



The Elizabethan.

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THE PAST YEAR.

WITHOUT having achieved any very brilliant success during the past year, Westminster has been making steady and most satisfactory progress in every department of athletics, intellectual development, and 'social elevation.' We have not set the Thames on fire, but we have certainly attained the *aurea mediocritas* recommended by Horace.

Leaving these platitudes, let us examine the Past Year. First, with regard to what is doubtless most important—Athletics. Our Football Team of last year did not succeed in beating Charterhouse, but, nevertheless, showed themselves, all through the season, worthy to represent Westminster in the field; though the promptings of conscience compel us to admit that their greatest successes were gained in the earlier half of the season, and so are outside of 1885. During last Term, however, 7 matches were won, 5 lost, and 2 drawn; while 32 goals

were gained by the School against 22. The Cricket Season was also successful. Five matches were won, 4 drawn, 3 lost. Moreover, there seemed to be much more enthusiasm for the game throughout the whole School, and the improvement was not, as is too often the case, confined to the members of the Eleven. A noticeable feature of the year's cricket was the match for the House Shield, in which Rigaud's long uninterrupted career of victory was at last broken by the Home Boarders. The Athletic Sports, though the weather might have been more favourable, were very fairly successful, and seemed to show that there is plenty of rising talent in the School. The Racquet Ties produced some good games and plenty of enthusiasm; but is it not a pity that there are always so few entries for this contest? Not that 1885 was conspicuous in this respect, for there were, we believe, rather more competitions than in the previous year; but if any one will look at the account of the Racquet Ties in an *Elizabethan* of a few years ago, and note therein the long and imposing list of entries, he will be

surprised and shocked at the effect which 'social elevation,' freedom from 'stagnation,' &c., has had on Westminster Racquets. We suppose we shall be told that the subscription is too high; but is it any higher than of yore? or can it be true, as some pessimists contend, that the members of the School are less wealthy than in former days? Mysterious rumours are abroad concerning Fives Courts, to be constructed, as some conjecture, at the back of No. 18, or, according to others, in the garden of Ashburnham House. Of all this we, of course, know nothing, but, in the language of the Society papers, 'we give the story for what it is worth.'

The Debating Society's occupation was almost gone when a Conservative Ministry came in, and it could no longer amuse itself by censuring the policy of the Government, but had to content itself with passing votes of confidence (which are not half so exciting). However, it is rallying to its old work this Term with all the more ardour.

The Literary Society is as flourishing and popular as ever. As the success of this institution has been so marked, and as its members are necessarily very much restricted, why should not some enterprising brain devise and organise another society of the same sort, for the accommodation of the many good readers and fond lovers of Shakespeare, who would doubtless be only too glad of an opportunity of displaying their talents?

The Bell-ringers also are most energetic and persevering. We often think, as we hear the clanging, and banging, and jangling that makes the tower of St. Margaret's Church rock on Tuesday evenings, how the unfortunate patients in the Westminster Hospital must bless the Westminster School Bell-ringing Society, which so kindly and softly lulls them to health-giving sleep!

The Chess Club is perhaps, at present, the most prosperous of the institutions which are now doing so much good for the School. Being still young and well administered, it is deservedly popular, and is rousing most encouraging keenness and enthusiasm for the 'royal game.' Let us hope that Mr. Ingram's kind gift of a Challenge Chess Board may serve to perpetuate this feeling, and that the Chess Club may be able to attain old age without, as is the too common fate of school societies, becoming effete.

Last, but not least, there is the Glee Club.

In spite of the rather serious check given last Term by the Play Rehearsals, several entertainments were given, with which the audience expressed themselves much delighted. Many soloists of various sorts have been discovered among us, who would otherwise have wasted their sweetness on the desert air, without ever imparting to their schoolfellows any of the fruits of their labours. They certainly could not have better or more encouraging practice than performing before the lenient and sympathetic audience which they meet Up School.

Of the Scholarship of the School we can say but little, as the Head Master's Report was not published last year. But here also there are hopeful signs. It is especially encouraging to observe that the foolish prejudice against 'muzzing' is rapidly disappearing, and that Westminster boys are learning to show the falsity of *Truth's* statement, that at public schools boys only are taught how 'to kick and be kicked'!

Another pleasing new departure is the Prize for Elocution instituted by Lady Vincent. We trust that this contest may have a good effect on the delivery of the speeches in the Debating Society, and, further, that it may add many new names to the glorious list of Westminster orators.

Finally, let us all, past and present Westminster boys; do our best to keep our grand old School in her proper place as one of the leading schools of England. Floreat!

WESTMINSTER WORTHIES.

No. 5.—WILLIAM COWPER.

(Continued from Vol. IV., p. 231.)

ON his discharge from Dr. Cotton's asylum, Cowper felt himself obliged to resign his Commissionership of Bankrupts, and with this his last source of income vanished. To return to his legal business would be useless. Nothing remained to him but the rent of his chambers in the Temple; but his relations in his extremity generously came forward and subscribed for his maintenance. His only brother, John, now wished Cowper to take up his residence near him at Cambridge, but, nothing suitable being found there, he recommended Huntingdon, which was within riding distance from the former place. In 1765, Cowper betook himself, accordingly, to Huntingdon, accompanied by a lad who had waited on him at St. Albans, and with whom Dr. Cotton, at Cowper's urgent

request, consented to part. While at Huntingdon a melancholy fit was again creeping over Cowper, when he fortunately made the acquaintance of the Unwins, whom he characterises as 'the most agreeable people imaginable, quite sociable and free from the ceremonious civility of gentlefolks.' The Rev. Morley Unwin had formerly been master of the Huntingdon Grammar School, and had been presented in 1742 to the living of Grimston. On his marriage with Mary Cawthorne, the daughter of a draper in Ely, he gave up his living and returned to Huntingdon, where he took and prepared pupils for Cambridge. Cowper first struck up an acquaintance with William Cawthorne Unwin, the son, which acquaintance soon blossomed into friendship; and he afterwards requested and persuaded the Unwin family to let him board and live with them. At this time Cowper got into difficulty respecting his money matters, having spent his whole income for the year in one quarter; but his relations once more rendered him assistance, and an arrangement was made whereby the money was to be paid to Joseph Hill, a lawyer, a friend of Cowper's, a quondam member of the 'Nonsense Club,' and so an old Westminster, who undertook to manage his monetary affairs for him. Some of his relations, however, did not subscribe the necessary money this time without threats of discontinuing the allowance in the future, not approving of his retaining his servant lad, and of his supporting a destitute child whom he had put to school, both of which objects of charity Cowper, come what might, absolutely declined to discard. Shortly after this he received an anonymous letter, fully endorsing his conduct, and promising that if any of his income should be withdrawn it would be supplied by the writer. In the writer of this letter, 'a person who loved him dearly,' there is little doubt one recognises his cousin Theodora. Mrs. Unwin, too, assured him that in such an event he should share their home for one-half of the amount previously agreed upon. The life there, of which he has left an account, was pleasing to Cowper, and the place suited him well. He writes, 'I do really think it is the most agreeable neighbourhood I ever saw.'

The Unwin family was fated, however, to be soon disunited: the son departed to take a curacy; and his sister, the only other child, was married to the Rev. Matthew Powley. A far greater wrench was yet to be felt in the sudden death of Mr. Unwin himself, who was killed by a fall from his horse on the 28th of June, 1767. The home was now completely broken up; but, in accordance with the wish expressed by him before his death that, in the event of his predeceasing his wife, Cowper should still continue to dwell with her, Mrs. Unwin and Cowper decided not to separate. But recently Mrs. Unwin had become acquainted with the Rev. John Newton, through the introduction of Dr. Conyers. He invited them to come and live in his parish, and the invitation was gladly accepted. John Newton had seen many vicissitudes of life. At the age of eleven he went to sea, but he ran away from his ship, and was flogged for his desertion. He was

next taken into the service of a slave trader, under whose hands he suffered severe hardships; but we find him later on in command of a slaver himself. A shipwreck brought about a complete change in his nature, and he became an ardent Calvinist. His connection with the sea being terminated, his next calling was a tide surveyor at Liverpool; and in 1764 he entered the Church, being ordained by the Bishop of Lincoln. At the time of his appearance on the scene of our present imperfect sketch he was curate of Olney, the vicar being Moses Brown, a pluralist and non-resident.

It was on the 14th of September, 1767, that Mrs. Unwin and Cowper removed to Olney, where they were lodged in the Vicarage until their house was ready to receive them. Cowper entered here into the work of his new friend with laudable enthusiasm, but he overtaxed his strength in his exertions to do good, and his health suffered greatly thereby. His fit of melancholy madness commenced anew, and it was further aggravated by the death of his only brother, John, whose death-bed he attended at Cambridge. In 1771, Mr. Newton suggested to Cowper the composition of the Olney Hymns, but before they were nearly completed Cowper for the second time became insane. As in his first illness, so in this his second, the same pervading impression seized upon his mind—despair of his own salvation. His attack, too, may have been increased in intensity from the fact that he is said to have been on the point of marrying Mrs. Unwin. The proposed marriage, though denied by Southey, was undoubtedly contemplated, as appears from Mr. Bull's 'Memorials of Newton,' and from the latter's diary. Again he essayed his self-destruction several times, but again his attempts proved abortive. Throughout his illness Mrs. Unwin watched over him night and day with unflinching and unswerving devotion, until, at his own earnest request, he went and lived at the Vicarage. On his return she shared her small income with him. By slow degrees his insanity grew less and less, and he occupied himself with gardening, and attending his pet animals, of which he possessed several, including his three famous and immortal hares.

Fortunately, at least in one sense, for Cowper, Newton was presented by his friend Mr. Thornton to the living of St. Mary Woolnoth in September 1779; as, to a person circumstanced as he was, with a very weakly constitution, and liable to recurring fits of insanity, religious excitement was not a good thing for him; and, moreover, he would have in his earnestness again overtried his strength, with probable similar results. It cannot, however, be said that his madness was due to religion: it was brought about by various combinations, and in the second instance was aggravated only, and not occasioned, by religious excitement. Cowper felt Mr. Newton's departure deeply, but his grief was in some measure compensated by his introduction to the Rev. William Bull, the Independent minister at Newport Pagnel, distanced from Olney about five miles. Mr. Newton effected this

introduction before leaving, foreseeing as he did that Cowper would not care for the incoming curate; and it proved a happy one. The two became great friends, though unable, owing to Mr. Bull's duties, to meet often. Cowper playfully called this new friend '*carissime taurorum*.'

After recovering from his illness Cowper recommenced his correspondence, and composed some short poems, being continually urged by Mrs. Unwin to more extensive efforts. At her suggestion he wrote 'The Progress of Error,' which was followed by 'Truth,' 'Table-talk,' and 'Expostulation.' Cowper now thought of publishing his poems, and requested Mr. Newton to find out a suitable publisher. He suggested his own publisher, John Johnson, who accepted the MS., and undertook all risk. Before printing it, however, he thought it would take better by being enlarged. So Cowper wrote for the volume the additional poems of 'Hope' and 'Charity.' To this period also belongs 'Conversation' and 'Retirement.' This was his first trial of the public feeling, and on the book being issued he sent a copy of it to his old friends Thurlow, now Lord Chancellor, and Colman; but neither of them had the courtesy or good manners to acknowledge its receipt. Nettled, and with good reason, at their conduct, his feelings found their vent in the 'Valediction.' The Olney Hymns, the joint production of Cowper and John Newton, were published in 1779.

It chanced one day, during the year 1781, that two ladies came to Olney for the purpose of shopping. With one of them, the wife of a Mr. Jones, the clergyman at Clifton Reynes in the neighbourhood, Cowper claimed a slight acquaintance; but it was her companion who chiefly attracted the attention of Cowper, so much so that he persuaded Mrs. Unwin to ask them both in to tea. The invitation was given, and accepted, when Cowper repented through shyness of having procured their company; but the formality of introduction once over, he was enchanted with his new visitor. To this chance meeting the world is much indebted, as it led to the composition of Cowper's immortal ballad of 'John Gilpin,' and of his still greater poem 'The Task.' The story of John Gilpin was narrated to Cowper one day, when in a melancholy mood, by his new friend, Lady Austen; and it took such a hold of his fancy that it kept him awake the whole of the night roaring with laughter. On the morning of the morrow he narrated it in his famous ballad. He sent it to William C. Unwin, and not long afterwards it appeared in the columns of *The Public Advertiser*. About three years later it formed a 'reading' for Henderson, the actor, and its reception by his audience, amongst whom was the celebrated Mrs. Siddons, was very gratifying. Through the instrumentality of the same lady, Cowper was next persuaded to try his hand at blank-verse writing, and as a subject Lady Austen gave him the 'sofa' on which she was sitting. This name was afterwards changed to 'The Task,' but the 'sofa' gives the name to the first book. Ere 'The Task' was completed, however, differences arose between Lady Austen and Cowper, and resulted in

complete estrangement. This quarrel, or whatever it may be termed, has been classed by a recent biographer as 'among the little mysteries and scandals of literary history.' "The Task," says Southey, 'was at once descriptive, moral, and satirical. The descriptive parts everywhere bore evidence of a thoughtful mind and a gentle spirit, as well as of an observant eye; and the moral sentiment which pervaded them gave a charm in which descriptive poetry is often found wanting. The best didactic poems, when compared with "The Task," are like formal gardens in comparison with woodland scenery.' It was published in June, 1785, by Johnson, who rigidly believed in the genius of the poet, despite the commercial failure of his first poems. To make it up to its full complement, the 'Tirocinium,' 'John Gilpin,' and an epistle to his friend Hill were added. The second of these, of course, attracted most attention. The serious poems were then read and appreciated, and Cowper's success was complete. With this success his old friends sought to renew their friendships with him, though they would have nothing to do with him in his tribulation. Notwithstanding their past behaviour towards him, Cowper was delighted at the thought of renewed intercourse with them, and cordially accepted the proffered hand of friendship. Once again he received a letter anonymously, with an injunction not to overwork himself, and intimating the intention of the writer to send him £50 annually. The same steadfast, never-failing loving hand, it requires little cause to doubt, indited this, as well as the previous epistle. In a letter to Wm. C. Unwin, dated the 10th of July, 1786, Cowper thus writes of the renewed kindness of his relations, and of the increase to his small income: 'Within this twelvemonth my income has received an addition of a clear £100 per annum. For a considerable part of it I am indebted to my dear cousin [Lady Hesketh], now on the other side of the orchard. At Florence she obtained me £20 a year from Lord Cowper; since he came home she has recommended me with such good effect to his notice that he has added twenty more; twenty she has added herself, and ten she has procured me from the William of my name whom you saw at Hertingfordbury. From my anonymous friend, who insists on not being known or guessed at, and never shall by me, I have an annuity of £50. All these sums have accrued within this year, except the first, making together, as you perceive, an exact century of pounds annually poured into the replenished purse of your once poor poet of Olney.'

Persuaded by Lady Hesketh, who had paid him a visit at Olney, and finding the place now dull, Cowper went to Weston-Underwood, a village situated about two miles away, in 1786, and resided in a house belonging to Mr. Throckmorton, with whose family he had become acquainted about the time of his estrangement from Lady Austen. Shortly after taking up his abode there, the sky of Cowper's happiness was again overcast with black clouds of sorrow. His friend, his best friend, Wm. Cawthorne Unwin, was stricken ill with typhus fever at Winchester, and died.

His death was a severe blow to both the mother and the friend, and his loss was much felt.

Cowper now set himself to work again at his translation of Homer, which had been commenced some twelve months before, and he laboured at it assiduously. Johnson published it in 1791, giving the translator £1,000 for it, and leaving the copy-right in him. He also endeavoured to persuade him to edit and annotate an edition of Milton, which was to be illustrated by Fuseli; but Cowper disliked the task, and declined to do it. The opinions of the critics on his translation are of a varying kind, some praising, some decrying it. Among the former may be mentioned Southey, who deemed it 'the best version of the great poet' produced at that time.

For the third time Cowper was subject to an attack of insanity, which fortunately proved of short duration, and he recovered from it in about eight months, but not before he had made another attempt to prematurely curtail the period of his natural life.

John Johnson, the grandson of the Rev. Roger Donne, a maternal uncle of Cowper's, sought him out in the first month of 1790, and was warmly welcomed by him. Johnson was an undergraduate at Cambridge, and to him Cowper was greatly indebted for his kindness in the last illness of the poet. His esteem and regard for Cowper was great; and on his return to Norfolk he carried away many pleasant thoughts of his poet-cousin. He also took back word to his aunt, Mrs. Anne Bodham, that Cowper still retained an affectionate remembrance of her. Mrs. Bodham thereupon wrote to Cowper, sending him the portrait of his mother, on the receipt of which he penned those beautiful, universally-admired lines to which we have before adverted.

Of the last decade of Cowper's life there is little to record. We have already mentioned two of the chief incidents of this period. In the winter of 1791 Mrs. Unwin was seized with paralysis, which affected both her body and mind; and this new trial, added to the long and great strain caused by his Homeric translation, had a great effect on the health of our poet, who was now entering on his declining years.

In connection with the proposed scheme of editing Milton, Cowper acquired a new friend in Hayley, who was himself occupied on an edition of that poet. Visiting his fellow-poet at Weston, he succeeded in making him promise to return the visit to Eartham, a promise which was given and carried out chiefly in consideration for Mrs. Unwin, for whom he thought the change would be beneficial. In the September of the following year they returned to Weston, Cowper but little benefited by the removal; Mrs. Unwin somewhat better in health. In 1794 he received from the King a pension of £300, but was unable to thoroughly appreciate its bestowal. His cousin, John Johnson, now re-appears; and at his suggestion the two again left Weston—this time for ever—and accompanied him on the 28th of July, 1795, to North Duddenhams, on the coast of Norfolk, to

try if, with the help of invigorating sea-breezes, they could regain health. They afterwards removed to Mundesley, on the same coast, and later on to Dunham Lodge, near Swaffham. The last place visited by them was East Dereham; and here, on the 17th of December, 1796, Mrs. Unwin died. Cowper survived her four years, but never afterwards mentioned her name. On the 25th April, 1800, he ended his earthly pilgrimage, and was buried in St. Edmund's Chapel, in East Dereham Church, on the 2nd May following. Mrs. Unwin rests, too, in one of the aisles of the same church. His monument bears the following inscription from the pen of Hayley:—

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM COWPER, ESQ.

Born in Hertfordshire, 1731.

Buried in this Church, 1800.

'Ye who with warmth the public triumph feel,
Of talents, dignified by sacred zeal,
Here to devotion's bard devoutly just,
Pay your fond tribute due to Cowper's dust!
England, exulting in his spotless fame,
Ranks with her dearest sons his fav'rite name.
Sense, fancy, wit, suffice not all to raise
So clear a title to affection's praise.
His highest honours to the heart belong;
His virtues form'd the magic of his song.'

'It was the wish of Dean Stanley that a bust at least might have graced Poets' Corner. The pious purpose was not fulfilled, but a memorial window has, through the generosity of an American citizen, G. W. Childs, of Philadelphia, been placed in the Abbey, in joint remembrance of George Herbert and of William Cowper, both of them Westminster scholars, and two of the sweetest and best of England's sacred poets.' Thus writes the recent author of a short life of Cowper; and it is remarkable indeed that the only memorial to the subject of this article in Westminster Abbey was placed there by an American citizen.

ALPHA.

School Notes.

By the kindness of the Dean, a stand was erected at the east end of Henry VII.'s Chapel, for the School to witness the procession at the opening of Parliament on January 21. The School showed their loyalty by cheering vociferously as the Queen passed, both going and coming back. The Prince of Wales was not recognised till he was almost past the stand, as his carriage was travelling at a good round pace, but it was cheered lustily when it was known who was the occupant. Any lack of loyal demonstration on the first occasion was certainly atoned for on the return journey of his Royal Highness, when the carriage was greeted with three right royal cheers.

In consequence of the different arrangement of terms which comes into force this year, the settled

time for some annually recurring events must of necessity be altered. The sports are to take place on April 5th and 6th, the Monday and Tuesday before the School breaks up. The date of the football match between T.B.B. and Q.S.S., which has hitherto been played on the Wednesday week before Easter, has not yet been fixed. The remaining annual fixture, which falls in what used to be the 'Election Term,' is the Concert; we believe that this has now been transferred to the beginning of the Summer Term.

The Charterhouse match this year takes place at Vincent Square on Saturday, February 27th. The School team has not been quite so successful this year as it was in the corresponding part of last, but the record is very creditable, the card showing seven victories against only five defeats. A very marked improvement was noticeable in the team at the end of last term, and if this continues, it ought to show up well on the appointed day, especially as it will have the advantage of knowing the ground. The other matches for this term are as follows:—

Sat., Jan. 30	. . .	v. Old Harrovians.
Wed., Feb. 3	. . .	v. Casuals.
Sat. ,, 6	. . .	v. Old Carthusians.
Wed. ,, 10	. . .	v. Clapham Rovers.
Wed. ,, 17	. . .	v. Swift's.
Sat. ,, 29	. . .	v. Brentwood.
Wed., Mar. 3	. . .	v. Old Westminsters.
Sat. ,, 6	. . .	v. Old Etonians.
Wed. ,, 10	. . .	v. Old Foresters.
Sat. ,, 13	. . .	v. Old Wykehamists.
Wed. ,, 17	. . .	v. Ashburnham Rovers.
Sat. ,, 20	. . .	v. Old Brightonians.

The Ashburnham Rovers have to wait till Feb. 20th to play their tie with the Pilgrims. It is a rule of the London Cup Competition that the final and semi-final ties must be played at the Oval, which has been engaged for all suitable days up to that time.

By the collection which was made at the festival of the Conversion of St. Paul £21 9s. was raised. This is not quite so much as was given at last term's collection. As the foundation of a School Mission depends to a great extent upon the amount collected during the next year, it is to be hoped that money will be subscribed more liberally during that time, in order that we may at last put to the test the disputed power of Westminster to support a mission of its own.

During the temporary absence of Mr. Raynor his place was taken by Mr. E. O. Pope, of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Although the proceedings of the Bell-ringing Society have not been lately reported in these columns, it must not be supposed that it has ceased to exist. Indeed, it has never been in a more flourishing condition than it is at present. Last term it enrolled eight new members. At the beginning of this term

the Society met and re-elected the old officers, namely,—

J. W. Aris, *President.*
G. O. Roos, *Secretary.*
W. Buchanan, *Treasurer.*

Ringling will continue on Tuesday evenings until cricket commences.

The Literary Society completed 'Othello' at the end of last term, the part of the hero being read with great success by Mr. Sloman, while Desdemona and Iago were given by C. A. W. Shackleton and C. A. Sherring respectively. This term the Society has been devoting its energies to the 'Tempest,' in which Alonzo was taken by Mr. Raynor, Prospero by L. James, Miranda by B. M. Goldie, Ferdinand by G. G. Phillimore, and Caliban by H. B. Street.

We are glad to see that T. Green, who left about a year ago, has obtained the Casberd Scholarship at St. John's College, Oxford. We offer him our hearty congratulations.

Mr. Henry Waterfield, an O.W., has been nominated by the Queen to receive the honour of a Companionship of the Bath. He held the office of Secretary in the Statistic and Commerce Departments of the India Board from 1874 to 1879. From that time till now he has acted as Secretary to the Financial Department.

In addition to those O.W.W. mentioned in the December number as having been elected to Parliament, two more, Lord Richard Grosvenor and Mr. Francis McLean, Q.C., have since been returned at the head of their respective polls, the former for Flintshire, and the latter for the Mid Division of Oxfordshire, both in the Liberal interest. Mr. McLean, who has not sat in Parliament before, is the third son of Mr. Alexander McLean, of Barrow Hedges, Carshalton, Surrey; he was born in 1844, called to the Bar in 1868, and not long ago was made Q.C.

THE FIELDS.

WESTMINSTER v. OLD HARROVIANS.

THIS match was played on Saturday, January 30; the weather was bad, but the ground was in as good a condition as could be expected after the rain. The School won the toss, and the O.H.H. starting the ball took it down to the opposite goal at once, but it was shortly after returned, and the School forwards playing well together and with great dash several times eluded the backs, and were within an ace of scoring, but Rendall in goal was on the alert; and it was not till a few minutes before half-time that Hurst put in a shot quite out of his reach (1-0). On changing ends the School forwards were again prominent by their combination and dash, and gave the Harrovian backs

and goal-keeper no end of trouble. The visitors' left wing, however, made an incursion, and Man charging Currie fell and sustained a slight injury, which unfortunately prevented him from taking further part in the match, and necessitated a stoppage in the game for a few minutes. On resuming the Harrovians fell to pieces, and Hurst obtained two more goals for the School, one of which he put through after dribbling the ball the whole length of the ground. For the visitors, Law and Mason back, and Farmer and Kinloch forward were best, while Rendall in goal saved several very hot shots. For the School, all the forwards played a sound game, and Barwell and Harrison back were beyond all praise. Grant-Wilson in goal had not much to do, but he saved one shot that looked like a certain goal. The sides were—

OLD HARROVIANS.

M. J. Rendall (goal), A. G. Topham and Rev. W. Law (backs), G. Mason and J. D. Whittaker (half-backs), J. H. Farmer, H. G. Kinloch, C. E. Broughton, J. C. Hill, E. Stevens, C. E. Currie, and another (forwards).

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

C. W. Grant-Wilson (goal), C. S. W. Barwell and E. G. Man (backs), S. Petrocochino, H. Harrison, and J. E. Phillimore (half-backs), C. J. N. Page (capt.), A. R. Hurst, R. R. Sandilands, C. Gibson, and P. C. Probyn (forwards).

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL *v.* CASUALS.

THIS match was played on Wednesday, February 3, in miserable weather, rain falling throughout the game. The School won the toss, and Dr. Smith kicked off for the visitors, who brought an exceedingly strong team. The School was considerably weaker than when we played Old Harrovians, having lost the services of E. Man and Grant Wilson (in goal). The School played six forwards, which was a failure. Holden-White having got hold of the ball took it rapidly down the right, but failed in his shot; on making a fresh start Hurst dribbled well down the centre, passed to Sandilands, but Wetton who played finely during the game managed to return it. Pawson and Dr. Smith then made a dodgy run and passed to Holden-White, who this time managed by a swift low shot to score the first goal for the visitors (0-1). The School, however, played up hard, and Phillimore and Harrison behind helped the forwards greatly by their energetic play, and Gibson getting the ball from Hurst equalised the score (1-1). The visitors now pressed our backs hard, and they had plenty to do to keep off the repeated attacks of Paul, Pawson, and Dr. Smith. Half-time having been sounded without further change in the score, our hopes were somewhat raised of making a close game of it. But these hopes were doomed to be disappointed, as soon after the game was re-started another goal was shot (2-1), and this score would have been considerably increased but for the bad shooting of the visitors. Hurst and Sandilands now and then relieved the pressure by good runs, Hurst being several times within an ace of scoring; but Hardman and Bedford, the latter especially, being in fine form, kept their goal intact. The superior

weight of our opponents soon began to tell, and Dr. Smith by a long straight shot scored a third goal for his side (3-1), which was quickly supplemented by a fourth from the foot of Pawson; soon after time was called, the visitors being victorious by 4-1. For the School, Hurst and Gibson forward, and Harrison and Phillimore back, played best. For the visitors, all played well. The sides were—

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

C. Page (capt.), A. R. Hurst, H. Harrison, C. Barwell, S. Petrocochino, R. Sandilands, C. Gibson, P. C. Probyn, J. E. Phillimore, J. Salwey, L. James.

CASUALS.

Dr. Smith, F. W. Pawson, C. Holden-White, F. Bickley, H. Wetton, S. Hardman, H. Thompson, A. E. Bedford, H. Charrington, J. E. Paul, J. L. Nickisson.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL *v.* OLD CARTHUSIANS.

THIS match was played in fine weather on Saturday, February 6. The ground was slippery and very hard underneath, which caused the game to be somewhat slow. The School won the toss, and Sturgess-Jones kicked off for the visitors, and Gibson at once got hold of the ball, and running it down passed to Hurst, but the latter shot too high, and Arthur made a fresh start. Hardly had the ball been re-started when some capital passing between Hurst, Probyn, and Gibson gave Hurst an opportunity of scoring, of which he was not slow to avail himself, a fine shot in the corner of goal entirely beating Causton. Nettled by this reverse, the Old Carthusians, led on by Owen, Hardman, and Sturgess-Jones, made repeated efforts to score, but the fine back play of Harrison, Barwell, and Phillimore frustrated all their attempts. The game was carried on very evenly till half-time, Hurst and Gibson making several good runs, and likewise Sturgess-Jones, Owen, and Hardman for the Old Carthusians. On changing ends the visitors' goal was continually attacked, but Causton and Arthur kept everything safe till, from a pass from the right, Hurst scored a second goal for the School (2-0). Now the Old Carthusians pulled together, and good passing was shown by Owen, Hardman, Parry, and Sturgess-Jones. But Barwell and Harrison were always ready for them, and kept the visitors off our goal. However, a corner falling to the visitors, the ball being extremely well placed, enabled Sturgess-Jones to score the first goal for the Old Carthusians (2-1). On re-starting the School had matters mostly their own way, and just before call of time Gibson shot a third goal for the School (3-1).

WESTMINSTER.

C. Page, H. R. Hurst, H. Harrison, C. Barwell, S. Petrocochino, R. Sandilands, C. Gibson, C. Sherring, P. C. Probyn, J. E. Phillimore, J. G. Veitch.

The Visitors did not leave their names.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

THE house met on November 19, and the debate on 'Vivisection' was continued.

Mr. BARWELL declared that humanity had never been benefited by vivisection, which had never saved a human life. The nature of animals was different from that of man—for instance, a dog's brain was not like a man's; and, therefore, results obtained from experiments on animals could not be utilised in the case of man. Mr. Bompas had said that any one who opposed vivisection on the ground that it was open to abuse must be a teetotaler. He did not think so, for in the one case you only harmed yourself, while the other involved the torture of innocent animals.

Mr. CUMING, after denying Mr. Bompas's argument that we never come in contact with animals without causing them pain, went on to say that the cases of the surgeon and the vivisector were not similar, for the former was sure of doing good, while the latter had only the barest chance. He did not agree with the statement that in the case of vivisection the end justified the means, for that end was not the good of mankind, but each vivisector merely tried to surpass his neighbours, without any higher thoughts. No good could come from evil, and animal pain was a sheer, unmitigated evil. Not only did vivisectors experiment on the lower animals, but even on creatures endowed with such sensibility as dogs. No discovery was worth selfishness, which alone could induce any one to favour vivisection.

Mr. PROBYN, Mr. ROOS, Mr. CLARKE, and Mr. BOMPAS then spoke, and the house divided on the motion, the result being 15 votes for the motion, and 18 against. The motion was, therefore, lost by 3 votes.

On November 26 the Society met to discuss Mr. Erskine's motion—'That, in the opinion of this house, a modern education is preferable to a classical one.'

Mr. ERSKINE commented at some length on the superior advantages of a modern education. A classical one was no good by itself.

Mr. ROOS said he supposed that one of the chief ends of education was to enable people to earn a livelihood in after life. He did not think that sufficient attention was paid to modern subjects in public schools, although they were marked very highly in examinations for military or civil appointments. Many people, after leaving a public school, had to go to a 'crammer' to learn things that would enable them to make their living.

Mr. YGLESIAS, in opposing the motion, said that he thought that the classics accustomed men's minds to difficulties. The classics also were of assistance in learning modern languages. The dignity and depth of the classical authors had never been surpassed. Style was best obtained by the study of the older authors, who had stood the test of time. The mere fact of their lasting so long was a proof of their

excellence. He would caution them, however, against the faults which a study of the classics sometimes led to, viz., narrowness and neglect of the end in the means. The spirit of so-called scholarship was thoroughly bad.

Mr. ERSKINE enforced his previous remarks.

Mr. BOMPAS thought that the character of the boy to be educated must have the greatest influence in deciding on the plan of education to be followed. He thought that no one could vote decidedly either for or against such a motion.

The house divided, and there were found to be 4 ayes and 14 noes. The motion was, therefore, lost.

THE GLEE CLUB.

As in 1884, the last performance given by the Glee Club in 1885 was of a more important nature than usual, both owing to the greater length of the programme, and owing to the valuable assistance afforded us by Mr. Hallett, whose readings and recitations on this occasion were, as on a previous occasion, a most noteworthy feature of the entertainment. The time that has elapsed since the 9th December must be our excuse for a not very detailed account of the proceedings, which opened with Haydn's Toy Symphony. This was played to a somewhat scanty audience, as the alteration in the hour of beginning necessitated by the lengthy programme had not been sufficiently advertised. However, a very large concourse was assembled by the time that the chorus had warmed to its work in Wilson and Savile's 'O by rivers.' This was fairly rendered, though it appeared to us that the Fa-la-la-la (which is Savile's share of the composition) was taken somewhat too slowly, and thus lost in sprightliness. Mr. Hallett followed with the Laureate's poem, 'The Revenge.' Of the effect of this the audience will not need to be reminded, but for the benefit of those who were not present we may remark that nothing could exceed the power and pathos with which the story was told. The next item, a song, had the interest attaching to a last appearance; Doherty had chosen Blumenthal's 'Evening Hymn,' for, as it were, his 'swan's song,' and the enthusiasm with which the audience demanded its repetition justified his choice. The gem of the music of the evening followed—Mr. Dale's magnificent rendering of a Scherzo of Chopin's. Even with its length the audience vociferated to hear it again, but this was not to be, Mr. Dale playing us a piece of Hamilton Clarke's instead. An excellent carol, 'Morning Star,' by Dr. Bridge, came next, and then Mr. Hallett read a most amusing sketch called 'Our Foreign Relations.' The wonderful skill he displayed in the assumption of the voices and manners of the personages therein kept the gathering in an uproar from beginning to end. We are to be congratulated on the discovery of an excellent fiddler in Eccles, who was first heard at Westminster on this

occasion in a jig by Leonard. This he played with great accuracy and spirit, so that he was obliged to repeat it. The same would have undoubtedly been Mr. Ranalow's fate, who followed with Pinsuti's 'Sleep on,' had not the previous encores swelled the programme to an alarming extent. Mr. Hallett's third piece, 'A Legend of Holland,' was exceedingly taking, the humour of the piece being wonderfully brought out by the mock solemnity with which it was delivered. A lusty chorus brought to an end a performance certainly above the average of the term.

This term the Glee Club have decided to continue their entertainments in a slightly modified form. Owing to the approach of the Concert there is no time to practise glees, all available voices in the singing classes being occupied in preparation for the choruses to be given on that occasion. The glees, therefore, which, indeed, never formed the most successful parts of the performances up-School, have now been dropped almost entirely; so that the Society belies its name, as most varieties of music are introduced with the exception of the glee singing, which it was the original intention of the Society to promote. The first performance under the new arrangement took place on Wednesday, February 3, and opened with a quartet, the parts in which were taken by R. H. Bellairs, F. M. Yglesias, C. Eccles, and R. E. Olivier. The individual singing was good, but the want of combination showed that the quartet had scarcely received the attention which might well have been bestowed upon so beautiful a piece of writing as Hatton's 'Softly fall the shades of evening.' The success of the entertainment was, without doubt, due to the kind assistance of Mr. T. S. Oldham, who gave two recitations with great success. The first was Mrs. Alexander's 'Burial of Moses.' The lady in question can hardly be called a first-class poet—or poetess—but the piece chosen by Mr. Oldham is taking, and is perhaps the best known of its author's works. It certainly lost nothing of its beauty in the recitation. The next event on the programme was a song by M. V. White, 'Absent, yet Present,' given by H. Harrison, who made his first appearance as a singer on this evening. Harrison's voice is at present rough and wanting in polish; but it undoubtedly has the makings of a good tenor about it. One point was certainly very much in his favour, and this was the distinctness of his utterance, which other Glee Club vocalists would do well to copy. A pianoforte duet by the Rev. R. F. Dale and R. H. Bellairs followed, the pieces chosen being the first two of Moszkowski's delightful Spanish dances. The second of these was especially pleasing, and was deservedly encored, on its own merits and from the delicate handling of the performers, of whom we will merely say that the Rev. R. F. Dale is always sure of an enthusiastic reception from a Westminster audience, and that Bellairs is perhaps the most tasteful pianist in the School. Of Page's solo, it will be enough to say that it was given in his usual finished style, but that the enunciation was not sufficiently clear, and that the violin obbligato of C. Eccles had an exceed-

ingly good effect. The same performer gave us an old favourite in Thomas's 'Gavotte,' which he rendered creditably, and without the slightest sign of nervousness. A very humorous, but we fear fictitious, account of Mr. Oldham's 'First and Last Appearance' kept the audience vastly amused for five minutes or so. It described the agonies of a nervous man, called upon, at a few hours' notice, to play the part of a fiery brigand in some amateur theatricals. The piece was cleverly written, and no less cleverly recited, Mr. Oldham bringing out all the points with a true appreciation of humour. The proceedings closed with the familiar 'On the Banks of Allen Water.' Much of the pathos of this beautiful song was lost by its being taken too quickly; but, with the exception of this mistake, Harrison acquitted himself well. Then, after singing one verse of 'God save the Queen,' with loyal vigour, the company dispersed.

THE CHESS CLUB.

In the final tie of the tournament, last term, Thomas beat Harrison. R. C. Phillimore challenged Harrison for second place, as he had been beaten only by the winner, and defeated him; but being challenged in turn by Armitage, he was unsuccessful, and so Thomas and Armitage received the prizes from the Club. The winners were both new members last term, and had most start accordingly, to which is due the ease with which they won some of their games. Few of the games were interesting, though they were not so one-sided as the games in Election term, when, as the Club had only just been started, the Committee, in arranging the handicapping, had little knowledge of the individual play of the members. This term the competition for the Challenge Chess-board takes place. Each competitor plays two games with each of the others, the one who wins most games being successful. As there are over twenty members belonging to the Club, there will be over 400 games to be played this term; and so there is no time for any other tournament. A meeting of the Club has been held, in which it was decided to do away with the entrance fee, so there is only an annual subscription of a shilling now. The following new members have been elected this term:—J. H. Cuming, Oliver, Varley, and Veitch.

CANON ROWSELL'S LECTURE.

ON Wednesday, December 2nd, Canon Rowsell gave up-School his long-promised account of work in the East End. In spite of the apparently dismal character of the subject, Canon Rowsell managed to keep his audience interested for more than an hour; and, to

judge from the frequent applause and laughter, they were amused as well as interested. The Canon explained at the beginning that he would have to speak chiefly of his own experiences, which, indeed, proved more pleasant to listen to than they must have been to undergo. When he was first presented to a living in the East End, that part of London was even more neglected than it is now. The first difficulty which he had to contend with was the almost total absence of schools. His predecessor in the living had endeavoured to found some kind of school, but without much success. He found the poor children as 'high and mighty' about their schoolfellows as the children of the higher classes; for instance, many would refuse to come at all because some of their companions had no shoes and stockings. Under these circumstances it was necessary to start no less than three kinds of schools: one for the shoeless, another for the aristocracy of the neighbourhood, and a third for those who could not afford to go to the more expensive 'establishment,' and yet, as the happy possessors of shoes and stockings, could not lower themselves by associating with others less fortunate in this respect. These enterprises were rendered more difficult by the lack of funds; but the help of a few influential friends soon set the schools going, and when once started they were self-supporting.

One of the first duties was, of course, to get the people to take more interest in religion, and with this end in view he determined to hold service in the church every day. In this he was hindered by the want of elasticity in the Church service of that time, which has now been partly obviated. As the whole morning service with the Psalms and both the lessons was more than the ordinary East-ender had time or inclination to listen to, the services were attended chiefly by a few old women, whom it sounded rather inappropriate to address as 'Dearly beloved brethren.' Still he persevered, and it was not till after a seven years' trial that he finally decided to give up the attempt.

Of course, excursions in the country had to be provided for. These were great undertakings, both from the scarcity of money and from the great trouble and anxiety they involved. The locality chosen was generally Epping Forest, as being easiest of access. Many of the children had never seen the country, so their delight knew no bounds, and they became unruly and inclined to wander. The surest method of gathering them together again was to hold out a prospect of buns and sandwiches at frequent intervals during the day, which the children always managed to turn up in time for, however far they might have strayed. These trips proved a valuable means of winning the hearts of the people, as they were always pleased with any kindness shown to their children. Still it was very hard at first to bring them 'out of their shells:' they were very shy, and with difficulty induced to take an interest in one another. They had been so accustomed to neglect that they could hardly understand that there was any one in the world, or out

of it, for that matter, who cared for them. Social meetings under various names were started with the object of drawing them together. They were very retiring at first, but kind words and kind inquiries about their husbands, wives, or 'baby,' as the case might be, soon made them more communicative. Teas on an extensive scale materially assisted in producing a better feeling among them. There were often as many as 300 present at these teas, which must, therefore, have formed no small item in the parish bills. Thus kindly relations were established between the fathers and mothers, who were very glad of this opportunity of talking over their troubles and difficulties with one another, though they seemed never to have thought of doing so before. As a proof of the improved state of things in the parish, Canon Rowsell spoke of the enthusiasm exhibited by the people at the time of the Crimean war, when lectures were given on the subject. They had been taught to take an interest in their country, and not to centre their whole attention upon themselves, as they had done before; and the result was that they subscribed very liberally for the relief of the sufferings of their countrymen out in the Crimea.

As may be imagined, the East End of London was no freer from thieves than it is now—indeed, not so free. This was the hardest class to reach, as, although they might feel an inward inclination to adopt a more respectable life, they could not tear themselves from their 'pals,' knowing that they would certainly be jeered at, and might be even ill-treated. The only way was to send them away to some other part of the country. By the help of some friends the Canon was enabled to send many reformed thieves to Wales, where they obtained work in the slate quarries. The outfit of each cost about £6.

The last subject which Canon Rowsell had occasion to mention was the importance of extempore preaching, which he impressed upon his audience with great warmth. It was the only way to ensure the attention of an East End congregation; and he was sure he could never have done what, God helping him, he had, if he had not made up his mind from the first never to *read* his sermons. Indeed, from the number of sermons he had to preach during the week, it would have been absolutely impossible to find time to spare, from his many other duties, to write them all beforehand.

With this Canon Rowsell ended his discourse, amid loud applause from his hearers, who had been listening with eager attention the whole time. We must take this opportunity of expressing to him the gratitude of all who heard him for a very interesting description of what East End work is like.

As a School Mission is now seriously contemplated, it is especially important that the School should know something of the nature of the work in which its Mission will probably be engaged; so that Canon Rowsell's graphic description has come at a most appropriate time, a fact which makes us appreciate his kindness all the more.

Obituary.

ON Wednesday, January 27, occurred the death of John Edward Cornwallis Rous, second Earl of Stradbroke, Viscount Dunwich, and Baron Rous of Dennington, Suffolk. The late Earl was born in 1794, and was sent to Westminster under Dr. Carey. He cannot have remained long at the School, as he entered the Coldstream Guards in 1810, in which regiment he saw service in the Peninsular War under Wellington, and was present at the battles of Salamanca, Vittoria, the Nive, and Nivelles, and the sieges of Burgos and St. Sebastian, as well as in many less important actions. He resigned his commission in 1817, but accepted a colonelcy in the East Suffolk Militia shortly afterwards, which he held till 1844. His connection with the School, however, did not cease when he left, as he held the office of Steward at the annual Westminster dinner in 1825, Earl Beauchamp and Count Alfred de Vaudreuil being among his colleagues. Two years after, in 1827, he succeeded his father in the earldom. He was not married till 1857, when he was already 63 years of age. His wife was the daughter of Sir Christopher Musgrave, Bart., of Eden Hall, Cumberland, by whom he had issue an only son and five daughters, who all survive him. For more than 40 years the late Earl had been Lord Lieutenant of the county of Suffolk and Vice-Admiral of the Coast. He was father of the House of Lords at the time of his death—an honour which now passes into the hands of Lord Eversley, who is only a few days his junior.

Westminster has lost another of its veteran *alumni*—perhaps the very oldest—by the death of the Rev. Charles Almeric Belli, who passed away at the Vicarage, South Weald, Essex, on January 5, 1866. He was born on December 8, 1771, and had thus exceeded his 'threescore years and ten' by no less than 24 years. He

had held the living of South Weald for 54 years when he resigned in 1877, and at the time of his death he had filled the post of Precentor of St. Paul's for as many as 66 years, though he had given up all active work in connection with this office for a long time. He continued, however, in good health till September last, when he had a paralytic stroke, from which he never entirely recovered, although he regained the use of his limbs. He celebrated his 94th birthday within a month of his death, and seemed then to be doing well, but soon after he was confined to his bedroom and gradually sank until he died from sheer old age. He was elected eighth into College in 1806, at the age of 13; and obtained fifth election to Christ Church in 1810, where he graduated B.A. in 1814. Shortly after this he took holy orders and became curate of Southend. His first living was that of Prittlewell, to which he was appointed in 1816. On resigning this living he was made rector of Paglesham and vicar of South Weald. He was brother-in-law to Dr. Howley, who was for some years Archbishop of Canterbury. His loss will be felt very keenly in the parts of Essex where he was known, and where his kindness and munificence had won him the esteem of all. The church and schools in his parish were rebuilt entirely at his cost, and the former was furnished with a fine organ by the same means. His bounty was not confined to his own parish, however; he spent £20,000 in building a church and parsonage at Bentley, and endowing the living, and restored the chancel of Bishop Stortford Church, besides sending an anonymous donation of £6,000 for the completion of a new church at Brentwood, the building of which was at a standstill from want of funds. All the local charities met with generous support at his hands, and his death will leave a blank in the district which it will not be easy to fill up.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

NOTE.

MENTION OF WESTMINSTER SCHOOL IN NOVELS.
—The following extract, taken from a novel entitled 'Ginx's Baby: his Birth and other Misfortunes,' may perhaps interest your readers:—'On the 10th of April following, the whole neighbourhood, including Great Smith Street, Marsham Street, Great and Little Peter Streets, Regent Street, Horseferry Road, and Strutton Ground, was convulsed by the report that a

woman named Ginx had given birth to a 'triplet,' consisting of two girls and a boy. The news penetrated to Dean's Yard, and to the ancient School of Westminster. The Dean, who accepted nothing on trust, sent to verify, the messenger bearing a bundle of baby clothes from the Dean's wife, who thought that the mother could scarcely have provided for so large an addition to her family. The schoolboys, on their way to Vincent Square, slyly diverged to have a look at the curiosity, paying sixpence a head to Mrs. Ginx's friend and crony, Mrs. Spittal, who pocketed the money and said nothing about it to the sick woman.'—ANTIQUARY.

QUERY.

Can any of the readers of the *Elizabethan* tell me what is the title of a book, mentioned in the life of Lord Albemarle, which appeared in these columns some time ago, which contains an account of his school days spent at Westminster?—ANTIQUARY.

REPLY.

THE CHAMBER OF THE CAPTAIN (*ante*, Vol. IV., p. 287).—The 'chamber of the captain,' mentioned in Stanley's Memorials of Westminster Abbey, we are sorry to say existed only in the imagination of the author of that interesting volume. The room which he referred to was, we believe, a room occupied by the Under Master before the erection of the house which is now inhabited by the Master of the Q.S.S., who, till quite recently, enjoyed that title as well. The mistake, doubtless, arose from the fact that the Under Master used often, though incorrectly, to be styled 'Præfectus,' a title which belonged by right to the Captain of the School, 'Hypodidasculus' being the proper appellation for the Under Master.

Correspondence.

SINGING IN ABBEY.

To the Editor of '*The Elizabethan*.'

DEAR SIR,—I have frequently noticed in the services in the Abbey on saints' days that there are very few, if any, of the town boys who join in the hymns or responses, which are consequently sustained by the Queen's Scholars alone, who, being only forty in number, cannot do this by themselves. There are several of the town boys who can sing well, and I think it is too bad that they should not join in the hymns. There are practises (*sic*) for them, and those who go to singing can have no excuse for not knowing the hymns.

Trusting that something may be done to excite the town boys to join more heartily,

I am, dear Sir,
Yours truly,
S. S. R. A.

[If, as our Correspondent seems to suppose, all the forty Q.S.S. sang the hymns and responses, the case would not be so bad as it actually is. We are sorry to say that not even the noble forty, 'all that was left of them, left of two hundred,' come up to the mark in the matter of singing, as there are very seldom more than ten of these who open their mouths; and we agree most heartily with S. S. R. A. that there is much room for improvement in this respect.]

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

To the Editor of '*The Elizabethan*.'

DEAR SIR,—It has been with feelings of deep regret that I have read the letters and statements in the more recent issues of *The Elizabethan* with regard to the disgraceful condition of the School Debating Society. Not allowing that the Society is in so bad a state as represented in the leading article of the December *Elizabethan*, yet it must be confessed that matters are not as they should be; and it cannot be denied that the Debating Society has somewhat fallen from its high estate. But every change has a cause—*what is the cause of the decline of the Debating Society?* I think the question may be very quickly answered in the following few words: *The apathy of the senior members of the Sixth to the proceedings of the Society.* Members of the Sixth are, I believe, *ex-officio* members of the Society, yet

how many members of the Sixth attend the meetings of the Society? One might almost count them on one hand. Could you not, through the medium of your paper, whose word in a matter of this sort would be most influential, persuade these gentlemen to favour the Debating Society with their presence, and give us not only their presence, but their opinions? I am sure the Debating Society would revive and become as popular as ever it was in the old days. Hoping this letter may awaken some compassion for the Debating Society among the minds of your readers, who must have been steeled against the Society by your scathing leader,

I remain,
Yours, &c.,
F. F.

We have been requested to insert the following:—

The Head Master having kindly given us permission to copy the admission books in his possession, we shall be greatly obliged by the loan or gift of any of the following:

1. Old School Lists of any date.
2. Early numbers of *The Elizabethan Club Reports*.
3. Back numbers of *The Elizabethan* paper.
4. The Obituary notices given at the Play, with the synopsis of the Epilogue.

Short biographical details of any Old Westminsters whose names do not appear in the 'Alumni Westmonasteriensis,' (1852) will also be gratefully received by—

G. F. RUSSELL BARKER,
New University Club,
S.W.,

or—

ALAN H. STENNING,
St. Stephen's Club,
S.W.

'ELIZABETHAN' ACCOUNTS, 1885-86.

Income.		Expenditure.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
O.W.W.	27 17 6	Paid to Spottiswoode . . .	47 13 0
Masters	3 8 0	National Society	0 10 6
Rev. W. G. Rutherford . . .	1 0 0	British Museum	0 10 0
College	8 12 0	Postage	4 11 8
Grants	4 14 6	In hand	16 13 4
Rigaud's	2 16 0		
Home Boarders	6 16 6		
Surplus from 1884	9 4 0		
Dean and Chapter	1 5 0		
Ashburnham House	1 16 6		
Debating Society	0 16 0		
Back Numbers	1 12 6		
	<u>£69 18 6</u>		<u>£69 18 6</u>

NOTICES.

All communications to the April number of *The Elizabethan* to be sent in by March 5th to the Editor, St. Peter's College, Westminster.

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

The yearly subscription to *The Elizabethan* is 4s. It is requested that all subscriptions now falling due, or not yet paid up, should be forwarded to J. E. PHILLIMORE, Treasurer of *The Elizabethan*. Post Office Orders to be made payable at the Victoria Mansions Post Office, Victoria Street.

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

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

Contributions cannot be inserted unless they are written on one side of the paper only.

Photographs of the cast of the 'Andria,' 1885, may be had on application to the Captain, St. Peter's College, Westminster, price 3s. each.