



ROBERT ANSON THOMPSON,
HEAD OF THE SCHOOL, 1907.

After many futile attempts and under great difficulties your Special Correspondent has been at last able to corner the Head of the School, and to elicit the following facts.

Robert Anson Thompson, Head of the School and of St. Cuthbert's House, was born at Poona in India on the 13th of July, 1889. He came home in 1892 and after putting in some time at Hadleigh House School, Littlehampton, entered the School on May 1st, 1903, starting his career here in C.M. IV, then under the firm but kind guidance of Dr. J. E. Morris. By Xmas, 1906, he had reached the top of the C. & M. side. From his early infancy his one idea in life has been to follow in the warlike footsteps of his father. In Xmas, 1906, he was made a sub-monitor; a full-monitor the following term, a senior the next and Head of the School in Xmas, 1907. As Head of Mr. J. P. Kirkman's House he has ruled it with a rod of iron, or rather should we say with a rod of cane. He joined the Corps at Easter, 1906, quickly rose from the ranks, and is now senior Non-commissioned Officer.

His first appearance on the Football field was in the Xmas term of 1905, when he represented

his House, and was awarded his 4th XV colours at the end of the term; in the following term he received his 2nd XV colours. The next Football season he was a certainty from the very first for his place as hooker in the 1st XV, and received his Colours after the match against Dulwich College. As Captain of the Team he has led them many times to victory, and has been a tower of strength to forwards and outsides alike; in short, a good Captain of a good Team. On the river he has been as successful as on the Football field. His first public exhibition was in the Easter term of 1906 when he stroked his House. In that year he also stroked the Eight against Shrewsbury; and this year he again stroked against Shrewsbury, when the Eight beat all records for the course, and vanquished very formidable opponents. In the river as well as on, he is also very efficient, and captains the School Polo Team.

He has never been known to sing, but his harmonious voice is often heard on the field in gentle reproof of an erring player. Besides being Captain of the School Football, Rowing and Swimming, he is also, we understand, Captain of his House Table Football, where he scores goals in a prolific manner. We do not know if he has yet taken up Diabolo, but he is sure to make a success at it when he does.

W.H.

The Veterans' Trophy.

In 1907 the School was represented for the first time by a team competing for the Public Schools Veterans' Trophy at the Bisley Meeting on July 11th. Our team scored 218, as against the winners' 232, a result which may be claimed as encouraging. Capt. H. O. McVittie, R.A., A.O.D., is elected Captain for 1908. The initial qualifying fee (£15) was kindly provided by an anonymous O.B.; contributions towards repaying a portion of this outlay are hoped for from O.Bs and others who are interested in the School's shooting reputation, and they will be duly acknowledged in the *Ousel*, if sent to Major B. F. Columbine, I. of M., 1st B.R.E. (V). For further details see *The Ousel*, Nos. 315 and 326.

SHOOTING, XMAS TERM, 1907.

At the *Miniature Rifle Range*, 130 boys have qualified (out of 189) by obtaining the required 21 marks out of 35.