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THE  
**SHIRBURNIAN.**

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SECOND SERIES.

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"A trivial Grammar School text, but worthy a wise man's consideration."—*Bacon's Essay on Boldness.*



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OCTOBER, 1871

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BEGGARS AND THEIR DODGES.

 ENGLAND is famous all the world over for the number of its beggars and the ingenuity of their dodges, and though many attempts have been made to suppress them, yet they have as yet met with but little success. Few people have any idea of the many different systems made use of by beggars to obtain relief, in the shape of money, food, or clothing; and where you would give a sixpence, or a shilling, and think you had done little enough, a mendicity officer would mutter "sham" and pass on, knowing well enough that the beggar in question was no fit object for relief.

We can divide the beggars into three distinct classes; the first being the only really deserving one, the others being so either through their own idleness and disinclination to work, or else because they find begging a more profitable employment than work. First then, local beggars are those who beg merely through want of employment, or illness, or some unforeseen cause, but who are ready and willing to work if they can find it.

Secondly, tramps who make a regular and systematic round of the towns and villages in the neighbourhood in which they live, and thirdly, those who write begging letters and petitions. The sums these latter sometimes obtain are really fabulous.

Few, if any, except the beggars themselves are acquainted with one tenth part of the dodges they practice. Pass through any large town and you are sure to see beggars exercising their various callings ; here an old cripple sits at the corner of a street with a paper before him, which informs passers by that he lost his legs in the Crimea, or that Nelson died in his arms, and a cannon ball took off his leg or shattered his arm ; but these latter have become less numerous of late years. At another corner stands a clerical-looking individual who hands you a tract and tells you he is collecting for some poor man or woman. There you see a blind man led by his dog, playing a flute or concertina, or perhaps a man touches his hat and would like to drink your health, or supposes you haven't any "baacca" about you. I remember a little boy who used to sit day after day at the corner of a much frequented bridge in Bristol, and it was afterwards said that he often averaged from five to ten shillings per day, though all the begging he did was to sit with "A poor orphan child" before him, in big letters, and look very miserable.

Not long ago I was taken in by a man in London ; I was just coming from the Queen's Road, Bayswater station, when I saw several people collected round a poor man who was in a dead faint, or seemed to be ; a little boy, his son, I suppose, was holding his head up and trying to revive him ; the lad was crying bitterly. It was a cold winter day, and I was so struck with pity at the wretched state of the man, that I gave the boy a florin and told him to get a drop of brandy for his father, and then take him to a public and get him well warmed. I was not twenty yards from the spot, when looking round, I saw the man and the boy walking away, while the sight of a blue-coat and silver buttons coming round the corner of Kensington Gardens, gave me ample reason of his abrupt departure. As for the little crowd of people that had collected round the "invalid" they stared after him like idiots, with open mouths and eyes but did nothing more.

Such cases as these are, I believe, of very frequent occurrence. When a very small boy, I remember a man coming to my father's house, muttering a few incoherent words about "food".....and...

“days” .....and then falling apparently senseless on the ground. My father gave him a glass of wine, but as he did not immediately come to, and we observed that his eyes were moving about in a way that nobody who was in a fit would move them. My father, turning to the butler, said, with a wink, “White, just go and fetch the constable.” White took the hint and walked off. Almost immediately after the fellow got up, and though my father begged him to sit still and rest a bit before resuming his “tramp” he declined doing so most persistently, and as soon as he had turned the nearest corner he put on a spurt which no fainting man could have done.

I believe it is not an uncommon practice for beggars who wish to feign fits to put soap in their mouths so as to foam, and have every appearance of being really in a fit.

As for the tramps who are continually making a round of the country, they are I think as bad as any. Till lately I had no idea of the systematic manner in which they carry out their impositions, at any rate in some parts of the country. I once spent a fortnight with a friend of mine, a curate, in one of the mid-county parishes, and one day I saw a large X on the gate post; not knowing what this could mean I asked my friend's gardener if he knew anything about it. His reply was “Oh, it be them durned tramps, they knows master a bit too wull.” This was in fact the case: “them durned tramps” are in the habit of using these marks. The first (X) I suppose stands for “Xellent” or “gives freely”; the second mark which is something like an F turned sideways  $\pi$  I suppose means a moderate sum to be expected; and the third (O) signifies that the inmate of the house so marked is not in the habit of favouring beggars. In 1865, a clergyman, and incumbent of a parish in the West Riding of Yorkshire, who was in the habit of giving very freely to all beggars, was suddenly called upon to visit some friend of the landlord of a low public-house in the neighbourhood who was very ill there. He had to wait a few minutes downstairs, and wandering into a room which ought no doubt to have been locked, he opened a large book which was lying on the table, and found to his surprise a list of all the principal people in

the neighbourhood with various marks (X F and O) against them. Turning to the index at the beginning he soon found out the meaning of these marks, and he then found his own name with a large X against it. This X he quickly erased with a penknife, and with the help of a pen and some ink which were on a side-table, he soon substituted an O. The result was perfection itself, hardly a beggar favoured him with a call, and he soon began to see how his previous generosity had been thrown away. A few days afterwards he happened to meet the parish-doctor and narrated the occurrence to him. "Oh, I daresay you have not heard so much about these tramps as I have" replied the doctor, "when they enter a new neighbourhood, they go to some particular house and pay twopence or threepence for a look at the "Relief book," and they then go their rounds and make what they can, generally returning to spend some of their *earnings* at the same public as they got their information from. I expect you would have found a good round O against my name if you looked."

This class of beggars generally contains a great number of maimed soldiers and sailors, whether really so or imposters it is often a difficult matter to tell. Through the village of Nortou-Philip three sailors once passed, begging their way, as they said, to London. Two of them were apparently minus a leg, and the right arm sleeve of the third hung helpless by his side. The villagers were of a very charitable disposition and readily gave them some food and half-pence. A commercial traveller who was passing at the time, remarked that he believed them to be imposters, so when they left the village three young men followed them at a distance. For the first mile or so, the three sailors stumped it steadily along the road, but then after looking carefully around them and seeing no one, for the three villagers kept out of sight, they turned off into some bushes which bordered the common over which the London road passed. Their three followers stole silently up to the bushes and peeping through, soon found that the maimed sailors were as whole as themselves, and were engaged in counting out the coppers that they had "done the simple villagers out of." This so

exasperated the three Nortonienses that they at once attacked the impostors, intending to give them the thrashing they so richly deserved for their deceit; but they reckoned without their host, for the strangers used their crutches to advantage and laid about them with such hearty good will, that they completely discomfited their antagonists who had to retire to Norton. Several of the villagers, on hearing of their defeat started off in pursuit of the three sailors, but they had made off and were not to be found.

A friend of mine once told me that she was passing through London with another lady when a thin, miserably clad woman with a baby wrapped up in shawls in her arms, came up to them and in whining accents informed them that she had scarcely tasted food for two days, and that her baby was dying. The two ladies gave her half-a-crown, when out of the little crowd that had gathered around them, stepped a plainly dressed man, saying, "I've seen you before missus, havent I?" and roughly catching hold of her cloak, to the horror and indignation of the bystanders he threw the baby on the ground, and without heeding the cries of "shame" he tore open the outer shawl and speedily disclosed to the astonished bystanders, not a baby—but a bundle of rags.

In the outskirts of Manchester, lived a gentleman who was in the habit of doing a great deal of good amongst the poor; one day a woman came to him and begged him to come and see her husband who was dying. He went, but not thinking the man very ill, did not even send for a doctor, but told the woman to come to his house for any necessaries she wanted, such as broth and puddings. Two days afterwards he called again and found the poor woman weeping hysterically, and nearly frantic. At length she managed to inform him that her husband had just died, and she took him to see the corpse which was covered with a sheet in a small room at the back of the hovel. The gentleman was much affected, and on learning that she had scarcely a farthing towards his funeral expenses, emptied out his purse which contained thirty shillings in gold and some silver, on the table and left. Before he had got a quarter of a mile from the house he remembered that he had left his umbrella

there and went back to fetch it. Not wishing to disturb the poor woman by knocking, he lifted the latch and softly stepped inside. Imagine then his surprise to see the "corpse" just lighting his pipe at the fire, and the woman clearing away the sheet and bedstead on which it had been laid.

The most profitable system of begging is that of the "petitioners." Sometimes a single letter will realize from £25 to £50. It has been calculated that on the average over fourteen hundred begging letters are despatched in one day, and most of these by impostors. Their habit is to send a petition, with a forged name of course, to some charitable nobleman or clergyman who gives them perhaps a good deal, perhaps a trifle, sometimes nothing at all. Where anything is given, a signature is given as well, and this is of course the first step towards reaping a good harvest.

The celebrated "Underwood" the great begging-letter writer is said to have made as much as seven or eight hundred a year by his "profession", and to have kept a clerk to write his letters at a salary of, I think, £50 per annum.

The worst case I remember of a begging-letter imposition was that of a man in my own village, who had the misfortune, so he stated, to lose his donkey. Its value was probably from 10s. to 15s., but by dint of going round to various people's "houses in the neighbourhood" he managed to realize nearly ten pounds to make up for its loss.

G. G.

## TYRANNICA.

T would not be very easy to trace from what source Sophocles drew his conception of Ædipus—one of those kings whose stories, mythical or otherwise, constitute a great part of the early history of Greece. Tradition, however varying and contradictory, might be made to yield to judicious treatment details enough in the life of Ædipus upon which to form a plot; but tradition could hardly have done more than preserve his character in the merest outline. Of the petty sovereigns who were contemporary with Sophocles, not much is known; from them the poet probably learnt something of the general character of despotic monarchs, as well as from the records of the Tyranni in his own and the neighbouring countries. More than all, perhaps, the kings of the East supplied him with materials to work upon; Ædipus, in the exercise of his power, certainly resembles what is known of Eastern despots.

Ædipus is introduced to us at the opening of the tragedy as the affectionate Father of his people, ready to listen to their tales of woe and anticipating them in endeavouring to find a remedy. Having once found the clue, he throws himself at once into the search for the murderer of Laius with all the vigour with which he is endowed. His confidence in his own powers at this juncture is remarkable. Once before he has saved the city from a dreadful infliction, and why not again? He is the minister of Loxias and will scourge the pest from the land. All his strong will is devoted to his people's welfare, so he awaits in full confidence the arrival of the prophet Teiresias. In the scene which follows we have the first glimpse of Ædipus' impatient disposition. The refusal of Teiresias to reveal what he knows, so contrary to the ardent expectations of the king, makes him suspect bad motives. His accusations draw forth counter criminations from the prophet; with the same unreasoning impulse that urges him to lay the blame upon some one or other,

he includes Creon in the imaginary plot. His inconsiderate conduct, coupled with a refusal to listen to reason when his passions are roused, is evinced more strongly still in his dealings with Creon. Yet the chorus, though they would shield Creon from death, will not admit the evidence even of their far-famed prophet against Ædipus.\* Men who are accustomed to act upon impulse are liable to fail in want of judgment, both because they do not give themselves sufficient time for consideration, and because they are too often guided by their own feelings while blinded to the fact that others are not influenced by the same motives. Ædipus' nature was an impulsive and generous nature, one that could not sympathize with a hard, calculating disposition like Creon's. His fault lay in his inability to interrupt without disquietude the course his generosity first prompted him to take; it was the fault of one who had never known ill success, and who required to pass through "manifold merciful afflictions", till he should learn patience. But like many other impulsive natures, though impatient of control, he could be easily led, even where his better self would have warned him back. Thus in his interview with Jocasta, he hears without disapproval, sentiments which seemed to the religious mind of the chorus worse than any display of passion. His determination to fathom the mystery of his life in spite of his wife's passionate entreaties, his prolonged examination of the shepherd evoking every detail of his miserable story against the will of the speaker, exhibit symptoms of that strength of will and steadfastness of purpose which are more strongly marked in the companion play, the Ædipus Coloneus. It was this strength of mind that not unnaturally gave him his confidence in himself.

His character while at the height of his power, offers a great

\* This trait in Ædipus' character is strikingly like the sketches of Eastern caliphs in the *Arabian Nights*. So the caliph Haroun Alraschid might condemn his grand Vizier to be hanged at a moment's notice because a murder had been committed in the city over which he had placed him, or order another's head to be struck off because he had disappointed him in his hopes of a good story, and yet be held up the while as a model ruler, beloved by all his subjects. Among Western nations one would expect such a prince to be condemned to infamy.

resemblance to the brief picture of king Lear, given us by Shakspeare. There is in Lear the same generosity, the same quick and impulsive determination as to the course to be pursued in difficulty, the same obstinate adherence to that course, the same want of self-restraint exhibited in headstrong anger against those who attempt to thwart it. And the cause which operates in both cases is the same, too great reliance upon self, induced by the long exercise of a strong will in despotic government. With Lear's error in judgment in the division of his kingdom it is impossible to find fault, because it was the error of a trusting heart; so that all our sympathies are at first enlisted on his side. But like Ædipus, when his generosity had once formed its plan, he could not endure that it should be thwarted. His passion blazes forth in a moment; sober reason is useless, for long exercise of individual will seems to have rendered him incapable of admitting another's advice.

There is, however, at this stage a phrase in his character which finds no counterpart in that of Ædipus, and which indeed owes its origin to circumstances which would be out of place in the Greek tragedy. We do not think Lear incapable of deep feelings because he desires his daughters to express their love in words; on the contrary, we are evidently meant to think that, long accustomed to flattering courtiers, he knows no other means of gauging their affections; we are insensibly reminded of Junius telling king George III that the circumstances which made him a king forbade him to have a friend. Such a feeling would be strange in Ædipus, whose paternal rule shews in strong contrast to the pomp of Lear's court.

Thus far they have both been represented as enjoying prosperity in a high degree; at least we may infer as much of Lear from the way in which he is introduced at the opening of the play with two foreign princes attending his court as suitors for his youngest daughter's hand; of Ædipus from the frequent notices in the choruses of his past happiness and splendour; what followed was for both a period of suffering and trial.

*(To be Continued.)*

## THE PAUPER'S DEATHBED.

 READ softly—bow the head,  
 In reverent silence bow—  
 No passing bell doth toll ;  
 Yet an immortal soul  
 Is passing now.

Stranger ! however great,  
 With lowly reverence bow ;  
 There's one in that poor shed,  
 One by that paltry bed,  
 Greater than thou.

Beneath that beggar's roof  
 Lo ! death doth keep his state :  
 Enter—no crowds attend—  
 Enter—no guards defend  
 This palace-gate.

That pavement damp and cold  
 No smiling courtiers tread ;  
 One silent woman stands,  
 Lifting with meagre hands  
 A dying head.

No mingling voices sound—  
 An infant wail alone ;  
 A sob suppressed—again  
 That short, deep gasp, and then  
 The parting groan.

Oh ! change—Oh ! wondrous change !  
 Burst are the prison bars—  
 This moment there so low,  
 So agonised, and now  
 Beyond the stars !

Oh ! change, stupendous change !  
 There lies the soulless clod ;  
 The sun eternal breaks,  
 The new immortal wakes—  
 Wakes with his God.

CAROLINE BOWLES.

## IDEM LATINE REDDITUM.

COMPRESSIS pedibus frontem deflecte superbam,  
 Submissum sacro flecte dolore caput :

Funereos non effundit campana sonores,  
 Debita sed vitæ mors peragenda subit.

Advena ! Fortunæ quamvis tibi dentur honores,  
 Sacratum tacito flecte dolore caput :  
 Triste super stratum, miseris jacet ille latebris,  
 Cui titulo nomen splendidiore datur.

Sordida qua condunt humiles ea tecta penates,  
 En ! mors imperii sceptrâ potentis habet.  
 Adsis—non comitum resonant hæc atria turba,  
 Adsis—non ullus limina miles habet.

Area frigoribus cælique obnoxia nimbis  
 Congressu sociûm non celebrata fremit,  
 Femina sola macris manibus linguâque faventi  
 Seminecis gremio sustinet alma caput.

Non vox ulla hominum commistâ voce susurrat,  
 Nec nisi vagitus dat lacrimasque puer.  
 Lenta minutatim quatiunt suspiria pectus,  
 Singultu extremos impediende sonos.

O miris vicibus rerum mutabilis ordo !  
 Nil magis effracto carcere claustra valent :  
 Quem modo vexabant totidem luctamina morbi  
 Sidereis jam-nunc incola verticibus.

Mirandis vicibus rerum variabilis ordo !  
 Sternitur hic misero corpus inane toro.  
 Sole sub eterno, mortis ditone peractâ,  
 Vividus excitur spiritus ante Deum.

## C R I C K E T.

K. S. S. *v.* MOTCOMBE HOUSE.

This match was played on the School ground, June 29th. We were fortunate in winning the toss, and selected innings. Our opponents brought down a very weak team, the result of which was that they spent upwards of five hours in the field before obtaining an innings. The first wicket fell for 6, the second not until Game and Smith had hit the score up to 240, of which Smith claimed 52, having played a steady defensive innings. After lunch, Game and H. Whitehead set to work, and with such success that when the retirement of the former was necessitated, the telegraph showed 401, he had effected the huge score of 281 in the short space of 4½ hours, though when the extreme weakness of the bowling and the tendency which the fielders displayed to allow the ball to slip between their legs, is taken into consideration, this feat is hardly so marvellous as it might appear at first sight. Whitehead played a perfect innings of 69, and was at length secured off a leg-ball. The rest of the wickets fell quickly, the innings closing for 466.

Half-an-hour sufficed for our opponents to display their batting powers, which were not of the most brilliant description; the tenth wicket fell with the score at 31. Subjoined is the score :

K. S. S.				
E. W. Wallington, b Ingold	...	...	...	1
E. P. Smith, b Ingold	...	...	...	52
W. H. Game, c Sworn, b Gordon	...	...	...	281
H. Whitehead, c Ingold, b Mansell	...	...	...	69
W. Moore, c Gleet, b Gordon	..	...	...	8
T. Shettle, b Mansell	...	...	...	12
C. S. Whitehead, c Sworn, b Mansell	...	...	...	0
M. R. Fortescue, b Gordon	...	...	...	8
W. K. Weir, c H. Bristol, b Mansell	...	...	...	4
J. P. deWinton, not out	...	...	...	6
F. Edwards, c Davey, b Gordon	...	...	...	9
Extras	...	...	...	16
Total	...	...	...	466

## MOTCOMBE HOUSE.

Mr. G. Holland, b deWinton	...	...	...	...	2
Mr. G. Gordon, c and b Game	...	...	...	...	4
Mr. C. Sworn, c H. Whitehead, b Game	...	...	...	...	2
Mr. H. Gleet, b Game	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. A. Ingold, c H. Whitehead, b deWinton	...	...	...	...	3
Mr. H. Bristol, c H. Whitehead, b deWinton	...	...	...	...	6
Mr. W. Genge, b Game	...	...	...	...	1
Mr. E. Bristol, hit wkt., b deWinton...	...	...	...	...	6
Mr. C. Davey, not out	...	...	...	...	0
Mr. H. Mansell, b deWinton	...	...	...	...	3
F. Tulk, b Game	...	...	...	...	3
				Extra	1
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	31

## PAST v. PRESENT.

Played July 8th and 10th, resulting in a drawn match. The Past won the toss and sent Bennett and Kendle to the wickets to face the attack of Game and deWinton; with the score at 22, Kendle was given out leg-before. Shortly after this, Bennett was easily secured at mid-on; Henley played a fine hard hit innings of 47, ultimately being disposed of by a "shooter": the innings closed for the comparatively small score of 111.

The first two wickets of the Present fell for 8 runs, the third put on 50, when Whitehead was nicely taken by Henley; Shettle played in very good form, but was unfortunately unable to complete his innings, Smith, barring one or two chances, defended his timber in very good style, being at length beaten by a slow, C. Whitehead played a careful innings and saw six of his colleagues out, upon which he brought his own bat out for 33, Fortescue was the only other double figure; the whole innings realised 166, leaving the Present 55 to the good.

The Past entered upon their second venture after lunch, at which time the rain began to descend. Three wickets fell for 16, and then a great stand was made, Henley and Price hitting very freely; the weather was extremely bad and the game was only continued because there seemed to be nothing else to do! Six wickets fell for 289 runs, the wickets being then drawn, as the rain rendered further proceedings impossible.

## THE PAST.

<i>First Innings.</i>	<i>Second Innings.</i>
Mr. F. Bennett, c Weir, b Game ... .. 18	run out ... .. 0
Rev. W. J. Kendle, l b w, b deWinton ... 5	c C. Whitehead, b Game ... .. 9
Mr. W. C. Perry, b Game ... .. 3	b deWinton ... .. 3
Mr. A. Henley, b Smith... .. 47	run out ... .. 68
Rev. H. P. Price, b Game ... .. 4	b Game... .. 124
Mr. A. F. Forman, st. C. Whitehead, b Game 0	not out ... .. 31
Mr. J. C. Heathcote, not out... .. 4	
Mr. O. H. Channer, b Game ... .. 10	not out ... .. 16
Mr. G. Fitzgerald, c Edwards, b Smith 0	b Game... .. 27
Mr. L. E. Upcott, c and b Game ... .. 0	
Mr. F. Hesse, b Smith ... .. 7	
Extras ... .. 13	Extras ... 11
Total..... .. 111	Total... .. 289

## THE PRESENT.

E. W. Wallington, b Forman ... .. 2
E. P. Smith, b Price ... .. 59
W. H. Game, st. Heathcote, b Kendle ... .. 2
H. Whitehead, c and b Henley ... .. 17
T. Shettle, retired... .. 22
C. S. Whitehead, not out ... .. 33
M. R. Fortescue, b Henley ... .. 14
W. Moore, b Henley ... .. 0
J. P. deWinton, b Henley ... .. 9
W. K. Weir, b Henley ... .. 2
F. Edwards, b Henley ... .. 1
Extras ... .. 5
Total ... .. 166

## PAST v. PRESENT (SECOND ELEVENS.)

This is the first year this match has been tried and consequently the Past did not bring down a very strong team. They won the toss and sent in Capt. Benthall and Mr. Powys, to the bowling of Cockeram and Bellew. The first few wickets were soon disposed of and no great stand was made. Messrs. Wood and Miller played very steadily and carefully for their runs, but owing to Cockeram's good bowling the innings of the Past realised but 48 runs.

The Present were first represented by Cockeram and Weir; the former quickly hit up 12, including a fine on drive out of the field for 6, when he put up one which was secured by Wood. Potheary now joined Weir, and both played very steadily till the former was

bowled by Harris. deWinton came next and played steadily for 24, when he succumbed to a slow; Weir followed suit, and no other stand was made except by Cox, who played a well and hard hit innings of 46, including a 5, a 4, five 3's, five 2's: the innings closed for 189.

The Past in their second innings, though the Present were deprived of the valuable assistance of Cockeram, could only succeed in reaching a little more than half of their former total, and thus the Present won the match in one innings, with 115 runs to spare. Subjoined is the score:

## THE PRESENT.

J. B. Cockeram, c Wood, b Miller	...	...	...	12
C. H. Weir, b Cameron	...	...	...	20
C. E. Potheary, b Harris	...	...	...	12
A. J. deWinton, b Cameron	...	...	...	24
J. Tanner, run out	...	...	...	13
W. D. Pulling, b Whiteley	...	...	...	1
H. Bellew, b Cameron	...	...	...	7
P. T. Clark, c Hall, b Cameron	...	...	...	3
H. C. Cox, l b w, b Whiteley	...	...	...	46
W. B. Watkins, b Harris	...	...	...	12
H. Williams, not out	...	...	...	7
		Extras	...	32
Total	...	...	...	189

## THE PAST.

<i>First Innings.</i>				<i>Second Innings.</i>			
Capt. Benthall, b Cockeram	...	...	0	b Bellew	...	...	1
Mr. E. S. Hall, b Cockeram	...	...	5	b Bellew	...	...	3
Mr. L. A. Powys, b Cockeram	...	...	0	b Bellew	...	...	0
Mr. R. G. Wood, b Cockeram	...	...	11	b Bellew	...	...	5
Mr. H. Miller, b Bellew	...	...	12	c Tanner, b Pulling	...	...	1
Mr. C. Cameron, b Cockeram	...	...	2	b deWinton	...	...	0
Mr. C. C. Tancock, b Bellew	...	...	0	run out	...	...	3
Mr. A. B. Harris, b Bellew	...	...	0	b deWinton	...	...	0
C. E. Whiteley, thrown out by deWinton	0			not out	...	...	9
A. W. May, b Cockeram	...	...	0	c deWinton, b Pulling	...	...	2
A. H. Hughes, not out	...	...	4	run out	...	...	0
		Extras	14			Extras	2
Total	...	...	48	Total	...	...	26

This match having been finished early, a return match was started, in which the Present went in first and scored 194. The Past then went in, and when proceedings were stopped, owing to the rain, had scored 72 for the loss of five wickets.

## PAST AND PRESENT v. COUNTY OF DORSET.

Played on July 11th and 12th. Rain poured down the whole of Tuesday morning, but cleared up towards the afternoon sufficiently to allow the wickets to be pitched and the game to be commenced. The confederates appeared at the wickets represented by Kendle and H. Whitehead; the first ball necessitated the return of the latter to the pavilion; Henley joined Kendle, and the ball was kept rolling until Cassan managed to get a ball into Kendle's hitherto well defended wicket; the next three wickets realised but double that number of runs, Game sharing the same somewhat humiliating fate of H. Whitehead. Perry played merrily, getting Cassan well to leg, for a trio of fours, ultimately that same bowler getting him well to leg in front of his wicket; the tenth wicket fell for the rather insignificant total of 91.

The innings of the County was a somewhat extraordinary affair, we cannot help thinking that had Smith bowled earlier in the innings, the total might have been a smaller one, as it was two batsmen got well set and knocked off 150 runs, both of them playing in rare form, and doing much what they liked with the bowling; the rest were disposed of by Smith without being allowed to make themselves troublesome to the field; the innings realized 176 runs, leaving the Past and Present 85 in the rear. Rain put a stop to all further proceedings. Score :

## PAST AND PRESENT.

Rev. W. J. Kendle, b Cassan	...	...	...	17
Mr. H. Whitehead, b Matthews	...	...	...	0
Mr. A. A. Henley, c sub., b Cassan	...	...	...	23
Mr. W. H. Game, b Matthews	...	...	...	0
Rev. H. P. Price, b Matthews	...	...	...	5
Mr. A. F. E. Forman, b Cassan	...	...	...	1
Mr. W. C. Perry, 1 b w, b Cassan	...	...	...	20
Mr. C. S. Whitehead, b Cassan	...	...	...	2
Mr. E. P. Smith, b Cassan	...	...	...	3
Mr. E. W. Wallington, b Cassan	...	...	...	6
Mr. J. C. Heathcote, not out	...	...	...	7
			Extras	7
Total	...	...	...	91

## THE COUNTY.

Rev. H. Dodington, c Price, b Kendle	...	...	2
Rev. G. Vandermeulen, c Heathcote, b Forman	...	...	50
Mr. C. E. B. Nepean, c Heathcote, b Smith	...	...	89
Mr. J. H. Senior, b Smith	...	...	2
Mr. J. P. Gundry, c Forman, b Smith	...	...	2
Capt. Butler, l b w, b Price	...	...	7
Major Matthews, b Price	...	...	1
Capt. Carr Glyn, b Smith	...	...	3
Mr. P. St. Maur, b Smith	...	...	0
Mr. E. Cassan, b Smith	...	...	3
Mr. O. H. Channer, not out	...	...	5
Extras	...	...	12
Total	...	...	176

## K. S. S. v. KINGSTON PARK.

This return match was played on the School ground on Sept. 7th. The visitors won the toss, and proceeded to act upon the defensive; the first four wickets went down for 7, and then a long stand was effected, Mr. Gundry played a perfect innings of excellent cricket for 78 runs, including some magnificent cuts and square-leg hits, at length being bowled by a "trimmer" of Smith's. Mr. Park made 64, he displayed a good defence, but also a tendency to hit up, though, thanks to the execrable fielding of the School, no catch was accepted. Mr. Udal shewed great hitting form, but was 'ticed' by a slow. The innings closed for 199.

The School entered upon their innings with feelings anything but expectant of victory. But the Park had left their bowlers at home, the consequence of which was soon apparent; 64 runs had been accredited before a wicket fell, at which point H. Whitehead was clean bowled by Gundry, after a very dashing, though at the same time not rash, innings of 31. C. Whitehead joined Game, and the score was gradually increased to 122, when the latter very foolishly ran himself out. Smith was clean bowled after having made 3; W. K. Weir made no sign; J. P. deWinton now came to the rescue and pulled the match out of the fire, hitting all round in excellent style, he made the winning hit with a beautiful on-drive for 5. The tenth wicket landed us 34 runs in front of our adversaries. In

conclusion we feel compelled to state that we have never witnessed on Sherborne ground such an exhibition of bad fielding as that displayed by the School in this match. Score :

## KINGSTON PARK.

Mr. H. E. Power, b Game	...	...	...	0
Mr. C. L. Sanctuary, b Game...	...	...	...	4
Mr. G. Thomas, b Smith	...	...	...	1
Mr. T. Sanctuary, c Fortescue, b Game	...	...	...	0
Mr. J. P. Gundry, b Smith	...	...	...	78
Mr. J. S. Udal, b Game	...	...	...	35
Rev. M. T. Park, b Game	...	...	...	64
Rev. H. P. Price, b Game	...	...	...	0
Mr. G. Andrews, c Smith, b Game	...	...	...	8
Mr. A. Andrews, not out	...	...	...	1
Mr. J. B. Cockeram, c H. Whitehead, b Smith	...	...	...	0
			Extras	8
			Total	199

## K. S. S.

W. H. Game, run out...	...	...	...	59
H. Whitehead, b Gundry	...	...	...	31
C. S. Whitehead, c Gundry, b Thomas	...	...	...	30
E. P. Smith, b Gundry	...	...	...	3
W. K. Weir, run out	...	...	...	0
J. P. deWinton, b Price	...	...	...	45
M. R. Fortescue, c Andrews, b Price	...	...	...	4
T. Shettle, c and b Price	...	...	...	3
A. J. deWinton, not out	...	...	...	11
W. Moore, b Price	...	...	...	0
C. H. Weir, b Price	...	...	...	15
			Extras	32
			Total	233

## K. S. S. v. MOTCOMBE HOUSE.

This return match was played on the School ground, Sept 21st. This time our adversaries were greatly strengthened by the valuable assistance of Major Matthews and Morley. The Motcombe team won the toss, and sent Morley and Mr. Sworn to the wickets; the first two wickets quickly succumbed, but a stand was made by Major Matthews who quickly hit up 23, comprised chiefly of drives to the on. Morley played a good steady innings of 54, a slow eventually beating him; Tulk also made 16 in good form. The only other

double figure was that obtained by the Rev. H. Dodington, who was 'not out.' The innings closed for 133.

The School were represented by Game and H. Whitehead; 40 runs were knocked off in a very short time, when the latter played on. J. P. deWinton hit up 27 in fifteen minutes, including a fine drive for 6, a 'yorker' disposing of him shortly after; Game's time was now come, his innings of 63 included a drive for 6 out of the field, and was also effected without giving a chance; W. K. Weir played exceedingly well for 28, at which point he played a ball on. The tenth wicket fell for 185.

Our opponents followed on and obtained 61 for two wickets. Score subjoined:

## MOTCOMBE HOUSE.

Morley, b Game	...	...	...	54
Mr. J. Sworn, c W. Weir, b Game	...	...	...	0
F. Tulk, b J. P. deWinton	...	...	...	16
Mr. G. Williams, c Game, b Smith	...	...	...	2
Major Matthews, b Game	...	...	...	25
Mr. N. Gleed, st. Smith, b Game	...	...	...	5
Mr. T. Recks, c Weir, b Game	...	...	...	0
Rev. H. Dodington, not out	...	...	...	11
Mr. H. Mansell, b Game	...	...	...	7
Mr. H. Warner, b J. P. deWinton	...	...	...	0
Mr. J. Tanner, b J. P. deWinton	...	...	...	3
Extras	...	...	...	10
Total	...	...	...	133

## K. S. S.

W. H. Game, b Morley	...	...	...	63
H. Whitehead, b Morley	...	...	...	20
E. P. Smith, c Tulk, b Morley	...	...	...	1
C. S. Whitehead, b Morley	...	...	...	4
J. P. deWinton, b Matthews...	...	...	...	27
W. K. Weir, b Morley	...	...	...	28
M. R. Fortescue, c Tulk, b Morley	...	...	...	13
A. J. deWinton, b Morley	...	...	...	14
T. Shettle, b Mansell...	...	...	...	2
W. Moore, b Morley	...	...	...	0
C. H. Weir, not out	...	...	...	6
Extras	...	...	...	7
Total	...	...	...	185

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Perhaps a few words in explanation of the use of the meteorological instruments in the new quadrangle may serve to make them more intelligible and interesting.

The only means as yet available for forecasting the weather are a careful observation of the fluctuations of the barometer, hygrometer, and wind. It is by reference to these three sources that the Fitzroy and other coast signals are worked, and about each of the three I will make a few remarks in turn. To begin with the barometer.

The pressure of the air in this country at sea level suffices to support a column of mercury whose length on the average is about 29.9 inches. The length varies as a rule between the limits of 29.0 and 30.5 inches, though on extraordinary occasions it may fall as low as 28, or rise as high as 31 inches. There are two points with regard to the length of the column to be noted. *First*, as you pass upwards from sea level you leave more and more air below you, and the pressure of that still remaining above you can only support a somewhat shorter column of mercury. As our barometer is 200 feet\* above the sea, it is necessary to add something like two-tenths of an inch to its readings to reduce them to what they would have been at sea level. *Second*, heat expands mercury, like every thing else, adding something like one-tenth of an inch to the length of the column for every 30 degrees above freezing point. It is necessary therefore to note the heat of the mercury by means of an attached thermometer, and subtract a certain amount from the length of

\*The Abbey tower is 292 feet above ordnance datum or mean sea level. The tower itself is 100 feet 3 inches in height, and the barometer cistern about 8 feet above the foot of the tower.

the column to reduce the reading to what it would have been at 32°\*

When the reading has been thus corrected, and reduced to what it would have been had the instrument been at sea level and the mercury at freezing point, it is ready for comparison with those taken at various stations of the Board of Trade, and published daily in the *Times*.

It is usual to add the letters *r*, *f*, or *s* to these readings when reported, to indicate that the mercury has been rising, falling, or steady, during the preceding fourteen hours. The doubling of a letter shews the change has been very considerable.

The barometer shews at once when the pressure of the air is changing in amount. If owing to any cause the pressure at one place be greater than at another, the air has a tendency to move from the place where the pressure is greater towards that where it is less, in order to restore the equilibrium, and so *wind* is caused. Hence we see the barometer tells us more about wind than rain. It is true a change of weather comes with a change of wind, but the nature of that change depends on the fact of the new wind being warmer or colder, damper or drier, than the old one. Landsmen, however, care more about rain or snow than wind, and so have fallen into the error of looking at the changes in the barometer to see whether it is going to be fine or wet without considering from what point the wind is blowing. Used in this way it will be likely to mislead. It has but two motions, rising and falling, by which to indicate all changes of weather, and its indications must be checked by reference to the heat and moisture of the air, and the state of the wind and sky, before any judgment can be formed.

The barometer enables us to feel the pulse of the wind in advance, but the interval between the prophecy and its fulfilment varies. For instance, it is longer when the change is from N. E. to S. W., than vice versa. The words appended to all the so-called

\*In addition to these two reductions .005 is subtracted from the readings of our barometer, that being the certified excess of its readings over the standard barometer at the Kew Observatory. This correction includes that for the capillary action of the tube.

Fitzroy Barometers are taken from the rules arrived at by Professor Dove, of Berlin, from a long series of observations.

They are,

R I S E	F A L L
for	for
North	South
N. W.—N.—E.	S. E—S.—W.
Dry	Wet
or	or
Less	More
Wind.	Wind.
—	—
Except	Except
Wet from	Wet from
North.	North.

If the barometer then rises steadily above its mean height while the weather gets colder and the air becomes drier, North-westerly, Northerly, North-easterly winds, or less wind, less rain or snow may generally be expected. On the contrary, if the barometer falls while the weather gets warmer and the air becomes damper, wind and rain may be looked for from the South-east, South, or South-west.

The chief deviations from these rules are given in the Board of Trade instructions as follows: If the weather gets warmer while the barometer is high and the wind North-easterly, we may look for a shift of wind to the South. On the other hand, the weather sometimes becomes colder while the wind is South-westerly and the barometer low, and then we may look for a sudden squall, or perhaps a storm from the North-west, with a fall of snow if it be winter time. North-east winds sometimes bring rain, sleet, or snow, especially during gales, though the barometer may be high and rising. On the other hand, when the wind is North-easterly and light, and the barometer begins to fall, rain may set in before the wind changes to East or East South-east.

This letter, if such it can be called, has long since given traces of being written on the desk of blear-eyed Crispinus; and I will not pursue the question further at present, but, with your permission,

leave any further remarks I may have to make on the weather and its indications, to another opportunity.

I should be glad, however, if you could print a monthly weather report, drawn up from the daily observations, in future numbers of the *Shirburnian*. As this month's observations are not complete, I will not trouble you with them further than by observing that 3.19 inches of rain fell in the last eight days of the month.

Believe me, my dear Mr. Editor,

Yours sincerely,

W. L. HETHERINGTON.

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### SCHOOL NEWS.

The Prize day, despite some rain during the morning, which somewhat lessened the number of visitors, went off very well. The Bishop of the Diocese gave us a most instructive and interesting sermon. The cricket match of Past and Present *v.* the County of Dorset, an account of which will be seen elsewhere in our pages, was commenced in the afternoon, but owing to the rain which fell so heavily on the next day that it prevented play, was left drawn.

The Old Shirburnian Scholarships have been awarded as follows : for under 15, T. H. Attwater, under 14, E. A. Upcott, under 13, C. Sanctuary ; all were members of the School.

The following is a list of those who left last half-year :

Adams, ma.	Cox	Freer
Williams, ma.	Beddoes	Legrew
Watkins, ma.	Goodall	Game, mi.
Hancock, ma.	deWinton, mi.	Addington
Stamp	Price	Hayter
Stephenson	Walsh	Hallett
Edwards, ma.	Cole	Cockeram, ma.
Watson	Scott, ma	Humble, ma.
Addison		

The following are the new fellows who have arrived this half-year, and their respective forms :

Patey V A.		Butt	} IV B.
Edlin V B.		Filliter Newmarch, mi.	
Bourke	} IV A.	Lithgow	} III A.
McCaul		Lowndes	
Newmarch, ma.			
Bell	} III B.	Aldous, mi.	} I.
Eastlake		Benthall, tert.	
Fenwick, mi.		Buckman	
Newmarch, tert.	Ffooks, tert.		
Aldous, ma.	Michell		
Collier	Mortimore, mi.		
Kitson	Newmarch, quart.		
Naylor	Pegg		
Ireland	Smith, mi.		
Monro, mi.	Tremlett		
Raban	Watkins, mi.		
		Wood	

The numbers of the School are steadily increasing, and at present amount to 272.

W. B. deWinton has passed 14th, and J. H. Watson 45th, out of 50, into the Indian Civil Engineering College, Cooper's Hill.

E. Raban passed 6th out of Woolwich Academy, in July last. One of the men above him elected to join the Royal Artillery, and in consequence, Raban proceeds to Chatham as 5th in rank of the Royal Engineers of his year.

We have now a sad duty before us, to record the death of an old school-fellow, J. F. White, who left Sherborne at Midsummer, 1870, after matriculating at Exeter College, Oxford. He caught a severe cold after rowing, and died at his own home about a fortnight afterwards, of pleuropneumonia, aged 20. He was a member of the VIth form, and of the first Football Fifteen; was universally popular, and it is with heartfelt sorrow that we lament his early decease.

It is also our melancholy duty to have to announce that H. B. Peren was drowned whilst bathing in the river Parret in Somersetshire, near his own home, during the holidays.

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#### NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received a letter from G. C. which we think too absurd to insert.



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### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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No contribution will be inserted which is not the *bonâ fide* production of some one who is, or has been, a member of the School.

No anonymous contributions will be accepted: but the full name must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, which will not be opened if the article be rejected.

If an article is to be continued in successive numbers, the whole is to be sent in at once.

N.B.—No contributions will be returned.

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Declined with thanks—"The Grounding of the Agincourt."

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*Contributors are requested to write legibly, and only on one side of the paper.*