The Grantite



Review.

Nascitur exiguus,

vires acquirit eundo.

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EDITORIAL.

I N our last issue we adopted the plan of adding one page to the usual sheet; but the extra cost and trouble which it necessitated made it hardly worth while to continue this in the present number. We hope, however, soon to double the usual sheet, if an increase of readers allays the additional expense. [ED.

The question of the pronunciation of Latin has of late been copiously and exhaustively discussed in the daily papers, and, although the *Grantite Review* is not in the habit of borrowing subjects from this source, the importance of the subject to such a school as our own has compelled us to attempt to bring home to our readers the momentum of the question.

It is now many years ago that, at a meeting of the representatives of the great schools of England, it was decided that those institutions should adopt *en masse* the more modern and, it must be confessed, what seems the more reasonable mode of pronunciation. The spirit of the concourse, however, had been very half-hearted and lacked unanimity, and so it turned out in the end that the resolution passed, not without some amount of dissent and tacit disapprobation, was entirely ineffective. One or two colleges of the modern type which had been wavering in which path to follow, adopted the advocated reform; but the majority, and among them all the older schools, rejected or ignored it.

The Westminster Play, perhaps more than any other institution, has been the strong-hold of the old system; but the question now arises: shall we retain the original or must we recommence with the modern plan? The latter alternative, we fear, is not likely to commend itself very favourably to the minds of our readers at first sight, but, if regarded scrupulously from an unbiassed point of view it will be found more worthy of consideration than at first appears.

We beg to recall to our readers' memories the fact that not only is the modern method laid down in nearly all the leading Latin grammars, but is actually largely adopted, as may be seen from the fact that the majority of students at the Universities have been 'aught it. We will not attempt to solve this much vexed problem, but are content to leave it to the consideration of our readers.

THE PAST FOOTBALL SEASON

as far as Grants is concerned, has terminated in extremely satisfactory and exceptionally brilliant results. Grants has the rare distinction of not having left the field as the vanquished team once during last season in the Inter-House matches. In addition to this more than conclusive evidence of the merits of the team, there are some easy victories recorded over Rigauds and Home-boarders, such as Grants has great reason to be proud of, and the like of which she has seldom hitherto achieved over her worthy foes. Although the junior teams were not so successful as judging by their after play in the House XI, they should have been, yet their efforts were by no means to be despised, and showed unmistakable signs of the eminent qualities with which they were afterwards found to be imbued. The left wing of Grants XI. was unusually dashing and heavy, whereas the right did not depend so much on weight as on their fine dribbling powers and commendable passing.

The centre was of enormous service to the team, and kept the forwards well together.

These were ably backed up by the half-backs, who were the mainstay of the XI. The place of back on the left was occupied by our energetic and painstaking Captain, who was seconded by steady, but somewhat undecided play on the right.

Great praise is due to the goal-keeper, who played consistently well throughout the season.

We regret to state that five of the present members of the team are leaving this term; but though we fear that their loss will be distinctly felt, yet it affords opportunities for the younger and most zealous contingent,— which never fails to present itself when wanted, ---to immortalize themselves in the eyes of Grantites, by having their names inscribed on a well-won shield.

NOTES.

Grants has received only one additional member this term: C. B. Bruce, in the Under Fourth.

The final of the Yard Ties last term was won by W. N. Winckworth, F. P. Farrar and B. I. Southey, who beat E. G. Moon, C. Powell, and T. Henderson, by 10 goals to 5.

We beg to congratulate C. Erskine on the well-merited success which attended the performance of his Quartette at the School Concert. Indeed, the success of the whole concert may in a great measure be attributed to his untiring efforts on behalf of music at Westminster.

A magnificent Shield, presented by the Elizabethan Club, was hung at the beginning of the term on the walls of Hall, whose bareness it has succeeded in relieving to an eminent degree. It contains fifteen miniature shields in silver, which form a circle round the school crest. The Shield bears the words "Town Boys FOOTBALL CHALLENGE SHIELD," and below, "Presented by the Elizabethan Club," 1887.

The following members of the House have played for the school this term: J. G. Veitch, E. G. Moon, G. P. Stevens, R. O. Mills, and F. G. Oliver.

The number of events won at the beginning of this term in the Athletic Sports by Grantites is much greater than it has been for several years. This is chiefly owing to the exertions of J. G. Veitch and E. W. Woodbridge; Veitch was first in the Open Hurdle Race, the 300 yards over sixteen, and the open Quarter-mile, and second in throwing the Cricket Ball and throwing the Hammer. Woodbridge was first in the 100 yards under 16 and 15, the Long Jump under 15, the Quarter-mile under 15, and the Hurdle Race under 15. Dayson was second in throwing the Cricket Ball under 15, and H. D. Everington was first in the 150 yards under 13; Moon and Stevens were respectively first and second in the Consolation Race.

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The Grantite Literary Society will not continue its meetings this term.

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A. G. O. E. for unavoidable reasons has been unable to contribute another article on "Westminster Expressions" this month. We hope to be able to insert a continuation of the series in our next.

[The following critical remarks on A.G.O.E.'s article of our last, have been forwarded to us by an old Grantite.]

I am glad to see that your contributor A.G.O.E. does not expect everyone to know that "Chiswick" received its name in commemoration of "the exodus of the School to Chiswick at the time of the great plague:" as far as I can find out, there is no record of the migration on this particular occasion, though from the fact that the School was removed thither in 1569, 1603 and as late as 1657 it would seem no improbable supposition that this also happened in 1666. But surely "Chiswick" must have been built many years after that date; the very absence of any architectural features that would help to fix the period of its erection points to at least the early years of the eighteenth century, and we should hardly expect the memory of the migration to have been sufficiently vivid at that time to give a name to the new buildings.

The derivation that I see "Forshall" accepts, and which I have also heard in other quarters (before the publication of that work), was that the name arose from the studies having been built to provide accommodation for a School that removed from Chiswick to Westminster; this is not an isolated case of a school proceeding to Westminster *en masse*, instances being recorded of masters of private schools accepting the post of usher and bringing their pupils with them.

There is of course a great *a priori* temptation to connect the word with the prebendal house and sanatorium at Chiswick; and from this point of view another suggestion to that given by A.G.O.E. would be that "Chiswick" was built with monies derived from that estate; in that case it would have been from the rents of the period about 1700, when it seems not to have been in the occupation of the Westminster authorities; that it was built with the proceeds of the sale of the estate or of the lease is guite impossible, as the commutation is far too recent, and moreover the money is known to have been applied in quite another way. One other possible derivation will suffice ; that when Chiswick was built (whether as a sanatorium or otherwise) the retreat it afforded was likened by the then generation to the real Chiswick whither the preceding one had been used to retire.

As to the derivation of greeze: I feel little more inclined to accept A.G.O.E.'s suggestion than the very unsavoury one given by Forshall; "gressus" has been put forward as a candidate for the honour; may I propose "grex?" the sense seems exceedingly apt; and the phonetic changes involved do not seem more strained or unlikely than in the case of the alternatives.

E.C.T.C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Grantite Review.

DEAR SIR,--The author of the mainly well-written article on "Westminster Expressions," which appeared in your last issue, was not quite happy in one or two of his remarks.

For instance, he explained to us that Mon. Os., is an abbreviated form of Monitor Ostium. 'Ostium,' I take it, would be the genitive plural of some third declension noun, such as 'ostis.' Now, Sir, I have looked vainly for any such Noun; the writer must have meant 'ostiorum,' which comes, as an under-school boy could tell him, from 'ostium.' Again, it appears to me that the reviewer goes out of his way in conjecturing that 'scadger' is derived from 'scavenger.' How much more likely that an 's' was added on to 'cadger.' Hoping to be forgiven for these criticisms.

> I am, dear Sir, Yours very truly A. C. R.

To the Editor of the Grantite Review.

DEAR SIR,—I may be a very different person to the omniscient Schoolboy of Macaulay, but I never heard of T. B. Juniors; Juniors T. B. B. I know; but they are a very different thing, being all those liable to being fagged; and who moreover may not wear tail coats without special dispensation both magisterial and monitorial. All below the Upper V. were so called in my day, though different limits may have been assigned at other times when the arrangement of forms was different; *e.g.* in Williamson's time, some trouble seems to have been caused, by fellows in the IV. being fagged, the under school in those days being amply large enough for that purpose.

amply large enough for that purpose. Those whom X. Y. Z. would call T. B. Juniors I have heard called by several designations and should not like to prefer one to another. I fancy Lord Albemarle speaks of himself as a Fag, if the rule that antiquity means purity is to be applied.

I remain yours, Y. Z. X.

To the Editor of the Grantite Review.

DEAR SIR,---If Grants possesses among the members of 'Chiswick' any one sufficiently unpatriotic in spirit, and degraded in mind, to write such a letter as you allowed to appear in your last publication, the sooner that person ("Chiswick") is put out of his misery, the better for the community in general and "Grants" in particular. To kill two birds with one stone, I may perhaps be allowed to call attention to a short (thank goodness!) letter by X. Y. Z. He (or the printer) is ignorant of the plainest rules of punctuation; and he had better learn them at once, for his letter as it stands is not intelligible to any Christian. But this is not the worst part of the production. "Town Boy Juniors" is not a term recognized at Westminster at all, and no common-sensed person will be persuaded that it is, even on the authority of that lovely production—Westminster Past and Present.

Yours &c., A. O. C.

To the Editor of the Grantite Review.

DEAR SIR,—I observe that in your last number a correspondent inveighs against the fortnightly Concerts of the Glee Society. He informs your readers that they are most unpopular.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating," and certainly the School appears to me and others to consume its musical refreshment with infinite pleasure. Are the enthusiastic "encores," and appreciative roars of laughter, those of fellows who would not attend the Concerts unless they were practically obliged to? Is it not extraordinary that a crowd should always gather about the School doors to examine the programme of this most unpopular "Wednesday Pop?" Further, I have noticed that for days together these Concerts have been made the subject of general conversation, that the jokes of readers and reciters at them are done to death; and that the songs are caught by ear, and retained in the memory for some time.

If these be the signs of the unpopularity of Glee Society Concerts, then it is time for these Entertainments, imperfect, it is true, but got up with infinite trouble, to be abolished. But in these cases the School must be its own mouth-piece; and neither your correspondent nor 1 can hope to influence the decision of the many.

I am, dear Sir, &c., ORPHEUS.

NOTICES.

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