

Cricket Prospects.



As spring is approaching interest is being centered upon cricket, and all who play the game are discussing their chances of getting on the Elevens.

We shall probably have the strongest eleven on the field this year that Ridley has ever produced, and we are confident of winning a large majority of the matches.

This year's football and hockey teams have been above the average. Let us put the Cricket Eleven at the head of them all.

Some of the older fellows, good athletes too, who are looked up to by the younger boys as examples of what they should try to be, run down cricket whenever they get the chance. Naturally some of the younger boys grow up, thinking that cricket is a slow, girlish game. Are these older boys showing a sportsman-like spirit, and are they being true to their College which every boy should uphold? We ask, therefore, for the sake of school cricket, in the future, that these boys if they do not play at least, will not cause others to *talk lightly* of the game. Surely no fair-minded boy would willingly do anything to hinder the advancement of athletic sports.

It is perhaps but voicing the feelings of many when we suggest that more time be given this season to practising fielding.

As we are discussing the cricket prospects for '96 it will not be out of place to make a short survey of a few of the players.

Hills, as his average of 14, made with the Rosedale Club last summer, shows, is by no means a second class bat, and we expect great things from him this year.

Harmer should develop into a good bat, with hard practice, but at present his playing is too stiff. He is one of the best fielders on the team.

Griffith is a quick fielder and one of the best long stops the College has had. His form is fairly good, but he has a tendency to forget "the straight bat."

Mackenzie is the best fielder on the eleven. He has a good eye and fine hitting powers, but lacks correctness of style.

Greenhill is a promising bat. His chief fault is playing the ball up. His fielding is weak.

Cooke is a hard hitter and has a good eye,

but his batting shows little science. Needs steady practice. His bowling is much faster this year, and he will probably be needed to bowl.

Lett bats in good style, but has a bad habit of drawing away from the wicket. He catches well, but is slow after the ball. His bowling should be useful this season. We are sorry to hear that "Dog" intends leaving at Easter. We hope that he will be with us for the cricket season at least.

There are also Miller, Kerr, Price, Steele and several others who played well last year.

The club will be further strengthened by at least three masters.

We hope that practice will be begun as soon after the holidays as possible. We have matches for the first week in May and we must not open the year by being defeated.

At the beginning of the season last year we lost nearly two weeks practice by not being able to get across the canal, on account of all the water being out. Could not some arrangement be made so that we could avoid losing any time in getting down to work?

R. D. GURD (V.)

[EDITOR'S NOTE.—The writer of the above interesting article has modestly omitted all mention of himself. He gained the bat last year for the highest average, is a quick clean fielder, and a thorough lover of the game].

A Suggestion.

To the Editor of the Acta Ridleiana :

DEAR SIR,—I should like to suggest through your paper, that it is very necessary that something should be done to entertain our friends in town. "But what shall we do?" is the question which invariably answers such a suggestion; that question is what I wish to deal with. Prize-day and the Athletic Sports don't make up for a nice concert, or dramatic entertainment, in the minds of most of our fair friends, therefore it must be something else.

It seems there is no organization, no united action, to be got out of the higher forms—for it is these boys of course to whom we look, to show that Ridley is not dead socially, but simply sleeping!

I hope that this may create something more than a momentary and fleeting thought, and wake up some of our boys!

It certainly isn't lack of talent—we have plenty of that—so why can't Griffith, Price, Mitchell and Jamie Maclaren for instance, talk it over and get up some dramatics?

Yours &c.,

A REGULAR READER.