



The Prince Alfred College Chronicle

The Brisket Middi: An account of the Royal Match intercollegiate Football, Wednesday, July 10th 1901.

Narrator: Chris McGuire

Producer: Dan Woolford

Chronicle, May 1910, pp. 333-334 "the briskest middy"

Prince Alfred College has ever been loyal, and duly so, recalling gratefully the many tokens of Royal favor that have been bestowed upon it. The foundation- stone was laid in 1867 by Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, the Sailor Prince, second son of Good Queen Victoria. In 1900 he passed away. But among our treasures is a letter from His Royal Highness giving permission to call the school by his name, wishing success to "this College, which has so noble an object," and concluding with prayer, "May Almighty God grant His blessing upon this institution and the purposes for which it is intended."

ALFRED.

In 1881 the two sons of King Edward VII. (then Prince of Wales) paid us a visit (brought to the College by our true friend Sir William Jervois, then Governor), the dignified Duke of Clarence and the merry young Duke of York, who took special interest in the gymnasium and was at once up the ropes in it like the briskest middy. Amongst our valued muniments is the following letter, sent us a few days later:-

Boys of Prince Alfred College, It gave us great pleasure to come amongst you last Monday, and to go over your school and grounds. We shall long remember the sound of your voices, and trust that if ever again we visit Adelaide some of those we saw as boys we may then meet as men, a credit to themselves and to the College.

(Signed) EDWARD.GEORGE.

In 1892 the elder of these sons died. In 1901 the younger, soon to be created Prince of Wales, visited our Commonwealth to perform the ceremony of opening its first Parliament

for the first time. A short stay in South Australia followed, and part of the public programme for the entertainment of the august visitors was, through the kind forethought of Lord Tennyson, our annual football match, henceforth to be known as the "Royal Match."

The English papers on the morning of July 11th, had cables from "Our special correspondent," and an extract or two will be interesting:- In the afternoon was played the annual football match between St. Peter's College and Prince Alfred College." "An exciting contest resulted in a victory for Prince Alfred College. The Duchess before leaving presented all the players with medals commemorative of the Royal visit to Adelaide." "The athletic rivalry between the two colleges is keen, but the play today was not in any way marred by unbecoming roughness, and from beginning to end was carried on in a truly sportsmanlike manner, redounding to the credit of the youth of this colony."

"These two colleges are the only institutions in South Australia which have cadet corps. The college cadets furnished a guard of honor for the Duchess. The lads were of fine physique."

And now this great visitor to us upon these two memorable occasions has been proclaimed- George the Fifth by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India. And his consort, then the Duchess, is Queen Mary. So must sons in all ranks of life take up the duties and responsibilities that fathers are called upon to leave. "Long to reign over us, God save the King !"