

NATURAL SCIENCE.

"No direct instruction is given, private or otherwise, in Natural Science." There is, however, in each of the School quarters, a voluntary examination, open to the whole School, in some one branch of this study. "Those who do well are rewarded, and to the boys who come first and second in the aggregate of the three quarterly examinations are awarded two prizes of books given by the Head Master, of the value of five guineas and three guineas respectively." This examination is conducted by some two of the Assistant Masters. "We have a considerable number of Masters who are interested in Physical Science." "At the end of each School quarter a subject is announced for examination in the course of the next quarter; a certain number of pages out of some elementary treatise is fixed, and in that elementary treatise the boys are examined on paper." The subjects during Mr. Butler's Head-Mastership have been Geology, Botany, Chemistry, and Electricity. The number of boys who go in has fluctuated. He has been told that at first it was as high as 90; of late it has been about 20, or less. These examinations were introduced a few years after the incorporation of mathematics and modern languages into the work of the School.

Mr. Butler is not prepared to say that he thinks Natural Science could not be introduced with advantage into the regular studies of the School; he "distinctly guards himself against an assertion of that kind," but he is of opinion that the number of collateral studies which can be profitably pursued must always be confined within somewhat narrow limits.

MUSIC AND DRAWING.

Music and Drawing are taught as extras, and out of school hours, by resident teachers. The number of boys learning music was 18 in 1860; the number learning drawing was from 60 to 70. The Drawing Master reckons the average number of his pupils at about 50. The drawing taught is chiefly landscape drawing, with the principles of perspective. Geometrical drawing was formerly taught by a Military Drawing Master, but the number of his pupils appears to have been too small to make it worth his while to attend.

SCHOLARSHIPS, PRIZES, ETC.

A part of the income of the foundation was by the Founder's directions to be employed in maintaining two Scholars at Oxford, and two at Gonville and Caius College in Cambridge. Each was to have 5*l.* a year. Two "John Lyon's" Scholarships are now generally given in each year, of 30*l.* each, tenable for four years at any College in either University. Under the Statutes a preference is given in elections to these Scholarships to the "poor kinsfolk" of the Founder, and to boys born in the parish, "being apt to learn, poor, and meet to go to the University;" but it does not appear that either of these preferences has ever been claimed or enjoyed. Besides these Scholarships the School has others, one of which (the Isabella Gregory's) is worth 100*l.* a year, is tenable at either University, and becomes vacant every fourth year. The Scholarships are given to the boys who do best in the ordinary terminal examinations. The number of smaller prizes given, in the shape of medals or books, for performances in special subjects, is very considerable. Among the voluntary examinations there is one for the Beaumont prizes, five of which are given for knowledge of the Bible. There is another lately established, which is confined to boys below the Fifth Form, and the subject of which is some specified branch of English literature. The candidates are examined in two or three standard English books, of which notice is previously given.

PUNISHMENTS.

Mr. Butler has described very fully his system of punishments. The liability to be flogged ceases on entrance into the Sixth Form, but "it very rarely happens that I decide to flog any boy in the Fifth Form; in other words, any boy from the first 200 boys in the School." Since Mr. Butler has been at Harrow the number of floggings has been, he thinks, about 20 in each school term. "Speaking generally," he says, "punishments are a given number of written Latin lines, varying from 50 to 500." A punishment of more than 500 lines is rare. Boys in the Sixth Form, when punished for minor offences, have commonly lines set them to learn by heart. "Extra School," which is peculiar to Harrow and of recent establishment, consists in sending a boy into a school-room on the afternoon of a half-holiday, to sit there for an hour and a quarter writing out grammar in the presence of a Master.

The Head Master never punishes without previous communication with the tutor, unless the tutor has himself sent up the boy's name for punishment, or counter signed the "send-up paper."

The difficulty of selecting a good form of punishment for minor offences is much felt. The subject has been constantly discussed, and it is admitted that the practice of setting impositions to be

written out is not free from evils. But it is thought to be the best on the whole.

TIME GIVEN TO WORK, GAMES, ETC.

The time given to work varies, of course, in the different Forms. Speaking generally, about four hours and a half are spent in School on a whole school day, and about two hours on a half-holiday, of which there are three in every week, and an extra holiday occurs once in every three weeks, or oftener. Including the time devoted to preparation, we are told that about six hours, or rather more, are given to work on a whole school day, "if the work is honestly done." A witness, who distinguished himself highly, worked, "in an ordinary way," not more than six hours a day during his last term at School. The average time given to cricket is estimated at about fifteen hours in the week; "a boy who took every opportunity" would make it twenty. That the importance assigned to games in the estimation of the boys is somewhat greater than it should be, is admitted by a witness who was for two years captain of the eleven. But it is frequently the case, at Harrow as elsewhere, that diligent and distinguished cricketers are also diligent and distinguished in school work.

EXPENSES OF A BOY AT HARROW.

The yearly charges and expenses of a boy at Harrow, including tradesmen's bills, vary from 150*l.* to 200*l.*

The boarding-houses are now kept as a rule by Masters only. It rests with the Head Master to give leave to keep a boarding-house, and it is for him to fix the maximum number of inmates. There are two classes of boarding-houses, the "large" and the "small" houses. Of the former the Head Master's holds 63, and the others, generally speaking, 36 or 37 (one had 41 and another 50 in 1861); the small houses contain six or seven boys apiece. There are six "large" houses besides the Head Master's, and 10 "small." Another, which belongs to neither class, holds 16.

The difference between a large and a small house, as regards the cost to the parent, is about 50*l.* a year. The higher charge is considered to be necessary in order to give a reasonable profit to the keeper of the small house. In return for this, the boy is supposed to enjoy, and probably does receive, more of the personal supervision of the Master than at a large house; and Mr. Butler thinks these houses useful for boys whose health and temperament are such as to render them unfit for the rougher discipline and more bracing atmosphere of the large ones. They meet cases in which parents, with or without sufficient reasons, desire for their sons this special protection and care. A boy at a small house has in fact, to a limited extent, the advantages, and the disadvantages also, of being at a private tutor's; and, whilst he partakes equally in some of the benefits of a great public school, there are others which he shares imperfectly.

The rooms in the Harrow boarding-houses are not, as at Eton, single-bedded, but commonly hold from two to five. Mr. Butler's opinion of the working of this system, which he approves, will be found in his evidence. Some of the senior boys, however, have single rooms. The upper boys sit and prepare their work in their bed-rooms; the Fourth Form boys, as we have already seen, theirs in pupil-room, under the tutor's eye.

There is no sanatorium at Harrow, and Mr. Butler thinks it very desirable to have such a building for the reception of boys ill with infectious complaints. He states, however, that every boarding-house has sick rooms, distinct from those commonly occupied by the boys, and that in these cases the sick rooms are in a separate building.

THE ENGLISH FORM.

None of the farmers or tradesmen of Harrow now send their sons to the School. The altered character of the School in this respect was in 1810 made the subject of a complaint to the Court of Chancery. Sir W. Grant, then Master of the Rolls, in a well-known judgment, which has since been often referred to, held that there was no sufficient ground for the interference of the Court. For the benefit, however, of the classes above-mentioned, Dr. Vaughan established a separate day-school, which still exists, and is called the "English Form," and where a commercial education, including French, is given by a teacher or teachers appointed and paid by the Head Master. The Head Masters examine the boys periodically, and they are also examined by one of the Modern Language Masters, and the Senior Mathematical Master. A fee of 5*l.* a year is paid for each boy. The aggregate amount received from this source is about half of the total salaries of the teachers employed. The number of boys attending was 24 in 1862. It had diminished since the English Form was first established. The boys who attend are chiefly sons of tradesmen in Harrow and its neighbourhood.—*English Educational Times*.