

# The College Times.

Vol. III.

STELLENBOSCH, FEBRUARY 3, 1886.

No. 19.

Now that the Cadet Corps has given its consent to the proposal of Professor Thomson to spend the money won by the team last year, in erecting a fountain on the College grounds, and Government being also agreeable, the committee appointed will very likely set about the work soon.

Of course the first thing to be decided on will be a site. Two places only suggest themselves as suitable; the ground in front of the building, and behind, within the quadrangle.

It can be urged in favour of the first site that, if the structure is to assume anything like a height, a bubbling fountain will greatly relieve the bareness of the front. But of course if the fountain be placed in front it will not remain a drinking-fountain, but will sooner or later be exclusively an ornament.

But yet, if in our imagination we draw a picture of the future College with an iron railing running the whole length of the street in front, a beautiful gate facing the front door, from which two gravelled paths, one on each side of a handsome fountain, lead to the porticoed door, we cannot but think that, although the fountain in that position would be only an ornament, yet on that very account it would be useful in setting

off the front view of a building which is certainly not a specimen of architectural beauty.

If the fountain be erected within the quadrangle it will of course be used only as a drinking font. But water may as well be laid on to the yard from the laboratory and a simple arrangement made for drinking purposes, at a trifling cost.

At all events the question of site is an important one, and the committee will do well not to decide the matter hastily for it should be kept in mind that the structure about to be erected must be one that will stand for ages.

The committee must also be warned against leaving the work entirely in the hands of local workmen, though they do things quickly, cheaply and the work may at first sight, i.e. when new give the idea of being well executed.

What we want is not a pretty looking but fragile ornament, which the slightest shock of explosion in the laboratory will destroy, but a substantial yet handsome erection — one that will last, hereafter to be regarded by posterity with pleasure and pride, and for many centuries stand as a memorial of the liberality of the Cadet Corps.

Grapes Wanted. It is a shame that, now in the middle of grape season, surrounded as they are by beautiful vineyards, the fellows should be compelled to buy the grapes offered for sale in the streets by little coloured boys. These grapes are of course not of the best and very uninviting, but what are the lads to do, they must have them, and if they do not buy them in the streets they must go without them the whole season, for they cannot get them elsewhere. Now would it not be a good plan if those who have farms within walking distance were to sell the grapes of a small portion of their vineyards. If any farmer will act on this suggestion, and let the fellows know about it, he will, besides doing them a great favour, also substantially profit by it.

The half yearly sports of the Athletic Club will be held on Saturday, March 6th.

At the College Debating Society meeting on Saturday last it was decided by a majority of 17 that the destruction of the vines by the Phylloxera would be detrimental to the Colony.

The subject of Professor Marais' Lecture on Friday will be: - "A Trip to California, or Types and Phases of Poor life and character". At intervals musical selections will be rendered, a sword <sup>given</sup> to Mr Malan by proxy for ex-

Captain Muller, and prizes will be presented to the Cadets who obtained highest scores in the competition last quarter.

Notice.

If the young man of the Intermediate Class will return me the knife he stole, I shall tell him where he can steal one worth twice as much. All communications strictly private and confidential.

C. Q van Graan.

Diocesan College. We are glad to hear that this institution is awaking from a long sleep. The College, once a very excellent one has of late been sinking almost into oblivion. However the authorities are now rousing themselves and by appointing new Professors and generally renovating affairs, expect a return of former prosperity. It is to be hoped that the College will stick to its new Professors, or rather that they will fall so in love with the College that they will be loath to leave it. Ties of affection are the only links that bind a teacher to a school. *Experientia nos docuit.*

Correspondence.

Sir, Please give me a small space to say something for an old man. There are but few I think in connection with the College and school who have served those institutions so long and so faithfully as old James the Janitor.

The old man has for many years had the entire charge of the sweeping and cleaning of the College when classes were held in the present Gymnasium buildings. Since the New College has been in use his work has been considerably increased - but not his pay. Would it not be but fair for the Council to increase his salary? I am &c. "Justice".

Mr. Editor, Now that the completion of the new College Buildings is an event within measurable distance it is high time that we (I speak in the name of the local Debating Societies) move in a matter intimately connected with the inauguration of the Building.

Somewhere in September 1882 shortly after the death of the late Prof. George Gordon the committees of the Debating Societies met and determined upon presenting the College authorities with a picture (in oils) of the deceased. I would remind the members that it will take a considerable time to finish a good picture and a, to us, by no means small amount will have to be put together for its cost.

As Secretary of the Gordon Monument Fund I still hold several unredeemed promises, and should I succeed in converting these into

cash, I will be most happy to put whatever I realize at the disposal of the Committees. I am &c.

J. D. Krige.

O tempora! O mores!

A case of careless voting and sad display of want of forethought has come to our notice.

At the recent General Meeting of the Guarantors, Life Governors and Past students of the College two new members were elected (viz two retired). Now one of the gentlemen chosen was by the spirit if not by word of law ineligible for a seat.

The words of the part of the Act (Act 9 1881) referring to the matter

run thus: "No Professor, Lecturer or Teacher connected with the institution shall be eligible for a seat in the Council". Now, though the gentleman does not hold any of the positions mentioned yet he is directly interested in the affairs of the College, being a superintendent of a boarding establishment and a paid servant of the Council. Though the electors did not transgress the law yet they were - well what we have already said - careless about the voting.



How the post boy sometimes amuses himself on his rounds.

The latest Novelty. Oyez! Oyez! Oyez! This is to give notice that the undersigned will play the Cornet on Sunday morning. Hofmeyr Marais and Co. Y.M.C.A. Hall.

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General Meeting of the Cadet Corps.

On Friday last a general meeting of the Cadet Corps was held, principally to elect a new Junior Captain, vice Captain A. Grobbelaar resigned. Captain Marchand in the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.

The Captain welcomed the cadets back, and wished them a happy New Year. He then expressed sorrow at having to commence the year without Capt. Grobbelaar, who had all along shown himself an able and willing co-operator in all matters concerning the welfare of the Corps. Captain Marchand hoped, however, to see him back again before long.

The voting for a Junior Captain was then proceeded with. The following were the results: - Professor E. Murray 24, Lieutenant Baartman 24, Lieutenant Hugo H. W. Buhman 11, Mr. J. Krige 2, Mr. van Sittert 1, Sir Ghas. Warren 1, Mr. C. Bosman 1.

Lieutenant Baartman at first wanted to withdraw, but finally left the room while the Corps voted by show of hands.

Results: - Professor Murray 37, Lieut. Baartman 34.

It was next decided, on the proposal of Corp. W. de Wet that the office of Lance-Corporal be abolished, the security of stripes, and the practical uselessness of the rank being the chief reasons adduced.

The Corps then expressed its approval of what Professor Thomson had done in getting Government to allow a drinking fount to be provided for the

College with the prize-money lately won by our Rifle team. This money would otherwise have gone towards buying a piece of plate. Prof Thomson, and two officers were to form a committee of management.

The Captain then intimated that for the future the drill hours would be from 5.15 to 6.15 p.m. on Mondays & Fridays, that Professor Morris would deliver his lecture on Friday 5th February, good music would be provided and a sword presented to ex-Captain Molan by proxy for ex-Captain Muller, the first Captain the Corps ever had; further that the band of the Corps would give a Promenade Concert this quarter.

The Captain then expressed a hope that he would yet see the Cadets dressed in decent full-dress uniforms. He had entered into negotiations with a London firm with that end in view. He said that the Cadets would scarcely like to show their shabby uniforms outside Stellenbosch, would not some places inside the district do for the Camp Out next April? (cries of no, no!) Mr. Beyers farm for instance? The question of money would prevent a journey to Worcester, the place originally decided on. (cries of "Capt. pays for all"; Kimberley, &c). He then stated that application had been made to Government for ten Martini-Henry rifles to enable our team to compete with others in the neighbourhood.

The meeting was soon after dissolved.