

## ARCHIDIDASCALI WESTMONASTERIENSES.

No. 8. ROBERT FREIND.

OBERT FREIND, the son of an O.W., William Freind, like most of his predecessors in the post of headmaster, was educated at Westminster School, where in 1686 he obtained his election to Christ Church. Oxford. His brothers William and John were also Q.SS., and it is impossible to mention the latter of these without noticing his "distinguished attainments" both as a classical scholar and as a physician. It was probably to him that his brother Robert owed his intimacy with the Court and it is a matter of some surprise that this intercourse did not secure the headmaster's promotion to a bishopric. Robert Freind was born at Croughton in 1667, and was thus 26 years old when he graduated M.A. at Oxford in 1693. He continued for some time student of "the House" and was an active member of the Christ Church confederacy.\* He served the office of Proctor in 1698, and eleven years later accumulated the degrees of B.D. and D.D. His life at Oxford apparently ceased, and his second career at Westminster began in 1699 when he was appointed Under-master. The death of Knipe in 1711 caused his promotion to the Headmastership, and this post he held until 1733. We are told that he excelled alike as a scholar and schoolmaster, and he was, as we know remarkably fond of and clever at writing epigrams. In this latter art even Pope was jealous of him and

\* Formed for attacking Bentley's dissertation on the Phalaris letters, 1697.

signalized this fact in a somewhat sneering epigram. The school itself during all this period continued to flourish exceedingly, and in point of numbers, including the Q.SS., reached nearly to 500. Westminster was then the Court school, so to say, and "the names of those who spoke epigrams after one election dinner includes no less than ten lords." Dr. John Freind, who was for some time physician to the Prince of Wales, procured the attendance in 1727 of that august personage at the "Westminster Play." Of course this event resulted in the young prince's asking for a 'play' and the Thesis set by the headmaster on the occasion was "Celebrate ducem qui vobis otia fecit." Freind's house was a rendezvous for all the celebrities of his day. Statesmen, scholars, poets, wits were all entertained by the headmaster, many of whom were themselves Old Westminsters. Freind, as aforesaid, excelled in writing epigrams and epitaphs, but beyond such small compositions as these he has left behind but little evidence of his powers as a writer. He published however in 1724 "Ciceronis Orator" and four years later wrote some verses on the Coronation of George II. Some English verses written by him in 1689 are preserved in "Nichols Select Collection" as is also a Latin Ode on the death of Queen Caroline. A sapphic ode by him appears in the Gentleman's Magazine somewhere about the year 1737, in which year there also appeared in that paper some verses addressed to him by Stephen Duck on his quitting his post as headmaster. Other Latin poems by Freind himself appear in the "Examen Poeticum." Of the various ecclesiastical appointments he held, the earliest perhaps was the Rectory of Witney in Oxfordshire, to which he was presented in 1711. For this living he built a house, but probably spent but little of his time there. In 1727 he became Canon of Windsor, but by a curious process exchanged this for a Prebend of Westminster in 1731. This latter appointment, as well as his Rectory at Witney, he managed to make over to his son, through the interest of Queen Caroline with Bishop Hoadley. We are told that he was selected to preach before the House of Commons in January, 1711. Four years after his retirement from the headmastership he became a Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, in which town, presumably, he died on August oth, 1754, at the advanced age of 84. He was buried in a family vault at his old living at Witney and there is to be seen an

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inscription to his memory. A long list might be given of the epitaphs in the Abbey which owe their origin to his pen; of these perhaps the most celebrated is the following, which commemorates Philip Carteret, son of the Earl of Granville, who died while still at the school.

> " Ouid breves te delicias tuorum Naeniis Phœbi chorus omnis urget, Et meae falcis subito relcisum Vulnere plangit?

> " En, puer, vitae pretium caducae ! Hic tuam, custoss vigil, ad favillam Semper adstabo, et memori tuebor Marmore famam.

"Audies clarus pietate, morum Integer, multae studiosus artis: Hoc frequens olim leget hæc sequetur, Æmula Pubes."

The above appears in the 5th volume of Nichols "Literary Anecdotes," where it is also translated into English by an unknown hand.

COLLORIEL

## A MEDIÆVAL SCHOOLBOY

Void of reason, given to wilfulness ; Froward to virtue ; of thrift gave little heed ; Loth to learné ; lovéd no business Save play or mirthé ; strange to spell or read ; Following all appetites' longing to childhead ; Lightly twining; wild, and seldom sad; Weeping nought, and anon after glad.

I had in custom to come to school late, Not for to learn but for a countenance, With my fellows ready to debate, To jangle and rape was set all my pleasaunce, Where of rebuked this was my chevisaunce To forge a +lesyng and then upon to muse, When I trespassed myselfé to excuse.

Loth to rise ; lother to bed at eve ; With unwashed handes ready to dinnes ; My Paternoster, my Creed, or my Believe, Cast at the Cook ; lo! this was my manner ; Waved with each wind, as doth a reedé-spear ; \$\$ Snibbed of my friends such ¶taches for to amend Made deaf earé list not to them attend.

JOHN LYDGATE. Circ: 1400.

<sup>o</sup> Treaty. <sup>†</sup> Lie. <sup>‡</sup> Rebuked.

¶ Faults.

## THE PLAY SUPPER.

The Play Supper took place as usual up Grants on the second Play night, which fell this year on Monday, December 17th. Our guests consisted of the following O.GG. —F. M. Yglesias, H. W. Smyth, C. Bompas, C. Erskine, C. T. G. Powell, A. G. Lambert, and A. R. Woodbridge. J. G. Veitch, who was expected, was unfortunately unable to be present. It is scarcely necessary to say that neither good cheer nor corresponding appetite were wanting on this festive occasion.

The first toast of the evening, that of Mr. Heard, was proposed by H. C. Barnes, who, after expressing the feelings with which Grantites always welcome O.WW. rapidly reviewed the chief events of the year, which, he maintained, warranted the conclusion that the progress and prospects of the House were by no means unsatisfactory. The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, Mr. Heard, in reply, said that he fully agreed with what the head of the House had said; he noticed among other signs of moral and physical improvement up Grants, the formation of a Grantite Debating Society, and paid a most flattering tribute to the progress of juvenile rhetoric. Finally he proposed the health of the head of the House, which was drunk with musical honours. After Barnes had responded, the toast of O.WW. was proposed by F. Y. Eccles, and was received with (if possible) even more enthusiasm than usual. F. M. Yglesias, who rose to reply, expressed some modest diffidence about putting himself forward as representing a body which numbered among the guests of the evening the Vice-President of the Cambridge Union, and "other lights in other spheres."

Barnes next proposed the health of the Captain of Grants Football. E. A. Everington, responding to the toast, which was most cordially drunk, reviewed the achievements of Grants and sports, and held out hopes of our being able to hold our own during the ensuing year. Mr. Heard next proposed the "Floreat," and the drinking of this old-established toast was followed by F. M. Yglesias' song, "Floreat," which was given by H. W. Smyth. The rest of the evening (or perhaps we should say morning), was devoted to songs, of which the greatest successes were:—H. L. Colville's "The happy Fatherland," H. D. Everington's "The dispensary doctor," and "In the days of Doctor Busby," a very good Westminster Song, sung by its composer, F. M. Yglesias.

# NOTES.

We beg to congratulate C. S. W. Barwell, who was up Grants before he entered College, five years ago, on getting his Blue for Oxford.

E. F. Knox and H. L. Colville left at the end of last term, the new boys are G. Bayley, boarder, and Gatty half-boarder.

R. O. Mills has received his Pinks and we heartily congratulate him on getting them, as by his uniformly steady play he has well deserved them.

\*\_\*

P. Armitage, who had sufficiently recovered from his injury to represent the School once or twice, was 'dished' in a game the other day and has been unable to play since.

### \* \*

E. W. Woodbridge has played centre forward for the School in the last few matches and got his 'Pinks' after the match against Old Etonians.

### \* \*

With regret we announce the departure of R. O. Mills; in whom Grants loses one of her ablest supporters in games and at the same time the Vice-President of the Debating Society.

### \* \*

A committee has been formed for arranging the casts of the plays read at the Literary Society: it consists of G. Lenox Conyngham, Esq., R. H. Yeld, and H. C. Barnes, (ex-officio.)

### \* \*

An Old Westminster is in want of Copies of Vol. I. Nos. I and IO of the *Grantite Review*. The Editor would be glad to meet with any reader who is willing to part with any in his possession.

### THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

Mr. Heard	-	-	Malcolm Banquo.
H. C. Barnes	-	-	Earl Ross.
F. P. Farrar	-		Lady Macbeth.
R. O. Mills	-	•	Macduff.
E. A. Everingt	on	-	Macbelh.
W. T. Barwell	· <del>-</del>	-	Fleance.
E. W. Woodbrid	idge		Donalbain.
R. A. Yeld	-	- 1	Earl Lennox.

At this meeting R. A. Yeld, who had previously been elected a member of the Society, made his first appearance. The next meeting was held on the following Tuesday, when 'Macbeth' was concluded. Mr. Heard was absent and his part was read by Mr. Conyngham.

The next play which was read was Sheridan's 'Critic' the following being the cast :---

Mr. Heard	-	Sir Fretful Plagiary.
Mr. Conyngham -	-	Puff.
H. C. Barnes -	-	Signor Pasticcio Ritornello.
F. P. Farrar -	-	Sneer.
R. O. Mills	-	Tilburina.
E. A. Everington -	-	Dangle.
F. J. Maclean -	-	Interpreter.
W. T. Barwell -	-	Signora Pasticcio.
E. W. Woodbridge	-	Governour.
R. A. Yeld -	-	Sir Walter Raleigh.

At the next meeting, held on Tuesday, February 12th, Goldsmith's celebrated play 'She stoops to Conquer' was commenced, the part read being Acts I—III. The principal parts were taken as follows :—

Mr. Heard	-	-	Hardcastle.
H. C. Barnes	•	-	Young Marlow.
F. P. Farrar	-	-	Hastings.
E. A. Everington		-	Tony Lumpkin.
F. J. Maclean	-	-	Mrs. Hardcastle.
W. T. Barwell	-	-	Miss Hardcastle.
E. W. Woodbridg	ze	-	Diggory.
R. A. Yeld	-	-	Miss Neville.

The next meeting was held on Tuesday, February 19th when, 'She stoops to Conquer' was concluded. Mr. Conyngham and R. O. Mills, who were both absent at the last meeting, were present: Mr. Conyngham took 'Tony Lumpkin' and to Mills was assigned the extra part of 'Sir Charles Marlow.' The Society met on Wednesday, February 28th, and commenced Shakespeare's 'Merry Wives of Windsor,' the part read being the first two Acts. The cast was:—

Mr. Heard -	-	Falstaff.
H. C. Barnes -	-	Sir Hugh Evans.
R. O. Mills -	-	Shallow.
E. A. Everington		Mrs. Ford.
F. J. Maclean -	-	Dr. Caius.
W. T. Barwell -	-	Mrs. Page.
E. W. Woodbridge		Mrs. Quickley.
R. A. Yeld -	-	Mr. Ford.

Acting on the proverb 'a stitch in time saves nine,' it would not be out of place to say a few words abou the standard of reading of the Literary Society. This (with sorrow we record it) has been degenerating for some time past and reached its worst stage in Macbeth. This unfortunate state of things is not due to want of ability to read well, or to ignorance of the English language, but to the fact that members do not, in some cases at least, read over their parts beforehand. It is impossible to read Shakespeare well at first sight. The reading, we are glad to say, has improved a little lately, but members should bear in mind that the success of the Society depends upon each individual in it and that a collapse or stumbling spoils the fun of a scene for others.

### YARD TIES.

FIRST ROUND BOARDERS.

R. Boulter		E. W. Woodbridge
E. G. Burton	scratched to	B. Bayley
S. W. Key		H. C. Barnes

As Burton was unable to play owing to an accident, Key was drawn to fill a vacancy in Southey's tie.

J. Corbett		E. A. Everington
F. J. Maclean	beat	H. D. Everington
R. O. Mills		W, T. Barwell

by 8-7. This was a splendid tie, one of the best there has been of late years. The score was even up to the last minute when Mill's side got another goal and won the tie.

R. A. Yeld		E. T. Woodbridge
J. O. Powell	beat	C. Lampton
G. E. Mills		F. P. Farrar

by 17-7. This tie was expected to be more even than it proved. Farrar did all he knew to save a defeat, while of the winners Mills was perhaps the best.

B. I. Southey		G. W. Scarfe
C. B. Bruce	beat	G. Scott
A. R. Severn		S. W. Key

by 11-3. This tie was more evenly contested than appears from the score. Scarfe played up well but was unable to score owing to Southey's defence behind.

### HALF-BOARDERS.

G. S. Campbell		C. S. Jones
A. G. Cory	beat	C. Hornor
Gatty		D. P. Winckworth

Winckworth certainly disappointed the spectators and allowed Campbell's side to win too easily. Gatty showed good form at times and promises to become a good player in the yard in time.

E. M. Stopford D. Fitzmaurice a bye. L. Chamberlain

#### SECOND ROUND.

G. E. Campbell		H. C. Barnes
G. E. Mills	beat	F. J. Maclean.
J. Corbett		R. A. Yeld.

by 12-8. This was a very fair tie. At half-time Barnes' side were leading by two goals. Mills' dribbling was good.

E. W. Woodbridge		L. Chamberlain
A. G. Cory	beat	C. B. Bruce
R. O. Mills		J. O. Powell

Powell endeavoured to make the best of a bad job and played up smartly till half-time, when the score was 5 all. After this, however, the winners showed their strength and won by 24-5.

Gatty		B. Bayley
E. M. Stopford	beat	D. Fitzmaurice
B. I. Southey		A. R. Severn

Southey's side had the best of the game from the start and eventually won by 14-3. Stopford did most of the goal-getting.

### NOTICES.

All contributions to be clearly written on one side of the paper.

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### FLOREAT.

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