

tleman is now a member of the St. George's Chess-club.

There are at Cambridge, as at Oxford, two Chess-clubs. There is, first, the old-established Cambridge Club, which is open to both gownsmen and townsmen. The members of this club whom we feel bound chiefly to particularize, are Messrs. Deighton, Foster, Wayte, Bower, Wilkinson, Walker, and Skipworth. Of these the first two are townsmen, the rest members of the University. Mr. Wayte has the reputation of being the best chess-player in Cambridge ; but we suspect that there is no very great difference between Mr. Bower and him. We believe Mr. Wayte to be the most learned provincial player in England. There is hardly an opening, and there are but very few published games, with which this gentleman has not a competent acquaintance. He has also in his game several points of a good Chess-player ; his facility of combination, ready sight of the board and careful and accurate style of play, are fully entitled to praise. Perhaps his

most marked deficiency is one which is shared in by many of his colleagues, both at Oxford and Cambridge,—a want of vigour and tenacity. Mr. Bower belongs, we should say, from the specimens of his play which we have seen, to the class of cautious players; but we deliver this criticism with some doubts as to its accuracy. Mr. Wilkinson is a brother of the Oxford player; and, if inferior in strength, is certainly, in vividness of imagination, and boldness of style, superior to all the Cambridge players save one, whom we shall subsequently mention. Mr. Skipworth has considerable enthusiasm for Chess, and will, we have no doubt, improve his game very much by his residence in the University. The two townsmen, Messrs. Deighton and Foster, are deservedly respected in their native city. Both these gentlemen are veteran players of many years' standing. On the former we must bestow the highest commendation, for the long and constant support which he has given to the Chess-club. We must dismiss the Cambridge Club with a passing allusion to Mr. Cherriman, of St. John's College, a player of the same force as Mr. Wayte, its late efficient Secretary, who is now resident in America; and Mr. Weil, the German player, who oscillates between Brighton and Cambridge. Mr. Weil is undoubtedly a smart and brilliant player, but he is the unsoundest amateur in Europe.

In the second Cambridge Club—the Trinity Club, open only to members of Trinity College, Cambridge, we shall name but one player—Mr. S. R. Calthrop. This gentleman is, without exception, the most brilliant and original amateur who has ever yet arisen in the provinces. His style is modelled upon the games of Mr. Cochrane, and he is the only provincial player who has not failed in catching inspiration of the great master he so fervently admired. Like his illustrious prototype, he is most successful in his attacks in the Scotch Gambit, and in a marked manner in that form of opening to which Mr. Cochrane has lately invented as defence. Nor can we assign too high a degree of praise to his manner of conducting the attack in the Evans Gambit, as we hear from those who have sustained the defence against him, that his games at this opening, are models of play for brilliancy of imagination, and for the admirable dexterity with which the assault is maintained, and for every move being exactly in its right place. Mr. Calthrop is also a very skilful player of the pawns, but, as may be supposed from the description which we have given of him, he owes much more to his own genius than to study. His main defect is want of soundness, but he is kept from any glaring inaccuracy by his depth, which is considerable. We are sorry to say that this gentleman's impaired health has prevented him from doing much towards the illustration of Cambridge Chess. He played a match with Mr. Wayte about three years ago, in which Mr. Wayte was the victor, but we cannot accept this result as a legitimate test of their relative strength, on account of the serious illness of Mr. Calthrop. In their contests with the leading amateurs of Oxford, Mr. Calthrop has been much more successful than his antagonist, in the match to which we have alluded. The gentleman who advanced the cause of Chess in the Trinity Club more than any other person, was Mr. Wilbraham, a fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, who has long ceased to reside at Cambridge. The weight of the match with the Oxford Hermes Club fell chiefly upon Mr. Wilbraham, but he was ably supported by Messrs. W. S. Grignon, Scot, and G. C. Calthrop. The Oxford players, who mainly conducted the match against them, were Messrs. Brien, Feilden, and Mr. F. Grignon. Although defeated in this instance, Mr. Wilbraham obtained the advantage in the few games which he contested in the ordinary manner over the board with the best Oxford players of his time. His style of play is mathematically accurate, but he is singularly deficient in all knowledge of the books. We shall conclude our sketch of the University players with a list of the officers of the clubs which we have mentioned.

OXFORD HERMES CLUB.

President, Mr. W. B. Wilkinson, Worcester College, Oxford.

THE CHESS PLAYER'S CHRONICLE.

Secretary, Mr. V. Green, Merton College, Oxford.

Treasurer, Mr. R. B. Wormald, Lincoln College, Oxford.

OXFORD CLUB.

President, Mr. T. P. Mucklow.

CAMBRIDGE CLUB.

President, Mr. J. Deighton.

Secretary, Mr. W. Wayte, King's College, Cambridge.

Treasurer, Mr. H. S. Foster.