



# The Elizabethan.

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## THE SCHOOL CHOIR.

It is greatly to be regretted that, though for the last six years much has been said and written about the inefficient way in which the School Choir perform their duties, there should still be so much room left for improvement as to call down such sweeping censures as are contained in the letter of F. L. A. T., which we publish this month among our Correspondence. Our Correspondent says—and we fear that there is only too much truth in his statement—that, on the occasion of the usual early service in the Abbey on the morning of St. Luke's Day, a large portion of our so-called Choir did not so much as attempt to join in the chants, which must have been perfectly familiar to the whole School; and we ourselves noticed that a general silence prevailed in too many places among the seats where members of the Choir were posted. The cause of this phenomenon we are at a loss to divine. The only reasonable solution that presents itself is, that considerably more than half the Choir had caught cold, the result of imprudent exposure of themselves to the autumn blasts during

the Sports in the earlier part of the week, and that, consequently, they had lost the small amount of voice which they can generally boast of at 8 o'clock A.M. Unless they were troubled by an extraordinary amount of diffidence and distrust of their own abilities, or perhaps by a fear of disturbing the harmony of the performance by an undue amount of croaking, the not very probable reason above quoted is the only answer that presents itself to the much vexed question, 'Why doesn't the Choir sing?' which, by the way, must now be changed to 'Why doesn't the Choir try to sing?'

The answers that have been given to the first of these two questions are manifold. Some have advocated that the Choir, instead of being separated from the rest of the congregation, should be mixed up among them; trusting that thereby those who are not members of the singing classes may be induced to join in the singing. Others (and we think with reason) object to this; stating that the inevitable result of the adoption of this suggestion would be, that no one would ever sing at all; a consummation which at present appears likely to be arrived at without the

previous trouble of altering the existing arrangement of seats. Some complain of the chants, others of the pointing; some think that the Choir should have opportunity given them of practising with an organ accompaniment; but none have ever given or attempted to give a reason why the Choir should not open their mouths. There are the two old and threadbare complaints, viz. that many prominent members of the singing classes are Homeboarders and cannot therefore put in an appearance at the early services, and that, owing to the earliness of the hour, the voices are never in good condition; and we admit that in both of these complaints there is a certain amount of truth; but the fact of the first of them being true, though it certainly is discouraging, does not exculpate those members of the singing classes who *can* be present; and if voices in the early morning have a tendency to be rough and to sink in pitch, surely that is all the more a reason that the Choir should strive to do their uttermost.

A really sensible letter appeared in our columns a few months back, which contained some practical advice on the subject of these Saints' Day Services. The writer, who was evidently well acquainted with the difficult nature of the subject which he was discussing, offered three suggestions to the consideration of the authorities: (i) that all the chants selected should range over a small compass; (ii) that the hymn tunes should be well-known tunes, also ranging over a small compass, and not continuously at the upper part of that; (iii) that *all* the music should be sung in unison. This last suggestion is, we venture to think, one that should be immediately and unhesitatingly adopted; for if it is adopted, doubtless many more non-members of the Choir would join in the singing, and thereby a certain amount of noise would be obtained, which, as our correspondent remarks, is not the case at present. It is certainly ignominious that the efforts of the Choir should be directed to no more lofty aim than that of making a noise; but there seems to be a fatality which haunts the singing on Saints' Days and renders it impossible for the Choir to presume to aspire any further. That there is no real lack of singing power in the School, the Annual School Concert testifies; but the vocalists who figure on the programme as *soprani, alti, &c.* appear, like the swan, to possess the power of song at one period only of their existence. It is much to be wished that a certain amount of *esprit de corps* could be got up in the Choir, or that some distinguishing privilege could be granted to its more prominent and hard-working

members. The present state of things is lamentable in the extreme, and there appears to be no immediate prospect of any improvement. If the Choir allow this feebleness to continue, people will soon begin to doubt the expediency of having a Choir at all.

And we do not wish, by anything that we have said on this subject, to induce those who are not members of the Choir in any way to triumph over those who are; for, in our opinion, the non-members of that body are quite as much to blame as its members are for the feebleness of the singing at the School services. Most non-members of the Choir, if asked why they do not try to do something to help that much abused body through the service, will promptly reply that they cannot sing. If asked whether they have ever tried to do so, they will probably look foolish and reply in the negative. If asked whether they ever try to join in the responses, they will probably change the conversation as speedily as possible. The fact is, that even less attention is paid to the responses than to the singing; and, as the whole School is answerable for this, surely they have no right to throw stones at the Choir. Not to the Choir alone, but to the whole School do we appeal, that our services may be made a little more worthy of a Public School.

## 'OLD WESTMINSTERS.'

### No. II.

THE REVEREND PHILIP HENRY, M.A.

#### *Concluded.*

ON December 15, 1647, Philip Henry commenced his University career at Oxford, entering as a Commoner of Christ Church College, where Dr. Samuel Fell, who died in 1648, was then Dean, and where he, in conjunction with his fellows of the same election, was placed under the tutorship of Mr. Underwood, a gentleman of much learning and ingenious resource. His godfather, Lord Pembroke, had given him ten pounds, wherewith to pay his fees, purchase a gown, and commence his academical life. In March 1648 he was admitted student of Christ Church by Dr. Henry Hammond, a celebrated man, who was at that time Sub-Dean. The Earl of Pembroke was the doctor's godfather as well as Henry's; so the two called each other godbrother. In April of that year the Parliament determined to make a visitation of the University and appointed certain of their members to the office. These visitors put one and the same question to every person in the colleges who might be possessed of any place of profit: 'Will you submit to the power of the Parliament in this present visitation?' The answers were to be delivered in writing. Philip Henry's reply was as follows: 'I submit to the



power of the Parliament in the present visitation, as far as I may with a safe conscience, and without perjury.' This answer satisfied the visitors, and, considerably assisted by the influence of Lord Pembroke, he was permitted to retain his studentship. The result of the visitations affected the position of many University authorities. Dr. Fell was removed, and Dr. Edward Reynolds, afterwards Bishop of Norwich, was appointed Dean in his place. Dr. Hammond and all the Canons, with one exception, were displaced. Henry's tutor having also been one among those removed, an 'Old Westminster,' Richard Bryan, took Henry into his companionship and interested himself much in the advancement of his studies. Philip Henry, by his own showing, did not devote himself with sufficient ardour to study; but we have the evidence of others to prove that, as a matter of fact, he always bore his part well in scholastic contests. Henry declared that he lost much time by following other pursuits than those of study, and he ascribed this failing to the fact that, having just left Westminster School, he found himself superior in learning to others who had received their primary education at other places. In the year 1649, on that fatal January 30—a day no loyal Briton can think of without bitter regret for the deed that made it famous, when the enemies to themselves and their country, those traitors, the hirelings of Cromwell, crowned their course of iniquity with the shedding of Royal blood—young Henry, being on leave from Oxford, was present in front of the scaffold at Whitehall and witnessed the foul murder. Let us quote his own relation of the incident:—'At the latter end of the year 1648 I had leave given me to goe to London to see my father; and during my stay there, at that time, at Whitehall, it was, that I saw the beheading of King Charles the First. Hee went by water to Westminster, for hee took barge at Garden-stayres, where wee lived, and once he spake to my father, and sayd, "Art thou alive yet?"

'On the day of his execution, which was Tuesday, January 30th, I stood amongst the crowd in the street, before Whitehall Gate, where the scaffold was erected, and saw what was done, but was not so near as to hear anything. The blow I saw given, and, can truly say, with a sad heart.' There was an incident noticed by Henry to which historians have not been wont to make much allusion, viz.—when the fatal blow was given, there arose from the multitude, as it were by consent, a dismal and universal groan—no doubt occasioned by the iniquity of what can only be regarded as an infamous murder. In 1650–1 Henry took the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and proceeded in December 1652 to the higher dignity of M.A. In the January following he preached his first sermon at South Hinksey, in Oxfordshire. At the University Henry was noted, not only for his great learning and ability, but also for his extraordinary modesty and humility. In July 1653 he was selected from all the masters of that year to be junior of the act—that is, to answer the philosophy questions in *Vesperis*, which, we are told, he did with very great applause; especially for the very witty and ingenious orations which he made to

the University upon that occasion. His questions were: '1st. *An licitum sit carnibus vesci?*—*Aff.* 2nd. *An institutio academiæ sit utilis in republicâ?*—*Aff.* 3rd. *An ingenium pendeat ab humoribus corporis?*—*Aff.*' At the act in 1654, he was chosen *Magister Replicans*, and answered the philosophy questions in *comitis* with similar applause. His questions on this latter occasion were: '1st. *An melius sit sperare quam frui?*—*Neg.* 2nd. *An maxima animi delectatio sit a sensibus?*—*Neg.* 3rd. *An utile sit peregrinari?*—*Aff.*'

There is in existence, among the poems published by Oxford University to celebrate the conclusion of peace with Holland in 1654, a copy of Latin verses in print, which prove that Henry, their author, was as much a poet as he was known to be an orator. When Henry had taken his Master's degree, he, at the instance of one Francis Palmer, student of Christ Church, accepted a tutorship in the family of John Puleston, Serjeant-at-Law, one of the Judges of the Common Pleas, who resided in the parish of Worthenbury, a little town situate by the river Dee in that Hundred of Flintshire, which, being separated from the Welsh portion of the county by some miles, having its language and customs English, although itself pertaining to Wales, was known as the 'English Mailors.' This curious allotment lies between Cheshire and Shropshire, for the most part. The conditions under which Henry accepted this offer were: to take the charge of the Judge's sons, to preach once at Worthenbury on Sundays, to undertake the charge for one half-year, and to receive diet and sixty pounds per annum salary. At the time he entered upon this new life, September 1653, Henry was but twenty-two years of age. That his preaching and the influence of his good example during his ministrations at Worthenbury produced good effect may be gathered from a passage in a letter written to him by Lady Puleston, which is here quoted: 'Most are loath to part with you; and you have done more good in this half-year than I have discerned these eighteen years.' When his half-year's probation was concluded, Henry was most earnestly and affectionately requested by Judge Puleston to continue his ministry at Worthenbury; and, being assured that such was the express desire of the community, Henry accepted the invitation. The Judge, in 1657, at his own expense, built a very handsome house in Worthenbury for the residence of Henry, and settled it upon him by a lease, dated March 6, 1657, for a term of sixty years, if he should remain at Worthenbury as minister for such space of time. It was not until September 16, 1657, that Henry was ordained. The way and manner of his ordination was in accordance with the directory of the Assembly of Divines and the common usage of the Presbyterians. His examination prior to ordination was of a very searching character. He was tested as to his knowledge in Hebrew and Greek; examined in Logic, Natural Philosophy, and Divinity; and proved as to his skill in expounding the Scriptures. In every matter Henry completely satisfied his examiners, and was accordingly ordained. Henry laboured for some eight years at Worthenbury, endearing himself during that period to the hearts of all with whom he came

in contact, and earning the approbation of his fellows. His practice was to give a tenth part of his income to the poor, to make himself thoroughly acquainted with all in his parish, and to do his best in the improvement of all things and persons. On September 29, 1658, Lady Puleston died; and on the 5th of the same month in the following year the Judge also departed this life, to the deep regret of their valued friend Philip Henry.

In March 1659 he was earnestly invited to accept the Vicarage of Wrexham, in the gift of the Bishop of St. Asaph; and in the same year a considerable living was offered him near London; but he refused both opportunities of worldly advancement. About this time the Quakers commenced to disturb the ministrations of Henry, but their evil disposition was unable to work harm to him, or obtain from him the notice they desired to attract. As an instance of the spirit entertained by the Quakers of that day, I quote an anecdote bearing upon the question. A debauched gentleman, being in his revels at Malpas, in Cheshire, drinking and swearing, was, after a sort, reproved for his conduct by Baddely, a blacksmith and leader of the Quakers in the district, who was in his company. 'Why,' said the gentleman, 'I'll ask thee one question: Whether is it better for me to follow drinking and swearing, or to go and hear Henry?' Baddely answered, 'Of the two, rather follow thy drinking and swearing.'

In 1658, it should have been observed, Mr. Henry and other ministers in the neighbourhood opened a correspondence with the ministers of North Wales, and arranged meetings for the purpose of forming an 'Association,' modelled after the fashion of similar societies in England. No one rejoiced more than Philip Henry when the Restoration of the kingly power in the person of Charles II. was an accomplished fact, an event which occurred in April 1660. Touching upon this subject, Henry said: 'While others rejoice carnally, Lord, help thy people to rejoice spiritually in our public national mercies.'

We are told regarding this Divine's preaching, that he was not given to dwelling long upon a text, holding that one sermon upon many texts was better than many sermons upon one text; and we learn also that he was wont to preach in a fixed method, and linked his subjects in a sort of chain; adapting his method and style to the capabilities of his hearers' understanding, and fetching his similitudes for illustration from those things which were most familiar to them. His delivery was excellent, graceful, and agreeable to his listeners. His notes that he used in his sermons were copious and legible; but he advised, and himself practised, an enlargement upon notes, and an avoidance of the strict following of such in preaching. In the year of the 'Restoration' Henry married Katherine, the daughter and heir of Mr. Daniel Matthews, of Broad Oak, in the township of Iscody, in Flintshire, but in the parish of Malpas, in Cheshire. Mr. Matthews was possessed of a considerable estate, and was at first opposed to the marriage, but his objections at last gave way. Six children were born of this marriage—John, Matthew,

Sarah, Katharine, Eleanor, and Ann. The eldest, John, died of measles when he was but six years old. In September 1660 those troubles commenced to cross his path which have made the name of Philip Henry stand forth so pre-eminently as that of one of the greatest of the Nonconformists. In that month Mr. Henry, together with Mr. Fogg and Mr. Steel, were prosecuted at the Flint assizes for not reading the Common Prayer in their churches; although at that time such reading was not enjoined. This prosecution, or persecution, failed; and in November Philip Henry took the oath of allegiance before Sir Thomas Hanmer and two other justices at Overton, in Flintshire. His refusal to read the Common Prayer was made an excuse by the owner of Emerald, where Henry had spent so many pleasant days, to withhold his annuity, and the eminent Nonconformist was by this reduced to such poor circumstances, that we find in his diary a note to this effect: 'January 31st, 1661. Things are low with me in the world; but *threepence* left.' After some time a hundred pounds, which formed but a portion of the arrears due of the annuity, was given him, on condition he would surrender his deed of annuity and his lease of the house where he lived; and so, in September 1662, he lost all that had been bestowed upon him by the liberality of good Judge Puleston. From that time he became known as of Broad Oak, and not of Worthenbury. On Bartholomew's Day 1662 Henry became a declared Nonconformist, as he then refused to subscribe to the Act of Uniformity. To the year 1665 he lived at peace; but in that year the Royal Aid Commissioners for Flintshire determined Nonconformists to be laymen, and imposed upon them certain laborious and unclerical posts. On Lady Day 1666 Nonconformist ministers were forbidden, under pain of imprisonment, to approach within five miles of any corporation, or any place where they had been ministers. Broad Oak was within that distance of Worthenbury; so, in 1667, at the commencement of the year, Philip Henry and his family had to fly for safety's sake to Whitchurch, in Shropshire. For some time he did not attempt to preach, but confined his ministrations to private celebrations of the Sacrament among his family and a few friends; but in February 1668, he commenced his Nonconformist ministry publicly by preaching in Betley Church, in Staffordshire. One General Egerton, to his eternal shame, having given a false account of Mr. Henry's practices to the House of Commons, that House petitioned King Charles to order the law to be put into execution against the Papists and Nonconformists. The effects of this petition not immediately reaching Philip Henry, he, in May, ventured to return to Broad Oak, where he remained for twenty-eight years, preaching during that time with certain interruptions. This Divine preached the first sermon in North Wales ever preached under the royal licence accorded to Nonconformists. Space will not permit our dwelling at any further length on the topic of Henry's preaching. As an instance of the persecution endured by Philip Henry and his followers, we may refer to the fact of his having been



fined by certain country justices to the amount of forty pounds for preaching at a place called Werton, in 1681. He refused to pay this fine, and his goods were distrained upon; but Chief Justice Jeffries upheld his cause, and pronounced the proceedings of the magistrates to be illegal and very cruel. In 1688 he was nominated Justice of the Peace for the county of Flintshire, but he declined the proposed honour. In the following year, William III. being seated on the British throne, the 'Toleration Act' was passed, and by its provisions Nonconformists ceased to be treated like wild beasts or infidels. It is impossible to compute the amount of good wrought in England by Philip Henry's ministrations and steadfast adherence in practice to the faith he professed. England can well be proud of such sons, and reverence the memory of the names of the two Henrys—Philip and his son Matthew, the celebrated commentator. Of the many eminent Divines who were educated at Westminster, the name of the old School Captain, Philip Henry, will not be the first to grow dim or lose its brilliancy in the eyes of those who come after.

He died on June 24, 1696, aged 65. On a marble monument over his grave in Whitchurch Church is the following inscription, in which it will be seen that the fact of his education at Westminster is noticed:—

M.S.

Philippus Henry, de Broad Oak, in Comitatu Flint, A.M. Sacri Minister Evangelii; Pastor olim Worthenburiensis; In Aulâ Regiâ natus piis et honestis Parentibus; Scholæ Westmonasteriensis, indeq. Ædis Christi Oxon. Alumnus Regius: Vir priscâ Pietate et verè Christianâ, Judicio subacto et limato, Memorîâ præstanti, magno et fecundo Ingenio, Eruditione perpolitâ, summo Animi Candore, Morum Venustate Imprimis Spectabilis, et in Exemplum natus: Cui Sacra semper sua Fides aliorumque Fama: Divini Numinis Cultor assiduus; Divini Verbi Interpres exquisitissimus; Aliorum Affectus movere non minùs pollens, Quàm suis moderari: Conscionando pariter ac Vivendo palàm exhibens Christi Legem et Exemplar Christum: Prudens peritusque rerum; Lenis, Pacificus, Hospitalis, Ad Pietatis omnia Charitatisque officia usque paratus; Suis Jucundus; Omnibus Humanus; Continuis Evangelii Laboribus succumbens Corpus, nec tantæ jam par ampliùs Animæ, In Dormitorium hic juxtâ positum demisit, Jun. 24°. Anno Dom. M.DC.XCVI. Ætatis LXX.

Posuit hoc marmor in veris lachrymis  
Katharina conjux viduata.

## THE ATHLETIC SPORTS.

OUR annual Athletic Sports came off this year on Wednesday and Thursday, October 15 and 16, the late play for the Busby Trustees being given on the second day. The clerk of the weather was pleased, after three days of dense fog just before the Sports, to send us two fine days in the very nick of time. Though they were fine, they were cold, the first day bitterly so; and the wind, which was very high on both days, must have affected the times of the mile and other races.

H. Curteis, O.W., kindly consented to act as starter, and A. B. Cartwright, O.W., and F. Whitehead, O.W., as judges; their services, it is needless to say, were most valuable. The Rev. W. Bedford, O.W.,

was also present on both days, and kindly gave us his assistance. The vacant place on the Committee was filled by H. N. Robson. The order of events as printed on the card was slightly altered on the second day.

The following is an account of the proceedings:—

### FIRST DAY.—OCTOBER 15.

#### 1. THROWING THE CRICKET BALL. UNDER 15.

R. A. Brown won this event with a throw of 73 yds. 6 in., two inches short of last year's throw. M. R. Bethune obtained second place with a throw of 72 yds. 2 ft. 6 in.

1. R. A. Brown; 2. M. R. Bethune.

Bethune strained his arm badly at his last throw.

#### 2. FLAT RACE. ONE MILE. OPEN TO ALL. CHALLENGE CUP.

De Sausmarez led off at a good pace, closely followed by W. A. Peck, and Squire just in front of the ruck; W. Stephenson being last of all. Half-way round the first lap Peck and Squire passed De Sausmarez; but the former soon after giving up, Squire finished the first quarter well in front of the field in 60 $\frac{3}{4}$  seconds, and then gave up himself, leaving De Sausmarez with the lead, Adams running second. The field had already tailed off, and W. Stephenson, who was quickening his pace, caught and passed De Sausmarez when three-quarters round the second lap. De Sausmarez here gave up, and W. Bury and G. Stephenson ran into second and third places respectively. In this order the second quarter was finished in 2 min. 30 sec. Half-way round the third quarter Langhorne ran into third place; the order now being, W. Stephenson, W. Bury, J. Langhorne, G. Stephenson. The third quarter was finished in 4 min. W. Stephenson at once quickened up and gradually drew well away from the rest; on entering the straight for the last time he was leading by about ten yards, followed by W. Bury, behind whom were G. Ogle, Markham, and Langhorne, all level, and it looked at this moment as if there would be a very close race for third place; but Langhorne collapsed just before reaching the straight, and Ogle spurred pluckily past Markham, whom he beat by two yards, the order of the finish thus being:—

1. W. Stephenson; 2. W. Bury; 3. G. Ogle;  
4. C. J. Markham. Time, 5 min. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$  sec.

Stephenson won by 15 yards; Bury being about 8 yards in front of Ogle. We may safely suppose that the high wind made considerable difference in the time; but we were disappointed that Stephenson did not do the distance under 5 minutes, as it is the third consecutive time that he has won this race.

#### 3. THROWING THE CRICKET BALL. OPEN TO ALL.

This was an improvement on last year's performance. There was a high wind at the time; blowing, however, across, and not straight down the line of throw. The result was:—

1. Robson; 2. F. C. Ryde. Distance 93 yds. 10 in. Four threw.

## 4. FLAT RACE. 100 YARDS. UNDER 15.

A large field of 28 started for this. Lynch led off, and won by a yard and a half. Scoones was second and Wilbé third, a yard separating them.

1. Lynch; 2. Scoones; 3. Wilbé. Time,  $12\frac{3}{4}$  sec.

## 5. LONG JUMP. OPEN TO ALL. CHALLENGE CUP.

Stuart-Edwards, last year's winner, was the favourite for this event; but De Sausmarez proved to be in form, and beat him by eight inches.

1. H. W. De Sausmarez; 2. J. M. Stuart-Edwards; 3. Coke. Distance, 18 ft. 9 in., an improvement of 1 ft. 5 in. on last year's jump. Eight jumped.

## 6. FLAT RACE. 440 YARDS. UNDER 16.

Jeffcock trotted to the front immediately and won as he liked. Horne was second, and Scoones was third, five yards behind. Munro would have been third if he had not fallen two yards from home.

1. Jeffcock; 2. Horne; 3. Scoones. Time,  $62\frac{3}{4}$  seconds.

## 7. HURDLE RACE. 100 YARDS. EIGHT FLIGHTS. OPEN. CHALLENGE CUP.

1st heat: 1. W. F. G. Sandwith; 2. Stuart-Edwards; time,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  seconds. 2nd heat: 1. Squire; 2. Beaumont; time, 17 seconds. 3rd heat: 1. De Sausmarez; 2. Burridge; time,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  seconds.

In the final heat, which was run off on the next day, De Sausmarez got off with a good start, and, leading throughout, won easily. Sandwith was second, and a grand race for third place between Edwards, Squire, and Beaumont resulted in favour of the first-named by six inches.

1. De Sausmarez; 2. W. F. G. Sandwith; 3. Stuart-Edwards. Time,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  seconds.

## 8. HIGH JUMP. UNDER 15.

This event was won by Crowdy, who cleared 4 ft. 1 in., the same as last year. Scoones and Rogers tied for second place at 4 ft.; but, in jumping off, Scoones did 4 ft. 1 in., and secured the second prize. Unfortunately, H. W. Waterfield, who won this event last year, and who might have competed this year as far as age was concerned, was prevented from doing so by an unlucky accident which he met with about a fortnight before the Sports came off. Had he been able to come to the scratch, he would have been safe for the first place.

1. Crowdy; 2. Scoones. Height, 4 ft. 1 in.

## 9. FLAT RACE. 300 YARDS. UNDER 14.

This is generally an interesting race, and this year it proved no exception to the rule. Sutherland, who last year was victorious in the under 13 competition, secured first place pretty easily; but J. M. Dale and Winstanley, after a really good struggle, ran a dead heat for second place. In running off on the next day, another grand race resulted in a second dead heat; but a third attempt was more successful, and Dale won a good race by two yards.

1. Sutherland; 2. J. M. Dale; 3. Winstanley. Time, 45 seconds.

## 10. HIGH JUMP. OPEN TO ALL.

W. Sandwith, who had in practice on the previous day jumped 5 ft. 4 in., was a warm favourite. De Sausmarez, however, won with a capital jump of 5 ft. 3 in. This height has only been once surpassed at Westminster, when in 1864 F. Giles cleared 'the extraordinary height of 5 ft. 6 in.' Sandwith was second, with a jump of 5 ft.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in., and Coke third, 5 ft.

1. H. W. De Sausmarez; 2. W. F. G. Sandwith; 3. Coke. Height, 5 ft. 3 in.

## 11. FLAT RACE. HALF-MILE HANDICAP.

This event was a novelty, and we think on the whole a successful one. Out of seventy entries forty started. The limit was 120 yards, and W. Stephenson was scratch, the handicapping being entrusted to some members of the Committee. Reece (80 yards) went off at a good pace, and easily catching all in front of him, led all through the last lap and won by 10 yards from Stuart-Edwards (10 yards), who beat W. Stephenson by about 8 yards. Scratch ran very gamely throughout.

1. G. H. Reece; 2. J. M. S. Edwards; 3. W. Stephenson. The time was 2 min.  $16\frac{1}{2}$  sec.; not particularly good.

## 12. FLAT RACE. 100 YARDS. UNDER 16.

This was another benefit for Jeffcock, who won in a canter. A very close thing for second place.

1. Jeffcock; 2. H. T. Clarke; 3. C. R. W. Heath. Time,  $11\frac{3}{4}$  sec.

This concluded the first day's programme.

## SECOND DAY.—OCTOBER 16.

The weather continued fine, and was warmer than on the first day. There was still considerable wind, especially during the morning.

## 1. THROWING THE HAMMER. UNDER 16.

1. Whiston, 73 ft. 7 in.; 2. H. T. Clarke, 71 ft. Four threw. Not a very brilliant performance. Neither Whiston nor Clarke apparently thought it worth while to throw in spikes.

## 2. HALF-MILE WITH HURDLES AT THE END. OPEN. CHALLENGE CUP.

Squire started off at a great pace, closely followed by W. Stephenson, G. Stephenson, Langhorne, and G. Ogle; W. W. Bury being last but one. This order was maintained to the end of the first lap, which Squire finished in  $60\frac{1}{2}$  seconds, about 30 yards in front of everybody else, and immediately gave up. Half-way round the second lap, Bury spurted and caught up all except W. Stephenson. Coming to the hurdles, the order was, W. Stephenson, W. W. Bury, Langhorne, Markham, and G. Ogle, all pretty close together, Rumball and Sikes a little behind. This year the hurdles proved too much for Stephenson; he hit the first and fell at the second and third. Before the second hurdle Bury passed him, and going on in good form, won by three yards; Langhorne, who ran with great judgment, was second; and G. Ogle was third, about five yards behind. Stephenson gave up after



his second fall; Markham fell at the first hurdle, and Rumball stopped at the fourth. Sikes came in fourth, a little behind Ogle.

1. W. W. Bury; 2. Langhorne; 3. G. Ogle. Time, 2 min. 35 sec.

### 3. LONG JUMP. UNDER 15.

Eighteen jumped, some well, some badly, some in a manner peculiar to themselves.

1. Wilbé, 14 ft. 7 in.; 2. A. L. Rogers, 14 ft. 5½ in. A considerable improvement on last year's jump.

### 4. FLAT RACE. 150 YARDS. UNDER 13.

1. Phillimore; 2. Ritchie; 3. Winstanley. Time, 20 seconds. Phillimore led the whole way, and, running well, won easily. A dead heat for second place between Ritchie and Winstanley, when run off, resulted, after a good race, in the victory of the former by two yards.

The next event was the final heat of the Open Hurdle Race, which we have noticed above.

### 6. FLAT RACE. 100 YARDS. OPEN TO ALL. CHALLENGE CUP.

This was considered a certainty for Stuart-Edwards. De Sausmarez got a good start, and led the way for a little, but Edwards soon caught him up, and won by a yard and a half. De Sausmarez was second, just in front of Squire, who was third. J. Frere was next.

1. J. M. Stuart-Edwards; 2. De Sausmarez; 3. Squire. The time was 10¼ seconds, the same as last year's.

### 7. FLAT RACE. UNDER 15. CHALLENGE CUP.

Brown was a hot favourite at starting, but Forster soon showed to the front and won with tolerable ease, having led at least three-quarters of the way. Scoones entered the straight second, but was passed by Wilbé about 30 yards from home.

1. Foster; 2. Wilbé; 3. Scoones. Time, 66½ sec.

### 8. POLE JUMP. OPEN TO ALL.

This event was won easily by E. T. H. Brandon, who jumped in decidedly the best form, though the height which he succeeded in clearing was nothing very extraordinary. It is only fair to mention that he had hurt his arm a few days previously. R. H. Coke was second, and Terry was the only other competitor.

1. E. T. H. Brandon; 2. R. H. Coke. Height, 7 ft. 9½ in.

### 9. THROWING THE HAMMER. OPEN TO ALL. CHALLENGE HAMMER.

This resulted, as was expected, in an easy victory for Owen, who won the Challenge Hammer last year, and who threw in decidedly good form. This year's performance was 8 feet better than last year's.

1. R. S. Owen; 2. F. G. Clarke. Distance, 75 feet.

### 10. HURDLE RACE. 100 YARDS. OVER 8 FLIGHTS OF HURDLES. UNDER 15.

There were three preliminary heats, which were decided as follows:—

Heat 1: Scoones 1; Crowdy 2. Heat 2: Wilbé 1; Blackett 2. Heat 3: Brown 1; Forster 2.

In the final heat Forster went off with the lead, with Brown, Wilbé, and Scoones close up; but Brown by a terrific spurt just managed to breast the tape in front of Wilbé, with Forster a good third.

1. Brown; 2. Wilbé; 3. Forster. Time, 17½ sec.

### 11. FLAT RACE. 440 YARDS. OPEN TO ALL. CHALLENGE CUP.

Winners of the Mile and 100 yards excluded.

From Squire's previous performances in the Mile and Half-mile, it was expected he would be an easy winner. As soon as the word 'go' was given, W. Sandwith rushed off with the lead, which he maintained until within a few yards of the winning post, where Squire, who had been considerably hampered in the ruck, came with a rush and just managed to reach the tape before Sandwith. The order was:—

1. Squire; 2. W. Sandwith; 3. F. G. Clarke. Time, 60¼ sec.

### 12. TUG OF WAR.

The Tug of War was next decided. As last year, it was between twelve Q.SS. and twelve T.BB. The latter maintained their superiority of last year, winning two pulls out of three, amidst great cheering from their partisans.

### 13. OLD WESTMINSTERS' RACE. 120 YARDS.

For this race there were about eight starters, much fewer than usual. The two Bedfords and H. Leggatt were in front throughout, victory resting with C. Y. Bedford, who won by about 2 yards, Leggatt being second.

1. C. Y. Bedford; 2. H. Leggatt. Time, 13¼ sec.

### 14. CONSOLATION RACE. 300 YARDS. Winners excluded.

The number of those seeking consolation was very great; but W. A. Peck, last year's winner, was again this time an easy victor. He led from start to finish, winning as he pleased. Sikes was second, and Frere third.

1. W. A. Peck; 2. Sikes; 3. J. C. Frere. Time, 38½ sec.

Mrs. Farrar, who had kindly consented to give away the prizes, then presented the victors with the rewards of their labours, amidst the accustomed plaudits; and we gladly avail ourselves of this opportunity of again thanking the masters for their donations to the prize list. Three cheers were then vociferously given for Mrs. Farrar, for whom the Rev. Dr. Scott arose to return thanks, in a speech which was, as usual, short and to the point. He alluded in feeling terms to the recent melancholy death of W. Ritchie, one of the most prominent athletes in the School, and concluded by proposing three cheers for the Old Westminsters, whose assistance had been so valuable to the School. These were given as heartily as they ever are, and the proceedings terminated, without the customary Old Westminster oration and cheers for the ladies present; for which omission, not being altogether certain whom to blame, we will blame no one.

## FIELDS.

THE Football Season opened, as usual, this year on October 8, with the XI. and XXII., and, after a good game, ended in favour of the latter by one goal to none. From the very commencement of the game it was apparent that the Eleven would have to act on the defensive, as the Twenty-two were unusually strong; but no advantage was gained on either side until Squire, by a long kick from full back, got the ball between the posts, owing to some misunderstanding between the goalkeeper and one of the Eleven backs, shortly before time was called. For the XXII., Reece, W. Stephenson, and Crowdy were prominent, while the backs also did their share of work. For the Eleven all the forwards had enough to do, and were well backed up by the half-backs, who played remarkably well throughout.

### THE ELEVEN.

H. C. Benbow (capt.); W. F. Sandwith (goals); H. N. Robson, F. G. Clarke (backs); A. C. Whitehead, R. C. Batley (half-backs); F. W. Janson, W. A. Burridge, C. Ingram, F. W. Bain, and W. W. Bury.

### THE TWENTY-TWO.

T. D. Rumball (capt.); Sikes, Reece, W. Stephenson, G. Stephenson, M. Petrocochino, Scoones, Squire, and Stuart-Edwards (backs); Tepper, H. S. Jones, F. C. Ryde (half-backs); Crowdy, Heath, W. L. Benbow, Wetton, Higgins, Brandon, Hoskins, Foster, Fulcher; Adams (goals).

### NINE v. FIFTEEN.

This match was played on Wednesday, October 22, and, after a well contested game, resulted in favour of the Nine by two goals, kicked by Burridge and Janson, to one kicked by W. L. Benbow. At first the Nine had it all their own way, and soon had two goals to their credit; but just before half-time the Fifteen rallied and scored a goal. After change of ends nothing further resulted, although the Fifteen strove hard to avert defeat. For the Nine Janson and Benbow were of great use, and the half-backs were again good, while for the Fifteen nearly all the forwards worked hard, and especially Reece and Bain, but their back play left much to be desired.

### THE NINE.

H. C. Benbow (capt.); W. F. S. Sandwith (back and goals); H. N. Robson (back); A. C. Whitehead, R. C. Batley (half-backs); F. W. Janson, W. A. Burridge, C. Ingram, W. Stephenson.

### THE FIFTEEN.

T. D. Rumball (capt.); A. A. Sikes, G. Stephenson, F. G. Clarke, and J. Squire (backs); F. C. Ryde, Tepper, Stuart-Edwards (half-backs); Bain, Bury, Petrocochino, Scoones, W. L. Benbow, G. H. W. Reece, and F. C. Crowdy.

## WESTMINSTER SCHOOL v. UPTON PARK.

This, our first foreign match of the season, was played in beautiful weather, at Vincent Square, on Saturday, October 25. The weather was exceptionally fine, and the ground in capital condition. Their team was an exceedingly hot one, and possessed more weight than ours, but did not seem to be in so good condition. Westminster won the toss, and left the choice of goals to the visitors, who chose the Hospital goal. The ball was started at about 3.24, and was taken down to the Upton goal. Bastard, however, got well away with it, and took it close down to our goal, but Hunter being clearly offside, the goal which he obtained was disallowed. After this the game was hotly contested by both sides. Several very near tries were made at either goal; on their side by Hunter and Bastard and on ours by Benbow and Stephenson. On ends being changed the School penned their opponents, but a very fine run by E. C. Bambridge relieved their goals. Ingram then made a good run, passing it to Benbow, who, however, just missed the posts. Shortly after this Benbow, by a smart piece of play, passed the ball on to Burridge, who in turn crossed it to Janson, and a splendid shot by the latter secured first goal for us. This was at 4.25 P.M., and five minutes later, W. C. Williams, out of a loose scrimmage, sent the ball between the Westminster goals, hitting one of the posts in its passage. This equalised matters, and it seemed likely that no other alteration was going to take place; each goal escaped narrowly several times, and it was only as time was being called that Mitchell, by a good shot, decided this hotly contested match in favour of Upton Park by two goals to one. For the winners, Hunter, Bastard, Williams, and Mitchell played well, while Bambridge and Hodgson among the backs did useful service. On the side of Westminster, Benbow and Janson were the most conspicuous among the forwards, and Burridge and Stephenson at times did good work; while among the backs generally the form was much above the average, Whitehead (half-back) being especially brilliant. The sides were as follows:—

### UPTON PARK.

C. Warner, captain (goalkeeper); A. H. Ward and W. Bouch (backs); E. C. Bambridge and C. Hodgson (half-backs); E. Williams and T. B. Hunter (right wing); W. C. Williams and C. Mitchell (centre); S. R. Bastard and F. L. Woolley (left-wing). E. H. Bambridge, umpire.

### WESTMINSTER.

H. C. Benbow (captain) and C. Ingram (centre); H. N. Robson and F. G. Clarke (backs); R. C. Batley and A. C. Whitehead (half-backs); W. A. Burridge and G. H. W. Reece (right wing); F. W. Janson and W. Stephenson (left wing); W. F. G. Sandwith (goalkeeper). J. M. Stuart-Edwards, umpire.

## THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

THE first meeting of the Society this term was held on October 9. The motion was 'That the conduct



of Lieutenant Carey at the time of the death of the Prince Imperial has been unjustly censured.'

H. C. Benbow (mover) said that Lieutenant Carey's conduct did not violate martial laws or social usage. The Zulu war was a species of guerilla warfare, and therefore, according to Sir Garnet Wolseley's note-book, Lieutenant Carey was justified in riding off before the Prince gave the word to mount. Lieutenant Carey's horse took fright, and its rider, who, as is well known, did not excel in horsemanship, lost all control over the animal, and was unable to help the Prince to mount. Lieutenant Carey, moreover, was not in command, and so is exempt from all blame.

F. G. Clarke (seconder) contended that it was some one's duty to ride off with all speed to headquarters to carry information of the surprise. This Lieutenant Carey did. In his opinion, no fuss would have been made if the Prince had not been killed; but it was thought necessary to make someone the scapegoat of the national grief and indignation.

H. R. James (opposer) said that Lieutenant Carey ought to have stood by the Prince like a British officer; he was no doubt placed in extraordinary circumstances, but his conduct ought to have been equal to the circumstances.

S. Bere attributed cowardice to Lieutenant Carey; he galloped off to save his life.

E. C. Bedford contended that Lieutenant Carey thought the Prince was mounted, and he was no more to blame than the other troopers.

The House then divided :

Ayes .....	20
Noes .....	3

No meeting was held on Thursday, 16th, as it was the second day of the Athletic Sports; but on the 23rd H. W. De Sausmarez moved 'That clergymen ought to be admitted into Parliament.' He said a clergyman's knowledge of the wants and sufferings of the poor ought to make him a useful member of the House of Commons. Clergymen used to sit in the House of Commons; bishops sit now in the House of Lords. Nor was the impecuniosity of the clerical profession any hindrance. There were rich as well as poor clergymen, as there were rich and poor soldiers. Yet officers in the army had seats in Parliament; why should not clergymen? If clergymen confined themselves to their profession, well and good; but, as they do not, let them go into Parliament, where their experience in public speaking ought to stand them in good stead.

F. G. Clarke (opposer) maintained that clergymen have quite enough to do in looking after the welfare of their parishes. Parochial duties would often necessarily be neglected while the clergyman was away in Parliament. He considered a clergyman would be of far more use in his parish than in Parliament.

H. C. Benbow did not see why clergymen, who, as a rule, are well-read men, should not be of use in Parliament. He thought only wealthy retired rectors would care to go into the House of Commons; but they would be learned men, and as such might be useful.

After a few remarks from S. Bere and A. A. Sikes, W. A. Peck left the chair, and in a humorous speech pointed out how unsatisfactory the results had been when ecclesiastics had mixed in politics. To admit one would be to admit all, Ritualists, Nonconformists, Wesleyans, Methodists, Unitarians, &c. The result would be a perpetual wrangling on Church views, compared with which Irish obstruction would be a trifle. The Bishops did not often avail themselves of their privilege of mixing in public business, and when they did one was often tempted to wish they had not. If a man has the power, will, and time to go into the House of Commons he ought not to go into the Church. Superannuated vicars and rectors, in his opinion, would not be of much practical use in the House.

A. A. Sikes took objection to the state of things described as likely to exist in the House of Commons if clergymen were admitted.

H. C. Benbow denied the practical uselessness of superannuated vicars and rectors in Parliament.

The House then divided :

Ayes .....	4
Noes .....	17

Two rules were then passed *nem. con.*, and the House adjourned.

### School Notes.

WE are glad to hear that in College, that place of many reforms, a reform is at length imminent, concerning the advisability of which there can be no controversy. The gold letters of the Captains' Tablets, the more ancient of which have become almost illegible through age, are shortly to be regilded, on the suggestion of an Old Westminster, who has kindly offered to defray the expense. These tablets are supposed to have been put up shortly after the new Dormitory came into use, i.e. about 1732, by William Morice, Bishop Atterbury's son-in-law, who was admitted into College in 1705, and whose son, Francis Morice, stood at the head of the list of the admissions for 1736. The name of Warren Hastings on the third tablet is now only legible at an early hour in the morning, when the sun shines on it through a window immediately opposite; and the names on the two first tablets are not to be deciphered, as, owing to their position, the light never falls on them at all.

Another novelty has lately dawned upon the Westminster world in the shape of small cards of a pink tint, containing a list of the Football fixtures for the coming season; in which we notice several blank days. We hope these cards will become an institution.

The Ireland Prize for Latin Verse has been awarded to W. A. Peck, Q.S. The Shell Prize was awarded to H. W. C. Baugh, Q.S. The subject was Mount Sinai.

The two vacancies in College, caused by the departure of G. G. Aston and C. J. Markham, have been filled up by the election of H. R. Crouch and E. R. Ellis, the latter *ab extrâ*.

We are desirous of correcting an error into which our Cricket Correspondent fell when he stated in our August number that Westminster had not defeated the M.C.C. since 1851. Our last victory over that club, before the present year, dates from 1871.

The subject for the Gumbleton English Verse this year is 'Poets' Corner.' Exercises to be given in before St. Andrew's Day.

We omitted in our last number to notice the result of the Lawn Tennis Ties, which were finished on the last night of last term, the winning pair being C. V. Wilks and G. Stephenson. The majority of the games were extremely uninteresting to outsiders, though two or three pairs showed good form.

We see that E. V. Arnold, B.A. of Trinity, is one of the Editors of *The Cambridge Review*; a journal of University life and thought, which was started at Cambridge at the beginning of this term. E. V. Arnold is not new to editorial duties, as he occupied the onerous post of editor of *The Elizabethan*, at Westminster, during the year 1874.

The Sports are over and we trust that they were a success; but while we tender our hearty thanks to the Old Westminsters who were so kind as to give us their assistance on the Sports days, we cannot help commenting on the fact that this year Old Westminsters as a body seemed rather remiss, inasmuch as not a quarter of the usual number of starters came to the post for the Old Westminsters' Race, and, shocking to relate, not one O.W. could be found to deliver the customary 'neat and appropriate speech,' at the conclusion of which three cheers for the ladies are called for; which time-honoured institution was in consequence entirely omitted—a most unconstitutional proceeding. It is consoling to reflect on the coming generations of neat and appropriate speakers which are now being nurtured in the bosom of the Debating Society.

### Obituary.

WE regret to have to announce the death of Mr. William Jerrold Dixon, who died suddenly, of heart disease, at Dublin, on Monday, October 20. He had been acting as secretary to the Royal Sanitary Commission, and had only concluded his work in that post on the Saturday previous to his death. He was the eldest son of Mr. Hepworth Dixon, and was educated at Westminster, having been admitted into College at Election 1863. He left in 1867.

### Our Contemporaries.

WE acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following magazines for October:—*The Blue*, *The Blundellian*, *The Carthusian*, *The Cliftonian*, *The Felstedian*, *The Malvernian*, *The Marlburian*, *The Meteor*, *Our School Times* (Foyle College, Ireland), *The Radleian*, *The Rossallian*, *St. Andrew's College Magazine* (Grahamstown, South Africa), *The Tonbridgian*, *The Ulula*, *The Wellingtonian*, and *The Wykehamist*.

*The Blue* commences with the well-known and inevitable 'Editorial.' The subjects of the ten debates for this term are already settled and published, as they should be at Westminster. Accuracy and eloquence ought to result from so long a time for preparation.

The October number of *The Blundellian* is very amusing. The editors have received, or perhaps composed, a curious contribution, entitled 'In Memoriam 1883.' This is given as a specimen of what the rising generation of poets can do. It is a dirge on the desertion of the old buildings at Tiverton. The elisions in this verse remind us of Greek Iambics:—

'I have travell'd o'er th' Ocean,  
I have gallopp'd o'er th' Plain,  
I have come to Tiverton for Th'  
Sake of greeting you all Again.'

There is something very touching in the next. Here it is *punctim et literatim*:—

'Amidst Sarah's parched and air'd wilds  
Blundell's schollars will e'er (be) found  
On far off Kamskatchk'ass frozen ground  
Or traversing, Ocean, Mountain, (and) Dell.'

There is an odour of 'humbug' about the whole. As each verse is accompanied by a running commentary of the editor's, we are fain to ask, with Hermione, in 'Winter's Tale,' 'Which is the veriest wag of the two?' The poet Close and his outpourings are, so to speak, nowhere after this.

*The Carthusian* gives a retrospect of the school events of the last year. An aspirant—in both senses of the word—having lent a 'limp' watch to a young lady 'for one short hour,' and finding that 'he' went (note the gallantry of the personified watch), as those things have a habit of doing, by the way, writes some lines about it all. To change the subject, we are reminded in the leader that it is just seven years since Charterhouse left London.

*The Cliftonian* contains a good poem on 'Peace.' The verses are of a quality rarely found in a school paper. There are some notes upon the Afghan War, written—as most letters are from young Old Boys—in very colloquial English.

Some lines from the pen of Lieutenant Hamilton, who was an O.F., appears in *The Felstedian*. The article on 'Puffs' is well written: Puffs, by the way, being advertisements like those which assert that 'Antifat' is nothing more or less than 'Antifat,' a fact which it takes a column of a newspaper to prove. There is nothing in 'H.M.S. Beacon' that we do not find in other accounts of sea voyages. The writer, however, observes truly, 'that the jealousy of the Spaniards at the English occupation of Gibraltar approaches the ridiculous when the governor of the Spanish town of Algeciras, on the other side of the bay, is entitled "Governor of Algeciras and Gibraltar," then in brackets ("now in temporary possession of the English").' *Beati possidentes!*

There is a pleasant variety in *The Malvernian*. We get an insight, too, into Malvern life and manners from the advertisements at the end—of everything, from an 'anatomical' boot-maker to a birdcage. The lectures on Old Types must have been interesting in their way; but the lecturer speaks of *discovering* metal types and the block system of printing as if they were planets or theorems.

*The Marlburian* opens with seven columns on the match with Rugby, in which the latter school won by 97 runs. The description of the chaos that existed—if chaos can be said to



exist—at the foundation of the school in 1843 is most entertaining. As the new community were ignorant of each other's physical powers, the test of battle was often necessary, we are told. Let us hope a few besides the fittest survived. The way boys paired off and fought their way up the school is suggestive of racquet ties. Also in the beginning there seems to have been several rival cricket clubs—which 'didn't know' one another—amongst the fellows.

*The Meteor* is devoted to school news, with the exception of a notice 'In Memoriam' of the late Mr. Tupper, *quondam* drawing-master at Rugby. A diagram of the cricket averages is magnified so as to fill an entire page.

*Our School Times* rejoices over certain successes gained in the 'Intermediate Examinations,' whatever they are.

Shorn of the details of the R.B.C. and the Debating Society, *The Radleian* hasn't much to say for itself; the remainder being a weak leader on Examination, and sundry school notes. Turning to the Correspondence, we notice that 'Venator' proposes that a pack of beagles should be started at Radley. Well, we could tell fine stories about the Westminster pack, in the days of Purslow and Cobbler Tom, and when the kennels were the kitchen of No. 1 Vincent Square, —, were we fifty years older.

In a leader on French, *The Rossallian* wants to prove that one can't acquire a language by going to the country and conversing with the natives. The account of the writer's mistakes and misfortunes is certainly amusing; but one is inclined to ask, 'Whose fault was it?' It seems odd that the Captain of the Cricket XI. and the Captain of Cricket should not be identical; but this is the case at Rossall, unless either of the aforesaid dignitaries airs an *alias*. The symbols XL. and LXXX. at football likewise appear quaint.

Following the fashion now becoming prevalent, the Editor of *St. Andrew's College Magazine* gives some 'Echoes' from English school papers. The legend of St. Andrew is quite up to the recognised standard of doggerel—something about a coffee kitchen. We are not *altogether* pleased with such lines as the following:—

'Till at length one arose, and his words they were few:

"Many sticks there is shelter within, (*sic*)

And Mocha with poker makes very good brew,

With milk at a shilling a tin."

The Notes on Boxing are good and practical, and end with the remark that 'an amount of bloodshed could have been saved if only Sir Garnet and Cetewayo could have settled the Zulu war with an amiable round at the gloves'—a somewhat undignified proceeding.

*The Tonbridgian* flourishes from a pecuniary point of view. *The Elizabethan* does not; we don't mind saying so; but we have no dividends or shareholders, and so we are 'passing rich' on our balance of half-a-crown.

The Manchester Grammar School 'organ' has, as many of our readers know, an owl, or an heraldic apology for that bird, on its cover; and, *à propos* of the title, there are three other school magazines with ornithological names, viz. *The Pelican*, *The Ousel*, and *The Allesley Lark*. One expects to find stores of learning in *The Ulula*. Here is an article on Ciphers and Cipher Writing—curious in the extreme. A turn for mathematics is displayed by the author of 'A Visit to Castleton.' For instance, an episode of the excursion is described as follows: 'Twenty-five cold spots had been felt by twenty-five noses, and twenty-five minds began to realise the important and melancholy fact that it was raining!' We are reminded seventeen times in the course of six pages that the party of 'science-loving youths' were twenty-five in number, 'beside elders.' The record of the honour certificates gained by Mancunians during the past year occupies eight pages. We congratulate them. But an ominous silence about school games of any sort.

The 'Cameos of School Life' in *The Wellingtonian* promise to be good, to judge from the first: 'The Lower School Boy.' We should like to reprint the strictures on the 'pert' specimen

of the class, but for their length. We fancied we detected an old friend in the expression 'A conceited fellow is never, *well, hardly ever*, without a certain degree of popularity.' Let us be thankful for small mercies: we have been spared the 'What, never? No, never!' part of the business.

Some time ago Cleopatra's Needle was being 'done' into verse of all sorts and styles, readable and unreadable—chiefly the latter. Now Rorke's Drift and Isandula are having their turn. We refer to some one hundred and five Latin lines on this theme in *The Wykehamist*. They are very good as far as scansion goes, but construing them is a difficult matter. There is nothing extraordinary in the rest of the paper.

## Correspondence.

*To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'*

DEAR SIR,—I was looking over some of the back numbers of *The Elizabethan*, and came across a letter in Vol. II., No. 2, in which W. proposes that the names of the members of the Football Eleven should be put in the Bat Room 'up fields,' as well as those of the Cricket Eleven.

Surely, as W. says, Westminster has as much reason to be proud of her Football as of her Cricket. Apologising for trespassing on your valuable space, and hoping that this letter will not be altogether useless, I am, yours &c.,

C. D.

[Correspondents never need be uneasy about *our* valuable space; but how about the valuable space in the Bat Room?—Ed. *Eliz.*]

*To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'*

SIR,—I have a grievance, and a long-standing grievance; a grievance that has often figured in your columns before without producing any amendment or alleviation; but, as the stony rock is hollowed by drops of water, so I trust that, by perpetual grumbling, my grievance may be to a certain extent reduced in size. To come to the point, Sir, I mean—the Saints' Day Services.

On St. Luke's Day I had ample opportunity of observing the faces of the choir; I regret to say that I could not form an equally accurate opinion of their voices. I have often seen it stated in your columns that the choir cannot sing at these early morning services; I never remember to have read that the choir will not try to sing, though that complaint has been made against individual members; but on St. Luke's Day I observed that large groups of the choir literally *never opened their mouths*. Further comment is needless.

Accurate and tasteful singing is, I fear, yearly becoming more and more hopeless; but I should like to see the choir at any rate doing their best to make a noise. Hoping that my letter may not make the choir too vociferous,

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. L. A. T.

*To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'*

DEAR SIR,—Although, as far as my experience goes, no rational being makes suggestions through your truly 'valuable' columns with the slightest hope of their fulfilment, the exigencies of the case compel me to repeat a proposal which I once had the hardihood to make. I beg therefore to bring before the notice of the authorities the expediency of having the football ground roped off for foreign matches. The advantages of a rope running round the ground about three yards from the line of play are too self-evident to need enumeration. A white line or some other simple, and not too expensive means of marking the boundaries of the 'play' is perhaps a luxury; but our luxuries are few; might not this be added to their number?

As I am half afraid that what I have already written will be consigned to the waste-paper, or, at any rate, be lost in oblivion in the inconsiderate pages of *'The Elizabethan,'*

I beg to subscribe myself,

Yours truly,

QUIP.

*To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'*

DEAR SIR,—The Play is in prospect, and will doubtless, a few weeks hence, draw its accustomed crowds of spectators to the Dormitory. Many of these spectators, whether they belong to the School or not, will be able to follow the course of the plot with tolerable accuracy; but the small boys in the gods, who are not sufficiently high up in the School to read the *Trinummus* in form, will doubtless find the performance waxing rather tedious after the first hour or so; as, even if they can catch the import of a sentence here and there, the majority of them must be utterly in the dark as to the meaning of what is going on before their eyes. Could not the plot of the play be briefly explained to them before the first night? It could do them no harm if it did them no good, and would not take up much time.

Yours truly,  
X. Y. Z.

*To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'*

SIR,—The Debating Society has entered upon another session, and appears, colloquially speaking, to be alive and kicking. I find, however, on examining the Secretary's book, that only half-a-dozen notices of motions for this session have been given; and as some of these have already been disposed of, the supply of debateable matter seems to be in serious danger of running short. I have no doubt that this danger is one very unlikely ever actually to be realised; but would it not be possible, at the beginning of next term, to issue a regular list of motions for debate during the ensuing session? I think that this arrangement, if it could be brought systematically to work, would do much both to increase the interest taken in the debates and to

ensure a higher degree of eloquence and accuracy than the present system can.

Trusting that my suggestion may find favour in the eyes of the members,

I beg to subscribe myself,  
Yours truly,  
M. P.

#### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All contributions for insertion in the next issue of *The Elizabethan* must be sent in before November 24, to the Editor, S. Peter's College, Westminster.

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

The yearly subscription to *The Elizabethan* is, as usual, 4s.

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[Floreat.]