



The Elizabethan.

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EDITORIAL.

IN accordance with *Elizabethan* precedent, the first number of Vol. V. should have contained a sigh of relief at the successful conclusion of the last volume, and a rather doubtful expression of hope for the future welfare of the paper. But it so happened that the new volume began with a new year, and from the infancy of the *Elizabethan* it has been the custom to give a review of 'The Past Year' in the first number of the new one. At the beginning of Vol. IV. the then Editor took upon himself, to use his own words, 'the difficult task of uniting a review of the last volume with a review of the past year.' We, on the other hand, were so alarmed by the difficulty of the task that we decided not to tackle it, but to treat each subject separately; and we hope that it is not yet too late to preface the new volume with a short account of the condition in which the *Elizabethan* now is, financially and other-

wise. From a pecuniary point of view the *Elizabethan* has at no period of its existence been in a more flourishing condition than it is now. For the first time in its career, a new volume sees a balance instead of a deficit—and that a balance of between £16 and £17. This of course is matter for congratulation to all concerned; but let not subscribers think that the increase of funds will justify any irregularity on their part in the payment of their yearly four shillings. Ever since it was started the *Elizabethan* has depended upon the punctual payment of all subscriptions, which condition all those who are acquainted with the history of the paper will know has been seldom satisfied. Now, however, it is incumbent upon us to offer a tribute of thanks to subscribers for the prompt way in which their money is, in most cases, sent in to the Treasurer; and, in the phraseology of trade circulars, 'we respectfully beg to solicit a kind continuance of their favours.'

The question of the literary success of the paper during the past three years we must leave

to our readers to decide. We may fairly claim that the *Elizabethan* has kept to the original plan laid down by the first Editor in No. 1, which appeared in July, 1874. To quote his words: 'Our plan is to give in this paper every month a record of all *School Events*, with such remarks as they may seem to call forth.' This programme has been adhered to pretty consistently since the foundation of the paper; and it is quite curious to notice how the most mild of critics of 'Our Contemporaries' will launch forth into the most scathing sarcasms upon school papers which work upon a different principle, and admit articles with headings such as 'A Day with the Cherokee Indians,' 'Adventures in the Jungle,' &c. Leaders are still, we hope, what they were intended to be in 1874—essays upon 'subjects exciting interest within or without the School.' The question of Correspondence has many sides, and both excess and scarcity of letters may be looked upon as evils. We may congratulate ourselves that the Correspondence in our columns seems to strike the happy mean; for a large flood of letters shows that either there are many existing grievances to remedy, or that there are many grumblers bent on remedying grievances which do not exist elsewhere than in their own brains; while a lack of communications from readers of the paper would argue a want of enthusiasm and interest in its well-being. The size of numbers has varied considerably; but on two occasions a sixteen-page number has been issued, a feat which was not achieved in any of the first three volumes. One omission we notice in the volume which has just been concluded: no illustration of any sort has been published, whereas each of its predecessors has contained something of the kind. There is not enough artistic talent in the School to start an illustrated magazine on the lines of the *Grey Friar*; but an occasional drawing issued with the *Elizabethan* would not be at all out of place, and would doubtless be acceptable to subscribers. Accordingly, if the surplus continues to increase, it may possibly be thought proper to publish a reprint of some old drawing of one of the School buildings, or an original sketch, if a School artist be obtainable.

With these introductory remarks, then, we will leave the new volume to run its course, which we trust it will do in a manner entirely satisfactory to all, both readers and contributors; and as the *Elizabethan* has already been far longer-lived than any magazine which

has ever been published at Westminster, we may reasonably hope that, if not immortal, it will at least endure to record the doings of the Westminster world as long as anything is done at Westminster worth recording.

OLD WESTMINSTERS AT CAMBRIDGE.

WESTMINSTERS, past and present, will be glad to hear that a sort of informal O.W. Club has been started at Cambridge. It has long been a subject for regret that the few O.W.W. who come to Cambridge soon drift apart and see very little of each other, and for several reasons, among which the most prominent is the fact that no steps have been taken to bring them together as a body, with the exception that a few football matches have been played—in which substitutes have generally figured rather too prominently.

Last Term, however, owing to the energy of an O.W. of some years' standing, it was decided to call a preliminary meeting, to consider whether a Club could be formed and some permanent provision made for gathering its members together periodically.

The meeting was therefore called on December 6 of last year, and out of about twenty-five O.W.W. at Cambridge some sixteen attended, and proceeded to form themselves into a Club, with a president, a secretary, and a nominal subscription for expenses. The absolute necessity of a blazer became at once apparent, and, after considerable difference of opinion as to the best way of introducing the indispensable pink, it was decided, on due consideration of the merits of the blazer at present in use at Oxford and of various visionary blazers, to have a perfectly plain black ground, bound at the edge with pink, and the Westminster arms on the breast-pocket.

Not to dwell too much on these details, it may safely be said that the result is gorgeous and beautiful in the extreme, though the blazer rather tends to assume by candle-light the appearance of that of Clare College.

The first meeting of the Club, as such, was held on January 25, at which it was resolved to hold two or three meetings every Term, and to have an annual Cambridge O.W. dinner some time in the May Term, to which any other O.W.W. who happened to be staying in the town for the races might be invited. It was also suggested that one or two football matches might be arranged, in which substitutes should be employed as sparingly as possible. (Last Term a match was played against Trinity Rest Second Eleven, but the result was not very glorious or encouraging; still only one substitute played.)

The second meeting took place on February 15, and at once proceeded, owing to the presence of a piano, to shake off the rather formal dulness of its

predecessors, various members contributing to the enlivenment of the evening by singing songs, in which the comic and sporting element was most conspicuous and appreciated, and musical ability equally conspicuous, though for different reasons. The meeting, however, approached nearer to what may perhaps be called the ideal, for the Club has been formed solely for the purpose of enabling the few scattered O.W.W. at Cambridge to see something of each other at times, and to see it in a sociable and unconstrained kind of way.

At present the Club meets in various members' rooms, and this arrangement seems to work well, particularly for those whose rooms are not large enough to render them liable to hold a meeting; indeed, there are not enough members to make any other arrangement practicable at present, but it is hoped that, as more O.W.W. come to Cambridge (and the numbers have steadily increased of late) some accommodation for the Club of a more permanent character may be provided.

It is due to members to say that they have shown, by responding to the movement so cordially, that there is no lack of patriotism or interest in old School associations amongst them, and, considered as a means by which this may be developed more fully, the Club hopes to receive such support as Westminster generally may have the opportunity of giving.

WESTMINSTER WORTHIES.

No. 6.—SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

OF all the great men who have been educated at Westminster there is no one with whose name Westminster boys should be more familiar than with that of Christopher Wren. Even in the Abbey they may see traces of his work; they cannot stray far towards the city without encountering many examples, either of his own work or of that of his pupils; and those who chance to go up to either University will find there many reminders of the greatest English architect since the decline of Gothic. He belonged to an old family who traced their descent to the Danes, and one of his ancestors fought in Palestine under Richard I.

His father, Christopher Wren, and his uncle, Matthew Wren, were both educated at the Merchant Taylors' School, where Matthew attracted the notice of Lancelot Andrewes, then Dean of Westminster, who obtained for him a scholarship at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

He became Master of Peterhouse, Dean of Windsor, and held the Bishopricks of Hereford, Norwich, and Ely successively. In 1641, while Bishop of Ely, he was accused before the House of Lords of various so-called Popish and idolatrous practices, and in 1642 he was sent to the Tower, from whence he did not emerge until released by General Monk in 1660. He died in 1667, aged eighty-one.

Christopher Wren, who was the younger of the two, went to St. John's College, Oxford, was admitted to Holy Orders, became, like his brother, Chaplain to Bishop Andrewes, and was presented by him in 1620 to the living of Fonthill Bishop, in Wiltshire, which he held for three years, when he received the neighbouring living of East or Bishop's Knoyle. East Knoyle lies near Fonthill Abbey, then owned by a Mr. Richard Cox, whose only child, Mary, Christopher Wren soon afterwards married. They had seven children while at East Knoyle, five daughters and two sons. The first son, born in 1630, and named Christopher, seems to have died very young. The second son, the subject of our memoir, was born in 1632, and also called Christopher. A few years after his birth, his father was appointed Dean of Windsor, in succession to Bishop Wren. As a child the young Christopher was very delicate, but gave early promise of great abilities; he was educated by a tutor, the Rev. W. Shephard, until he was nine or ten years old, when he was sent to Westminster, where Busby was then Head Master. Of his stay at Westminster very little is known. A Latin letter, addressed to his father, which he wrote when in his tenth year, is extant, as are also some Latin verses written while at Westminster. He is also known to have invented an astronomical instrument while there. He went up to Oxford at the age of fourteen, and entered as a gentleman commoner at Wadham College in 1646.

The head of Wadham College at that time was Dr. Wilkins, who had married Cromwell's sister. He was a great enquirer into Natural Philosophy, and used to hold weekly meetings, at which many learned men were gathered together for the purpose of making scientific enquiries and experiments. At these meetings Christopher Wren seems to have been a constant attendant. Young as he was at this time, he had made several curious inventions—a design for a reflecting dial for the ceiling of a room; an instrument to write in the dark, and an instrument of use in making dials.

Soon after this he invented a 'dittographic pen,' for writing two copies of any matter at once, and obtained a patent for it for seventeen years.

In 1652 he appeared before the Prince Palatine in a play entitled 'Hey for Honesty—Down with Knavery,' translated by Thomas Randolph from the 'Plutus' of Aristophanes.

In the following year he was elected to a Fellowship at All Souls, where he was visited soon afterwards by Evelyn the diarist, who speaks of him as 'that miracle of a youth, Mr. Christopher Wren.' A friendship was formed between these two, which was only broken by Evelyn's death in 1706.

In 1656 Wren's father, the Dean of Windsor, died at the age of 69, just a year before his son's appointment as Gresham Professor of Astronomy, a post which he doubted whether he should accept, for he was then but 24 years of age. His friends, however, persuaded him to accept the post, and he came up to London and delivered his opening address in

Latin, enlarging on the history and the greatness of the science of astronomy.

Oliver Cromwell died in 1658, and under Richard Cromwell's rule Gresham College was garrisoned by soldiers, and all the professors, except Dr. Goddard, Cromwell's physician, were driven out, so that it was not until after the Restoration that Wren was able to enter thoroughly into his work there.

On March 15th, 1660, General Monk released Matthew Wren from the Tower, after eighteen years of captivity. He was continued in his bishopric by Charles II., and assisted in consecrating the new Bishops appointed directly after the Restoration.

In November, 1660, Wren was among those who were instrumental in founding the Royal Society. The first president was Lord Brouncker, whose 'imprimatur' may be found in many of the books in the library at Westminster. Who can tell but what they were given to it by Wren—or perhaps by Abraham Cowley, who was also one of the original members of the Royal Society?

In 1661 Wren resigned the Gresham Professorship in order to accept the Savilian Professorship of Astronomy at Oxford; in the same year he took the degree of D.C.L. at Oxford, and received the honorary degree of LL.D. from the University of Cambridge. Soon after this the King appointed him assistant to Sir John Denham, the Surveyor-General of Works.

In 1663 the Royal Society was incorporated by a Royal Charter, with a preamble by Christopher Wren explaining its objects. Butler, the author of 'Hudibras,' ridiculed the new society in a poem called 'The Elephant in the Moon,' which describes the members of the society looking at the moon through an immense telescope and seeing the appearance of an elephant upon its surface, which turns out to be a mouse that has got in between the glasses of the telescope.

In this year we first hear of Wren as an architect. Hitherto he had been only known as an able man of science, but now he was to begin working in the line which has made his name so famous.

His first work was the chapel of Pembroke College, Cambridge, which was built at the expense of his uncle, the Bishop of Ely, who had been a scholar of that College. Its first stone was laid on May 15th, 1663. It is probable also that Wren was engaged about this time in directing the repairs in Ely Cathedral, which had suffered at the hands of the Puritans.

In this same year the King, who had received Tangiers as part of the dowry of his wife Catherine of Portugal, wished Wren to go out and direct the fortifying of the harbour and mole there. He offered him an ample salary, leave of absence from his professorship, and a reversionary grant of Sir John Denham's office, but the offer was declined by Wren on the ground of health.

His refusal gave no offence at Court, and in the following year (1664) he had to superintend the

repairs at St. Paul's in his capacity as assistant to Sir John Denham, who had gone out of his mind, and who, though he recovered, seems to have been unfit for work afterwards.

The state of St. Paul's at this time must have been such as to frighten the boldest architect. As far back as 1561 the steeple, roof, and bells had been entirely destroyed by fire. The roof was repaired, but the steeple was never again restored.

In 1620 Inigo Jones was appointed by James I. to repair the cathedral, but the work was not begun until the reign of Charles I., when Laud, then Bishop of London, laid the first stone. The western portico was built at the King's expense; it was of the Corinthian order, and is said to have been very beautiful, but was of course utterly unsuited to the rest of the building. The nave was cased with Portland stone, and the fronts of the transepts were rebuilt, but in such a way that they had neither beauty nor propriety to recommend them.

In fact, the cathedral must have lost nearly all the external appearance of a Gothic church, which probably accounts for Wren having wished to repair it in the classical style, and to place a dome on the tower, where the spire had formerly stood. The building had suffered still further under the Puritans, when the greater part of the church was turned into barracks and stables for the troopers and their horses, and part of it actually dug up and the bones sacrilegiously scattered for the purpose of making sawpits for the sawing-out of the scaffolding timber sold and given away by the Parliament. Wren's first work was to take a survey of the building, after which he issued a report, in which he finds great fault with the original builders, saying 'that it appeared from the ruin of the roof that the work was both ill designed and ill built from the beginning; ill designed because the architect had not given buttment enough to counterpoise and resist the weight of the roof from spreading the walls, for the eye alone will discover to any man that those pillars, vast as they are, eleven foot diameter, are bent outwards at least six inches from their first position, which being done on both sides, it necessarily follows that the whole roof must first open in large cracks along by the walls and windows, and lastly drop down between the yielding pillars.' He then goes on to show that the bending of the pillars was facilitated by their ill building, for they were only cased without with small stones, and within were filled with small rubbish, stones, and mortar.

The tower was leaning from the sinking of one of its supporting pillars; irregular buttresses had been erected outside to support it, and in the interior new arches had been erected inside the old ones for the same purpose. Wren concludes by calling the tower 'a heap of deformities,' and says that no expense would make it appear other than tottering and unworthy of the rest of the building. He proposed several alterations and additions for the purpose of strengthening the building, but they were rejected because of their deviation from the original style of the architecture.

The Great Fire of London coming shortly afterwards destroyed the building, and made way for its complete restoration.

In the same year as that in which Wren was occupied in devising repairs for St. Paul's, he began the construction of the Sheldonian Theatre at Oxford, built at the expense of Gilbert Sheldon, Archbishop of Canterbury, who wished to rescue St. Mary's Church from the profane use to which it was put when the various 'Acts' were kept there. It was six years in building, and was opened on July 9th, 1669. The roof was much admired, because of its being supported entirely by braces and screws, without the help of any beams. It was painted inside to imitate the canvas hung over the ancient theatres of Rome and Greece, with ropes stretched across to support them. The painting was much admired at the time, and a poem was written on it, which may be found in a collection of miscellaneous poems in the Scott Library at Westminster, but the imitation of canvas and ropes does not now strike the beholder as particularly life-like. Dr. South, the Public Orator, made a speech at its opening, in which he made disagreeable reflections on the Royal Society as underminers of the University, which were untrue, and seems to us in rather bad taste, seeing that the architect of the theatre was a member and one of the founders of the society. However, the rest of the speech, Evelyn tells us, 'was in praise of the Archbishop and the ingenious architect.'

In 1665, the year of the Plague, the repairs at St. Paul's were stopped, and after setting his works in Oxford and Cambridge in order, Wren went abroad about Midsummer and visited Paris, where he seems to have made a stay of considerable length, and, as he writes in his journal, 'busied himself in surveying the most esteemed fabrics of Paris and the country round.'

He was engaged at this time in building at Oxford the Sheldonian Theatre, and in repairing and building at Trinity College for his friend Dr. Bathurst, the president of that college. The chapel there is perhaps the most perfect of his smaller buildings. In decorating the interior he employed Grinling Gibbons for the wood-carving, and had the ceiling constructed by Italian plasterers, who alone at that time understood how to mould plaster with their hands by mixing sugar with it so as to keep it soft long enough for their purpose. These must have been the same plasterers who constructed the beautiful ceiling in the old school library at Westminster, which suggests the thought that that fine old room, about the origin of which so little is known, may also have been the work of Wren. He was also making additions to Trinity College, Cambridge, about this time, and built the library there and the quadrangle known as Nevill's Court.

When Wren returned to England the repairs of St. Paul's were again discussed, and on August 27, 1666, the Commissioners inspected the cathedral. Wren renewed his former proposals, which were supported

by Evelyn, and promised to make out estimates of the cost of his plan; but six days later the Great Fire destroyed the cathedral beyond all possibility of repair.

(To be continued.)

School Notes.

THE Head Master is at present suffering from a severe illness, and will probably not be in School again for a considerable time.

Our readers will all be sorry to hear that at the end of this Term the School will lose the services of both Mr. Dale and Mr. Sloman. Mr. Dale took a mastership here in 1870, and taught Classics until Mr. Jones left, since which time he has expounded Mathematics; but it is in the musical department that his loss will be most felt, for it will be very long before Westminster will get another Master who will give such efficient and willing help at the concerts and Glee Club entertainments. Mr. Dale's destination is the rectory of Bletchington, Oxon., which has been conferred on him by his college—Queen's, Oxford.

Mr. Sloman came in 1877, and when Mr. Ingram left and the office of Under Master was abolished, was made the first Master of the Queen's Scholars. He has always been an enthusiastic cricketer, and used occasionally to coach the Q.S.S. eight in the days when Water was still flourishing. He also formed that most beneficial of institutions, the Literary Society, and has always provided a room for its meetings. The Head Mastership of Birkenhead School was offered to him at the end of last Term. The good wishes of all will follow him to the North.

The first contest for the Vincent Prize, lately founded for Literature and Elocution, has taken place. The Senior Prize was awarded to P. C. Probyn; *proxime accesserunt*, R. E. Olivier and C. H. Hunter. The Junior Prize fell to H. C. Witherby; *proxime accesserunt*, W. R. Robertson and F. A. Wilkins.

The Old Westminsters have at last taken leave, for this year, of the Football Cup Competition. They were defeated by West Bromwich Albion on the 13th of February, by the rather alarming total of five goals to none. We hear, however, that the game was much more even than would appear from the result. And moreover Old Westminsters were below their usual form owing to the fact that they had travelled down from town on the morning of the same day.

The Ashburnham Rovers, however, are keeping up our football reputation in the most gratifying manner. They are pitted against Hotspur in the final

of the London Cup, and, as they had so very little difficulty in defeating the Pilgrims in the last round, may be considered to have more than a good chance of carrying off the trophy.

We must take this opportunity of offering our sincerest congratulations to the Eleven on their most satisfactory victory over the Carthusians. Seeing that neither Page nor Moon could play, that our opponents had not lost a match this term, and that the extreme hardness of the turf was especially favourable to a team accustomed to the very dry, fast ground at Godalming, the result of the game is most creditable.

The weather was, on the whole, favourable. It was certainly cloudy, but nevertheless the light held out well. It was also cold, but then again there was no rain. We should have liked to have seen a few more Old Westminsters, who were rather scarce; they would do well to borrow a little of the enthusiasm of the 'skis,' who crowded the railings in great force.

All who reverence and love our old institutions will be glad to hear that the present Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, though not an Old Westminster, adhered to the custom begun by his great-grandfather, and came down on St. David's Day to present the Welsh members of the School with the accustomed dole. He met with a most hearty welcome, and, in spite of a heavy shower of snow, a large crowd assembled to give him three lusty cheers as he passed through the Yard after the ceremony.

The match between T.B.B. and Q.SS. is to take place on Saturday, March 20th.

Negotiations are going on concerning the arrangement of an annual match between the Westminster and Charterhouse Chess Clubs. Details concerning the proposed contest will doubtless be found in our Chess Correspondent's report, but we must take this opportunity of welcoming a movement which tends to knit tighter our connection of friendly rivalry with the Carthusians.

The Ireland Greek Prose is to be a rendering of Mommsen, Vol. II., pp. 37-39.

The Ireland Latin Prose Prize has been awarded to B. M. Goldie, Q.S.; the Gumbleton Prize for English Verse to H. Morgan-Brown, Q.S.

Early in the Term a meeting of fellows in the upper part of the School was held in the Upper Fifth Room, to vote for two members to fill up the vacancies in the Athletic Committee. H. W. Smyth, T.B., and C. A. Sherring, Q.S., were returned a long way at the head of the poll.

THE FIELDS.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL *v.* UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, OXFORD.

THIS match was played on Saturday, February 13, the turf being in rather bad condition. Hurst kicked off for the School, and very soon after the start he scored a goal for us (1-0). University, who were playing with one or two 'subs' from another college, were all to pieces. But now and then Peak, Cooper, and Piggott put in some good work, Peak once or twice very nearly scoring; but we were generally in their territory, the School forwards playing a good combined game. Hurst before half-time again put the ball through. After half-time we had matters all our own way, Hurst scoring a third goal and Probyn a fourth (4-0). For the School all played well—Peek, Cooper, and Piggott being best for University College.

WESTMINSTER.

C. Page (capt.); A. R. Hurst, H. Harris, C. Barwell, S. Petrocochino, C. Sherring, R. Sandilands, C. Gibson, C. Probyn, J. E. Phillimore, E. G. Moon.

The School was deprived of the services of E. G. Man. The names of the Oxford team are not forthcoming.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL *v.* SWIFTS.

THIS match was played on Wednesday, February 17, at Vincent Square, and resulted, after a good game, in our favour by 4-1. The School won the toss, and Playford kicked off for the visitors. The game at first was of a give-and-take character, but the School soon settled down to work, and the result of unselfish passing became apparent, as we panned our adversaries considerably. Fox and Wheeler, however, relieved the pressure a good deal, the former especially by some brilliant kicking. From a good middle by Gibson, Probyn, by a really good head-shot, scored the first goal of the game for the School (1-0). On resuming, although good runs were made by the opposing side, the School retained their ascendancy, and Hurst scored another goal (2-0). The School's play at this time was better than it has been before this season, the passing being excellent. Half-time was now called, and, ends being changed, the Swifts pulled together a bit; but the backs played extremely well and averted all danger, Phillimore doing a lot of work. The School forwards 'wired up' hard, and after some good play between Hurst and Sandilands, the former scored a third goal (3-0). The School, elated by this success, wired up still harder. Playford, Hughes, and Barnett retaliated by some good runs. About twenty minutes before the end of the game Page, on the right, received a kick from Fox, which prevented him from taking further part in the game. Probyn took his place on the right. No change in the game occurred, and the School were soon rewarded with a fourth goal (4-0), Hurst, who was in grand

form, scoring again. The Swifts replied with a rush, and just before call of time scored a goal from the foot of Playford, who played very well throughout the game (4-1). Nothing further happened till call of time, the School thus gaining a well-deserved victory by 4-1. It would be unfair to mention anyone in particular in our team. Hurst's shooting was excellent. Sides :

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

C. Page (capt.), A. R. Hurst, H. Harrison, C. S. W. Barwell, S. Petrocochino, C. A. Sherring (goal), R. R. Sandilands, C. Gibson, P. C. Probyn, J. E. Phillimore, and E. G. Moon.

SWIFTS.

J. Wheeler (goal), W. J. Wilson, C. J. Fox, E. D. Ellis, A. S. Wift, F. Bickley, H. R. Barnett, R. Playford, T. B. Hughes, C. S. Langley, and E. D. Allington.

WESTMINSTER *v.* CHARTERHOUSE.

VERY seldom has a Charterhouse match been ushered in with such a string of calamities as happened to the School team this year during the three weeks before the date fixed. Man, Grant-Wilson, Page, and Moon successively met with accidents which prevented them from appearing in their usual places on the appointed day ; and, although Man was able to play forward on the right in the place of Page, he was not so much at home as he would have been at half-back. The greatest loss was naturally that of the captain, Page, who has worked very hard this season, and to whom, though not actually playing in the game, much of the credit of the victory must belong. After these disasters our prospects of success did not seem very great, and the hopes of the Eleven—or what was left of the Eleven—were at a low ebb. It was therefore all the more pleasing for them to find themselves, after a very pleasant game, left victors by 4-2.

A better day we could have hardly had for the match. A thick yellow fog in the morning looked extremely unpromising, but it had cleared off entirely by the afternoon, and there was a large assembly of O.W.W. and others up-fields to witness the game. The ground was perhaps a little too hard, at any rate for those who came in contact with it otherwise than with the soles of their feet ; but there was little or no wind, and the game was fast for Vincent Square, though possibly not faster than what our opponents are accustomed to at Godalming. The ball was started about 2.40, and was almost immediately taken down to the Charterhouse end, where a corner fell to us, which was taken by Veitch. The Charterhouse backs soon cleared their goal, and the forwards rushed the ball down the length of the ground, and obtained a corner. This was very scientifically put by Baker-Carr, but nothing resulted, and Barwell, by a fine kick just in front of goals, got the ball well away. Our forwards followed up quickly, and Hurst got hold of the ball, and after a short run made an ineffectual shot. Some fast play ensued in front of the Charterhouse goal, and the game was rather in our favour. A pass from Probyn gave Hurst another shot, which

was as unsuccessful as the first. Then Charterhouse in their turn attacked our goal. When the ball was at last got away, Gibson took it well down and middled finely, placing it just a few feet from the goal line. Probyn was fortunately there to receive it, and rushed it through amid loud applause from the spectators both inside and outside the railings (1-0). After the ball was re-started the game was very even. Carson played with great coolness and judgment at back, and at one time dropped the ball very neatly in front of our goal. Our backs were, however, equal to the occasion, and the ball was put away and taken down the left by Sandilands and Probyn. Very little more worthy of notice took place before half-time was called, but Barwell's play at back was very noticeable about this time. After the change of ends the game became faster and more exciting. Almost at once the ball was taken down the right wing, and Hurst scored a second goal for us (2-0). This seemed somewhat to discourage our opponents, and the game was chiefly at their end of the ground. A 'hands' fell to us not far from goal, and the ball was kicked off to Harrison, who shot hard, the ball going above the bar. A fine combined rush of the Charterhouse forwards put our goal in some danger, but Sherring ran out and kicked the ball away. A free kick falling to Charterhouse, the ball was well put, but was kicked behind. The visitors' forwards now seemed to play more together, and to understand the strange ground better than in the first half-time. One of their rushes took effect. Sherring ran out and stopped the ball, but was unable to get it away, and Sheppard quickly took advantage of the opportunity, and scored (2-1). This success appeared likely to be followed up, but Sherring was ready for the emergency, and used his hands well. Man, Hurst, and Gibson now made good runs for us, and our opponents' forwards played well together, Currie being most prominent. The game was now faster than ever, and Man played with great dash ; after a good run down the right, he middled well, and Probyn, rushing up, put the ball through the posts, thus scoring a third goal for Westminster (3-1). When the ball was started again by Price, Charterhouse followed up well, and obtained an unsuccessful shot. The ball was taken away down the left by Sandilands, and when it was returned in the direction of the Westminster goal Harrison, with a fine kick, put it well away. The game was now mostly on our right, where Gibson and Man worked well together. On the left Sandilands ended a good run with a splendid middle from the line, but Hurst put the ball over the bar. Charterhouse were now working their hardest to make matters more even, and Pym and Currie played together well on the left. A middle by the latter gave a chance, but the ball went too high. Still the forwards persevered, and Sherring had a tough shot to save, which he just managed to do. Our backs at last got the ball away from the Charterhouse forwards, and Probyn and Sandilands took the ball together down the ground, and the latter put it neatly past

Shaw through the posts (4-1). Our opponents, however, played up pluckily to the very end, and, in fact, for the last five minutes, had the best of the game. Just before the call of time the ball was middled by Sheppard on the right to Currie, who scored a second goal for his side with an extremely pretty shot (4-2).

The strong point of the Charterhouse Eleven was, unquestionably, their half-backs, who played with great spirit, and Baker-Carr set an example in corner-kicking which our half-backs would do well to follow. Tyler was the best of the backs, and Currie was by far the most serviceable of the forwards, his goal being a very neat piece of play. For Westminster, Barwell was brilliant behind, and praise is also due to Harrison. Of the half-backs Veitch was the best on the field, and both Phillimore and Petrocochino worked very hard; while of the forwards, who all worked well together, especial praise is due to Man, who played an extremely plucky game throughout in a strange place. All praise is due to the way Hurst captained the team, and, had he not been unwell, his score would undoubtedly have been greater. The sides were :

CHARTERHOUSE.

W. A. Shaw (goal), C. W. Tyler and H. J. Carson (backs), H. S. Steele, G. C. Leman, and R. G. T. Baker-Carr (half-backs), G. Pym and E. S. Currie (left wing), H. C. Price (centre), G. A. Sheppard and W. F. H. Stanborough (right wing).

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

C. A. Sherring (goal), H. Harrison, C. S. W. Barwell (backs), S. Petrocochino, J. E. Phillimore, C. G. Veitch (half-backs), R. R. Sandilands, and P. C. Probyn (left wing), A. R. Hurst (capt.) (centre), C. Gibson and E. G. Man (right wing).

The match which had been arranged with Clapham Rovers for February 10th was not played, as the Rovers scratched on account of the frost.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

ON January 28th the house met to discuss J. Salwey's motion—'That some reform of the Church is necessary, but that Disestablishment would be fatal to the interests of the country.'

J. SALWEY said he divided the so-called 'Liberationists' into three classes: First, secularists, who would be content with no religion; second, those who promoted Disestablishment from political grounds; and lastly, a certain portion of various Dissenting sects who wished their beliefs to be put on the same level as those of other people. He considered that the Established Church had the right to be called the Church of England because of the part it had played in the history of the country. It was also the oldest form of Christian religion, and in his opinion the most scriptural. The hon. member then discussed at length the good the Church was

doing in the country: it supported more missionary enterprises than all the Nonconformists put together; it educated 50 per cent. more children than the Board Schools; and in the last ten years the number of churches in the British Isles had increased from 3,400 to 9,000. He thought that the result of Disestablishment, with its certain companion Disendowment, would be the total disappearance of religion in many agricultural districts. The Bishop of Rochester had said that no fewer than thirty-three parishes in his diocese would be unable to support a place of worship.

L. JAMES began a very interesting speech by quarrelling with the term 'Disestablishment'; the Church had never been established by law, so how could it be dis-established? During the heptarchy the king and bishop sat in one court, and the temporal lords and clergy in another. He did not consider the Reformation in any way a change of belief, it was simply a cleansing of the national religion. Although his followers had done so, Wesley himself had never dreamt of leaving the Church. The hon. member then gave the house statistics on the prevalent creeds in England. In the army three-quarters were Churchmen, in spite of there being so many Irish Roman Catholics in it. Eighty per cent. of the marriages were performed in churches. The numbers of the Church in proportion to the number of Dissenters were steadily increasing, and Quakers especially were joining constantly. He did not think that the clergy were at all an over-paid body; the revenue of the Church was five millions, and there were 20,000 Clergymen—that is to say, an average of £250 each per annum.

J. CHAPMAN, the opposer, thought the Reformation was a schism, and not an awakening to abuses. He considered that a State religion induced people to rely on the opinions of others rather than on their own judgment, and so narrowed the freedom of their ideas.

W. BUCHANAN acknowledged that the Church was not perfect, but thought it was very successful in its work. The hon. member maintained that tithes were quite fair, being merely a rent-charge on the land bequeathed to the Church by former occupiers. If they were abolished, rents would be raised in proportion, so that the people who now paid tithes would be no better off. He pointed to France as a country where Disestablishment had produced a spread of irreligion and crime.

O. ROOS suggested that it might work better if the landlord were to pay the tithe, and raise the rent in proportion.

W. BUCHANAN, J. SALWEY, and J. CHAPMAN then spoke again, after which the house divided, with the following result:—Ayes, 21; Noes, 2.

The numbers were received with cheers.

On February 4th the house met to discuss J. H. Cuming's motion, 'That the retention of capital punishment is highly desirable.'

The PROPOSER thought that nothing would be a sufficient deterrent from murder but the fear of death.

Surely deliberate murder was the most awful crime that could be imagined. What measures to stamp it out, he asked, could be called too strong? He thought that one result of the abolition of capital punishment would be a great increase in the criminal list. The hon. member then discussed the reason and means of averting disgraceful scenes on the scaffold through the bungling of the officials whose duty it was to carry out the sentence of the law.

P. C. PROBYN said that from time immemorial death had been the penalty for wilful murder. The hon. member dwelt on the chances of a man sentenced to a long term of imprisonment getting off a large part.

O. ROOS dwelt on the fact that killing a man was a barbarous way of keeping him from doing harm to his fellows. Of course, before prisons and other appliances of civilisation existed, it was necessary. Russia, Turkey, and Spain were the least civilised countries in Europe, and they had by far the most executions. The time when such offences as sheep-stealing were regularly punished with death was within the memory of men now alive; that happily was a thing of the past, and he thought it was only a matter of time for the penalty of death to be altogether erased from the Penal Code of the civilised world. He did not think that we had the right to take a fellow creature's life if it could be helped.

W. BUCHANAN said that in Germany capital punishment was not by any means obsolete. It was, he said, allowed both by moral and Divine law. (Oh! oh!) The hon. member then drew a graphic picture of the awful effects of letting loose a murderer on society after a trifle of twenty-five years or so of penal servitude. Capital punishment had the sanction of thousands of years.

P. C. PROBYN supported the last speaker's assertions, and quoted 'Whoso sheddeth man's blood,' &c., as a Divine permission to kill murderers.

L. JAMES (the President) thought France an instance of a country where the non-executing principle had been reduced to a perfect absurdity. The leniency of French juries, in the hon. President's opinion, amounted to a positive breach of their duty to their country. A prison life was a very healthy one, and he thought that to keep murderers all their life in prison instead of hanging them would simply be to impose an enormous increase of expenditure on the country.

W. BUCHANAN proceeded to quote more passages from Scripture, when it was ruled by the President that the debate was becoming too theological.

After the OPPOSER and the PRESIDENT had again spoken, the house divided, with the following result:—Ayes, 18; noes, 5.

On February 11th the house met to discuss the Secretary's motion—'That Cremation, as a means of disposing of the body after death, is infinitely preferable to burial.'

The PROPOSER first gave a short sketch of the various ways in which ancient nations had disposed of

their dead. He pointed out the injurious qualities of the gases generated by a decaying body on animal life, and the extreme importance of rendering them innocuous to the living. The ultimate effects of cremation were identical with those of burial, but the former completed its work in half an hour without the least baneful effect, while the latter took half a century, and polluted the air and water in the vicinity during a considerable part of that time. Earth, he said, could not contain those gases, but air and water could, and did for a very long time. He then treated the subject from various points of view—sentimental, economical, and legal.

W. BUCHANAN pointed out the very slight alterations necessary in the Burial Service to fully include cremation. The hon. member then denounced in strong terms the futility of such cemeteries as those at Kensal Green and Norwood, which he characterised as 'places where you store up a foul legacy of disease for your children.' They may be in the midst of fields when they were constructed, but in what a few years were they in the midst of a teeming city! If people liked to localise the memory of departed friends, could they not do so by burying the ashes in 'God's acre'?

L. JAMES opposed the motion. He considered that burial was the right and natural way of disposing of the body. He thought that there was no inherent evil in the system, but granted that a very grave one had sprung up through the adoption of leaden coffins. The earth was our great natural disinfectant, and we should in no way try to check its action. In the burial service 'earth to earth' clearly points to burial. He quoted the instance of St. Anne's, Holborn, where excavations had been made, and it was found that where the coffins had been broken there were no remains of any sort; but in whole coffins parts of the bodies were found in a great number of instances. The proposer had said that cremation only left about four pounds of ashes, but burial left none at all. You could be buried very decently and well for £10, which had been quoted as the cost of cremation. The hon. member derided the idea of keeping one's ancestors in urns, and thought it would add enormously to the already great horrors of house-removal. He thought cremation could not but be injurious to the operators. Kensal Green could contain a million coffins, and (supposing that lasting coffins were discarded) would be ready for a fresh complement at the end of five or six years. He knew many people had a very strong prejudice against cremation, but he himself would carefully refrain from bringing forward any argument of a sentimental nature, simply because he acknowledged the practical importance of the question about the disposal of the dead.

The PROPOSER then read the house statistics on the condition of cremation in other countries, and tried to confute some of the numerous objections of the Opposer. However, the hon. Opposer's eloquence carried the day, for the motion was lost by one vote:—Ayes, 7; noes, 8.

THE GLEE CLUB.

ON Wednesday, February 17th, the Glee Society gave another of its delightful entertainments before a large and sympathetic audience.

The first thing on the programme was the overture to 'Figaro,' played as a piano duet by C. Erskine and A. A. Markham. This was fairly well rendered, though C. Erskine plays faster than his execution warrants, with the result that he leaves out all grace notes and clips his runs. A. A. Markham's playing in the bass was at times too mechanical. The song which followed was prettily sung by Olivier. Then came a solo on that curious instrument the zither. We know very little about zithers; but G. W. Grant-Wilson extracted some fine sounds from his instrument, and also some very queer ones. He was encored. Mr. Marklove's reading was good; the poem was one in Browning's own particular style, and, despite its long metre and wearisome double rhymes, was very forcible—certainly it lost nothing in Mr. Marklove's hands. Two jigs played by F. M. Yglesias were—what, perhaps, jigs should be—jerky; he played no wrong notes, and beat excellent time with his head. R. H. Bellairs' song, 'In Honour Bound,' was well sung. We prefer his singing to his song; we believe it was serio-comic, with the comic element largely represented. Mr. Marklove's second reading was as good as his first, and elicited laughter, applause, and loud calls of *encore*. But this was not to be; we were disappointed. Mr. Markham kindly promised us a funny Yorkshire story instead. R. E. Olivier then gave us that lovely song, 'Maid of Arcadie,' which he sang much better than his first. A quartet of Pinsuti's, and the funny Yorkshire story by Mr. Markham, which might be entitled, 'The Man, the Woman, the Horse, and the Bear,' brought the entertainment to an end.

Few more enjoyable entertainments have been provided by the Club than that given to a somewhat sparse audience on the 3rd of March. This was owing in great part to the presence of an O.W., G. Gumbleton, Esq., whose voice we always hear with the greatest pleasure. The treat, moreover, was slightly enhanced by being totally unexpected. It was only on the very day of the performance that we heard that Mr. Rawson—another O.W., who had most kindly promised his assistance—had been laid up by an unfortunate accident; and had not Mr. Gumbleton turned up in the nick of time, it would have been difficult to give a concert of any reasonable length. But let us proceed. The performance opened with a pianoforte solo by H. Morgan-Brown. He had chosen for his piece the well-known Rondo in G by Beethoven, which, as most pianists will remember, is no child's play; and though his execution was not up to his usual high standard of correctness, he gave a thoughtful and intelligent reading, which was nevertheless somewhat marred by a too free use of the soft pedal. To this succeeded Gounod's 'Berceuse,' sung

with Mr. Gumbleton's usual style and feeling. As an *encore* he gave Marzials' 'Garland.' C. Bompas distilled truly wondrous essences from his T-leaf, and then we had a second piano solo in the form of the Second Movement from the Sonata in G of Beethoven. This was rendered with tolerable accuracy by M. Druitt, but he took it much too fast, in our humble opinion, and did not bring out sufficiently the staccato nature of the opening chords. However, as a first performance his playing deserves praise, and may he go on and prosper as all Westminster pianists and embryo musicians. We were again to be delighted by Mr. Gumbleton's splendid singing in Brahms' 'Uhlan's lied,' succeeded as an *encore* by Gounod's 'L'emoi des fleurs.' This composer's Meditation on J. S. Bach's First Prelude followed, performed on the flute by H. W. Smyth, while the piano part was taken by Mr. Dale. Upon a vigorously demanded *encore* he gave a second and much better performance of the same. H. Withers' song, 'The Boatswain's Story,' was perhaps the most successful feature of the evening, and was greeted with vociferous applause. We ought to have heard such a baritone as his before now. 'Glorious Apollo' was the finale to a very good concert.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

FOR the four years since its foundation, under the auspices of Mr. Sloman, the Literary Society has been holding its meetings every week during Term time, and doing good work in the way of cultivating a love for the masterpieces of English dramatic literature. Unobtrusively, but none the less surely, has the Society been making its way, now and then noticed in these columns by a brief School Note, until it is now the most delightful and valuable, though at the same time, from its very nature, the most exclusive, of all the School Societies; and the time has come when its merits claim that a separate column in the *Elizabethan* should be devoted to an account of its doings. The Society applies its energies for the most part, though not entirely, to the reading of Shakespeare, the only other authors whose works are read being Sheridan and Goldsmith. The general plan is to take a tragedy and comedy alternately, and one play as a rule occupies two meetings. The original object of the Society was to furnish employment for boarders on Saturday evenings. But many of the boarders who went out on Saturdays became desirous of participating in the advantages of the Society; and accordingly the day of meeting was changed from Saturday to Friday, an arrangement which is for many reasons more convenient. The hundredth meeting of the Society will shortly be celebrated by the reading of a selection of a few of the best scenes in the plays which have been read.

At the meetings which were held on February 12th

and 19th Shakespeare's 'Richard II.' was read, the chief parts being taken as follows :

King Richard	C. A. SHERRING.
Bolingbroke.....	H. HARRISON.
Mowbray.....	H. WITHERS.
John of Gaunt.....	E. JERVIS.
Duke of York.....	H. MORGAN-BROWN.
Queen	MR. RAYNOR.
Duchess of York	G. G. PHILLIMORE.

On February 26th and March 5th the Society was engaged with Sheridan's 'School for Scandal.' The readings on both occasions proved very amusing, and

members seemed to enter much more vigorously into the spirit of their parts than is generally the case. The reason obviously is that Sheridan is far easier to read with tolerable success than Shakespeare is. The most important parts were assigned thus:

Sir Peter Teazle	H. WITHERS.
Lady Teazle	G. G. PHILLIMORE.
Sir Oliver Surface	MR. RAYNOR.
Joseph Surface	E. JERVIS.
Moses	J. E. PHILLIMORE.
Charles Surface	L. JAMES.
Mrs. Candour	R. H. BELLAIRS.
Lady Sneerwell	F. M. YGLESIAS.
Maria	B. M. GOLDIE.

Obituary.

We regret to have to announce the death of George Cecil Weld Forester, third Baron Forester of Willey Park, Shropshire, in the peerage of the United Kingdom, which occurred at his house in Carlton Gardens on February 14. The late Lord Forester was the second son of Cecil Weld, first Lord Forester, and succeeded to the title on his brother's death in 1874. He was born on May 10, 1807, and went to Westminster as a Town Boy, under Dr. Goodenough. He obtained a commission as cornet in the Royal Horse Guards in 1824, and became Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding in 1853, Lieutenant-General in 1871, and was placed on the retired list as General in 1877. He sat for Wenlock in Parliament from 1828 until 1874, when his succession to the peerage gave him a seat in the Upper House. He filled the office of a Groom of the Bedchamber to the Queen, was twice Controller of the Household for a short period, and was made a Privy Councillor in 1852. On November 8, 1862, he was married to the Hon. Mary Anne Jervis, third daughter of Edward, second Viscount St. Vincent, but had no children. The title consequently passes to his brother,

the Hon. and Rev. Orlando Watkin Weld Forester. The merits of the late Lord Forester are well described in the *Times* of February 15, from which we print the following extract:—

'Thus disappears one of the best-known figures in London society. "Cecil Forester" was always in his early days, and, indeed, throughout his life, one of those favourites whom the great world take up and make a welcome guest on every occasion. Gifted with special personal attributes and a winning charm of manner, he was for his own sake, far beyond the mere accident of birth, a *persona grata* in every sphere. Whether as the handsome cornet of the Royal Horse Guards, or as the father of the House of Commons, he was at all times recognised as a true type of the English gentleman. Faultless in honour, fearless in conduct, and stainless in reputation, he will long be remembered as a great example of the *preux chevalier*. A man such as we rarely now see, he will be lamented by a host of attached friends, and especially by the few remaining of his own stamp and true nobility of character.'

NOTES AND QUERIES.

NOTE.

MATCHES BETWEEN WESTMINSTER AND CHARTERHOUSE.—The following list of the matches that have been played between the two schools may be of interest to readers of the *Elizabethan*. It will be seen from them that Westminster is rather behindhand at football. This is principally due to the uninterrupted succession of victories for Charterhouse from 1877—

1883. The spell was broken, as most readers will remember, in 1884, when the Westminster Eleven, after a good game, defeated Charterhouse by 2 goals to 1. The list of cricket matches is more pleasant reading. In these Westminster has a slight advantage. The first match was arranged in 1850 as a compliment to Dr. Liddell, who was then Head Master; a second match was played in the next year, but no other meeting of rival cricket elevens from the two Schools appears to have taken place till 1865, since which time the match has been an annual fixture.

FOOTBALL.

1863.	Westminster	2-0
1864.	Westminster	2-1
1865.	Drawn	0-0
1866.	Charterhouse.....	1-0
1875.	Charterhouse.....	2-0
1876.	Westminster	1-0
1877.	Charterhouse.....	2-0
1878.	Charterhouse.....	1-0
1879.	Charterhouse.....	4-2
1880.	Charterhouse.....	4-3
1881.	Charterhouse.....	3-2
1882.	Charterhouse.....	3-2
1883.	Charterhouse.....	5-1
1884.	Westminster	2-1
1885.	Charterhouse.....	3-0
1886.	Westminster	4-2

Westminster has, therefore, won five matches and Charterhouse ten, while one has been left drawn.

CRICKET.

1850.	Westminster won by 20 runs.
1851.	Westminster won by 8 wickets.
1865.	Westminster won by 4 runs.
1866.	Charterhouse won by 22 runs.
1867.	Westminster won by 59 runs.
1868.	Westminster won in one innings by 17 runs.
1869.	Charterhouse won by 10 wickets.
1870.	Charterhouse won by 7 wickets.
1871.	Westminster won by 22 runs.
1873.	Westminster won in one innings by 17 runs.
1874.	Drawn.
1875.	Drawn.
1876.	Charterhouse won by 195 runs.
1877.	Westminster won by 20 runs.
1878.	Charterhouse won by 279 runs.
1879.	Westminster won by 23 runs.
1880.	Charterhouse won by 78 runs.
1881.	Charterhouse won in one innings by 177 runs.
1882.	Westminster won by 207 runs.
1883.	Charterhouse won by 125 runs.
1884.	Charterhouse won by 6 wickets and 74 runs.
1885.	Drawn.

This list shows ten victories for Westminster against nine for Charterhouse, three matches having resulted in a draw.

QUERY.

In the autobiography—or rather, diary—of Antony à Wood, the famous Oxford antiquarian, the following entry occurs:—‘Nov. 5, 1681. The Westminster School boys burnt Jack Presbyter instead of the Pope.’ This seems to show that the Westminster boys were in the habit of making bonfires on the Fifth of November. Can anyone tell me when this custom was discontinued? Many will remember the pandemonium raised in College on the night of the Fifth of November by the Third Elections, a custom which has only recently been stopped, and which may have been begun after the making of bonfires ceased.—P. M. F.

REPLY.

ANTIQUARY.—The title of the book you refer to is ‘Fifty Years of My Life.’

Our Contemporaries.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Cambridge Review* (3), *The Durham University Journal*, *The Wykehamist*, *The Carthusian*, *The Haileyburian*, *The Rossallian*, *The Fettesian*, *The Ousel*, *The Melburnian*, *The Alleynian*, *The Felstedian*, *The Glenalmond Chronicle*, *The Ulula*, *The Newtonian*, *The Lancing College Magazine*, *The St. Edward's School Chronicle*, *The Cliftonian*, *The Wellingtonian*, and *The Malvernian*.

Correspondence.

FROM OUR OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

To the Editor of ‘*The Elizabethan*.’

DEAR SIR,—Oxford is just now full of expectation as to the result of the New Moderations instituted two years ago. Like children who have just set light to a squib, the dons, half-chuckling, half-alarmed, await the results of their own recklessness. Everyone agrees that the first class-list resulting will be either large or small beyond parallel.

O.W.W. followed up the good precedent set last year and played a draw with the University, though on this occasion no goals were scored on either side. The O.W. team was as follows:—W. R. Moon (goal), A. L. Fevez, A. E. R. Bedford (backs), H. Wetton, R. A. Ingram, E. C. Frere (half-backs), J. E. Paul, F. T. Higgins, A. C. W. Jenner, C. W. R. Heath, and H. C. Peak (forwards).

This performance of O.W.W., in the absence of Squire, Bailey, Roller, Sandwith, &c., and with Bain and Scoones arrayed against them, is the more creditable as shortly afterwards Oxford beat London by six goals to love.

On the river the Torpids have just been concluded. Ch. Ch. 1st was by universal acknowledgment the best boat on ; it made three bumps, finishing third. R. H. Williams rowed 7, and J. H. Jackson steered them. In Exeter 1st, which finished second, A. F. Hawkins performed with great vigour at 7, while in the Jesus boat, which started and finished sixteenth, C. F. Rogers made an efficient 7. It will be seen that that particular thwart was in favour with O.W.W., although H. S. Hill preferred to row 5 in the St. John's boat, which started twenty-first and ended nineteenth.

It is very hard to get accurate accounts of the College sports, but at Ch. Ch. J. A. N. Booker won the high jump and R. Berens the hurdles.

The O.W. freshmen this term are—Fisher, at B.N. C.; and A. J. Maclaine, at the House.

Yours, &c.,
FLOREAT.

THE SAINT'S-DAY SERVICES.

To the Editor of ‘*The Elizabethan*.’

DEAR SIR,—May I beg for space to say a word or two on this subject, which comes so strikingly before us every Saint's Day, viz., Why the singing in Abbey is so poor, so apparently neglected, and lacks so much that heartiness which one would expect to have in a school like our own, and in a glorious Abbey like that in which we are privileged to worship?

Is Mr. Ranalow, each practice before the Saint's-Day services, in vain to patiently drum into each fellow's head the hymn-tunes we are to sing? It is not much to ask of a school that gives a good annual concert, in which is sung fairly difficult music, and which also boasts a fortnightly entertainment in the winter months, to sing two hymns, a kyrie, and a few ‘Amens’ in unison! It must be disheartening even for anyone so patient as Mr. Ranalow to hear time after time such failures in singing. Why cannot that volume of sound which proceeds from the

music-room on practice nights be produced three or four times a term in Abbey? Why should the oft-asked question of 'Where were the trebles this morning?' be asked after every Saint's-Day service? Is the reason that fellows hide their faces in their arms, that they are afraid to hear themselves sing, or let anyone else hear them? Formerly the plea of the earliness of the hour was raised in defence of the trebles; but now that the hour is changed to 9 A.M., surely that is knocked on the head. Our services are of so simple and brief a character, that surely the whole mass of the fellows could, if they liked, join heartily in the simple hymn-tunes that are always chosen. But they prefer to hear the 'singing fellows' sing, and the 'singing fellows' think the mass ought to join in, so the end of it is no one sings at all hardly, except Mr. Ranalow and some other energetic basses. Why, there is many a preparatory school that boasts its anthems, and services, and good singing, while Westminster, alas! finds difficulty in making enough sound over a hymn to be heard a few yards off.

Then let every fellow try to sing his best, remembering that 'every little helps'; and then our service may be more worthy of the School that sings them, and the beautiful Abbey in which they are sung.

I must now make some apology for reviving so well-worn and threadbare a subject (yet some effort must be made to stir the fellows up to sing), and beg to remain, one who is

DEEPLY INTERESTED.

Feb 17th, 1886.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I am well aware that I am touching on no new subject when I ask you to insert these complaints about the singing in Abbey; but, at the same time, I think it is well to keep before your readers the necessity—and an urgent necessity it is, too—of some reform in the Saint's-Day services of the School.

Of course, everyone must feel that with the stinted service we are allowed on these occasions, it is very difficult to get up a thoroughly hearty service, but yet it is also evident to all that much is to be done before these services can be called even respectable. For my part I would no sooner dream of allowing a friend of mine to be present than I would wish them to be abolished entirely.

Well now, Mr. Editor, two things are at fault, and one of them is the organist. Why should we be given some wretched little man who knows nothing about playing, and who thinks it, I believe, 'very good fun' playing on these occasions? Why are these organists so afraid of using any loud stops? We require that the organ should lead us, not that we should lead the organ, as any man would see in a moment if he had a grain of common sense. This first evil, then, can easily be remedied, namely, by getting Dr. Bridge to play on these occasions. I have my doubts as to whether the second grievance—the School singing—can be so easily disposed of. Unquestionably a few Q.S.S. and one or two stray T.B. boarders are the only people who ever dream of opening their mouths. And if anyone does do so, he is the centre of attraction forthwith. What, Mr. Editor, what good are all those wretched little boys, home-boarders and half-boarders principally, who come into Abbey, minus books—by the way, I believe many cartload into Abbey the contents of their lockers on ordinary days—and 'special papers,' who bury their heads in their arms and steadily refuse to join in the responses, who are absolutely indifferent as to the service or anything else?

Oh, Mr. Editor, if only this not singing in Abbey could be made a tannable offence! What good might come! I would willingly offer my services to assist the monitors.

I am confident that this is the only remedy, and until it is brought into force, our services, which might be so delightful, will continue to annoy many who endeavour to improve them. As it is, at the conclusion of the service one is in a thoroughly bad temper, and no good whatsoever can come when such is apt to be the result.

Yours,
T. C. G.

SUBSTANCES AND SHADOWS.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—Can you, or any of your readers, tell me why the old arrangement of 'substances' and 'shadows' has died out? Surely it was a very good thing for a new fellow, on his arrival in a strange place, to have some one to show him the ways of the place. The custom seems to have died out in the last two or three years.

Yours, &c.,
S. S.

DRILLING.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I hear with feelings of regret, not unmingled with disappointment, that the drilling, which had begun to show such signs of improvement at Westminster, has been entirely dropped, more especially since other public schools seem to consider it a more and more important feature in physical education every day. What reasons can there be for so useful an exercise as drilling being discontinued? Among its many advantages, the expansion drill—a very important part—develops the chest and arms, a most necessary practice for those who do not attend the Gymnasium; and the marching also gives a manly steadiness to the step; and a rudimentary knowledge of evolutions is undoubtedly of great service to those who are destined to enter the army. I venture to entertain the idea, therefore, that if a rule were made that all who do not attend the Gymnasium should have an hour's drill at least once every week, and the half-boarders a double allowance, the Westminster boys would present a much smarter appearance than they do at present. Nothing, to my mind, is more slothful than for boys to slouch along with round shoulders and contracted chests. Apologising for taking up so much of your valuable space,

I remain, &c.,
WOOLWICH INFANT.

THE RACQUET COURTS.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—In the April issue of your paper there appeared a letter putting before your readers the disgraceful condition of the Racquet Courts, and suggesting to the Games Committee that it would be a good thing to re-lay the flags. The succeeding number contained a reply from some champion of the Committee, who asserted that the re-laying of the court did not come within the province of that body. This we are not in a position to dispute; but the lapse of nearly a year seems to argue that he had not very good ground for declaring that the matter was 'under the consideration of the proper authorities.' What may have been meant by this delightfully vague phrase is more than the uninitiated can imagine. But they can be certain of this, that the 'consideration of the proper authorities'—whoever or whatever these apocryphal individuals may be—is not very efficacious, and that it would be as well if they were not to devote themselves to *consideration* alone, but were to take a step further and *do* something. The state of the courts has been a subject of unfavourable comment in the School for a very long time, and more than one letter has appeared in your columns on the subject. Their surface is so uneven that it is, I am assured, next to impossible to tell with any certainty in what direction a ball may bounce, and some of the flags project so much that it is no uncommon thing to trip over them. This is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs, and matters are certainly not mended by the *laissez faire* policy of those in whose power, to a certain extent, the question lies; for no one can doubt that the Games Committee could obtain permission from Dean and Chapter to make such improvements as are necessary. Instead of making any effort, however, one of their number, who, I believe, is now so no longer, wilfully mis-states the case, and gives with the semblance of authority, as a sop to the Cerberus of school criticism, an assurance that the matter will shortly be seen to. Trusting to this assurance, we have waited

