced to join the volunteer force when they leave school, for they will not require to go through the drudgery again; for drill, like everything else, is more easily learned in youth. It would also help to train the body and to teach us the use of our limbs; that this is most desirable and necessary will be acknowledged by all who have noticed the sloppy, careless way in which many of our boys carry themselves.

True, we have a gymnasium; but it reaches comparatively so few. But if a cadet corps be established, many more will be benefitted. Somehow, boys in general don't see the necessity of learning to walk well and to move about nimbly; they forget that appearances go a long way sometimes. Also, I am persuaded, the benefit of this would be felt in our cricket and football fields.

Trusting that this subject will receive some attention,

I am, Sir, etc.,

MAJOR GENERAL.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Our headmaster is always impressing upon us the necessity of a little education in the gymnasium for the general physique of all the scholars. But as most leave when, just at the age of sixteen to seventeen, their frames are just beginning to set, I would suggest that an old scholars' class be held, say in the evenings, when more time could be spared and no lessons are to be done. I

have every confidence that it would be largely attended and help to develop fine, strong fellows. Thus another opportunity might be given for bringing the old scholars more together, not only in amusing, but healthful occupation. Hoping soon to hear that some steps are being taken to promote this suggestion,

I am, Sir, etc.,

XXX.

P.S.—St. Peter's have such a class and it is, I believe, a great success.

ROWING NOTES.

By Bow.

Rowing at P.A.C. has now received an impetus which ought to go far to remove in future years the difficulty which was this year experienced by the promoters of the P.A.C. Rowing Club. As it is well known, several meetings had to be called before anything practical was done, and when the club had once obtained a sure footing, the senior boys did not come forward and practise in the way they should have done. Great trouble was experienced in obtaining a suitable boat for racing in, but at last Harrold Bros.' Rowing Club, through the kind intercession of Mr. F. Braund, kindly came forward and helped us out of what looked very much like an awkward dilemma, and we take this opportunity of thanking Harrold Bros. for their kindness in lending us the boat in which our crew did such good work. The next thing that was to be considered was the obtaining of a good coach; and a capital trainer was procured when Mr. E. W. Van Senden so kindly offered us his services. After some little difficulty the following crew was picked:—

		Sta.	lbs.
Stroke	H. S. Price	10	10
2	H. S. Young	10	0
3	D. Fowler	9	10
Bow	H. F. Oldham	10	7
Cox.	H. Hack	6	8

It was not until a week after Easter that the crew began to train; and from Tuesday, the 15th April, they went to work assiduously. The other schools were thus about three weeks or a month ahead of us. A week before the race, our crew essayed to try the outrigger, and with the result which is well known; and we heartily congratulate the crew on their success. I cannot close this article without offering to Mr. Van Senden especially, and to the members of Elder's Rowing Club generally, our sincerest thanks for the kind manner in which they assisted us in our efforts to promote the interests of rowing at P.A. College.

THE BOAT RACE.

For the first time since the institution of the public schools' race at the Adelaide regatta, we obtained our much longed for desire, that we should measure our strength with a crew from St. Peter's College. We won the toss, and chose the north side of the river. The race was fixed for 2.15, but unfortunately it was started at 2, and consequently many intending spectators of the impending struggle, amongst whom was our respected head master, Mr. Chapple, were debarred the pleasure of seeing the race. By 2 o'clock, the banks of the river between the two bridges were thickly crowded with the representatives of both Colleges. After a bad start, the S. P. boat gaining more than a length on us, Price set his crew down to

work, and before they had gone more than fifty yards the two boats were again on terms of equality. It was then that the greater superiority of our crew began to show itself as the little flag of pink and white quickly got ahead of the blue, so that with apparently little trouble at the Victoria Bridge they were quite two lengths away from their opponents, and rowing a fine swinging stroke. Gradually the P.A.C. boat increased their lead until with little excitement they passed the winning post about eight lengths ahead of their adversaries.

SECOND DAY.

P.A.C. v. W.C.

The winners of Saturday had to row off the final heat on Monday, April 27, against a crew of Whinham College boys, the winners of this race last year, and who had a great advantage over us by their having the same stroke who had led them on to victory on the preceding occasion. All day at P.A.C. the feeling in favour of our crew ran high, although perhaps it was not of a very sanguine description. As the eventful time drew near, hundreds of Prince Alfred and Whinham College boys lined the shores in the vicinity of the boat-sheds, and each crew was heartily cheered as they paddled down to the starting point, when there was a general rush to a better vantage ground on the river side. The crews got away well together, and Whinham's put on a fine spurt and got just a little ahead, until at the Victoria Bridge they were quite a length ahead of us; but here Price quickened his stroke, and owing to the coxswains (*h*) active steering the Prince Alfred's little by little gained on their opponents; then for about a hundred

yards they rowed bow to bow. The excitement was intense when by Long's boat-sheds the Pinks began to take the lead, which they gradually increased until they passed the winning post about three-quarters of a length ahead of their adversaries.

Thus ended one of the most exciting (if not *the most* exciting) race ever rowed on the Torrens Lake. As the P. A. C.'s came to land, cheer after cheer rent the air, and when three times three were called for Mr. Van Senden, they were responded to right heartily, with three more for our gallant crew.

Of the crew one can say nothing individually, as they all rowed extremely well, but we must not forget to give a due meed of praise to the coxswain, H. Hack, who throughout both races steered a splendid course. In concluding this article I can only end by venturing the hope that in future years the P.A.C. will retain the proud position which, through their united exertions they have this year won.

CRICKET NOTES.

By "LONG-ON."

The past season has not been a very successful one. The first eleven has played seven matches, winning one, losing three, and drawing three, two of which were decidedly in our favour.

The first match of the quarter was played against the Normanvilles, who defeated us by 97 runs.

On the following Saturday we journeyed to Gawler, there to suffer another defeat.

The next match was played on our grounds, against an eleven from the General Post Office, and resulted in a draw in their favor.

On February 28 we met and defeated the Zingari second eleven by 157 runs.

The great match of the quarter was with Whinham College, who have to learn that we play boys and not masters. A few days before the match came off our committee wrote and let them know that we only played boys attending the school, but not taking any notice of our letter, they brought Warren (who had left three months before and then a junior master) to play against us. Our Captain of course disagreed to him playing, and after about half-an-hour's arguing they were about to leave the ground when we decided to play them. Our Captain, winning the toss, elected to take the wickets, and sent in P. Hill and Darling to the bowling of Rieken and Warren. Hill, after playing nicely for 16 runs, was run out and Drew partnered Darling. These two stayed in for a long time until Darling was bowled by Rieken for a carefully made 25. R. Hill followed, but was run out before scoring. Heath filled the vacancy and he and Drew piled on the runs at an alarming rate, Drew eventually getting caught for a splendidly made 37 and Heath bowled for a lucky 35. Sharland put on 12, and Oldham, Readhead, and Dixon failing to score, the innings closed for 140 runs. Whinham took the wickets at 5.15 p.m. and at the call of time had lost six wickets for 112 runs, Warren, 51 not out, and Brown, 31, being the principal scorers.

P.A.C. AND S.P.S.C. v. UNIVERSITY.

This match was played on the Adelaide oval, and resulted in a win for the University by 32 runs. The scores were 104 and 72 respectively. For the colleges Darling and Hill made 16 each, Sander and Hayward 10 each, and Winnall

9. Caterer bowled 4 for 35, and Gill 7 for 35. For the University Oldham made 49 and Rowe 29. Hayward was the only one of the bowlers who was at all successful, obtaining the splendid average of 6 for 11 runs.

FOOTBALL.

BY AN OLD SCHOLAR.

The football season is rapidly approaching. Already many clubs have taken the field. Your rivals have also started; do not be behind them. Let it not be said that you are always following them, but come out well to the front and take the first place. In your hands is placed the honour of upholding that ancient glory which, up to the present time, has been so well sustained by those who have gone before you. Let not your courage depart from you in the hour of need. Do not be always calling to your mind the name of some prominent Old Collegian footballer or footballers, and wish that he or they were with you to do battle for the cause, but think upon the old adage which says, "There never was a good one where there was not a better."

Although you have very few of your last year's football team left, let not that discourage you. Think of the difficulties which stood in the way of the last team. They had only three men left out of the previous twenty, but went manfully to work, and with good steady practice every night, hard training, and implicit faith in their captain they won. Follow, then, in their footsteps, imitate their example, their undaunted and indefatigable zeal and indomitable pluck, and victory will be yours.

I have mentioned above that the pre-

vious team went in for hard training, good steady practice, and also possessed implicit faith in their captain.

In these three things the strength of the team lies. Of these the last is by far the most important. Remember the old proverb—"United we stand, divided we fall." And here let me say that the commands of our late captain (R. Stephens) were invariably received and obeyed with a cheerfulness and a willingness which was surprising to witness. There were no wranglings or bickerings amongst us, but all worked with a will to maintain that reputation on the football field which previous scholars had handed over to us.

Then, with reference to the practice, I would suggest that the team should have scratch matches amongst themselves (as of yore) at least three, or perhaps four times a week. Kicking the ball about the ground and shooting for goal at difficult angles and long distances is all very well in its way, but still the team ought sometimes to play together so as to understand each other's play, how to play together, and various other things which cannot be done otherwise. Of course there are many of the team to whom the former state of things would be more agreeable, and who find it too much trouble to exert themselves, and think that they have merely to sit with their hands in front of them until the "great match of the season" comes off, and then be able to vanquish those who will leave no stone unturned to obtain their object. If there should be any who have such a belief, let me tell them they make a great mistake, and urge them one and all to bestir themselves before it becomes too late. It will be no use then wringing your hands and indulging in useless regrets that this or that had not been done. Seize now the golden

moment, and profit by every opportunity that is thrown in your way. I come now to the third, but by no means the least in importance, of the necessary requisites for making a good team, and that is "hard training." With reference to the word "hard," perhaps I might more appropriately style it, "consistent training."

There are many boys who would not gladly go in for a course of training for the sake of winning a cup or some small trifle at the athletic sports. Well, then the prize that you are aiming at is worth just as much, though it may not perhaps be so costly or showy.

There is not one of the points the value and importance of which I have over estimated; but the result is left entirely in your own hands, and whether that result is to be success or failure, is for you and not for me to answer—all I can offer is my good wishes

You have much to do, and plenty of difficulties in your path; but if you go into it heart and soul, and stick to your work, all these will vanish from before you, and then your reward to be, I hope, a glorious victory.

P. A. COLLEGE V. MEDINDIE SECOND
TWENTY.

On Saturday, April 18, our first twenty played its first match against the Medindie second twenty. Oldham won the toss, selected to kick into the northern goal, and at about 3.30 the ball was started by them against a slight wind, and immediately returned by Heath who made a fine run down the centre. From the first it was seen that the game was in the College boys' hands, and at the call of half time they had had enough, the game standing, P.A. College five goals,

kicked by King, Hastwell, Joyce, Oldham and Darling, and eight behinds to one behind. King A. E., played the best game of the forty, and all the forwards and Oldham played well.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Our College has always secured a fair representation on the governing bodies of the University of Adelaide. About ten years ago when the first Council was nominated, among its members were Rev. W. P. Wells, the President of Prince Alfred College, and Mr. J. A. Hartley, B.A., B.Sc., the Head Master. Mr. Hartley has been a member of the Council ever since. Three of our masters, including our highly-respected Head Master, are members of the Senate. And we are glad to notice that at the meeting of the Senate on April 1st, for the third year in succession Mr. Chapple was elected to the honourable position of Warden of the Senate.

In the March Matriculation, A. F. Joyce (P.A.C.), stood first in the first class, with "credit" in Greek and mathematics, and passes in French and German; A. F. Robin second in the first class with passes in the same languages. A. E. Habich passed in mathematics and German, and R. H. Henning in Latin, mathematics and chemistry. These four added to the fourteen who passed at Christmas give the goodly total of eighteen for the twelve months' work. This year, as last, out of the entire class who worked for Matriculation, only one has failed to pass either at December or March. In neither of these cases could failure have been anticipated from the school status.

At the University Scholarship examination this March P.A.C. boys came off well.

The list issued March 23 ran as follows in order of merit:—D. H. Hollidge, Prince Alfred College; R. Duence, Prince Alfred College; C. W. Hayward, St. Peter's Collegiate School. *Proxime accesserunt*,—A. F. Joyce, Prince Alfred College, and R. B. Andrews, St. Peter's Collegiate School. These scholarships are offered by the Government for competition to anyone in the colony under eighteen, and entitle the winners to £50 per annum for three years and three years' free education at the Adelaide University. They constitute the highest prizes open to boys at school.

On Tuesday, April 2, at noon, we assembled in the large schoolroom to hear the "school order" list read, and to learn the rank gained as the result of the work of the first term this year. The name of the Dux of each form is given below.

Lower First Form	W. F. Gardiner.
First	W. O. Eimer.
Lower Second "	P. E. Johnstone.
Second "	S. I. Payne.
Lower Third "	N. I. Pontifex.
Third "	F. I. Maslin.
Upper Third "	H. A. Parsons.
Lower Fourth "	L. Rehder.
Fourth "	O. A. Witt.
Upper Fourth "	C. R. Penny.
Lower Fifth "	T. C. Walker.
Fifth "	F. I. Chapple.
Lower Sixth "	A. E. Simpson.
Sixth "	D. H. Hollidge.

Then the Certificates for doing well at the weekly Examinations were distributed. The Head Master said that he thought more of these ought to have been earned, and he hoped there would be next term. The best proportion of certificates was gained by the First Form, which had 15 certificates for its 22 boys. In the Lower Sixth, Upper Third, and Lower Second,

half the class had gained them; in the whole school about a quarter. The poorest proportion was in the Lower Third, three being gained by 29 boys.

We have a fine large school this term, 396 boys present, and a few yet likely to return. This is 15 more than at this time last year, so the "bad times" have not affected us materially. The boarders' list runs up to 77, the highest point it has touched yet. Nine young men, students for the Christian ministry in connection with various churches, are the oldest brigade, and the Lower First Form with some boys under seven years, the youngest.

Mr. F. D. Maguire left us at Easter, in pursuit of a purpose that has been before him for some time, that of taking "holy orders" in the Church of England. He joined us after midwinter, 1882, and both as form-master, and as in charge of the boarders before morning school, has been most diligent, painstaking, and kind. His form, the Lower Fourth, took the opportunity of presenting him with a small token of their esteem and regard. We hear he is to be located at Kadina, and hope for him a prosperous career. At the times for "mapping," "printing," and "decorations" we shall miss his taste, skill, and energy. His place has been filled by Mr. James Bodinner, favorably known at Glenelg Grammar School. The interest he has already shown in the boys' sport has been noticed and highly appreciated.

Our staff has been strengthened by the arrival of Mr. James Bramley, Bachelor of Arts, of the University of London. As for his "final," Mr. Bramley chose classics, mathematics, and French. He should prove of great service in those departments. He was proposed as a member of the Debating Society at its last meeting, and

unanimously elected. Mr. Vasey has been much missed there.

We are glad to see that Mr. Welshman, who left us at Christmas, has gained a scholarship for English and classics at Ormond College, Melbourne.

We congratulate Mr. Churchward, B.A., our second master, on his appointment to lecture on mathematics to the evening classes recently established at the University. Those who have enjoyed his clear teaching here for any length of time will think that the evening students are lucky to get him.

J. W. Leitch, the South Australian scholar of 1884, our dux of 1881, called to say "good-bye" a few days ago. He is to study medicine at Edinburgh University, and will no doubt give a good account of himself, and bring credit upon the Adelaide University and upon P.A.C. The portrait he left behind is to be seen in the reading-room. If the other three of our "old boys" who gained the same high honor would do likewise, it would make a fine series.

Cecil S. Mead has gained the John Howard Clark Scholarship at the University. The subjects for this are "English," this time, works of Milton, Bacon, and Shakespeare.

Union College, at its annual meeting on the 17th of April, made some kindly and complimentary references to the work done for its students at P.A.C. They have attended our classes for the last four years, and it has been, with scarcely an exception, a pleasure to know them and aid them.

The prize of five guineas, offered by an old scholar for the best essay on "Prince Alfred College and its History," has been awarded to Morgan Meynick. Meynick gained the Advertiser Prize Essay at the

College in 1882, and has since been employed on the staff of that paper. There, by the way, too, A. F. Robin has gone, the worthy honorary secretary of our Debating Society. He was the Advertiser Prize Essayist in 1884.

We have been anxious to learn the lesson of the times and of the possible dangers, and to fit ourselves to help in defending our country by forming a cadet corps and having systematic military drill. The Head Master looks favorably upon the project, and the committee are to meet shortly to consider it. As the Hon. John Colton, the Chief Secretary, is our treasurer, we may be sure his influence will be exerted in favor of it, and something done shortly.

The Rev. C. T. Newman, who is President of the Wesleyan Conference, is Honorary President of the College, and Chairman of its Committee of Management this year, paid us a visit towards the end of last term. He took breakfast with the boarders, and conducted morning prayer with them at its close, and he was present during "assembly," listened to the head master's usual Scripture lesson, and addressed a few words to the boys expressive of his interest in them and good hopes for their welfare. He was afterwards conducted round the schoolrooms while the classes were at work.

Another interesting visit was that of the Rev. Henry Haigh, missionary from the Mysore, on March 12th. He gave a graphic account of education, school, and university in India. Sympathy with that marvellous province of the British empire was deepened. The influence of his manly, Christian utterances will long remain. Perhaps they were "clinched" by the fact that some boarder saw him play the head

master at lawn-tennis in the evening and beat him easily. His "serves," "screws," and "shoots" were worth seeing.

Additions and improvements have just been made to the college premises in the construction of a new class-room and a new lavatory. The Lower Third Form will now have a separate room for themselves, like all the other forms; and the boarders will find their "common room" the pleasanter when it is not occupied during school time. The new class-room has twenty dual desks of kauri pine, lockers for the boys' books and hats, a large slate fixed to the wall for the teacher's use in illustrating lessons, and every convenience. It will be a cool and cheerful room. The lavatory is large and well fitted up with basins, looking-glasses, &c., and a filter in the corner to supply a pure cool drink. The contract included, too, finishing off the southern end of the college building to match the northern, with asphalt area, retaining wall, freestone kerbing, iron railing. The cost of the whole is about £300, and it will be money well spent.

At the Assembly on Tuesday morning, 27th April which was unusually full, the Head Master referred to the boat race and congratulated the crew and cox on their plucky victory, and mentioned the obligation they were under to Mr. Van Sinden for coaching them, and teaching them how to row so well; to Messrs. Harrold Brothers for lending them a boat; to Mr. Fred Braund and to many another "old boy" for kindly aid. He also noticed with approval the energy of Solomon, the Secretary. He said he had received a letter from the President, sending to the boys his "very hearty congratulations on their success, and very earnest hope that it may prove a stimulus to the whole College

in a truly manly sport." There had come to hand a telegram from Dudley Evan, ending, "well done, Prince Alfreds;" and a letter from Mostyn Evan, in which it was urged that P. A. C. should have a racing boat of its own, and an offer made to collect from old scholars and others. This last suggestion was loudly cheered, and after a little further conversation, the masters undertook for themselves and old scholars to get or give £25, half the cost of the boat, if the present boys would do the same. As there are nearly 400 of them, this would not average much above a donation of a shilling each. The school took the matter up with enthusiasm, and on the next day, Wednesday, the subscription lists totalled to nearly £23.

HARE HUNTING.

During the holidays, which I spent in the country, I with a few companions went out hare hunting. After a pleasant drive of six miles into the scrub we tied up our horses and partook of a little luncheon. This done, we started with our two kangaroo dogs in search of game. In about twenty minutes we caught sight of the first hare, which, although it had a good start, was soon captured by the dogs. After a walk of two miles with our first prize, we almost despaired of seeing another, so we climbed a tree in quest of hawk's eggs. While thus engaged a hare sprung up at our feet. The dogs gave chase, but as the hare chose the plain rather than the scrub, he was soon overtaken, for there the dog has the advantage.

Soon after we came across another, but it also preferred the plain, and led the dogs a splendid chase. After a long run one of them gave in, but the other stuck pluckily to him, and after a three miles' chase

brought him back to the place from which they started. The first dog having now regained its breath, won for us the well-earned prize.

As it was now growing late we bent our steps homeward, with the pleasant prospect of stewed hare next day for dinner.

CATS.

BY A PUSEYITE.

Cats are terrible nuisances. At least so says the much tormented sleeper, snatched by them from the arms of Morpheus, and compelled to listen to their a(mew)sing concert, delivered in a key warranted to be harassing to the felines (feelings).

Cats are of many kinds. One species, a very active variety, is the happy possessor of nine tails (alas! it is not very benign), and is usually found in the neighbourhood of gaols, the inmates of which know that they will *catch* it if they misbehave.

It is commonly said that cats have nine lives. This is untrue; they possess 250. This may be proved—

For no cat has 249 lives,

And 1 cat has 1 life more than no cat,

∴ 1 cat has 250 lives. Q. E. D.

Cats have claws in their paws—but pause, do not complete the clause.

In boarding houses it is handy to have an animal of this sort, for if anything is missing, what is more convenient than to say "O, I believe that naughty cat has eaten it?"

I could make out a long catalogue of facts about this beast, but dreading a catastrophe in the concatenation of the sentences, I conclude this short essay.

R. L.

ADELAIDE: Printed for the Proprietors by Carey, Page & Co., Waymouth-street.