



The Elizabethan.

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DOMUS ANTIQUA.

THE discoveries made by Mr. Edward Scott in the Muniment Room of the Abbey are of very great interest. By Mr. Scott's kindness we are enabled to give some account of such as relate to the School. They vindicate the accuracy of Widmore's account, and establish beyond doubt the existence of the School from the fourteenth century. Westminster was a seat of liberal education in the reign of Edward III. It is with full historical right that, in the Act of Uniformity, the College of Westminster stands before the Colleges of Winchester and Eton.

Passing over one entry in the accounts whose meaning might perhaps be disputed, we find in the year 1339 or 1340 a tally of

9s. 8d. paid to John Payn, 'pro scolar[ibus] inveniend[is] ad scholas.' This entry may be held to fix the date of our foundation, but another interpretation is not impossible. In 1367 or 1368 we are on safer ground. The Almoner then paid five shillings to two poor scholars going to Oxford. This nameless pair are the first recorded Westminsters.

From the year 1370 we have fairly regular entries giving direct or incidental information. The earliest schoolroom was part of the Little Almonry. This stood near the present junction of Orchard Street and Great Smith Street. The scholars were at first called Almonry Boys, *elemosinarii*, or Little Almonry Boys, *subelemosinarii*. The name and the place alike imply that no fees were paid. From the year 1504 the scholars were known, at first alternatively and then exclusively, as Grammar

School Boys, *grammatici*. The change of name does not imply any change in the education. In or about the year 1480 a Choristers' School was established, and the name of *grammatici* was used in distinction from *cantantes*. Many years before the change of name, at least as early as 1443, the School was moved to a building in the southern part of what is now Green. This building, which now took the name of the Scholars' House, had been known as the Sopheuse. With some hesitation it may be conjectured that it had been used as a supper-house or place of small-beer, a monk's tap-room. It was situate at the end of the granary, and was probably the tower, which under Elizabeth's re-foundation became the residence of the Under-Master.

There was only one schoolmaster, and the number of boys is not stated. It may be possible to infer it from the yearly cost of clothing. Tentatively it may be conjectured that there were twenty scholars. The Master was perhaps, at first, one of the monks of the Abbey. At any rate, Brother Richard Exeter seems to be so described in 1387. The system was not maintained. Before long the Master's place was occupied by a layman, by a married man. In 1424 the Abbey granted a house rent free for life to John Newborough, Master of the Scholars, and Margaret his wife. His is the first name that can be unhesitatingly assigned to a Headmaster of Westminster.

The Master's salary was at first fixed at one mark a year. In 1399 or the following year a new agreement was made by which the salary was doubled. In 1480 the salary was raised to forty shillings. Some six years later, for reasons not given, it was reduced again to two marks, but after six years returned to forty shillings. At this figure it perhaps stood down to the Dissolution. The Master had also a yearly grant of cloth and of lambswool for his gown. The cost of the lambswool was at first two shillings, but in the middle of the fifteenth century a fall in price enabled the Almoner to buy it for fourteenpence. The entry seems to disappear before the end of the century. The Master must also have had commons, and, as

we have seen, a house. The house was kept in repair by the Abbey. In 1483 two and eightpence was paid for a hundred oak planks, and one day's work of a tiler and his men in 1507 cost thirteepence.

The boys received their gowns from the foundation. In 1373 or 1374 the sum paid for cloth for the Master and boys was forty-three shillings and four pence. From 1387 the sum was fixed at fifty shillings, but after 1401 varied with the cost of the material. In 1402 it was eighty-nine shillings, including the cost of making up. For some years it was as high as eight pounds twelve.

In 1440 and 1441 it was even higher, and rose to nearly ten pounds in the early years of Edward IV. Under Henry VII. it sank considerably. At the end of the fifteenth century there is twice a record of a charge of fourpence for the carriage of the cloth from London to Westminster. Once the name of the cloth merchant is preserved. In 1453 he was T. Scot, Alderman of London. From Maitland we learn that Thomas Scot was Lord Mayor in 1458.

It has been shown that the Choir School had no existence before the year 1480. It may be added that in its first days it had no connection with Westminster School. The Master of the choir boys had a separate yearly salary of one mark. The choir boys seem to have been first brought to the study of grammar by Henry VIII. From its first foundation Westminster was neither a school of novices nor a school of choir boys, but a place of liberal education.

School Notes.

WE have much pleasure in recording the appointment of Mr. Archibald Milman, C.B. (O.W.), to the post of Clerk to the House of Commons.

We apologise for the omission of the name of A. O. Reid (O.W.) in our last number as having passed second into R. M. C., Sandhurst. We beg now to offer our best congratulations.

We congratulate R. K. Gaye (O.W.) on being awarded the Chancellor's Medal for Classics at Cambridge.

A. A. Milne and C. W. Sheppard have received their 'Pinks.'

The result of the Charterhouse match was at best disappointing; we had some ill luck before the match, but that does not wholly account for our defeat. However, we were glad to see that O.W.W. on the same day qualified for the semi-final in the London Senior Cup by beating Clapton 2-0. The attendance 'Up Fields' suffered somewhat on account of this counter-attraction.

We heartily congratulate F. Young on getting his football 'Blue' at Cambridge. L. J. Moon and R. N. R. Blaker were our other representatives.

We notice with pleasure that H. W. Beveridge won the Golf Handicap at Oxford.

Mr. H. F. P. Battersby, who is the war correspondent of the *Morning Post* in South Africa, is an O.W. We hope he may be more fortunate than Mr. E. F. Knight, who has been obliged to return to England on account of his wound. It is a curious coincidence that two O.W.W. should be correspondents for the same paper.

The 'Pancake Greaze' took place as usual 'Up School' on Shrove Tuesday, February 27. The throw was very good, and C. M. Page (Rigauds) finally secured the prize. A few accounts appeared in the Press, one of which contained the following surprising statement: 'At the close of morning school came the ringing of the sergeant's bell three times, as the signal for a race to secure seats in the hall'!

[N.B.—The mark of exclamation is ours.—ED. *Elizabethan*.]

An error has been pointed out in our 'Annual Records.' R. K. Gaye received in 1899 Sir William Browne's Medal for a Greek Epigram, *not* the Porson Prize, for which he was honourably mentioned.

The fame of last term's play has spread far indeed. The London correspondent of the *Civil and Military Gazette* (published at Lahore) contributed a whole column on the representation of the Adelphi, with which he was highly pleased.

The Ireland Prize for Greek Verse has been awarded to F. G. Joseph.

The following is the football card filled in up to date:—

1899.

Sat.	Sept.	30	.	Clapham Rovers.	(Lost 0-3.)
"	Oct.	7	.	E. H. Winslow's XI.	(Won 3-0.)
"	"	14	.	H. O. C. Beasley's XI.	(Lost 3-7.)
"	"	21	.	Old Westminsters.	(Won 2-1.)
"	"	28	.	Old Carthusians.	(Drawn 0-0.)
	2nd XI.	v.		Clapham Rovers 2nd XI.	(Lost 2-7.)
Wed.	Nov.	1	.	Old Etonians.	(Won 1-0.)
Sat.	"	4	.	Old Foresters.	(Lost 0-4.)
"	"	11	.	R. E. More's XI.	(Scratched.)
Fri.	"	17	.	L. J. Moon's XI.	(Drawn 6-6.)
Sat.	"	18	.	Casuals.	(Drawn 1-1.)
	2nd XI.	v.		Old Westminsters 2nd XI.	(Lost 1-13.)
Wed.	Nov.	22	.	Emeriti.	(Lost 1-2.)
Sat.	"	25	.	Old Harrovians.	(Drawn 2-2.)
"	Dec.	2	.	Christ Church.	(Lost 0-2.)
	2nd XI.	v.		London Hospital 2nd XI.	(Won 4-2.)
Wed.	Dec.	6	.	University College.	(Lost 0-3.)
Sat.	"	9	.	Old Felstedians.	(Won 3-0.)
	2nd XI.	v.		A. B. Challis's XI.	(Lost 1-2.)

1900.

Sat.	Jan.	20	.	Clapham Rovers	(Scratched.)
	2nd XI.	v.		London Hospital 2nd XI.	(Lost 2-9.)
"	Jan.	27	.	Selwyn College, Camb.	(Won 6-1.)
	2nd XI.	v.		Clapham Rovers 2nd XI.	(Drawn 0-0.)
Wed.	Jan.	31	.	Old Etonians.	(Drawn 3-3.)
Sat.	Feb.	3	.	Old Westminsters.	(Scratched.)
	2nd XI.	v.		Old Westminsters 2nd XI.	(Scratched.)
Wed.	Feb.	7	.	Emeriti.	(Won 3-2.)
Sat.	"	10	.	Clare College, Camb.	
Sat.	"	17	.	Casuals.	(Scratched.)
"	"	24	.	Charterhouse (at Vincent Square)	(Lost 2-7.)
"	Mar.	3	.	Old Brightonians.	(Scratched.)
	2nd XI.	v.		E. H. Winslow's XI.	(Scratched.)
Wed.	Mar.	7	.	L. A. M. Fevez's XI.	(Won 3-2.)
Sat.	"	10	.	F. Wormold's Eton XI.	(Lost 0-1.)
"	"	17	.	T.BB. v. Q.SS.	

POETRY.

COPY.

DEAR Editor, your leader made me feel
 Ashamed—in fact I blushed like any poppy;
 And so my Muse I hasten to reveal—
 Condemn it as you will, it's always 'copy.'

Well, here you are, and what it's meant to be
 Is what (as someone says of Life) you make it,
 Though, speaking for myself, I cannot see
 How anyone can possibly mistake it.

You wonder when I'm going to make a start;
 I haven't told you much as yet? Precisely!
 Believe me, it is half the poet's art
 To tell you nothing, and to tell it nicely!

Forgive me if, though not a poet born,
 Though not entitled to a laurel wreath—an
 Absurdly silly headgear, I'll be sworn!—
 I dare to write to you my *Elizabethan*.

My hair is brushed, I wear a linen shirt,
My Sunday clothes are anything but shabby :
No, I'm no poet, and I daren't assert
That letter A can represent an Abbey !

I mean it. When I read that A.B.C.,
Such heart-felt admiration was I lost in,
I gloried in the things that were to be :
'The School,' I cried, 'has found its A-fr-d A-st-n !'
A. K. M.

Despair not, England ! The disastrous South
Shall stay thee but a while. Then once again,
When at thy feet thy foes lie crushed and slain,
Shall nations dread thy name, and every mouth
Echo thy glory. In their childish strain
Thy warriors' children shall in time to come,
When fathers have returned to wife and home,
Lispings thy victory, tell it o'er again.
Despair not, England ! While thy soldiers, sent
In distant lands to find a glorious grave,
Thy battles fiercely wage on duty bent :
While yet the sailor sails the ocean wave,
So long shalt thou deal out thy punishment
To evildoers, ever strong to save.

[This Sonnet was sent in for the February number, at a time when it was more appropriate, but had to be held over owing to lack of space.—ED. *Elizabethan*.]

PERSICOS ODI.

Boy, I loathe your luxuries of Persia ;
Garlands twined on bark I like as little ;
Where the latest rose o' the summer lingers,
Leave it blooming.

Plain the sprig of myrtle—make no cumber—
Plain the myrtle fitly crowns the servant,
Crowns the master here i' the vine-clad arbour,
Sipping Massic.

S.

THE FIELDS.

WESTMINSTER v. SELWYN COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

THIS match was played in splendid football weather on January 27, and resulted in a win for the School by 6 to 1. The game was a fast and pleasant one throughout, and the School thoroughly deserved its victory. The forwards showed immense improvement and played with great determination and dash, Kennedy being especially noticeable on the right wing. The defence, if not brilliant, was quite adequate. Foster was the best of the halves, and Anderson

in goal was very safe. The game itself calls for little comment. Bompas opened the scoring with a nice shot, and Selwyn shortly afterwards equalised. Harris almost immediately put the School ahead. This was all the scoring in the first half. In the second half Bompas added three more goals and Milne obtained his first for the School.

Result : 6-1 in favour of Westminster. Team :—

WESTMINSTER.

K. B. Anderson (goal) ; E. C. Stevens and A. C. Barnby (backs) ; E. A. Lewis, A. L. Foster and A. T. Willett (half-backs) ; A. A. Milne, A. T. Coleby, H. S. Bompas, S. S. Harris and S. D. Kennedy (forwards).

The names of the visitors are unfortunately not to hand.

WESTMINSTER v. OLD ETONIANS.

This match was played on January 31, under somewhat unpleasant conditions, on a ground which was distinctly on the wet side. The O.E. brought down a strong and heavy team, but the School were unlucky not to beat them. In the first half two goals were obtained by Kennedy, both from good shots, while Bompas added a third from a scrimmage in front of goal. The O.E. only managed to get through once, their goal being the result of a nice combined run by Gosling and Malcolmson, the latter scoring. In the second half the play was very even. Our forwards continued to do excellent work, but were unfortunate in not scoring. The Etonians, too, had some very easy chances, Malcolmson having the goal at his mercy on two occasions. Gosling put on two more goals, the last just on the stroke of time, which brought matters level. The game was a good one and interesting throughout.

The teams were :—

WESTMINSTER.

K. B. Anderson (goal) ; E. C. Stevens and A. C. Barnby (backs) ; A. T. Willett, A. L. Foster and E. A. Lewis (half-backs) ; A. A. Milne, A. T. Coleby, H. S. Bompas, S. S. Harris and S. D. Kennedy (forwards).

OLD ETONIANS.

W. J. Seton (goal) ; B. J. T. Bosanquet and B. O. Bircham (backs) ; R. F. Bayford, P. L. Hollins and Hon. K. Kinnaird (half-backs) ; F. L. Crabtree, R. C. D. Firth, N. Malcolmson, R. C. Gosling and S. M. Macnaughten (forwards).

WESTMINSTER v. EMERITI.

This match was played on February 7, and resulted in a win for the School by 3 goals to 2.

Shortly before three the ball was started on a ground that was frozen hard. The visitors soon scored and gave Anderson trouble for a little. Soon, however, play changed ends, and a good shot by Foster was cleared, and soon followed by a corner for us and offside against us. A scrimmage in front

of their goal gave Harris a good opportunity, which he took, making the score 1-1. Some good play by each goalkeeper followed, and the whistle was blown for several off-sides. Harris soon had another chance, but shot behind. Play was then interrupted by a casualty in their forward line. After the ball was again set in motion even play followed till half-time. Soon after the renewal of the game their forwards got away and scored again (2-1). This goal was quickly followed by another, which the referee gave off-side. For them Smith saved well, and Milne after a good run shot behind. After this there was much more play in their half of the ground, though once or twice their forwards looked very dangerous and Anderson only just cleared in time. Harris, however, who was in very good form, wound up a well-contested game by making two excellent runs and placing two more goals to the School's credit (3-2).

WESTMINSTER.

K. B. Anderson (goal); A. C. Barnby and E. C. Stevens (backs); E. A. Lewis, A. L. Foster and R. Wynter (half-backs); S. D. Kennedy, S. S. Harris, H. S. Bompas, A. T. Coleby and A. A. Milne (forwards).

The visitors did not leave their names.

WESTMINSTER v. CLARE COLLEGE,
CAMBRIDGE.

The School kicked off at 2.50, and Clare did not take long to show that they were the stronger team, for after a short pressure Wyatt scored their first goal. From the re-start Kennedy made a good run, but failed to score. This was followed by some even play and a corner for them. This corner proved another point to them (2-0). The game then was carried each end of the field in turn, but neither side scored again before the whistle blew for half-time. After the game was again in progress the Clare forwards carried the ball down and forced a corner, which the School managed to clear successfully. The play was then fairly steady in mid-field, and there was nothing to note before a splendid shot from Wynter, which just skimmed the bar. The School pressed for a short time after this until play again came to the half-way line, and the opposing forwards rushed in, Anderson scoring (3-0). The School again seemed to press, but could not get through, Kitemaster frequently showing up for good saves. Wynter placed a corner for us splendidly, but it was cleared, and the game closed with no increase in the score.

Teams:—

WESTMINSTER.

K. B. Anderson (goal); A. C. Barnby and E. C. Stevens (backs); R. Wynter, A. T. Willett and E. A. Lewis (half-backs); S. D. Kennedy, S. S. Harris, H. S. Bompas, C. W. Sheppard and A. A. Milne (forwards).

CLARE COLLEGE.

W. Kitemaster (goal); J. Stogdon and M. McPherson (backs); C. G. Heslop, Lawton-Roberts and W. Gibson (half-backs); R. Unwin, S. M. Anderson, W. Unwin, N. Wyatt and G. R. Duce (forwards).

WESTMINSTER v. CHARTERHOUSE.

The match of the year was played Up Fields on Saturday, February 24, and resulted in a decisive victory for Charterhouse by 7 goals to 2. In spite of uncertain weather a very numerous company witnessed the game, though the attendance was hardly as large as in 1899. The ladies were certainly less in evidence, but O.W.W. were in strong force. The time-honoured contest never fails to be a great attraction. We notice with pleasure an increase in the number of young Carthusians present, who were naturally delighted at the success of their side. Elson had got the ground into excellent condition, notwithstanding recent rains and snow.

It was pretty generally supposed that Westminster had a good chance of winning. The team, without being brilliant, was a fair average one, and could be compared favourably with that of last year, which proved successful at Godalming. Individually they were weighty and sturdy. Their record was satisfactory; but their forte was in defence, not in attack. Unlike so many Westminster elevens of previous years, they had before them two consecutive victories. They were all aware that Charterhouse could be beaten sometimes, and had seen how it was done; not a few had actually taken part in last year's triumph. This was in itself sufficient to inspire that feeling of confidence which is often the forerunner of success. It is therefore all the more disappointing to be forced to record defeat.

It was obvious from the very start of the game that the Carthusian forwards were an uncommonly smart and speedy lot, and that the only chance of outwitting them lay in our backs, who all through the first half and some part of the second rose to the occasion; but later on in the game their strenuous efforts began to tell on them, and from that time the bombardment of the Westminster goal became fast, furious, and incessant. Our goalkeeper surpassed himself, stopping and clearing many a hot and well-directed shot in the most admirable way; indeed, but for his efforts in the trying second half the score against us might have easily got into double figures. It has seldom been our lot to see better goal-keeping. The forwards, who had done fairly well during the first half, got quite demoralised in the second. There was no combination worth speaking of; they were lamentably slow in getting on the ball, and their slowness was of course accentuated by the quickness of their rivals. Yet it must be conceded that the team as a whole never relaxed their efforts, and never did they look like a beaten team. There was always a flattering hope that they would add to their score—in fact for about ten minutes during the first half Westminster

actually looked like winning. It was an interesting game to watch, and there can be no doubt whatever that the best team won. For their success Charterhouse have to thank their forwards. Their backs did not seem very formidable.

The game began punctually at 2.30. Charterhouse, kicking off from the Hospital end, made at once a determined attack on the Westminster goal. Barnby and Foster showed sound defence. After the game had been ten minutes in progress Tuff(?) scored with a good shot (0-1). Charterhouse continued to press, forcing two corners, one of which was cleared by Wynter. Our forwards then woke up. Milne, from a pass by Bompas, put the ball through, but was palpably offside. Soon after this a run and an excellent centre by Harris enabled Sheppard to equalise (1-1). Some even play followed. From a kick out by Anderson the ball was taken up field, and Sheppard, from a pass by Bompas, resolutely charged the ball through (2-1). This, however, was the end of scoring as far as Westminster was concerned. The Carthusian forwards were now thoroughly on their mettle, and made repeated attempts to break through; but the defence was sound, Foster being particularly noticeable. Tuff eventually made the score 'all square' (2-2) with a fine run, and Trower very soon after put his side ahead (2-3) just before half-time. The second half cannot be set forth at any length by a Westminster sympathiser. The forwards, never brilliant, were now hopelessly at sea, three at least being 'passengers,' and the half-backs on the wings were repeatedly pushed off the ball. Four more goals were added to the Charterhouse score, three being shot by the ubiquitous Tuff. The only pleasing incident was the plucky and capable goal-keeping of Anderson, who certainly kept down the score to the best of his ability.

The teams were:—

WESTMINSTER.

K. B. Anderson (goal); A. C. Barnby and E. C. Stevens (backs); E. A. Lewis, A. L. Foster and R. Wynter (half-backs); S. D. Kennedy, S. S. Harris, H. S. Bompas, C. W. Sheppard and A. A. Milne (forwards).

CHARTERHOUSE.

R. C. A. Hobart (goal); W. H. M. Finch and A. H. Liddle (backs); E. S. Chance, J. S. Gardner and S. Johnston (half-backs); H. K. Waller, J. W. S. Malden, B. Tuff, R. A. B. Trower, and G. B. Good (forwards).

DEBATING SOCIETY.

At an Extraordinary Meeting of the Society held on January 18 the following new members were elected:—R. P. Rawlings, C. W. Adams, H. A. Roberts, G. N. Ford, R. D. Kitson, and D. Osborn.

The House met again on Thursday, January 25, when the following motion was discussed: 'That

censure of generals while at the front is highly undesirable.'

A. A. MILNE (the Proposer) used as his chief argument the frequent fallacy of the reports spread by newspapers. He laid particular stress on such cases as that of Gatacre and his guide, the newspaper accounts of which were hopelessly untrue. He had few other arguments to bring before the House; indeed, considering the important part he should have taken in the debate, Milne's speech was decidedly unsatisfactory. He had a sufficiently strong case to make a far lengthier and more conclusive speech than he did.

E. C. STEVENS, in opposing the motion, gave the impression of speaking against his convictions. Though his arguments were for the most part ingenious, they were in no case sound or conclusive. Most of the generals now at the front are men of social importance and have influence at the War Office. Their friends there would naturally endeavour to make as little as possible of their mistakes; an effectual counterpoise to this is afforded by newspaper criticism and censure.

E. G. S. RAVENSCROFT, who seconded the motion, considered it absurd for people at home to criticise generals, who must surely know far more about their business than any journalist in England. A good many people at the beginning of the war thought we had an easy task before us, and when they found out their mistake they vented their disappointment in censure of the War Office and generals.

The debate was very uninteresting, as there seemed to be but little diversity of opinion, and very few members spoke at all on the motion. The Seconder had evidently prepared an eloquent speech, but his elaborate oratory failed him before an inattentive House, and he lapsed into mediocrity.

The House divided on the motion, with the following result: ayes, 15; noes, 1; majority for, 14.

The House met again on February 1 to discuss the following motion: 'That in the death of the Duke of Westminster the nation has lost a great man.'

As our notes on this debate were lost we are unable to furnish any account.

The motion was lost by 7 votes to 6.

The House met again on February 8 to discuss the following motion: 'That the great progress made in the nineteenth century is not entirely desirable.'

By an unfortunate piece of carelessness our notes on this motion also have been lost; this is the more regrettable inasmuch as it was an excellent debate, and the speeches were on the whole considerably better than usual, that of the President, who proposed the motion, being especially strong.

The House carried the motion by 11 votes to 8.

There was another meeting of the House on Thursday, February 15, when the following motion

was proposed: 'That the Government is worthy of censure for its state of unpreparedness for war.'

This motion furnished quite the best debate of the session, as it lasted through three entire meetings, viz. February 15 and 22 and March 1; and when the President was obliged to apply the closure on the last-named date, there were evidently plenty of members ready to continue the debate.

The VICE-PRESIDENT opened his speech and the debate with a reference to the superiority of the Boer artillery over our formerly much-boasted screw guns; this he brought home to us by means of some, doubtless, excellent statistics. He pointed out that though the British soldier is incontestably brave, mere personal bravery does not alone constitute success. He then passed on to a criticism of the state of our Army, more particularly with reference to the officers. The distinction between our Army and the armies of the other Great Powers lies in the following fact: in England the Army is an amusement; on the Continent it is a profession. Our officers of to-day give too much attention to society; they are too fond of their polo, their cricket, and billiards, and devote far too little of their time to their actual profession. The Intelligence Department next came in for hard usage at the Proposer's hands. Though fighting in our country, the Boers know every inch of the ground, whilst it is practically unknown to us; we have no good Ordnance map of Natal or any of the surrounding country, a fact which speaks for itself.

T. MAVROGORDATO, who opposed the motion, said that it was not until after our three great reverses that the Government came in for so much censure and violent journalistic denunciation. At Stormberg the defeat was due to the ignorance of the guide; the other two battles were lost through disobedience and other faults, such as ignorance of tactics. The garrison of Cape Colony had been greatly increased as soon as war seemed probable. General Butler had considered the preparations for war entirely adequate. The Proposer had found fault with our Intelligence Department. He did not think this was just. We had been told before the war that the Boer force was 60,000, and to the best of our knowledge this is correct. With reference to the want of an adequate map of the seat of war, it is exceedingly hard to make one; the area of the country is many times that of England and Wales, and the nature of the ground and smallness of the population make the task of making a good map still more difficult.

The PRESIDENT, who seconded the motion, said that the OPPOSER'S arguments were at first seemingly plausible, but closer examination reveals many discrepancies in them. He thought most of the House was Conservative—he himself was, and so he believed was the PROPOSER; but it was possible to carry party feeling too far; and T. MAVROGORDATO had done so. The OPPOSER had said that our defeats were due to ignorance of tactics; this surely is the fault of the War Office, and therefore of the Government, of which it is a branch. We might learn a

lesson in this respect from the German Emperor, who had so promptly had Baden-Powell's book on 'Scouting' translated for the use of his army. Mr. Balfour, at Manchester, had confessed to a wrong estimate of the Boers' numbers; the OPPOSER had said we knew them to number 60,000; one or other must be wrong. Mr. Balfour had admitted knowledge of the importation of arms into the Transvaal. Lord Salisbury had said in the House of Lords, 'How on earth were we to know?' Such inconsistency did not speak well for the Government. Lord Salisbury had also complained of lack of money for Secret Service; in that case, why did he never ask for more, or even spend what he had at his disposal? It was worth while comparing the intense naval activity at the time of the Fashoda affair, when war with France seemed probable, with the slackness of the War Office before the present war.

E. G. S. RAVENSCROFT agreed with A. C. Barnby that a great deal too much time is given over to the social part of an officer's life. In some obscure way he had discovered that every officer in the German Army had a portion of England to study; we would do well to copy this. Another grievance of his was the disgraceful way the Imperial Yeomanry were detained in barracks at Knightsbridge week after week, in spite of the fact that they had joined on the understanding that they were to sail in a fortnight.

A. L. FOSTER rose and gave vent to a growl against the guns the Army were provided with; but for her naval guns Ladysmith would have fallen long ago; the sighting of the Lee-Netford rifles supplied to the C.I.V. had been very defective, a fact which showed criminal slackness.

W. A. GREENE next rose, and wasted an unnecessary amount of the valuable time at the disposal of the House by bringing the Navy into the debate.

P. T. BROWNING had something to say about the badness of the transports provided for the C.I.V. He called attention, however, to a sensible action of the War Office about a year ago, when they provided for the training of numbers of railway workmen in case of war; these men are now usefully employed in South Africa.

T. MAVROGORDATO then rose to defend his case against the SECONDER'S attacks. Mr. Wyndham was his authority for saying that we knew the numerical strength of the enemy. He (the OPPOSER) had been accused of begging the question in praising the conduct of the Government since the outbreak of war; but the SECONDER was no better. Colonel Baden-Powell's book had been published since October. The SECONDER was mistaken about the amount of money expended on Secret Service.

The PRESIDENT said that time was short, so he would not detain the House long, but he must reply to the last speaker, whose arguments were either fallacies or quibbles. If Mr. Wyndham did know the numbers of the Boers, why did not Mr. Balfour know? Surely the First Lord of the Treasury ought to know such an important fact. His (the OPPOSER'S)

argument about Colonel Baden-Powell's book was not relevant; it was only introduced as an example of German activity as compared with slackness in our War Office. Lord Rosebery was his authority for his statement concerning the Secret Service money.

G. N. FORD made a short maiden speech. When some of the previous speakers compared our Army with that of Germany, they forgot that the army is to Germany what the navy is to us.

A few other members also spoke. The House then divided on the motion, with the result that it was carried by 12 votes to 11.

At the meeting held on Thursday, March 1, C. W. Sheppard was elected a member of the Society.

WESTMINSTERS IN THE WAR.

The following names are to be added to our previous list:—

At School.

1882-87.—G. O. ROOS, Thorneycroft's Horse. Slightly wounded at Spion Kop.

1883-88.—C. S. W. BARWELL, Canadians.

1887-91.—Captain W. H. BRAILEY, Royal West Surrey Volunteers.

1890-94.—C. G. BIRD, Imperial Yeomanry.

1891-94.—F. W. B. WILLET, Lieutenant, Royal Sussex Regiment.

1891-95.—H. J. KIRKPATRICK, Lieutenant, Durham Militia.

1891-96.—A. H. HOGARTH, Imperial Yeomanry.

1894-96.—J. H. REDMAN, 6th Royal Warwickshire Militia.

House Notes.

COLLEGE.—It comes natural to remark that we have little news to chronicle. Interest is chiefly centred on the Town-Boy match and the Sports. Our chances in the former seem much as usual; we earnestly hope that no records will be broken in this match. Our prospects for the Sports are fair. The loss of Colt-Williams will be much felt, but we might do something in the Senior events. It is rumoured that Kennedy is a 'dark horse' for the 'Hammer.' Milne and Coleby are to be congratulated on their 'Pinks' and 'Pink and Whites' respectively. Fives Ties are progressing at a great rate. The ties have already been drawn and the subscription list has been round. We have every hope that by the time the next number appears the first round will be playing.

ASHBURNHAM.—We are drawn against Rigauds in the House matches, and are hopeful of repeating our last term's victory. S. S. Harris, R. Wynter, and E. A. Lewis played against Charterhouse; the first named was unfortunately ill and unable to do himself justice in the match. We congratulate Parker on his

House colours; also Joseph on getting the Ireland. Our prospects for the Sports are not of the brightest.

GRANTS.—Hearty congratulations to C. W. Sheppard on playing for the School against Clare and Charterhouse. He received his 'Pinks' during the last-named match. Our prospects for the House matches are good; P. M. Battle has arrived Up Grants, and should prove a useful acquisition. Yard Ties have begun, but the weather has prevented many ties being played. The Grants Debating Society has been meeting regularly and some very good debates have taken place. J. Britton is entering the Army in the Militia, and we regret to say may leave us at very short notice.

H.BB.—Nothing has occurred with us since the last number of the *Elizabethan* appeared. We congratulate H. Plaskitt on winning the light-weight boxing at Oxford, and A. L. Foster on getting a first-class in the London University Matriculation Examination.

OLD WESTMINSTER FREEMASONS.

A REGULAR meeting of the Old Westminsters Lodge, No. 2233, was held at the Café Royal, Regent Street, on Friday, February 2. The following members were present: W. A. Ellis (W.M.), J. B. Liberty (S.W.), F. G. Hallett (J.W.), H. Sutherland (P.G.D., Secretary), W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P. (P.G.D., P.M.), W. J. Armitage (I.G.), T. S. Lee (D.C.), W. E. Horne (Steward), Walter Tomlinson, W. M. Meredith, R. G. Thornton, and C. C. Sharpe. The guests were Bros. T. S. Tuke, A. J. Day, J. G. Harris, C. W. Harris, H. R. Tritton, and A. Sturt.

Bro. R. G. Thornton and Bro. C. C. Sharpe were admitted to the second degree.

Bro. W. A. Ellis, W.M., signified his intention of becoming a steward at the coming Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

The report of the Audit Committee was then received and adopted, the balance-sheet prepared by the Treasurer showing a satisfactory credit balance. The Treasurer was unable to be present owing to illness. It was incidentally mentioned that this was the first meeting of the Lodge which Bro. Wakley had failed to attend since the foundation of the Lodge in January 1888.

An interesting letter was read by the Worshipful Master from Bro. Lieut.-Colonel H. E. Rawson, R.E., Commanding Royal Engineers, Natal and Lines of Communication, and the hope was expressed that he might soon return safely to his native land crowned with well-deserved honours.

At the close of business the Old Westminster brethren and their guests dined together, and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed.

GAMES COMMITTEE.

BALANCE-SHEET FOR 1899.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance from 1898	99 19 7½	Expenses of Ground and Pavilion—	
Donation from Masters Fund	20 0 0	Lent Term, 1899	6 12 3
Do., Elizabethan Club	10 0 0	Election Term, 1899	6 2 3
Levies	341 3 6	Play Term	8 18 2
Sports and Fives Entries	16 19 9	Wages	218 17 4
Swimming Balance and Entries	1 13 4	Turf, Loam, Seeds, &c.	15 0 6
Fines	0 5 9	Cricket Goods	16 14 6
Shop Profits	22 7 11½	Prize Bats	7 15 0
		Umpire	3 0 0
		Football,	13 10 0
		Sports Prizes, &c.	39 6 3½
		Swimming Prizes	2 13 10
		Printing	10 9 0
		Luncheons	38 9 0
		Horse Hire	18 18 0
		XI. Boards	2 4 0
		Brakes	3 2 6
		Secretary (Postage and Stationery)	2 0 0
		Cheque Books	0 8 4
		Petty Cash	3 0 11½
		Balance	104 8 0
	<u>£512 9 11</u>		<u>£512 9 11</u>

Audited by
R. TANNER, *President*.
A. S. GAYE, *Secretary*.

Obituary.

WE record with much regret the death of JAMES AMBROSE OGLE. He was born in 1824, admitted in 1836, became K.S. in 1837, and left in 1841. After graduating from B.N.C. he was ordained in 1848. In 1858 he became Vicar of Sedgeford, and on a change in the incumbency in 1874 became Rector of Southmere-with-Sedgeford. Thus he held virtually the same living for more than forty years. Mr. Ogle, who was a constant supporter of the School Mission, died on February 20.

We have also to lament the loss of another officer in the war. FRANCIS COVENTRY DUDFIELD DAVIDSON was born in 1874, the younger son of Lieut.-Colonel C. M. Davidson. He was at the School from September 1887 to Christmas 1890, and passed through Sandhurst into the Royal Lancaster Regiment. He was gazetted second lieutenant in March 1895 and lieutenant in January 1897. He went to Natal with the battalion last December. Mr. Davidson died of wounds received near Colenso on February 23.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—My remarks on the Prologue in the Play Number of the *Elizabethan* seem liable to misinterpretation. The phrase I refer to is, 'Can we say that the recitation of the Prologue has proved a success?' By some mistake—perhaps my own carelessness—the words 'on the first night,' which I originally wrote after the words 'Recitation of the Prologue,' were omitted. I am afraid some of your readers thought I suggested that the Prologue should be abandoned altogether, or even that it should be read. Nothing was further from my thoughts; I was merely referring to the first night, not to all three nights.

Yours faithfully,
UNCLE.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—There are two names of O.W.W. serving in South Africa which I have not seen in any list at present of the *Elizabethan*. They are G. O. Roos, formerly of Balliol College, Oxford, who is with Thorneycroft's Horse, and C. G. Bird, at present in residence at St. Edmund's Hall, who is in the Imperial Yeomanry.

While speaking of the war, may I express a hope that some memorial will at no distant date be placed in the lobby Up School in memory of Lieut. Wilkins, the gallant Adjutant of the Suffolks, who fell, together with his Colonel, on that disastrous morning, near Rensburg, a month ago?

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
O. W.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—In the February number of your paper (p. 219), in the account of the Old Westminsters Freemason Lodge, I notice that a letter from the Headmaster was read, in which he indicated the steps to be taken to obtain the loan of the Warren Hastings Cup for the Installation Meeting of the Lodge. I am not a Freemason myself, though I have every respect for that august community, and particularly for the branch which consists of Old Westminsters, but I must protest against the idea which is evidently in contemplation, if it has not by this time been carried a step further. The School and all Old Westminsters revere the Warren Hastings Cup, of which the very greatest care should be taken by its present custodians, and I for one am strongly of opinion that the Cup should not under any circumstances whatever be allowed to leave the School precincts. No regulations which may be attached to the suggested loan can completely safeguard the return of the Cup, though no doubt the Old Westminster Lodge would naturally exercise every precaution, and I do not think that a 'relic' of so precious and unique a character should be subjected to the risks which must naturally attend its removal from the School.

Hoping to hear through your paper that the loan of the Cup has not been sanctioned,

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
CONSERVATIVE.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—Now that the Charterhouse match is over and, unfortunately, lost, the chief interest in the Football season is over, and our thoughts naturally turn to the Cricket season and our chances of avenging that defeat. Last year I was told by

one of the Masters that they were thinking of having one or two afternoons a week a Masters'-net, at which to coach some of the smaller boys in the School. The advantages of this will be seen at once. The cricketing ardour of the smaller boys will receive a great stimulus, for they will get some much better cricket than, I am afraid, the ordinary afternoon games afford. Also any promising batsman or bowler will be quickly discovered and his progress watched, and by the time he gets to the higher and 'pro.' nets he will have acquired some idea of how to play his special branch of the game, and the 'pro.' will consequently be able to get more out of him than otherwise.

I sincerely hope that the Masters during the coming season will carry out their generous and sportsmanlike intention. I am sure the whole School will be most grateful to them, and they will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are doing Westminster cricket a great deal of good.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
A. N. N. Y.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—May I make a suggestion concerning the Sports? I was asked last year by a friend why it was that all of us wear stockings at the Sports during the races. Stockings are an unnecessary encumbrance to the runner. Of course, it would not do for Westminsters to walk down Victoria Street barelegged; but could we not change when we arrive Up Fields

and run without them, as other people do in sports? Will you permit an answer through your columns?

Truly yours, &c.,
CURSOR.

Our Contemporaries.

WE acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following:—*Working Men's College Journal, Edinburgh Academy Chronicle, Carthusian, Felstedian, Radleian, Ulula, Malvernian, Haileyburian, Alleynian, Meteor, Cantuarian, Clavinian, Quernmorian, Rossallian.*

NOTICES.

All contributions to the April number of *The Elizabethan* must reach the Editor not later than March 26.

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 E. G. S. Ravenscroft, St. Peter's College, Westminster (*not* addressed 'The Treasurer').

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

Morcat.