

Noad being singled out for the honour over his head. Yet, in his dogged way, Hythe had availed himself of such educational advantages as St. Osyth's had to offer. But the Doctor not having shouted it from the house-tops, it had passed almost unnoticed, that he had run Farquhar a good second in the examination for the captaincy of the school. It was the same thing with the games, whether unconsciously influenced by the Doctor's attitude, or not, the powers that be had evinced no burning desire to see him cock of the walk in the playing fields. But from not being able to stand up to an over from even a Bleater at cricket, and unable to drop a goal at five yards at footer, he was now a safe bat and a more than decent forward! the change seemed somehow to have escaped the Captain's notice. I don't mean to say of course that if he had been anything out of the way, Farquhar wouldn't have exploited him for the sake of the School, for all he was worth. But with a crowd of other fellows, and those fellows his own chums, all on the same level, it was more than human nature, or at least Farquhar's human nature, was capable of, not to give them the preference. Hythe was quite as good at footer as Gegekory, for instance, yet the latter had his colours, while Hythe had not.

By no stretch of imagination could Hythe