



The Elizabethan.

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THE PAST YEAR.

AT the commencement of another year our thoughts most naturally carry us back to the past and forward to the future, and the question that immediately occurs to us is whether the past year has been productive of good to the school, and whether we may look hopefully to the future. We are happy to say that we think that the year cannot be regarded as unsatisfactory by anybody, and feel assured that after an examination of the several elements that are most intimately associated with a Public School, our readers will be compelled to join in the favourable verdict which we venture to express. We will now briefly state the merits on which we beg its acceptance. In the first place, we will glance at the most important constituent of a Public School—its scholarship, for the fruit of which we must rather look to the distinctions gained at the Universities by Old Westminsters than the work done actually in the school; and the honours gained last year have quite equalled, if not exceeded, the average standard of former years. But Present Westminsters must claim some share for their studies, and the only means

of knowing how our work stands in comparison with that of other schools is by looking at the Examiners' reports. These, which were presented at Whitsuntide, were complimentary to the whole school.

In the next place, we will briefly touch upon last year's sports, and our prospects for the future.

In Cricket we had a steady, if not a brilliant, Eleven. Our batting average was the highest of the schools, and we were lucky to possess in our Captain not only an excellent batter, but also a cricketer good at all points. Our fielding was fair, but bowling was decidedly our weak point. In our opinion, although batting is without doubt highly important, it would be better if the Eleven were to pay more attention to fielding and bowling, as without proficiency in these points we can never hope to produce really good cricketers.

The majority of the old Eleven have left us, but those who remain are very serviceable members, and we think we shall form a very fair Eleven for this year.

Now, with regard to boating, doubtlessly owing to the kindness of several Old Westminsters,

from whom we received much more coaching than usual, we may congratulate ourselves on having made substantial progress.

House Fours were introduced for the first time; and though they were not altogether successful, owing to the irregular attendance of their crews, they might, if persevered in, add considerably to the popularity of the water. We unfortunately rowed no foreign races, and therefore were unable to compare ourselves with other Boating Clubs, but the T.B.B. and Q.S.S. race proved that other boats, besides the Eight, had improved greatly during the season's practice, for the crews in both boats pulled much better together than is usually the case. We hope, however, that this year some foreign races will be arranged, as we doubt not but that they will contribute materially to excite the Eight to increased practice and training. Our prospects for this year are tolerably hopeful; we shall have five of the old Eight again, including stroke.

In Football, the Eleven, during last Half, fully maintained the former prestige of a Westminster Eleven. The coming match with Charterhouse is one to which all Westminsters will look forward with pleasure, and hope that it will become as regular a custom as the cricket match.

Our Athletics passed off very successfully. The times for the races showed a considerable improvement on former years, and some of the jumping was also remarkably good, considering the heavy rain which had fallen.

The Play, the other most important event of last year, also passed off satisfactorily, and the general opinion of the spectators with regard to the actors was that some were good, the rest moderate, and none bad, it being a noticeable fact that the style of the acting showed that the spirit of the play was not lost upon them.

Another subject of congratulation is the great increase in the numbers of the School, which has exceeded all expectation, the boarding-houses being now full; and we think we may confidently say that if the boarding-houses that are promised to us at some future date were in our possession now, they would also be filled. As a proof of our statement we may mention that it was found necessary to create two new Forms and add an additional master to our staff.

In conclusion, we may express a hope that the prosperity which we think we have proved to have existed during the past year will continue to the future.

THE Dean's Greek Testament Prize was withheld last year; but two second prizes have been awarded to E. V. Arnold and W. C. Ryde, *Æquales*.

School Notes.

THE *Elizabethan* correspondence may at last congratulate itself upon having obtained a definite and beneficial result. Notwithstanding the repeated assurances of its impossibility that proceeded from our *prefectus fabrum* (your pardon here for one moment—in order to strengthen the scholarship of the school, it has been thought advisable that in every number of this periodical there should be not less than one phrase requiring some knowledge of the Latin Grammar in order to ensure its correct solution: whether the ensuing number should contain a key to such passages in a former one, and references to the page and paragraph, has not yet been determined) a "Bankrupt Racquet Player" will now find that he may safely venture to resume the sport, which formerly led to the extreme and bitterest result of unbridled extravagance, and "Racquet's" plaintive wail may be hushed in the song of triumph or the repeated resonance of the plastic sphere which will now proceed on its airy flight with that inward joy and outward activity which nothing but apprehensive anxiety and perturbation of mind has ever been known to dispel.

The wire on the College Court has been refastened.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL research being the order of the day, the ancient status of Little Cloisters is now undergoing a thorough investigation and restoration, where possible. With this plausible end in view, the gigantic work is now being undertaken of removing the plaster which has for so long encumbered its walls, and which it is discovered had accumulated over the masonry for the incredible depth of, in some places, considerably more than one inch. The results of this interesting work are already appearing in the unprecedented and momentous discovery of a small window, which moreover showed traces of being reduced from a larger one of still more ancient date.

It is not impossible that if this investigation be pursued still farther many interesting relics may be found, although we can scarcely hope for a discovery of such paramount interest and importance as that just recorded.

While on the subject, it may be mentioned as a significant fact, and one which has been regarded with considerable uneasiness and suspicion by some of our number, that the mutilated desk at the top of the Shell Room has been replaced at the expense of last half's members of the form.

ONE of the lines which met with such success in the Epilogue to the last play, ending—

“—rus abiens Zingiber ipse fugit,”

will no longer admit of correct scansion. Ginger's departure is an accomplished fact.

WE understand that the examination of the Sixth, and we suppose of a great part of the school besides, will be conducted this half by examiners appointed by the Joint University Board. How this plan will be made to work harmoniously with the election system,

we do not as yet understand ; but of course there are no real obstacles to united action. The general examination of public schools was held last year in June ; but it would be impossible for us to have a general examination of the school twice in the year without harm to school work, and besides the necessities of election, the spring half is in every way the best for examinations. We should be very sorry to have our short, but pleasant summer half troubled with heavy examinations. While we may anticipate much good to the school by an annual examination by outsiders, we cannot help adding our humble voice to the protest of the Head Masters against converting the examination into a competition between schools. If a school is bad, by all means let it be known ; but why schools should be induced to compete one with another for the most certificates, we cannot see. It is generally admitted that the number of certificates gained in each school is by no means a complete test of scholarship, even as to the highest forms, much less as regards the whole school. If it were so, scholarship is but one of the objects of a public school ; and competition of this kind, even if it does not of necessity lead to "cramming," can scarcely have any but a harmful influence.

THE School has to regret the loss this half of Mr. Bodington, one of the most efficient of the younger masters, who has been elected to a Fellowship at Lincoln College. Mr. Bodington gained a first class in Lit. Hum. in 1871. We wish him all success in his new sphere.

Obituary.

WE regret exceedingly to have to record the death during the past month of the Right Hon. Sir Alexander McDonnell, Bart., who died on Thursday, the 21st of January. Alexander McDonnell was born in 1794, and, coming to Westminster for his education, was elected into college third in 1809. He acted Crito in the *Andria* of 1811, and *Phædria* in the *Eunuchus* of the following year, and was elected to a studentship at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1813. He obtained a second class in classics, 1816 ; the University prize for Latin verse, 1815 ; that for English verse in 1816 ; the Latin essay in 1819, and the English essay in 1820, in which year he took his degree as M.A. He was nominated to a faculty studentship at Christ Church, in 1824, which he kept for two years. In the same year he was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, but afterwards settled in Dublin, where he became connected with the National Board of Education. In 1844, not long after his appointment as a Resident Commissioner of that Board, he was sworn a member of her Majesty's Privy Council in Ireland, and on his retirement in 1872 he was created a baronet. Sir Alexander was a most regular and liberal contributor to the "Cap," though his residence in Ireland prevented him from maintaining a personal acquaintance with the school.

Amidst the universal sorrow for the death of Canon

Kingsley, we cannot refrain from adding our small tribute to his memory. Mr. Kingsley has been at Westminster little more than a year, but in that short time he has made himself universally respected by all who knew him, and his loss is deeply lamented by many within the abbey precincts.

The Fields.

IT was anything but encouraging to find on our return to school, that one of the best dribblers in the Eleven had left in the holidays. Though Rumball only won his pink last half, he had already shown himself a great proficient in the art of getting goals, and it will be very difficult to fill his place satisfactorily. However, if all the twenty-two were to compete for the one vacant place, some one ought to prove himself worthy of it before long. At present we could name three or four who have an equally good chance of success, but there are many who with a little practice might have just as good a claim for consideration.

Last half's football was brought to a satisfactory conclusion by a complete conquest of the Old Westminsters. Neither side was as good as it might have been, for the Old Westminsters only mustered nine men, and our forces were considerably weakened by the absence of Waddington, Crowdy, Fox and Rumball. The ground was covered with snow, but this did not at all interfere with the spirit of the game, which was well maintained on both sides. However, from the first we had the best of it, and three goals in succession were speedily secured by Alington, Webb, and Whitehead, after which Otter was rather too easily allowed to score one for his side, soon to be avenged by another from Alington. Before the end of the game each side managed to add one more to their score, Alington for the third time gaining us a goal, and Leggatt securing one for the Old Westminsters. The match was thus ours by five goals against two. Afterwards Davson and Gamble were put into the Eleven, the latter filling the long-vacant place of goal-keeper. On the opposite side Otter was the only first-rate player, though Busk, Holthouse and Robinson were all good for something. For ourselves, we had better employ the usual expression, "Where all played well, it would perhaps be invidious to particularize, although possibly," and now the invidious act is, as usual, committed, "the palm of merit might safely be awarded to" E. H. Alington. The sides were as follows :—

Old Westminsters.—H. S. Otter (Capt.), K. B. Otter, T. T. Busk, E. H. Holthouse, C. E. Robinson, E. H. Ryde, W. Brinton, H. Leggatt, G. M. Hill (subs.).

The School.—P. G. L. Webb (Capt.), E. H. Alington, F. Whitehead, W. C. Aston, J. H. Williams, C. S. Davson, A. F. M. Gamble, R. D. Brinton, G. A. Bolton, H. Olliffe, C. B. Ryde.

Westminster v. Gitanos.—This match was played on Wednesday, January 27th, and after a very good game, ended in our favour. As it was the first match we have played since the holidays, we were rather out of condition, and did not play quite so well together as we ought to have done, but by dint of hard playing

up and some good united rushes, we were able to come off with *éclat*. Luckily we gained the toss and were helped by a strong wind, which blew straight down the ground, and as soon as the Gitanos had kicked off, we took the ball down with a good rush into their quarters, and Williams, who was playing back, by a lucky shot passed it under the tape. Being now under the disadvantage of having the wind in our faces, our adversaries threatened our goals frequently, but were never successful, and at length by some good dribbling, the leather was taken down in front of their goals, and prettily piloted through by Alington. No advantage was gained by either side after this, and so the game remained in our hands by two goals to none. All played well on our side, but perhaps Alington is most worthy of mention, and for the Gitanos Farmer, Kinnaird, and Lindsay did good service. The sides were:

Gitanos.—C. E. Farmer (Capt.), A. F. Kinnaird, H. St. J. Mildmay, A. C. Thompson, W. Lindsay, A. Pratt-Barlow, W. T. Langford, H. W. Bonsor, J. H. Giffard, J. H. Stronge, C. C. Macnamara (subs.).

Westminster.—P. G. L. Webb (Capt.), E. H. Alington, E. Waddington, F. T. Crowdy, C. J. M. Fox, F. Whitehead, W. C. Aston, J. H. Williams, C. S. Davson, A. F. M. Gamble, F. L. Rawson.

The following matches have been arranged for this half:

FEBRUARY.		MARCH.	
Tues. 2—XI. v. XXII.		Wed. 3—v. Wanderers.	
Wed. 3—v. Harrow Chequers		Wed. 10—v. Civil Service.	
Tues. 9—VI. v. School.		Sat. 13—v. Gitanos.	
Thur. 11—v. Crystal Palace.		Wed. 17—T.BB. v. Q.SS.	
Wed. 17—IX. v. XV. (?)			
Sat. 20—v. Charterhouse.			
Wed. 24—v. Clapham Rovers.			

The following School Matches have also been played:—

Under Elections v. T.BB. below Shell.—On Wednesday, December 2nd, this old-established match was played, and was won by the town-boys by four goals to none. The town-boy eleven was much the heavier of the two, and had it nearly all their own way. The first goal was got soon after the beginning of play by Jackson; some objections were raised on the ground of hands, which were ultimately withdrawn. The next was kicked by Rumball, the third by Rawson, and the last by Tayloe. On the part of the Queen's Scholars Aston's play was by far the most conspicuous, while for the Town Boys Rumball and Secretan played best. Sides:—

Q.SS.—Aston, Vyvyan, Longstaffe, Rogers, Olliffe (half-back), Turner, Smith, Godfrey (back), Robinson, Williams, Parker.

T.BB.—Rawson, Rumball, Dury, E. R. Frere, Secretan, Jackson, Batley, B. Rogers, H. E. Frere, Tayloe, and T. Fischer.

Rigaud's v. Grant's.—This match was played on the 10th of December, and ended in favour of Rigaud's by two goals to nil. Play commenced at 12.30, when Rawson kicked off the ball for Grant's, which was quickly returned by Rigaud's. After this the ball was kept for some time in the middle of the ground, till C. Fox got away with it, and secured the first goal for the Rigaudites. Ends were changed, and the game was very evenly contested for a long time. Batley nearly succeeded in equalizing matters by a side-shot, but the goal-keeper managed to stop it; however, soon after it was taken down to Grant's goals by Fox, and there put in. Afterwards nothing of interest occurred. For Rigaud's, C. Fox, Jackson played well forwards, Tayloe played a very good back. For Grant's, Batley, Rawson, and Fischer T. Sides were as follows:—

Rigaud's.—C. Fox (Capt.), Tayloe, H. Abernethy (backs), J. Fox (goals), J. Abernethy, Eddis, McNamara, Littlehales, Rodocanachi, Rogers, Jackson.

Grant's.—Rawson (Capt.), Batley, J. Fischer, T. Fischer, Dury (back), Russell, Hemsley, Guest, Clarke, Kelly.

The Elizabethan.

THE beginning of the second half-year of *The Elizabethan's* life naturally leads us to look back a little at the past, as well as forward to the future. When the *Oxford Undergraduate's Journal*, criticizing one of the early numbers of our paper, declared it to be "a healthy babe enough," we think that it was justified in so doing; for whatever else may be said of it, no one has as yet noticed any symptoms of decay in our paper, and we confidently hope that it is destined to enjoy a longer life than most of its predecessors. The difficulties which beset all magazines, and especially those connected with schools, when they are first started, have on the whole been successfully overcome. In the first six months six numbers have been published, five being the regular monthly numbers, September only having been passed over, and the sixth, the special Play number, published on Christmas Eve and the following days, and taking, to all intents and purposes, the place of a January number. With the present February our new year begins with the happiest auspices. Each number has consisted of eight pages, except the last, for which it was found necessary to increase the size of the paper to twelve pages; for which, however, no corresponding increase in price was made. For the contributions sent in we have chiefly to thank the anonymous author of the "Recollections of a Home-Boarder," whose interesting story continues to occupy a place in our columns; the writer of the Play critique in the December number; "LL.D.," whose second contribution has been reserved for its proper month; "P.R.S.," our ambitious doggerel-writer, for the speedy accomplishment of whose hopes we contribute our best wishes; to our Oxford and Cambridge correspondents, and to the writers of last year's prize poems, for their kind permission to print their poetry, of which we avail ourselves again in the present number. To the school in general we wish we could render more thanks than we can; and we hope that they will try and make up this half for last year's shortcomings. Our correspondence columns have been filled in November and December, but even to these Old Westminsters have been the chief contributors. We may mention that from the first we have set apart two columns for school notes, hoping thus to elicit attempts from those who felt unequal to tasks of greater length, and that these columns have never yet been properly filled. We accept all contributions anonymously, and require no other guarantee of good faith than the substance of the contribution itself. At the same time, it is something to be able to say that we have never yet had any difficulty in filling up our pages; and that we contemplate increasing their number permanently from eight to twelve. If, however, this is to be done, we must have considerably more contributions from the school than at present, whether in prose or verse.

In financial matters our circumstances, though not brilliant, are satisfactory. We have a balance altogether of rather over £5 on the half-year; but the Play number, the profits of which are devoted to the

"Ginger Testimonial Fund," promises better. Whilst reducing the general subscription, therefore, we have to announce that the etchings published with our last two numbers will be discontinued; that the subscription is for nine numbers only, and should any more be published within the year they may be considered as extra numbers; and should any increase in the size of *The Elizabethan* be determined upon, that a re-arrangement may be necessary. But if we can increase the number of our subscribers as we wish, there will be no need to raise the subscription; and we therefore ask all our friends to try to get our paper as widely known as possible, especially amongst Old Westminsters. We must not conclude without recording here our sincere thanks to Dr. Scott for kindly defraying the expense of the new wood-cut, which first appeared in our December number; and to our special artist, who, besides the etchings which have appeared in *The Elizabethan*, designed the first frontispiece, and drew the second on the wood; and generally to all those who have supported us hitherto, and who, we hope, will still continue to do so. *Floreat.*

FROM OUR OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

BEFORE I proceed to mention any event connected with the present term, I may state that H. G. F. Bramwell did not disappoint the hopes which his previous success had entitled us to entertain respecting him, but succeeded in obtaining his first class in moderations.

During the vacation, which, after being unusually pleasant, owing to the prevalence, through so long a period, of frost and its accompanying amusements, came to an end on Saturday, January 16th, Oxford was visited by a fire, and was also made the scene of one of perhaps the most terrible railway accidents. I allude to that, of course, which has bestowed an unenviable notoriety upon the little village of Shipton. Besides which there have been unfortunately several fatal cases of typhoid fever; but, however, as we are assured that these cases were not due to any defect in the water, which is said to be free from any hurtful substances, or to any fault in the drainage, which is good, we hope that they may prove to be the last.

With regard to the University Eight, it is of course difficult to say much at present, as we have had as yet very little chance of making anything approaching to a fair estimate of its capabilities, owing to the high winds that have prevailed lately, and to the floods which have rendered the towing-path quite useless for the purposes of coaching from the bank. It is useless to mention the names of the crew as they stand at present, as alterations are continually being made, and may be expected for some time, though we hope that the crew will be definitely settled upon as soon as possible, since it is absolutely necessary for success that the men should get used to each other's rowing and to that of their stroke. Of course practice is continually going on, and I think we may say that the material is perhaps better than usual, and the form quite up to the average.

The Torpids are for the most part already made up,

and of them Christ Church will have two, and you will be glad to hear that in the first are two Old Westminsters, R. W. S. Vidal, and W. Brinton. The former of these has, by the way, resigned his post as President of the Oxford Football Association, and gained an Exhibition in Hebrew.

FROM OUR CAMBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT.

CAMBRIDGE, Jan. 29.

CAMBRIDGE is very dull, as usual at the beginning of term, and indeed also in a mitigated degree in the middle and at the end.

The University eight has been already some time in practice on the land, but nothing can yet be said of it in the way of general criticism, as the crew is not yet finally settled. It is perhaps a pity that the very hard weather we have had did not delay its coming somewhat, for the rough water raised in the river by the wind would give excellent training for the unquiet waters of the Thames.

Your readers have probably seen in some of the daily papers the Law and History Tripos list, but the good place gained by H. F. Manisty, in the Second Class, is still worth recording here, considering the curious unanimity displayed by Westminster men at Cambridge in taking *Third Class* honours.

Poetry.

LIVINGSTONE.

(*Gumbleton English Verse Prize.*)

THROUGH the deep void of boundless space the stars,
Engirt with glory, drive their golden cars:
We watch them as they move in measured time,
The silent bells of heaven's eternal chime;
And as in spangled waves they onward roll,
We fondly long to know their destined goal.
We watch the planets circling round the sun,
Ordain'd in varied paths their course to run;
Or when red Saturn rules the dusky sky,
Or the sweet star that opes morn's happy eye.
To know their form, their elemental fire
To contemplate our eager hearts aspire.
To us no secret is the changeful light,
Or full, or failing, of the queen of night.
Yet earth—our own abode—so small, so near,
Lies half unknown and half untrodden here.
And there are spots upon this earth, I ween,
That the dull eye of man hath never seen;
Where the strange cries of beasts alone are heard,
Or the shrill chatter of the forest bird,
Where man, creation's lord, lays not his hand
To rule creation:—desert is that land.

Far in the south lies Æthiop's burning strand,
Where nature thirsts 'midst endless fields of sand;
Where the fierce sunbeams scorch the air by day,
Nor night nor winter can their heat allay,
And all is desert—save where rank and high
Luxuriant grasses wave beneath the sky,
Or here and there the richly-teeming soil
Has learn'd to cheat the fire-god of his spoil,
And rears a monster-stock of tree and flower,
Transforming earth into a faëry bower.
Yet all this loveliness beside the sea,
This sweet diversity of flower and tree,
These richly-melting hues, these solemn shades
That slumber on the bosom of the glades—

What boots it all? For nature blooms in vain;
And the desertion of the central plain,
Yea, and Sahara's self were little worse
Than Paradise that smiles beneath a curse.

Freedom and Bondage strove, and Bondage fell,
And shrieking fled to the dark courts of Hell.
Yet ere she vanish'd, turn'd but once again,
And part of earth enfetted with a chain:
One end she dropp'd in Hell, the other bound
With cruel hand the captive's soul around,
And in man's godless heart she hid the key
That could unlock this bond of misery.
But tremble now, bad spirit, that blighted all
With thy fell curse; soon shall thy empire fall,
Crush'd by the hand of him whom Scotland bore
To win his laurels on far Afric's shore.

O wretched slave! he saw thy hapless plight,
Night soothed thee not, day brought thee no delight;
From home, from love, from mother's bosom torn,
Of every hope and every virtue shorn;
Thy noblest nature crush'd, thine honour stain'd,
Doom'd 'midst thy fellow-slaves to toil enchain'd!
And wast thou born the hateful mart to grace,
The wretched scion of a wretched race?
Did God that form in God's own image mould,
That man should barter it for sordid gold?
'Twas Livingstone that boldly crying "No,"
Against the curse of slavery dealt the blow.
He vow'd: and straightway from the distant North,
The minister of heaven, he sallied forth,
Thro' the dark Afric land from shore to shore,
Death lurking in his rear, and death before,
The dens of sin he open'd to the day,
And light came flooding in with cleansing ray.
To him no hindrance stood, or hill or wave,
To him the only thought to free the slave.
Yet long the desert, long the weary way,
His comrades' hearts are failing day by day.
Fever is gleaming bright from every eye,
And some are dead, and some are yet to die.
Through the wide desert thus athirst they go,
While nature seems to mock their silent woe.
As in the night a dream of former bliss
Upon the slumbering soul has shed a kiss,
Now sweet, yet bitter when the morrow morn
Puts sleep to flight, and finds the soul forlorn:
So, hung in heaven betwixt the earth and sky,
The treacherous mirage captivates the eye
In varied shape: anon the sea is near,
Anon cool rivers flowing deep appear;
Delusive hope the enticing image fires,
Then fades the empty dream, and hope expires,
And nought is present but the dreary plain,
And in the breast despair is lord again.
Yet he, the lion-hearted, onward strove,
Nor pain nor labour could abate his love.
But when at last success his efforts reap,
And on the far horizon gleams the deep,
What joy again to view the boundless sea
Dancing with motion ever fresh and free;
To watch the breakers that with sullen roar
March onward, like an army, to the shore!
Now rising high, now falling low, they turn,
And seem the adamantine rocks to spurn.
To heaven they leap; then shake their watery mane,
And downward fall in showers of new-born rain;
And all around the wanton sea-birds play
And lave their plumage in the sunlit spray.
The clouds have now forgotten quite to frown,
Smiling above, the dark-blue heaven looks down,
And tinges ocean with an azure dye.
Such is the scene that cheer'd the traveller's eye:
Louanda, welcome! hail, Atlantic, hail!
And welcome, ocean's daughter, sea-born gale!
To feel thy precious breath, the journey done,
Is 't not the glory of the battle won?

Yet here was ended not the task of love.
The traveller's spirit, inspired from above,
Brook'd not to rest. Scarce had two summers fled
Ere thro' the desert yet again he sped;
Thro' the great desert, never to return;
Who sought the Nile, but found the eternal bourne.

There comes a time.—The stars shine languid, pale,
The evening breezes sicken, fall, and fail.
The song-birds, ere they go to roost, in strange,
Uneasy flittings, o'er the tree-tops range;
Crying as tho' their tongues were loosed to tell
All nature what they know themselves so well
Then fever walks abroad: then death is rife,
Wrestling with health, (why say it not?) with life,
And sickly death hath mark'd him for his own;
Then sped the fatal shaft. He died alone.
Helpless, o'erwhelmed by grief's tumultuous tide,
His comrades dared not tell that he had died;
But bore his body through the stranger land,
And shielded it from every savage hand.
Love led them on, love made the mourner brave,
And home they brought the loved one to his grave.

Though now in peace beneath the Abbey stones,
All lowly shall rest his honour'd bones,
His fame for ever, as a church's spire,
To heaven pointing, shall devotion fire.
He who on earth life's weary journey trod
The friend of man, in heaven the friend of God.

P. G. L. WEBB.

WHAT MRS. GRUNDY THINKS OF "ELIZABETHAN."

[What Mr. Robinson thinks—James Russell Lowell.]

LEST our title should seem too pretentious, too weak,
Too serious, too flippant, too sacred, too heathen,
Through some dozens suggested we carefully seek,
And select as most suitable—*Elizabethan*.

But, dear me!
Old Mrs. G.

When she heard of that title, cried, "Fiddle-de-dee!"

What a terrible nuisance! Oh, what shall we do?
Of course we abandon the name we would choose,
And content us with one that accords with her view,
"The Collegiate Gazette," or "The Queen's Scholars' News."

For, dear me!
Old Mrs. G.

To approve our selection will never agree.

We felt it was better for those who might read
This journal to well understand what they read;
So, unanimous, voted its news we would speed
In a tongue of the living and not of the dead.

But, dear me!
Old Mrs. G.

This, as well as the Play, wants in Latin to be.

In our innocence thought we the name of our choice
Of the best was suggestive for speech and for pen;
Of the noblest examples to set before boys,
Of honest and earnest, true, serious men.

But, dear me!
Old Mrs. G.

Would prefer "Westmonasteriensis Nugæ."

We detest wit's sarcastic, satirical sting,
The flit of the gossip, the buzz of the brag;
And of industry never a type need we bring
Where all are hard-workers from Captain to Lag (?).

But, dear me!
Old Mrs. G.

Insists on this title—"The Westminster Bee."

We rejected the "Trifler," the "Tattler," and all
 The "News"es of this thing, the "Times"es of that,
 "Magazine of St. Peter"—(opposed to St. Paul),
 "A Monthly Review of Boat, Football, and Bat."
 Still, dear me!
 Old Mrs. G.
 Says she never will take "the thing"—neither must we!

'Twere but grateful that clear in our name should be heard
 Her name—the great queen—once all Englishmen's joy,
 Who, if not our foundress, great favours conferr'd,
 And benefits rare on the Westminster boy.
 But, dear me!
 Old Mrs. G.
 Won't allow for a moment that "plausible plea."

And ours is the name the whole world has affix'd
 To that which is fairest and truest in art,
 Where, with infinite skill by the architect mix'd,
 Strength, beauty, grace, honesty, all have a part.
 But, dear me!
 Old Mrs. G.
 Sham Gothic and stucco likes better to see.

A glance at our pages, next, Shakespere recalls,
 The great master for all who would write in our tongue;
 Whose wisdom refines us, whose music enrhralls,
 The divinest of poets who ever have sung.
 But, dear me!
 Old Mrs. G.
 Thinks Proverbial Tupper far finer than he.

We love the grand heroes whose victories make
 Resplendent the age of our "Good Queen Bess;"
 Still Raleigh and Gilbert, Howard, Sidney, and Drake,
 By noble examples their countrymen bless.
 But, dear me!
 Old Mrs. G.
 Vows fish just as fine may be found in the sea.

We honour the wisdom of Burleigh that steer'd
 In triumph his state through the furious "greeze"
 Of the world's raging nations, still courted and fear'd,
 While Spain's big Armada was swept from the seas.
 But, dear me!
 Old Mrs. G.
 Says now—(while we're laughed at)—we're top o' the tree.

If man's brightest exemplars to mind it will bring,
 The bravest in action, the purest in fame,
 The wisest to counsel, the sweetest to sing,
 This *Elizabethan*—how better the name?
 Though, dear me!
 Old Mrs. G.
 Its point and its pith, I fear, never may see.

P. R. S.

G. W. GINGER.

No recent event has caused so much regret in the Westminster world as the departure of our old friend Ginger. His name is so closely interwoven with every schoolboy recollection in the minds of Old Westminsters that this separation cannot be thought of without pain. On this account we think that a few words on his past life will not be unacceptable: we have therefore asked Ginger for a few particulars on the subject, and as he has kindly complied with our request, we think we cannot do better than give his history almost in his own words. Godfre William Ginger was born on the 23rd of June, 1808, at 21, Great College Street, Westminster. At nine years old his father placed him at Westminster School, the

Rev. Dr. Page being then Head Master, and the Rev. E. Ellis Under Master; there he remained for several years, and left in the reign of the Rev. Dr. Williamson. He then went to a school at the village of Ingonville, near Havre, where a schoolfellow had gone before. After staying there for about thirteen months, he returned home, to assist his father in the business. In 1830 he had the great affliction of losing him, and was left with the responsibility of providing for his mother and a large family (his brother William excepted, who had also been at Westminster School). By great perseverance and economy he accomplished this task, and now, after serving the Westminster boys as their bookseller for forty-four years, he has retired into a humble country life, to end his days in peace.

His grandfather, William Ginger, succeeded Benjamin Barker in 1745, and in 1767 his son William took his place. Thus the three generations of the Gingers have served the school for 131 years.

RECOLLECTIONS OF A HOME-BOARDER.

No. III.

It has often surprised me, in looking back at past days, to think what giants the home-boarders were at that time. My remark is not egotistical, for most assuredly I did not shine in that line. Yet, little as I then was, I possessed to the full extent the great love of games which characterized them; and all my holidays were spent at cricket, football, or racquets; going up town being about the greatest penance I could endure. This spirit may have been partly due to the freer opportunities we enjoyed, through our exemption from the Tuesday and Thursday afternoon lock-hours, which enabled those of us who pleased to go on the water in a pair-oar or half-decker, while the other fellows were, or were supposed to be, grinding away at their verses. Another reason for a certain eminence in that respect may have been our habit of playing together in the holidays, when, if it snowed, we took the football into Little Dean's Yard and played there: if it rained, we played hockey under the Piazza in College Gardens, for those were the days before the Chapter had been stirred up to undertake improvements, and Upper and Under Election rooms as yet were not. However this be, we certainly had in our number (which might almost, if not quite, have been counted on the two hands), a fair proportion of the Eight, several whom the Eleven were only too glad to while away from the water on match-days, some of the best racquet players, and one at least who could put the football on the Terrace and send it with one kick against the railing at the other end of Green. Nor were they less successful at quoits, pole-jumping, or ditch-leaping. I fear that it will not do for me to say much about scholarship, though we had a mathematician or two, as well as some whose classical attainments were most respectable; but then, in general, they went into College, and ceased to be true home-boarders.

One diversion, which was not entirely confined to them, but which they could practise more freely than

others, was climbing over the roof of School, and thence across the Minor Canons' or Prebendaries' houses, to the Abbey, and there wandering about at will. Vehement were the remonstrances of the female kind before whose windows these daring intruders suddenly appeared; but there was of course no catching them or obtaining their names, so that they were able to set all objectors at defiance.

Of course home-boarders fought; in that respect they did not differ from others; but, as a rule, we were not compelled to be present at a fight in order to make the ring, and, such scenes being not to my taste, I only remember seeing two pitched battles in the Fighting Green, in both of which home-boarders were engaged as principals. On the first occasion (it was St. Peter's day), the Abbey being under repair, we had to attend the service at half-past seven, as it could only be performed while the men were at breakfast; and, as we came out of church, a few yards' start was respectfully given to the masters, and the whole school was ushered into the Green, where the combat lasted till ten o'clock. I fancy that the parents of the home-boarders, expecting their sons to breakfast, must have pitied them for the unconscionably long sermon they had to endure. My own achievements in this line were limited to skirmishes with the Scies, who, when (as was often the case) I had played in Green to the very last, and had to take the football back to Martin's, would lie in wait opposite Sutcliff's, and, the instant I appeared, knock it out of my arms, and kick it off down Black Dog Alley, whither I had to pursue them. That this service was not quite free from danger will be evident to those who recollect the state of the back-slums of Westminster before Victoria Street and the Abbey buildings were in existence; when Flood Street with its farrier's forge formed the entrance to Dean's Yard on one side, and Dacre and Pye Streets on the other turned out their countless ragamuffins, to throw stones at us as we went to Fields, trusting in our inability to follow them down the lanes.

THE subject for the Phillimore Essay Prize is, "The causes of the success of the drama at Athens, and its comparative failure at Rome."

Correspondence.

TO CORRESPONDENTS, &c.

THE yearly subscription for *The Elizabethan* has been fixed at 3s. 6d., including postage.

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Contributions for our next Number to be sent in by February 20th; but correspondence only will be received up to February 23rd by the Editor, 1, Dean's Yard.

All other communications to be addressed to W. H. A. Cowell (Secretary), St. Peter's College, Westminster, and on no account either to the Editor or Printers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ELIZABETHAN.

SIR,—At this season, when Athletics do *not* occupy a prominent place in every mind and on every tongue, it is doubtless out of place to write to you on the subject of the election of the Athletic Committee. I don't care a bit, sir. By an absurd rule of yours, my answer to "Alta Petens" is postponed till the February number; a stretch of editorial authority which should be investigated by the committee. Is a slander to wait two months before being contradicted? If I were editor, I would soon alter all this. "Alta Petens" says that an attempt was made last year to put down canvassing. Well, and why shouldn't it be made? Your friend gives no reason, so I suppose he hasn't got any. Then he says that voters give their votes because they like some one personally, or worse, because they think it the duty as Grantites not to vote for Rigaudites, or as Town Boys for Queen's Scholars. Now we all know how perfectly unfounded this charge is. If there were a few Queen's Scholars who voted for five Q.SS. every one knew that they really thought them the best for the post. If there were a few Town Boys who voted for three T.BB., it was perfectly clear that they threw away the other votes, not because they would have been obliged to give them to Q.SS., but because in their modesty they thought they did not deserve more than three votes. I suppose that "Alta Petens" hopes to get into an *ex officio* committee, but knows that he has no chance of being elected. As for his bye-laws, supposed that the Captain, Head Town Boy, Captain of the Eleven and Head of the Water were all the same person, what good will his bye-laws be then? I forbear to go on, not wishing to kick a fallen foe; and having thus entirely floored my enemy by fair and convincing arguments, I feel no longer

STOMACHOSUS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ELIZABETHAN.

DEAR SIR,—I have read many letters in your columns concerning the Athletic Sports, which doubtless contained many valuable hints for future committees, but the point on which I think past committees are most to be blamed has never been mentioned. Though the weather at the last Athletic Sports was by no means good, yet I believe it is generally agreed that it was better than we had had for many years. Now when this is considered, do you not think that a time might be chosen for the sports in which we may not be quite so sure of having rain? Trusting my suggestion may meet with your approval, I remain, dear sir, yours truly,

R.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ELIZABETHAN.

SIR,—The suggestion of "Alta Petens" seems to me at least premature. Such rules as he suggests would entirely exclude from the committee a great many boys who are most competent to hold such a position, but do not excel in games, and would give us a committee composed entirely of those who have the least inclination to give up their time from games to attend to committee business. The election system has its faults, but it has given us very good committees hitherto, and that it may continue to do so is the sincere wish of

AN INTERESTED PARTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ELIZABETHAN.

DEAR SIR,—Your friend "Vox et Praeterea Nihil" seems to me most unreasonable. There is indeed a rule that every "applicant for admission into the choir must understand the A. B. C. of written music;" but if your correspondent wishes to learn this, why does he not join the ordinary classes, without wishing new classes formed for his especial benefit? I believe that there is no difficulty made about those who wish to learn both drawing and music.—Yours truly,

NIHIL.

Floreat.