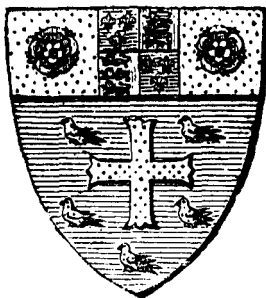


The Granite



Rebietsu.

Nascitur exiguus,

acquirit eundo

vires

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ARCHIDIDASCALI WESTMONASTERIENSES.

NO. 14.—RICHARD WILLIAMSON,

(Continued.)

In 1833 appeared in the *Quarterly Journal of Education* an article also by Williamson, which was styled, "A Short Account of the Discipline, Studies, Examinations, Prizes, etc., of Westminster School," and in 1845 this was reprinted in form similar to the "Eunuchus Palliatus," after having undergone a certain revision. This is perhaps more interesting to the enthusiastic Alumnus of England's oldest Public School than the forementioned article, as it contains a concise but full description of the School at this time. We learn that it consisted of two divisions, the Upper and Lower School, the former containing the sixth, fifth, and fourth, and the latter the third, second, first and petty. "Boys ordinarily remain half a year in every remove, but a deserving boy is complimented with a 'by-remove,' on occasions." "Thus to pass through the School regularly," says Williamson, "took a Town boy eight years, and a Queen's Scholar nine years. The holidays were at Whitsuntide,

Bartholomewtide and Christmas." After dealing with other School matters, he inserts an extract from Dr. Vincent's "Defence of Public Education," published in 1802. These few paragraphs are a defence of the religious instruction then given at Westminster, which had been deemed insufficient. His defence is very strong and convincing, and is worth reading. The pamphlet then is concluded with a synopsis of books used in the School, the distribution of hours for work in the various forms, and the papers set at Elections in 1832. As to Williamson's personal character, we read that none was more amiable or conscientious than he, and it is to be regretted that his energy and vigour did not prevent the numbers of the School from falling in 1841 to 67. It is due to his memory, however, to say that more recent investigations have tended to show that it was not in his power to prevent this terrible decrease. If muscular strength could have prevented it, Williamson would certainly have done so; as the following anecdote sufficiently shows:—It is related that on a certain Sunday afternoon a boarder at Scott's house (the two centre houses of what is still known as "the terrace" in Dean's Yard), was lounging at an open window when he observed the Headmaster similarly gazing from his drawing-room: both were watching the struggle between an inebriated soldier and a policeman, whose efforts to take the former into custody were all in vain. Twice had the guardian of the peace measured his length on the earth, and twice regained his footing. It was too much for the Doctor. He left his window and coming down into the yard, grasped the soldier by the arms, and protecting the constable from any further damage, finally removed his prisoner to the police-station, the policeman himself assisting *as far as he was able*. Lines were written on his death by the Reverend Henry Bull, styled, "Sur Obitum Ricardi Williamson, S.T.P., Scholæ Regiæ Westmonasteriensis olim Archididas-cali," but are too lengthy to be quoted here. They are to be found in "Westminster School Past and Present."

THE GRANTITE LIBRARY.

It is time that the Library should be provided with some new books. Those fellows who have been long in the house have read all the interesting books. Those who have just come up Grants can of course find something to read, but the stock is soon used up. We might be able to get new books (1) by the subscription which every fellow has to pay for newspapers being increased by half-a-crown; (2) by collecting subscriptions for the purpose at the beginning of each term; (3) by making a rule that every fellow who leaves shall bequeath one book (or more if he likes) to the library. Against the first plan it may be objected that parents will not like the increased subscription, but after all it would make very little difference. Boys have a strong objection to paying subscriptions out of their own pockets, and therefore the second plan would not probably be popular. The third might be a good plan, but the question is whether we should be able to get the books. The fellows who left would probably forget all about it. Again, this would not benefit those who are now in the house. The first plan is therefore the best, and it does not seem difficult to manage.

GRANTS *v.* UPPER ELECTIONS.

This match was played up fields on Tuesday, October 4th. Result: Upper Elections won by 4-0. We find it impossible to give a detailed account of the match, as no one was reporting. For the first twenty minutes Grants held their own, but after that the backs fell to pieces and Powell went back. For a time this plan succeeded well, but after half-time Q.SS. continued to press more and more, our forwards hardly ever getting away. In the first half-time only one goal was scored (P. E. Knapp). The other goals for Q.SS. were shot by D. Shearme, B. E. Strauss, and A. C. Nesbitt.

For Grants, Powell and Campbell were good. Burton missed his hack several times; the half-backs did not feed the forward enough, and the forwards had no combination. Fitzmaurice couldn't be expected to do any better, as he had had very little practice in goals.

For Q.SS. the backs were very good, and for the half-backs Sherring was a tower of strength. For the forwards Knapp was very good, and all showed fair combination.

The teams were as follows:

GRANTS.

D. Fitzmaurice (goal), G. E. Campbell, G. E. Burton (backs), R. A. Yeld, A. M. Leake, and A. R. Severn (half-backs), E. T. Woodbridge, C. Jones, J. O. T. Powell, W. T. Barwell, and C. N. Lambton (forwards).

UPPER ELECTIONS.

A. M. Andrews (goal), A. L. Longhurst, J. S. Shearme (backs), E. H. Cox, F. B. Sherring, and R. Balfour (half-backs), P. E. Knapp, D. Shearme, J. H. Alderson, B. E. Strauss, and A. C. Nesbitt (forwards).

THE GRANTITE LITERARY SOCIETY.

The Society met on Tuesday, Nov. 11th, and read the first two acts of "As you Like It." The play was finished on Tuesday, 18th. The principal parts were distributed as follows:—

Mr. Tanner	- - -	<i>Orlando.</i>
Mr. Conyngnam	- - -	<i>Touchstone.</i>
R. A. Yeld	- - -	<i>Rosalind.</i>
W. T. Barwell	- - -	<i>Oliver.</i>
H. V. Anthony	- - -	<i>Phebe.</i>
E. G. Burton	- - -	<i>Jacques.</i>
G. E. Campbell	- - -	<i>Celia.</i>
H. D. Everington	- - -	<i>Duke Frederick.</i>
E. T. Woodbridge	- - -	<i>Silvius.</i>

THE YARD TIES.

1ST ROUND.

G. E. Campbell		J. O. Powell.
E. T. Woodbridge	beat	A. M. Leake.
H. Lambert		A. Cummins.
	by 11-10.	

This was a very exciting tie. Campbell and Woodbridge were good for the winners and Powell for the losers.

W. T. Barwell		E. G. Burton.
E. B. Kite	beat	A. R. Severn.
A. Severn		C. Bindloss.
	by 10-9.	

This was another good tie. All Barwell's side played well, and Burton was good for the losers.

R. A. Yeld		G. Scott.
W. F. Fox	beat	J. Lesley
A. Scott		E. Phillimore.
	by 18-8.	

This was an uneven and uninteresting tie.

C. Jones		B. Jones.
A. Gatty	beat	C. Lidwill.
H. Smith		L. Chamberlain.
	by 10-0.	

C. Lambton		E. Burton (substitute).
C. Hornor	beat	W. Matthews.
D. Jowers		G. Watt.
	by 6-5.	

Burton, who was playing substitute, might have won this if he had chosen.

2ND ROUND.

W. T. Barwell		C. Hornor.
C. S. Jones	beat	W. Fox.
A. Gatty		H. Lambert.
	by 25-0.	

R. A. Yeld		G. E. Campbell.
E. T. Woodbridge	beat	D. E. Jowers.
A. C. Scott		H. C. Smith.
	by 11-8.	

Campbell was good for the losers, but Smith and Jowers were absolutely useless.

3RD ROUND.

R. A. Yeld		C. N. Lambton.
A. Gatty	beat	A. Severn.
C. Jones		E. Kite.
	by 13-8.	

Gatty played very well for the winners, and Lambton was best for the losers.

W. T. Barwell.		
E. T. Woodbridge	a bye.	
A. C. Scott.		

FINAL ROUND.

W. T. Barwell		R. A. Yeld.
E. T. Woodbridge	beat	A. Gatty.
C. S. Jones		A. Scott.
	by 25-4.	

Barwell and Woodbridge were good for the winners, whilst for the losers Yeld was good and Gatty played pluckily.

ALAPÆ WESTMONASTERIENSES.

Now-a-days poets do not grow on every bush, and at Westminster they are of exceptionally rare growth. All of a sudden the world at Westminster is electrified by a rumour that a book of poems is on the eve of production, straight from the pens of six poets, about to perpetuate the long list Westminster can already lay claim to. Numerous conjectures are made; someone better informed than his fellows proclaims it to be a book of nonsense. The awakened ardour is damped, but still a ray of hope! Six poets! They ought to manage something more—than—average readable; interest is at fever point; everyone is on the tiptoe of expectation.

Expectata dies aderat. Lo! the book appears. It is but to be expected that a book with six editors should be costly; but, no, twelve pence is all that is asked, forty-eight farthings for innumerable hours of labour,—for each verse must have taken at least fifteen minutes to write. A raid is instituted upon the hawkers of these marvels of genius; all are sold; small boys cry for copies, as in days gone by people have cried for bread and work. These children have to do as better men have done before them in similar emergencies, go without.

The perusals of these shillingworths is commenced; while there is life there is hope, so even to the last page do the poor deluded purchasers expect to get something in return for their outlay. 'Tis vain! a howl goes up; the editors waiting for the verdict with lips compressed and hands clenched, flee for refuge when they hear that yell, and know their fate is sealed.

It was evidently with the knowledge that they could not get their wares sold elsewhere, that these six adventurous youths of high status at the ancient school of Westminster did set up for themselves and bring out a volume of nonsense verses, which they did designate by the high-sounding title, "Alapæ Westmonasterienses." It may interest those not in the know, to learn that Alapæ means 'smacks in the face,' and if the aforesaid six received alapæ for every defect in their verses, they might regret their boldness, and wish that they had gone in more for quality than quantity. A book of nonsense is in its way a most estimable and amusing production, and though it may seem paradoxical, even in a book of nonsense the nonsense should be sensible, not childish and foolish. Any child could compose verses similar to the offerings of the fecund brains of these half-dozen benighted

luminaries of the highest forms at Westminster. One cannot blame others for want of originality, or for absence of art, but to disgrace an old public school by lending its name to such doggerel—which, by the way, despite its name, is not at *all* 'appy—is most culpable and worthy of the highest censure.

UNOMÉ.

TRIAL HOUSE MATCH.

GRANTS *v.* H.BB.

This match was played up fields in very foggy weather, on Wednesday, December 3rd. The ground was in a very bad state, owing to the recent frost and snow, which consequently made the play rather slow. Grants won the toss, and decided to defend the 'Guard's Hospital' End. Page set the ball rolling at 2.40, and give and take play then ensued, till the Grantite forwards took the ball down to their opponents' goal, but Howlett cleared, and Burton obtaining possession put in a stinging shot which Morris failed to save, (1-0). On restarting, the ball was carried down to the Grantite goal, and through some misunderstanding among the backs and goal-keeper, Shoubridge passed to Jones, who put the ball through, thus equalizing the score (1-1). The ball having been set in motion H.BB. again pressed, but Campbell and Barwell cleared splendidly, and Woodbridge running down the wing, put in a good centre which Howlett saved at expense of a corner, from which nothing resulted. Play was now very even, each side striving to gain superiority, and finally Page getting possession, ran down and put in a futile shot which went behind; hands were given for Grants in front of the H.BB. goal, but Shoubridge rushing the ball passed across to the left wing, and Doherty running down was brought to a standstill by Burton, who returned the ball to mid-field, and whilst Powell was running down the centre, the whistle blew for half-time, the score still being one goal all. On restarting the ball was kept for some time in the vicinity of the H.BB. goal, and during an exciting scrimmage in front of goal, Powell put in a grand shot, which unfortunately hit the bar, and rebounding into play, Robertson cleared, and from hands for H.BB. the ball was at last taken to the other goal, but Campbell, who was playing a sound game, cleared, but the ball was soon returned, and Burton conceded a corner, and More put in a fine shot, which nearly took effect. The ground was now worse than ever, and darkness setting in, made it very unpleasant for both players and spectators. On Fitzmaurice

kicking out, some good passing between Page and Shoubridge, enabled the latter to score easily with a low shot, (1-2). The Grantite forwards now played up well, and Powell running down the left, gave Lambton a very easy opening, of which he failed to take advantage; Morris, who played throughout splendidly, saved several shots in fine style, from Powell and Barwell. The H.BB. forwards now seemed to wake up, and Page put in a shot which Fitzmaurice muddled, enabling the former to rush the ball through (3-1). Grants made one more effort to score, but the whistle almost immediately blew for time, leaving the game as above stated, after an evenly contested game throughout.

For H.BB., Morris and Guy were the pick of the back division, and Page and Shoubridge among the forwards.

For Grants, Campbell and Burton played well at back, Barwell being invaluable at half; of the forwards, Powell was very good, and Gatty and Woodbridge showed promise.

The teams were composed as follows:—

H.BB.—A. C. Morris (goal), G. Howlett and M. Fevez (backs), G. Chatterton, A. W. F. Guy and N. Robertson (half-backs), R. H. More and A. Shoubridge (right wing), C. E. Page (centre), P. Jones and R. F. Doherty (left wing) (forwards).

Grants.—D. Fitzmaurice (goal), G. E. Campbell and E. G. Burton (backs), R. A. Yeld, W. T. Barwell and A. R. Severn (half-backs), C. N. Lambton and A. Gatty (right-wing), J. O. T. Powell (centre), A. M. Leake and E. T. Woodbridge (left-wing) (forwards).

NOTICES.

All contributions to be clearly written on one side of the paper.

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FLOREAT.