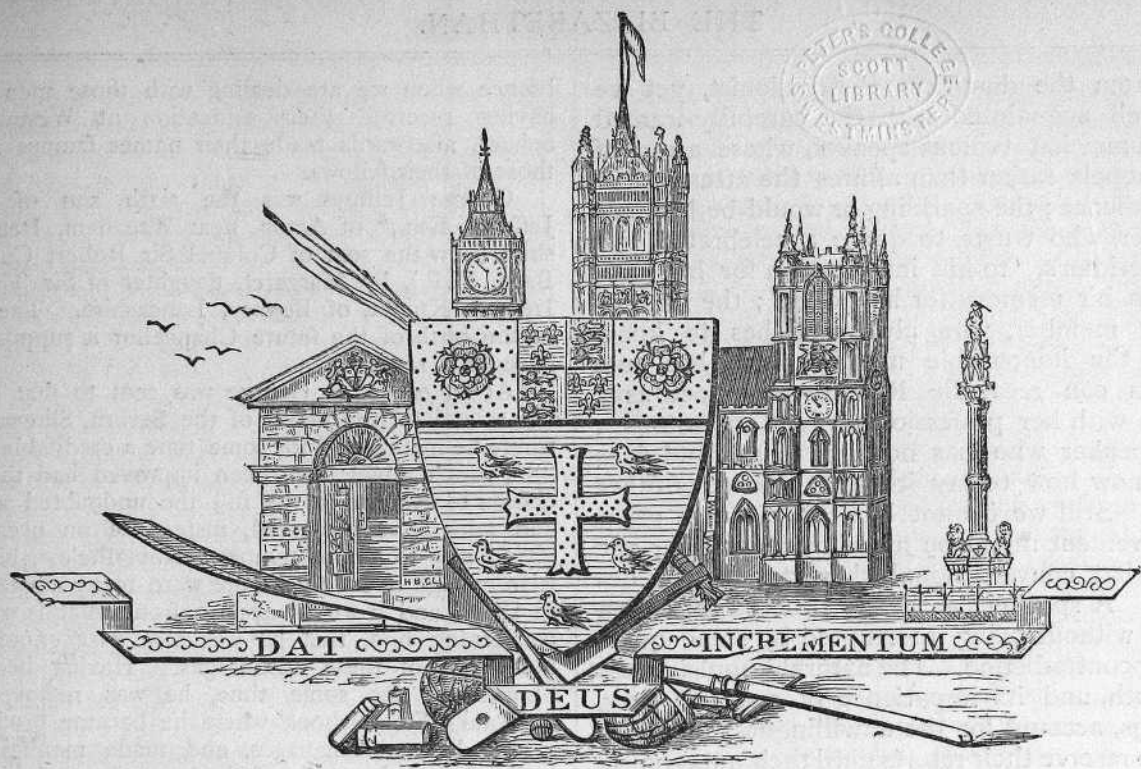


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The Elizabethan.

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THE SCHOOL DEBATING SOCIETY.

DURING the three years which have elapsed since it was established, or, to speak more correctly, since a similar institution 'lapsed out of being' in the Election Term of 1866, reconstituted, the Debating Society has flourished in a humble and unpretentious manner. The debates have, indeed, been restricted to the Play and Election Terms; for it has been rightly judged that the wit of a Sheridan and the eloquence of a Burke united would fail to draw a quorum from the more congenial sports of cricket and boating. Thus, although on two separate occasions the Society has unanimously decided to hold meetings on Wednesdays in the Summer Term, the innovation was found impossible to work, and had consequently to be abandoned. Nevertheless, the Debating Society has flourished, and this fact has been acknowledged even by that enlightened and benevolent friend

of the School who a short time ago held up a mirror in which we might

'See ourselves as others see us,'

through the medium of the *New Quarterly Review*, although he added the significant and misleading words, 'only through the collateral advantages of membership'—advantages present, perhaps, to the vivid imagination of our anonymous friend, but unknown to all who are in a position to profit by them. Despite, however, this ignorance of their own blessings, the members of the Debating Society have supported it regularly and well. Few institutions in the world are faultless, and we have no intention of claiming for our Society a place among the blameless few; but its faults are probably neither more nor less numerous than those of similar institutions elsewhere. Its principal types are not wholly unknown amongst children of a larger growth in the adjacent Palace of Westminster. Although we have hitherto been free from the member whose *eloquence* lies in his lifelike imitation of certain well-known animals,

and from the dauntless obstructionist, yet we are well acquainted with the carefully-framed but somewhat tedious speaker, whose array of facts repels rather than allures the attention of his audience; the sparkling or would-be brilliant speaker, who trusts, to quote a celebrated *mot* of Sheridan's, 'to his imagination for his facts and to his memory for his jokes'; the interrogative member, who always wishes to know 'how the honourable member who has just spoken can reconcile Russia's existence as a nation with her profession of good intentions'; the speaker who has nothing to say and does not know how to say it—with a score of other types. Still we cannot but think that a great improvement might be made by destroying the somewhat conversational character of our debates. A speaker can hardly proceed for fifteen words without being interrupted by some question or contradiction. The natural impulsiveness of youth, and its impatience of restraint, may, perhaps, account for the unwillingness of members to reserve their retorts until their antagonists have sat down; but we would venture to suggest that a rule limiting the number of times which a member may rise during each debate would meet the necessity of the case. But, whether this rule proves acceptable to 'the men of light and leading' in the Debating Society or not, we can only wish 'success to the Westminster Debating Society.' Many Old Westminsters, since the time of Prior and Halifax, have adorned by their eloquence the oldest legislative assembly of the modern world; many have advanced, like Mansfield, to the highest seats on the judicial bench. May their successors of to-day, now being trained in the Debating Society, be not less eloquent and not less successful!

'OLD WESTMINSTERS.'

No. XVIII.

GEORGE, LORD JEFFREYS.

WE will not pretend to rejoice in the fact that the famous, or, perhaps, infamous, Lord Chancellor of James the Second's reign was a 'Westminster Boy,' nor can we blind our eyes to the many bad and even vicious points in the character of this Judge; but, on the other hand, we cannot forget that every picture has two sides, and we must admit that the high distinction attained by Jeffreys, and the conspicuous part played by him in the affairs of the nation during a critical period, entitle him to notice and remem-

brance when we are dealing with those men who, having received their education at Westminster School, afterwards made their names famous above those of their fellows.

George Jeffreys was the sixth son of John Jefferys, Esq.,* of Acton, near Wrexham, Denbighshire (now the seat of Colonel Sir Robert Cunliffe, Bart., M.P.), by Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Ireland, Knight, of Bewsey, Lancashire. The year of the birth of the future Chancellor is supposed to have been 1648.

At an early age George was sent to that grand old school on the banks of the Severn, Shrewsbury, where he maintained for some time a creditable position, which might have been improved had the boy chosen to exercise to the full the undoubted ability and talents he possessed, instead of on occasions giving way to fits of temper. Nevertheless, he was wise enough to see that there were many advantages in study, and it would appear, from what is written concerning him, that he was also wise enough to make use of these advantages. Having been at Shrewsbury for some time, he was removed to St. Paul's Free School, where he became proficient in the learned languages, and made manifest his inclination to the study of the law—the profession in which he afterwards rose to the highest post. From St. Paul's he was transferred to Westminster School, then under the sway of Doctor Busby, or, perhaps we ought to say, under the sway of the good doctor's rod. About his connection with Westminster we can find little but the following anecdote:—'Of his improvement here [Westminster] we have no account; but many years afterwards he showed that he had not forgotten his old schoolmaster, nor the knowledge of grammar he had acquired. On the trial of Rosewell, the dissenting minister, there was a little conversation about the *relative* and the *antecedent*, on an objection taken to the indictment, and Jeffreys, the Chief Justice, referring to a treasonable sentence charged to have been delivered by the prisoner from his pulpit, said: "I think it must be taken to be an entire speech, and you lay it in the indictment to be so, and then the *relative* must go to the last *antecedent*, or else Doctor Busby—that so long ruled in Westminster School—taught me quite wrong; and he had tried most of the grammars extant, and used to lay down that as a positive rule—that the *relative* must refer to the *next antecedent*."'

Leaving school, and, not finding himself rich enough, with forty pounds a year from his grandfather and ten pounds a year from his father, to undergo the expenses of a finishing education at one of the Universities, young Jeffreys determined at once to commence the professional career he had marked out for himself, and on the 19th of May, 1663, he entered the Inner Temple as a student. We are sorry to find

* The Lord Chancellor changed the mode of spelling the family surname, which will account for the difference manifest above.

it on record that the young student devoted more time than could be possibly good for him to the companionship of men whose object was the destruction of regal power, and whose councils were invariably held over the wine-cup, to which form of dissipation George Jeffreys seems to have been addicted from early in life to the last.

It has been said that Jeffreys was never 'Called to the Bar,' and various accounts are given concerning this matter. We gather that the true version is as follows:—At the time of the Plague, the assizes being in progress at Kingston, from fear of the risk incurred by exposure in a public place, many of the barristers withheld their attendance, and, in consequence, the supply of counsel was not equal to the demand. Availing himself of this accident, Jeffreys, at this time eighteen years of age, donned the gown, assumed that audacity which formed so prominent a feature in his character, and boldly ventured to plead before the court. From that time he continued to act as a barrister, although it is quite clear that it was not until two years afterwards that he was properly qualified to practise by a 'Call to the Bar.' This was a period when, owing to the prevalence of the Plague and the fearful strife of civil war, 'gentlemen of the long robe' were scarce, and young Jeffreys had on this account less difficulty in playing the assumed part of a barrister than he would have encountered in later days.

He practised at the commencement of his professional life before the Courts at Guild Hall, Hickes' Hall, and other tribunals of an inferior character, which, by means of their more frequent occasion, he preferred to the Westminster Courts; and further, we are told, he 'went the Home Circuit.'

The boldness of his address and the readiness of his tongue, coupled with his determination to succeed, soon gained for him plenty of work, and, in consequence, a substantial increase to his income. We are sorry to add that to the many advantages as a counsel he undoubtedly possessed from the outset, he joined a bullying manner with the witnesses adverse to his side of the question under discussion that won for him an unenviable notoriety. Touching this we shall have occasion to speak later.

In the very spring-time of life, the great man whose career we are sketching took a serious step: he married.

The marriage came about in a curious way.

He was popular with the fair sex, and had not to search far for a lady willing to enter into union with him.

Nevertheless, his first attempt proved unsuccessful. Finding out an heiress worth some thirty thousand pounds, Jeffreys turned his matrimonial mind in her direction; but it appears that, instead of laying siege in his own person, he enlisted, for the purpose, the services of a kinswoman, a merchant's daughter, and would most likely have succeeded in attaining the object in view, even under such very curious circumstances, had not the father of the young lady discovered the design and taken steps for its prevention. The envoy of love, having failed in her mission,

returned to London and informed Jeffreys of the unfortunate result. To her surprise, we may readily imagine, she was received most graciously, and, instead of being reproached with her failure, she met with an offer for her own hand, which offer she—shall we say, *womanlike*?—at once accepted. On the 23rd of May, 1667, this lady, Sarah, the daughter of one Thomas Neesham, M.A., thus curiously raised from the position of a *middleman* to that of a *principal*, was married at All-Hallows Church, Barking, to Jeffreys. She brought to her husband a dowry of three hundred pounds, and the promise of proving a most excellent wife.

Jeffreys was very anxious to gain a good place in the estimation of the citizens of London—at least, of those who had the means of proving useful to him—and with a number of the most influential of them he so ingratiated himself that, although but twenty-three years of age, he managed to obtain the post of Common Serjeant, rendered vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Browne, Bart., his election taking place on the 17th of March, 1670-71. As Common Serjeant he won the good-will of the citizens, but treated the Lord Mayor and the Aldermen with but scant courtesy, insomuch that they feared him. When Jeffreys found the Court party in the ascendant, he joined it, leaving behind—indeed we may say deserting—his old companions, who were, as we have already remarked, opposed to the Crown. There can be no doubt that this change of politics was due to ambition, spurred by the approaching resignation of Sir John Havel, the Recorder of London. When Sir John resigned, Sir William Dolben was chosen to fill the vacancy, but he was made a Judge of the King's Bench soon afterwards, and then, on the 22nd of October, 1678, Jeffreys, who had been knighted on the 14th of September in the preceding year, was appointed Recorder, or, as he himself termed the office, the 'Mouth-piece of the City.'

On the 4th of February, 1678, Jeffreys' wife died, but he solaced himself with another in the May following. His second wife was the daughter of Sir Thomas Bludworth, an ex-Lord Mayor, and for several years one of the Parliamentary representatives of the City; she was the widow of a Mr. Jones, of Montgomeryshire.

In the many prosecutions arising out of the pretended popish or presbyterian plots Sir George was actively engaged, save in one or two cases, either as Judge or in the duties of Crown counsel, in the performance of which offices it is apparent that he conducted himself with a harshness and a brutality that in these days would be considered unpardonable, so that to the parties against whom he was concerned he became an object of fear and hatred. Upon libellers the Recorder was particularly severe, and his opinions touching the assumption by the law of malice in connection with cases of this description is deemed perfectly proper. When he was Chief Justice he laid down that 'the law supplies the proof of malice if the thing itself speaks malice and sedition; in informations for offences of this nature (libel), we say, he did it falsely, maliciously, and seditiously, which are the formal words—but if the nature of the

thing be such as necessarily imports malice, reproach, and scandal, there needs no proof but of the fact done—the law supplies the rest.’

The well-known case of Francis Smith, a poor unfortunate bookseller, who fell into his toils, sufficiently attests the brutal character of Jeffreys. He set all the rules of law, of practice, and of justice at defiance on this occasion; and the scandal of the transaction will remain for ever a blot upon the page of the history of his administration of the law in the Court where he presided.

In the year 1680 he was called to the dignity of a serjeant; and soon afterwards he gained a Welsh Judgeship. In quick succession he became Chief Justice of Chester, ‘in consideration of his loyalty and good services’—a phrase which could be more fairly converted into, ‘for his abandonment of all principle, a wanton disregard of justice and of truth, and a slavish obedience to the will of his master, patron, and friend.’ He was made King’s Serjeant in May 1680, and in November 1681 he was created a baronet.

Lord Delamere, afterwards Earl of Warrington, exposed the character of Jeffreys, in a speech which is worth reading even now. He had studied, and then mastered, the qualities of the inner man, and was bold enough to denounce his misconduct in the face of day; but the hardened lawyer laughed to scorn all such attacks upon him, for so long as he satisfied the will and the changing whims of the sovereign, he heeded not the taunts of other men, nor did he pay the slightest regard to decency, or to those restraints which his high legal position imposed upon him.

We pass over a long chapter in Jeffreys’ history, between the period last alluded to and the part he played in dealing with the conspiracy of the Rye-house, when so many persons of consequence were deeply implicated as principals in the proposal to put the king to death. He was of the king’s counsel on that occasion, and he outdid himself when dealing with the defendants in court; for he kept on assuming that the whole of the fallacious evidence given in the case should be accepted for fact, and he even dared to address the jury in language which has stamped his memory with infamy. His reward came quickly, for, upon the death of Chief Justice Sanders, he gained the post thus vacated, and in September 1683 he was sworn of the Privy Council. He presided, therefore, as Chief Justice of the King’s Bench, at the trial of Algernon Sidney. It is clear, from the reports of that celebrated case, that even Jeffreys was fairly patient. Sidney displayed some of the rare qualities of his mind when standing upon his rights in the more formal preliminaries of his defence; but it is not at all clear that he was justified in saying, ‘I must appeal to God and the world I am not heard.’ That Jeffreys had grossly erred in his manner of dealing with the prisoner, no one will now presume to deny, and all will also willingly admit that Sidney was improperly convicted of the offence charged against him.

It must be tedious to dwell upon the conduct of the Chief Justice in other important trials, for every schoolboy will know how he demeaned himself as a

Common Law Judge. Writers without end have painted him in colours of various hues, but none of them have seriously undertaken to justify his conduct, nor have any of them ventured to assert that he was morally fit to preside over the High Court in which he sat. It is said, with more reason than truth, that Jeffreys would have been an impossible Chief Justice under any other sovereign than Charles the Second; but we know that, upon the death of that sovereign in 1685, his successor James ennobled him as Baron Jeffreys of Wem, and that in various other ways the new sovereign evinced his high opinion of the man, and of his well-assured conviction that he would stand as sternly by him in all his wrong-doing as he had done by his brother before him. It is curious, however, to mark how this wilful and cruel man carried within his breast a burning affection for his mother—a pious and a truly good woman, and the cherished friend also of that incomparable man, Philip Henry. Mr. Henry, as is known, had become a Nonconformist, and had declined to pay a fine imposed upon him for attending a conventicle, whereupon his goods were distrained, and carts were pressed upon the highway to carry these goods away. Jeffreys not only spoke tenderly of Mr. Henry, but he declined to approve of the conduct of the justices who had molested him. The fact transpired soon afterwards that Philip Henry had shown kindness to Jeffreys when a boy at home, and that the tender remembrances of these early times had softened the heart of the cruel Judge, so that when, upon another occasion, Mr. Henry’s persecutors tried to hale him before the Court for keeping conventicles, ‘the Chief Justice frowned upon them, and they were never heard of more.’

His treatment of Richard Baxter—another Nonconformist minister—was very different, for there he gave free current to the real sentiments of his heart; he scoffed at his piety, mocked at his words, refused to allow his counsel to speak freely on behalf of his client, and directed the jury to find him guilty of an offence which he was not guilty of. It is probable that Jeffreys did more injury to the king’s cause in this particular instance than he had ever done it before, and that his oppression of Baxter led directly to that resolved intention of the Reformers to get rid of master and man at the same time, and which they succeeded in doing at no very distant date. ‘The Bloody Assize’ in the West of England, at which Jeffreys presided, is too well known and too painful a theme to waste words upon; but, as Mr. Roscoe has well remarked, ‘stained with the blood of the aged, the weak, and the defenceless, Jeffreys returned to the capital, to claim from the hands of the master he had so faithfully and acceptedly served, the reward due to his singular merits. That reward was immediately conferred upon him; on the 28th of September (1685) he received the Great Seal, and was appointed Lord High Chancellor.’ So far he had thriven in all he undertook, but the end was close at hand.

He held the distinguished position which James had conferred upon him until the arrival of the Prince of Orange, when, knowing how obnoxious he was to the people, and that William and Mary were not

likely to lend him their protection, he attempted to disguise himself in the garb of a sailor, and to escape from the country, but the fates were against him. He was discovered, taken into custody, and committed to the Tower on a charge of high treason, where, on the 19th of April, 1689, he died. In the very midst of his years he died, a broken and degraded man.

Lord Campbell, in his 'Lives of the Chancellors,' admits how well his judgments as Chancellor were approved of; Roger South attests to his legal capacity; but neither Smith nor Campbell can justify his conduct at the bar or upon the bench; and, painful as it may be to rank such a man as among our Westminster Worthies, he is certainly entitled to his niche as one of her famous sons, though his light shines not as we could have wished it to have done, nor is his conduct such as can be commended to the respect of our readers.

School Notes.

ALTHOUGH, perhaps, now pretty generally known, yet we cannot allow it to pass unnoticed or unchronicled in the pages of *The Elizabethan*, that the Charity Commissioners have, as was to be expected, decreed that the substitute offered to the School for Ashburnham House is utterly inadequate to represent it, either in point of position, extent, or value.

Of course, as might also have been expected, great outcries, prompted by a mawkish sentimentality or other causes, at once find vent in the pages of *The Athenæum*, *The Academy*, &c., of the usual description. In *The Times* of Wednesday, November 23rd, appeared a letter bewailing the loss of this fine old house, intimating that a further attempt will be made to rescue it by application to the Society for Preservation of Ancient Monuments, and, among various fictions, mentioning that 'the exterior is not prepossessing.' A most delicate euphemism: we rarely have had the fortune to see anything more incongruous than the style of the fine old house in its lower part compared with its supplementary upper *modern* portion. Why was there not an outcry raised when this was added?

A plan of our buildings appears as supplementary to this number.

The Play Nights will be those of Thursday, Monday, and Wednesday, December the 15th, 19th, and 21st respectively.

On Thursday, November 24th, we had a late play at the request of the Dean.

On Monday, November 28th, Major Duncan gave an interesting discourse on the ends and objects of the St. John's Ambulance Society. We hear that there are proposals to start lectures on this subject next term (as this term, owing to the Play, there is not sufficient time); and we think that they will be largely attended, being likely to prove as interesting as they are useful.

We notice in a book recently published, entitled 'Every Day Life in our Public Schools,' an article written by W. A. Peck, captain in 1879, upon Westminster, setting forth the life of a Q.S. The article is very well written, comprehensive, and interesting, specially to those who have got an erroneous idea of the extreme hardships of a college life.

We live and learn. In preparing the cricket ground for next season, our professional extracted from a certain pitch, well known as containing dogmatic humps in awkward places, the gable end of a house!! Three cartloads of bricks (!) were removed from the excavations.

Preparations are, we understand, being made to supply Vincent Square plentifully and handily with water by means of three hydrants: a want long felt. May this be but the preface to many other improvements!

We must really protest, in this the last number of the year, against the remissness of O.WW. in paying their subscriptions. There is at present a sum of ten pounds due from various O.WW., in spite of repeated applications. Westminster is not a large School, and how can *The Elizabethan* be continued if there are no funds for its support? We trust that this notice will have the effect of extracting the subscriptions now due.

FOOTBALL.

WESTMINSTER v. OLD CARTHUSIANS.

ON Wednesday, November 9th, this match was played at Vincent Square, and resulted in a victory for our opponents by 5 goals to 1. The visitors brought down a decidedly hot team, who over-

matched us both in weight and pace. Almost as soon as the ball was started the Old Carthusians made a rush, and Cobbold put the ball through our posts (1-0). The School now got together and, quickly taking the ball into their opponents' quarters, matters were equalised by the ball going off one of their backs (1-1). The Old Carthusians now played desperately hard, and, running through our backs again and again, scored 3 more goals in succession, 2 from the foot of Page, and 1 by Morrison (4-1). After half-time had been called the School played a losing game with great pluck, and completely penned their heavy opponents; but, although several good shots were made, they were all ineffectual. Bain, soon getting hold of the ball, made a splendid run, but, unfortunately, failed to put the ball through when it seemed entirely open to him. Shortly before time, while the School were still penning them, the Old Carthusians broke away, and, rushing the ball down the ground, Cobbold put it under the tape with a splendid shot (5-1). From this till the call of time nothing further happened, and so the victory rested with the Old Carthusians with the last-named score. The School were, unfortunately, deprived of the services of T. Morison. Sides :

OLD CARTHUSIANS.

A. J. Last (goals), J. F. Perkin and W. H. Norris (backs), T. Blenkiron and H. Somers-Cocks (half-backs), W. N. Cobbold and R. L. Escombe (right wing), W. R. Page and W. G. Morrison (centres), E. H. Parry and A. H. Tod (left wing).

WESTMINSTER.

R. T. Squire (back), H. Wetton, E. C. Frere and S. A. Bird (half-backs), W. A. Burrige (captain) and O. Scoones (right), F. W. Bain and A. H. Jenner (left), F. T. Higgins and A. E. Bedford (centres), H. T. Healey (goals).

WESTMINSTER *v.* OLD HARROVIANS.

This match was played at Vincent Square on Saturday, November 12th, and resulted in a most decisive victory for the School by 6 goals to 1. Our opponents were playing a strong team, as it was very nearly their cup-team. The School got to work as soon as the ball had been started, and penned their opponents without any break for about ten minutes, and, finally, a shot being made at goals, Morison charged the goal-keeper, and Jenner headed the ball through. This was shortly followed by another which was rushed through by Morison; and before half-time Burrige brought the score to 3-0 with a raking shot. After half-time had been called the School somewhat slacked their efforts, and a mistake on the part of one of the half-backs allowed W. Bird to obtain an easy goal (3-1). This caused the School to play up, and Bain was especially forward with some fine runs on the left, one of which was at length crowned with success, as he landed a goal

with a splendid left-foot shot (4-1). Higgins followed this up with another neat shot (5-1). And Bain was soon again successful, after a run down the left side (6-1). The Old Harrovians played with great pluck and determination, and more than once gave our backs considerable trouble, but the ball was soon returned and, just on the call of time, Higgins again put it through, but a claim of off-side was allowed by the umpire. Sides :

WESTMINSTER.

R. T. Squire (full-back), H. Wetton, E. C. Frere and S. A. Bird (half-backs), W. A. Burrige (captain) and O. Scoones (right), F. W. Bain and T. Morison (left), A. E. Bedford, F. T. Higgins and A. H. Jenner (centres), H. T. Healey (goals).

OLD HARROVIANS.

* R. de C. Welch and W. de C. Welch (backs), Rev. W. Law and E. Bowen (half-backs), W. N. Hargreaves, A. H. Davidson, A. H. Chater, J. W. Holloway, G. Colbeck, G. H. Daughlish, H. Greene, W. H. B. Bird.

WESTMINSTER *v.* OLD WYKHAMISTS.

This match, which was played at Vincent Square on Saturday, 19th November, was not a particularly interesting match, since the School was playing short of W. A. Burrige, R. T. Squire, and T. Morison. Neither were our opponents a strong team. Bain was the only one of our forwards who showed to any advantage, though Bird and Wetton behind were both good. The School scored 4 goals to their opponents' 2, by Higgins, Bedford, and Bain, and one which went through off one of the visitors' backs. Both the goals for the O. Wykhamists were scored by Ethelston with good long shots from the centre. Sides were :

WESTMINSTER.

H. Wetton and S. A. Bird (backs), E. C. Frere and H. A. Fulcher (half-backs), F. W. Bain and A. J. Heath (left), O. Scoones and A. C. Jenner (right), H. T. Higgins and A. E. Bedford (centres), H. T. Healey (goals).

OLD WYKHAMISTS.

C. Tracey and W. Lindsay (backs), J. E. Vincent, G. V. Coles (half-backs), Rev. W. Merewether, R. Tanner, J. Tracy, Ethelston, Collingwood, Tucker, S. M. Blackburne (goals).

WESTMINSTER *v.* REIGATE PRIORY

was played at Vincent Square on Wednesday, November 23rd. Jenner started the ball for the School at 3.5 p.m., and for the first ten minutes play was almost solely in the visitors' quarters, and a good shot by Higgins was saved by De Carteret (goals).

Our opponents then carried the ball down to our end, where a throw in fell to them, but the ball went behind. Bain now made a fine run, and, middling to Higgins, the latter put it neatly through (1-0). After some good play on the part of Burrige and Scoones, a corner-kick fell to us, but the ball passed through the posts without touching anyone. A good run by F. Morrison resulted in a goal for Reigate Priory, a claim by the School that the ball had passed over the tape being disallowed. At half-time the game still stood at 1-1. From half-time the School had the game all their own way, completely penning their opponents, and, after a short scrimmage on the goal-line, the ball was returned to Frere at half-back, who put through our second goal with a rattling shot (2-1). After some good play by Burrige, Scoones, and Bain, Heath got hold of the ball and essayed a pretty shot, which unfortunately just passed over the tape. Higgins and Jenner then worked the ball down the centre, and the latter put it under the tape, which was allowed in spite of an appeal on the part of the visitors (3-1). Burrige, after a splendid run up the right side, middled to Bain, who put our 4th and last goal smartly through the post (4-1). The ball had hardly been started again when time was called, and Westminster remained victors of a very hard game by 4 goals to 1. The sides were :

WESTMINSTER.

R. T. Squire (back), H. Wetton, E. C. Frere, and S. A. Bird (half-backs), W. A. Burrige and O. Scoones (right), F. W. Bain and A. J. Heath (left), A. T. Higgins and A. C. Jenner (centres), H. T. Healey (goals).

REIGATE PRIORY.

W. W. Read and D. McKinnon (backs), H. H. Jacks, C. J. Bickmore (half-backs), W. Morrison, F. Morrison, J. S. Oxley, T. H. G. Welch, D. Pym, G. Burkenshaw, R. M. de Carteret (subs. goals).

POETRY.

THE following beautiful verses, written on the occasion of Lady Augusta Stanley's funeral, and sent anonymously to the *Spectator* by Mr. Bramwell, of whom an obituary appeared in our last number, may not be without interest to readers of *The Elizabethan* :—

THE LATEST GRAVE OF THE ABBEY.

Within her well-loved Abbey's farthest corner,
Ensculptured and secluded low she lies ;
Whose head at highest bent to every mourner,
Whose eyes to all sad eyes.

This niche is lovely with the people's sorrow,
Her grave is blossoming with their loves to-day ;
Princes and toilers were at one to borrow
Earth's flowers for earth's clay.

Also Christ's lambs whom she forbade not bringing
Their cross of white, and scholars of the school ;
And they that tend the sick, and they whose singing
Filled the great church heart full.

Violets and ivy, lily and rose together,
In cross and chaplet laid together down,
Make fair the place, and Arctic mosses feather
The faithful servant's crown.

Obituary.

(From the *Times* of Tuesday, Nov. 22nd).

GENERAL Sir Edward Harris Greathed, K. C. B., died on Saturday at Uddens, Dorset, in his 70th year. He was the eldest son of the late Mr. Edward Greathed, of Uddens, by his marriage with Mary Elizabeth, daughter of the late Sir Richard Glyn, of Gaunt's House, Dorset, and was born in 1812. He was educated at Westminster School, and entered the Army in 1832. He became a captain in 1838, colonel in 1858, and was placed on half-pay in the following year. He served with the 8th Regiment at the siege of Delhi in 1857, and was present at the repulse of several sorties ; he also commanded a column sent to occupy the Khodsiabagh, by which operations the batteries were advanced to within 180 yards of the walls. He afterwards led the regiment to the assault, and served with it in the city. On leaving Delhi he had command of a movable column, and defeated the enemy at Bolundshur, Allyghur, and Agra ; he subsequently commanded the 3rd Brigade of the Army under Lord Clyde, from November, 1857, to January, 1858, and was present in the action of Dilkoosha, in Lucknow, during the operations which resulted in the relief of the garrison. He likewise commanded the advanced pickets at Cawnpore, taking part in several engagements, including the action of Khudagunj and the occupation of Futtehghur. He was promoted to the rank of colonel and nominated a Companion of the Order of the Bath for his distinguished services in the field, and was made D. C. L. of Oxford University in 1859. The gallant officer commanded the Eastern district of England from 1872 to 1877, and attained the brevet rank of general in 1880. Sir Edward Greathed, who was promoted to a Knight Commandership of the Order of the Bath in 1865, was thrice married—first, in 1854, to Louisa Frances, daughter of the Venerable Archdeacon Hartwell ; secondly, in 1860, to Ellen Mary, daughter of the Rev. George Tufnel ; and, thirdly, in 1869, to Charlotte, daughter of Sir George Robert Osborn.

Our Contemporaries.

WE beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Bradfield School Chronicle*, *The Carthusian*, *The Cliftonian*, *The Felstedian*, *The Fettesian*, *The Lily*, *The Marlburian*, *The Malvernian*, *The Meteor*, *The Ousel*, *The Salopian*, *The Tonbridgian*, *The Wesley College Chronicle*, *The Wykehamist*.

Somewhat late in the day, we think, is the article on Ober-Ammergau in *The Bradfield School Chronicle*. The paper contains little else of interest, for which, indeed, a reason is assigned on the first page. Their Eleven seems to have been rather severely defeated by R.M.C. Sandhurst; but, though they frequently allude in the account to the rapid goal-getting of their adversaries, they prudently suppress the total obtained. We scarcely agree with 'Reform,' and we do not think that the Captain of Cricket would either.

The Carthusian contains an article on their Debating Society, and a quaint, yet somewhat extravagant withal, Leaf of a Scribbling Diary, 1891. Happy thought; for a motion for debate in that year, That the substitution of Leyden Jar punishment for corporal ditto is desirable. There are accounts of various entertainments on a subsequent page. *O fortunati nimium, &c.*

But too true are the remarks on the first page of *The Cliftonian*, and we might well profit by them ourselves. Football in Switzerland has a peculiar sound at first; there is a sort of contradiction involved in it. Drama and Dialogue is clearly and illustratively written; we confess that we should like to see distinction drawn by the same hand between other frequently confused ideas on the same subject of the stage. We do not care for the Catullus.

A Meteorological Report appears always in the pages of *The Felstedian*. We look for the time when forecasting will be commenced, which would be convenient in conjunction with Football fixtures. The writer of Transatlantic Notes would not seem to have moulded his account by the length of his stay, and forms hasty judgments. It must be a perfect godsend to an editor to have an enthusiastic correspondent ready to go 2,600 miles to stay four days at a place, fill five pages of his paper, and write 'to be continued' at the bottom!

We turned over the leaves of *The Fettesian* without meeting any very serious obstacles to speedy progress in the shape of interesting articles. Cape Coast Castle we have often heard to be the dullest place possible for the imagination of man to comprehend—a fact which we recognize ourselves in the description thereof, and notice extended to the writer of the article. A wily correspondent in the number suggests a cunning device for the Fettesian-Lorettonian Club, *i.e.*, to christen it the *Feretto C.*, which he thinks is 'shoutable.' We look eagerly for suggestions in this style in the succeeding number.

We always expect to be fulminated on when we open the pages of *The Lily*, and therefore were agreeably disappointed this time in our perusal thereof. We would call their attention to the fact that the 'Lives of O.W.W.' are not one continued, but a series of separate, articles.

The leading article in *The Marlburian* may not inaptly be compared to the drunken Helot, being an awful warning to others to avoid, whether we look at the 'muffish' character of the hero or his feeble essays at sharp writing. There is a large quantity of School news in the number, which is one of the things we always advocate strongly.

The Malvernian vents some complaints on the usual topic of harassed editors now-a-days—the want of literary support. Yet if the fellows fail, why repine? Are there not plenty more pushing tradesmen anxious to get a chance of widening their fame by inserting their names and occupations in the last sheet? We look with anxiety for the day when School Magazines shall become even as catalogues of co-operative stores, and Reckitt's Paris Blue (ask for, and see that you get it) shall flourish in

place of the ejected topics of school-life. From 'The Legal Profession' we learn, amongst other facts, that 'a man's promotion to a seat on the Bench invests him with all the dignity and importance which are always deservedly attached to the position and persons of our judges!' No, really?

The Meteor is essentially a number interesting to Rugbeians. The last letter in the paper might be studied with advantage by the authorities here.

We do not admire the colours of the first XV. at Bedford particularly, namely, an eagle azure on a field gules; but it is a difficult matter to choose a distinctive colour now, when the clubs are so numerous. This would seem, however, to be original enough.

A new boys' idea of football, from a different point of view to that taken in *The Marlburian*, appears in *The Salopian*. We must, however, own to an earnest desire to see anyone 'with the ball well between his feet, run some forty yards.' Much ingenuity is displayed in prolonging the account by varying the methods of describing the play. There are plenty of matches chronicled in the number.

An article on 'The Novi,' in other words, 'new boy,' in *The Tonbridgian* contains some very curious facts with reference to the same. The chief peculiarity of the specimen given consists in percolating to a table, and sitting thereon, till a wish to trickle around elsewhere forms in his undecided brain. Not all 'novis,' we hope, are such as are described herein. We suppose that the feeble 'Saga' is inserted as a foil to the really beautiful lines of 'A Country Churchyard,' quite in the style of Keats. Seldom do we get the treat of reading such poetry in a School Magazine, or, indeed, any other.

We read with great amusement some remarks in *The Wesley College Chronicle* not without reference to ourselves; indeed, the subject which occasioned such remarks presented itself at the time in no less ridiculous a light to us as to the inmates of Wesley College.

A review on 'The House of Atreus' appears, with other matter, in an excellent number of *The Wykehamist*.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—In 'A short account of the Discipline, Studies, &c., of Westminster School,' published in 1845, I find the following paragraph:—'In case of illness a Queen's Scholar is removed from the dormitory to the house where he lived when a Town Boy (in which there is a room appropriated to the Queen's Scholars), and is then under the authority of the usher of the house, and attends the roll-call and prayers.' Can you or any of your readers explain this? Where were these rooms? When was this place discontinued and the present sanatorium built? Although I am an Old Westminster, I never remember hearing that the above place, in case of illness, ever existed. I shall be glad to have any information about this.

I am, Sir,

Yours, &c.,
CURIOSUS.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—I am an Old Westminster, consumed with a love of music. From my earliest boyhood the name of Beethoven has been to me what the Sporting Prophet of the 'Pink 'Un' is to others, and I have as often been soothed and put into good humour by Mozart as sturdier spirits by the author of 'Real Jam.' Wagner has a larger share of my admiration than even W. G. Grace, and his personality is as interesting. In consequence of these abnormal tastes, I have attended your

School Concerts not unfrequently. And there, seated in a strong draught near the tables of Armada wood, I have felt over again the thrill with which the soloist advances on the dais, and the pride that bows and blushes when the task is accomplished. But, apart from these tender recollections, which no School festival can fail to arouse, I have not been able, sir, to find much pleasure in your concerts. They are tedious and flat. The cantatas do not interest, nor the toy-symphonies amuse me. 'In that case,' you say, 'why do you pain yourself by coming?' We do not remember that we invited you.' True, sir, a wiser man would absent himself from your concerts. But I, in my weakness, have preferred to trouble you with this letter, in the fond hope of rousing in you some small spark of the divine fire, and converting you to a livelier worship of 'the dead kings of melody.'

And first I urge you to leave College Hall and its minstrel gallery to the music of clinking glass and scraped toast, and take your songs and instruments to the School-room.

With a small display of red cloth, and a few lamps on the gas-jets, School may be converted into an excellent concert-hall. There will be plenty of room for the accommodation of friends, to say nothing of those ill-natured people, the critics, whom we will relegate to the back-rows. There will also be plenty of room for the performers, who will issue from the shell-room on one side, and the upper-fifth room (and egg-flip) on the other. The audience being seated, let the concert begin; and instead of kind Mr. Dale (bass) and aspiring young A. (treble) sitting down to hammer out on a piano the overture to 'Ruy Blas,' amid a creaking of chairs and a scuffling of feet, let an imposing orchestra of wind and string instruments, at a signal from the conductor, strike up a stirring march, to which late-comers will enter marching, as the lords and ladies in 'Tannhäuser.' The leading instrumentalists may, perhaps, be Old Westminsters, but the majority of the strings, all the wind, the drum, and other instruments of percussion, are evidently in the hands of Schoolboys, who must have practised steadily and enthusiastically to produce so fine an effect. The overture over, young B., the leading treble, will make the rafters re-echo, and the spider turn in his cobweb, by the ringing of his high fresh voice; after which Mr. C., the famous O.W. violinist, will 'delight and astonish.' A senior, with a sturdy tenor, will follow, and then the School string-quartette will play Haydn, or, with the help of D., the Rigaudite clarionet, will attempt Mozart. And so on through the programme, with occasional choruses accompanied by full orchestra, and culminating, I suppose, in 'God Save the Queen'—at least till the happy day when Westminster may have her own 'Follow on' song, or 'Dulce Domum.'

Such, in outline, is my scheme, into the details of which I have not time to enter. But Mr. Stoker, taking tickets at the door, with a red rosette in his button-hole, would be one of the pleasing features of the new arrangement.

I do not wish to be told that concerts have ere now been given Up-School and have failed, for I am sure that they were given without orchestra. The orchestra is what we want. Given an orchestra, and an outdoor band is the corollary. With an outdoor band, music stalks abroad, and scatters blessings among the people. Even the desolation of Stamford Bridge can be partially cheered by a band of music: and if Stamford Bridge, surely Vincent Square. Think of our Sports! The mile is finished to the tune of the 'Conquering Hero'; the hurdles jumped (with the three-step stride) to the rhythm of 'Over the Garden Wall.' Our Cricket and Football matches are made cheery by the strains of 'Tom Bowling' and 'Hold the Fort.' And the performers will profit individually. For no one can guess, till he has learnt, how delightful it is to play upon an instrument, and how happily the hours go which are spent in its society. Give Westminster a band, and she will rise at once intellectually, for music is more than mere sport: it has a refining and exalting influence. Our forefathers held that the artistic faculty should be starved, that their sons might grow up men, and drink port and overeat themselves. With the disappearance of duels, and many of the elegancies of speech and habit in which our ancestors indulged, I am not sure that our nerve or muscle has deteriorated. At Westminster, at least, we boast that we are already better than our fathers.

But the resources of civilisation are not yet exhausted, and I dream of the times when the artist shall come again, as Schiller says, 'like the son of thunder to purify the age,' and when we shall look back with wonder to this unmelodious era, and when much folly at School will be overpowered by the love of music, even as at Oxford the rowdiness of certain outsiders at Commemoration has already yielded to the spell of the new organ. It is a dream still, but I hope to awake some day and find it true. And you, wide-awake Mr. Editor, must in the meantime pardon, and send abroad through your columns, the somewhat dolorous squeak of

SECOND FIDDLE.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—Though reading, with great interest, the article by 'Pen' on 'The School and the Abbey,' I must beg to differ from him as to the origin of challenges. For, although logical disputations were common to most schools and learned bodies, yet to the Jesuits, whose educational system had considerable influence on our own, I believe we owe challenges. For they, looking to emulation as their great incentive to learning, thereto devised an elaborate scheme of rivalry, matching class against class and boy against boy, holding 'concertationes' (challenges) very similar to our own, saving that the rewards, instead of places in College, were trophies and marks of honour which the victors held.

I am,
Yours truly,
E. P. G.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—Allow me a short space to discourse on a few topics connected with your paper.

I would venture to suggest that some of the following subjects should be inserted in your very interesting paper:—

(i.) *School Epigrams.*

Selections from these have always been printed from time to time in *The Elizabethan*, and read with pleasure, but I have not noticed any now for some time. Surely there have been some new ones since the last were printed?

(ii.) *Extracts from the Old Ledgers, Football, Cricket, Water, &c.*

This is no new suggestion, as I remember it was brought forward some time ago by one of your correspondents, but it does not appear to have been carried out. *The Elizabethan* was commenced in 1874, and any information on the above subjects, prior to that time, and which has not appeared in print, would be very interesting to all lovers of the School's history. As I hope *The Elizabethan* will always exist as the School paper, I think all this almost hitherto unknown information should be rescued from oblivion, and published in your paper, to be handed down as part of the history of the School, as it undoubtedly is. Where have we any account of the old struggles on the water with Eton? Or of the race for the colours, of which the picture in College is such an excellent memento? Or of the Cricket Matches played at Lords, &c., &c.? They may have been published in the older School papers, but, even if they were, they are useless to those who do not possess the papers. I have one or two in my possession, but I don't find any account in them.

(iii.) *History of the Play, its Scenery, &c.*

As far as I am aware, there is no account extant of the Play, &c. It was only the other day that I discovered that the scenery was given—if I remember rightly—by Dr. Mackham, who was Head-master in 1753, and subsequently, I believe, Archbishop of York. This, doubtless, was known to some, but I am sure there is a large majority of those who never knew it until they read this letter. I don't know whether there is a ledger of the Play, but I presume there is an account of it kept somewhere, year by year, which, if inserted, would be of interest to your readers. Originally, I believe, the actors used to wear

only ordinary costumes. When were the classical ones introduced, and by whom? Who painted the scenes, &c.? When were Prologues and Epilogues first acted in conjunction with the Play? An account of the Plays acted might also be added, as well as of the acting of any Old Westminsters who made especial "hits" in the characters they represented in their time. I should also like to know when the "Eunuchus" was erased from the list of the Plays acted, as I believe it formerly used to be acted. A lot of interesting information and pleasant reading might be brought together in the above subject.

(iv.) *Epilogues.*

These always have formed a most interesting—and to some the most interesting—feature in the Play. Prior to 1874 none of these were published, and some of those before that time might be, I think, inserted with advantage, and should be, with the English as well as the Latin, for the benefit of those—and I must confess myself one—who have not got the time at their disposal for keeping up Latin. I am sure these would be of great interest to your readers. There is one especially that I should like to have, and that is one which was acted in 1860, when one of those numerous propositions was set on foot for removing the School. In this *Lesbonicus* is introduced as offering to sell "College," which "College John," in the character of Stasimus, tries to prevent by enlarging on the horrors of Thames waters, and the squalor of Tothill Fields. The negotiation is stopped by the entrance of the ghost of Dr. Busby, who informs them of a treasure buried under the old foundations. This they dig for, and find to be a gigantic rod! which the old Master declares is the real key to honours. This I should like for the reasons above stated, in the English as well as the Latin. Surely there is many another amusing Epilogue which has hardly ever been heard of except by those in whose time it was acted, and which ought not to remain hidden any longer. I wish to express a hope here, that the Epilogues and Prologues will in future be inserted in the English as well as in Latin. I notice that, in 1874, they were inserted in both languages, and in 1877 the Prologue in both, but the Epilogue only in Latin. In 1879 it was just the reverse: the Epilogue was in both, and the Prologue in Latin only. In the other years, since the commencement of *The Elizabethan*, they have only been inserted in Latin. Why can't they be inserted in both, every year? They would then be read by a great many of those who never look at them now, for the very simple fact that they can't understand them.

(v.) *Prologues.*

There may be and probably are some of these, before 1874, which would be of sufficient interest to merit a corner in *The Elizabethan*.

(vi.) *A list of the Captains.*

The only book I know of that contains a list is the *Alumni Westmonasterienses*, but this again is only in the hands of a few. To the list of these, of course, should be added the dates of their admission to College, and election to either of the Universities, and it should commence as far back as possible. The list could be obtained from the above-mentioned book, or from the tablets in the dormitory. The appearance of this list many O.W.W. would welcome.

(vii.) *History of the School; College Hall*, which was formerly the Abbot's Refectory; *Vincent Square*, which used, I believe, to be the Old Tothill Fields; and other buildings and places connected with the School.

Several articles have been printed, now and then, on some of the above subjects, but I should like to see a more complete history of the respective places, from as early a date as possible, and also continuous. These would be hailed with delight by your readers, and would be an invaluable addition to the School's history.

(viii.) *The Abbey: its Monuments, Architecture, &c.*

I never hope to see *The Elizabethan* anything but essentially a *School* paper; but the School having been originally attached to the Abbey (see ante, p. 156), I consider the history of the

Abbey as almost contiguous to the history of the School, and as such it should be preserved in the pages of *The Elizabethan*.

(ix.) *Old Westminster Football Club.*

This again, I think, is of near enough relationship to the School to claim a space in your paper, for the record of its matches, &c. There are, I expect, a great many present Westminsters, not to mention Old Westminsters, who have not the slightest idea how this Club is going on. Surely this state of things ought not to be allowed to exist any longer, and this, of course, can be prevented by inserting the list of the prospective matches, the results of them, and also its yearly officers, &c. We have nothing at present certainly to boast of, but I think I may safely add that 'a time will come.' No doubt the Secretary of the Old Westminster Football Club would forward the list and accounts of the matches to *The Elizabethan*, if requested to do so. This would increase the interest in your paper for Old Westminsters.

(x.) *Oxford and Cambridge Correspondent.*

I merely include this as there seems to be an unaccountable falling off in the news that used to be published under the above title. I don't wish to blame the respective correspondents, but I should like to know very much why this is. Surely there is not a greater scarcity of news?

(xi.) *The Elizabethan Club.*

Letters have from time to time been inserted in your paper, inviting O.W.W. to join, and explaining the object of the Club, but one does not often hear what it does do. I don't mean to imply by this that it does nothing—nay, far from it, I believe it does a great deal of good to the School. Why couldn't an account of its meetings &c. be inserted in *The Elizabethan*, unless they are of a private nature? We should then know of its doings, and records of them would be preserved.

I think this might entice more to join it.

By adopting the above suggestions, I am sure the interest in your paper would be greatly increased. It has certainly attained a much higher standard of late years, thanks to the energy of the Editors and the author of the articles on 'Old Westminsters'; but I have noticed several blank pages or half pages every now and then, which sadly require filling. The history of the School &c. would doubtless raise numerous questions, and thus add to your correspondence column, which, I am sorry to say—though not through any fault of yours—is greatly below the average. By these remarks you will see that I take—and I am proud to say so—great interest in the welfare of your paper. My letter, I am afraid, has run to a much greater length than I anticipated; but hoping, nevertheless, that you will find room for its insertion,

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

CONSERVATIVE.

NOTICES.

All contributions for the February number of *The Elizabethan* must be sent in before January 24, to the Editor, St. Peter's College, Westminster.

All other communications must be addressed to the Secretary of *The Elizabethan*, St. Peter's College, Westminster, and on no account to the Editor or printers.

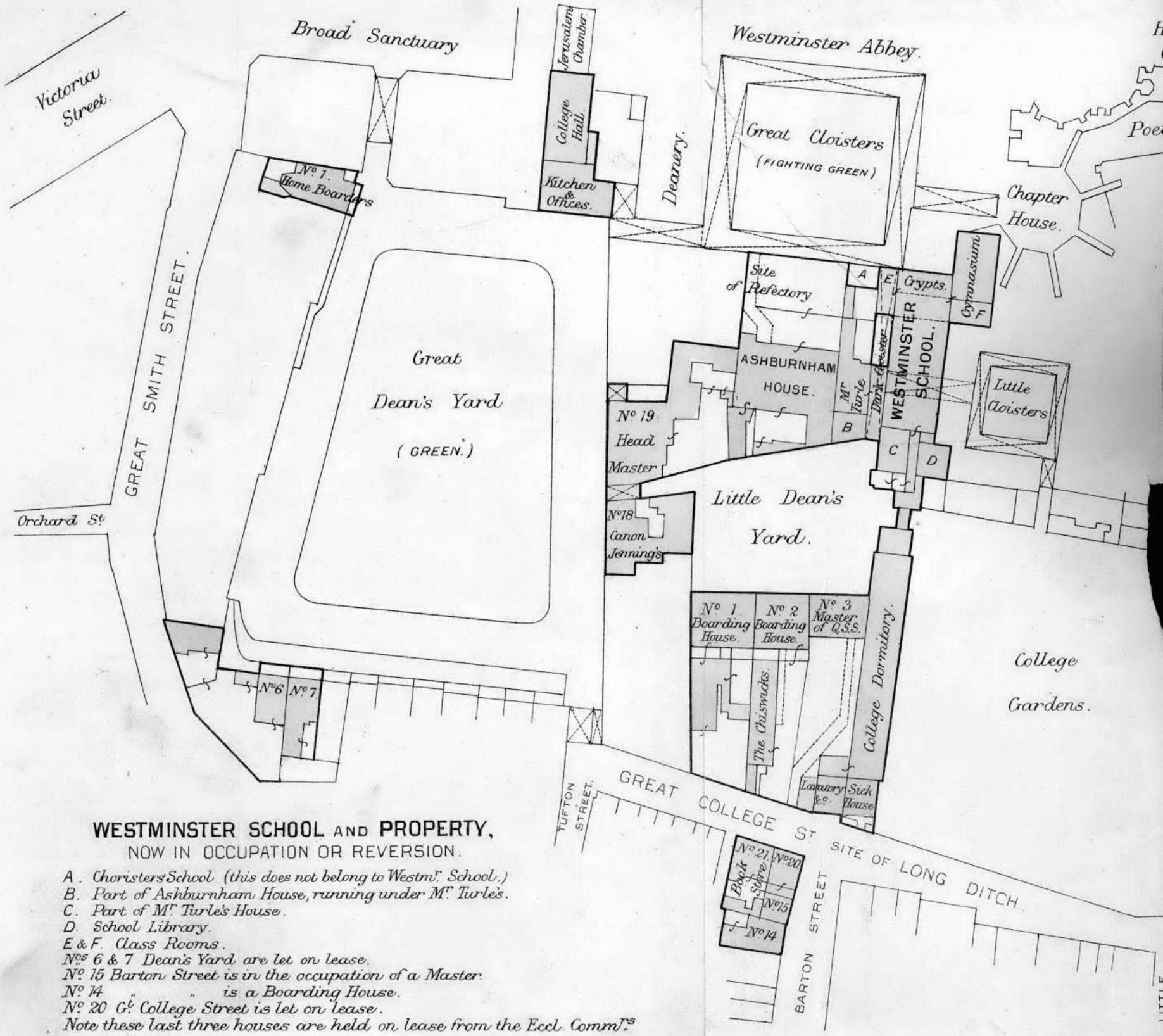
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Most of the back numbers of *The Elizabethan* can be obtained from the Secretary, price 6d. each.

Subscribers are requested to notify any change of address to the Secretary.

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of his correspondents.

Floreat.



**WESTMINSTER SCHOOL AND PROPERTY,
NOW IN OCCUPATION OR REVERSION.**

- A. Choristers School (this does not belong to Westm^r. School.)
- B. Part of Ashburnham House, running under M^r. Turle's.
- C. Part of M^r. Turle's House.
- D. School Library.
- E & F. Class Rooms.
- N^{os} 6 & 7 Dean's Yard are let on lease.
- N^o 15 Barton Street is in the occupation of a Master.
- N^o 14 " " is a Boarding House.
- N^o 20 G^t. College Street is let on lease.
- Note these last three houses are held on lease from the Eccl. Comm^{rs}.