



# The Elizabethan.

Vol. III. No. 18.

WESTMINSTER, FEBRUARY 1882.

Price 6d.

## THE PAST YEAR.

WITH the arrival of 1882 devolves upon us the task of opening the first number of *The Elizabethan* for the new year with a brief review of the progress of the past one, and noticing any changes or remarkable events which have occurred during that period. Pursuing, therefore, the beaten path of custom, before we proceed to particularise, we may observe that the past year, so different from its predecessor, has been one signalised by many abrupt and revolutionary changes, and altogether constitutes a most interesting epoch in the existence of the School, as being one in which a most important crisis in its career has been passed; namely, the final settling of the question of its removal into the country: for such we consider to be the result of the acquisition of Ashburnham House, of which more hereafter.

Firstly, then, with regard to changes. Our hearts misgave us, when with the irreparable loss of the Rev. H. M. Ingram came the accompanying abolition of his office of Under

Master, that, as coming events cast their shadows before, so this change would prove but the forerunner of others to come; and but too true were the misgivings. The sacred precincts of College, that institution which has the same effect on the enemies of the School as a red rag on a demented bull, have been invaded by the demons of innovation: the ancient and enviable position of a Third Election, and the less enviable but no less ancient position of a Second Election, are individually no more, but have been merged into one indistinct body with a sketchy outline. Naturally, this change was viewed by all College, and many old conservative members thereof, with intense disapproval; by none with more dissatisfaction than by those who ought in due course to have become Third Elections, who saw themselves at one fell swoop deprived of all those long-coveted privileges which are attached to the position of a Third Election—that haven where they would have been. But it is gone: it seemed good to the powers that be to do away with a *status* involving apparently anarchy and confusion;

and so they decreed that none henceforth should be as a Third Election; but that only those who were in the Sixth Form, and of a certain age, should enjoy partial privileges. The object of the change, involving as it does many minor changes in College, is obvious; and fain would we go into the question at length; but time and space are denied us, and therefore we must content ourselves with reflections on spilt milk, and rejoice that our detractors have thus one less handle whereby to grasp at us, hoping that the New System may tend—*O si sic omnia*—to the greater prosperity and glory of College and the School.

The next point in our brief article is to notice wherein we have made improvement, or the reverse, in School matters, scholastic and athletic. Considering the first of these, we observe that the Head Master's Report at Election was favourable, and contained a fair list of O.W.W. distinctions at the 'Varsity. In place of 54 boys left, there were 64 arrivals, which raises our numbers from 217 to 228—an increase of eleven: while, from want of space, 23 other applications were of necessity refused—a fact to be weighed by those who refuse to admit that *the obstacle to our prosperity is our 'nimis arcta domus,'* which is now, however, in some degree widened.

In the next place, as regards Athletics, we have every reason to congratulate ourselves upon advance in many departments. Starting with what was originally Westminster's greatest glory, Water, we are happy to record that the wish expressed last year in an article similar to this has been amply fulfilled; our Four at Henley—the second only since we have begun to be represented there—sustained our credit in a most honourable manner; and although it did not come off victorious, for reasons which are many and have been too often discussed to bear repeating here, yet the form shown was inferior to none, and gave great promise for future years. In other respects—thanks to the kindness and generosity of O.W.W., and to the exertions of an excellent Captain—Water was an unqualified success; and though most of last year's Eight will have left before next season, yet we hope that the step once made will not be drawn back, and that Westminster may yet have to chronicle many more successes on the Water.

Turning to Cricket, although we cannot notice the same cause for congratulation, yet we must not be disappointed on that account. For with our small numbers it is manifestly out of the question, as a general rule, that the same year should be equally flourishing both on the Water and in

the Cricket Field. We did, we think, as well as could have been expected, when we won four matches against five lost. Certainly it is to be regretted that the most disastrous defeat we suffered was at the hands of Charterhouse; but then they were, by all confession, exceptionally strong. Accordingly, let us make the best wishes for the coming season, assisted, as it is, by many improvements, and hope that it will be able to compare favourably with all that have ever preceded it.

But we will venture to take this opportunity of advocating that a strong hand be kept by the authorities upon Lawn Tennis, which has flourished to such an extent as is likely to prove detrimental to Cricket. This will not do. We do not wish to see Lawn Tennis, which is an excellent game in itself, tabooed, as is the practice at some Public Schools; but the interests of Cricket are paramount, and, if *it* is to suffer, Lawn Tennis must succumb. We therefore consider that a strict watch should be kept over it, and leave to play should be but sparingly given.

We now come to Football. We cannot say much in praise of the second half of last year's season, where we were but mediocre; but we must offer a word of congratulation to the Eleven this year for the successful result of the Play Term's matches. Out of thirteen played, we have won ten, drawn one, and lost two; while against 24 goals kicked against, there are 45 for us. Unfortunately our Captain, of whose splendid play throughout the season it is impossible to speak too highly, and two of our half-backs, whose services we shall sorely miss, have left, which is much to be deplored, as Charterhouse match is still in the future; but let us hope, nevertheless, that with energetic practice the second half of the season 1881 may be in no way unworthy to follow the first.

The Athletic Sports were a great success, and, in one or two instances, remarkable improvement was shown: as, for example, in the Quarter Mile and Long Jump, in which events Eden and Coke respectively succeeded in beating record at Westminster.

As regards *The Elizabethan* and its progress, we must leave the literary side of the question to be settled by our indulgent readers; but, financially, although the assistance we receive from the School scarcely reflects credit on its patriotic spirit as a whole, yet we think that an examination of the statement of accounts in the next number will point to a small reduction of the standing debt, for which the chief thanks are to be rendered to the zeal of an indefatigable treasurer.

*Apropos of The Elizabethan*, we will seize our opportunity and make a proposition. At some Public Schools there is an excellent plan of putting the subscription to the School periodical as an item in each fellow's bill, unless an express stipulation is made to the contrary. Were this the plan pursued at Westminster, we feel sure that the stipulation would be made in but few instances, as the sum of 4s. a year is a paltry item in a bill, especially when it is considered how material a difference there would be in the condition of *The Elizabethan* under those circumstances. Any balance which might be over and above—pleasant prospect!—could be devoted to some laudable school object, easy to fix upon in the event of this plan being adopted, which we think not unworthy of consideration.

We made some remark at the beginning of this article on Ashburnham House, the acquisition of which is undoubtedly the great event of the year. It remains now to be seen to what use it will be put, so as best to satisfy the demands of the School for space in every direction. But however this may be, one thing remains: we have at length got our rights and the house. What matter that this year beyond all others virulent attacks of the most biting description have been made upon us: scorching articles full of the grossest inaccuracies, and even worse, have been written: the papers have teemed with correspondence: in short, calumny has done its 'level best' to wither us as grass, so as to be fit for nothing but carting away—what matter?—we are content to pass over all in silence, and hope that these may prove to be the last efforts of an expiring candle, while Westminster, gaining new space and opportunities, may shoot up and continue to flourish as the typical green bay tree.

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## 'OLD WESTMINSTERS.'

No. XIX.

MATTHEW PRIOR.

SOME difference of opinion exists as to Prior's parentage, date of birth, and place of birth. One authority states that he was born about 1666, probably at Wimborne Minster, Dorsetshire, but tells us nothing about his parents except that it is supposed they were Dissenters, and died when their son was very young. Another authority records that Matthew's father was one George Prior, a citizen of London, and assigns as the date of his birth the year 1664. The same also asserts that his father died when Matthew was very young, and that the boy was left to the charge of his

uncle, who followed the trade of a vintner in the vicinity of Charing Cross, at the sign of the 'Rummers.' Samuel Prior behaved in the kindest possible manner towards his ward, and earned a never-ceasing gratitude. Young Prior was sent to Westminster School by his good uncle, and there maintained at his expense. In 1681 he was elected to St. Peter's College, being in that humble position which, when I was a Westminster boy, was known as 'lag of the election.' Cunningham says Prior 'greatly distinguished himself' at Westminster, and as that statement is in his favour, we are very happy to accept it as true, although we can find no other record of the fact. After a short stay in the old College, he returned to his uncle's, the intention being that he should be brought up to the vintner's trade. In spite of this, Matthew found time to devote himself to the study of the classics, his favourite author being Horace, and touching this, we are told the following anecdote:—Lord Dorset was, with several other gentlemen, at the 'Rummers' one day, when the conversation was turned to the Odes of Horace, and a certain passage called forth a difference of opinion as to its rendering. Said one of the company, 'I find we are not likely to agree in our criticisms; but, if I am not mistaken, there is a young fellow in the house who is able to set us right.' Young Prior was at once summoned, and when he appeared, he, with much modesty, offered, as requested, his idea of Horace's meaning. Lord Dorset was immensely pleased with the boy, and forthwith undertook the expense of his education at Cambridge University. Matthew went to St. John's College on the 2nd of April, 1683, and on the following day the Duchess of Sutherland nominated him to be a Scholar of the College on her own foundation. Nichols' 'Select Collection of Poems' contains Prior's first effort in verse composition, being a contribution to the academical congratulations on the occasion of the marriage of Anne with Prince George of Denmark. Afterwards, he and Charles Montague, who became Earl of Halifax, with whom he was on the most intimate terms of friendship, wrote a reply to Dryden's 'Hind and Panther,' which they entitled, 'The Hind and the Panther transversed to the story of the Country Mouse and the City Mouse,' a piece possessing many most humorous points. Charles Montague was also an 'Old Westminster,' it is worth noting; he was Captain of the School, or, perhaps, we should say he would have been had he remained, for he left Westminster before his year of office; but the fact remains that he was elected 'Head into College' in 1677. In the course of the year following, that is, in 1688, Prior wrote an Ode to the Deity, as a College exercise.

He took the degree of B.A. in 1686, and was afterwards chosen to be a Fellow of his College.

When he left the University he went up to London to make his way in the world, and we find that very frequently about this time he was invited to Burlleigh, where he was always warmly welcomed by Lord Exeter's family; and some of his earlier poems are addressed to this subject. At the Revolution, Lord Dorset in-

roduced Prior to the Court, and used his influence to obtain for him employment in a public capacity. In 1690 he was appointed secretary to Lord Berkeley, Plenipotentiary at the Hague, and so pleased King William as to cause his Majesty to appoint him one of the Gentlemen of his Bedchamber. He afterwards served as secretary to Lords Pembroke and Jersey, and Sir Joseph Williamson, Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries on the occasion of the Treaty of Ryswick in 1697. In 1698 he was sent to Paris as secretary to the Embassy, an office filled by him successively under Lords Portland, Jersey, and Manchester. In August 1699, King William called him to Loo, and there entrusted him with particular instructions; and on the 15th of November he was sent home from Holland with the conclusions arrived at on that day between Lord Manchester and the French Sovereign on the Partition Treaty, which was being negotiated, owing to the death of the Elector of Bavaria. On his arrival in England he was appointed Under Secretary of State to Lord Jersey, who was Secretary for the Northern Division.

In 1700 the degree of M.A. by mandamus, and a Lord Commissionership of Trade and Plantations, were conferred on Prior, and he also won a seat in Parliament as Member for East Grinstead, Sussex. He only sat in the House of Commons for a few months, and during that time the most notable event in his career was his voting against Lords Halifax, Somers, and Oxford, who had been impeached for their conduct in relation to the Partition Treaty, to which Prior and Lord Jersey had simply adhered, because of the King's instructions. In 1709 Prior addressed a letter to Boileau, the French poet, poetically eulogising the victory of Blenheim, and two years later he composed an ode congratulating her Majesty's army on its glorious career in the war with France.

About this time he wrote to the celebrated 'Examiner,' and was also employed in the production of the 'Medley,' he being favourable to the Court, with Doctor Garth as his chief opponent.

In 1707 he was deprived of his office in the Trade and Plantations Department, but four years later was, by the Tories, rewarded for his adherence to their party with a Commissionership of the Customs. His official status, his poetical ability, and his intimacy with Bolingbroke, rendered his position a notable one, and won for him no little public and royal attention. In 1711 he was sent to Paris on a secret mission to Louis XIV., which really had for its object the formation of the plan which resulted in the celebrated Peace of Utrecht. The most reliable information we can gather upon this event in Prior's official life is to be obtained in the 'Alumni Westmonasteriensis,' which we quote here.

His expedition was discovered on his return, for, having assumed a false name to ensure secrecy, he was arrested at Deal by the Custom House officers, and kept in custody until orders were received from London.

He was accompanied by Monsieur Mesuager, who had received full powers to treat with the English Minister.

'Frequent conferences took place, some of them at Prior's house, and preliminary articles for a general peace were signed on September 27.

'This arrangement was nick-named 'Matt's peace,' in the numerous political squibs of the day, which the vehemence of party spirit called up on that occasion.

'Prior is said to have been 'the best versed in matters of trade of all her Majesty's Ministers trusted in that secret.' For this reason, and for his knowledge of all the previous steps of the negotiation, and as the French had named Monsieur Mesuager as a third plenipotentiary to arrange the commercial parts of the treaty of Utrecht, the English Ministers were anxious to have the assistance of Prior, and had actually named him plenipotentiary, with the Queen's cordial approbation. The appointment was, however, revoked, in consequence of the insolent pride of the Earl of Strafford, who positively refused to be joined in commission with a person of such low origin.

'On August 2, 1712, Prior accompanied Lord Bolingbroke on his mission to Paris, the avowed object of which was to agree upon a suspension of arms during the progress of the conference at Utrecht; and, after the Secretary of State's return, he remained behind to negotiate some private affairs which were still unsettled.

'From the departure of Bolingbroke he had the full powers of plenipotentiary, though he did not assume them entirely until after Shrewsbury's departure.

'He remained in this capacity for several months after the death of Queen Anne.

'In November, 1714, he was deprived of his place in the Customs, and recalled from Paris in January of the following year.

'At first he met with a favourable reception from King George, and dined with Lord Townshend, who had succeeded to the office held by Lord Bolingbroke. This was on March 26, but on June 9, upon the Report of the Committee of Secrecy, granted by the House of Commons, he was ordered into strict custody, underwent many examinations, and was very rigorously treated. So relentless was this persecution, that his name was excepted from the Act of Grace passed in 1717. Soon after this exception, however, he was released without being brought to trial.

'Thus was he cast upon the world, with nothing to live upon but his Fellowship, which, fortunately for him, he had not given up [he had become in 1707 one of the senior Fellows of his College], and his publications; but by the liberality of Lord Oxford, he was provided with a comfortable retreat in the little village of Down Hall, in Essex.'

Here he led a life of retirement from worldly cares, and, as he said, found a more solid and innocent satisfaction among the woods and meadows than he had ever enjoyed in the courts of princes.

Prior expressed the state of his feelings at the time in the following lines addressed to Chloe:

'From public noise, and factious strife, from all the busy ills of life,  
Take me, my Chloe, to thy breast, and lull my wearied soul to rest.

For ever in this humble cell, let thou and I, my fair one, dwell :  
None enter else, but Love ; and he shall bar the door, and keep  
the key.  
To painted roofs and shining spires, uneasy seats of high  
desires,  
Let the unthinking many crowd, that dare be covetous and  
proud.  
In golden bondage let them wait, and barter happiness for  
state.  
But oh ! my Chloe, when thy swain desires to see a Court  
again,  
May heaven around his destined head the choicest of its curses  
shed !  
To sum up all the rage of Fate, in these two things I dread and  
hate,  
May'st thou be false, and I be great !'

At his place in Essex he finished his chief poem, written on the vanity of the world, 'Solomon,' and afterwards he brought all his poems together in one volume, which he dedicated to the Duke of Dorset, whose father had been so good to him in early days, and this he published by subscription in folio form.

This was the last of his completed works. He started writing a history of the times in which he had himself lived, but before he had made much progress he was seized with a fever from which he never recovered.

In the year 1721, on September 15, Prior died at Lord Oxford's seat near Cambridge, Wimpole.

He left an important legacy of books to St. John's College, Cambridge, and the picture of himself, painted by La Belle, presented to him by Louis XIV., together with a portrait of Lord Jersey, who had been his political patron. We suppose the College is still in possession of these relics.

Lord Oxford's son gave a portrait of Prior to the Bodleian Gallery, Oxford.

Prior willed that a monument should be erected to his memory in Westminster Abbey, and for that purpose left £500. Dr. Freind, of Westminster School, wrote the lines of the epitaph over the remembrance token of this eminent man.

Our School book speaks kindly of Prior's political effusions in these words : 'The charms of his agreeable compositions are too well known to the most superficial reader to require any remarks here.'

Cunningham, however, writes : 'Prior has imitated with some success in his tales and epilogues, the graceful ease and *naïveté* of the French poets. He is totally destitute, however, of the highest attributes of the poetical genius ; of his personal character, we are constrained to confess, in the language of Spence, that he "was not a right good man."'

However that may be, he was certainly a Westminster Worthy.

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### School Notes.

The Second Prize for the Gumbleton English Verse has been awarded to W. L. Benbow : no first prize was given. The subject was 'William the Conqueror.'

We noticed in one of the daily papers lately an announcement that the Committee for the Defence of Westminster Abbey intend to memorialise the Premier by a petition for an inspection into the state of Westminster School. The article seemed to speak of Ashburnham House as a *part of the Abbey*.

It is a matter of opinion as to whether the old wall of the Cloisters has been improved by the appearance of a large block of new white stone in the place where the door of Ashburnham House used to stand. We have still one entrance left, but obviously two would have been more convenient, and our friends, who take such pains with regard to our occupation of Ashburnham House, might reasonably have spared themselves the time and trouble of blocking up the door.

It may interest all Westminsters, past and present, to hear that the upper storey of Ashburnham House is to be converted into two large class rooms for the convenience of the Exhibition Examinations. The plot of ground at the back of the house is to be drained : but though a petition has been made for the removal of a certain dust-bin and wash-house on the School side of the building, the request has been denied, on the ground of the sanctity of the aforesaid dust-bin and wash-house.

*The Elizabethan* account for the past year will be published in our next number.

On looking over some old numbers of *The Elizabethan* we find that, in 1877, a series of selections from the College Epigrams was begun and left incomplete. We purpose in our succeeding numbers to continue the series.

Owing to the kindness of the Seniors of last term the debt on *The Elizabethan* has been at last almost cleared off. We hope that this is a turning point for the better, and that all Old Westminsters, taking notice of the above fact, will be less negligent in paying their subscriptions, as, by this time, *The Elizabethan* ought really to be able to pay its own expenses.

We were sorry to find, on our reappearance at Westminster after the Christmas holidays, that Mr. Sloman had been prevented by indisposition, and the inclemency of the weather combined, from returning to his post. We are happy to say he has since been able to resume his duties.

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### FOOTBALL.

#### THE SCHOOL v. O.W.W.

This match was played on Thursday, December 22. The ground was somewhat hard, owing to the

frost, but became softer towards the end of the game. The O.W.W. turned up with a full team, but only eight of the School put in an appearance; two places were, however, filled by R. Batley and Borrodaile, O.W.W.; the School, therefore, only played ten. During the first twenty minutes the O.W.W. made frequent attacks on the School stronghold, but they were each time repulsed by the fine play of the backs and the goal-keeper, until Higgins, making a run, passed to Heath, who put the ball between the posts shortly before half-time was called. On restarting the ball, the O.W.W. again acted on the offensive, but their attempts were frustrated by Frere, who got away out of a loose scrimmage, and, after a fine run, scored the second goal for Westminster. Nothing further occurred till just before the call of time, when Sandwith took a good long shot at goal, which passed just under the tape. The School were thus left winners by two goals to one. For the School, Frere and Higgins (forwards), and Coke, Wetton, and Batley (backs) were best; while for the O.W.W., Alington, Sandwith, and Benbow (forwards), and Rawson and Tepper (backs) did their utmost to avert defeat. The sides were:—

## O.W.W.

E. Alington (captain), P. G. L. Webb, H. C. Benbow, A. L. Black, G. Stephenson, W. F. G. Sandwith, W. Williams (forwards), C. W. R. Tepper, F. W. Janson (half-backs), W. S. Rawson (back), A. Bolton (goals).

## THE SCHOOL.

R. T. Squire (captain), H. Wetton, R. H. Coke (half-backs), R. C. Batley, S. A. Bird (backs), E. C. Frere, O. Scoones, F. T. Higgins, A. J. Heath (forwards), O. Borrodaile (goals).

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL *v.* OLD HARROVIANS.

In close, warm weather, this, the first match of the term, was played up-fields on Saturday, Jan. 28, and resulted in a victory for our opponents, 3—2. We had only been back three days, and were in a somewhat slack state, especially with respect to shooting; for though we penned them throughout the entire game, we repeatedly failed to score. For them Davidson and Stanley were best, while the right side did some good work for us, where Squire was playing forward, as an accident to his leg prevented him from kicking hard enough to play back. Sides:—

## OLD HARROVIANS.

A. H. Davidson (captain), E. L. Bicknell, P. Holloway, G. Viner, T. Field, H. Bird, E. Howson, H. Stanley, G. H. Daughlish, M. Fowler, H. W. Greene.

## WESTMINSTER.

F. W. Bain (captain), R. T. Squire, E. C. Frere, O. Scoones, T. Morison, F. T. Higgins, A. C. W.

Jenner, H. T. Healey, R. H. Coke, C. B. Crews, R. Vavasseur.

Viner and Benbow played substitute each half of the time. Both our goals were kicked by Jenner.

OLD WESTMINSTERS *v.* OLD ETONIANS.

By a curious coincidence this match was fixed to be played up-fields on the same day as the match between the School *v.* Old Harrovians. Both the teams turned up with two men short, whose places, however, were supplied from the School. For the Old Westminsters, Tayloe, Benbow, and Bury, forwards, and Robinson, back, played the best; while Kinnaird and Rawlinson were especially prominent among the Old Etonians. The only goal scored by the latter team was kicked by E. T. Logan, from a scrimmage in front of goals; while the Westminsters' goals were kicked by Waterfield, Bury (2), Crowdy (2); the result, therefore, being a victory for the latter, 5—1. The winners played one short. Sides:—

## OLD WESTMINSTERS.

F. D. Crowdy (capt.) and H. W. Waterfield (right-side), H. C. Benbow and W. N. Tayloe (left side), W. W. Bury (centre), F. W. Janson and H. P. Robinson (half backs), R. C. Batley and A. E. Bedford (backs), and O. R. Borrodaile (goals).

## OLD ETONIANS.

Hon. A. F. Kinnaird (capt.) and C. W. Foley (half-backs), Hon. G. D. Coleridge and A. G. L. Rogers (backs), A. T. B. Dunn, G. F. Bickley, J. E. Richards, G. E. Preston, E. T. Logan, and A. J. Heath (forwards), and J. E. P. Rawlinson (goals).

## POETRY.

## TO NIGHT.

UNTWINE thy arms from my neck,  
Dark-hair'd maiden;  
Press not thy kiss to my lips,  
Though dew-laden;  
For I long for the coming of Day  
On her steep morning way.  
Thine eyes glitter'd close to mine  
In thy embrace;  
But I longed to greet the Morn,  
And see her face.  
She will come o'er the bright burnish'd sea;  
And will overthrow thee.  
Her kiss is as fresh as the wind,  
Not cloyed like thine;  
And thou wearest the sable robe  
Of Proserpine.  
Thy face, just seen when the grey dawn appears,  
Is pale and dimmed with tears.  
Unclasp thy arms from my neck,  
And grant this boon;  
'Tis not thee, but the Morn I ask:  
Lov'd one, come soon!  
Is there not a streak of the rosy dawn?  
Dark-hair'd Night, begone!

## Obituary.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. D. W. Grenville Murray, which occurred at Paris on the 20th of December last. He was educated at Westminster, being admitted into College as head of his election in 1862, and becoming Captain of the School in due course. At Election 1866, Mr. Murray was elected head to Christ Church, where he took a second class in Moderations in 1868, and a second class in the Final Classical Schools in 1870. For the last ten years of his life he resided almost entirely abroad, but was well known as a frequent contributor to English reviews and magazines; he also wrote one or two novels. The best-known of his works are 'The Roving Englishman' and 'French Sketches in English Chalk.' He was buried at Passy on Christmas Eve.

## Our Contemporaries.

WE beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Felstedian*, *The Berkhamstedian*, *The Radleian*, *The Durham University Journal* (2), *The Ousel* (2), *The Blue*, *The Elizabethan* (Barnet), *The Tonbridgian*, *The Marlburian*, *The Glenalmond Chronicle*, *The Malvernian*, *The Haileyburian* (2), *The Forest School Magazine*, *The Melburnian*, *The Salopian*, *The Bradfield School Chronicle*, *The Blundellian*, *The Newtonian* (2), *The Wellingtonian* (2), *The Carthusian*, *The Epsomian*, *Our School Times* (2), *The Wykehamist* (3), *The Fettesian*, *The Ulula*, *The Meteor* (2), *The Derbeian*, *The Bromsgrovian*, *King's College Magazine*, *The Rossallian*, *The Alleynian*, *The Geelong Grammar School Quarterly*.

*The Geelong Quarterly*, an impartial critic, referring to the questionable practices of the Bedford 'four' at Henley, says, 'though rowing in worse form than either Radley or Westminster, they secured what we should call a rather shabby victory.' The translation of Catullus is decidedly poor. We subjoin the first verse:—

'You shall dine with me, Fabullus, if the gods propitious be,  
But you must bring the supper and the wine;  
Yes, these you must provide, and the wit and fun beside:  
My purse is full of cobwebs—not so thine.'

To fill their School notes they touch on events, &c., that have not taken place.

The Osteology lectures in *The Wellingtonian* are interesting. 'When the Egyptians embalmed their bodies, they used to extract the spine through the nose,' death being the punishment of any outward mutilation of that member! 'The irresistible Skinner' seems to be an acquisition.

The *Rossallian* editor does not consider that such matches as 'Patriarchs v. Rest' can have no interest to ordinary readers of 'the Field.'

Why does not our Debating Society wake up? Here are the Shrewsbury boys discussing their belief in ghosts, on which occasion no less than twenty members gave their experiences. We wish we could show the amount of correspondence that they do.

Evidently Homer Od. IX. has been to the fore in 'the far-off land of tinned meats and the bounding kangaroo,' for both *Geelong* and *Melbourne* launch forth into the subject of Lotus-eating—the former in poetry, the latter in prose. We prefer the prose. There is that mysterious term 'Goal Sneak' again!

A combination of Parallel Passages in Shakespeare, A Stroll in the Library, Crosses of Cornwall, The Revised Version of the New Testament, Literary Society, Antiquarian Society, Junior Literary Society, combine to make *The Haileyburian* for December somewhat heavy reading. 'Simulacra' has a truly inventive vein. Just as if we didn't know! 'Liber' does not seem to be aware that rain is not conducive to the preservation of home-bound books. He left his out 'when it was raining'! 'The River' is charming.

Referring to 'School Critics' in *The Malvernian*, we can but copy their quotation:—

'O wad some power the giftie gie us  
To see ourselves as others see us!'

We agree with the one 'Requested to write a Sonnet.' What benighted individual requested him?

The first 20 pages of *The Forest School Magazine* read like a third-class 'weekly.' The lament on a favourite dog is good. The rest is School news.

The air of self-satisfaction which pervades *The Ousel* is truly delightful. Their football season seems to have been successful, but the fuss they make about some substitutes shows decided bad taste. N.B.—They were beaten by the team that they complain of. Imagine anyone's opposing the institution of a uniform for the football team!

*The Radleian* is certainly not strong as regards quantity—or quality.

'Irene's' verses in *The Blue* suggest the old lines:—

'Supposing as how as I was you,  
Supposing as how as you was me,  
Supposing as how we were both someone else,  
I wonder who on earth we both should be.'

We envy them their Oxford and Cambridge Letters.

The parody in *The Felstedian* is very clever. We subjoin two verses:—

'The time has come,' the Vulture said,  
'To talk of many things,  
Of Accidents and Adjectives,  
And names of Jewish Kings;  
How many notes a sackbut has,  
And whether shawms have strings.'

'Please, sir,' the Undergraduate said,  
Turning a little blue,

'We didn't know that was the sort  
Of thing we had to do.'

'We thank you much,' the Vulture said,  
'Send up another two.'

## Correspondence.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—Can you kindly allow me to express in your paper the thanks of this Diocese for the collection which, by the kindness of the Head Master, has again been given us by the School? This gift is a double pleasure from my knowing you so well during my residences with my kind friends Mr. and Mrs. Jones, in one of your Houses. The needs of our work can easily be understood. I daresay you have read many a tale of adventure in this fur-hunting country. The pictures of the blinding snow-storms and the Indian dog-cariole, or in summer tent and canoe, are very much out of place now in thinking of Rupert's Land. There is here the grandest patrimony that a country ever succeeded to. Every day almost is adding to the knowledge and the deepening sense of the vast resources of this land. Instead of the wild I found, I am now in one of the busiest cities of the Dominion, which is striding onward more rapidly than even Chicago did. The rail was 600 miles from the country when I came. Winnipeg is now the centre of a network of railways. Next year there will be one continued length of 800 miles of rail, all within my present

Diocese, and branches going out in Manitoba in all directions. The expanse of prairie, with the finest soil for producing wheat, extends over 1,000 miles to the Rocky Mountains. A hundred townships are already being added yearly to our field of population. What is to be the story of the future, with our railway facilities? While we have to erect colleges, schools, churches, parsonages, and, besides, to maintain our clergy and teachers, the people have to build their houses, barns, shops, fences, roads; and, in the towns, streets, pavements, water, gas, and sewage works, besides hospitals, prisons, &c. We are now preparing to erect a building for St. John's College, which is our College in the University of Manitoba. We are raising \$40,000. We have a fair endowment for our Professors of Theology, but we have to raise an endowment at once for two teachers of our students in arts, whom we propose to call Fellows. At present the Professors of Theology and myself do most of the work. But I need to be quite free for my direct episcopal duties. Your collection has been devoted to this. We have to make a great effort to raise the endowment. I should like to speak of our College School, of which I am still Head Master, and in the tuition of which I also take part. We have about 80 boys, of whom 55 are boarders. We hope to mould it after the English Public Schools. Our boys, however, come to us at a younger age than that of most Public School boys of the present day, and our senior boys enter the University often on just passing 16. Our boys have cricket and football, but the want of other schools with matches prevents usually any sufficient enthusiasm. Time will cure this. We have also a College choir; and here we have an advantage over you in our young voices; but a school choir is, after all, rather an uncertain thing. I would ask, then, the School to accept our best thanks, and

I am,  
Ever faithfully yours,  
R. RUPERT'S LAND.

We have received another long and interesting letter from the Lord Bishop of Rupert's Land, besides the above. This epistle is much the same in substance as the latter, but in a more lengthy form. He seems to take great interest in the School, as, from his own expression, he is 'so intimate with all our work and ways, as almost to feel as if he were one of us.' In his 'young country' has been instituted a 'new Cambridge' and a 'new Westminster' in the shape of a University and a Public School on the same principles as our own—and so on. Unfortunately the letter is rather too lengthy for insertion, and we must content ourselves by publishing his shorter epistle, which is dated from the same day as the other.

ED.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I was asked a question the other day—and a very natural one too—but one I was quite unable to answer myself. Thinking that you may be able to help me, and that it would be a good thing to bring it to the notice of all Old Westminsters, I repeat it here. Why do not — and — play for O.W.W. instead of for their other clubs? I leave the names in blank, as I think it best to do so; but the same question undoubtedly applies to other Old Westminsters, and let those whom the cap fits wear it. I fancy I have heard that, when the Old Etonian Football Club was started, all, or any rate most, of the Old Etonians left their respective clubs and joined the Old Etonians—and rightly too! If this is true—and I believe it to be so—all I can say is, 'Oh, that all Old Westminsters would go and do likewise!'

Hoping this letter may have the effect of inducing O.W.W. to follow the good example of Old Etonians,

I remain, Sir,

Yours truly,  
TOM.

#### NOTICES.

All contributions for the March number of *The Elizabethan* must be sent in before February 21, to the Editor, St. Peter's College, Westminster.

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

The yearly subscription to *The Elizabethan* is 4s. It is requested that all subscriptions now falling due, or not yet paid up, should be forwarded to O. SCOONES, Treasurer of *The Elizabethan*. Post Office Orders to be made payable at the Westminster Palace Hotel Post Office. Subscribers resident at Oxford can pay their subscriptions to W. A. PECK, Esq., Christ Church, Oxford.

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

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

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