

The Launch of the "Trilby."

A fine ice-boat from stern to bow,
 When ice was frozen hard,
 Did "Piggie" Williams and the "Cow"
 Frame out in the back yard.

And to be there they never failed,
 As soon as school was o'er;
 They cut and hammered, sawed and nailed
 Until their backs were sore.

To pay for all the nails and wood
 They spent their ready cash;
 They, with their ice-boat, thought they could
 Cut a tremendous dash.

Enough time I am sure had passed
 In which to build a fleet,
 Before they had it done at last
 And everything complete.

But when at length she was afloat
 Then out there spake "the Jew,"
 "No name can I see on this boat
 And that will never do.

A fitting name occurred to me—
 The name of my room-mate—
 And 'Trilby dear' its name shall be,
 A name that he does hate."

Then straightway "Piggie" Williams spake:
 "That honor I disclaim;
 It is a name I truly hate;
 'The Cow' shall be its name"

They said some special friends they had
 Might hang on it behind.
 Oh, weren't the other fellows mad
 To be treated so unkind.

Some other friends there chanced to be
 Might have the pleasing task
 Of holding to the ropes, to see
 It did not go too fast.

They thought now they could surely prove
 Its headlong pace, at last;
 When lo! the Trilby would not move,
 But, like a rock, stood fast.

I thought those boys had fainted there;
 They turned an ashy grey;
 And Jamie murmured in despair,
 "There's not much wind to-day"

Now, when the scoffers saw 'twas lame
 And wouldn't even sail
 They said they'd have no other name,
 But christened it "The Snail"

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Ridley in Ancient Times.

Although Ridley has been in existence for only a few years, many changes have taken place, both in the building and in the rules.

In the first days of the College the main alone was used, and the wing was filled with old furniture, crockery-ware and the like. The "high and mighty Prefects" and the little First Form boys then shared alike the cubicles. There was a prefect in each dormitory, whose principal duties were to see that the boys were in bed when the lights were put out, and to represent his dormitory in pillow-fights and gauntlets.

At the beginning of the second year the Top Flat was opened, and later on the Wing. In those days the Top Flat was considered the flat of the school. None but the best boys roomed up there, and, as Mr. Michell would say, they were like the gods in Olympus. By degrees,

however, it became of less importance and now is not used at all.

But time has won one great victory for us, namely, good play grounds. Our first football grounds were a long distance up Ontario street; and you can imagine how difficult it was to get boys to practise then, when we hear them complain even now that they have to go "away across the canal" to play.

Enough about the building and grounds. Let us for a moment look at any radical changes that have taken place in the rules.

Perhaps the greatest bore of a Ridleian's life is detention. Well, for two years we knew of no such thing as this, and if a boy was late for meals or prayers he sometimes got a page of history to write and sometimes he got off without anything. Three pages was considered about the largest imposition that a boy could reasonably get, unless the offence was a very serious one, and then he got four.

The climax was reached, however, when Mr. Cody gave his first "licking." Perhaps the participants in that affair will pardon me for mentioning it here. They were C. Y. Ford and F. O'Meara, and the offence was stealing cherries. Since Mr. Cody started the ball rolling the masters have managed to keep it going pretty well.

Another great change, and one not very pleasing to many of the boys, was substituting half holidays on Wednesdays and Saturdays for a whole one on Saturday. This is not so bad in the winter months, but in summer it is far pleasanter to have the whole of Saturday, so that one may go for a long ride, or paddle, or otherwise put in the day.

In the matter of bounds there has been a noticeable change. When the school first opened the boys were allowed anywhere west of Church Street; then that was limited to the park, and now even the park is out of bounds. What are we coming to?

Not more than four years ago the prefects had to take study from 8.30 till 9.30, and this was a great source of amusement to the boys. In vain the prefects gave large impositions and sent the boys up to the master on duty; they could not keep order; so, at last, Mr. Miller abolished the plan.

Of late a great many boys have been asking about supper on Sunday night after church. We used to have it and the boys enjoyed it immensely. Why could we not have it again? When a boy gets tea at a quarter past five he naturally wants something more to eat before he goes to bed, and I don't see why he should not have it.

One might go on discussing change after change, but these are the chief ones. Whether they are for the better or worse I leave the boys to decide.

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