



The Elizabethan.

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THE PLAY.

A PLAY term without a Play is a disappointing thing; its very name is a false pretence, raising expectations that are not to be fulfilled, and, while it claims to be the most interesting of terms, bringing the year to a fit conclusion with its greatest event, it is really the dullest, and ends in nothing. It wants the Play and the preparations for the Play to relieve the monotony of school life—a pleasant monotony enough, no doubt, but none the less pleasant for those occasional excitements which give colour to the whole and save it from tameness. Of the occasions which give the relief, in spite of Commemoration Services and other modern institutions, great and small, the Play still remains, and will remain, the chief, and Westminster makes a real sacrifice in giving it up as a mark of respect for the dead and their living relations. To some, indeed, it may seem that the sacrifice is unnecessary, and that the quality of loyalty is strained; they may say that it is a mere affecta-

tion, or at best an exaggeration of loyalty, to forego the performance of the Play so many months after the Prince's death, when all formal mourning has ceased. But whatever truth there may be in these and similar arguments for the discontinuance or modification of the custom, the present occasion is not one which most people would choose for advocating a change. The sad circumstances of the death of the Duke of Clarence caused the grief for it to be peculiarly genuine, and we are now only bearing our part, though late, in the general tribute of sympathy. It is not our intention to revive the sorrow; everything that was to be said on the subject has been repeated over and over again in every kind of paper, and there would indeed be danger of falling into affectation and insincerity if we were to dwell long upon it now. It is enough for us that a near relation of the Queen and one in the direct line of succession to the throne has died within the year, and tradition enjoins that in such a case the Play shall be omitted. Oxford was able to produce its version of the 'Frogs' within a few weeks of the

Duke's death, and in the summer 'Pelops' Line' could be presented in the Bradfield Chalk-pit; such late-born institutions can flourish unaffected by the death of princes, but the Westminster Play is distinguished from them all by its age and traditions, and one of its traditions forbids its performance this year; a custom which is recommended alike by age and the sentiment of loyalty is not likely to be changed quickly or without good reason at Westminster.

And so there is to be no Play; for another year the scenery must remain undisturbed in its damp resting-place, and the small T.B. will not gaze with wonder while shapeless masses of woodwork and somewhat dingy but partly renovated canvas are hauled up into Dormitory; the Dormitory itself will keep its wonted appearance, and will not suffer the changes by which it is transformed into a theatre, when first the cubicles disappear and then the bare stage is erected, and the gallery gradually grows until the whole is ready to assume its splendours for the appointed nights; the unfortunate junior will miss the happy time when discipline is relaxed, and he can enjoy in Saigné's the unaccustomed pleasures of bolster-fights and surreptitious feasts and tales of mystery and imagination told when the lights are out, and such other joys as delight the heart of the small boy, impossible at all other times, or if possible suppressed with a stern hand. In College this term there is none of the excitement of putting up for parts, the conning of them when they are allotted, and continual rehearsals at all times and in sundry places; there will be no floods of letters to the Captain, and questions about who is coming and who is not, as answers to invitations and applications for tickets come in; none of the culminating excitement of the last week, when all the preparations are over and nothing remains but the performances, at which the fruits of all the preparatory labours are reaped, when the front of the house presents a sea of friendly and appreciative faces, while behind the scenes all is inquiry as to how the Play is going, and whether the audience takes up the points as it should, and confidence gradually grows stronger, from the first trembling entrance to the triumph of the *Plaudite*, and on through the jokes and laughter of the epilogue till the final curtain; then follow the congratulations of friends and the criticisms of those who have missed some old familiar point, the searching of newspapers for critiques, the pleasure given by kindly critics who have a word of praise for everybody, and

the disappointment caused by those who have none; the taking of photographs to be kept and shown to admiring friends for many a year. All these and many other incidents of the Play will be missing; the masters will rejoice that the work of the last week is not cut up by late plays and distracted attention; next year's Play will suffer from the filling of parts by inexperienced actors and the want of a strong nucleus of a caste consisting of those who are familiar with the stage; and friends who never have an opportunity of meeting, except at the Play, will be parted for another year.

These may be small matters, but, when all is said and done, the fact remains that the Play is not a small matter, but the great event of the year, for the loss of which nothing can compensate us; the institution which more than anything else distinguishes Westminster from all other schools, and brings it before the world, and still keeps its ancient glory untouched by innovation and reform; it is never to be given up lightly or without sufficient cause. Though more than a school generation has passed since the death of the Duke of Albany caused the last omission of the Play in 1884, it is still well remembered, and therefore we hear little, even from the most suspicious, of the apprehensions then expressed by those who did not know the custom, that the death of a prince was merely used as a cloak for an insidious attack upon the Play and all that belongs to it. We all acquiesce now in the decision that there shall be no Play, though most of us wish that it were otherwise.

Yet there is some consolation; the absence of the Play is, or may be, the opportunity of everything else; a great deal of time, money, and energy is spent every year upon the Play, and may now be otherwise employed. If any O.W. does not know what to do with his contribution to the Cap, he might do worse than give it to the Mission, or for the decoration of the paneling 'Up School.' The football season will not suffer from the partial, or for the last few weeks of term total, absence from the field of some of the most prominent Q.S.S., and we hope that the result will be seen in an improvement in the record of the team next term. The gymnasium, the Debating Society, and everything else should also benefit if the time is not wasted; the Commemoration, no longer overshadowed by the near approach of the greater event, ought to be the most successful there has yet been. The Glee Society, with a free field for entertainments this term as well as next, will, we trust, improve the

singing so much that the concert may be revived next summer, after a long interval. Let us hope that the most will be made of the present opportunity, and that many years may pass before there is such another.

WESTMINSTER WORTHIES.

NO. 35.—HENRY ALDRICH, DEAN OF CHRIST CHURCH.

'A POLITE, though not a profound, scholar, and a jovial, hospitable gentleman. He was the author of some theological tracts which have long been forgotten, and of a compendium of logic which is still used; but the best works which he has bequeathed to posterity are his catches.'

Thus far Macaulay. Those readers of *The Elizabethan* who are interested in the subject (if any such there be) may like to have a few more details concerning this Westminster worthy. Such details are hard to come by, as no complete biography of the Dean exists; which, perhaps, accounts for Lord Macaulay having nothing better or worse to say of him than he has said in the above extract from his 'History of England.'

Henry Aldrich, then, was born in the city of Westminster, in the year 1647. He is said to have been of the same family as Robert Aldrich, Bishop of Carlisle, the friend and correspondent of Erasmus. His father was another Henry Aldrich, of whom nothing seems to be known, except the fact that he died in his son's lodgings at Christ Church while on a visit there, March 23, 1682-3, and was buried in the cathedral. The arms of the Aldrich family are (or were) over his tomb. Henry Aldrich, the son, was at that time a Canon of Christ Church; so his father lived long enough to see him begin to fulfil the promise of his youth. That promise must have been considerable, as he was only fifteen years old when, in 1662, he was elected to Christ Church from Westminster.

Nothing is known of his school life. Busby, of course, was his head-master. The under-mastership during the greater part of his time in college (1658-1661) was held by Adam Littleton, the lexicographer. At Election 1662 Aldrich's name stands third on the list of six candidates elected to Christ Church. One of the others was Thomas Heylin, a son of Peter Heylin, the well-known Prebendary of Westminster.

Once at Christ Church, Aldrich soon made his mark. He took the degrees of B.A. in 1666, and M.A. in 1669; and accumulated the degrees in divinity on March 2, 1681-2. Long before the latter date, however, he had become celebrated in his college as a tutor. But he had other qualifications by which he was well known in the University. Thus Anthony Wood relates (under the date July 5, 1672) that some verses 'in laudem musices carmen sapphicum,' by Dr. Fell, Dean of Christ Church,

were dispersed among the scholars in the Sheldonian Theatre just before the *Encoenia* began. Afterwards part of the ode 'was sung by several masters of music, scholars and choirsters, in divers parts—all admirably well performed, and so, consequently, gave great content. The musick to which the verses were sung was composed by Henry Aldridge (*sic*), student of Christ Church, the same who became Deane of that house in 1689.' Several of the Westminster students of Christ Church appear among the musicians of Oxford at this period. Wood mentions two who used to attend the meetings at the house of his friend, Mr. Ellis, to cultivate 'the delightful facultie of musick'—one, Richard Rhodes, whom he describes as 'a confident Westmonasterian, a violinist to hold between his knees'—the other, Christopher Jeffreys, who was 'excellent at the organ and virginals, or harpsichord.' Another of a somewhat earlier date was James Quin, who had the finest bass voice Wood ever heard; which stood Quin in good stead when Oliver Cromwell's visitors turned him out of his studentship. For he was introduced somehow to the Protector himself, who (according to Wood) 'heard him sing with very great delight, liquored him with sack, and, in conclusion, said, "Mr. Quin, you have done very well; what shall I do for you?" To which Quin made answer, with great complements, of which he had a command with a great grace, that "Your Highness would be pleased to restore him to his student's place," which he did accordingly, and so kept it to his dying day.' Wood does not mention Aldrich as a performer, but makes several allusions to the performances of his compositions at the *Encoenia*.

Aldrich was installed in his canonry of Christ Church in February 1681-2, succeeding another Old Westminster, Samuel Speed, who died in the preceding month, having had a somewhat chequered career, for he was said to have been a buccaneer, and was certainly chaplain to Lord Ossory, whom he accompanied on the occasion of the Duke of York's naval action with the Dutch. The lines—

'His Chaplayne he plyed his wonted work;
He pray'd like a Christian, and fought like a Turk,
Crying, "Now for the King and the Duke of York":
With a thump, thump, thump'—

are said to refer to Speed. Though Aldrich's record was not so warlike as his predecessor's, his preferment did not suffer on that account, as eight years afterwards he became Dean of Christ Church, which office he held till his death. It is noteworthy that the letters patent appointing him to the Deanery, which bear date April 4, 1689, allude to him as Bishop Fell's successor, and take no notice of John Massey, the convert to Romanism, whom James II. had appointed three years previously. The new Dean soon took rank as one of the most influential dons of the University, and filled the office of Vice-Chancellor from 1692 to 1694. It is remarkable that he was the last Dean of Christ Church who did so till Dean Liddell accepted the post in 1870. For nearly two centuries successive Deans

seem to have declined the honour—presumably on the ground that their position as heads of ‘the House’ justified them in refusing to burden themselves with other responsibilities.

Aldrich seems to have been an excellent head, and to have taken a personal interest in the well-being and well-doing of his undergraduates. His taste for music caused him to give weekly music parties at the Deanery, at which members of the House whose tastes ran in that direction were sure of a welcome. He established a music school for the cathedral choir, and by reason of the choral discipline which he instituted the cathedral services became celebrated for the pitch of excellence to which they attained. ‘Music, perhaps, never flourished so much at Oxford as under his example, guidance, and patronage,’ wrote Dr. Burney in his ‘History of Music.’ Burney also says of the collection of music which Aldrich bequeathed to Christ Church that ‘for masses, motets, madrigals, and anthems of the 16th and 17th centuries the collection is the most complete of any that I have had an opportunity of consulting.’ He formed, in fact, a large musical library, in which the works of the Italian composers, particularly of Palestrina and Carissimi, were prominent features. His own compositions and adaptations for the Church are well known, and include ‘A morning and evening service in G’ (printed by Boyce), ‘A morning and evening service in A’ (printed by Arnold), and about fifty anthems, some original, others adaptations from the Italian. Of these the best known are ‘Out of the deep’ and ‘O give thanks’; some of them, according to Grove’s ‘Dictionary of Music,’ are to be found in the printed collection, of Boyce, Arnold, and Page; others in the Ely, the Tudway, and the Christ Church MSS.

Aldrich’s taste for Church music must have caused him to experience somewhat of a shock when he found himself, after the Revolution of 1688, a member of the Commission which was instituted ‘to prepare matters for introducing an alteration in some parts of the Church service, and for a comprehension of the Dissenters.’ He withdrew from the proceedings at a very early stage, accompanied by his old schoolfellow Dr. Jane (then Regius Professor of Divinity and Dean of Gloucester) and the Bishops of Winchester and Rochester. The remainder of the commissioners, having thus got rid of what must have been a rather discordant element, ‘proceeded very unanimously and without any heats in determining’ to pass the following remarkable resolutions:—

‘That the chanting of Divine service in cathedral churches shall be laid aside, that the whole may be rendered intelligible to the common people.’

‘That the “Benedicite” shall be changed into the 128th Psalm, and other psalms likewise appointed for the “Benedictus” and “Nunc Dimittis.”’

They also recommended several changes—but by no means improvements—in the wording of the book of Common Prayer. It is not surprising that the harmonious Dean of Christ Church found himself rather out of tune with such a brass band,

He had numerous other accomplishments besides music, and from all accounts seems to have been a kind of ecclesiastical Crichton. Thus Hearne has the following note of him: ‘This Dr. Aldrich is a most ingenious learned man, & w^{ch} is above all, a sincere Member of the Church of England, as he has shew’d by divers of his late Proceedings, whilst Prolocutor to the Lower House of Convocation during the last Sessions. He is likewise a most affable complaisant Gentleman & has nothing in him of Affectation.’ And again: ‘Mr. Thwaites tells me y^e Dean of X^t Church formerly drew up an Epitome of Heraldry for y^e use of some young Gentlemen under his care, but y^t he has no copy now, all of them being got from him & he does not know where to have one. He says ’twas done very well, and y^e best in its nature ever made.’ He also cultivated chemistry, and was a member of a society formed at Oxford for the study of that science in 1683. He wrote a treatise on architecture, and designed the models for Peckwater and Canterbury quadrangles; the chapel of Trinity College, Oxford, is also said to have been built from a design by him, which, however, appears to have been touched up by Sir Christopher Wren. And, to crown all, Burnet mentions him as having distinguished himself by his publications in the controversy with the Roman Catholics in the time of James II. These were the ‘theological tracts which have long been forgotten.’ But his ‘*Artis Logicae Compendium*’ was, at the time when Macaulay wrote, as well known in Oxford as Great Tom himself.

In spite of this formidable list of learned acquirements, ‘Harry Aldrich,’ as his Christ Church friends called him, had nothing of the mere don, about him. The cantankerous Anthony Wood always speaks of him with respect, and Hearne, as we have seen, had a warm admiration for him. He seems to have been a good fellow and to have loved good-fellowship. The following translation of the well-known lines beginning—

‘*Si bene commemini, causae sunt quinque bibendi,*’
is attributed to him:—

‘There are, if I do rightly think,
Five reasons why a man may drink:
Good wine, a friend, or being dry,
Or I st he should be, by-and-by,
Or any other reason why.’

He was also an inveterate smoker, and composed a once celebrated catch to be sung by smoking vocalists. There are several stories told of his devotion to his pipe. One is that a student of Christ Church on one occasion betted a friend that, however early or at whatever time the Dean was visited in his own *sanctum*, he would be found smoking. The bet was taken, and at once the Dean was visited. When the reason of the visit was explained, ‘Your friend has lost,’ said the Dean; ‘I am not smoking, only filling my pipe.’ Another, and a better version of the same story is that the bet was that the Dean would be either smoking, stopping, or filling his pipe. He was found apparently doing none of these things, but with

his hand in his waistcoat pocket. Further investigation showed that the bet was won. The Dean's pocket was also his tobacco pouch.

In Prior's 'Lusus Westmonasteriensis' (the original edition of 1730, which preceded the better known 'Lusus Alteri' of our own time) are the following lines in commemoration of Aldrich's fondness for tobacco :—

'Aldricus nobis nomen memorabile, Paeti
Omnia qui novit commoda, sic cecinit.
Paetum mane viget, marcescit nocte, caditque;
Primo mane viget sic homo, nocte cadit.
Ut redit in cineres incensum, mortuus omnis
Sic redit in cineres, fitque quod ante fuit.
Quis non e tubulis discat nunc reddere fumos,
Vivere cum doceant, et bene posse mori?'

This looks as if the unknown writer of this epigram attributed to Aldrich the authorship of the celebrated stanzas in praise of tobacco which exist in several versions under the title of 'Smoking Spiritualized.' But the stanzas exist in a manuscript of James the First's time, long before Aldrich was born. Perhaps they were originally an antidote to the 'Counterblast against Tobacco.'

Aldrich's usually happy relations with his college found an exception in one rather memorable instance. At Election in 1688 there took place a regular battle between Christ Church and Trinity—the struggle being as to which set of electors should secure a major candidate of extraordinary promise. This paragon was one Edmund Smith—afterwards better known as Captain Rag—whom Dr. Johnson, for some reason or other, thought fit to immortalise in the 'Lives of the Poets.' He was elected head to Cambridge; but after the election the Christ Church authorities offered him a studentship, and to Christ Church accordingly he went. He had a distinguished university career; but, having been an unsuccessful candidate for the censorship, he turned his talents to lampooning the Dean. This effort of genius, combined with an unfortunate craving for alcohol, eventually brought about his expulsion. He took refuge in London, where his undoubted abilities procured him the friendship of Halifax, Addison, and Prior. But he had his revenge on Aldrich, by asserting and causing a good many people to believe that the Dean had been guilty of garbling the text of Clarendon's 'History of the Rebellion.' The ingenuous Mr. Calamy states with much candour in his autobiography how he himself journeyed to Oxford, and, by bribing a needy printer, got sight of the proof-sheets, with a view to collecting evidence against Aldrich. Aldmixon brought forward the charge again many years after Aldrich was in his grave; but the slander was triumphantly refuted by Bishop Atterbury.

Dean Aldrich died in 1710, and was buried in the Cathedral at Christ Church; his 'thrifty nephew,' as we are told, complying with the Dean's own desire that there should be no monument over his grave. A monument was, however, erected in 1732, which still forms a prominent feature in the interior of the

Cathedral, and the inscription describes the Dean as 'grande totius Academiae ornamentum.' There is a fine portrait of him by Kneller in Christ Church Hall, and another—a Kit-cat—in the Bodleian Gallery. He bequeathed his books to the Christ Church library. The 'thrifty nephew' above referred to was Charles Aldrich, who was admitted head into college in 1694, elected head to Oxford in 1699, and subsequently became rector of Henley-upon-Thames.

The following are the words of Dean Aldrich's celebrated glee, 'Hark, the bonny Christ Church bells!' and are not without interest as preserving evidence of Christ Church manners and customs at the end of the seventeenth century :—

'Hark! the bonny Christ Church bells,
One, two, three, four, five, six :
They sound so wondrously great,
So wondrous sweet,
And they troul so merrily.

'Hark! the first and second bell,
That ev'ry day at four and ten
Cries come, come, come, come, come to pray'rs,
And the verger troops before the Dean.

'Tingle, tingle, ting goes the small bell at nine,
To call the beerers home;
But the devil a man will leave his can
Till he hears the mighty Tom.'

Students of 'Lusus Alteri Westmonasteriensis' will remember the allusion to this glee in the lines in Dean Vincent's 'Declamation' on the Oxford bells :—

'Audistis quam suave sonant modulamina doctis
Auribus? Aldrici carmine digna cani.'

P.

School Notes.

FIVE members of the School attended Lord Tennyson's funeral in the Abbey, on October 12. The rest of the School lined the East Cloister, through which the procession was to pass; they were afterwards admitted to the nave.

A meeting of the Mission Committee was held early in the term. The only business done was to change officers. Mr. Marklove resigned the Treasurership, and Mr. Failes was elected to fill it; Mr. Edgell will take Mr. Failes' place as Secretary.

Orations were held Up-School on October 13. The piece set was 'A Ballad of East and West,' from the 'Lyra Heroica.' Several competitors entered, but none of them came up to the standard usually reached. Brailey was judged first, G. Eady second, and H. B. McCaskie third.

The Gumbleton English Verse prize for a poem on the Sea of Galilee has been awarded to R. Waterfield; the Ireland Latin Verse to E. H. Cox.

The Sixes in Green have begun. Twenty-four have been made up.

The usual Junior House ties have been played off, leaving Home Boarders the winners. In the first round they beat Rigauds (2-1), and Grants beat Ashburnham House (1-0), after first drawing (1-1). In the final, Grants were beaten (2-1). The games were not all as even as would appear from the score, as the forwards seldom shone in front of the goal. This defect seems not to be confined to the first eleven.

Third Elections played a match against Grants, and were decisively beaten (4-0).

Ten more coats-of-arms have been begun Up School on the larger panels, reserved for peers. Four have already been completed, those of

Sir Benjamin Hall, Baron Llanover.
William T. H. Fox Strangeways, Earl of Ilchester.
William Lennox Lascelles de Ros, Baron de Ros.
Robert Hobart, Earl of Buckinghamshire.

The other six are :

George Charles Bingham, Earl of Lucan.
Welbore Ellis, Baron Mendip.
Sir John Case Hobhouse, Baron Broughton.
Sir William Bagot, Baron Bagot.
George Thomas Keppel, Earl of Albemarle.
Sir John Bing, Earl of Strafford.

Archdeacon Watkin Williams (O.W.) has been appointed to the Deanery of St. Asaph.

FOOTBALL FIXTURES.

1892.

Sept. 24	. . .	Old Westminster (1-5), lost.
Oct. 1	. . .	Crusaders (0-6), lost.
" 8	. . .	Old Wykehamists (0-1), lost
" 15	. . .	A. L. Fevez's XI. (4-0), won.
" 22	. . .	Old Foresters (0-2), lost.
" 26	. . .	Trinity College, Oxford (1-2), lost.
" 29	. . .	Clapham Rovers (0-5), lost.
Nov. 9	. . .	Casuals (1-3), lost.
" 12	. . .	Royal Engineers (2-0), won.
" 17	. . .	Cambridge O. W.W.
" 19	. . .	Old Carthusians.
" 23	. . .	University College, Oxford.
" 26	. . .	Old Rossalians.
Dec. 3	. . .	Old Etonians.
" 10	. . .	Christ Church, Oxford.

1893.

Jan. 25	. . .	Old Westminster.
" 28	. . .	F. Bickley's XI.
Feb. 1	. . .	Clapham Rovers.
" 4	. . .	Old Harrovian.
" 11	. . .	Casuals.
" 18	. . .	Old Carthusians.
" 25	. . .	Charterhouse (at Godalming).
Mar. 4	. . .	Christ Church, Oxford.

THE FIELDS.

THE SCHOOL v. OLD WYKEHAMISTS.

This match was played 'Up Fields' on Saturday, October 8, and resulted in another defeat for the

School, though this time the score against us was only 1-0. At the commencement the School pressed, and even play followed for a considerable time, and several brilliant runs occurred on each side, which were, however, rendered abortive by the fine play of our back division and the inability of our forwards to shoot respectively. After about half an hour's play, however, our opponents succeeded in scoring by a shot from Thesiger. Soon after this a misfortune befell the School, More getting so much hurt as to be obliged to cease playing.

Immediately after half-time a furious onslaught was made on our goal, and Allen's superb play alone prevented our opponents from scoring several times. After about ten minutes of this, things seemed to go more in our favour, but our forwards, always weak, were further handicapped by More's absence, and were never able to score.

Thanks, however, to the splendid work effected by our backs, the Old Wykehamists were unable to add to their total, and the match ended as above stated.

For the School, Allen, Sherring, and Newman were best, though all the back division worked hard, but, as usual, our forwards seemed sadly at fault. Teams:—

SCHOOL.

M. A. Allen (goal), T. H. Newman and E. Garrett (backs), H. Gates, F. B. Sherring, and W. Armstrong (half-backs), P. Knapp, J. F. More, D. Shearme, J. H. Alderson, and W. Shimield (forwards).

OLD WYKEHAMISTS.

W. P. Richardson (goal), C. Wigram and E. G. Hemmerde (backs), R. L. Whittaker, F. M. Ingram, and R. Bonham-Carter (half-backs), C. E. Wilkinson, H. E. Thesiger, Hon. F. J. N. Thesiger, A. Whittaker, and C. H. Lewin (forwards).

WESTMINSTER v. A. L. FEVEZ'S XI.

This match was played on October 15, and resulted in a victory for us, our first this season, by 4-0. The forwards were a little better together than before, but, considering the weakness of our opponents, the score should have been larger, many opportunities being missed. Most of the forwards have a fatal habit of passing in front of goal when they should shoot. Wetton's brilliant goal-keeping had much to do with the smallness of the score.

The game was fast and interesting, though the School pressed most of the time. More scored in the first five minutes, and soon after Shimield sent in a beautiful shot (2-0). More scored once again before half-time, and Shimield once in the second half.

Of the forwards the right wing, especially Alderson, showed considerable improvement. In the back division Sherring and Garrett were conspicuous, and Allen did all he had to do well. The teams were:—

WESTMINSTER.

M. Allen (goal), T. H. Newman and E. P. Garrett (backs), W. L. Armstrong, F. B. Sherring, and H. Gates (half-backs), P. E. Knapp, D. Shearme, J. F. More, J. H. Alderson, and W. S. Shimield (forwards).

A. L. FEVEZ'S XI.

H. Wetton (goal), A. L. Fevez and E. C. Daniel (backs), E. L. Fevez, M. E. Fevez, and J. L. Peck (half-backs), F. Burge, H. Tritton, H. Berens, H. Ladell (sub.), and E. Whinney (forwards).

THE SCHOOL *v.* OLD FORESTERS.

Old Foresters brought a fairly strong team to play the School in this match on October 22, and won by 2-0. The kick-off was only about a quarter of an hour late. The School at first played up very well, and should have scored several times, as the half-backs often put the ball right in front of the visitors' goal. At half-time there was no score, but soon after changing over Salway shot the first goal for Old Foresters, who had now got the wind with them. The second goal was scored by R. C. Guy, who had come centre forward at half-time, instead of Hodgson, who went back.

For the School, Newman and Armstrong were best, while Allen was very good at times; for the visitors, Hookway and R. Borrow were especially conspicuous. Teams:—

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

M. A. Allen (goal), E. P. Garrett and T. H. Newman (backs), F. B. Sherring, W. L. Armstrong, H. W. Gates (half-backs), W. Shimield and J. H. Alderson (right wing), J. F. More (centre), H. S. Ladell and P. E. Knapp (left wing), (forwards).

OLD FORESTERS.

H. W. Guy (goal), S. A. Hookway and Rev. R. C. Guy (backs), H. Janson, H. C. Foy, and R. Borrow (half-backs), L. Dashwood, E. J. Ramsey, R. D. Hodgson, H. Salway, and S. W. Borrow (forwards).

WESTMINSTER *v.* TRINITY COLLEGE,
OXFORD.

This match was played on Wednesday, October 26, and resulted after a close match in a victory for the visitors by 2-1. The result was somewhat disappointing, as the School should have scored oftener. Our opponents unfortunately lost their outside right, Marriott, who hurt his knee after a quarter of an hour's play. During the first half the visitors had slightly the best of the game, and scored the first point within a minute of half-time. Soon after re-starting Bathurst headed the ball through our goal (2-0). A hands followed in front of our goal, but Sherring cleared. Our only point was scored by Alderson with a shot which the goal-keeper fumbled. The School played up hard till the finish, but were unable to save the defeat.

For the School, who were without Armstrong and Garrett, none of the forwards showed much form; Newman, Sherring, and Allen were good.

WESTMINSTER.

M. Allen (goal), T. Newman and L. K. D'Arcy (backs), H. Gates, F. B. Sherring, and F. Plaskitt (half-backs), P. Knapp, H. Ladell, J. F. More, J. H. Alderson, and W. Shimield (forwards).

TRINITY.

G. Field (goal), H. K. Foster and G. W. Dawson (backs), J. R. Jones, E. B. Alexander, and H. C. Izard (half-backs), J. Hewetson, H. B. Plumtree, L. C. V. Bathurst, F. W. Carlbar, and J. B. Marriott (forwards).

WESTMINSTER *v.* CLAPHAM ROVERS.

This match, played 'Up Fields' on a heavy ground on October 29, resulted in a disastrous and inexcusable defeat by 5-0, due chiefly to the utter inability of all the forwards to shoot, and the exceedingly bad play of the whole eleven, which compared very unfavourably with the form shown on the preceding Wednesday. The School were without Armstrong and Garret, and Campbell was tried on the left. From the first the visitors pressed and the School were evidently out-classed, so much so that at half-time, in spite of some good play on Allen's part, the score was 4-0 in favour of the visitors. The School forwards had some chances, but failed to avail themselves of them. In the second half one more goal was added, and the Clapham Rovers left the field victorious as above stated.

For the visitors Aylen (2), Pye-Smith, Witherby, and Rathbone scored. Preston and the backs were also good.

For the school Allen was very useful, but should have saved one or two of the goals. Of the back division no one was by any means up to his usual form, though Newman and Sherring worked hard. The forwards were far below their usual standard, which at best is a very low one. The shooting was extremely weak, and there was no excuse for the failure to score. Campbell, however, at times was good, and Alderson put in some good work. There was a lamentable want of energy and spirit in the play of the whole team.

The teams were:

CLAPHAM ROVERS.

E. H. Winslow (goal), A. H. Sharman and R. W. Ingram (backs), H. C. Duncum, H. Preston, and H. C. Witherby (half-backs), H. Rathbone, A. M. Mitchell (right), C. H. Aylen (capt.) (centre), E. W. Pye-Smith and G. M. Davidson (left) (forwards).

WESTMINSTER.

M. A. Allen (goal), L. K. D'Arcy and T. H. Newman (backs), F. J. Plaskitt, F. B. Sherring (capt.), and H. Gates (half-backs), W. F. Shimield, J. H. Alderson (right), J. F. More (centre), R. R. Campbell, and P. E. Knapp (left) (forwards).

WESTMINSTER *v.* CASUALS.

This match was played 'Up Fields' on Wednesday, November 9, and the result was victory for the Casuals by 3 goals to 1. Their team was a strong one and the result implies no discredit to the School.

We started fairly well with a good rush to their goal, but Shimield's shot was saved. After this beginning the game was on the whole more in favour of the Casuals. Soon afterwards Sherring had the ball all to himself in front of their goal, and should have shot, but passed to a forward instead. Soon afterwards their forwards had a good run with a goal from Moon as its result. A very little afterwards Moon dribbled the ball through our goal. He was enabled to do this because D'Arcy missed his kick badly. Soon after this Allen saved well, but un-

fortunately hurt Nelson. Alderson then had a shot at their goal, but did not succeed. Moon, on the other hand, scored another and the last goal for the Casuals. The score at half-time was 3 goals to 0.

In the second half the School showed great improvement, and with luck we should have scored more. As it was, Shimield got a goal after a good run from More.

There was no inconsiderable change in our forward division. Shimield was centre instead of outside right, and More inside right instead of centre. Campbell played outside right in Shimield's old place, and Alderson was inside left. The changes are distinctly an improvement, especially in the cases of More and Shimield. Campbell played a good hard game. For the Casuals A. H. Harrison and Moon were best, and for the School Sherring was in his best form, which is saying all that can be said, and Knapp and Shimield were good.

WESTMINSTER.

M. A. V. Allen (goal), W. L. D'Arcy and T. H. Newman (backs), H. Gates, F. B. Sherring, and W. Armstrong (half-backs), P. E. Knapp, J. F. More, W. S. Shimield, J. H. Alderson, and R. R. Campbell (forwards).

CASUALS.

M. H. Routledge (goal), A. H. Harrison and R. H. Fletcher (backs), R. R. Barker, W. G. Powell, and H. A. Harrison (half-backs), A. R. Woodbridge and T. L. Nelson (right wing), E. G. Moon (centre), S. Bickley and F. Burge (left wing), (forwards).

THE GLEE SOCIETY.

THE Glee Society gave their first entertainment this term 'Up School,' on Wednesday, October 19, before a rather small audience. As must happen at the beginning of the school-year, much new material had to be found for the choruses, and we may look for a great improvement next time, which will come with increased confidence. The instrumental music even surpassed its usual standard of excellence, and was thoroughly appreciated.

The programme opened with an old friend, 'Hail, smiling morn,' which went fairly well. Balfour was suffering from a bad cold, and could not do himself justice; we hope to hear him again to better advantage. 'The March of the Priests' was given with great spirit by the orchestra. Holland, who made his first appearance 'Up School,' is a great acquisition; he had chosen a pretty piece, and played it with considerable taste, receiving an encore. Guy apparently had a cold, for his high notes were far from clear, and he disappointed the expectations formed after his last performance. The next chorus was less familiar, but the trebles sang out better than before. The trio which followed was, in our opinion, the best of the vocal music; it was sung without accompaniment, and all three kept excellently together. The last two choruses were better known, and went with much more go. Sherringham, as we have mentioned before,

has the fault of trying to force his lower notes, with the result that the higher voice has the effect of a falsetto; otherwise he sang very nicely. The next item, a quartet for violin, 'cello, piano, and organ, was excellent, and received an encore. An enjoyable evening was closed with the National Anthem.

PROGRAMME.

OVERTURE	'War March of the Priests' (Athalie)	Mendelssohn.
	SCHOOL ORCHESTRA.	
CHORUS	... 'Hail, Smiling Morn'	Spofforth.
SONG	... 'Who is Sylvia?'	Schubert.
	R. BALFOUR.	
VIOLIN SOLO	... 'Mazurka'	... Bohn.
	T. S. HOLLAND.	
SONG	... 'The Powder Monkey'	Molloy.
	A. H. GUY.	
CHORUS	... 'Hark, the Lark'	... Cooke.
TRIO	... 'Glorious Apollo'	Webbe.
	H. T. SHERINGHAM, F. HOWLETT, ESQ., G. HOWLETT.	
CHORUS	... 'O hush thee, my baby'	Sullivan.
SONG	... 'Marjorie'	F. Allitser.
	H. T. SHERINGHAM.	
INTERMEZZO	... 'Cavalleria Rusticana'	Mascagni.
CHORUS	... 'May-Day'	Orpheus Collection.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

The School Glee Society gave their second concert on Wednesday evening, the 2nd inst. The programme opened with Mendelssohn's 'Cornelius March,' played by the orchestra with great spirit, the wind parts being very effectively put in by Mr. Ranalow on the American organ. Balfour sang a solo by Purcell; his voice and style have both improved, owing partly to his having overcome a slight amount of nervousness which we have noticed on previous occasions. A quartette, 'Gaudeamus Igitur,' by Pearsall, was capitally rendered by Sherringham, Mayne, Balfour, and Alderson. They sang well together, and had evidently carefully rehearsed their parts. Locke, who made his first appearance as a soloist, sang 'Fiddle and I,' by Mrs. Goodeve (the violin obbligato being very well played by Mr. Eason); he has a good voice, and fairly earned the encore accorded him. Norman showed considerable taste in his performance of Gounod's 'Serenade' as a violin solo. Mr. F. B. Ranalow's fine voice was heard to good effect in the song of 'Hybrius the Cretan,' which he sang in first-rate style. The glees were not sung as well as one would like to hear them. If a little more time and regular attendance were given at the practices, we are sure a much better result would be produced, and more encouragement given to the energetic and painstaking conductor, Mr. Ranalow.

PROGRAMME.

OVERTURE	... ..
	SCHOOL ORCHESTRA.	
CHORUS	'Awake, awake; the flowers unfold'	Henry Leslie.
VOCAL DUET	'Friendship'	Maso.
	H. LADELL and G. D. HOWLETT, Esq.	
SOLO	'I attempt from Love's sickness to fly'	Purcell.
	R. BALFOUR.	
QUARTETTE	... 'Gaudeamus Igitur'	R. L. de Pearsall.
	H. T. SHERINGHAM, W. C. MAYNE, R. BALFOUR, and J. H. ALDERSON.	

VIOLIN SOLO ...	... ..	...	...
		D. NORMAN.	
CHORUS ...	...	'O, by rivers'	<i>Sir Henry R. Bishop.</i>
SOLO (with violin)	}	'Fiddle and I'	<i>Mrs. Arthur Goodeve.</i>
obbligato)			
		G. C. B. LOCKE.	
CHORUS ...		'Good-night, thou glorious Sun'	<i>Henry Smart.</i>
VOCAL DUET		'O wert thou in the cauld blast'	<i>Mendelssohn.</i>
		J. PETERS and H. T. SHERINGHAM.	
SOLO ...		'The Song of Hybrias the Cretan'	<i>Elliott.</i>
		F. B. RANALOW, Esq.	
CHORUS ...	...	'The Old Brigade'	<i>Edwardo Bain.</i>
		GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.	

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

THE House met on Thursday, October 6, when W. C. BELL's motion ('That this House is in favour of measures being taken to exclude pauper-alien from England') was continued.

W. C. BELL spoke for the motion.

Against the motion: D. CLAPHAM and D. SHEARME.

D. CLAPHAM thought the English labourer could, if he liked, live on less than at present.

D. SHEARME opposed the motion as a Conservative: there were, he thought, some trades which could not be carried on by Englishmen. He also discussed the Italian ice-cream seller.

W. C. BELL said that in his opinion 'England should be for the English.'

On a division the motion was carried by 13 to 6.

The following motion was then brought forward: 'That this House is in favour of abolition of trial by jury in England.'

The following spoke for the motion: D. SHEARME (Proposer), W. C. BELL (Seconder), and F. B. SHERRING.

Against the motion: R. BALFOUR (Opposer), Mr. J. SARGEAUNT, P. B. HENDERSON, and N. J. McCASKIE.

The discussion of this motion lasted half way through the next meeting of the House on Thursday, October 13.

D. SHEARME said that in attacking the system of juries he intended no injury to the English Constitution. He first showed that the juries did not now fulfil their original functions, and then proceeded to explain that the whole system was both cumbrous and expensive. Also it was always possible for a juryman with a good pair of trousers to outsit all his colleagues.

R. BALFOUR considered it futile to discuss the original functions of juries now; what did that matter? He did not think that sitting on juries was looked upon as a hardship; if a man could not spare the time he was always willing to pay the necessary fine. In his opinion to have more than one judge was the same as having a jury.

W. C. H. BELL proposed a system of three judges. This would at once be a cheaper and quicker way of giving justice. Judges too would have some knowledge of law, which ordinary jurymen had not.

F. B. SHERRING said that the English code was very mixed and hard for shopkeepers to understand; the plan of three judges had succeeded very well in India. If a juryman did not turn up he was not allowed the option of a fine; it was a case of contempt of court.

Mr. J. SARGEAUNT was surprised to see two such good Conservatives as Messrs. Shearme and Bell bring forward such a revolutionary measure. Juries were originally *witnesses*; six on either side. If a system of three judges was established, the people would never believe they were getting justice. Mr. Bell's system, too, would be doubly expensive. After a brief hit at the country magistrates and the late Conservative Government, Mr. Sargeaunt sat down and the House adjourned.

At the next meeting (October 13), P. B. HENDERSON said that there was now no need for juries to fulfil their original functions. He then went on to discuss the characters of different classes of poachers.

D. SHEARME pointed out the weak points in Mr. Sargeaunt's speech. It had been simply an attack on the late Conservative Government.

W. C. BELL thought Mr. Sargeaunt must have confounded Conservatives and reactionists.

Mr. SARGEAUNT said he was sorry he had expressed himself so badly. When he saw a motion like the present one with Conservatives bringing it forward, he was inclined to believe that Conservatives were not only reactionists but revolutionists. He then showed that the main object of his speech had been to show that the people must believe they are getting justice done them, which he did not think would be the case if a board of three judges were established.

After a few words from N. J. McCASKIE the House divided, when the motion was lost by 5 to 15.

The following motion was then brought forward: 'That all hospitals should be under municipal control.'

The following spoke for the motion: J. F. CARR (Proposer), N. J. McCASKIE (Seconder), D. CLAPHAM, and R. BALFOUR.

Against the motion: F. B. SHERRING (Opposer), W. C. BELL, and E. P. GARRETT.

The discussion of this motion lasted half-way through the next meeting on Thursday, October 20.

On October 20, before proceeding to discuss the regular business of the House, H. S. Ladell and C. D. Fisher were elected members of the Society.

J. F. CARR considered that hospitals under Government control would do much more good than hospitals do in their present state. In 1866 fever hospitals had been instituted under Government control; these were exceedingly beneficial. We often heard of wards in hospitals being closed for want of funds; this evil would be avoided if hospitals were under municipal control, and it would not be an expensive change.

F. B. SHERRING wanted to know how a town councillor, who knew absolutely nothing about sanitation or medicine, could be expected to know how to manage a hospital. Again, why should there be any

change in the management of hospitals? The public were quite satisfied with their present management.

N. J. McCASKIE supported the Proposer in a short speech.

D. CLAPHAM proposed to have a board of twelve F.R.C.P.'s to manage the hospitals.

W. C. BELL did not want to be *compelled* to support hospitals, and he did *not* entirely trust the London County Council; it was a new body, and had already shown itself rather extravagant in its use of ratepayers' money. Or perhaps a new 'Government board' would have to be formed, which would mean a great deal of expense.

R. BALFOUR had noticed a puerile confusion between 'rates' and 'taxes.'

After further remarks from D. CLAPHAM, J. F. CARR, and E. P. GARRETT, the House divided, when the motion was lost by 8 to 9.

The following motion was then brought forward: 'That the Irish Parliamentary Party is unfit to govern a country.'

The following spoke for the motion: D. SHEARME (Proposer), W. C. BELL (Second), P. B. HENDERSON, and E. M. LOUGHBOROUGH.

Against the motion: R. BALFOUR (Opposer), J. F. CARR, and Mr. J. SARGEAUNT.

The discussion of this motion was continued during the next meeting on October 27, and half-way through the next on November 3. As the Proposer and Opposer had had no time to get up the subject on October 20, they both spoke again at the beginning of the meeting on October 27.

D. SHEARME said that Irishmen were not, and never could be, statesmen; they were good rhetoricians and a useful political weapon, but not statesmen. Parnell was the first and only person who ever made the Irish felt as a distinct party in the House, and Parnell had been deserted and betrayed by his followers. He wished the House to remember that this motion did *not* deal with Home Rule. He then referred to the terrible outrages which had been committed by the Irish Party, and reminded the House that the Irish were dependent on foreign countries for money, &c. The priests were the curse of Ireland, and now that Parnell was dead the priests again ruled Ireland.

R. BALFOUR, in an eloquent speech, said that the agrarian murders which had been committed in Ireland were the result of the tyranny with which Ireland had been ground down. The Irish Parliamentary party had succeeded in showing Ireland what an unjust government she had been subject to. They ought to be praised for having done this. Ireland had never received any benefit from English legislation. It was not treachery that induced the Irish to leave Parnell; it was patriotism. He thought Ireland had been very moderate, considering the injustice with which she had been treated by England.

W. C. BELL showed that Parnell, in spite of his great qualities, had been ruined by the treachery of Healey and others. He then showed that the Irish

did not want Home Rule, but entire separation from England, and discussed some of the most atrocious outrages and murders. The Irish were a party utterly unworthy of confidence.

P. B. HENDERSON showed that the Irish were not representative of the country—they had not talent for government—and many of them had committed vile crimes.

J. F. CARR considered 'obstruction' the only means the Irish had of retaliating on the English.

Mr. J. SARGEAUNT said that we Englishmen ought to regard Ireland from an Irish point of view; but we didn't always. He did not see why a man was unfit to govern a country if he happened to have been a criminal. It was absurd to say that Ireland had no statesmen—it had many brilliant ones. It was patriotism in the Irish to leave Parnell: their country required that they should do so.

D. SHEARME accused Mr. Balfour of wandering from the point in his last speech. This incited an eloquent and vehement reply from R. Balfour.

E. M. LOUGHBOROUGH then made a brief speech.

W. C. BELL then criticised some remarks made by J. F. Carr and Mr. Sargeaunt.

Mr. J. SARGEAUNT, in a humorous speech, defended what Mr. Balfour had said in his last speech, showing that he agreed with all Mr. Balfour had said.

The motion was then carried by 16 to 3.

H. A. Beasley and H. W. Waterfield were then elected members of the Society.

Obituary.

MR. JAMES R. MACLEAY, who died on October 28, at 48 Queen's Gate Gardens, was at Westminster as a Town Boy. Our notice is from the *Times*:—

'TIMES,' October 31, 1892.

In the person of James Robert Macleay, who died on October 28, at the age of 81 years, there passed away the last survivor of the numerous family of the Hon. Alexander Macleay, F.R.S., for many years Secretary of the Linnæan Society of London, and afterwards Colonial Secretary and first Speaker of the House of Representatives in New South Wales. Mr. J. R. Macleay, like his brothers, William Sharp Macleay, the entomologist, and Sir George Macleay, the companion of Sturt in his exploration of the interior of Australia, was educated at Westminster. He afterwards entered the Foreign Office and was employed in various countries under that department, the last post he occupied being that of Registrar to the Mixed Commission at the Cape of Good Hope for the

suppression of the slave trade. Mr. Macleay retired from the public service in 1856.

The Rev. CHARLTON GEORGE LANE, rector of Little Gaddesden, Herts, and Chaplain to Earl Brownlow, died at the Rectory, aged 56, on November 2, 1892. He was at Westminster as a T.B.

He was a famous oar at Oxford, where he rowed No. 3 in the University boat against Cambridge in 1858 and 1859.

He also played cricket for the Gentlemen of England in 1854 (while at school), and was in the Oxford eleven in 1858.

He was one of the great Surrey eleven that used to meet the full strength of England on even terms. We append a notice from the *Times* of November 3 :—

'TIMES,' November 3, 1892.

We announce this morning the death, at the age of 56, of the Rev. Charlton George Lane, rector of Little Gaddesden, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, a position which he had filled for the last twenty-two years. Mr. Lane, who was chaplain to Earl Brownlow, was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and during his residence at the University rowed in the Eight and played in the Eleven. He was a prominent member of the court of the Mercers' Company, and a few years ago served as Master.

Correspondence.

FROM OUR OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—The less said about the performances of O.W.W. in the Schools last term the better.

Among those who have gone down are E. Everington, Aveling, A. G. Clark, and Thompson. The O.W.W. who have come up are G. Gillett at Keble, and F. Urch, A. Nesbitt, D. Fitzmaurice, E. Berens, L. Anderson, and H. Carr at the House.

We should like to congratulate L. James on having obtained a mastership at Radley.

Among the guests of the 'Union' for last Thursday's debate was Sir Walter Phillimore, Q. C.

Mr. Froude (O.W.), the new Regius Professor of History, has delivered his inaugural lecture.

There is every likelihood of Nesbitt obtaining his 'half-blue' for bicycling after his brilliant performance in the twenty-mile road competition.

At football, Street is captain of the 'Varsity; Olivier is captain of the House Eleven, in which Doherty, Stephenson, Barnes, Booker, and Berens have been playing, and also Williamson until he was displaced.

During the 'Sat. Sun. Mon.' D. Shearme was the only visitor from the School.

A proposal, which seems likely to be popular, has come from the O.W. Society at Cambridge, that there should be an O.W. *conversazione* held in London to fill up the social void caused by the omission of the Play.

R. C. Phillimore is President of the Union this term. The last O.W. to hold that office was F. H. Collier in 1890. Among others connected with Westminster who have been presidents of the Union are the names of Messrs. Sloman and Sargeant in '75 and '81, Sir John Mowbray in '36, and the late Lord Devon in '27.

We hear that the treasurer of the Mission is to be replaced.

Yours sincerely,
Oxford, November 8, 1892. C. Y.

FROM OUR CAMBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—Since June there have been many changes in the small band of Cambridge Old Westminsters. We miss many old faces; Armitage, Balfour, Edwards, Grant-Wilson, Hurst, Markham, and Preece are all gone down from Trinity, Winter from Clare, and Fellows from Selwyn; while to take their places there are Allen, Farrar, Ganz, Langton, Morris, and Shearme here, Mercer at Clare, and Key at John's. I say 'to take their places,' but it is a hard task to fill the gaps left by some of those who are gone; let me take this opportunity of saying how much we regret their absence, and how heartily we wish them all success for the future. The Freshmen have begun well. Shearme and Langton played in the Association Freshmen's match; both played well—indeed Langton was at times so brilliant that he was mentioned by some papers in connection with the 'Varsity goal-posts; both he and Shearme have played for Trinity Rest. It is a matter for rejoicing that so many of the Freshmen have taken to rowing; they are to be seen tubbing any afternoon, wet or fine. 'Third' is a club to which we should feel proud to belong, especially after the magnificent victory they achieved yesterday in the first heat of the 'Varsity Fours, when they beat so formidable a crew as First Trinity by no less than forty yards. Alas! that there were no Westminsters in our boat; but still the day may come, and for that day we must work with a will. Last Sunday we held our first meeting in Willett's rooms. Grant-Wilson was up for a few days, and we had a visitor in G. P. Alien. The former resigned his presidency, to which Fanshawe was elected, and Longhurst was chosen secretary in place of Preece. It was decided that we should communicate with the Oxford O.W.W. as to the advisability and possibility of holding a *conversazione* of O.W.W. in December to atone for the loss of social gathering occasioned by the lapse of the Play. It is to be hoped the scheme will prosper. Scratch Fours were also considered, some members, from fear of a w. tting, preferring Scratch Pairs. We discussed the match against the School on the 17th, in practice for which we are to have a game against the Old Wykehamists next Monday. It does not look as if you will find us a very formidable team. Altogether our meeting was a great success, and we shall hope for several this term. In conclusion, let me wish the School better luck 'Up Field,' than they have had so far.

Yours truly,

TRIN. COLL., CAMB.

November 3, 1892.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—A friend of mine heard from a Westminster boy this summer that there was a story current in the School of a boy, for some cause or other, having been taken before the Speaker of the House of Commons by the late Lord Beaconsfield when Mr. Disraeli; presumably on account of some breach of decorum or good conduct in the House. Upon hearing this the candid friend said, 'I can show you his portrait; you shall see the likeness of the veritable culprit'—exhibiting a photo of myself, the writer of this letter. Now I am just engaged upon investigations into the origin of myths, and especially how legends often have their origin in the substance of pre-historic folk-lore, such as the Lady Godiva legend at Coventry, which has its root in pre-historic times. I feel, therefore, a double interest in the investigation how it has come to pass that the

fault or mischance (if any there be) has been placed on my rather aged shoulders. There arises, you see, not only a general but a personal interest in obtaining a clue to the cause of myself being exhibited, if to only one of the present generation, as in some sense a malefic or of bygone days, albeit to be castigated by some great one, we may say by the hand of Dr. Busby, would probably be a distinction to be remembered. It seems to me that the current tradition may have arisen from the combination of two occurrences that happened to myself when a boy at Westminster in the following manner.

I was, some time in the year 1843 or '44, sitting in the temporary building for the use of the House of Commons after the fire; the seats in the Speaker's Gallery used by the boys were on the benches that rose from the floor of the House, and were close to the members as they passed in. I had been taken by a relative to Mr. Disraeli's not long before; he stopped in passing in and noticed me. I then Chancellor of the Duchy (one of the Somersets) was endeavouring to express what he had to say with lamentably ill-success. Says Disraeli, touching my shoulder, 'What do you come here for, my boy—eh?' I had neither wit nor courage to venture a reply; so continued he, with a somewhat sarcastic smile, 'To take a lesson in eloquence, eh?'

Not very long after this I got out of the boats one evening in early summer, and forthwith went to the House to hear the debates. There I soon fell fast asleep; whether from sheer lack of interest in the proceedings of the legislators, or from the effect of exercise and some rather heavy London porter, or from a combination of these curious causes, I know not. At length, in a sort of dream, I became conscious of a dignified personage in the distance, and also of a figure standing over me. This was Sir Augustus Cliford, Usher of the Black Rod, who happened to be that evening in full Court dress. He, in his gravest tones, announced that the Speaker had seat for me! There was certainly that most important and imposing personage apparently looking sternly in my direction. Guilty of I knew not what, but which, if only a loud snore, might involve the School in disgrace, and b. dim the lustre of such a motto as '*In patriam populumque*' by some mean or base return for our noble privileges, a shameful confusion and utter embarrassment fell upon me. I was preparing to express myself as most contrite for all my offences, whatever they might have been. I felt, indeed, relieved from the guilt of what, to a boy, might well seem an unpardonable offence, when Sir Augustus put on a smile of kind benignity and departed, and so the matter ended. Some story arising from a combined version of these two occurrences may be the one said to be current and alluded to as above by one of the present generation.

October 29, 1892.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
O. W.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—I wish to point out an error in your last number. My schoolfellow, the Rev. Henry Harrison, died in his 80th year (*not* in his 90th); and in reply to an inquiry, L. J. Brett was in the same form with my brother in 1829, but I do not remember when he came or left.

Faithfully yours,
THOMAS SOMERS COCKS.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—In previous years winners of the School Fives Ties have invariably received prizes; but this year, although no notice was given of the discontinuance of the practice, the successful competitors have had to content themselves with the empty honour of victory. Surely this omission is somewhat unfair.

Yours, &c.,
T.

[The omission was quite unintentional. The prizes will be given as soon as they are bought.—Ed.]

Our Contemporaries.

We acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following:—*Clavinian, Marlburian, Cheltonian, Alleynian, Meteor* (2), *Wellingtonian, Felstedian, Ulula, Pauline, Malvernian, Lancing College Magazine, Rossallian, Ousel, Our Boys' Magazine, Wykehamist, Derbetian, South Eastern College Magazine, A. A. Notes, Cantuarian, Cliftonian, Blundellian.*

ERRATUM.

Page 73, *ante*.—In heading to article, for 'K.T.' read 'Kut.'

NOTICES.

All contributions to the December number of *The Elizabethan* must be sent in to the Editor, St. Peter's College, Westminster, not later than December 7.

All other communications should be addressed to the Secretary of *The Elizabethan*, St. Peter's College, Westminster, and on no 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 contributors or correspondents.

Contributions can only be inserted if written on one side of the paper only.

Back numbers of *The Elizabethan* may be had from the Secretary at *od.* each.

Morcat.