

54 and where amongst the flax bushes we played "Hace and hounds".

But now for a return for a little while to school matters. The teacher last mentioned was interested in soldiering, and ~~belonged~~ belonged to the volunteer corp. On part of a day in each week we had "drill" which consisted mainly what was called "falling in" Quick March: Right turn Left turn, Right about face, form fours & general marching time, left, right &c. then forward and halt. Once I remember we made a good display on the occasion of a Sunday School anniversary celebration, when we marched in column formation, with nearly all the older people looking on. What a peculiarity it was that at that time we looked upon our parents as old people, when really they were only muddled and younger. Occasionally there came to the school a drill instructor, a Mr. Walker. But his performances were mostly on the ~~parallel~~ parallel bars, and the horizontal ladder.

55 He was certainly a clever gymnast. But to me the most interesting and outstanding was his running about on his hands with his feet up in the air. I never managed to master this art, and satisfied myself that right side up was best. After a few days the ordinary games regained their proper place. I remember falling off the horizontal ladder, and striking my head on the ground. This nearly finished me. Luckily my head was fairly hard (perhaps something like a block) but I suppose that I should have been offended had any one suggested that I had a block head.

In the course of time exceeding three years, this teacher Mr. Mossman left and a Mr. Smith took charge. Under him I have nothing special to record, beyond that he was a kindly man and a good teacher, and under his tuition I began again to drink in learning, such as it was, but the few previous years was