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— Utile dulci. —

We are well aware that to find fault with anything is a very easy matter, but on the other hand we also believe that an outsider can often far sooner see a mistake than persons by whom such a mistake is committed. Mindful of this we venture to bring under the notice of our readers a point bearing on the system of our education.

The point we wish to touch upon is the very limited amount of knowledge of history required from students in the Cape University examinations.

Let us for a moment reflect and see what the public exams require in the way of history. As regards the periods prescribed for the Elementary and Honours examinations we have no remark to make, more cannot be expected at that stage. But coming to the Matriculation we find that only a limited period of English history is prescribed, and nothing whatever of the history of our own country, or of general history. The result of matters as they stand at present is that many pass their matriculation with but a meagre knowledge of the history of the British Isles only.

For the Intermediate examination it is an optional subject, and as far as we are aware by far the greater number of the candidates that yearly try for this examination do not take history but either Greek or one of the modern languages in its stead. Thus here too history is put in the background and many students who are desirous to pursue their studies further find that they have to cope with many difficulties from the fact of their not having had anything like an introduction into more general history at an earlier stage of schooling.

We have not touched upon the value of history as a useful study in itself and as one necessary in order to make a human being take an interest not only in what goes on in his immediate vicinity but also in distant countries and nations beyond the ocean, and thus feel that he is not an isolated and lifeless plani or an irrational animal but that he is part of a whole and has personally to take part in the drama of life. We think it necessary to speak of the worth of history in itself, for every one with an ordinary stock of common sense we are sure will admit that the study of history is both interesting and useful, nay more even necessary

for the completion of education.

We close our few remarks with the hope that within many years hence more attention will be given to that highly important subject in the instruction of the young than has hitherto unfortunately been the case.

The Pen broke Castle Disaster.

P eaceful she lay in dock
E re Monday's sun was set,
M oored in the usual spot,
B y coaling men beset;
R ight busily they worked,
O ft had they such work borne,
K new not that ten would die
E re Tuesday's rising morn.

C losed was that fatal stair,
A nd there confined were they,
S hut from the outer air
T ill labour cleared the way;
L ife was, alas ! soon fled
E re they were found that day.

D ear reader, now reflect
I n what an awful way
S trong, active, healthy men
A re quickly ta'en away,
S o useful were they all
T o those bereaved ones,
E 'en in the midst of toil
R emoved from earthly homes.

T. C.

The debate in the Vic. Col. Deb. Society last Saturday night "whether woman is equal or inferior to man in intellectual capacity" was hotly contested, the members shewing considerable spirit on the side of the fair sex. The ladies however got the worse by the casting vote of the president.

We hope that our lady students will prove the contrary in the next Exam.

Correspondence.

'The Home' — ('t te huis.)

To the Editor of the "Victorian"

Dear Sir,

Please allow me a few words in answer to what appeared in your columns last week. Mr K. N. M. suggested that we should as soon as possible come to a conclusion to call this establishment "'t te huis;" — we shall do nothing of the sort, but shall continue to call it 'The Home.' I wonder what right Mr K. N. M. has to assert that The Home is only a 'ridiculous' translation of 'te Huis. Is it not advertised in the College Calendar as Young Mens Home — 't te Huis only occurring in brackets — showing that the managers also speak of it as 'The Home? If his objection is merely a matter of names, I ask the public to

decide which has the more melodious sound — that beautiful word "Home," so full of meaning, or that name 'te huis,' quite meaningless to an Afriander. I believe, that the word "te huis" used in the sense of the English "home" has a meaning. *Quæ quum ita sint*, I think we boarders at "The Home" are perfectly justified in preferring the name 'Home' to 'te Huis.'

A Boarder at The Home.

As this number closes our first quarter's issue we now inform our readers that the experience we have gained has made us decide to publish only three numbers per quarter in future, while the amount of print in each number will be increased, the subscription will remain unaltered. We thank subscribers for support rendered and remind those who have not yet paid that subscriptions are payable to the Janitor or to the Secretary, B. van der Riet.

We are glad to be able to announce that the anxiety about securing canvass for the Worcester Camp-Out has been removed, and thanks to the Staff Officer's efforts, fifteen tents have been placed at the disposal of the Corps. Our Volunteers anticipate a lively time at Worcester.

There are to be athletic sports, an Entertainment (in which Worcester assists), rifle and football matches, and (good people of Stellenbosch close your

ears) report says, a Dance. All these events taking place in such a pleasant and kindly place as Worcester ought to give rise to no end of happy incident. One word of caution: our Volunteers, in providing themselves with the articles mentioned on the notice board of the Corps, will do well to take a plentiful supply of rugs. The ground will not be as dry as last time.

A correspondent saw three whales last Friday, a quarter of a mile off the shore between Simons Bay and Kalk Bay. They were evidently bull, cow and calf and of a kind (called the 'finwhale') not attacked by our fishermen either because they yield inferior lubber or because of the danger involved in their capture.

The 'larges' whale appeared about 80 feet long and the trio presented a very interesting sight, splashing the water with their huge flippers and occasionally displaying their great dark bodies above the water.

I could gaze at the moon for hours Mr Sampson, she said in a voice full of sweetness; I never tire of it. Ah! he responded, would that I were the man in it! Yes, she assented softly. And why Miss Clara? he asked, getting ready to take her hand. Because Mr Sampson, she said, shyly veiling her eyes with their lashes, you would then be 4000 miles away.

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