

The Rockwood Review.

A SOUTH AFRICAN INSECT.

In the Eastern province of Cape Colony there is an insect which attacks animals and human beings. It seems to be plentiful and very troublesome, and people there call it a tick. To begin with it is about the size of a pin's head, and this they say is the head. You may get it on you by passing through grass or weeds, and a young farmer in British Kaffraria told me that after a day's reaping, he would have to look his legs over carefully to see that he had not one on his skin, because if left, it would bury itself in the flesh. One day I met a well-dressed man riding a finely groomed horse, and I saw about eight of these ticks in a patch on the horse's shoulder. They had leathery bodies full of blood, and some looked almost as large as a five cent piece. I said to some of the people there, "Why does not that man take those ticks off his horse?" They said, "Because they cannot be got off, if you pull away the body, the head will remain and sink into the flesh." The insect seemed so unpleasant that I did not attempt to capture one or examine. I have been told by people here that there is an island in the St. Lawrence near Cornwall, infested with ticks of this description. I am inclined to doubt the existence of this tick in Canada or the States.

R. S. KNIGHT,
Lancaster.

Mr. W. Shakespeare Shea has commenced the season well—his new topical songs, the best he has had for years.

Mr. Saml. Stephenson as John Bull, in *Hands Across the Sea*, looked his part, but was not as cordial with Brother Jonathan as the occasion demanded. Evidently he is a little suspicious of the Anglo Saxon alliance.

"Jack the Giant Killer," a musical extravaganza, will be given at Rockwood on Xmas night.

Mr. C. Y. Ford, Cynologist, is in New York on matters Cynological.

Mrs. Mullin, Hamilton, was the guest of Mrs. C. K. Clarke for a few days.

Canon Burke, Belleville, and Rev. C. Y. Young, Lansdowne, called at Rockwood this month.

Mr. Shea's artistic efforts in the development of the Classico Grecian pictures were most commendable, and Billy's excursions into mythology must have been numerous, to enable him to arrange the groups with such strict regard for the classical requirements. We were hardly prepared though for the first impromptu picture, which was certainly not on the programme. When Mr. Shea in his enthusiasm succeeded in having a lighted candle fall on his head, the clever patient in the corner murmured, "Ladies and gentlemen, the first picture is called the Destruction of Greece."

The R. M. C. Cadets, are to be congratulated on winning the Intermediate Football Championship, in the Canadian Intercollegiate League. It is many a long day since a championship has been won by them, but this year they played consistent and brilliant football, and won every match in the series.

On the occasion of the first British victory in the Transvaal, Mr. Shea will sing *Hearus of Oak* in costume. It begins to look as if he may have to wait until Xmas.