



The Elizabethan.

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PRICE 6D.

GYMNASIUM.

SO much has been heard lately against this most useful institution, that we are sure that many of our readers will hail with delight any attempt to refute the accusations brought against our school gymnasium. At the same time we are sure that were there no "gym" at Westminster, the *Elizabethan* would never lack contributions filled with eager suggestions how to make up this great deficiency in our school system.

Gymnasium has unfortunately for our Conservative principles, no antiquity to support it, but, like the School Commissions, is quite an invention of the present, and is therefore regarded by some members of the School as a "novus homo."

Not many years ago there was an idea current that Gymnastics did not develop the body as much as the usual Public School games, but since then the gymnasium has gradually asserted its importance, nay, rather necessity, and has become one of the component parts of English physical education.

We will now state what we consider some of the principal advantages of Gymnasium.

Gymnastics better than anything else develop all the muscles of the body. We do not mean by the word 'gymnasium' merely ropes, horizontal bars, &c., but also those very useful chest and arm machines, some of which are to be seen at our gymnasium, though not so perfect and numerous as we should wish; by a judicious and frequent use of these, varied with the lighter forms, such as ropes and bars, the body is developed in every part. Ordinary out-door games do not tend to develop the upper limbs, but gymnastic exercises, being extremely varied, are useful for all parts of the body since all the limbs are equally exercised.

Besides this, Gymnasium gives a boy coolness and presence of mind, through the consciousness of his own strength and ability to rely upon himself in case of danger; and the *sang-froid* thus acquired will generally be turned to some good account in after life. We do not wish by this to disparage Cricket or Football, but yet we do not think that even the most ardent admirer of these national games would venture to assert that they can equal gymnastics in practical utility.

Our Gymnasium, situated as it is, in a cool place, is a shady retreat in summer, and many

who find it too hot to play cricket at midday, might with advantage repair thither. We are sorry to see, however, that many prefer idling to attending at "gym."

Again Gymnastics are not so exhausting as other games, and for those whose constitution does not permit them to take very rough exercise Gymnasium offers every facility by providing a varied course of instruction.

In everything a boy must be trained, and we often see that boys do not know how to spend their time and generally fall into mischief: this is to be ascribed to want of training. Had they been taught how to play some game they would soon find it infinitely better than loitering. The same may be said of Gymnasium. A new boy goes there untrained, and if he sees others loitering he immediately follows their example. If the leading members would only—instead of thinking it their only duty to swagger (if we may be pardoned the expression)—make a practice of attending 'gym' as often as possible, the satisfaction they would receive thereby would certainly be an ample recompense for a few minutes' less amusement; and by each taking a small number of boys under their charge to teach them, they would confer an inestimable benefit on their schoolfellows and would earn, we say so without hesitation, the everlasting gratitude of the boys themselves. Let us recommend those who find fault with Gymnasium to set to work, and try to remedy the evils they are so loud in denouncing.

School Notes.

A PRACTICE has lately been introduced up fields of having matches between different forms, and all will confess that this is a great improvement on the continued round of pick-up games, with which all the lower forms have hitherto had to amuse themselves. These matches must be looked upon as a great benefit to the School, as it promotes a greater interest in the game. The introduction of them would, however, have been impracticable had not several of the Masters, who indeed originated the idea, given their co-operation. Our best thanks are therefore due to them for the interest they have taken in these lower matches, and we trust that the result of their exertions will appear in the increase, both as regards quality and quantity, of the element from which our future elevens have to be formed.

THE article in our last number about "Leaving School" has provoked sarcasm and severe criticism. One paper draws attention to the number of marks of exclamation, and the sentences beginning with "How" and "What." Another periodical has come to the conclusion that Westminster must be indeed a

charming place, since those who leave are afflicted with such intense grief.

EVERY one who has not had his mind occupied with Water or Fields must have noticed the various changes which have lately come over green. In the first place, in the early spring, when the grass was beginning to show itself, the whole was ploughed up and resown. On returning about three weeks ago every one remarked that *something* had at last been induced to grow; but alas for their congratulations, they were decidedly premature. The whole of that "something" has been removed, and green has once more returned to the condition in which it is after a month's football on it. It is at present doubtful whether it will be ready in time, but it is to be hoped that the weather may have a salutary effect, and the next half may see the usual after-dinner games which tend so much to raise the standard of football.

THE following Old Westminsters have lately gained honours at Oxford:—

F. B. Lott, 1st Cl. Final Cl.
E. M. Mee, 1st Cl. Final Cl.
H. E. B. Arnold, 2nd Cl. Final Math.
R. W. S. Vidal, 3rd Cl. Theology.
H. S. Otter, 1st Cl. Mods.
W. A. Ll. P. Evans, 2nd Cl. Mods.
E. G. B. Phillimore, 2nd Cl. Mods.
A. W. W. Wynn, 2nd Cl. Mods.
E. M. Rodocanachi, 3rd Cl. Mods.

W. M. Hardinge has also obtained the Newdigate prize for English Verse, while at Cambridge C. M. Lush was elected to a Law Scholarship at Trinity Hall. H. S. Otter has also passed the examination for the Indian Civil Service.

THE following Cricket matches are arranged for the term:—

July 8 *v.* Lords and Commons.
" 19 *v.* M. C. C. and Ground.
" 22 *v.* Charterhouse.
" 31 Q. S. S. *v.* T. B. B.

The Fields.

CRICKET.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL *v.* H. CURTEIS' 11.

Wednesday, June 28, 1876.

THIS was the second foreign match of the season and like the first, terminated in a defeat. We won the toss and went in, Ryde and Abernethy being the first batsmen, opposed to Maude and H. Curteis, both slow bowlers. In the third over Ryde hit his wicket, and shortly after Black was caught in the slips. Hicks put a little life into the game, but the rest, with the exception of Rogers, who played very steadily, seemed unable to play the slows. Aston's was a one hit innings; he was very finely caught. Maude's bowling was

effective, and Randolph's wicket-keeping was very good.

Their first 3 wickets fell for 37, their fourth at 86, but the fifth was not obtained till 154 runs were scored. Maude and Roper treated the bowling as they liked, hitting the ball to all parts of the ground. The former's innings was a good one, though he was let off once or twice, and comprised a 5 and 5 fours. The last wicket put on 57 runs, Curteis playing with the utmost freedom. Fox was the most successful bowler, though all were much hit. We did much better in the second innings. Benbow made 23 of the 24 runs scored when his wicket fell, showing some fine hitting, as did also Hicks, who made 5 fours in his innings. Score:—

WESTMINSTER.

<i>First Innings.</i>		<i>Second Innings.</i>	
C. B. Ryde, hit wicket, b. Maude	0	not out	12
H. Abernethy, b. Maude	8		
A. E. Black, c. H. Curteis, b. Maude	1	c. Ran'olph, b. Maude	0
G. A. Hicks, c. Pelham, b. Maude	11	not out	30
B. M. H. Rogers, b. H. Curteis	11	c. and b. Pelham	1
J. Fox, b. H. Curteis	1		
W. C. Aston, c. and b. Maude . .	5		
A. M. Hemsley, st. Randolph, b. Maude	6		
W. N. Tayloe, c. and b. Maude . .	4		
C. H. Simson, c. Garth, b. Maude	8		
H. C. Benbow, not out	0	c. R. Curteis, b. Maude	23
Leg-bye	1		
Total	56	Total	66

H. CURTEIS' ELEVEN.

F. Saunders, b. J. Fox	1
F. G. Randolph, l. b. w., b. Hicks	21
Hon. A. L. Pelham, b. Hicks	2
A. F. Manley, b. Fox	23
J. Maude, c. Tayloe, b. Fox	64
H. Roper, b. Fox	41
D. Garth, b. Ryde	6
R. M. Curteis, b. Fox	8
Rev. W. Bedford, st. Aston, b. Ryde	5
J. E. C. Leslie, c. and b. Fox	29
H. Curteis, not out	30
Byes, 3; Leg-byes, 1; Wides, 2	6
Total	236

BOWLING.

Westminster.

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Wides
Hicks	17	5	62	2	1
Fox	25.4	4	100	6	1
Simson	6	0	30	0	0
Ryde	8	0	38	2	0

The analysis of the other side was not kept.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL v. I ZINGARI.

This match was played on Wednesday, July 8th, and terminated in a defeat in one innings, and 96 runs. We won the toss and went in, C. Fox and Ryde being the first batsmen, and Grenfell and Drake the bowlers. From the former's first over Ryde scored 7 runs, but from the last ball of the same over Fox was caught at cover-point. Alington was the next comer, but the wickets fell rapidly, and he could get no one to stay

with him, though Hicks made a slight resistance. Alington eventually carried out his bat for a fine innings of thirty, containing 2 fours. Drake's bowling was very good, though Grenfell obtained most wickets.

They began their innings to the bowling of C. Fox and Hicks with Lord Anson and the Hon. B. Lawley. The first four wickets fell for 61 runs, Drake being very finely caught by Gamble, who fielded splendidly. Tennent and Hargreaves, however, made a determined stand, and at dinner time the score stood at 120. The score was afterwards rapidly brought up to 192, when Hargreaves was caught by long-stop, the two batsmen having put on 131 runs. Many changes of bowling were tried, Ryde, Alington, Abernethy and J. Fox all taking a turn. After this the wickets fell rapidly, 3 of them going with the score at 205. Tennent played a fine free-hitting innings, which included a five and 8 fours. Hargreaves also hit freely, making a five and 4 fours. With the ball Alington was most successful, and C. Fox bowled well throughout. Our second innings was begun by C. Fox and Alington, but though we began better the wickets fell even more rapidly, the bowling of Hargreaves being very effective. C. Fox hit well, but with the exception of Black no one else reached double figures, and we were easily beaten in one innings. Ryde was in nearly three quarters of an hour for two runs. Score:—

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

<i>First Innings.</i>		<i>Second Innings.</i>	
C. J. M. Fox, c. Long, b. Grenfell	0	st. Tollemache, b. Hargreaves	25
C. B. Ryde, b. Drake	7	c. Bingham, b. Hargreaves	2
E. H. Alington, not out	30	c. and b. Hargreaves	5
G. A. Hicks, b. Drake	11	c. Anson, b. Hargreaves	5
B. M. H. Rogers, b. Grenfell	1	b. Grenfell	2
H. Abernethy, b. Grenfell	1	c. Johnstone, b. Grenfell	2
A. M. Hemsley, b. Grenfell	9	b. Grenfell	0
W. C. Aston, b. Grenfell	0	not out	0
T. R. Fox, b. Drake	0	b. Grenfell	0
A. E. Black, b. Grenfell	0	b. Grenfell	10
A. F. M. Gamble, b. Grenfell	3	c. subs. b. Grenfell	3
W. N. Tayloe, b. Grenfell	3	b. Hargreaves	3
Leg-bye	1	Bye, 1; Leg-Bye, 1; No-Ball, 1	3
Total	66	Total	60

I ZINGARI.

Hon. B. Lawley, b. C. Fox	5
Viscount Anson, b. Hicks	25
Rev. E. T. Drake, c. Gamble, b. Hicks	10
R. G. Hargreaves, c. C. Fox, b. Alington	67
W. Long, b. C. Fox	7
H. N. Tennent, b. C. Fox	83
F. Johnstone, b. C. Fox	0
H. G. Tollemache, b. Alington	3
R. C. Antrobus, b. Alington	0
Hon. E. Bingham, b. C. Fox	3
W. Grenfell, b. Alington	1
Viscount Lewisham, not out	11
Byes	5

Total . 220

BOWLING.
Westminster.

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets
C. Fox	27.2	5	85	5
Hicks	11	1	43	2
Ryde	4	0	18	0
Alington	7	1	22	4
Abernethy	4	0	18	0
J. Fox	8	0	29	0

I Zingari's bowling was not kept. Umpires Mantle and Sewell.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL v. MANTLE'S 12.

Played on Thursday, June 29th.

WESTMINSTER.

C. J. M. Fox, c. Rawson, b. Holmes	0	c. Byde, b. Holmes	44
C. B. Ryde, b. Holmes	13	run out	6
B. M. H. Rogers, b. Holmes	1	b. Rawson	1
G. A. Hicks, c. Brown, b. Williams	0	c. Armfield	16
J. Fox, b. Williams	0	c. Montague, b. Rawson	3
A. Hemsley, b. Holmes	0	st. Byde, b. Armfield	1
H. Abernethy, b. Armfield	5	not out	0
W. C. Aston, b. Armfield	0		
A. E. Black, c. Holmes, b. Williams	7		
W. N. Tayloe, c. Holmes, b. Armfield	5		
H. C. Benbow, c. Rawson, b. Armfield	0		
C. H. Simson, c. Gray, b. Williams	4		
A. F. M. Gamble, not out	0	c. Howell, b. Rawson	25
Byes, 2 ; Wides, 1	3	Byes, 4 ; Leg-byes, 2 ; Wides, 1	7
Total	38	Total	103

MANTLE'S TWELVE.

J. Gibson, Esq., c. Aston, b. C. Fox	24
H. B. Gray, Esq., c. Tayloe, b. Hicks	12
W. S. Rawson, b. J. Fox	18
H. L. Brown, c. Aston, b. J. Fox	23
Montague, st. Aston, b. C. Fox	2
Howell, c. Abernethy, b. J. Fox	4
Armfield, b. C. Fox	10
Williams, c. Hicks, b. C. Fox	0
O. Borradaile, b. J. Fox	10
Byde, b. J. Fox	4
Holmes, c. C. Fox, b. J. Fox	11
Mantle, not out	6
Byes, 1 ; Wides, 2	3
Total	127

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, v. T. MANTLE'S 12.
(Return.)

ON the first of July Mantle got together an eleven to play us, and the match resulted in a victory for us, by 4 runs. Their bowling at the beginning was good but towards the end it was much hit. For us, C. Fox hit freely, while Rogers played carefully. Simson hit very hard in his second innings and so did Abernethy, C. Fox was unfortunately run out in attempting a sixth run for a fine drive into the bat room. For them Mr. Gibson played a very fine innings, his chief hits being one 4 and eight 3's ; but Page was let off once or twice. C. Fox when bowling slow was much hit, but afterwards he was more on the spot. Score:—

WESTMINSTER.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
C. B. Ryde, b. Göhns	5	b. Richards	0
J. R. Fox, b. Göhns	2	b. Richards	0
G. A. Hicks, b. Goodson	14	b. Richards	0
A. M. Hemsley, c. Goodson, b. Göhns	5	b. Armfield	13
W. C. Aston, b. Göhns	7	c. Borradaile	9
C. J. M. Fox, b. Göhns	16	b. Armfield	9
B. M. H. Rogers, b. Goodson	13	run out	28
W. N. Tayloe, c. Rawson, b. Göhns	15	not out	18
H. C. Benbow, c. Borradaile, b. Goodson	3	c. Mott, b. Richards	6
A. F. M. Gamble, not out	1	b. Armfield	4
C. U. Simson, b. Goodson	1	c. Rawson, b. Armfield	1
J. Abernethy, b. Göhns	3	st. Mott, b. Armfield	18
Byes, 3 ; Leg-byes, 3 ; Wides, 2	8	c. Rawson, b. Armfield	15
Total	90	Byes, 2 ; Wides, 2	4
		Total	114.

MANTLE'S TWELVE.

J. Gibson, Esq., c. J. Fox, b. C. Fox	38
Armfield, c. C. Fox, b. J. Fox	1
Page, run out	15
Mott, c. and b. J. Fox	8
F. L. Rawson, b. J. Fox	4
Howell, c. Hemsley, b. C. Fox	0
Richards, run out	0
O. Borradaile, b. J. Fox	8
Montague, c. Ryde, b. C. Fox	0
Goodson, b. C. Fox	8
Göhns, b. J. Fox	3
Mantle, not out	1
Total	86

BOWLING.

MANTLE'S TWELVE.

First Innings.					
	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Wides.
Göhns	22	7	36	7	2
Goodson	21	6	46	4	0
Second Innings.					
Armfield	22.1	3	61	6	0
Richards	22	8	49	4	2
WESTMINSTER.					
C. Fox	19	4	48	4	0
J. Fox	18.1	4	38	5	0

THE FIRST SEVEN v. NEXT ELEVEN.

THIS match was played on June 20 and 21, and resulted in a single innings victory for the eleven. The eleven took first innings, and were not disposed of till they had made the rather large total of 146. B. Rogers and Tayloe played very well for their respective scores and brought the score from 29 to 95, after which the wickets fell rather rapidly before the destructive bowling of Hicks, who took 8 out of the 9 wickets bowled. The seven, as is always the case, found it rather difficult to place their men in advantageous positions, and the large number of byes may be attributed to there being no wicket-keeper. The seven next went to the wickets and made the small score of 61, and consequently had to follow their

innings and were disposed of for the still smaller score of 44. The ground was very hard and rough, Simson's balls rising very awkwardly. Score:—

THE ELEVEN.

A. E. Black, c. Hicks, b. Hemsley	6
W. N. Tayloe, b. Hicks	47
H. P. Robinson, b. Hicks	0
B. M. H. Rogers, b. Hicks	47
J. Abernethy, c. and b. Hicks	5
C. U. Simson, c. Ryde, b. Hicks	13
H. Bulkley, b. Hicks	0
W. Egerton, not out	5
E. U. Eddis, run out	0
E. Guest, c. and b. Hicks	2
G. Dale, ii. c. Aston, b. Hicks	0
Byes	21

Total 146

THE SEVEN.

First Innings.

Second Innings.

C. B. Ryde, c. and b. Black	8	c. Egerton, b. Simson	9
A. F. M. Gamble, run out	5	b. Black	0
G. A. Hicks, c. Abernethy, b. Black	11	c. Black, b. Simson	8
J. Fox, c. Tayloe, b. Black	5	not out	14
A. Hemsley, not out	9	c. Robinson, b. Simson	3
W. C. Aston, run out	10	b. Simson	4
H. C. Benbow, b. Black	8	c. Abernethy, b. Simson	3

Byes, 2; Leg-byes, 1; Wides, 2 5
Byes, 1; Leg-byes, 1; Wides, 1 . 3

Total 61 Total 44

The Water.

IN spite of the "clear out" which Water experienced last half, things are beginning to look very favourable. There are only two more places to fill up in the Eight, and these, not from want of fit material, but simply from the fact that the candidates for "pink," are very much of a muchness. We cannot hope, of course, for as heavy an eight as last, and the same remark may be applicable to us, as to the Cambridge crew of this year, where, in spite of their only possessing three of their last year's boat, (while Oxford had six) won as easy a race as could well be imagined. The great thing which we are in need of at present is "tubbing" in midday. It is next door to an impossibility, for any one, however skilful a coach he may be, to see anything like the faults of a crew, if he can only get at them in an eight. Until something in this way can be done, we can never put a thoroughly good eight. It is said that it would be unsafe for us to boat between Westminster Bridge and Vauxhall, but anybody who would give a few minutes of his time on Sunday to watching the various boats (of a much lighter make than we should require) amusing themselves by racing over the very course we wish to tub on, would see that this is not the case. Of course this favour would only be required for the first and second eight, who could not well be too grateful if it was accorded them. We do not pretend to say that this plan is perfectly free from obstacles or objections. Doubtless there are a few, but even those we think could be easily surmounted by a little perseverance. The

shortness of the boating term this year will compel us to pass over this for the present, but it is to be hoped that next year we may see ourselves being coached in tub pairs between Westminster and Vauxhall. Now for the Eight itself. A great improvement in the time and swing is noticed every night, and each one seems to be doing his very best for the common good, but there is still a tendency to hurry forward with the body and hang on the feather. The rolling has all but disappeared, and for the last few nights nothing steadier could be wished for. J. Ogle, Esq., O. W., Trin. Coll., Ox., has been up twice and coached us, and would have come again, had his engagements permitted him. W. B. Wildman, Esq., and H. B. Gray, Esq., have also done us a great deal of good, as well as helping us in the choices for the eights, which at any time is no easy task. It has also been decided that it would be better for the Eight to remain rowing on fixed seats, than attempt sliders. Finally, if every one will continue to do his best, and we feel sure they will, there is no reason, as the School goes on gradually increasing its numbers, why Water at Westminster should not flourish. The eights are at present,—

First Eight.

Second Eight.

st. lb.	
Bow.	Bow.
2.	2.
3. G. Dale	3. W. A. Cuppage.
4. E. R. Frere	4. E. W. Pole.
5. W. Compton Smith.	5. E. A. Bulkley.
6. G. S. Maxwell	6. — Kitchen.
7. R. Mead	7. H. W. De Sausmarez.
Str. A. P. Longstaffe	Str. F. R. Clarke.

Cox. P. J. C. Randolph.

Cox. H. Cotton.

THE SCRATCH FOURS.

June 1 and 2.

There were only five entries for this race, the boats being:—

Bow. H. Lowry.	Bow. A. Maconochie.	
2. E. A. Bulkley.	2. W. A. Cuppage.	
3. H. Westmoreland.	3. F. R. Clarke.	
Str. R. Mead.	Str. B. Kitchen.	
Cox. F. Newman.	Cox. H. German.	
Bow. S. Bere	Bow. R. Batley.	Bow. W. Lutyens.
2. H. W. DeSausmarez.	2. T. B. Jones.	2. J. Hamilton.
3. J. W. C. Frere.	3. G. Dale.	3. E. W. Pole.
Str. A. P. Longstaffe.	Str. E. R. Frere.	Str. W. Compton Smith
Cox. P. J. C. Randolph.	Cox. J. Acton.	Cox. H. Cotton.

First heat.

Mead's (Middlesex)	1
Kitchen's (Surrey)	2

For a little way the two boats kept well together, but then Mead spurred and won easily.

Second heat.

Smith's (Surrey)	1
Longstaffe's (Middlesex)	2
Frere's (Centre)	0

Longstaffe went off at once with the lead, but Smith gradually crept up, and won by a length and a quarter. Frere never had a chance.

Final heat.

Mead's (Surrey)	1
Smith's (Centre)	2
Longstaffe's (Middlesex)	0

Smith got off with a much better start than his opponents, and at Hurlingham was a length to the good, but Mead putting on a tremendous spurt came up level, and opposite Salter's was ahead, winning by two lengths.

The races were all rowed over the usual Putney and Wandsworth Course.

Three boats entered for Under Election Gigs, viz.

1	2	3
MIDDLESEX.	CENTRE.	SURREY.
Bow. F. Cobby. Str. R. Mead.	Bow. H. Lowry. Str. W. Cuppage.	Bow. H. De Sausmarez. Str. F. Clarke.
Cox. G. Dale (ii.).	Cox. C. Tepper.	Cox. S. Godfrey.

Cuppage held the lead for a short distance owing to Mead being badly steered, but off Salter's the latter passed him and kept ahead with ease, finally winning by about three lengths. Clarke was out of it from the beginning to the end, and gave neither of the others the slightest trouble.

WESTMINSTER HEROES.

II.

"Sativa quidem tota nostra est."—QUINT.

WE may remark without being accused of vain boasting, upon one remarkable feature in the roll of Westminster Heroes. The School seems to have reared a wonderfully large number of Poets. If a list were composed of the Westminster Poets, many readers would be astonished that in one school were educated so many of the men who have become famous to the world in "immortal verse," yet so it is. Southey, Cowper, George Herbert, Ben Jonson, Cowley, Rowe, Prior, and many others, received their early education under the towers of St. Peter's, and have left their fame for emulation to future generations. To the casual visitor, as he passes from class-room to class-room while inspecting the time-honoured relics of antiquity so plentifully scattered throughout the old School, there is shown with no little pride a wooden bench with deep letters cut into it. "Only a man's name," it may be said: "True," we answer, "but still the greatest of Westminster's Poets, the name of one of whom she should be justly proud, of a genius the fame of which will never die, the name of *John Dryden*." It is supposed from internal evidence that the inscription is a work of his own hand, but, be that as it may, it reminds us at once of his immortal genius and his claim upon our notice.

John Dryden was born in Northamptonshire, A.D. 1631. It is commonly reported that he was brought up as an Anabaptist, although in this we probably see the hand of a lampooner. He was taught at Westminster as a King's Scholar by the far-renowned Dr.

Busby, for whose name and discipline he long possessed a great reverence. Nothing during his school career marked his future renown, and it was not until after his University life at Cambridge that his poetical talent displayed itself. Although a partisan of the the Protector during the Commonwealth, he greeted Charles on his Restoration with one of his most famous poems. The reproach, sometimes urged against him, of inconstancy was on this occasion shared by so many that it produced neither hatred nor disgrace. If he changed, he changed with the nation. His works are so numerous and varied that space does not even allow an enumeration of their titles. Among his most famous works rank "Absalom and Achitophel," "Palamon and Arcite," "The Hind and Panther," and "Alexander's Feast." The number of his dramatic productions is very large, and their style very varied. From the age of five-and-thirty to that of sixty-three he composed no less than twenty-eight pieces for the stage which, if we remember that meantime he was not wanting in other branches of literary activity, must mark him at once as a man of energy and originality. Such a genius as that of Dryden naturally excited the malevolence of unsuccessful rivals who added force to their satirical criticisms. He was assaulted at night as he was returning from the Coffee-house in Covent Garden, which then corresponded to the modern Club, and was so severely handled that his life was in no small danger. A great epoch of his later life was his secession to the Romish Church, and he has been accused of having studied his interests in taking the step; but it is not for us to throw doubt upon the sincerity of heart in this change of opinions. A few months after the birth of the little Prince whose arrival was made the subject of a glowing poem from our Poet's pen, full of predictions of greatness and prosperity, the "blossom of Popish hope was blasted by the Revolution." A Papist could be no longer Laureate, and he was succeeded by Shadwell. After a life of active genius—truly a successful career of a deserving man—he died on the 1st May, 1700. There is a remarkable story of a sensational type connected with his funeral, but it is generally believed to be an evident misstatement of fact. He was buried in Westminster Abbey, between the graves of Chaucer and Cowley—a fitting resting-place for one of his transcendent ability.

In disposition and moral character Dryden is represented as most amiable by all who knew him. Of a nature exceedingly humane and compassionate, his forgiveness of injuries was truly remarkable, and his friendship exceeded his professions. He was of a modest and retiring character; the possessor of a tenacious memory and a mind well stored with extensive reading. In his private family life he was amiable, faithful and benevolent, a warm-hearted husband and a kind landlord. His mode of life was temperate to a degree, although he was by no means what is called a "total abstainer." His genius in the field of literature has been alluded to before, and we need but add little to our previous estimate of it. His distinguishing characteristics were his reasoning powers and his choice of appropriate language. The more lofty and

ambitious feelings seem also to have been his favourite study.

Tragedy suited his style better than Comedy, which does not seem to have been largely studied by him. In Lyrical poetry he had no equal. The exquisite production "Alexander's Feast" must ever stand in the first rank of English verse. His prose works exhibit his extensive knowledge and his power of composition. We cannot sum up his great merit in language better adapted to our subject, than by quoting Sir Walter Scott's opinion on our hero's claim to honour.

"Educated in a pedantic taste and a fanatical religion, he was destined if not to give laws to the Stage at least to defend its liberties: to improve Burlesque and Satire: to free translations from the fetters of verbal metaphor, and exclude it from the licence of paraphrase; to teach posterity the powerful and varied harmony of which their language was capable: to give an example of the lyric Ode of unapproached excellence: and to leave to English Literature a name second only to those of Milton and Shakespeare."

Nothing can be added to this encomium, we would wish to take nothing from it.

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

TO CORRESPONDENTS, &c.

The yearly subscription to *The Elizabethan* has been fixed at 4s. (including postage).

All Subscribers who have not paid their subscriptions are requested to send them immediately by P. O. O. to L. Renouf, 1, Dean's Yard, Westminster; if at Oxford, to P. G. L. Webb, Christ Church, and if at Cambridge, to E. H. Holthouse, Trinity College.

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All other communications to be addressed to J. A. Turner, St. Peter's College, Westminster, and on no account to the Editor or Printers.

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

We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the *Etonian*, (3), the *Wykehamist* (3), the *Carthusian*, the *Meteor* (2), the *Marlburian* (2), the *Wellingtonian* (2), *Our School Times* (2), the *Radlean*, the *Bloxhamist*, the *Glenalmond Chronicle*, the *Ousel*, and the *Durham University Journal*.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ELIZABETHAN.

DEAR SIR,—Now that C. H. H. C. has again started the question of Sports, may I venture to hope these few lines may find room in your columns.

Several of C. H. H. C.'s suggestions seem to me very good indeed, especially that of stopping the ridiculous practice of boys entering their names for contests, in which they do not mean to take part.

As to the under path, one of your correspondents greatly approves of it, whilst another condemns it, on the ground of its being injurious to health.

Though I am well aware of the disadvantages of the cinder, I know by experience how bad the quarter-mile course in Vincent Square becomes after being practised on a few days.

I should therefore keep the golden mean between these two opinions, and propose, on the one hand to have a cinder or sand-path, on the other hand to have this path laid out only about four days before Sports come off.

C. H. H. C.'s observations about the programme too, I think, deserve attention, especially as regards flat races. I really do believe one of the 440 yards races might well be dispensed with. Our reformer's wish for a half-mile race is very reasonable indeed and well merits consideration, but might not innovation be carried still farther, and—do not be frightened by this proposal—a two-miles race be introduced?

You may object that there are already few boys enough who finish the mile course: that is an undeniable and much to be lamented fact, no doubt. But on the other hand, staying power is unquestionably more useful than great speed as regards short distances; and I am certain Westminster is not utterly devoid of persons able to do two miles. Running a course of two miles is certainly more beneficial to health than losing your wind in a short heat. Besides, if a two-miles race were once established, the training required for this contest would at the same time produce better competitors for the mile race; for the chief defect noticeable in our boys is want of endurance; when staying power is once acquired speed may be aimed at.

Hoping that I have not too much transgressed on your time or space,

I remain, Sir,

Yours truly,

L. R.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ELIZABETHAN.

DEAR SIR,—Your correspondent C. H. H. C. sends you a long letter about Athletics, which of course meets partly with approval, partly with the reverse; may, I too venture to make some remarks about his proposals?

In my opinion, the lengthy epistle referred to, contains only two really good and practicable suggestions; one about a running path, another about additional shelter in fields.

The evil of a bad running course he wishes to remedy by laying a path: so far so good; but what I object to is the cinder path, as does also R. W. S. V.

It is very bad for running on, not so much for short races as 100, or even 300 yards; but after having run upon it somewhat longer, it creates a burning sensation in the soles of your feet, which does not at all tend to facilitate speed.

But why not choose some other substance? I would f. i. suggest having the quarter-of-a-mile course slightly covered with sand or saw-dust on the morning before the first day of Sports. The other fault in our arrangements C. H. H. C. calls attention to, and which in the last number of the *Elizabethan* was left unnoticed, is the want of a place of refuge against the inclemency of the weather, a defect which was so much felt last year. This however, could be easily remedied by having a large tent ready in case it should be wanted. I even think that it need not be pitched before the first day of Sports, but that, according to the appearance of the weather at the time, Mantle could put it up, or omit doing so, early in the morning.

Yours truly,

L. C. F.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ELIZABETHAN.

SIR,—As Lamprobaties are now going on, I should like to call your attention to the fact that Under Elections cannot play more than twice in this match, but that Town Boys are allowed to do so. Might not this be remedied, as it is obviously not quite fair? Hoping that this suggestion will meet with your approval,

I am, yours truly,

FAIR PLAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ELIZABETHAN.

SIR,—As "Lamprobaties" are still fresh in the memory of everybody, I think it may not be altogether out of place to make a few remarks on this time-honoured match, and to suggest a few alterations to your readers. I have not the least doubt that a great many have seen and remarked how, year after year, this match decreases visibly and unmistakably in interest; which can, I think, be traced to the fact that it yearly becomes a more one-sided game. It has been a foregone conclusion for the last two or three years, and when it comes to this, that the Under Elections make only twenty-five runs, and, at the time of writing, the Town Boys have realized sixty for two wickets, I think it high

time that a change for the better were made. I beg, therefore, to suggest the following: that inasmuch as among the Under Elections no fellow can obviously play more than two years running, the same rule shall henceforth hold good with the Town Boys, for I think I am not mistaken in saying that two or three Town Boys are playing this year for the third consecutive time. As it is, the Under Elections labour under a great disadvantage in having only about twenty-four fellows to choose from, compared with the hundred or more of the Town Boys. I am not blind to the fact that in all probability my suggestion will be stoutly opposed, especially by the Town Boys, but until I hear some very good reasons why my suggestions should not be carried out, I shall not be induced to believe that I have suggested an useless, senseless, and, at the same time, impracticable alteration.

Yours truly,
E. A. B.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ELIZABETHAN.

MY DEAR SIR,—Although so many suggestions for the improvement of the School and the amusement of its members were so unceremoniously derided last term, yet as the rage for something new appears to continue, I venture to make another.

I have often found that the time passes very slowly on half-holidays and other occasions when the weather is so bad that Fields are swamped, the racquet courts are deserted, and there is nothing whatever to be done except to stay in and read.

It has occurred to me that the pleasing monotony of this programme for rainy days might be agreeably varied by the institution of a chess club at Westminster. I believe that there are many in the school who would willingly support it, if such a thing could be arranged; and the idea appears to me to be quite as feasible and worthy of consideration as skating rinks, spelling bees, *et hoc genus omne*. An annual chess match now takes place between Oxford and Cambridge, and I see no reason why Westminster should not try to be represented in the chess clubs as well as in the Elevens and Eights of these two Universities. The principal objection as usual appears to be the want of some place for the club to meet, but if the subject is really taken into consideration, I do not think this difficulty will be found to be insurmountable.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.
W. A. P.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ELIZABETHAN.

DEAR SIR,—May I call attention to the fact that there are several letters which have appeared in the *Elizabethan* a good while ago, and have never yet been answered, though some of the questions put were deserving of full consideration. This is the case with the question about the challenge cup for the half-mile with hurdles at the end.

“Antiquary’s” capital suggestion as to giving us some information about the history of Westminster has not been carried out, and no reason has been given why it should not be. At the same time, may I ask for some information about the School improvement fund; I have seen in your columns lists of subscribers, but have never yet found out whether the fund has as yet been put to any use, and if so, for what purpose.

May I also be so importunate as to ask whether racquet courts are to continue in their present bad condition, or not? In one of the numbers of your journal a hint was thrown out as to a *new material* being laid down, asphalt or cement, I presume, being meant. The former I know would not do well, as it greatly suffers if exposed to the heat of the sun. Besides which it wears away rapidly, and would require frequent repair, which would entail great expense. But what objection is there to cement? It can stand the weather, does not wear out very much, and on account of its hardness, the racquet balls would rebound from it quite as well as from stone, though they would certainly not do so from asphalt.

But I fear, you will answer that there are no sufficient means in hand: might not the School improvement fund be devoted to this purpose, and might these funds not be increased by a general subscription (it need not be a heavy one) each term?

Of course I am not so unreasonable as to expect a new material to be laid down immediately now; but I thought that if so beneficial a plan were really intended, you would have been so kind as to let us know. In any case, however, something or other ought to be done to improve racquet courts.

The ancient poets tell us that swans sing before they die; is this perhaps the case too with the proposal of having a workshop, made by “Tool,” who some numbers back favoured us with a song at the concert of correspondents? Humbly apologizing for my inquisitiveness,

I remain, truly yours,
AGNOON.

Floreat.