



The Elizabethan.

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RACQUETS AT WESTMINSTER.

THIS is not a flourishing institution. Its record is a record of degeneration. As early as 1881, the competition for the Silver Racquet was not concluded, and the reason set down in the Ledger by the captain of racquets is that it was 'owing to the fewness of competitors, and' (the real reason) 'the growing dislike for open courts.' In the early days, before Public School Racquets was founded, and before closed courts were dreamt of, it seems to have enjoyed a tremendous popularity. The proposal that a competition should be held for a silver racquet, was made by 'Stokes, a third-election' in 1850. 'It was at once taken up as a capital idea,' and easily raised by many subscribers in the School. The enthusiasm would be scarcely so great now.

The number of entries, small at first in comparison with later years, increased steadily, and the games were very interesting to the School generally. In 1856, a cup for 'Wooden' was provided by Salwey, a senior. A fear is expressed that it will by its popularity diminish the interest in the silver racquet competition. In 1866, the entries read 'twenty-nine for "Woodens," twelve for "Wires."' In 1869 there were only sixteen entries, and a complaint is entered against Rigauds and Home-boarders, especially the former, because they had a court of their own. Competition between Q.SS. and T.BB. is high in this as in other things. In 1861, a match was proposed, but the matter was never arranged. The court was very bad about 1871; it is remarked that the game consisted in hard hitting, in 'a knowledge of Sloman's steps and Grant's railing;' and, again, 'if you won, it

depended whether you had luck in just putting the ball into one of the holes in the wall or not.' C. J. M. Fox, in 1874, was in the final for the Wooden and won the Wires, while in 1875 and 1876 he won both. He is the only fellow who won the Wires three times. W. S. Rawson, however, figured in the finals of the two competitions seven times, but could only win each twice. In 1877, handicaps were arranged for both prizes, and revived the interest in the game, which had lately languished. The handicap system did not last long, and in 1877 we find only seven competitors for the Wooden. 1881 and 1882 are the beginning of the melancholy part of the Ledger. 'An open court is all very well for a knock up, but it is not a test of skill, nor is it the modern game.' Hope is held out of a closed court, but not satisfied. The entries continued low till 1887, when they rose suddenly from seven to sixteen. In the next year, owing to an unfortunate accident, 'Wires' were stopped. 'Woodens' have struggled on since, with but few entries, and little interest in the competition. The Ledger has not been filled in since 1891.

Two reasons at least may be given for this loss of favour in the School during the last few years: one is the apathy of Queen's scholars. The last of these to win the cup, won it in 1886. The average Queen's scholar entry is one in three years, or thereabouts. When it is remembered that Queen's scholars used to afford three-quarters of the entries every year, the difference caused by their retirement can be easily imagined. Secondly, there is the fact that no one ever practises. No amount of knocking up against a wall will teach racquets without practice in games. Thus it often happens that the winner is a pink, who can have had very little time to practise, and yet is generally good enough to beat fellows who are always on the courts.

Lastly, we ask, could not the Ledger be completed? Unless captains of racquets since 1891 are good enough to write up each his year, no record can be handed down of the past six years.

WESTMINSTER WORTHIES.

No. 57.—NATHANIEL LEE.

AMONG the numerous writers for the stage whose industry makes the closing years of the seventeenth century one of the most prolific, if not the most edifying, portions of our dramatic annals, there 'blazed, the comet of a season,' as Byron wrote of another O.W., a young Cantab, whose vigour, though little tempered by discretion or taste, has gained him an enduring name. We say name, rather than fame, advisedly, for though the one has survived, the other is practically lost: of his eleven plays, only one line remains current, and that so invariably misquoted that even its own author could scarcely recognise it. He died before the close of his fortieth year, and for the eight years preceding his death had added nothing to his published works, yet the work he did has gained him what a modern critic has aptly termed 'an unread immortality.'

Nathaniel Lee—for it is of him we speak—was apparently the second son of Richard Lee, a clergyman and Doctor of Divinity, who was rector of St. Mary Ongars, in the City, during the Civil War. He subsequently obtained the rectory of Hatfield and other preferments, confirmed himself in his posts by a timely compliance with Restoration politics, which exempted him from the operation of 'Black Bartholomew's Day,' and died at Hatfield in 1684. The births of several of his children are recorded in the Hatfield registers, but the name of Nathaniel has been sought in vain, both in them and in those of St. Mary Ongars; but plausible reasons may be adduced to prove that he was born in 1653, though Theophilus Cibber, who asserts that he died at the age of 34, seems to have imagined that he was five years younger. This theory, however, would make him barely ten when he graduated at Cambridge, and only fourteen when he made his first appearance on the boards—which, in the famous words of Euclid, 'is absurd.'

He was certainly educated at Westminster, but of his school career no record has been preserved. Lord Rochester, indeed, says of him that he was 'well lash't' by Busby, which is not improbable; but Rochester's evidence, on any point, generally leaves the matter where it was before. He matriculated at Trinity College, Cambridge, on July 7, 1665—readers will perhaps excuse the triumph with which we parade one of the few certain dates in his career. Spence and his editor, Malone, agree in stating that he must have left the University without taking a degree, but a more careful search through the list of graduates, undertaken by Mr. Aldis Wright, discovered that he took his B.A. in January 1667-8. The author of the 'Anecdotes' was a trifle inconsistent, for he assigns to Lee, I know not on what authority, a Fellowship at Trinity, and a Fellow without a degree is scarcely conceivable to modern 'Varsity men. He is described about this period as having been 'handsome and of

ingenious conversation; and enjoyed great social popularity on his first appearance in London.

It is alleged that George Villiers, the second Duke of Buckingham, who was installed Chancellor of the University in 1671, took a fancy to Lee, and was the instigator of his settlement in town, but never took the smallest notice afterwards of the unlucky young man who had been simple enough to trust his career to the friendship of the great. There is nothing in Buckingham's character to make us hesitate to believe the story, but the evidence in its favour is not sufficient to justify more than a verdict of 'Not Proven.' Whether lured to London by false hopes or not, the young Cantab soon felt the pressure of poverty (for his father, either from the impecuniosity consequent on a large family or from displeasure at his son's manner of life, seems rarely, if ever, to have supplied him with funds), and consequently determined to go on the stage. His first appearance was made in 1672, as Duncan in D'Avenant's arrangement of 'Macbeth;' but it was a complete failure—not from want of talent, but from a fit of what is called stage-fright. A similar result attended Otway's first attempt to gather laurels from the boards: a curious coincidence, unless, indeed, the two tragedians have been confused, which appears the more likely as the story is told in much the same terms of both. Lee appeared again later in the season in a tragedy of Neville Payne's, but only as 'Captain of the Watch,' which does not sound like an important or a well-paid part.

The materials for Lee's biography are so scanty that even conjecture is silenced as to the manner of his life during the next three years; but in 1675 he 'smelt the powder of the footlights,' to quote Mr. George Alexander's rather mixed metaphor, for the first time as a dramatist. 'Nero, Emperor of Rome,' is the title of the tragedy, which was well described in the prologue as 'a bloody fatal play.' We are puzzled which to admire most, the sublime disregard of history and chronology, the hideous havoc made among the *dramatis personæ*, or the absolutely superhuman viciousness of the bombastic Nero. And yet, although students of Tacitus may shudder to find Britannicus pleading for the life of Agrippina, or Seneca executed for protesting against her death—for which, we need scarcely remind our readers, he penned an apology—there is something undoubtedly 'holding,' to use a stage cant phrase, about the piece. The language is throughout stilted and unnatural—often to modern notions ludicrous. We extract one not unfair specimen:—

Cupid has took a surfeit from her eyes:
Whene'er she smiles, in lambent fire he fries,
And when she weeps, in tears dissolved, he dies.

There are passages, too, in 'Nero' which make us wonder that 'His Majesty's servants' were prepared to take the risk of producing the play. 1676 was not a date at which it was safe to put the words into the mouth of a monarch—

Let phlegmatick dull Kings call crowns their care.
. On, Nero, on!

Spend thy vast stock and riot in thy throne;
If there be Pleasure yet, I have not found,
Name it some god—'tis mine, tho' under ground;

or to describe a Court in the lines—

'Tis a fatal circle
Upon whose magick skirts, a thousand Devils
In crystal forms sit tempting Innocence,
And beckon early virtue from its center [*sic*].

The Government of that day was not, as we shall soon see, insensible to the comments of the stage, and the above appear too true to have been palatable; however, the tragedy was so successful that two more from the same pen appeared in the following year.

'Gloriana: or, the Court of Augustus Cæsar,' bears a strong resemblance to the preceding work. There is the same appearance of historical names attached to utterly unsuitable characters—*e.g.* we are not a little surprised to find Ovid, sword in hand, fighting against Marcellus and Tiberius; there are the same highflown language, the same slaughter on the stage, and the same heroic or superhuman types of character. But the imagery more rarely lapses into absurdity, as in the passage—

No, to the Vestals you shall go, and there,
Since you're so hot, the sacred fires repair,
While you have any breath, there reek your spight [*sic*]:
This frantick zeal will make 'em burn more bright.

The plot becomes more consecutive and characters are no longer introduced simply to be slain and swell the list of casualties.

'Sophonisba: or, Hannibal's Overthrow' followed in the same year. It was performed, not only in London, but also in the tennis-court at Oxford: a performance for which 'glorious John' himself did not disdain to supply a prologue—on which point we may express our wonder that a classical audience could endure the rhyming of 'trespass' and 'Thespis,' and of 'Aeneas' and 'Achilleos.' The play itself marks a distinct advance on the poet's previous work. It still, certainly, seems a pity to use the names of historical personages and to give them characters and, in many cases, fates, at variance with the truth; to represent Hannibal as so enamoured of a Roman lady, who bears the very classical name of Rosalinda, that when he finds her dying on the field of Zama, he exclaims—

Ha, thou hast rouz'd a thought which racks me more
Than all the losses I in battel bore:
Either I dream, or in this closing eye
My dazzled senses Rosalinda spy;

to cut off Massinissa, who was notorious for his longevity, at the same date, to make Scipio's grief at the death of his ally the cause of a sudden conclusion of peace with Carthage. But the love scenes between Massinissa and Sophonisba, Hannibal and Rosalinda, and the last-named and her scorned yet faithful lover, Massina, go far to justify Cibber's criticism, that Lee 'seems to have been born to write for the ladies; none ever felt the passion of love more intimately, none ever knew [how] to describe it more gracefully.'

With this play closes the first period of Lee's poetical career. The three plays we have criticised, were all written in rhyming verse, which in his subsequent efforts he very wisely abandoned. This is not the place for a discussion why rhymed tragedy should sound so well in French and so grotesque in English, but the fact is indisputable, and Dryden's partiality for rhyme made him even a poorer dramatist than nature intended him to be. Lee suffered in the same way, and his rhymed tragedies are the feeblest of his productions. This is perhaps the most suitable place in which to introduce a description of Lee from a satire of Rochester's, in imitation of Sir John Suckling's 'Session of the Poets,' 'which, like the original, is destitute of wit, poetry and good manners' Rochester was an acquaintance and patron, if it was not in his nature to be a friend, of Lee—indeed 'Nero' was dedicated to him.

Nat. Lee stopt in next, in hopes of a prize,
Apollo remembering he had hit once in thrice,
By the rubies in 's face, he could not deny,
But he had as much wit, as wine could supply,
Confess'd that, indeed, he had a musical note,
But sometimes strained so hard that it rattled in the throat,
Yet own'd he had sense and, t' encourage him for 't,
He made him his Ovid in Augustus's court.

(To be continued.)

HALL EPIGRAMS.

THE Election Dinner fell on July 26. There was about the usual crop of Hall Epigrams, which, however, we were sorry to think not so good as usual. Excellence in the English epigrams is rare nowadays. The chief fault of the others was want of variety. No Hendecasyllabics, no Latin rhymes—worst of all, no Greek Elegiacs!

The theses were 'Δός τι καὶ λαβέ τι' and 'Vis temperata,' with variations. Our selection from the epigrams—*valeat quantum*—here follows:—

Δός τι καὶ λαβέ τι.

Est odio bona quod nuptarum protegit Actum,
Nec tenues sponso omnia habere sinit.
Quomodo, quaeso, inopi locuples mihi profuit uxor,
Debita si tantum, non mihi donat opes?

'Athena's tears':—

Vis consili expers.

Laudibus antiquis patriaeque instinctu amore
Non flocci pendis. Graecule, consilium.
Non ita se gessit, Priami qui sustulit arcem:
Non ita, quo petiit Persa fugante domum.
Vires non vis est: desunt tibi, Graecule, vires,
Istaque vis Graeco digna latrone fuit.
Nil igitur vafer ille Ithacus, nihil acer Achilles
Profuit: hic acrem te negat, ille vafrum.

'Fortune a-wheel' sounds like a new divinity or

art-type. We have read of fortunes *in* wheels—but chiefly of misfortune *on* (or *off*) them:—

Vis consili expers—et temperata.

Versatur plateis Fortuna bicyclica nostris,
Unus enim instabilis non satis orbis erat.
Si stolido calcat ferrum bipedale vigore,
Moles in terram praecipitata ruit.
Tu, simile ut simili curetur, cerne, per artem:
Nam medicina mali tertius orbis adest.

'Cork elevators' made a neat epigram:—

Δός τι καὶ λαβέ τι.

Corpore tune brevis? vin tu procerior esse?
Est tibi qui sollers fulciat arte pedes.
Cort ce supposito, centum modo solveris asses,
Altior atque idem vulnere tardus eris.

A refutation of the thesis:—

Vis consili expers.

Vos nunc, amici, carmen heu! tristissimum
Audite nostrum, ne deus bacchantibus
Nimis sit iracundus. Eboraci Novi
Nuper maritus, machinae volatilis
Funem secans, per aerem cum coniuge
Properabat. Haec timore plena protinus
Virum relinquit, exsilitque machina
Praeceptis in undas; forte quam servat ratis
Magno periculo parva paene mortuam.
Corripuit illum ventus inscium viae:
Defertur alte et altius per aethera.
Ad coniugem non iam revertit, ut sciam.
Vis consili expers mole non ruit sua.

It may be so, but we rather suspect 'consilium' on the part of the lost one.

Now for a plain-dealing quip:—

Λαβόντι τι ἔδωκά τι.

A chicken tried to eat my peas;
I watched behind the scenes,
And when I saw it take those peas,
I simply gave it—beans.

'Nunquam prudentibus imber obsuit':—

Δός τι καὶ λαβέ τι.

If, as you leave your club 'neath dripping skies,
A bran-new silk umbrella meets your eyes,
Blush not to leave instead your own, for shame
Of its worn cotton and its broken frame.

'Auctore' epigrams mostly sang Jubilee. Loyalty first:—

Δός τι καὶ λαβέ τι.

Sexaginta annos licuit, Regina, tenere
Hoc tibi iam regnum: iubilat omne genus:
Quid dare tu genti poteris? Das, optima, cuncto
Ipsam te populo cernere: quid melius?

The corner in seats—or the seat in the corner:—

Δός τι καὶ μηδὲν λάβης.

They told me, when I came to town,
That prices still were going down;
I paid a guinea for my seat,
But saw much better—in the street.

The Sausage Seller—and the Knight:—

Δός τι καὶ μηδὲν λάβης.

Auxit nempe epulas largo tibi munere Lip'o,
Regina. Ille dedit: num referetur honos?

Another 'Auctore' epigram celebrated—with ὕβρις and in anapaests—our Charterhouse triumph :—

Vis temperata.

It were wrong in our might so to crush them to make them despair ;
So we kept up excitement and won with two wickets to spare.

"This may wel be rym dogerel," quod he :—

Δός τι καὶ λαβέ τι.

Qui Iunio florere Iunios flores
Canitque claudam claudicare perdicem,
Scirpique nomen nosse dedocet scirpum,
Quem non pudet subicere verba viventis,
Pro laurea dedisse nonnihil dicas.
Priscis Caleni quod dabant merum colles,
Est qui memor poeta reddidit vappam.

One more and we have done :—

Δός τι καὶ λαβέ τι.

If Menelek believes in omens,
And looks at all at our cognomens,
He sure must think it rather odd,
To offer peace and send a 'Rodd.'

Up School epigrams were held as usual on Election Monday. The theses were 'Imperium in imperio' and "Ὀνος πρὸς λύραν." There were not very many of them, and only one was received with any degree of enthusiasm. We cannot refrain from ὕβρις a second time.

Imperium in imperio.

'Once upon British seas the Dutchmen beat
For long, long years, alas ! the British fleet ;
Till Blake, with English pennant at the mast,
Swept from the seas the Dutchmen's ships at last.
To this brave deed of British pluck I'll tell
In Westminster's small world a parallel.
First, to Blake's name you add the letter "r,"
Put Ch-rt-rh--se for Dutch and there you are.'

The rhyme in the last couplet, though curious, may be pardoned.

THE 'AULULARIA' AT RADLEY.

THE annual performance of a Latin Play at St. Peter's College, Radley, must always be of great interest to anyone familiar with our Play at Westminster. This year the interest was doubled, as the play chosen was not only one which has never been attempted before at Radley, but one which has never been witnessed in Dormitory, even by the oldest O.W. living. Once, and once only, has the 'Aulularia' appeared on the Westminster boards, and that was as long ago as 1796, when the part of Euclio was taken by Robert Stevens, afterwards Dean of Rochester. A note in the 'Lusus Alteri' says : 'We deviate from our usual course to record, as a matter of Westminster history, the admirable impersonation of Euclio by young Stevens in this year.' The prologue was an apology for Plautus, written, as was usual about that date, in Elegiac metre. The epilogue consisted of a dialogue between the two

cooks, Congrio and Anthrax ; some of the lines are really remarkable, especially the couplet—

Hoc est Curry Novum—Chou Chou—Picalilly—Piquanti,
Hoc Zoobditteemutch, hoc Chili, et hoc Cherokee.

It would be interesting to see the 'Aulularia' acted at Westminster. It is certainly superior to any of the four plays that appear with such monotonous regularity at present. It is perhaps in this play that Plautus is seen at his best. If imitation is the sincerest flattery, it would rank high among comedies, though it is probable that Plautus himself took his plot from a Greek original. The plot is briefly this :—An old miser named Euclio, has concealed in his house a small pot (Aulula) of treasure, which occupies all his thoughts ; his daughter, Phaedra, has been secretly married to Lyconides, son of Eunomia ; but Megadorus, Eunomia's brother, asks Euclio for Phaedra's hand, and gains his consent. Euclio tells the news to his housekeeper Staphyla, who is in the secret of Lyconides' marriage. A wedding banquet is prepared, but the presence of so many cooks in his house alarms Euclio, who transfers his pot to a hiding place in the Temple of Faith. He is observed by Pythodocus, Lyconides' slave, who is in his turn caught by Euclio. He determines to hide his pot elsewhere, but his mutterings are overheard by Pythodocus, who ultimately secures the treasure. Euclio, frantic at the discovery of his loss, meets Lyconides, who in the meantime has confessed to his mother about his marriage. Lyconides, however, mistaking the cause of Euclio's grief, admits the theft, not of the miser's treasure, but of his daughter. At last he sees his mistake, and determines to find the thief, which he easily accomplishes. For Pythodocus is so overjoyed at his luck that he must needs tell his master about it. Lyconides, having extracted the pot from his slave by a promise of freedom, returns it to Euclio, who is so pleased at the sight of it that he sanctions the marriage of Lyconides and Phaedra.

Everything centres round the old miser, Euclio. Mr. C. T. Hancock, who took the part at Radley, was chiefly responsible for the success of the play. It was an excellent piece of acting, and he was deservedly applauded. He seemed really wrapped up in his treasure ; his grief at its loss, his joy at its recovery, and, perhaps above all, his 'sine dote,' were very fine. The other parts were fairly well done, especially Staphyla (Mr. Gladwin), Eunomia (Mr. Jones), and Lyconides (Mr. Hodgson). Mr. Atterbury might perhaps have made more out of the part of Pythodocus. Mr. Macdonald, the 'Lorarius,' in his very short part, caused no small amusement by his ferocious appearance. His 'Quid est ?' and his parting look of disappointment evoked storms of applause.

The scene was laid in front of the Temple of Faith, with the houses of Euclio and Megadorus on either side. The pillars of the temple, and also the altar in front, were largely used by the actors for the

purpose of concealment, and it might be better if there were something of the kind on the Westminster stage. The introduction of two sheep, among the other delicacies for the wedding banquet, caused some sensation; the animals bore the ordeal heroically.

The Prologue was, as usual, from the pen of L. James (O.W.) The allusions in it seemed very popular. Some of the lines were very fine, especially those that touched on the death of T. H. E. Stretch, the old 'Blue.'

Eheu! repente abreptus integerrima
Aetate iuvenis optimae spei perit,
Pudoris ille ingenuus, exemplar suis
Morumque remigique; lacrimae cadant!

A portion of Sheridan's 'Critic' took the place of an Epilogue. On the whole the acting was better in it than in the Latin play. The whole entertainment may be termed a distinct success, and Radley deserves our congratulations.

School Notes.

THERE was an exeat beginning on November 5, at 4 P.M., and ending on November 9, at 9.15 A.M.

WE congratulate Sir Walter Phillimore (O.W.) on his appointment as Commissioner of Assize on the North-Eastern circuit. Sir Walter is, we believe, the only barrister now holding a patent of precedence, entitling him to be heard within the Bar.

LORD ESHER (O.W.), late Master of the Rolls, took a final farewell of the Bench and Bar on November 15. In the course of his speech, Lord Esher said that he had been a Judge for no less than twenty-nine years and some months, which he believed was the longest period of official activity to which any Judge had been able to attain.

WE congratulate Mr. Hugh Bertram Cox (O.W.) on his appointment as successor to Sir John Bramston in the Colonial Office.

WE congratulate J. Langhorne (O.W.) on his appointment to the headmastership of the John Watson Institution, Dean, Edinburgh.

THE bounds for going Up-fields have been slightly altered, and now include Greycoat Gardens, instead of that part of Rochester Row which leads past St. Stephen's Church.

THE new lodge Up-fields, which was begun in the holidays, has reached most imposing dimensions, and will—we think—when completed, prove an ornament to the ground.

THE Photographic Society is giving an exhibition on December 11, open to anyone in the School, whether members of the Society or not.

WE congratulate H. O. C. Beasley and L. J. Moon on playing for the Corinthians against Sheffield United on November 6, and on getting their Corinthian caps.

CONGRATULATIONS are due to A. R. Severn, S. C. Probyn, and K. H. Stenning on playing in the Oxford Seniors' match, and R. E. More, C. E. L. Johnston, and S. L. T. Taswell in the Freshers' match. W. F. Fox and A. H. Hogarth were also down to play in the former, but were prevented by accidents.

OLD WESTMINSTERS were drawn against the Casuals in the first round of the London Charity Cup: a remarkably good game at Tufnell Park on November 13 resulted in a win for the Casuals by the narrow margin of 1-0. C. L. Alexander scored the solitary point, but the total would probably have been larger but for the magnificent goal-keeping of W. R. Moon.

THE following is the Football Card filled in up to date:—

Sat.	Oct.	2	.	Clapham Rovers.	(Won 2-1.)
"	"	9	.	Old Reptonians.	(Lost 1-6.)
Wed.	"	13	.	Old Etonians.	(Lost 2-3.)
Sat.	"	16	.	F. Bickley's XI.	(Lost 0-3.)
				2nd XI. v. Clapham Rovers 2nd XI.	(Lost 1-2.)
Sat.	Oct.	23	.	Old Westminsters.	(Won 4-2.)
"	"	30	.	Old Carthusians.	(Lost 0-6.)
Wed.	Nov.	10	.	Christ Church.	(Lost 2-3.)
Sat.	"	13	.	Old Foresters.	(Won 3-1.)
Wed.	"	17	.	Selwyn Coll., Cambridge.	(Won 3-1.)

THE goals scored for the School this term amount to 17, as against 26; Blaker is responsible for 8, Anderson 3, and L. Y. Barnby 6.

THE following is the Cricket Card for last term, which should have appeared in the last number:—

		WESTMINSTER.		OPPONENTS.	
Saturday, May 8—					
Next XXXI.	Drawn.	72 & 187		199 & 49	(4 wkts.)
Saturday, May 15—					
R. Tanner's XI.	Drawn.	234		90	(5 wkts.)
Saturday, May 22—					
Kensington Park.	Lost.	119 & 52	(4 wkts.)	165	
Saturday, May 29—					
Incogniti.	Drawn.	223		102	(7 wkts.)
Saturday, June 5—					
I Zingari.	Lost.	161		271	(7 wkts.)
Wednesday, June 9—					
Eton Ramblers.	Lost.	145		155	
Wednesday, June 16—					
West Kent.	Won.	269	(9 wkts.)	113	
Saturday, June 19—					
Old Westminsters.	Won.	262	(6 wkts.)	191	
Saturday, June 26—					
Old Carthusians.	Won.	214		213	
Saturday, July 3—					
Oxford Univ. Au.	Lost.	117 & 84		110 & 100	(2 wkts.)
Fri. and Sat., July 9 and 10—					
Charterhouse.	Won.	286 & 98	(8 wkts.)	174 & 209	
Saturday, July 17—					
M.C.C.	Lost.	54 & 53	(4 wkts.)	278	
Saturday, July 24—					
Harrow Blues.	Drawn.	180	(6 wkts.)	107	(4 wkts.)

COMMEMORATION was held on Wednesday, November 17. The singing on the whole was good, though the start was inauspicious. There was the usual crowd Up-school after the service, and the passage into Ashburnham House was completely blocked at one time. 'Varsity O.WW. were not very plentiful, owing to Schools and the Greek Play. Everyone in the School was for the first time allowed Up-school after the service.

THE FIELDS.

O.WW. v. WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

PLAYED Up-fields on Saturday, October 2, on a very fine but cold day, resulting in a win for the School by 4 goals to 2. O.WW. started one short, but A. J. Hemmerde arrived soon after. Westminster ran down and Blaker shot high over, but almost directly after shot again, and this time with success (1-0). Corfield then ran down, but was robbed by More. Barnby got possession, but just shot outside. Blaker made a splendid run right through, and beat Hemmerde with a low shot, making the score 2-0. Then for some time even play was witnessed. Barnby was checked by More in front of goal, and Anderson sent in a good shot which Hemmerde saved well; O.WW. took the ball down, but shot outside; then More placed the ball well into the mouth of the goal, but Young cleared. At last, however, Willett scored for them (the wind taking the ball in over Rayner's head) (2-1). Westminster took the ball down, and Barnby and Anderson had shots, but were unsuccessful. O.WW. again pressed hard, but Rayner saved well, the game alternating from end to end until the whistle went for half-time, the score being Westminster 2 goals, O.WW. 1 goal.

Almost immediately after resuming, O.WW. obtained a corner which, however, went into the net without touching anyone. Westminster then did most of the pressing, Young sending in a good long shot, which was, however, saved, Anderson's shot having the same fate. Corfield then centred to Blaker, who scored his third goal (3-2). Westminster then obtained a corner, but with no effect, More clearing again in fine style; Blaker, Young, and Anderson kept up the pressure, the last named scoring from a pass by Corfield (4-1). O.WW. took the ball down, and Willett scored (4-2); they then obtained a corner, which Blaker cleared, and Westminster took the ball down to the other end, Blaker only just heading the ball over the bar as time was called. For O.WW. Hemmerde was good in goal, and More in splendid form at back, Willett being the pick of the forwards. For Westminster Young was very good at half; Corfield and Anderson were in good form too.

O.WW.

A. J. Hemmerde (goal), H. H. Gordon, R. E. More (backs), E. A. Cotterill, D. P. Winckworth, J. P. Paul (halves), A. H. Woodbridge, A. L. Longhurst, S. H. Gregory, A. B. Challis, and A. S. Willett (forwards).

WESTMINSTER.

W. V. Rayner (goal), A. C. Barnby, H. R. Lonsdale (backs), F. Young, H. McKenna, R. Truslove (halves), W. F. Corfield, S. M. Anderson, R. N. R. Blaker, L. Y. Barnby, and A. C. Robinson (forwards).

WESTMINSTER v. CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD.

Played Up-fields on Wednesday, November 10, in excellent football weather. Wynter superseded Lonsdale at back, Stevens was still away, and McKenna was dished. Blaker kicked off at about ten minutes to three. Corfield at once got possession, but centred too far ahead, and More cleared. They then pressed and forced a corner, which was safely got away. Soon after, A. C. Barnby missed his kick in front of goal, and Gilbert rushing up scored (0-1). From the kick-off Corfield ran right down and centred to Blaker, who easily scored (1-1). We soon after forced a corner, which was sent behind. L. Y. Barnby then missed a chance from a pass by Anderson. Blaker put in a good shot, which Bridge cleared; then another shot from Young, which compelled Bridge to concede a corner. Cotterill put in an excellent long shot from half, which was fisted away. Then play became more even, until from a pass from Corfield, Blaker scored with a grand shot (2-1). They pressed, and Stubbs shot over; then Robertson got away and scored easily (2-2). Blaker shot over, after some more even play. Robertson then got away again and scored with a rather slow shot, which perhaps Rayner might have saved (2-3). Half-time, 2-3. Christ Church at once forced a corner, but Rayner saved splendidly. We soon pressed, and Young nearly scored with a fine shot. Bridge had numerous shots to clear, which he did excellently. Anderson might have scored, but shot wide. More was playing finely, stopping our forwards frequently; Blaker nearly scored, but the ball was fisted out to Corfield, who sent it behind. We were now pressing hard, and from a good centre by Robinson, Blaker shot high over. Robinson next sent in a hot shot, which Bridge saved well; and their forwards had got the ball down when the whistle blew. Result 2-3.

The team played better than it has done before. Wynter ought to be good with experience. Truslove was excellent, and Young and Cotterill worked hard. Corfield and Anderson were the best of the forwards. Robinson was much better.

CHRIST CHURCH.

F. Bridge (goal), R. E. More, Corbett-Lowe (backs), P. T. Jones, S. C. Probyn, — Dixon (halves), E. H. Robertson, J. C. W. Gilbert, W. T. Stubbs, R. S. Cooper, and A. H. Hogarth (forwards).

WESTMINSTER.

W. V. Rayner (goal), A. C. Barnby, R. Wynter (backs), F. Young, R. Truslove, E. Æ. Cotterill (halves), W. F. Corfield, S. M. Anderson, R. N. R. Blaker, L. Y. Barnby, and A. C. Robinson (forwards).

WESTMINSTER *v.* OLD CARTHUSIANS.

Saturday, October 30.

We kicked off at quarter to three. They at once took the offensive and forced a corner, but nothing resulted; still they pressed, and Rayner saved finely from Davidson. We then had a slight spell of pressing, but could not get through. Rayner was next conspicuous by another save from a shot by Buzzard. Walton, with a long kick from back, landed the ball right in the mouth of goal, and Bliss scored (0-1). They soon pressed again, and forced two corners in quick succession, but both were got away safely. A. C. Barnby then badly missed his kick near goal and conceded a corner, from which the Old Carthusians scored (0-2). They still pressed, and Davidson scored again (0-3). The ball was then taken up the field by our forwards, and Blaker shot over. Still pressing, Corfield might have scored, but spoilt his chance by waiting too long. Hereabouts McKenna came into collision with one of the other side, and in consequence sprained his ankle, and so had to go off the field. We therefore had to play with four forwards, Anderson going centre-half. The game was played with much vigour on both sides, the Carthusians by no means being the heavier. Although we had only ten men, we had much more of the game than before, and might have scored, but L. Y. Barnby shot feebly. Half-time, 0-3. Old Carthusians at once went off with a rush, and scored two goals in quick succession, through Merriman and Garnett. Rayner was playing splendidly, saving shot after shot in fine style. Corfield ran down and only just shot outside. Then Blaker ran down finely, and just skimmed the bar with a good shot. The game was now more even, Blaker making another good try. Barnby shot over from a good position. Davidson scored again for them (0-6). Time was then called.

The Old Carthusians were a very good team, and considering we had only ten men, we did very well not to have the score doubled. Lonsdale at back was weak, tackling very feebly. Young, of the halves, and Corfield, of the forwards, were best. Rayner, in goal, was splendid.

Teams:—

WESTMINSTER.

W. V. Rayner (goal), A. C. Barnby, H. R. Lonsdale (backs), F. Young, H. McKenna, R. Truslove (halves), W. E. Corfield, S. M. Anderson, R. N. R. Blaker, L. Y. Barnby, and A. C. Robinson (forwards).

OLD CARTHUSIANS.

J. T. McGaw (goal), E. H. Bray, F. J. Walton (backs), A. G. Whitting, O. E. Wreford Brown, C. H. Frith (half-backs), H. A. Merriman, A. D. Buzzard, A. J. Davidson, E. Garnett, and E. C. Bliss (forwards).

2ND XI. *v.* CLAPHAM ROVERS 2ND XI.

Saturday, October 16.

The Rovers kicked off against the wind. The School at once pressed, but by bad shooting and waiting too long in front of goal could not score. At half-time the score was 0-0. Almost immediately on restarting the School scored, through Bernays, with a good shot from the left wing. This roused the Rovers, who scored twice—once through a misunderstanding between Beveridge and Willett, and the other by their outside right getting clear away. Bernays, Harris, Plaskitt, Beveridge, and Willett were best. The shooting was very poor.

Teams:—

2ND XI.

B. H. Willett (goal), H. W. Beveridge, R. Scarisbrick (backs), J. W. Lord, R. Wynter, H. Plaskitt (halves), G. H. Bernays, G. B. Wells, S. S. Harris, H. S. Bompas, and W. B. Jacob (forwards).

The Visitors did not leave their names.

DEBATING SOCIETY.

At a meeting held on October 21 the following motion was discussed:—‘That in the opinion of this House the present Metropolitan Police system is calculated to excite admiration and respect.’

Proposer, W. F. CORFIELD; Seconder, W. V. RAYNER; Opposer, H. MCKENNA.

The PROPOSER (W. F. Corfield) made figures the foundation of his speech, only unfortunately his figures disproved rather than proved his arguments. He (W. F. Corfield) considered the fact that the New York Police system is modelled on our own should be enough to show with what admiration and respect we should look upon our Metropolitan Police Force.

The OPPOSER (H. McKenna), in opposing, made a lengthy speech full of facts about the force and of its grievances. He spoke well, though the task of opposing was very difficult.

The SECONDER (W. V. Rayner) had not much to add to the Proposer's speech. He commented on the endurance of policemen at some length, but his speech rather related to individuals than to the force as a whole.

A. MCKENNA made a short and amusing speech, but it contained no fact worth recording.

L. Y. BARNBY told the House a dog-muzzling story, in which the policeman took a bribe. Surely bribery is not desirable in our Metropolitan Police Force.

After short speeches by H. MCKENNA, R. TRUSLOVE, and A. F. COLVILLE, the House divided as follows:—Ayes, 15; Noes, 3.

The House then adjourned.

On October 28 the House met again, to discuss the following motion:—‘That in the opinion of this House some stringent measures should be passed to prevent the immigration of aliens.’

Proposer, R. TRUSLOVE; Seconder, A. S. GAYE; Opposer, F. WATERFIELD.

Before proceeding to the motion of the evening it was decided to present the old Ledger of the Society to the School Library.

The PROPOSER (R. Truslove) spoke well, though rather shortly. He did not consider it fair that foreigners should come to England and undersell Englishmen. In case of war aliens would have to be fed, and this would be an unnecessary drain on our resources. We must be careful we do not make ourselves a casual ward for the world.

The OPPOSER (F. Waterfield) said that so far Parliament had found it impossible to restrict the immigration of aliens, and if it tried to do so, it would at once lead to strained relations between England and the powers of Europe. The Opposer pointed out that without the aliens England would lack any position in many of the fine arts.

The SECONDER (A. S. Gaye) spoke at some length on various professions which he said were totally filled by foreigners. He also objected to anarchists being allowed into England, and when here, to hold meetings as they please.

A. MCKENNA was as usual amusing, but, again as usual, one could not see for which side of the question he was speaking. Jews are aliens; if aliens are turned out of the country, what should we do without our pawnbrokers?

F. WATERFIELD and H. MCKENNA each spoke again at some length, and after a good debate the House divided:—Ayes, 11; Noes, 4.

The House then adjourned.

The House met on November 4 to discuss the following motion:—‘That in the opinion of this House some control should be exercised over public advertising.’

Proposer, E. Æ. COTTERILL; Seconder, A. MCKENNA; Opposer, L. Y. BARNBY.

The PROPOSER (E. Æ. Cotterill) spoke very shortly, and did not appear to make the most of his subject.

The OPPOSER (L. Y. Barnby) spoke well and fluently. Why should anyone be so hard as to try to put a stop to the ‘poor man’s picture gallery’? The Opposer disagreed with the Proposer, who had said that murders were often caused through people trying to imitate some theatrical murder scene.

The SECONDER (A. McKenna) said that advertising in fields, such as one sees from the railway, should certainly be stopped. He did not like the practice of putting up in the streets, as advertisements, pictures of public men; in this McKenna referred to the advertisement for someone’s carpets, in which Mr. Gladstone and Lord Salisbury figure as carpet-layers.

After short speeches from W. V. RAYNER, A. MCKENNA, R. TRUSLOVE, L. Y. BARNBY, and S. M. ANDERSON, a division resulted as follows:—Ayes, 3; Noes, 11.

This was a very poor debate, but perhaps it may be attributed to the President’s absence.

The House met again on November 11, to discuss the following motion:—‘That in the opinion of this House our Indian frontier policy is open to adverse criticism.’

Proposer, H. MCKENNA; Seconder, B. H. WILLETT; Opposer, F. YOUNG.

The PROPOSER (H. McKenna) spoke at great length. He commented on the lack of national spirit or independence among the Indians, saying that, if ever such a spirit arose throughout India at once, we certainly should be in a tight place. Russia is moving rapidly towards our frontier, and still we are doing all in our power to make enemies of the frontier tribes, whose friendship we should need bodily if the Russians invaded India. Our Indian army is at present strong enough to cope with another Mutiny or even a Russian invasion, but not both at the same time.

The OPPOSER (F. Young) said that the present troubles on the Indian frontier extended over a space of 300 miles; and if we abandoned our forward policy, as the Proposer would have us do, the Afridi inhabitants of these 300 miles of land would at once ravage the surrounding country, and in fact do as they liked. The Opposer said that at all costs we must preserve intact our present frontier line.

The SECONDER (B. H. Willett) made a fairly good maiden speech. He said that our Indian Government invited frontier wars. Why should we try to conquer these tribes, instead of making friends and allies of them? As matters stand, these frontier tribes would all go over to Russia if she commenced an invasion.

L. Y. BARNBY: Our frontier policy is certainly the correct one. We are strengthening our frontier, and forcing our friendship on the frontier tribes, the better to keep out the Russian invader.

After a few words from B. H. WILLETT and F. YOUNG, the House divided:—Ayes, 6; Noes, 5.

It was decided, after the division, that meetings would continue to be held, at all events for the present, despite the absence of Q SS. rehearsing for the Play.

House Notes.

ASHBURNHAM HOUSE.—We were beaten in the Juniors by College (3-1), but were greatly weakened by Wynter’s absence. Wynter has since played for the School at back, and we congratulate him heartily. Our wedding present to Mr. Michell was a claret jug, with a fitting inscription. Our Fives Ties are on

the point of starting, but the entries are not over numerous.

COLLEGE.—The cast has been made up, and rehearsals are taking place daily. We shall soon be changing 'houses.' Room Ties are progressing steadily. Seniors' Room have beaten both Juniors' Room and Third Election Room, which last has been beaten after a close game by Second Election Room. The Literary Society has read 'Othello.' Next comes the 'Tempest,' which is memorable for the extreme hilarity which attended it in its last reading, two years ago. We hope F. Young will soon recover from his injury. Junior College has beaten Junior Ashburnham and Junior Grant's by 3-1 and 3-0 respectively.

GRANT'S.—Little or nothing has happened since the last number. In Juniors we were beaten easily, but our team was very incomplete, five of the proper players being absent. The Literary Society has read the 'School for Scandal,' and is now reading 'As You Like It.' We congratulate H. Barnes on his house-colours. L. J. Moon has received his Corinthian cap.

H.BB.—In the Junior House matches we were drawn against Rigauds in the first round, and succeeded in beating them by 1-0, after first playing a drawn game. In the match against Old Foresters we had five representatives. The House Fives Ties have just commenced. Our wedding present to Mr. Michell was a set of fish knives and forks, with suitable inscription.

RIGAUDS.—Our attention has been called to an extraordinary oversight in a previous number; no reference was made to Blaker's success with his preliminary legal examiners. We apologise, and offer him our best congratulations. We must also congratulate Blaker on his excellent display for Casuals against Manchester City in the exeat, and Beasley on his appearance for Corinthians at Sheffield on the same date. Stenning has also played in the Seniors', and More in the Freshers' match at Oxford, since the last number of *The Elizabethan* appeared. We were drawn against H.BB. in the first round of Juniors, and were finally defeated on the call of time by 1-0, after previously playing a drawn game of 1-1; for us Lord and Roose were best. H. McKenna is again *hors de combat*, as he had the misfortune to sprain his ankle badly in the Old Carthusian match. L. Y. and A. C. Barnby continue to play regularly for the School. Yard Ties have been revived this term, and have reached the semi-final stage, Blaker, S. M. Anderson, and L. Y. Barnby being the survivors. Hearty congratulations to Beasley on his Corinthian cap.

POETRY.

WHENCE COMETH SLEEP?

A STILLNESS as of some deserted strand
Where never footfall breaks the silence deep;
A loneliness as when the shadows creep
With quiet languor o'er the weary land;
From some such country, wild, and strange, and grand,
There comes to those who laugh and those who weep
The gentle touch of all-consoling Sleep,
The kindly solace of her soothing hand.
O wondrous Sleep! thou vanquisher of pain,
Sometimes I wonder, when thou leavest me,
If thy great heart is longing to be free,
If thou wouldst seek thine ancient home again;
If, as the legion of the ne'er-to-be,
Thy dreams of Liberty are all in vain!

E. H. MOYLE COOPER.

OLD WESTMINSTER FREEMASONS.

A REGULAR meeting of the Old Westminsters' Lodge, No. 2233, was held at the Café Royal, Regent Street, on Tuesday, October 19. The following members were present:—C. W. Stephenson, W.M.; S. H. West, S.W.; W. A. Ellis, J.W.; W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P., P.M.; P. J. Mure, P.M.; Thomas Wakley, jun., P.M.; Rev. E. M. Tomlinson, P.M.; Major H. E. Rawson, Secretary; H. F. Manisty, Walter Tomlinson, J. B. Liberty, S.D.; W. E. Horne, P. S. Lee, W. J. Armitage, and one guest, Bro. Edward Rivers, of the Coleridge Lodge.

The principal business was the election of Worshipful Master for the coming year, and Bro. S. H. West, M.D., was unanimously elected to fill the post. Bro. West, in returning thanks, alluded to the fact that he was the first Old Westminister to be made a Freemason in the Old Westminsters' Lodge, and remarked that he was proposed as a candidate by his 'Junior' and was seconded (or was to have been) by his 'Senior.' Bro. Wakley was re-elected Treasurer.

Two Old Westminsters were proposed as candidates for admission into Freemasonry in the Lodge.

The sum of one guinea was voted to the Guy's Hospital Re-Endowment Fund.

A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. Stephenson in recognition of his services in the Worshipful Master's chair during the past year.

After the reception of a report of a sub-Committee, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the usual banquet.

Recent Wedding.

'AN interesting wedding recently took place at Heathfield, in Sussex, the contracting parties being Mr. Arthur A. Sikes, of *Punch*, and Miss Nellie Ganthony, the well-known entertainer whose humorous, musical, and emotional sketches caused such a sensation during her recent tours in America and South Africa. Mr. Arthur Sikes, besides being a great linguist, was mathematical exhibitioner, Trinity College, Cambridge, and second-class Classical Tripos, and he has been assistant-editor of Henry Blackburne's art handbooks since 1891. Perhaps he is best known as the author of "The Inspector-General," a Russian comedy, translated from the original of Gogol, and other works, and as Reuter's special correspondent at the Tsar's coronation.'—*Black and White*, October 30, 1897.

A. A. Sikes was elected to College in 1876, and head to Cambridge, with also a triplet exhibition at election, 1880.

Obituary.

WE regret to announce the death of JOHN WRIGHT, Registrar of the Bloomsbury County Court. He came to the School in 1845, and was afterwards of St. John's College, Cambridge, graduating B.A. in 1856 and M.A. in 1860. In 1854 he rowed against Oxford. Mr. Wright died on November 10, aged 63.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—Your correspondent, 'One of the Six,' who speaks of 'reaching a climax,' deals with facts much as he deals with the Queen's English. He calls comment needless, but perhaps an

inference may be allowed. Mine is that he is unable to count above thirty, and having reached that number begins again. As it happens, there were Up-fields, on October 16, more than twenty times that number of boys reckoned in his 'rough computation.' He seems not to know that the Second XI. had a match. What then is his evidence worth?

Your obedient servant,

ONE OF TWO HUNDRED.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I was surprised to see in your last number a letter complaining of the small attendance at the match *v. F. Bickley's XI.* The writer was singularly unfortunate in his choice of a date, as on this day I happened to make a list of those who were Up-fields out of my house, and their numbers equalled his 'grand total.' Your correspondent should moreover bear in mind that a Second XI. match, which was also playing, must have diminished the attendance at the First XI. match. Hoping that you will in future refuse to publish letters so manifestly incorrect and misleading,

I beg to remain, yours &c.,

AN INDIGNANT SUBSCRIBER.

Our Contemporaries.

WE beg to acknowledge with thanks the following: *Our Boys', Alleynian, Malvernian, Lancing College Magazine, Haileyburian, Cheltonian, Cliftonian Blue, Reptonians, Pauline, The Bulletin, Cantuarian, Marlburian, Working Men's College Journal, Blundellian, Felstedian, Rossallian, Penn Charter Magazine.*

NOTICES.

All contributions to the December number of *The Elizabethan* must reach the Editor *not later than* December 10.

Contributions must be written on one side of the paper only.

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

Subscriptions now due should be forwarded to J. Aston, St. Peter's College, Westminster (*not* addressed 'The Treasurer').

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

Morcat.