



The Elizabethan.

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THE SCHOOL.

It has been said that Westminster is the 'most conservative of all public schools,' and in a good sense we are willing to admit that the 'old customs' are not readily suffered to drop out of date. Take, as an instance, the Play which is just at hand. In all other large public schools it was the custom to act classical comedies every year; and besides that, whenever the King or Queen visited the neighbourhood, the 'scholars' acted a Play. Our own foundation was in particular very fond of hearing Plautus or Terence. But in all schools but Westminster the custom has dropped. And therefore, until a few years ago, there was no rival in what was considered our peculiar line; but of late there have been at least three Greek Plays prepared with elaborate care and study, so that our position is not the one of undisputed mastery of the good old days. But as we see no decrease in the interest which is universally taken in the Play, we may fairly hope that we have stood

the ordeal successfully. We hardly think that our detractors, who have ventured to say a great many things, will say that the Play is not a good institution wisely kept up.

But there is another direction in which our conservative tendency acts to our disadvantage. In the days when instruction was condensed into a quarter of an hour in library, and a black eye was well pleasing to the head master, the life at every public school was neither gentle nor civilising; and Westminster, which of course was at the fore in everything, became as famous for milling and rough horseplay in general as for acting. So thoroughly did this tone pervade the School, that there is a story that a master was once complaining to one of the senior boys of the idleness of a certain Jone. 'And how,' added the master, 'did he get that black eye?' 'Please, Sir! in fighting with a skey' (*sic*). 'And which licked?' 'Oh! Jones did, Sir.' 'Well, well,' said the master, much mollified, 'if he is good at fighting we must not be too hard on him in Latin and Greek.' No doubt the good old ladies of the

neighbourhood considered this brutal, and the term 'Westminster blackguards' has only recently dropped out of use. We are sorry to say that Dickens shared the common prejudice, for he says that waiters in their knee-breeches looked like Westminster boys, 'but the illusion was soon dispelled by their better behaviour.'

But now that prize-fighting is no longer fashionable, and nailing a thief's ears to the pump is not a gentlemanly practice, it is a pity that there should still be traces of the old heathen state of things in the School. Not that either bullying or fighting are common, but that a free and easy behaviour is decidedly characteristic of Westminster men, which, in one at least of the 'Varsities, has been the cause of the general unpopularity of the School. Large schools can indulge in their little peculiarities, but a small one cannot afford to do so, or, if it does, it goes to the wall.

In one important particular we have shown ourselves wise in our own generation; and while many public schools are still playing their own individual football, by taking up Association in all its length and breadth, we have acquired a reputation in the field which our small numbers would not warrant. No doubt our situation, conveniently close to all the best London clubs, has improved the standard of our play; but it is a fact that a member of the Westminster Eleven is a marked man from the time he first gets his 'pinks.' Old Etonians and Old Harrovians spend most of their first season in unlearning the peculiarities of their own game, and begin Association with many cramped ideas about play. This has been an important step for our reputation among our contemporaries, and it has been attended with marked success.

There are many people who, not being intimately acquainted with the School, have not noticed the gradual but steady increase in our numbers under the present Head Master, and are under the impression that Westminster consists of little else than great traditions. But though we prize these highly, we are above all anxious for the present and the future. We do not think it improbable that Westminster is only at the beginning of a new career, and in favour of this there is an active, perhaps aggressive, patriotism at work in the School which our neighbours are not likely to overlook. It is a sentiment of its own kind, perhaps never to be called into existence after we leave, and of which all enthusiasm for a college or university is an unsuccessful imitation. It may be, therefore, that from the warmth of a 'first love' we have spoken with unnecessary bitterness of those

whom we have imagined to be not well disposed towards us; we hope that it will only be considered as the marks of a healthy vitality in the School which is struggling up from temporary obscurity.

'OLD WESTMINSTERS.'

No. XXIII.

HENEAGE FINCH, FIRST EARL OF NOTTINGHAM.

SPRUNG from one of the most ancient and noble families in England, which traced its descent from Henry Fitzherbert, Chancellor to Henry I., Heneage Finch was born at Eastwell, in Kent, on the 23rd December, 1621. He was the son of another O.W., Sir Heneage Finch, who was Recorder of London and Speaker of the House of Commons in the second Parliament of Charles I., and in that capacity delivered to the king the address for the removal of the Duke of Buckingham. At school he was known for his diligent application and steady perseverance, and the same characteristics marked his three years' residence at Christchurch, Oxford, where he was entered as a gentleman commoner in Lent Term, 1635. He then went to the Inner Temple, 'where,' says Anthony Wood, 'by his sedulity and good parts he became a noted proficient in the municipal laws, and was successively barrister, bencher, treasurer, and reader.'

From the time he was called till the Restoration, in 1660, Finch remained in comparative obscurity, the prosecution and flight of his cousin, the Lord Keeper Finch, proving without doubt a severe blow to whatever hopes he may have entertained of promotion. On the return of the King he appeared in public life, as member for Canterbury in the Convention Parliament, presenting a loyal declaration from his constituents and a vindication that they had no hand in the murder of the late King. Finch was rewarded with the office of Solicitor-General, first knighted, and then made a baronet. In 1661 he was chosen 'Autumn Reader of the Inner Temple.' His readership is memorable for the grand feast, whereat he entertained the King, the Duke of York, and all the great dignitaries of the realm. The feasting lasted no less than six days. In the Parliament of 1661 Finch represented the University of Oxford, which was proud of so distinguished a member, yet censured him for not procuring a remission of the tax upon hearths, which weighed very heavily on the Colleges. So when, in gratitude for the support he gave to the 'Five Mile Act,' they resolved to confer on him the honorary degree of D.C.L., the public orator, in course of his speech, said 'that the University wished they had more colleges to entertain the Parliament men, and more chambers, but by no means more chimneys.' His reputation for eloquence at the Bar now rose so high that he was often called the 'English Cicero'

and the 'English Roscius.' In 1670, he was made Attorney-General in succession to Sir Jeffrey Palmer, and on the removal of Lord Keeper Bridgman, in 1672, he fully expected to have received the Great Seal; the promotion of Shaftesbury was a bitter disappointment to him. However, his turn was soon to come. Shaftesbury for some time had been intriguing with the country party, and had incurred the displeasure of the Court by his opposition to the marriage of the Duke of York with the Princess of Modena, and for this reason a promise was extracted from the King that he should be instantly dismissed. Accordingly, the morning of Sunday, the 9th of November, before chapel at Whitehall, was fixed for the transfer of the Great Seal to Sir Heneage Finch, the Attorney-General, who had been summoned then and there to receive it. A rather amusing account has been given of Shaftesbury's last appearance as Chancellor, and the trick he played upon Finch to frighten him. Shaftesbury, as soon as he reached the Court, retired with the King, while Finch and his friends waited in triumph to see him return without the purse. The first salutation over, he said, 'Sire, I know you intend to give the seals to the Attorney-General, but I am sure your Majesty never designed to dismiss me with contempt.' The King, always good-humoured, replied, 'Cods-fish, my lord, I will not do it with any circumstance as may look like an affront.' 'Then, sir,' said the Earl, 'I desire your Majesty will permit me to carry the seals before you to chapel, and send for them afterwards to my own house.' To this his Majesty readily assented, and Shaftesbury entertained him with his conversation till it was time for the Royal party to go to chapel. Finch and his friends, when they saw the Chancellor, still holding the purse, come out with the King and march before him to chapel, were in great consternation, while the Attorney-General himself nearly fainted away. The same evening Sir Heneage Finch's fears were dissipated by his receiving the Great Seal from the King, with the title of Lord Keeper. On the 10th of January, 1674, he was created Baron Finch, of Daventry, in the county of Northampton; on the 9th of December, 1675, Lord Chancellor of England, and on the 12th of May, 1681, Earl of Nottingham, which henceforth became his historical name.

He held the Great Seal and presided in the Court of Chancery for nine years, during which time he devoted himself with untiring zeal and brilliant success to the discharge of his judicial duties. He did not consider his office as merely political, nor, anxious only to retain it, did he entirely occupy himself with Court intrigue. Placed at the head of a magistracy of a great country, he deemed it his first duty to administer adequately justice from his own tribunal, and then he sought to mould equity into a noble code, and adapt it as far as possible to the growing necessities of a people whose wealth and commerce were so rapidly increasing. It was his consummate skill as a lawyer that raised Lord Nottingham above his fellows; and his biographers one and all agree in calling him the greatest jurist of his age. The author of the life of Bishop Bull bears the following warm testimony to his

merits:—'His Lordship was justly esteemed the great oracle of law in his time, and so perfect a master of the art of speaking that he passed for the English Cicero.'

He is again favourably contrasted with Shaftesbury in the second part of 'Absalom and Aithophel,' in which he is Amri:

Sincere was Amri and not only knew,
But Israel's sanctions into practice drew;
Our laws that did a boundless ocean seem,
Were coasted all and fathomed all by him.
No Rabbin speaks like him their mystic sense,
So just and with such charms of eloquence;
To whom the double blessing does belong
With Moses' inspiration, Aaron's tongue.

But by far the warmest praise is heaped upon him by Sir William Blackstone. 'Sir Heneage Finch,' he says, 'was a person of the greatest abilities and most uncorrupted integrity, a thorough master and zealous defender of the laws and constitution of his country, and endued with a pervading genius that enabled him to discover and pursue the true spirit of justice, notwithstanding the embarrassments raised by the narrow and technical notions which then prevailed in the courts of law, and the imperfect ideas of redress, which had possessed the courts of equity. Lord Nottingham never even incurred the suspicion of bribery, or of being influenced by the solicitations of King or courtiers.'

As a statesman, he does not deserve the same unqualified praise that he does as a judge. His latter years were marred by some acts as discreditable as they were uncalled for. He seems, without discrimination, to have surrendered himself implicitly to the Ministers, who ruled in the King's name, and to have regarded himself merely as the retained advocate of the Court. It may be urged in his defence, that he had but two courses open to him, the one, which he adopted, the other, to attach himself to the country party and Shaftesbury, whose bearing and action were equally, if not more, deserving of censure. He sought to outvie his opponents in raising the cry of 'No Popery,' and with a view to crushing Shaftesbury for ever, he proposed the 'Passive Obedience Test Bill,' which only passed the Lords after a prolonged debate of seventeen days.

The Popish plot did not serve to raise his reputation as a Minister of the realm, for there is very grave reason to believe that the Tories, represented by Nottingham, did all they could to fan the passions of the multitude, and whet their thirst for blood. His trial and condemnation of Lord Stafford has left a stigma upon his memory, which lapse of time will never efface, for he sacrificed an innocent man to win the popular favour and consented to a piece of cruelty which nothing can extenuate.

He did not venture to openly oppose the Habeas Corpus Bill, but used every intrigue to have it thrown out by seeking to bring about a controversy between the two houses. Shaftesbury and Nottingham now sat side by side in the same cabinet, but the close of the year 1680 witnessed the final rupture between them; it was hardly to be expected that two men, holding views so diametrically opposed, could work

harmoniously for any length of time in the same Ministry.

The next Parliament lasted only six months, and with it closed Nottingham's senatorial career; the King chose henceforth to rule by virtue of his high prerogative. He survived the dissolution of the Oxford Parliament nearly two years, and continued to hold the office of Chancellor until his death.

He had long suffered from gout, attacks of which disease prevented him from attending the House of Lords, the Court of Chancery, and the Council, for months together. His absences from Parliament were occasionally attributed to his fear of encountering Shaftesbury, whose bitter sarcasm had inflicted many a sting upon his rival. It was made the theme of a popular refrain, as the following few lines will show:

Ask me no more why little Finch
From Parliament began to winch;
Since such as dare to hawk at kings
With ease can clip a Finch's wings.

He expired on the 18th of December, 1682, at his house in Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, in the sixty first year of his age, soon after the flight of Shaftesbury to Holland and about a month before the death of his predecessor in office and bitter rival. His remains were interred in the parish church of Ravenstone in Buckinghamshire, where he had an estate, which once had been the property of Cardinal Wolsey, and on its confiscation had been granted by the Crown to Sir Moyle Finch, the Chancellor's grandfather. Enough has been said of his public life to show his genius and ability; his private life was marked by the strictest morality and integrity, a bright example to the profligacy of the depraved Court.

He was married once, and had the misfortune to lose his wife after she had borne him fourteen children.

Anthony Wood relates of him that he comforted himself for her loss by taking the Great Seal to bed with him, and by so doing on February 7th, 1677, saved it from the fate which befell the mace at the hands of an enterprising thief. Several of his sons were educated at Westminster, and if we may trust the following extract from Dr. Busby's account book for June, 1665, their school bills were left unpaid for a considerable period:

Daniel Finch owes three years and half . . .	£110
Heneage Finch owes more than four years, at least . . .	120
Will Finch owes five years and half . . .	164

Daniel, the eldest, was born about 1647, became a gentleman commoner of Christ Church, Oxford, in 1662. He succeeded his father as second Earl of Nottingham, and his cousin John, as sixth Earl of Winchelsea, in 1729. He was elected M.P. for Lichfield in 1679, appointed a Commissioner of the Admiralty in the same year. He was Secretary of State from 1690 to 1694, but King William struck his name off the list in 1695; to this post he was subsequently restored by Queen Anne. He was one of the Lords Justices at the accession of George I., and President of the Council 1714-15. He was deprived of this office for pleading for mercy for the unfortunate

noblemen attainted in the rebellion of 1715. He died in 1729. He was married twice; by his first wife he had one daughter, by his second twenty-nine children. One of his daughters was married to Sir Roger Mostyn and another to the great Lord Mansfield (election 1723). This Lord Nottingham was the first trustee named by Dr. Busby. His sons, too, were educated at the school.

The Chancellor's second son, Heneage, was bred to the law, and almost equalled his father in the brilliancy and success of his professional career. On leaving Westminster he proceeded to Christ Church, Oxford, afterwards becoming a barrister of the Inner Temple. His eloquence was so great that he was known as the 'silver-tongued Finch,' and it was with general approbation that he was appointed Solicitor-General, while his father held the Great Seal. From this post he was removed soon after the accession of James II. for his opposition to the arbitrary measures of the Court. He then joined the Whig party, was one of the principal counsel for the seven bishops, and assisted in bringing in King William. Early in the reign of Queen Anne he was called to the Upper House as Baron Guernsey, and on the accession of George I. he was created Earl of Aylesford, the title now borne by his great-great-grandson. Lord Aylesford's successors in the title were all educated at the school. Few families have contained so many distinguished members as that of the Finches, and few have shed greater lustre on the school that reared them.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

QUERIES.

'LIBERTY BOYS' TABLETS.—I understand that 'Liberty boys' having been abolished, the custom of inscribing the names on the tablet in College Dormitory has been for the time suspended. I shall be glad to know if any decision has been arrived at as to the use to which these tablets are to be placed, or whether for the future they are to remain blank.—*Old Q. S.*

'OBSOLETE WESTMINSTER MAGAZINES.'—Will any of your readers kindly tell me something about the various magazines that have been issued by the School, the date of publication, and the chance of obtaining copies? I believe 'The Literary Lounger' was one, but I have not seen a copy.—*J. L.*

MONASTIC SCHOOL OF WESTMINSTER.—Can anyone inform me where to find particulars of the monastic school, referred to below, as attached to the Abbey? 'And moreover, converted the Monastery of Westminster, a most famous place for the sacring of the Kings of England, and the place where the armes and Royall Ensignes were alwaies kept, into a Colledgiall Church, or (as I may better terme it) into a seminary of the Church: and there instituted one Deane, twelve Prebends, one Master, one Usher, fortie Schollers, whom they call the *King's Nurseries, out of which there be sixe every yeere, or more chosen for the Acadamies of Ministers and Singers; twelve

poore, &c., to the glory of God, and the increase of True Religion and good Learning. And certainly there comes out from thence, happily for the Church and Commonwealth, a number of learned men.'—From 'The True and Royall History of the famous Emperesse Elizabeth, Queen of England, &c. &c.' Vol. I., p. 64. London, 1625.

*Who called them so, and why?—*J. L.*

'SACK-WHEY.'—Can any of your readers tell me when the custom of drinking 'sack-whey' at the Play was introduced? I remember seeing it spoken of as an ancient custom in an old School magazine. I think it was 'The Trifler.'—*Nemo.*

'BROSIER.'—Was the word 'Brosier' ever in current use at Westminster? Whenever I have heard the pathetic story told of a little Grantite, who met his death through the cruelty of the Dame in providing too much roast veal, this word 'brosier' has always been used. Does it occur in the Town Boy Ledger in which the story is recorded?—*Nemo.*

'BUSBY TRUSTEES.'—I should be glad to learn why the School has an annual 'Early Play' for the Busby Trustees.—*Birch-rod.*

AUTHOR WANTED.—

Dean's Yard : at that dear name arise

What pleasing recollections !

In thee were knit life's firmest ties,

Our most sincere connections.

The friends we make in after life

Betray—abandon—fool one,

But cold must be the heart, indeed,

Which e'er neglects a school one.

A bumper to that holy ground

Which binds us to each other ;

A Westminster the world around

Will always meet a brother.

Henceforth the wine untouched may pass,

Most sapient moralizer,

But let me, let me fill one glass,

'Dean's Yard and Queen Eliza !'

Date of M.S. 1819.—*J. L.*

NOTES.

'MON. OS. ROOM' (ante, pp. 242, 256).—Concerning the room for Mon. Os., *Alpha* will find it mentioned in some papers kept in College, headed 'Extracts from the Transactions of the Dean and Chapter.'—*Inquirer.*

['Oct. 16, 1865. On the report of the clerk of the works, with a plan and estimate of the proposed room for "Monos": Ordered that the same be approved.' The above quotation is all that can be found.—*Ed.*]

'BEVER, ROGER, CURIE' (ante, pp. 242, 265).—The words of which I want an account are not now in use at Westminster ; but *Alpha* will find them mentioned, though not explained, in some 'Extracts from the Transactions of the Dean and Chapter'—a manuscript kept in college.—*Nemo.*

['July 27, 1603. Item that there shall be such and so many servants as are necessary for that Company, namely, a Butler, a Cook, a Curie (?), a Scull, and Roger?'] Quoted from the above extracts.—*Ed.*

School Notes.

The Dean's Greek Testament Prize has been awarded to C. C. J. Webb ; the second prize was divided between A. M. T. Jackson and B. A. James.

We are happy to state that Mr. Marklove, who was for some time prevented by indisposition from appearing in School, has been able to return to his duties. During the week of his absence a form was taken by G. Dale, Esq.

We are glad to notice the appointment of G. Lavie, Esq., to the post of Sub-Registrar of the Royal Courts of Justice. He was admitted fourth in his election into College in 1850, and elected head to Christ Church in 1854.

The Play nights are fixed for Thursday, December 14, Monday 18, and Wednesday 20. The Epilogue, as it was last year, will be acted on all three nights.

J. R. Pryce, Q.S., has obtained the Vaughan Scholarship, tenable by natives of North Wales, at any College at Oxford.

Investigations at the late Mr. Turle's house have revealed a Norman archway of great interest in the wall of the great Schoolroom, which was the Dormitory of the Monastery. The length of time during which this arch has been battened and plastered over have kept it in a wonderful state of preservation. The arch is of the time of Edward the Confessor, and contemporary with the Dark Cloister and the Crypt of Schoolroom, including 'Gym.' It has a kind of ornament on the capitals of its pillars, of which no other example has been found at Westminster, but which has a counterpart in the White Tower of London.

Mr. William Edward Murray Tomlinson, O.W., has been elected in the Conservative interest to represent Preston in Parliament. Mr. Tomlinson was educated at Westminster, where he was elected to fill a vacancy in College, March, 1854, and left in May, 1855. He afterwards entered Christ Church, Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree in 1860, and proceeded to that of M.A. in due course. He was called to the Bar by the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple in Hilary Term, 1865, and joined the Northern Circuit, practising also at the Lancaster County Court, and as an equity draftsman and con-

veyancer. He is chairman of the Preston Working Men's Conservative Club, and is returned to Parliament in the place of the Right Hon. H. C. Raikes, who resigned in order to contest Cambridge University. Though a Conservative, Mr. Tomlinson had the support of the Liberal party. He was elected by a majority of 2,184 votes over Mr. Hanbury.

FOOTBALL.

THE SCHOOL v. OLD CARTHUSIANS.

This match was played on the 28th of October, on a soft ground, and resulted in our defeat by four goals to two. Having won the toss, we elected to play with what wind there was, and almost immediately obtained a corner-kick from a good run by Waterfield. From this nothing resulted. After some good kicking from the backs on either side, Page made a good run but a fruitless shot for our opponents. Their good passing still further eluded us, and Page's second attempt was successful. Other reverses followed. A grand side shot from the foot of Perkin brought the score to 0-2. Up to this time a tone of helplessness was visible among our forwards, but rallying they began to improve their position, and Lynch kicked our first goal in good style. Another goal from Perkin again lowered our colours, and soon after this 'half-time' was called. With the change of ends, Westminster collapsed, and a goal from the head of one of our own backs was the next misfortune (2-4). The same back repeated his performance before the close of the game, which left us the losers by 5 goals to 2. Unfortunately the names of our opponents were lost.

WESTMINSTER.

F. T. Higgins, A. G. L. Rogers, H. W. Waterfield, A. E. Bedford, C. T. Roller, C. Ritchie, C. J. Page, C. Fevey, D. N. Lynch, H. C. Peck, R. M. de Carteret.

THE SCHOOL v. THE CIVIL SERVICE.

This match, played on the following Wednesday, resulted in another defeat for us. The wind was very high and in our favour during the first half of the game, but though we had several 'corners,' the wind prevented our scoring. Rogers, from half back, had a near shot, followed by a good piece of play on the part of Higgins, but half-time was called with no goals to the credit of either side. Against the wind our forwards were at a disadvantage, but Waterfield got away down the side, and ended his run by a good 'middle,' which enabled Page to score our first goal (1-0). Some bad play amongst our backs enabled Gallier to bring the score level. The same player soon afterwards terminated a good run by a 'middle' to Goodrich, who headed the ball between our posts, and thus the match ended in our defeat by two goals to one. Sides :

WESTMINSTER.

F. T. Higgins, A. G. L. Rogers, H. W. Waterfield,

A. E. Bedford, C. T. Roller, M. T. Pigott, C. Page, H. C. Peck, F. G. Thorne, D. Lynch, R. M. de Carteret.

CIVIL SERVICE.

J. Barnes, W. Gallier, E. Cane, W. Goodrich, H. Cockerell, A. Raby, W. Lindsay, H. Cox, J. Holland, T. Stafford, H. Montague.

THE SCHOOL v. ROYAL ENGINEERS.

Played on Wednesday, Nov. 8. The Sappers won the toss, and started from the Hospital goal. The game was fairly even at first, but, from a scrimmage in front of our goal, Hamilton put the ball through (0-1). Nothing further resulted till half-time. From a corner kick soon afterwards, Bedford brought the score level. Had it not been for the splendid goal-keeping of Lieut. Brown, we probably should have increased our total. Roller, Higgins, Waterfield, and Bedford played well for us, and for the Engineers Barnett and Vidal were conspicuous. Sides :

WESTMINSTER.

F. T. Higgins, A. G. L. Rogers, W. Waterfield, A. E. Bedford, C. T. Roller, R. Ingram, C. Ritchie, F. G. Thorne, M. T. Pigott, H. C. Peck, G. E. Eden.

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

H. H. Barnett, J. E. Hamilton, A. H. Straubenzer, W. F. Stafford, E. D. Petrie, S. M. Newman, R. M. Ruck, R. W. Sealy-Vidal, H. N. Dumbleton, F. V. Jeffreys, C. A. R. Browne.

THE SCHOOL v. OLD HARROVIANS.

On Saturday, November 11, we met the above-mentioned team, and a good game resulted in a second 'draw.' From our kick off, the O.H.H. rushed the ball down the centre, and scored their first goal (0-1). Our forwards, by some good concerted play, worked the ball up the ground, and Higgins administered the final kick, thus bringing the score to 'one all.' Again did our opponents evade the goal-keeper and resume their advantage (1-2), but Waterfield took the ball finely down the side, and by a good shot scored the final event of the day. The play generally was fair. Sides :

WESTMINSTER.

F. T. Higgins, H. W. Waterfield, A. E. Bedford, C. T. Roller, R. Ingram, R. Vavasseur, F. G. Thorne, M. T. Pigott, D. Lynch, H. C. Peck, G. E. M. Eden.

OLD HARROVIANS.

J. A. and A. W. Whitelaw, H. B. Rendall, S. F. Greaves, J. W. Holloway, A. A. Davidson, G. Macan, W. Law, M. Fowler, E. Fowler, R. de C. Welch.

THE SCHOOL v. THE CORINTHIANS.

This match was played on Wednesday, the 15th of November, and resulted in our defeat by four goals to nothing.

On Saturday, the 25th of November, we played the Clapham Rovers, and were defeated by four goals to one.

VII. v. XI.

The match *v.* an Oxford Team being declared void, the above game was played on Thursday, the 30th of November. The Seven played one man extra. Their passing completely non-plussed their opponents, and four goals were scored by Scoones, Waterfield, Bedford, and Page, against one for the Eleven from the foot of Lynch. Sides :

SEVEN.

O. Scoones (Capt.), A. G. L. Rogers, H. W. Waterfield, A. E. Bedford, C. T. Roller, R. Ingram, C. Page, H. C. Peck.

ELEVEN.

C. Ritchie, R. Vavasour, R. Berens, F. Thorne, D. Lynch, F. G. Trevor, C. Fevez, C. Gibson, R. Hurst, E. Paul, G. Eden.

O.W.F.C.

A General Meeting, held on October 4, at 4 St. Martin's Place, and presided over by Mr. W. S. W. Vaux, inaugurated the third season of the O.W.F.C. The successes achieved last year, though in some respects solid, were, on the whole, insignificant, and the Secretary did well to pass lightly over the past, and to turn the Club's attention to the promise of the future. To begin with, several important changes were made in the official staff. R. W. S. Vidal, who, since he has married and taken a country living in Devonshire, is no longer able to display in the football field his once unequalled powers of dribbling, shunting, and shooting goals, vacated the presidency, and F. D. Crowdy was elected in his place. In Crowdy, the Club has gained not only a working president, but also an excellent captain; and the change has already been attended by marked success. Then P. G. L. Webb pleaded to be relieved of all, or at least part, of his duties as Secretary; and after various suggestions had been made and rejected, it was agreed that W. W. Bury, under the title of Assistant Secretary for London, should take over the work of getting up the teams, leaving to Webb the purely secretarial duties and the treasury.

The Committee was then overhauled, and the places of E. Wylde, who retired, and F. D. Crowdy, the new president, were filled respectively by H. M. Rumball and C. Y. Bedford, the other members retaining their seats. Thus reorganised, the Club numbers 132 members, including the following officials :

<i>President</i>	F. D. CROWDY.
<i>Hon. Secretary and Treasurer</i>	P. G. L. WEBB.
<i>Assistant Secretary</i> (for London)	W. W. BURY.
" " ("Oxford)	C. W. R. TEPPER.
" " ("Cambridge)	A. A. SIKES.

Committee.

E. H. ALINGTON.	H. M. RUMBALL.
N. C. BAILEY.	G. STEPHENSON.
C. Y. BEDFORD.	J. H. WILLIAMS.
W. BRINTON.	O. SCOONES.

The list of fixtures differs from those of former years in the omission of matches with Upton Park, Pilgrims, and one or two other clubs. On the other

hand, the O.W.W. have entered for both the Association and the London cup.

The list, with the latest corrections, is subjoined :

	Goals for.	Agnt.
S. Oct. 7 <i>v.</i> Clapham Rovers	1	2
S. " 14 <i>v.</i> School	2	3
S. " 21 <i>v.</i> Cambridge	0	4
S. " 28 London Cup-tie <i>v.</i> Olympic Rangers	6	2
S. Nov. 4 Association Cup-tie <i>v.</i> Maidenhead	2	0
S. " 18 London Cup-tie <i>v.</i> Rangers	8	1
S. Dec. 2 <i>v.</i> R. M. C. Sandhurst.		
S. " 9 <i>v.</i> Old Carthusians.		
S. " 16 <i>v.</i> Old Etonians.		
W. " 20 <i>v.</i> Old Wykehamists.		
Th. " 21 <i>v.</i> School.		
S. Jan. 6 <i>v.</i> Old Foresters.		
T. " 16 <i>v.</i> R. M. A. Woolwich.		
S. " 20 <i>v.</i> Old Wykehamists.		
T. " 27 <i>v.</i> Barnes.		
S. Feb. 3 <i>v.</i> Charterhouse.		
S. " 17 <i>v.</i> R. E. Chatham.		
S. " 24 <i>v.</i> Clapham Rovers.		
W. " 28 <i>v.</i> School.		

All the above will be played on the ground of the opponent, except the December matches, which will be played, as usual, in Vincent Square. It will be observed that no matches have been arranged for March, no doubt because the Secretary foresaw that the Club would be employed during this month in waging the final contests of the cup-ties. Financially the Club is prosperous, and it is expected that the exchequer will show at the end of the present season a surplus of twenty pounds. There are various purposes to which this money might be applied. It might be spent in a provincial tour, such as the Old Carthusians went starring (?) in last winter. It might go towards the hiring of a suburban field—in some choice locality like Snaresbrook—for weekly practice and for matches. It might be squandered in the vanity of tasselled caps, badges, and medals, or in the purchase of a silver football or a gilt goal-post. Or it might be given to those sordid members who demand their railway fares for distant matches. Perhaps ingenious correspondents can suggest other means of satisfactorily destroying the surplus. It might be urged that one should use it to ensure the lives and limbs of every member of the Club under the favourable terms lately offered to footballers. Any member, then, who happened to play with such zeal as to lose either both his legs and one arm, or both his arms and one leg, would be entitled to handsome compensation. Or perhaps one ought to keep members *au fait* with football news, by posting to each weekly a copy of the new paper, *Football*, a paper which has secured a staff of such exceedingly humorous provincial correspondents, that one rises from its perusal not a wiser, but certainly a sadder, man. As no one would suggest that it should go to corrupting the adversary's umpire, or to prejudicing the O.W. umpire, further advice will be expected from the correspondence column.

Now that the Club, after two years' silent preparation, has emerged from its privacy as a competitor for

the two challenge cups, it is right to wish it luck, and pleasing to prophesy success. Should it carry off the London cup, there ought to be civic rejoicing to mark the feat; and the Lord Mayor, who is patron of the London Association, may be expected to crown the victors with laurels dipt in turtle-soup.

The first match, *z.* Clapham Rovers, ended 1-2, Bury kicking the goal.

O.WW.—P. D. Crowdy, W. W. Bury, F. W. Bain, H. C. Benbow, C. R. W. Heath, G. Stephenson, C. W. R. Tepper, A. G. L. Rogers, C. Roller, S. A. Bird, O. R. Borradaile.

The match with the School has already been chronicled in these pages.

A strong team went to Cambridge, confident of victory; but whether it was the incessant rain that damped their ardour, or the hurricane of wind which blew them to pieces, they were not exactly victorious. In fact, they fared little better than the much weaker team which confronted Cambridge last season. Then it was a case of 1-6; this year of 0-4.

O.WW.—F. D. Crowdy, W. W. Bury, F. W. Bain, H. C. Benbow, T. Morison, W. F. G. Sandwith; H. P. Robinson, C. W. R. Tepper (half-backs), R. T. Squire, R. C. Batley (backs), C. Ingram (goal).

The first tie in the London Cup proved a very easy affair. The Olympic Rangers were not formidable, either in weight or skill. Only eight O.WW. appeared, two, Jenner and W. Stephenson, being absent from no fault of their own. The other man, who shall be nameless, was afraid of the rain. But though one sometimes wishes that there was a law by which deserters could be shot, in this case it did not matter. The eight O.WW. kicked 6 goals to their opponents' 2 (Bury, 2; Crowdy, 1; Stephenson, 1; Sandwith, 1; Heath, 1).

O.WW.—F. D. Crowdy, W. W. Bury, W. F. G. Sandwith, G. Stephenson, C. R. W. Heath, C. W. R. Tepper, F. W. Janson, J. H. Janson.

The Maidenhead match was more interesting, and no less satisfactory in result. Bury and Alington kicked the only two goals of the match.

The O.WW. played very fairly well together, and penned their adversaries; but owing to the very high wind the shooting of the forwards was somewhat erratic.

O.WW.—F. D. Crowdy, W. W. Bury, W. F. G. Sandwith, E. H. Alington, A. C. Jenner, F. W. Bain, H. P. Robinson, C. W. R. Tepper, R. T. Squire, F. W. Janson, G. Roller (goal).

The second tie of the London Cup was a hollow victory. The antagonists were again Rangers, but not distinguished as Olympic. The excellent referee, however, was neither a Ranger nor an Olympic Ranger, but only an Olympic. By a slight oversight the match lasted two hours instead of an hour and a half; but the last thirty minutes were too dark to alter the score much, which, owing to the excellent play of all the O.WW., and Bury, Crowdy, and Janson in particular, stood, when time was called, at 8-1, the goals being kicked by Crowdy (2), Bury (2), Heath (2), Stephenson, and Jenner.

O.WW.—F. D. Crowdy, W. W. Bury, C. R. W.

Heath, A. Heath, G. Stephenson, W. J. Stephenson, A. C. W. Jenner, S. A. Bird, H. Wetton, F. W. Janson, O. R. Borradaile (goal).

For the third ties of the London Cup, O.WW. have drawn Hotspur, whom they must play on December 9.

In the Association Cup, O.WW. drew a bye in the second round, and will most likely meet Old Carthusians or R.E. in the third. Courage!

P.S.—By a piece of dashing but questionable policy, the O.WW. sent an inferior team to quench the Hotspurs, and reserved their strength to play Old Carthusians in Vincent Square. The Old Carthusians were humbled, 1-3, and that is as it should be; but we have just learned, with infinite chagrin, that the chance of the London cup is vanished.

On December 16, the Oval will witness the O.WW. for positively the first time. They meet the Old Carthusians in the third round of the Association cup ties.

DEBATING SOCIETY.

On October 6th a meeting was held to discuss B. Ince's motion, 'That in the opinion of this Society it is highly undesirable and unjust that Arabi Pasha should suffer capital punishment for his so-called treason.' The following members spoke:

FOR THE MOTION	AGAINST THE MOTION
B. Ince (proposer).	A. Jackson (opposer).
A. Rogers (secondor).	J. Brookes.

F. T. Higgins also spoke on this motion. On a division being taken the numbers were, Ayes 10, Noes 6.

On October 13th a meeting was held to discuss F. T. Higgins's motion, 'That in the opinion of this Society it is highly desirable that Westminster have a Volunteer Corps.'

F. T. Higgins said that now most important schools had a Corps. The chief objections in the present case would be that (1) there were too few fellows, (2) it would take them away from other games, (3) there were no butts near the School. There might at least be a Company of 60 or 70 attached to the Queen's Westminster Corps. Both Wormwood Scrubs and Wimbledon could be easily reached by train; and members of the elevens might be prevented by the Captains from deserting their duty.

G. Eden said O.WW. would be delighted to hear of a Westminster team winning the Ashburton Shield.

R. Beames said there were too few fellows in the school to form a Rifle Corps. The expense would be great; and if drilling were a torture *now*, why should the intellectual part of the school undergo it? Accidents would be common. The following members also spoke:

FOR THE MOTION
B. Ince. A. Bedford.

On a division being taken the result was Ayes 16, Noes 3.

A meeting was held on October 16th, at which the following new members were elected: H. Harrison,

A. S. Waterfield, H. Withers, G. G. Phillimore, C. Tritton, M. Pigott, W. Meredith, D. Lynch, G. Berens.

On October 19th a meeting was held to discuss C. Shebbeare's motion, 'That, in the opinion of this Society, the Salvation Army, being a street nuisance, should be put down by force of law.' The following members spoke :

FOR THE MOTION
C. J. Shebbeare (proposer).
R. G. Forster (seconder).
G. Eden.
B. Ince.
F. Higgins.
J. Brookes.
B. James.

AGAINST THE MOTION
H. C. Peck (opposer).
A. Jackson.
C. E. Freeman, Esq.
A. Bedford.
G. Ince.
C. Rogers.
F. Trevor.

On a division being taken the result was Ayes 17, Noes 15.

On October 26th a meeting was held, at which the Rev. W. Failes (President) read Dr. Scott's new rules. The house then proceeded to discuss A. Rogers's motion, 'That, in the opinion of this Society, the abolition of capital punishment is desirable for all offences in England.' The following members spoke:

FOR THE MOTION
A. Rogers (proposer).
R. Beames (seconder).
B. Ince.

AGAINST THE MOTION
J. Brookes (opposer).
G. Eden.
A. Bedford.
B. James.

On a division being taken, the numbers were, Ayes 11, Noes 18.

On November 9th, a meeting was held to discuss J. R. Brookes's motion, 'That in the opinion of this Society the extreme attention paid to the classics, to the almost entire exclusion of mathematics and modern languages, is deeply to be regretted.' The following members spoke :

FOR THE MOTION
J. Brookes (proposer).
B. James (seconder).
R. Forster.

AGAINST THE MOTION
C. C. J. Webb (opposer).

The house adjourned at 7. p.m.

On November 16th the debate was continued. The following members spoke :

FOR
J. Brookes.

AGAINST
C. J. Shebbeare.

On a division being taken the numbers were, Ayes 10, Noes 21.

The house then proceeded to discuss B. Ince's motion, 'That no member be allowed to speak more than once in the same debate, unless he be the proposer or opposer of the question before the house, both of whom shall have the right of a reply.' An amendment was proposed by A. E. Bedford, that 'twice' be substituted for 'once.' The following members spoke :

FOR THE MOTION
B. Ince (proposer).
A. Bedford (seconder).
C. E. Freeman, Esq.

AGAINST THE MOTION
C. J. Shebbeare (opposer).

On a division being taken, the motion as amended was passed by 21 votes to 7.

At a meeting held on October 20th, P. Russell, Sherring, Lowe, Stanfield, Bellairs, Aris, L. James, R. de Carteret, Sandilands, were elected as new members.

POETRY.

SPIRIT SONG.

Through never-ending paths and mazy
Here must we wander,
Wander for ever in a fantasy,
A dream of irremediable woe ;
Here struggling for ever to and fro,
Our sins we ponder.
Each stumbles underneath a load of crimes
And deeds long past ;
Afar the awful death-bell slowly chimes
For him, whoever he be ;
He sees his fate is written to eternity
In colours more forbidding than the last.
Now in a trance we wander to the hills
That frown so grim ;
And now in sighing tones bemoan our ills ;
Or if our watchful destiny may grant
A moment's respite, with the wind we chant
Our penitential hymn.

S. H. C.

A SICELIAN SUMMER.

Theocritus. Idyll VII. 132-157.

We lay among a heap of mastic leaves,
And nestled in the tendrils of the vine
New cut ; above our heads the rustling elms
And poplars waved their branches in the wind ;
The water from the cavern of the nymphs
Ran babbling over stones ; on shady boughs
Cicalas that love the heat still kept awake
With their shrill cry, and from a bramble bush
The warbler's song came softly down the glen ;
The wood pigeon was cooing in the wood,
And larks and goldfinches were loud in song ;
The yellow bees were humming round the spring ;
The air was fragrant with the summer's breath
Upon the brink of autumn ; at our side
The apples fell, and at our feet the pears
Lay richly strewn ; heavy with purple plums
The branches swept the ground, and in the shade
The oldest cask was opened. Tell me, maids,
That dwell upon the blue peaks of Parnassus,
Was this the wine which aged Cheiron gave
To Hercules in Pholos' rocky cavern ?
Was this the wine that made the shepherd dance
Among his flocks, the giant Polyphemus,
Who hurled his boulders at the ships below ?
Was all their wine so sweet as that we poured
Before the altar at the harvest home ?
May Ceres still accept my offering due,
Still may she smile, holding in either hand
Red poppies blent with ears of golden corn.

Our Contemporaries.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Cambridge Review* (3), *The Durham University Journal*, *The Carthusian*, *The Marlburian*, *The Tonbridgian*, *The Felstedian*, *The Fettesian*, *The Cranleigh School Magazine*, *Our School Times*, *The Meteor*, *The Radleian*, *The Wellingtonian*, *The Cliftonian*, *The Blue*, *The Ousel*, and *The Berkhamstedian*.

The Cranleigh School Magazine gives a graphic description of the general dealer, who sells 'correct cards of the race,' oranges, flowers 'all a-blowing and a-growing,' a fine young rook, and a mongrel pup, with perfect impartiality to any

individual species of merchandise—a gentleman, we presume, intimately connected with the school; and biographies of St. George, St. Agnes, and other black-letter saints, who appear to have as close a connection with the school as the general dealer. A 'Nursery Rhyme,' entitled 'That Naughty Girl of Greece,' is as striking as the young lady herself, who appears to have been pugilistic:

Miss Alpha, though she led her class,
Was yet a most unlovely lass;
She had a little sister θ ,
And she would often bang and β .

We learn also that 'oft she took a stick and λ .'

A philosophical correspondent to *The Tonbridgian* sends the result of some deep ruminations on 'Waterfalls and Washingtubs,' which appears to his Platonic mind to be that 'the latter are not the most suitable craft imaginable in which to descend the former,' a negative result, indeed, evolved from deep cogitations, as we say advisedly, for he represents himself as standing on his head at the bottom of the river to arrive at it. Even the editors of *The Tonbridgian* have struck at the rhyme of 'boys' with 'rejoice': they nevertheless insert a poem on 'The London Policeman' containing it, but omit to mention the fact that 'clothes' does not rhyme with 'goes.' Has anyone ever heard a 'dirty child benevolently roar'?

We can understand the sensations of 'Μουσική,' a complainant to *The Marlburian*, on finding a brass band of elementary qualifications bellowing into his ear at a Penny Reading. A collection of busts is doubtless ornamental, but some slight interest is naturally lost when we learn that a distressing uncertainty prevails as to the identity of Bacon, Beethoven, and Lord Nelson.

The Berkhamstedian contains a lengthy article styled 'Leading Magazines,' which, however, is only a summary of the existence of the *Edinburgh Review*. Among the later contributors to this paper are mentioned—'Messrs. Hartley, Coleridge, and others!' Let us hope this mutilation of the eminent litterateur's name is only a misprint. This is followed by an outcry against the untoward development of propensities to fret work among the boys, which apparently innocent amusement is accused of being a source of bad temper and ill health.

'Death' is the funeral title of a poem by 'Osman,' whose talents are, if we remember the contents of past numbers aright, extensively aired in *The Blue*. The philosophy contained in the line—

'Only the free laugh thy mandates to scorn and thy terrors deride,'

is unquestionably fearful nonsense. Why, also, 'lordship hoar' should be attributed to Death is hard to see.

The endless way in which Horace's odes are hammered out into English verse by youthful aspirants is painfully exemplified by a wish-wash version of Hor. od. II. vi. in *Our School Times*. The latter also contains an account of the way two bicyclist members of this school spent a holiday—namely, by riding to a neighbouring island. How this subaqueous performance could have been managed is hard to imagine. A Heathen Chinese sounds a somewhat unreliable University correspondent.

'Wellingtonians are supposed to take an especial interest in things military.' The October number of their magazine being filled chiefly with accounts of the late war, will no doubt be highly acceptable to its readers. They are advertising for a 'Carmen Wellingtonense,' a school song, to rival 'the national anthem at Winchester.' We sincerely hope that their advertisement will be answered to their satisfaction.

On Saturday, Oct. 7, the Rugby Debating Society 'met to discuss the House of Lords,' apparently with a view to abolishing it. This, at least, was the course advocated by Mr. Brown, who opened the debate. Judging from the exceeding boldness and originality of his suggestions, as reported by *The Meteor*, we feel sure that we shall not lose sight of Mr. Brown, and that, whether sooner or later, the time will come when his name must appear before the world in the brilliant page of future political history.

Readers of *The Radleian* cannot fail to be pleased with the poem signed 'Sphynx,' which appears in their last number. It is true that the words in the poem are arranged with very little regard to the ordinary rules of grammar, and that the sentences follow one another with a remarkable absence of anything we might call logical sequence; but surely we can willingly forgive all this to the genius who can contrive that twenty consecutive lines shall end with the syllables *-ation*. We advise Mr. Editor to produce in his next number a companion poem of which every line shall end in the syllables *-osity*. The following mistakes in spelling can hardly be excused as misprints: 'All Saint's day'; 'Englishmen of letters' (English Men of Letters, by the way, is a series of books edited, not written, by Mr. John Morley); 'Sphynx' for Sphinx; 'Sergeant Bal anyne' (we may repeat the question asked by Swift of the famous Irish advocate, 'Pray, sir, of what regiment?'). These mistakes are a decided blot on the number, and might have been avoided by a careful correction of the proofs.

The poem in *The Felstedian*, 'The Lifeboat,' is spoilt by a mixture of such very realistic objects as tackle and guns, with a slightly mythological creation, the Storm-fiend. Surely this untimely confusion of the real and supernatural is a little childish. The present number is well arranged, and is not crowded with unnecessary and long-winded articles, such as serve well to fill up space in several of our contemporary magazines.

Correspondence.

(FROM OUR OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.)

The Michaelmas term is, as usual, passing uneventfully along. The most pleasing distraction has been Mr. Moody's attempt to convert the undergraduates; and, to judge by the numbers who go to hear him, I should say he had been fairly successful; but I fear a great many have been only prompted to hear evangelical discourses by idle curiosity. The fours were won by Hertford after a good race with New; no O.W.W. were rowing any of the College boats. In football we have been better represented, three O.W.W. playing for the 'Varsity in their first match against the Old Etonians. The Old Westminster match *v.* 'Varsity was put off, owing to the inability of the O.W.W. to get a team together; the O.W.F.C. up here has played Merton and University, each of which matches were drawn; the Old Etonian match is fixed for the 23rd. There has been some talk of starting an Old Westminster Club here, and a meeting is to be held on the 24th to discuss the advisability of that plan. The Schools are now on, and on every side one hears the complaints of those who bewail the untowardness of the examiners.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I remember no more frequent complaint at the school than that O.W.W. were not in the habit of paying their subscription for *The Elizabethan*. It was often urged against them, and was, in fact, with many present Westminsters a standing grievance. But directly we obtain the right to sign O.W. after our names, the aspect of things is changed, more especially at the 'Varsity. The grievance even has changed hands, and we hear of O.W.W. complaining that *The Elizabethan* does not reach them as often as they would wish. A man has perhaps given up all hope of seeing any news from School, when suddenly one morning upon his table he discovers a number of *The Elizabethan* shedding a pleasant radiance in his rooms. But then it does sometimes happen that this number is of several months back, and relates the events of the Sports, when the O.W. is hungering for news of the Play, or perhaps even of the Charter-House match. 'Hope deferred maketh the heart sick,' and for the future the man swears a bitter oath that he will not pay any more subscriptions until he has received his total of numbers. Of course he only acts like an unenlightened O.W., but that at least is the cause of these many complaints.

Now of course I do not mean that there is any mistake on the part of the secretary: all officers of *The Elizabethan* should be above suspicion; but I humbly wish to point out that between London and the University there is a great gulf fixed, over which very few numbers of *The Elizabethan* ever struggle successfully. This is all the apology I know how to make for that meek and long-suffering class called Old Westminster, and with deference, sir, beg to remain,

Yours truly,
CANTAB.

Cambridge, November 6th, 1882.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—I have long felt curious to know why at Westminster School the head boy of each class has to write out the lists. Why should the bottom boy, or, to use Westminster phraseology, the lag, not undertake this very tiresome work? for I know by experience what a trouble it is.

If any of your correspondence (*sic*) can give me a reason for this, I shall be much obliged.

A. G. O. E.

[Classes at Westminster are generally spoken of as *Forms*.
ED.]

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—To come back to an old subject, I should be very much obliged if you could grant me some information about Ashburnham House. About this time last year—I forget the exact date—the School got possession of this building, and had great rejoicing over it. The School also was, I believe, put to some expense in repairing it. Now, after the first flourish of trumpets is over, I want to know, firstly, if it has been of as much importance to the School as was expected; and, secondly, if the money laid out on it has ever been nearly repaid by its usefulness? I ask your candid opinion whether or not, with all its value as a beautiful work of art, the space given by its demolition would not have been of greater value to the School than it is, whether from the erection of a new boarding-house or new class-rooms, &c.

PHILISTINE.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—Amid the wave of revolution which is passing over Westminster, both perceptibly and imperceptibly, many old customs are fast dying out, or at least being very materially changed. For example, less than three years ago, Mon. Os. used always at all three schools to stand at the top of school steps until the masters left the library; prayers used to be read on Saints' days, &c., before, as well as after, ten o'clock school; and the under school used regularly to assemble under the tree in Little Dean's Yard, and announce the approach of the headmaster in the manner of sparrows announcing the approach of 'golden-visaged' Phœbus. These things are now all altered, or altering; and what record of their previous existence has been kept? The majority of O.W.W. are entirely ignorant of these changes. Surely, then, *The Elizabethan* ought to be made the instrument of communicating such things, as well as the ledgers, which are accessible to few present and to no Old Westminster. Without interfering with 'Notes and Queries,' a column of your magazine might be appropriated, under an appropriate title, to the narration of anecdotes of your past history, and the record of innovations and abolitions of the present time. This column would well take the place of such articles as many of your contemporaries publish, recounting some one's experiences of 'A Swim under Water,' 'A Trip to Venice,' or 'The Adventures of a Chimney-pot Hat.' I am sure that few present members of the school are acquainted with the story of the castigation of Curll, of the boy who died of gluttony under compulsion, of the *Δαενηριου ἑγλαος υἱός*, &c.

And yet these things are full of interest. A history of Mon. Os., and similar subjects, would be eagerly read by many. But I trespass on your space. Hoping that you will prosecute, not me, but my suggestions,

I am
Yours truly,
VETUS VETERUM MOS.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—May I be allowed, through the medium of your valuable columns, to make a suggestion?

It appears to me that in our football matches a great deal of time might be saved and decisions rendered more instantaneous if the umpire were provided with a whistle upon which to answer questions, in which case every player would be sure to hear when anything is 'given.'

This is, I believe, the custom at the Oval, and at good matches generally, and I think might be adopted with advantage by us.

I remain
Yours respectfully,
'A LOOKER ON.'

2 Little Dean's Yard.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—May I venture on an important point in Westminster football, which was suggested by your correspondent W. A. B. two years ago, but has never been carried out? What I mean, sir, is that the shooting of the eleven is not so good as it might be, owing probably to their getting no 'real practice' when young, because there are no tapes on the goal-posts of the smaller games. It could not be much trouble to have them put on, and would, I am sure, end in good results.

I am, Sir,
Yours truly,
T. B.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—Having been secretary of a Debating Society, I was glad to hear that such an Institution had been started at Westminster, nothing of the kind having been in existence in my time. But I was sorry to learn that the advantages of a Debating Society were in great measure lost owing to the party spirit too often introduced into the discussions. I am told that there is an intention to bring forward a motion disallowing questions which would lead to the stirring up of ill-feeling in the School; and I hope that some such motion will be adopted. The practice gained by taking part in debates is of the greatest benefit; but this benefit is lost if the debates are wanting in that philosophic calmness which should distinguish them, and sink into mere personal wrangles. It is pleasant to hear young Gracchus hurling his denunciations against all constituted authorities, and to mark the stirring effect of his withering sarcasms on the good men of the Plebs. And it is pleasant to anticipate how hereafter his burning words will rouse the latent spirit in the sturdy hearts of his countrymen, or even fondly to speculate how possibly they will not. But let not Westminster become a Little Peddlington. Let not the rival excellencies of Q.S.S. and T.B.B. disturb the serenity of minds which should be occupied solely with the heinousness of Free Trade or the personal demerits of Charles the First.

Yours obediently,
AN OLD T. B.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—It was with a feeling of deep degradation that I heard of the state into which the Debating Society has fallen. This feeling is shared, I am sure, by all O.W.W. who know the facts of the case. It is quite impossible that it should be otherwise.

If the Debating Society has fallen so low that it cannot exist without having recourse to the private school expedient of calling in one of the masters to preside at its debates, surely the only honourable, the only worthy course to adopt is to put an end to the Society altogether. Every O.W. who retains a spark of pride in anything connected with the School must admit that it would be far better for the good name of the School if the Society were to dissolve itself at once and so die nobly, rather than continue an ignominious existence.

I am

Yours truly,

Nov. 10, 1882.

EX AEDE CHRISTI.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—It seems a great pity that home-boarders, who form so large a portion of the School, and yet are prevented from taking part in most of the School pursuits, should not try to be of some use: and I cannot help thinking that many would be glad to do something better than idling their time at home. Now what could be a better employment for a boy who plays neither football, cricket, nor rackets, than to study literature and music, and with the help of his friends give his school-fellows the enjoyment of the results? A penny reading society would be a great boon to Westminster: and with the assistance or even consent of the masters, I think, if the idea was taken up, could easily be managed.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

DOMESTICUS.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—Were I to let this subject pass without another word, I should feel that, from the fact that 'silence gives consent,' I should, in my own words, acknowledge that you have given me 'good and valid reasons' for the removal of the terrace and flight of steps of Ashburnham House. But I am far from that way of thinking.

That the stones were 'utilised in some alterations made inside the house' is, methinks, but a paltry reason; so I wish to protest against such useless so-called, but mis-called, 'improvements.' I cannot for a moment entertain the idea that the finances of the School have fallen to so low an ebb that they cannot afford to spend a small sum in procuring the necessary materials without having recourse to those with which the terrace was constructed. If the garden is going to be made level with the bottom of the house, what are the reasons for so doing; and what is to be its ultimate use to the School?

Yours truly,

J. K. L.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I enclose a few novel definitions which may please your readers. They are answers given to certain questions in a geography paper set to a low form in a school whose name I need not mention:

'A "wartershed" is a place where boats are kept.'

'The "equator" is a very hot piece of land passing through the earth.'

'A "map" is a peace of paper of the world, or part of it.'

(A volcano is) 'a mountain that throws out lather.'

'A "falcana" is a mountain which shouts up sinners.'

'The "source of a river" is the bottom.'

'The middle of the earth is called the "axis."'

I remain, Sir,

Yours truly,

EUCLID II.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J.K.L.—The stones of the flight of steps which lately existed in the garden of Ashburnham House have been utilised in the alteration of a ruinous arch in the wall of the old kitchen, which had been a window in the Misericord or lesser refectory of the mediæval monastery, into a convenient doorway between the home-boarders' sitting-room and the passage behind it. It is hoped that the site of the terrace and garden may be used for fives-courts or other such useful purpose, though this is as yet uncertain. Mr. Pearson, R.A., the architect of the Abbey, wishes, by removing the terrace, to level the site to the floor of the ancient refectory, which is now quite hidden. A similar alteration of level in the yard by the office of the Clerk of the Works has some time been accomplished, and a beautiful arch of the mediæval kitchen been in consequence disclosed.

NOTICES.

All contributions for the February number of *The Elizabethan* must be sent in before January 24, to the Editor, St. Peter's College, Westminster.

All other communications must be addressed to the Secretary of *The Elizabethan*, St. Peter's College, Westminster, and on account to the Editor or printers.

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

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

Florant.