



The Elizabethan.

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HOW IT STRIKES A CONTEMPORARY.

WE were much struck the other day, when reading an American school magazine, with the vast difference between it and that of the ordinary English school; and though we must confess to an insular prejudice in preferring the soberness of THE ELIZABETHAN and its contemporaries to the high-sounding title and the gorgeous rhetoric of our American friend, yet we consider that the English school paper is capable of very great improvement. The methods of different schools are instructive. We have in our mind one paper bedizened with numerous advertisements, which have always been a mystery to us. Do the advertisers really get a return for their money? It seems doubtful if the average

schoolboy is ever influenced by the most meretricious arts of the modern poster, much less by a humble notice in his school magazine. As they are mostly of tradesmen of the town, old boys cannot benefit much. No, they remain an insoluble problem. We have seen one publication in the windows of a bookseller's shop in a university town—surely showing remarkable enterprise on the part of its editors. As the number of former members of that particular university, we conclude that the editors have unlimited faith in their high standard of literary excellence, and hope to induce the omnipotent British public to recognise it also.

These are exceptions. The best magazines appeal to the patriotism generally of their subscribers, not to their literary or commercial inclinations. Failing patriotism, they try per-

sonalities, usually with success, till authorities cruelly step in and put an end to the duel. Let us remember the awful fate of Southey and the *Flagellant*. The school editor is usually smitten with a desire to emulate the *Isis* and the *Granta* and their weekly witticisms. The most successful of these attempts that has yet come to our notice is one which is not the recognised school organ, but which we should imagine enjoyed quite as large a circulation in the school at any rate. Its name was the *Hittite*, and it hailed from Charterhouse. It did not belie a possible derivation of its name, and hit hard and often, but always, so far as we were able to judge, in a kindly manner. Its personalities were outspoken, and its 'interview' with (say) the Captain of Football was a capital piece of satire. We fear Westminster would not support such a paper. It was not long ago that an appreciative account of a then prominent member in the School was prepared for THE ELIZABETHAN. The victim, however, vetoed it, and thus lost for ever his chance of being handed down to posterity in the pages of that famous periodical.

We are sure that at the present time Westminster contains many notable persons, whose tastes and characters the world would delight to read of and imitate. Why do they hide their light under the proverbial bushel? Why not begin a series of 'Embryo Westminster Worthies'? THE ELIZABETHAN would indeed form materials not only for what is already a veritable *κτῆμα ἐς ἀεί*, but for what is far more interesting, an *ἰγόνισμα ἐς τὸ παραχρήμα*, which we may be allowed perhaps to paraphrase a present-day literary squabble, in which, above all, those excellent qualities self-restraint and courtesy may be paraded for the edification of an admiring public.

WESTMINSTER WORTHIES.

NO. 57.—NATHANIEL LEE.

(Continued from p. 348 ante.)

THE next tragedy produced by Lee, and the first which he wrote mainly in blank verse, was 'The Rival Queens; or, Alexander the Great.' My first acquaintance with

this tragedy was made, I blush to own, through the medium of 'Beatson's Greek Iambics'; and if that charming but unequal work is still, as it once was, the bane of the Shell and a large proportion of the Sixth, I can refer my readers to it for one of Lee's most celebrated scenes; but in case it has been superseded, I will quote one speech of Clytus—

Your father, Philip. I have seen him march
And fought beneath his dreadful banner, where
The stoutest at the Table would ha' trembled:
Nay, frown not, Sir; you cannot look me dead,
When Greeks join'd Greeks, then was the Tug of War,
The labour'd Battel sweat, and Conquest bled.
Why should I fear to speak a Truth more noble
Than e'er your Father, Jupiter Ammon, told you?
Philip fought Men, but Alexander Women—

as an example of Lee's lofty strain under the—it must be owned, unaccustomed—restraint of sense and taste. This tragedy long kept the stage, partly because of the almost unique opportunity it offers for two tragic actresses of equal merits and pretensions in the parts of Roxana and Statira: especially was the rivalry of Oldfield and Bracegirdle in these parts memorable in the history of the English stage. But Alexander is bombastic even for Lee, the uncomplaining temper of Clytus is rather too much paraded, and to a modern reader the "sesquipedalia verba" in which Cassander and his fellow conspirators lay their schemes are more likely to provoke a laugh than any more serious sentiment, especially when they are interrupted by the gratuitous and ineffectual appearance of King Philip's ghost; so as a whole 'The Rival Queens' can scarcely be ranked among its author's masterpieces.

We should be more inclined to bestow that compliment upon "Mithridates, King of Pontus," which was produced in the next year, if the theme were not so unpleasant; but the father who robs *both* his sons of their intended brides to marry the ladies himself, is guilty of a want of originality in ill-doing which to a critic is less excusable than the selfishness of his conduct. But the English stage possesses few more truly dramatic scenes than that in which Semandra meets her lover Ziphares on his return from a victorious campaign, she being conscious that Mithridates is concealed to overhear their interview, and has vowed that at the first sign of tenderness towards Ziphares which she displays he will give order for his guards to slay the prince. The struggle in Semandra between the instinct of love and the reasoning love which takes into consideration the loved one's danger, and the surprise of Ziphares at the coldness of his beloved, soon passing into angry reproaches, are painted with great truth—or perhaps we should say, never having been in a similar position ourselves (a fact which critics are rather fond of forgetting when they talk of truth to nature)—with all the appearance of truth. In his dedication to this play, Lee claims that he has tried to mix Shakespeare with Fletcher; and though we cannot claim for him that he possessed either the matchless stagecraft of the latter, or the imitable imagery of the former, yet we must confess that the

mixture is no unpalatable one. 'Mithridates' was afterwards revived by a company of royal and noble amateurs in the Banqueting Hall of the Royal Palace, the Princess Anne taking the part of Semandra. But from all that we know of the Queen whose goodness and mortality have become equally proverbial, we may be permitted to doubt whether she had intelligence enough to give a very satisfactory reading of the part.

The same year, Dryden, who had already supplied Lee with several prologues and epilogues, invited him to collaborate in a version of the 'Œdipus' of Sophocles. The joint adapters cannot be justly charged with discounting the favour of the public, for the whole theme of the prologue is that the play is too good in Greek not to be a success in England. The audience are cautioned at some length not to condemn themselves by disliking a play whose popularity has lasted two thousand years—

Now should it fail, (as Heav'n avert our fear)
Damn it in silence, lest the world should hear ;
For were it known this Poem did not please,
You might set up for perfect Salvages—

which theory rather begs the whole question. For the 'Œdipus' of Lee and Dryden is assuredly not the 'Œdipus' of Sophocles, albeit—my pen hesitates, but, as the Editor is not responsible for the opinions of his contributors, I will continue boldly—not inferior as an acting play. Kreon as a Theban Richard III. with hunch complete, Adrastus and Eurydice—as passionate a pair of lovers as even Lee ever set hyperbolising, but carefully to be distinguished from the mythological celebrities of the same names—Alexander, Diocles, and Pyraemon, the inevitable conspirators, can scarcely claim Hellenic parentage—and the scene in which Teiresias evokes the spirit of Lajas is from Seneca, not from Sophocles. But the *ειρωμεία* of the original is preserved in all its intensity, and the whole tragedy—but for the unspeakable horror of the theme—might well retain its place on the boards. Perhaps such natural passages as Eurydice's speech—

Death only can be dreadful to the Bad :
To Innocence, 'tis like a bughbear dressed
To frighten children ; pull that off his mask,
And he'll appear a Friend—

are rather Dryden's than Lee's : and yet that cannot confidently be affirmed, because, in ranting, the elder could as far outdo the younger poet as Hamlet outshoots Laertes. This play was produced at the Duke's Theatre ; but the disputes it produced with the King's company are for Dryden's biographer rather than Lee's to deal with. We should be sorry to impute ill motives to an O.W. unjustly ; but we cannot help suspecting that Dryden got Lee to collaborate with him, in order to find a plausible excuse for evading his contract with the King's players, whom he certainly treated rather badly.

Lee's next play, 'The Massacre of Paris,' was obviously inspired by the Popish plot ; its date is fixed by the allusion to the Habeas Corpus Act in

the epilogue. Lee had anticipated Mr. Pickwick's sound advice—always to shout with the mob, and if there were two mobs, to shout with the larger. The larger mob in 1679 was Protestant, and Lee shouted with it lustily. The massacre of St. Bartholomew afforded him a most seasonable topic, and it is easy to imagine with what a roar of delight the whole piece must have been followed, from the prologue's allusion to the France of Louis XIV.—

Where weak divines by strong dragoons confute—

to the dying words of the repentant Charles IX.—

For ever damn to Hell those cursed designs,
That with religion's face to Ruin tend,
And go by Heav'n to reach the blackest end—

which must have been as spark to tinder to an audience fresh from accepting the wildest fictions of Oates and Bedloe. Lee evidently trusted to his Protestant zeal to carry off all defects in his work, for in none of his plays is the plot looser ; indeed, we know one scene was borrowed bodily from the unfinished 'Duke of Guise.' None of his heroines talk quite as wildly as Marguerite de Valois, and none of his ghosts—though he was always singularly unhappy in his phantoms—is quite as invisible as the Genius who attempts to check the sanguinary excesses of Charles. Having made capital out of the intolerance of Rome, he next attacked her corruptions in 'Caesar Borgia.' Here again he seems to have trusted to the Protestant sympathies of his audience to condone any failings in the play—not that horrors were lacking—and the arch-villain Machiavel disinterestedly wicked, with not even a hopeless passion for the heroine, as in modern melodrama, to spur him on, is an incarnate fiend by whose side Goethe's Mephistopheles would look innocent and guileless. But the principal character is a little too unstable of purpose, and the careless manner in which he gets poisoned by the wine he intended for his guests is only worthy of an imbecile.

'Theodosius,' first produced in the year 1680, was the last of Lee's plays to keep the stage, though why it should have been longer-lived than his other tragedies is rather difficult to conjecture. The rivalry of the friends Varanes and Theodosius for the beautiful Atheneis, pursued with such scrupulous delicacy on both sides, seems not less unnatural than the persistence of the lady in marrying the one whom she does *not* prefer ; and the underplot of Pulcheria and Marsian is designed in the spirit of the lines—

'Twas all very well to dissemble your love,
But why did you kick me downstairs ?

In the following year, 'Lucius Junius Brutus' was prohibited by the Government, at the instance of Lord Arlington. We can only conclude that the play was marvellously altered between performance and publication, because, as it now stands among Lee's works, there is hardly a line which by any exercise of

ingenuity can be twisted into a comparison of the Tarquins to the Stuarts, which was the ground on which the authorities interfered. Cibber, in his *Life of Lee*, complains bitterly that such a fine tragedy was, in his time, no longer to be seen on the stage. But neither language, plot, nor characters show Lee at his best.

The same year witnessed the production of the 'Princess of Cleve,' Lee's one comedy, or, at least, the only play in which he is content with a single death. It is no harsh criticism to say that the whole of the Restoration drama does not contain a more thoroughly disgusting play. Students of Wycherly may feel inclined to demur on the ground that it is impossible that their favourite author could have been surpassed in his own line; but as the reading of Lee's comedy would be too violent a corrective for their error, we will only say that the principal character seems to have been drawn from the second Duke of Buckingham, which will sufficiently indicate the character of the piece. There is a curious passage in the first act. The death of a certain Count Rosidore, who has no connection with the plot, is announced, to which Nemours answers—

Then we may say
Wit was, and Satire is a carcase now—

and after some further remarks—

'He was the Spirit of Wit—and had such an art in gilding his failures, that it was hard not to love his faults. He never spoke a witty thing twice, though to different persons; his imperfections were catching, and his genius so luxuriant, that he was forced to tame it with a hesitation in his speech to keep it in view.'

The resemblance of the name and the description of its bearer leaves us no choice but to conclude that we have here a tribute to the memory of the witty and licentious Rochester, who died in the preceding year—but the appearance of an obituary notice in a play is certainly anomalous.

In 1682, Dryden and Lee collaborated again in the 'Duke of Guise,' which is from first to last a political manifesto against the Exclusion Bill. The prologue written by Dryden owned as much—

Our play's a parallel : the Holy League
Begot our Cov'nant : Guisardo got the Whig.

Guise is Monmouth; King Henry, Charles II.; and Henry of Navarre, the Duke of York. The contemporary Tory judgment of the Prince who afterwards lost his crown for his religion is well set forth—

I know my brother's nature : 'tis sincere
Above deceit, no crookedness of thought—
Says what he means, and, what he says, performs,
Brave, but not rash; successful, but not proud.

Arch. Some say revengeful.

K. Some then libel him :

But that's what both of us have learnt to bear,
He can forgive, but you disdain forgiveness.

The politics of the 'Duke of Guise' created considerable uproar, and Dryden published a 'Vindication' of the play, in which he ascribed the main share of the authorship to Lee. Lee's politics had changed considerably since 'The Massacre of Paris,' but he probably felt with Artemus Ward, 'Prinserpuls—I ain't got no prinserppuls—I'm in the show business.'

Lee's last tragedy, 'Constantine the Great,' was produced in 1684. The Tories were in the ascendant still, so he assailed the Whigs in his epilogue—

They believe not the last plot, may I be curst
If I believe they e'er believ'd the first.

The play is well up to the level of Lee's work, and contains no indications of the melancholy fate which was soon to overtake its author. For Lee's mind—never a very well ballasted one, to judge by his writings—became unhinged, partly, it is to be feared, in consequence of the excesses at which Rochester hinted, and he was confined in Bedlam. Here a cruel rival insulted him by the question, whether it was easy to write like a madman. 'No,' was the well-merited retort, 'but anyone can write like a fool.' On another occasion while in Bedlam, the poet was annoyed by a cloud passing across the face of the moon, and was heard to exclaim, 'Jove, snuff the moon.'

He appears to have left Bedlam partially cured, but he never wrote again—the story goes that, wandering through the streets one snowy night, he fell down and was frozen to death—but Cibber seems the original authority for this report, and he is not always trustworthy. He was buried on May 6, 1692, in the Parish Church of St. Clement Danes.

The personal facts recorded concerning Lee are, as will be seen, very few, and it is impossible to say anything about his character. But we might here add that although he failed as an actor, he was such an admirable reader, that the actors despaired of ever giving his lines with the force with which he delivered them. Of Lee as a dramatist, we will leave Addison to speak, apologising to our readers for allowing an Old Carthusian to pass even a favourable criticism on an Old Westminster :

'Among our modern English poets there is none who was better turned for tragedy, if, instead of favouring the impetuosity of his genius, he had restrained it, and kept it within proper bounds. His thoughts are wonderfully suited for tragedy : but frequently lost in such a cloud of words that it is hard to see the beauty of them. There is an infinite fire in his works, but so involved in smoke, that it does not appear in half its lustre. He frequently succeeds in the passionate part of tragedy, but more particularly where he slackens his efforts and eases the stile [*sic*] of those epithets and metaphors in which he so much abounds.' (*Spectator*, No. 39.)

FLOREAT.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

THAT this Society is a grave and serious body is plain to anyone who has seen the massive tomes in which the record of its proceedings is kept. They also afford some evidence of its venerable age, for was it not three years ago that the Society was impoverished by the calls made upon its purse by the need of a new ledger? Having beyond all dispute established the Society's claims to the reverence and awe of all men, let us proceed with due respect to examine the contents of these ledgers, and see the products of so many mighty brains set down without comment or addition therein. The early debates are interesting to us now because they enable us to flatter our own vanity, and to pat ourselves on the back (metaphorically) with that consciousness of superiority so dear to the heart of every man, whether he be scholar and statesman, or that combination of both, member of the Debating Society. When we read further and come to the early oratory of Presidents of the Union at both Oxford and Cambridge, do we feel that we have degenerated somewhat? No, emphatically No. We read through our last few speeches, and then turn back again and congratulate the Society mentally as a rule, on its having an unbroken succession of brilliant debaters, whose places are adequately filled to this day. Then perhaps, on closer examination, we find these great men were a little heavy, and that their speeches become rather monotonous; and then on turning to our own remarks we find a refreshing sparkle and brilliancy, and conclude that that joke we made the meeting before last is a better thing than any of them said in spite of their superior scholarship. What matter if we had thought out that joke for days before? Of course, that is quite beside the point. The joke! stands written in the ledger, and will remain an everlasting testimony to our ready wit, at least, to generations yet unelected. Again, how infinitely superior are we as a Debating Society, though, of course, on a smaller scale, to the House of Commons! We discuss a far wider range of subjects. This very term two consecutive Thursdays give an example. We censured the Brighton magistrates severely for the line of action they adopted towards certain cyclists, and next week proceeded to emphatically deny that our naval defences are inadequate. Now, why does not the Debating Society over the way take a hint from us? How long have they been troubled over the naval question? Why, they are still troubled. Now, look at our Debating Society. In an hour, or even less, they discussed the matter, and were perfectly satisfied that the naval defences were adequate. Nothing could possibly be simpler, and the saving of time is positively incalculable. To make quite sure of this important question there was the largest House present of the term, so that it is evident that they are quite alive to the importance of what they are doing.

Their interest in the various questions is much more real than that of the rival House, for it is a common thing for members to continue a heated argument on the disputed point after the debate has ceased, and this, we believe, is carried on even while the members are recruiting their strength at half-past six, and, incredible as it may appear, when the uninitiated are amusing themselves with the trivialities of Latin and Greek. The members of the other Debating Society, when they have been sitting for hours without arriving at any conclusion on such plain and straightforward questions as that which we have instanced, betake their sordid selves to bed! No comment can be needed. We may perhaps be called cruel for saying so much, but surely one of the chief purposes of this paper is to laud and encourage true virtue, even if the base have to suffer in the process.

Since the Debating Society feels what an important position it holds in the world, it cannot fail to show its sense of its duties and its readiness to undertake them by the constancy of its members and the quality of its debates. Hence its high tone.

Χρυσόφύλαξ.

THE WESTMINSTER LEAGUE.

The following is the table of results up to date :—

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
A		W 2-1	D 0-0	W 2-0	L 1-4			W 8-2
B	L 1-2		L 1-4	W 9-1	L 2-4	L 0-3		
C	D 0-0	W 4-1		W 1-0			D 1-1	
D	L 0-2	L 1-9	L 0-1			L 0-5	L 0-2	
E	W 4-1	W 4-2				D 2-2	D 0-0	W 2-0
F		W 3-0		W 5-0	D 2-2			W 2-0
G			D 1-1	W 2-0	D 0-0			W 5-0
H	L 2-8				L 0-2	L 0-2	L 0-5	

Points scored :—

A	7	E	8
B	2	F	7
C	6	G	6
D	0	H	0

The captains were :—

A	H. S. Bompas.	E	H. J. Hudson.
B	A. L. Foster	F	F. Waterfield.
C	J. Heard.	G	H. R. Flack.
D	A. S. Gaye.	H	R. J. Milner.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

AN exhibition was held in the Scott Library on December 11; the exhibits on the whole were satisfactory. F. R. Mills received a prize for Stand Camera work, and F. A. Richards for Hand Camera. Mills' photographs were very good; C. R. B. Eyre, who was placed second in Stand Camera work, also showed ability. Mr. Nall and Mr. Hall also exhibited; to the former and to Mr. Kneen our best thanks are due for kindly officiating as judges. The exhibition was visited by many members of the School, who displayed great interest.

School Notes.

THE Football Card up to date is as follows:—

Sat.	Oct.	2	.	Clapham Rovers.	(Won 2-1.)
"	"	9	.	Old Reptonians.	(Lost 1-6.)
Wed.	"	13	.	Old Etonians.	(Lost 2-3.)
Sat.	"	16	.	F. Bickley's XI.	(Lost 0-3.)
	2nd XI.		v.	Clapham Rovers 2nd XI.	(Lost 1-2.)
Sat.	Oct.	23	.	Old Westminster.	(Won 4-2.)
"	"	30	.	Old Carthusians.	(Lost 0-6.)
Wed.	Nov.	10	.	Christ Church.	(Lost 2-3.)
Sat.	"	13	.	Old Foresters.	(Won 3-1.)
Wed.	"	17	.	Selwyn Coll., Cambridge.	(Won 3-1.)
Sat.	"	20	.	W. F. Fox's XI.	(Won 5-3.)
"	"	27	.	Casuals.	(Lost 0-5.)
	2nd XI.		v.	Old Westminster 2nd XI.	(Won 3-1.)
Sat.	Dec.	4	.	Old Felsteadians.	(Won 5-2.)
"	"	11	.	Royal Engineers.	(Won 3-0.)

WE must congratulate F. W. Hall, Esq., on his election to a fellowship at St. John's, Oxford; we regret, however, that this will necessitate Mr. Hall's leaving Westminster at the end of this term.

THE match with Royal Engineers brought the first half of the season to a conclusion. It will be seen from the Football Card, which is reproduced above, that the School have won 7 out of 13 matches played, 6 being lost. The goals scored for the XI. amount to 30 as against 36 scored against it.

WE congratulate Sir Walter Phillimore (O.W.) on his appointment as a Judge of the High Court, and wish him every success in his new duties.

THE Mission Offertories for this term amount with the Head Master's contributions to £32. 11s. 3d., which is about £10 above the average for a term before the institution of collections at every Saint's-day service.

CONGRATULATIONS to W. F. Fox on playing for Oxford University: we sincerely hope he will secure his blue.

WE have received from the Proprietors of *The Public School Magazine* a notice of this proposed monthly periodical. The magazine is to be edited by an ex-editor of the *Granta*, and it is proposed to publish matter of general interest to public school men. The address of the Proprietors is 79 Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, London, E.C.

THE FIELDS.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL v. SELWYN COLLEGE.

PUNCTUALLY at 2.45 on Wednesday, November 17, the School kicked off, and immediately pressed, almost forcing a corner. After a run down by Wright the visitors forced a corner, but our backs cleared well, and after a pretty combined run by the forwards Robinson shot behind. The visitors got away, and Miller, their centre forward, put in a shot which was well saved by Rayner. Again getting possession, the School forced a corner, and shortly afterwards at the end of a neat run Blaker scored with a grand shot (1-0). On restarting L. Y. Barnby missed a chance from a pass by Anderson, and the visitors again got possession, but Wilgress shot wide. After a short period of give-and-take play, Anderson shot, but Clarke saved. The visitors next paid our backs a short visit, but were well met, and from a combined run by the forwards Anderson scored with a twisting shot (2-0). We rushed down again, and Anderson put in some neat dribbling and centred to Barnby, who scored our third point with a clinking shot (3-0). Getting together, the visitors' forwards put in some good work, and Rayner had to use his hands twice in quick succession, saving well both times. We pressed continually, and Anderson, who had a splendid opening, shot far over the bar. The visitors again assumed the aggressive, and Wright missed by inches only. At half-time the score was (3-0) in our favour. Robinson kept too far up, being given off-side twice in quick succession. We pressed still, and Anderson missed a chance by waiting. Linnell got possession, and dribbling right down scored (3-1). From a run by Corfield, Clarke had to save. Cotterill shortly after sprained his ankle and had to retire; Anderson nearly scored with a very good long shot. Give-and-take play ensued, and Robinson scored but was ruled off-side. Time arrived, victory resting with the School (3-1).

The ground was somewhat slippery, which seemed to handicap Selwyn. In the first half the School played up well, but slacked rather in the second half. A. C. Barnby, Anderson, and L. Y. Barnby were best; Young and Truslove were both away.

Teams :—

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

W. V. Rayner (goal), A. C. Barnby, R. Wynter (backs), A. L. Foster, H. W. Beveridge, E. Æ. Cotterill (halves), W. F. Corfield, S. M. Anderson, R. N. R. Blaker, L. Y. Barnby and A. C. Robinson (forwards).

SELWYN COLLEGE.

A. Clarke (goal), A. M. Williams, R. L. Roberts (backs), A. Jones, R. A. Archer, J. P. Simeon (halves), S. Meade, J. H. Wilgress, A. C. Miller, J. E. Linnell, and O. W. Wright (forwards).

WESTMINSTER v. W. F. FOX'S XI.

Played on Saturday, November 20, in dull, foggy weather. The School kicked off and at once pressed, Anderson putting in a good long shot, which Taswell saved. Good play among the forwards resulted in Taswell conceding a corner, but it was safely got away. Blaker shot, but it was saved. They then ran down and Stubbs shot over. Then Blaker got through, but was robbed by Tomlinson, who accidentally kicked it through his own goal (1-0). Barnby shot over, and Corfield was neatly stopped by More. The visitors then had a look in, and Truslove missing his kick in front of goal, Gilbert scored (1-1). Blaker then put in a long shot, but it was saved. Their forwards were now pressing, and Gilbert missed by inches twice in succession. They then forced a corner, but the School forwards got it away, Blaker passed to Anderson, who had a clear run, and tricking Taswell scored easily (2-1). On the restart we forced two corners in quick succession, Young kicking them grandly, but nothing resulted. Rayner then saved from Cooper. Half-time: 2-1. They pressed and Cooper scored, no one seeming to try to prevent him shooting (2-2). Corfield ran down and centred, but Berens cleared. The School seemed to be very slack for the next twenty minutes or so, but suddenly woke up and scored through Blaker (3-2). Rayner then had to deal with shots, but saved all well. It began to grow very dark and foggy at this point. From a sharp attack on the School goal, Prince Sing scored with a good cross shot (3-3). Robinson then ran down, but Jones robbed him, but was forced to give a corner, which went behind. Blaker and Anderson ran down together, and Blaker scored (4-3). Then from another run Blaker passed to Anderson, who scored with a grand shot (5-3). Time came with the score (5-3) in our favour, after a very close and interesting game.

Our opponents were not at all a bad team, and we did well to win. Of the forwards, Anderson played excellently, and Young, A. C. Barnby, and Rayner were also good. The team has greatly improved all round.

Teams :—

WESTMINSTER.

W. V. Rayner (goal), A. C. Barnby, R. Wynter (backs), F. Young, R. Truslove, A. L. Foster (halves), W. E. Corfield, S. M. Anderson, R. N. R. Blaker, L. Y. Barnby, and A. C. Robinson (forwards).

W. F. FOX'S XI.

S. L. Taylor-Taswell (goal), P. T. Jones, R. E. More (backs), A. Berens, F. W. Tomlinson, W. F. Fox (halves), Stubbs, Gilbert, R. G. Cooper, Prince Sing, T. H. Fox (forwards).

WESTMINSTER v. CASUALS.

Saturday, November 27.

The School kicked off at 2.45. The Casuals' front rank at once pressed, and outside right shot straight into Rayner's hands. We then ran down, and Blaker made a fine attempt, which just went over. Barnby then shot over. Sewell made a good attempt, which Rayner saved by conceding a corner. Wilson headed in, but A. C. Barnby cleared; Pettitt shot over. Pierce then scored from an excellent run (0-1). Sewell got possession, and running right down scored with a beautiful shot (0-2). They pressed considerably now, and Rayner had plenty to do. Young shot over. The outside right ran right down, but kicked behind. The play was more even now, and the School pressed a bit, but Sewell getting possession again, outpaced our backs and scored again (0-3). Half-time.

On restarting their left wing pressed. Rayner saved well from Pierce. Anderson shot outside from a long shot. Paull and Hilleary stopped our forwards time after time in fine style. Blaker put in a good shot, which his brother saved. They then forced a corner, from which Sewell broke away, but shot over. Then from a scrimmage in front of our goal Pierce scored in the corner (0-4). Corfield had a chance after a short spell of pressing, but waited too long and was robbed. Rayner at the other end then saved twice splendidly. Davidson scored with an excellent cross shot, Rayner having no chance to save (0-5). We then forced a corner, from which nothing resulted. Time: 0-5.

The Casuals were a very strong team, their defence being especially strong. The School were without Young and Cotterill (both disabled), and in consequence the halves gave a wretched display; the backs were good, and Rayner in goal was very safe indeed, having no chance with any shot. The forwards were not good, Robinson and Corfield being decidedly off colour. Anderson at the start got a nasty knock in the face from a kick by Paull, which seemed to daze him all through the match. Barnby was fair. The ground was in excellent condition.

Teams :—

WESTMINSTER.

W. V. Rayner (goal), A. C. Barnby, R. Wynter (backs), H. G. H. Barnes, R. Truslove, A. L. Foster (halves), W. F. Corfield, S. M. Anderson, R. N. R. Blaker, L. Y. Barnby, and A. C. Robinson (forwards).

CASUALS.

H. R. Blaker (goal), J. R. Paull, E. L. Hilleary (backs), S. L. Pettitt, C. P. Wilson, S. E. Lea (halves), A. N. Other, H. Young, B. Pierce, C. O. H. Sewell, J. Davidson (forwards).

WESTMINSTER 2ND XI. *v.* O.WW. 2ND XI.

O.WW. kicked off, and were at once pressed, Bompas scoring twice. Challis turned up about twenty minutes after the start. No further score was added before half-time. The second half was much more even, each side scoring twice—the School through Jacob and the O.WW. through Cunningham. A pleasant game thus resulted in a win for the School 2nd XI. (3-1). Short time had to be played on account of some of the O.WW. arriving late.

Bompas and Williams for the forwards, Plaskitt and Roose for the halves, and Lonsdale for the backs, were best.

Teams :—

WESTMINSTER 2ND XI.

B. H. Willett (goal), H. R. Lonsdale, H. W. Beveridge (backs), H. Roose, H. Plaskitt, A. J. Blaxland (halves), W. R. Jacob, O. H. M. Williams, S. S. Harris, H. S. Bompas, G. H. Bernays (forwards).

O.WW. 2ND XI.

T. C. Greenway (goal), L. E. Deacon, J. A. Robertson (backs), A. B. Challis, S. H. R. Muriel, H. F. Chatterton (halves), A. L. Longhurst, F. R. Cunningham, F. A. S. Gwatkin, A. N. Other (forwards).

THE SCHOOL *v.* OLD FELSTEADIANS.

This match was played Up-Fields on Dec. 4. Blaker won the toss, and elected to play towards the Hospital end. At the start Mullins shot over. From the kick-off Blaker ran down, but shot behind. Mullins was again conspicuous, but he ran over the goal-line just as he was going to centre. Then Barnby and Robinson obtained possession, and running down centred to Blaker, who shot behind. We lost another opportunity through Plaskitt kicking behind from a corner. Rayner was next called upon, but he saved in good style. From a corner which fell to us, Truslove headed over. Soon afterwards Barnby, after a neat dribble, sent in a soft shot, which was easily cleared. Then Blaker put in a hard shot, which Croly stopped, but the ball went off him to Anderson, who might have scored but shot over. From the kick-off Anderson and Corfield got possession, and after some pretty passing Corfield centred to Barnby, who missed the goal very badly, being in a very easy position to score. After some uninteresting play, Blaker relieved the monotony by scoring with a long low shot (1-0). The Old Felsteadians, stirred by this reverse, pressed hard, and but for bad shooting might have scored, Garrard missing badly. A corner fell to them shortly after from which Capell shot over. Hereabouts Robinson lost a chance by waiting too long, and Blaker too missed a shot from a good pass by Barnby. Two

more corners fell to them in quick succession, but no goal was scored, till A. C. Barnby, misjudging his pass-back to Rayner, allowed Meggy to score (1-1). The only other item of importance before half-time was a shot by Barnby which went very wide. On the restart Blaker put two shots in quick succession, the second of which went behind. Then, after a corner to us, Barnby ran down well and transferred to Blaker, who scored a grand goal (2-1). Then followed two shots by Robinson and Anderson which both went behind. Hereafter the game was mostly in their half, their only noticeable advantages being two corners, and a second goal by Meggy (2-2). After this Westminster obtained three more goals, Blaker scoring the first with a very difficult shot. Then followed several shots by Barnby, all from centres by Anderson, with the last of which he scored, the ball hitting the bar and going under (4-2). Truslove cleared a dangerous rush by heading away, and Blaker running round the centre half, scored with a splendid low shot (5-2). The only items worthy of mention after this were a shot by Anderson which went wide, and a corner for them which was cleared, time being called soon after.

The ground was a trifle hard, and the ball in consequence was rather jumpy; this accounts for our forwards' bad shooting in the first quarter-hour. But at half-time the shooting greatly improved. Rayner did not have much to do in goal, the backs were good, but the halves were not particularly brilliant; the forwards were fairly well together. Young and Cotterill were still absent owing to their accidents.

Teams :—

OLD FELSTEADIANS.

H. P. Croly (goal), D. W. Brewster and C. Greaves (backs), A. S. Patterson, H. A. D. Capell, and A. T. Poole (halves), B. R. Kirwan, D. H. Meggy, H. C. Breton, H. L. Mullins and S. Garrard (forwards).

WESTMINSTER.

W. V. Rayner (goal), R. Wynter and A. C. Barnby (backs), H. Plaskitt, R. Truslove, A. L. Foster (halves), A. C. Robinson, L. Y. Barnby, R. N. R. Blaker, S. M. Anderson, and W. F. Corfield (forwards).

Referee: T. C. Greenway (Old Westminsters).

(TRIAL HOUSE MATCHES.)

H.BB. *v.* ASHBURNHAM HOUSE.

This match was played on November 24, and resulted in a win for H.BB. by 7-2.

Of the goals, 4 were scored by W. V. Rayner, 2 by R. Truslove, and 1 by W. Rutherford.

Rayner and Robinson combined well on the left, and Lefroy was good in goal, but the backs were weak.

Teams :—

H.BB.

A. Lefroy (goal), A. J. Blaxland, L. B. S. Robinson (backs), H. Plaskitt, A. L. Foster, O. Voihtg (halves), W. F. Corfield, H. Rayner, R. Truslove, W. V. Rayner, A. C. Robinson (forwards).

ASHBURNHAM HOUSE.

L. Barber (goal), H. W. Beveridge, A. Scarisbrick (backs), H. Day, H. Wynter, R. A. Hardie (halves), E. F. Colville, J. Bastone, S. S. Harris, A. N. Other, T. Featherstone (forwards).

RIGAUDS *v.* GRANTS.

Grants kicked off and Rigauds pressed, Pashley scoring almost immediately; Grants acted on the defensive the whole time. Half-time: 8-0 for Rigauds. The second half was a little more even, Rigauds only scoring 3 more goals. Time: 11-0.

Goals for Rigauds: Anderson 5, Pashley 4, Blaker 2.

Rigauds were *minus* H. McKenna and L. Y. Barnby; and Grants, J. Heard and W. C. Stevens.

Teams :—

RIGAUDS.

K. Anderson (goal), A. C. Barnby, B. H. Willett (backs), H. Roose, J. W. Lord, H. Failes (halves), G. Myers, S. M. Anderson, R. N. R. Blaker, R. Pashley, A. T. Willett (forwards).

GRANTS.

W. P. Daniel (goal), R. P. Rawlings, E. C. Stevens (backs), H. Briton, H. C. H. Barnes, M. G. Baillie (halves), A. R. Pain, H. Whitmore, H. S. Bompas, C. Castle-Smith, H. Sheppard (forwards).

(FINAL.)

RIGAUDS *v.* HOME BOARDERS.

H.BB. kicked off and Rigauds scored at once through Blaker. Play then ruled even. H.BB. equalised through W. V. Rayner (1-1.) Most exciting scrimmages took place in the mouth of the H.BB. goal, but they always just managed to get the ball away. Half-time: 1-1. Play was fairly even, but was more in the H.BB. quarters than in Rigauds'. After about twenty minutes, Whittow scored for Rigauds with a long dropping shot (2-1.) Then Blaker added another with a long shot (3-1.) H.BB. then attacked, but were very harmless. Finally Pashley added another from a scrimmage in front of goal, and Rigauds won by 4-1. Goals for Rigauds: Blaker 2, Pashley and Whittow; and for H.BB.: W. V. Rayner.

Teams :—

RIGAUDS.

K. Anderson (goal), A. C. Barnby, B. H. Willett (backs), H. Roose, J. W. Lord, R. Whittow (halves), R. Pashley, R. N. R. Blaker, S. M. Anderson, L. Y. Barnby, A. T. Willett (forwards).

H.BB.

A. L. Lefroy (goal), A. J. Blaxland, J. Robinson (backs), A. L. Foster, R. Truslove, H. Plaskitt (halves), W. F. Corfield, H. Rayner, W. Rutherford, W. V. Rayner, A. C. Robinson (forwards).

DEBATING SOCIETY.

THE House met again on November 18 to discuss the following motion:—'That, in the opinion of this House, the drama of to-day is sadly degenerate both in substance and execution.'

Proposer, A. McKENNA; Seconder, F. T. B. WARD; Opposer, W. V. RAYNER.

The PROPOSER (A. McKenna), who delivered a well-prepared speech, said that a play should be appreciated more for its wording than for the costumes worn by the actors: in modern plays all the interest centred in the effect of the scenery and costumes rather than the words. He noticed great degeneration in musical and comic drama.

The OPPOSER (W. V. Rayner) began well, but later blundered badly. He did not agree with A. McKenna that the drama had deteriorated in execution, but would not venture again on the substance side of the question.

The SECONDER (H. R. Lonsdale) made an excellent maiden speech. He agreed with the Proposer that people appreciate a play nowadays more for the scenery and costumes than for its words or plot: people now only go to the theatre because it is fashionable (question).

H. McKENNA said that the drama of to-day has deteriorated in substance though not in execution. No one can write anything which can compare with the wit of Sheridan.

F. T. B. WARD disagreed with the Proposer in saying that the drama of to-day was appreciated rather for its acting than words: the word 'drama' means acting, and consequently drama is made more intelligible by acting.

The House then adjourned.

The House met again on December 4, and continued the adjourned discussion.

R. TRUSLOVE said that he had in the meantime lost his notes and the drift of the discussion, and therefore could not continue the speech he had just begun on November 18.

A. McKENNA spoke a few more words, chiefly about the feeble jokes to be heard in any modern play.

A division resulted as follows: Ayes 2; Noes 10.

S. M. ANDERSON then proposed: 'That, in the opinion of this House, embalming, cremation, and similar methods of preservation or dissolution, are preferable to the existing practice of sepulture.'

The PROPOSER spoke shortly, only looking at the subject from a sanitary point of view. For the sake

of health, cremation is certainly preferable to sepulture.

The OPPOSER (J. Heard) objected to cremation, on the ground that it was impossible to discover the cause of death after cremation, whereas if any such question did arise and the body had been buried instead of cremated, it was possible to exhume the body and subject it to a *post-mortem* examination. J. Heard said that at present cremation was much more expensive than sepulture, and consequently out of reach of the poor.

The SECONDER (F. T. B. Ward) agreed with the Proposer that burying was unhealthy, and especially so in the case of family vaults or crowded London cemeteries, where one body had to be moved to make room for the next. The practice of burying bodies in lead coffins was filthy.

R. TRUSLOVE, as usual, had some faults to find with the officers of the Society; this time his impotent wrath fell on the Secretary, whom he accused of forgetting to put up the notice of the meeting. His few remarks about the notice were decidedly poor.

H. MCKENNA agreed with the Proposer that cremation is more healthy than sepulture, and suggested several ways of getting rid of the ashes without harm to anyone. H. McKenna also suggested that bodies could be got rid of by dissolving them in hydrofluoric acid, in which case he believed nothing of the body would remain at all.

R. TRUSLOVE complained that the word 'dissolution' on the notice of the meeting was spelt with one *s*.

S. M. ANDERSON assured R. Truslove that he was wrong.

The notice was carried by acclamation.

The House then adjourned.

The House met on December 11 to discuss the following motion: 'That, in the opinion of this House, literature of a low order and the publicity given by the Press to criminal details tend to the increase of crime.' Proposer, L. Y. Barnby; Secunder, H. J. M. Hudson; Opposer, F. Waterfield.

Previous to the motion of the evening, A. S. Foster and A. C. Barnby were elected members of the Society.

The PROPOSER (L. Y. Barnby) said that the motion was a difficult one to speak on. He considered that literature of a low order, written by those who had no knowledge of higher literature, certainly had a bad effect on the minds of those who read it; he referred to the 'penny dreadful.'

The OPPOSER (F. Waterfield) said that the cheapest things were all the poor could get; to read anything was better than to read nothing.

The SECONDER (H. T. M. Hudson) made an excellent maiden speech, carefully prepared and well

delivered. He could not see that the last speaker had opposed the motion; he had rather seconded it. The Secunder considered that the low literature of the present day should be suppressed, for there was absolutely no reason why it should be published.

After short speeches, mostly in the form of questions and answers from several members, A. C. Barnby delivered his maiden speech, which, though short, was to the point and showed signs of ability.

The motion was carried by one vote.

The House then adjourned.

The House met again on December 18 to discuss the following motion: 'That, in the opinion of this House, the constitution of this Society is not free from imperfection.' Proposer, A. McKenna; Secunder, R. Truslove; Opposer, A. C. Barnby.

The PROPOSER (A. McKenna) said that the Society did not keep its own rules. He considered that some rule should be made to make members speak more often, and that it would be a good plan if members who were not speaking themselves would get up the subject.

The OPPOSER (A. C. Barnby) said that the proposer's speech opposed rather than proposed the motion. He also said that with such officers as the Society now had there should be no question as to the perfection of the Society (question).

The SECONDER (R. Truslove) commenced by asking the object of the Society. He commented on the absence of all interest in the Society from outsiders. Honorary members used to attend meetings, but now none ever came, he supposed because of the imperfections of the Society. The Secunder asserted that the President had no control over members; was this because of his inability or because the members would not obey the ruling of the chair?

L. J. BARNBY said that members should speak from notes, not read their speeches. He preferred to hear a few disjointed remarks from notes rather than an excellent speech read off.

R. TRUSLOVE agreed with L. Y. Barnby.

B. H. WILLETT asked how members could get a chance of reading the rules.

H. MCKENNA quoted the rule relating to the object of the Society to R. Truslove, and told B. H. Willett that by applying to the Secretary any member could read the rule book. H. MCKENNA said that members continually grumble at the motions, but they never offer to help the officers to find better ones.

After short speeches from L. Y. Barnby, A. McKenna, and S. M. Anderson, the House divided as follows:—

Aye 1. Noes 10.

The House then adjourned.

Obituary.

It is with the very deepest regret that we record the death of Admiral Sir AUGUSTUS PHILLIMORE, K.C.B., President of the Elizabethan Club. Some time since he had a severe illness, but from this he seemed to have entirely recovered. He died very suddenly at his house near Botley, on November 25. Augustus Phillimore was the fifth of the six sons of Joseph Phillimore, the distinguished jurist, by Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. Walter Bagot, Rector of Blithfield. He was thus of Westminster descent on both sides. He was born on May 24, 1822, and followed his elder brothers to the School in January 1833. Even then it was not unknown ground to him, for he was present at the coronation of William IV. In 1834 he was removed to the Naval College at Portsmouth, where he won the silver medal. He became a Sub-Lieutenant in the Navy in 1842, and in the same year served under Admiral Sir William Parker in the Chinese War, at the conclusion of which he received a medal. He was promoted Lieutenant in 1845, and became Flag-Lieutenant to Sir William Parker in the Mediterranean. During this period of his service, the Mediterranean fleet, as Professor Laughton writes, 'attained a perfection which had never been equalled.' At a later period the Flag-Lieutenant wrote his Admiral's life. Lieutenant Phillimore was promoted Commander in 1852, and was specially praised by Sir James Graham for raising men for the Crimean War. He was promoted Captain in 1855, and commanded in succession the *Medea*, the *Curaçao*, and the *Defence*. As Captain of the *Medea* he suppressed a ring of filibusters at Porto Rico, and was specially thanked by the Admiralty and by the Spanish authorities. From 1867 to 1869 he was Commodore at Port Royal, and did excellent service during the Civil war in Hayti. In the latter year he became Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar. In 1873 he was appointed Commodore to the Combined Squadrons, and was promoted Rear-Admiral on New Year's Day, 1874. In 1876 he became second in command of the Channel Squadron, flying his flag on the *Black Prince*, and from that year to 1879 was Admiral Superintendent of Naval Reserves. He was promoted Vice-Admiral in 1879, and Admiral in 1884. At the Jubilee of 1887, he was made a Knight Commander of the Bath. Though the number of Westminster seamen is naturally less than the roll of our soldiers, not a few of our sailors have been distinguished in the service. It is enough to mention the names of Keppel, Popham, Hotham, Goodenough, Phillimore, and Markham.

Sir Augustus remained in active life to the

end. His biography of Sir William Parker is in fact a history of the Navy of Parker's time. An abridged edition, under the title of 'The Last of Nelson's Captains,' was also the author's work. Sir Augustus also translated the French Regulations for Naval Tactics, an excellent piece of work. He was a Justice of the Peace and Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire, and Chairman of the Droxford Bench. He was also an Alderman of the Hampshire County Council from its foundation, a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, and a governor of the Marine Society.

Sir Augustus married on March 29, 1864, Harriet Eleanor, daughter of the Hon. George Matthew Fortescue of Boconnoc. Lady Phillimore, with six sons and one daughter, survives him. It is hardly necessary to say that five of his sons were at Westminster, the period of their school life covering the years from 1876 to 1893. The eldest son has followed his father's calling, and the distinctions already achieved by others are as well known at Oxford as at Westminster. We tender our hearty sympathy to the family in their bereavement.

Of our own loss we can hardly speak in adequate terms. No Westminster was more constant in his affectionate loyalty than Sir Augustus Phillimore. He took the greatest pleasure in attending the Play and Election Dinner, and he was always ready to maintain that Westminster was the healthiest spot in England. In 1891 he succeeded Sir Patrick Colquhoun as Vice-President of the Elizabethan Club, and in 1895 he followed Mr. James Lowther in the Presidency.

The funeral took place at Shiplake on November 30, and was attended by the Headmaster. The Elizabethan Club wreath was one of those buried in the grave.

We also much regret to record the death of a member of another well-known Westminster family. Herbert Berens was the third son of Mr. Richard Benyon Berens, and was born on October 2, 1867. He was at the School from January 1882 to July 1886, and was afterwards at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. He died at Kevington on December 2, and his untimely decease will be much lamented by not a few of the younger generation of Westminsters, some of whom attended the funeral.

We regret to record the death of the Rev. James Munro Sandham, who had been for over half a century incumbent of Cold Waltham and Hardham, Sussex. Mr. Sandham was admitted to the School in 1830, and was a graduate of St. John's College, Oxford. At the time of his death he had attained his eightieth year.

House Notes.

ASHBURNHAM HOUSE.—We were beaten by Home-Boarders in the Trials by 7-2, but the match was rather spoilt by the darkness in which the second half was played. The following Wednesday we played Grants, and, with Wynter absent, only managed to draw (1-1), their goal being obtained rather luckily just upon time. Our shooting was very weak. Our five ties were very successful, and we had a record entry, but owing to Beveridge's unfortunate absence we are unable to play off the final, for which the draw was Colville and Henderson *v.* Harris and Beveridge, which should have been a close game. Wynter has played regularly for the School during the last half of the term, and we hope that he will retain his place. We must congratulate Henderson on winning the Phillimore Translation Prize, and Mills on winning the first prize at the Photographic Society's Exhibition.

COLLEGE.—By the time this is in print the first play at least will be over, so we will say nothing on that subject at present except to wish it all success. The Literary Society finished its readings for this term with the 'Tempest.' In the last three School matches we have had no representatives at all; this has not occurred for many years. Junior College for the third time in succession won the Junior House matches, beating H.B.B. in the final by 2-1 after a poor game played in a bad fog.

GRANTS.—Our football has not been very successful this term, owing to the absence of nearly half the regular team. L. J. Moon and W. F. Fox have been representing either 'Varsity. We congratulate H. Barnes on playing for the School, and E. C. Stevens on getting his House colours. The Literary Society have been reading 'the Critic.'

H.B.B.—Nothing of much importance has occurred since last issue. In the Trials we beat Ashburnham by 7-2, but were in turn beaten by Rigauds after rather an unsatisfactory match. The House Fives Ties are still in progress. Their success has not been as great as might have been desired. We congratulate Plaskitt on playing for the School for the first time against Old Felsteadians, in which match we had six representatives.

RIGAUDS.—We have not much to record this month except 'Trials.' We were drawn against Grants in the first round, and defeated them by 11-0 (Blaker 2, Anderson 5, Pashley 4); our team played very badly, almost to a man. We met and defeated H.B.B. in the final by 4-1, after a much better game;

Blaker scored two of the goals, Pashley and Whittow one each. There was a marked improvement in our play all round, Blaker and Anderson being particularly noticeable forward, while Roose at half marked Corfield very effectively: the backs were safe. We were without the services of McKenna and L. Y. Barnby in the first round, and of McKenna in the final. Roose left about a week after the conclusion of 'Trials.' We congratulate him on his 3rd XI's, which he received before leaving.

Correspondence.

OXFORD LETTER.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—I think it due to your correspondent to state that he is in no way responsible for the non-appearance of an Oxford letter in your last number. With all due deference to you, sir, I think that the fault must be looked for nearer home. There is not very much to chronicle of the doings of Oxford O.W.W. with one notable exception: Fox's merits have at last been recognised by the authorities, and he is assisting the 'Varsity regularly in their matches with great success. He has certainly very much improved the half-back line, which was the weak point of the team. Severn is laid up with a damaged shoulder, an accident which he received on the eve of an appearance among the 'Varsity forwards. The House missed his services greatly in the Cup ties, in which he would most probably have turned the scale in the draw with Oriel. The House only succumbed in the second match after a splendid fight. Fox, Probyn, More, Hogarth, and Fisher have represented the House. Of other College teams, Stenning has defended the University goal valiantly, and Johnson has helped Balliol to reach the semi-final before getting laid up with a bad knee.

To turn to other matters non-athletic. Fisher is secretary of the Twenty, who are often held entranced by the fiery eloquence of More and Barnes, while Howarth and Corfield have been discoursing sweet music (composed by the former) at the Shaftesbury smoking concert. Denman is president-elect of the last-named Club. With best wishes for the success of the Play,

I am, yours, &c.,
DOG-TOOTH.

CAMBRIDGE LETTER.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—All apologies for the absence of a letter in the last number; but without continual editorial goads frequently administered, the memory of your apologetic correspondent is apt to fail even at the most crucial moment. The Old Westminsters up here have pursued the even tenor of their way without distinguishing themselves to a startling extent since our last letter. Rumours have reached us that one of our number, after winning his College sculls, found the weight of fame so insupportable that he left us for a space, while the fifth of November spread 'gating' galore. A new football club has been founded, and has already reached to great fame. This, if rumour speaks true, is the result of the energy of W. G. Towers. At any rate, several O.W.W. belong, and W. H. Lonsdale performs the arduous task of secretary. In the Greek play—a matter now of ancient history—R. Balfour performed the important part of Bdelycleon with his usual success. The barking of W. C. Mayne was admirable, and the wasp-like motions and excellent singing of H. T. Shering-

ham and H. G. Langhorne were to the fore of the chorus. It is also said that under a wig of flowing curls one could see the face of R. Airy. We congratulate the latter on his recent reelection to the Union Committee, but we warn those who fear his wrath not to quote a recent number of the *Granite* to him.

With all wishes for the success of the Play,

We are, sir,

Yours very truly,

TRIN. COLL., CAMB.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I wonder if many of your readers have come across the following extracts; if not, they may perhaps be of interest. They appeared on October 23, 1847, in the school paper of the day.

25 xi. 97.

Yours, &c., TEMP. MUT.

I.—*From the journal of a Westminster boy, discovered in 1847 among some old papers in S——'s Boarding-house.*

Monday, October 10, 1827.—Got out of bed at half-past 6, brushed my master's clothes, and filled his pitcher, went to bed again and awoke at 3½ minutes to 8, washed and dressed, and got up school just as Dr. ——— arrived. Eight to 9, was shown up for not knowing my grammar, muzzed three pages of ditto, for my help. Nine to half-past, breakfasted, but very badly, as I was sent by the Seniors to Shotton's three times. Half-past 9 to 10, picked up balls. Ten o'clock, went into school again, and got through fifteen lines of Homer pretty well, though I had not learnt them; 11 to 12, cut my name on the form. Twelve o'clock, went into the Green, and was knocked down by a butcher for abusing him, but he got well paid out by Jackson. Half-past 1, went to dinner; very bad mutton; would have gone to Shotton's, but knew that the under elections were there. Half-past 2, went up school and got 200 lines to write out for not being able to find my shoes when called up for lesson (Connaught had pulled them off and hid them). Five till a quarter to 6, made my master's tea, and put his room in order. Quarter to 6, my master came upstairs in very bad humour, because he had a long imposition to do; nearly kicked me downstairs because the tea was not strong enough. Seven o'clock to 8, did my exercise, but with many interruptions, as I was continually called away to get things for my master. Nine o'clock, was licked with a cane because I could not find Willoughby's Homer. Nine to 10, did my imposition. Ten o'clock, went to bed very tired.

II.—*From the journal of a fourth-form boy.*

Monday, September 23, 1847.—Half-past 7, got out of bed, and went up school at 8. Eight to 9, said my grammar, and learnt lesson for after breakfast. Half-past 9 to 10, played rackets with Michell. Ten o'clock, went up school and construed thirty lines of Homer, afterwards learnt the Virgil for afternoon. Half-past 12, came out and went into the Green, got a dreadful shinner. Quarter to 2, went to wash, and at 2 to dinner; went afterwards to Shotton's. Half-past 2, in school again, and said Virgil, had the exercise explained, was head in Principles. Half-past 5, went for my own and master's grub, made his tea, &c. Quarter to 6 till half-past 7, did exercise; till half-past 8, did sums for Tuesday; played chess till half-past 9, learnt repetition; 10 o'clock, filled my master's pitcher, and went to bed.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—Some little time back were published in *The Elizabethan*, under the heading 'Notes and Queries,' some instances of 'Mention of Westminster School in Novels.' I do not think that the following appeared:—

'Jack (Easy) had fought and fought again until he was a very good bruiser, and though not so tall as Vigors, he was much

better built for fighting. A knowing Westminster boy would have bet his half-crown on Jack had he seen him and his anticipated adversary.'—Easy won.

(Mr. Midshipman Easy, by Capt. Marryat, Chapter X.)

Yours, &c.,

'EASY-ALL.'

HOUSE NOTES.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—May I raise a protest against a growing practice in the columns of your valuable paper? I speak of the padding of the House Notes with stale O.W. news which has either appeared in a previous issue or is actually to be read in the same number as the Notes themselves. Surely, sir, the house notes should be house notes, and nothing more. I should be the last to depreciate any feelings of pride a house may feel by reason of the achievements of former members of the house, but I venture to think those achievements bring credit which should be the property of the school at large, and not arrogated to one house in particular. Besides, the best of news begins to lose its savour when we read it in (say) School Notes and a 'Varsity letter as well as House Notes.

I am, Sir,

Yours very truly,

D. T.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I think it is my duty to apologise for my letter in your October number. That it was written in a moment of heat—provoked by the recollection of the miserable attendance at the match in question—is the only excuse I can find to offer. Cooler reflection had convinced me—before your two correspondents took me to task—that my figures must have been absurd.

For my English I do not apologise, as I consider 'One of Two Hundred's' objection to 'reaching a climax' pedantic to a degree. I have consulted authorities, and find myself fully justified.

Yours, &c.,

ONE OF THE SIX.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—A list of some of the aquatic achievements of the late Mr. John Wright, Registrar of the Bloomsbury County Court, may not be uninteresting to some of your readers.

In 1848 Mr. Wright was stroke of one of the Westminster eights (there were two on); in 1849 he rowed (No. 2) in the 1st. VIII.; in 1850 (No. 6). In this year Westminster were beaten by an O.W.W. VIII., which contained three Oxford Blues, by 1½ lengths, from Chiswick Eyot to Putney. In 1851 the VIII. (with J. Wright occupying the 6th thwart) beat the old VIII. (Vauxhall to Battersea) by 20 lengths, and lost by ½ length to an Oxford crew assisted by two blues (Westminster to Putney), and in this year Wright won the pair-oars (with G. de L. Lacy). In the following year he also won them (with the Hon. E. R. Bourke), and rowed stroke of the Westminster IV. at Richmond Regatta. In 1853 he matriculated at St. John's College, Cambridge. He rowed stroke of the Lady Margaret B.C. when head of the river in 1854–5–6; stroke of the same club when they won the Visitors' Cup at Henley in 1854–5. He also won the pair-oars (with Blake of Corpus) in 1855. In 1854 he rowed stroke for Cambridge against Oxford. The Cambridge crew of 1854 practically was little more than a scratch one, as S. V. Stephenson, who rowed in 1853, and Mansel-Jones, the stroke, had to leave the crew a few days before the race on account of illness, and E. Courage was incapacitated for a time and did not rejoin the crew until the last week of practice. Mr. Wright brought down a very strong

crew of L. M. B. C. men (five being blues) to row against the School in 1856, which race the latter won.

He was also a famous sculler, winning the School Silver Sculls in 1849 and holding them for three years. In 1852 at Richmond Regatta he won the Sculls, beating Atkinson (who was third in sculling at Eton) and H. H. Playford, who won the Wingfield and the Diamond Sculls in 1854, and he (Wright) won the Colquhoun Sculls at Cambridge in 1854.

Yours truly,
D. J. D.

Our Contemporaries.

WE beg to acknowledge with thanks the following: *Our Boys*, *Alleyntian*, *Matverntian*, *Haileyburian* (2), *Cliftonian*, *Blue*, *Pauline*, *Marlburian*, *Fettesian*, *Quernmorian*, *Utula*, *Laurenceville Literary Magazine*, *Wellingtonian*, *Meteor*, *Tonbridgian*, *Newtonian*, *Geeling Grammar School Quarterly*, *King's College School Magazine*, *Salopian*, and *Cheltenham Reveillé*.

ERRATA.

Ante, p. 333, col. i., eighth line from commencement of article : for 'for the facts' read 'for the fact.'

— p. 334, col. i., sixteenth line from end of article : for 'in November 2' read *on* November 2.'

— p. 334, signature to article : for 'Willad' read 'Urllad.'

NOTICES.

All contributions to the February number of *The Elizabethan* must reach the Editor *not later than* February 10.

Contributions must be written on one side of the paper only.

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

Subscriptions now due should be forwarded to J. Aston, St. Peter's College, Westminster (*not* addressed 'The Treasurer').

The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of his contributors or correspondents.

Morcat.