

Acta Ridleiana.

Price Ten Cents.]

ST. CATHARINES, MIDSUMMER, 1898.

[30 Cents Per Year.

Acta Ridleiana.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

MR. H. G. WILLIAMS, . . . *Chairman.*

R. M. MACLEOD. A. C. BLACK. H. L. HOYLES.

MR. A. F. BARR. S. C. NORSWORTHY.

A. C. BLACK,
H. D. GOODERHAM, } . . . *Advertising Dept.*

The Cricket Season.

Early in the term the cricket season seemed to promise to be almost as successful as last year, even the first defeat not pointing out any weakness that could not be remedied. After the season is over, however, it must be said that the Eleven of '98 was inferior in all respects to that of '97. With the same Captain as last year, and the confidence that last year's successes could not help but give, there were lacking the persevering practice, the steady loyalty to the game, and the *esprit de corps* that characterised last season.

Last year the fielding of the XI was praised by everybody, but the only remark overheard this year was from some one who expressed himself as disappointed with it. The slackness in the field has not been general, the most notable exception being the Captain.

The batting of the Eleven has been decidedly below the average, the new members making no show whatever. Dalton, Doolittle, Gurd and Baldwin have practically got all the runs that were got. This failure of the other batsmen has had many times serious consequences. The four best bats cannot always come off.

The last six men seem to totally lack hitting power. If they possessed the ability to hold up their wickets for any length of time, runs might have come, but the rule seemed to be that the poor ball should be treated with respect and the good ball be allowed to take a wicket. This was particularly noticeable in the T.C.S. game when the last 5 wickets did not add one run. It is just as much a necessary part of one's cricket education to learn to handle a weak ball as to deal with a good one. There are few things that soon give the spectator a bad impression of an Eleven, than the letting off of loose bowling.

With regard to the bowling department, we have been in a transition stage. Baldwin and Gooderham, who have been the mainstays, are both young and inexperienced and will both be much better next year. The weakness in the bowling has been chiefly in the lack of good changes, and several long stands by the opposing batsmen have resulted.

The Games.

This year, so far as they went, the games were extremely successful. The weather was all that could be desired, and the committee carried out the programme without a hitch. There was however one serious drawback, and that was the lack of active support by the boys, with the result that the number of entries in the different events was entirely too small. It is rather surprising that in a school such as this, that there are only a dozen seniors who are willing to take part in contests on the track.

Such a state of affairs is deplorable and unless there is a radical change it would certainly be justifiable to consider the doing away with the games. The games are held for the express purpose of affording an opportunity for physical development, and if the boys do not desire this, then it is high time to do away with track athletics. This would be a serious move and it is to be hoped that the boys will make a more serious effort next year, and will not give grounds for any comments with regard to the number of contestants.

The Ideal School.

There was once a boy at Ridley called Jack Robinson. He is not here now; he is at a school in one of the Western States. Jack Robinson is not his real name, and I dare not mention the name of the school or its exact location. Why I practice this reserve may appear later.

Jack Robinson did not get on well at Ridley. His master thought he was lazy and said so on his reports; the boys said he funk'd football and would not play cricket. His mother said she was afraid people did not understand her boy, and his father said nothing.

Jack went home very miserable one Christmas and said he was afraid he had been overworking himself. His pasty complexion, due to