



The Elizabethan.

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THE MONITORIAL SYSTEM.

IN attempting to deal, however cursorily, with such a subject as the present, we cannot but feel that we have entered on a task of considerable difficulty. A school paper professes to be, and should profess to be, the voice of the school which it represents; but on the subject of the monitorial system, as it at present exists at Westminster, there are, we fear, so many widely differing views that, whatever line of argument we may ourselves adopt, we shall hardly be able to escape the charge of prejudice from one quarter or another. To any, therefore, who may read these lines, and who on reading them may feel inclined to accuse us of prejudice, of exaggeration, or of distortion of facts, we would say, 'Be sure that you yourself, in dealing with this question, are not guilty in at least an equal degree of the very faults which you attribute to us.' We trust, however, that, in trying to touch temperately and with moderation on the leading points of certain facts which have of

late attracted some attention in the School, we shall be able at once to avoid giving serious offence to any, and shall not by any unfairness or misrepresentation open a door for contention or cavilling.

Many of the difficulties which beset the monitorial system here at Westminster doubtless arise from the peculiar construction of the monitorial body. This body, intended for the management of general school affairs, consists, as is well known, of seven members—the Captain of the School, the three Queen's Scholar Monitors, and three Town Boy Monitors; the first four holding their position by right as the four senior Queen's Scholars, and the Town Boys being appointed at the Head Master's pleasure, and not by any unvarying rule of seniority or precedence. This appointment of Town Boy Monitors is an institution of comparatively recent date, and, owing to the spirit of faction, many difficulties have arisen in times past, since such appointment was first instituted, from the obstructive tendencies of opposing parties in the monitorial council. A rule exists that no measure may be

passed by the council unless it number at least one Town Boy among its supporters; the consequence naturally is, that, unless all members of the council can entirely divest themselves of party feeling, the monitorial body is apt to become a cipher. The same result may be produced by party feeling on the part of people who are not members of the council at all. It is not, however, with this rule, or with any of the customary phenomena of faction, that we wish to deal at the present time; we would rather invite the attention of those interested in the matter to other abuses which of late have crept in, and which, if they flourish, threaten to reduce even an united body of monitors to a position little better than that of a scarecrow, which any bird of ordinary intelligence speedily discovers to be a vain shadow, and thereupon trespasses on forbidden ground at the dictates of his own sweet will. A growing tendency is manifesting itself in offenders to seek for protection from lawful punishment under external interference, and in would-be protectors to shield offenders by complete indifference or systematic opposition to the recognised laws of the School. Monitors are held responsible for the suppression of offences punishable by law, when their hands are tied by the bonds of circumstances over which they have no control; attempts made by monitors to do their duty, if not prematurely nipped in the bud by the vigilance of those who are ever on the watch to do so, are decried as brutal and barbarous by the cheap sympathy dictated and fostered by a mawkish and unhealthy sentimentality. Paradoxical as these statements no doubt may seem to those who are unacquainted with the real bearings of the case in the painful light in which they stand, we do not think that we have overstepped the boundary of fact in any remark which we have made on this matter. The present state of things, if it is allowed to go on, will result in some lamentable extreme—either the complete abolition of the monitorial system in a public school, or its existence as a mere empty mockery, or the general refusal of all conscientious individuals to take upon themselves the inevitable responsibilities of monitorial authority. The idea of the abolition of the system is so startling as to seem absurd to any who do not know how much its working has already been curtailed; the existence of the system as an empty form seems even less desirable than its complete annihilation; the possibility of a general refusal to such a heavy burden as the duties of a monitor not only unaided, but actually impeded, is already foreshadowed in the distaste which individuals

even now so frequently display for entering on monitorial office where pains are many and privileges none, and in the self-congratulation of those whose position is sufficiently high to enable them to be their own master without the irksome duties of such office, and perhaps with the anticipated pleasure of baulking and hindering those who in this respect are less fortunate than themselves. The ceremony of appending their names to the formal declaration in the monitors' book, gone through by all entrusted with monitorial authority, has of late years been made a public instead of a private affair; unless this business is to degenerate into a mere solemn farce, reforms are urgently needed; for how can any monitor promise to observe the laws of the School, and to the best of his ability ensure their observance by others, when that ability is, through no fault of his own, reduced to *nil*?

Again, why should punishment by monitors be regarded as a monstrous infringement of all laws, natural, human, and divine, while punishment by masters is a matter of almost daily occurrence? Why should four strokes with a cane for offence proven be deemed a gross instance of bullying and brutality, when flagellation of a more serious description is frequently resorted to in the Library? We are far too conservative to attempt a wish to decry an ancient and recognised form of school discipline for which Westminster has ever been peculiarly famous, or to hint at the abolition of our traditional birch; but why should the birch in the hands of a master be tolerated, and the cane in the hands of a monitor be deemed inhuman? It is something ludicrous to anyone who has received a public school education to witness the unaffected horror with which the outside world regard all monitorial punishment. Occasionally the howls of philanthropic agitators, as in the celebrated Winchester 'tunding' case a few years back, break forth in unheard-of discord; the daily papers are ever on the watch to make a mountain out of a molehill, and ordinary school discipline is held up to execration as a fiendish form of tyranny and torture which would do honour to a Nero or Torquemada. The cry which a certain portion of the British public, in one of its temporary fits of humanity, raises against all corporal punishment is an unhealthy sign, and all the more so because it is really insincere; and the result of the corresponding movement in our own world will soon be that no so-called monitor will ever attempt to do his duty at all, for fear lest he should have to confess with Falstaff, 'I do begin to perceive I am made an ass.'

The main question seems to be this—Is the monitorial system necessary or unnecessary to the welfare of a public school? There are some people, doubtless, who will call it a necessary evil, and others who will stigmatise it as a crying abuse. To such we have nothing here to say; for, as regards the general aspect of the question, the exponents of these and similar views are still in the minority. But assuming, however unwarrantably, that the system is necessary—that public schools are not perfect, and that their members have their blemishes—is it not, then, also necessary that the system should be supported and not suppressed? that it should be allowed a certain freedom of action, and should not be in every way as circumscribed as possible? Mistaken though we may be in this idea, we venture to state again our conviction that it is better that the system should perish at once than that it should struggle on as a mere empty formalism, the laughing-stock of all who condescend to notice it.

Before concluding these few remarks which we have here offered to those of our readers who may be interested in them, we have promised ourselves a pleasanter and more popular task than the writing on the subject of abuses ever can be, and in which we know that all alike will sympathise with us. We would take this opportunity of bidding a cordial farewell, in the pages of *The Elizabethan*, to one who is soon about to take his last leave of Westminster. Himself a monitor when at Westminster as a boy, he has warmly supported the monitors through many difficulties during the twenty years of his sojourn among us as a master; a rigid disciplinarian, he has never forgotten to temper justice with mercy; and while there are few, indeed, who cannot look back to some act of kindness received from him, there are many who will ever regard him with sincere affection as one of their best and truest friends, both at school and in after life. His affection for the School has ever been such as could only be felt by one of her most loyal sons; he has always had her true interests at heart, and has never lost an opportunity of consulting her welfare. He has ever proved himself a warm supporter of all institutions, both of ancient and modern growth, in School and College; and too many of them will suffer from his departure. His incessant labours on behalf of Westminster have merited more than the comparative repose which he now seeks; but he will carry with him into his new life the best wishes of all who have ever had the privilege of knowing him throughout his long mastership, for his future prosperity and happiness.

'OLD WESTMINSTERS.'

No. IX.

GEORGE THOMAS KEPPEL, SIXTH EARL OF ALBEMARLE.

I AM well aware that a prejudice exists against writing of those who are among the living, but I confess I cannot admit that a worthy man is any the less worthy because he is alive, nor that he is not a fit subject for reverence and public admiration.

The subject of this slight memoir is, as he ought to be, entitled to the love of 'Westminsters,' for he has well proved that in his latter days he has not forgotten the School and companions of his youth.

Of Westminster in days remembered by but very few, Lord Albemarle has given us the most lively and vivid picture in that pleasant work, 'Fifty Years of my Life.' As the author of a book, in which he treats so kindly of the old School, he has undoubtedly rendered himself a Westminster Worthy; and as an author of no little repute, his worth becomes apparent in a wider area.

The present Lord Albemarle was born on June 13, 1799; the third son of the fourth Earl by the Honourable Elizabeth Southwell, daughter of Edward, Lord de Clifford. The early days of the subject of this notice were spent chiefly at Elden Hall, Suffolk—a property left by his uncle, the celebrated Admiral Keppel, to the father of the Lord Albemarle of our time. This estate, it may be interesting to note, afterwards passed out of the hands of the Keppels into the possession of the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh.

When nearly seven years of age, Lord Albemarle was committed to the charge of the Reverend William Farley, at Effingham, in Surrey. After two years of preparation, he entered Westminster School. To quote his lordship's own words relating to this introduction to public school life:—'My entrance into that famed seminary is one of the events of my life, of which I have a most lively recollection. It was at three in the afternoon of Wednesday, the 14th of March (1808), that, almost a man in my own estimation, I took my seat at the examination table. Across the building, which looks like the nave of a church, and immediately above my head, was an iron bar, on which formerly hung a curtain, and on which there still hangs a tale. . . . I was ruminating on the novelty of my situation, when there came towards me two burly-looking clergymen in full canonicals, Master-of-Arts' gowns, with pudding sleeves, and wearing on their heads huge three-cornered hats, powder in their hair, and large silver buckles in their shoes. They took their seats side-saddle fashion on the table, one on either side. The examination was a very short one. A little fable of Æsop was given me to construe, a few questions were put to me respecting the parts of speech, and I was placed in the Under First, the lowest remove in the lowest form save one (Petty).'

How many of us have faced the examiners in the same manner, in fear and trembling, and with a like result! Do I not well remember standing in front of

that ominous table, Dr. Scott by me, book in hand? 'What is your name?' 'My name, sir, is Philip.' 'Well, what else?' And in reply I gave my second name; and then, in answer to the same question repeated, a third name with which I was blessed. 'But, good gracious!' said the good doctor, barely restraining his laughter at my simplicity, 'have you no other name, sir, no *sur-name*?' (The doctor was always fond of a joke.) And then I told him what, if I had been less frightened, I should have had the sense to have divulged before. 'Very good! Now give us a little of *ῥήρω*!' Thoroughly alarmed, but determined to venture, I proceeded: '*Tupto, tuptas, tuptiat, tuptamus, tuptatis, tuptant.*' 'That will do, that will do,' said the doctor. 'Here, Mr. Ingram, take him into the Under Third, and *try* to teach him the difference between Greek and Latin. Alas! and alas——' In these pleasant pages we find that Lord Albemarle's 'substance' was the late Major-General Sir Henry Barnard, K.C.B., Chief of the Staff during the siege of Sevastopol. When he went to Westminster, Dr. Carey was Head Master, who afterwards became Bishop of St. Asaph, whence he was translated to the see of Exeter. Dr. Carey was succeeded by Dr. Page. Says Lord Albemarle: 'The great Dr. Busby used to assert that the rod was the proper instrument for sifting the wheat of learning from the chaff. Dr. Page was so far of the Busby school, and, unfortunately for me, I was that description of grain that frequently underwent this species of winnowing.' Sad to say, my own experience is but a very loud echo of the above. Our 'Old Westminster' describes himself as a 'Grantite' during his sojourn at Westminster, and adds that he was as many Keppels had been. In his experiences we find, so to speak, a *fag's* diary. 'I rose as the day broke, hurried on my clothes, brushed those of my master, cleaned several pairs of his shoes, went to the pump in Great Dean's Yard for hard water for his teeth, and to the cistern at Mother Grant's for soft water for his hands and face, passed the rest of the time till eight in my own hasty ablutions or in conning over my morning-school lesson. Eight to nine: in school. Nine to ten: out for my breakfast, or rather for my master's breakfast. I had to bring up his tea-things, to make his toast, &c.; my own meal was a very hasty affair. Ten to twelve: in school. Twelve to one: in the Usher's correcting room, preparing for afternoon lessons. One to two: dinner in the Hall, a sort of roll-call, absence a punishable offence, the food execrable. Two to five: evening school. Five to six: buying bread, butter, milk, and eggs for the great man's tea, and preparing that meal. Six to the following morning: locked up at Mother Grant's till bed-time, fagging of a miscellaneous character.' His lordship tells us of a custom that prevailed in his time, which had not quite died out when I was at Westminster. For the high crime of mutiny against the tyrannical authority of his fag-master, he, a little boy of nine years old, was made to 'stand at attention, like a soldier at drill, and was then felled to the ground by a swinging *buck-horse* on the right cheek, and, on rising, received a second floorer.'

Thank your better fortune, you Westminsters of to-day, that *buck-horsing* has gone out of fashion!

Among other friends who were glad to see the young Westminster boy during his Saturday and Sunday visits was the Princess Charlotte, with whom he passed many of his holidays and half-holidays. Her Royal Highness, at the time of Lord Albemarle's first acquaintance with her, was just twelve years old. She used to treat her young friend in very varied fashion, for we read that her fists were often practised upon the person of the young Westminster, and, to make up for this extraordinary display of friendship, she gave him his first watch and his first pony, to say nothing of divers tips—the last so dear to all school-boys. Once he took the young lady into the College gardens—a very rare incident, if not a solitary case, in the life of a 'Town Boy' at Westminster, who has not the privilege of walking in these strictly-guarded domains. In those days the fellows were allowed half-holidays on Tuesdays and Thursdays, if they could persuade any friends to invite them to their houses. By the Princess, Lord Albemarle was introduced, in 1809, to the gallant Duke of Brunswick, who was killed in the Waterloo campaign six years later. Among the amusements prevalent at the School in the time we are writing of, driving hackney coaches was perhaps one of the most strange, and Lord Albemarle there and then commenced his career as a 'whip.' We read of this custom in the interesting book to which we have alluded. In its pages, too, we find the following account of the 'chairing' of 'Head of College,' then known as the 'Liberty Boy,' now termed the Head 'Junior,' and future Captain of the School. 'Placed on a ladder, and borne on the shoulders of his school-fellows, he is preceded by a large silk flag bearing the Westminster arms, and in this fashion is paraded through the streets "within bounds." The boy to whom the above refers was that glorious Churchman, the late Archbishop of Canterbury, Charles Longley, admitted Head into College in 1808. About this eminent scholar and the Play we read:—'In the winter of the following year (1809) I witnessed Longley's performance of a character in Terence's *Phormio*—that of *Cratinus*, one of the three lawyers of the piece. Dr. Page wrote the epilogue. The subject was the O.P. riots, arising from the increase of the prices of admission to the new Covent Garden. The *dramatis personæ* retained the names they bore in the comedy. The scene was changed from a street in Athens to the Police Office in Bow Street. *Demipho*, the "heavy father," was the sitting magistrate. *Phormio*, the *mauvais sujet*, was brought before him for having interrupted the performances by imitating the sounds of divers animals. *Cratinus*—a radical lawyer—held a brief for the defendant. Longley did full justice to the character. With true forensic pomposity, he laid it down as law that man, being an imitative animal, his client had a perfect right to make a goose or an ass of himself if so inclined; but my classical readers would probably prefer the original pleading to my translation. I give it a place here:—

Homini certe ista licebit
Quæ porcis, asinis, anseribusque licet,

Est homo naturâ—ζῶν μίμητον—ergo.
 Qui boat, aut balat, sibilat, aut ululat,
 Qui rugit, et mugit, gannitque et grunnit et hinnit
 Omnia naturæ convenienter agit.

Lord Albemarle witnessed and took some little part in the riots consequent on Burdett's committal to the Tower. Of course he was a stout Burdettite, for was not his hero an 'Old Westminster'?

These Westminster recollections are so pleasant, so interesting, and so instructive to us of more recent days, that we cannot pass the subject by without quoting from them considerably. For what we do not quote here, we cannot do better than refer our readers to the book itself. None will regret the purchase. It is most delightful from end to end. Here is a description of the playground of the Westminster Boys in Lord Albemarle's time: 'Tothill Fields, now the site of a large and populous town, was the Westminster playground in my time. In one part of the field was a large pond called the "duck." Here we skated in the winter and hunted ducks in the summer. Near the "duck" lived Mother Hubbard, who used to let out guns to the boys. At Mother Hubbard's you might have fowling-pieces of all sorts and sizes, from the "golden touch-hole" down to one which, from a deep dent in the barrel, was called "the gun which shoots round the corner." The big fellows used to vapour about having shot snipe in Tothill Fields, but such a description of game had taken flight when I sported over this manor.'

'Leading from Tothill Fields was a road called the "Willow Walk," which, terminating at the "Half-penny Hatch," opened on to the Thames near to the spot on which Millbank Penitentiary now stands. The road on each side of the "walk" was bordered by wretched hovels, to which were attached small plots of swampy ground, which served the poor inhabitants for gardens, and were separated from each other by wide ditches. To "follow the leader" over these ditches was one of our summer amusements. Between Mother Hubbard's and the "Willow Walk" was a nest of low buildings known by the name of "The Seven Chimneys." The inhabitants were of a somewhat questionable character, and certainly not of that class with whom ladies would wish their darling boys to associate. Here lived Caleb Baldwin, the bull-baiter, a man who enjoyed a wide-spread fame for one particular feat. Whenever his dog was tossed by the bull, Caleb would break its fall by rushing in and catching it in his arms. I cannot say that I ever witnessed this performance in the "Field," but I did in a Christmas pantomime, in which Baldwin and his dog were specially engaged. By means of a sham bull the dog was thrown high into the air, and its owner caught it in the manner I have described. Bull-baiting was an institution in the early part of this century. Of all the in-dwellers of the "Seven Chimneys," the prime favourite of us Westminsters was one William Heberfield, better known by the name of "Slender Billy"—a good humoured, amusing fellow, but whose moral character would not bear a searching investigation. All we knew of him was, that whenever we wanted a dog to hunt a duck, draw a badger, or pin a bull, Billy was sure to provide us with one, no matter how minute we might

be in the description of the animal required. In the year 1811 Heberfield was no longer an inmate of the "Seven Chimneys": he was undergoing sentence in Newgate for having aided the escape of a French General, a prisoner of war on *parole*. Heberfield was hanged at Newgate for forgery on January 12, 1812. Some little time ago, as I was talking over the changes of the Tothill Fields of our time with my old school-fellow, Lord de Ros [a Privy Councillor, Lieutenant-General, Colonel of the 4th Hussars, and Lieutenant-Governor of the Tower, and author of 'The Young Officer's Companion'—died in 1874], he related to me how these same back slums of Westminster were once honoured with the presence of the most gorgeous of monarchs, and on the most gorgeous day of his reign—the coronation day of George IV. The feeling of indignation raised by the refusal to admit the Queen Consort to share in the pageant had so increased towards the evening that the King was told that, if he attempted to return to his palace by the ordinary route, he would run the risk of being torn in pieces by the mob. To avert this danger it was suggested that Tothill Fields would be the safer way home. But *who* knew anything of a region of such ill repute? Who but my school-fellow De Ros, then a Lieutenant in the 1st Life Guards, and forming that day one of His Majesty's escort? To him was consigned the pilotage of the Royal *cortège*. Under him it proceeded up Abingdon Street, along Millbank, through the "Half-penny Hatch" and the "Willow Walk," leaving the "Seven Chimneys" on its right. It next arrived at "Five Fields," now Eaton Square, passed through Grosvenor Place, and by Constitution Hill to the back entrance of Carlton Palace, which they did not reach till 11 P.M. The king, as well might be supposed, was horribly nervous, and kept constantly calling to the officers of the escort to keep well up to the carriage windows.' Bravo, Westminster!

Here is another interesting bit culled from this amusing book. There was a children's ball given by Lady Derby in Grosvenor Square, one evening in 1812. Our young Westminster was present. He says:—'I had the honour that evening of a shake of the hand from the Lord Derby of that day—the most advanced Liberal of the whole House of Peers, the great grandfather of the present lord [at the time of writing, 1876, Secretary for Foreign Affairs]. Amidst a knot of brother Etonians was a boy of my own age, the present earl's father, Geoffrey Stanley, afterwards England's Prime Minister. I did not make his acquaintance till some years after, for, although Etonians were ready to dance with Westminsters' sisters, and *vice versa*, the brothers stood in relation to each other as Jews and Samaritans.'

(To be continued.)

FOOTBALL.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL v. OLD WYKE-HAMISTS.

This match was played in beautiful weather at Vincent Square, Wednesday, November 3rd, and resulted in a draw, each side being accredited with

one goal. Robson started the ball for the School at 3.15 P.M. For a short time the game was slightly in favour of the School, in spite of their playing against a strong wind; and several feeble shots were attempted at our adversaries' goal. The visitors then played up hard, and, carrying the ball into the Westminster quarters, forced it through the goal-posts with a rush (1—0). After half-time we completely penned them, but our shooting was again too wild for us to profit by our exertions. However, Bury finally succeeded in making a straight hard shot, which the Old Wykehamist goal-keeper failed to stop, thus equalising matters (1—1). After this reverse our opponents strove hard to obtain a second goal, and more than once brought the ball into dangerous proximity to our goals; and on one occasion Wetton only just managed to save defeat by running out. However, neither side was able to alter the result, and so at the call of time the result remained as above. The sides were:—

WESTMINSTER.

H. N. Robson (captain) and F. C. Ryde (full-backs), R. C. Batley and S. A. Bird (half-backs), W. A. Burrige and R. T. Squire (right side), G. Stephenson and F. W. Bain (left side), W. W. Bury and C. Ingram (centres), H. Wetton (goals).

OLD WYKEHAMISTS.

J. Fort and C. Tracey (full-backs), W. R. Sheldon, J. E. Vincent (half-backs), W. H. B. Bird, P. C. Parr, W. M. Robertson, G. L. Hawker, W. A. Mere-wether, E. F. Ball, and J. H. Manley (goals).

WESTMINSTER *v.* UPTON PARK.

This match was played at Vincent Square on a heavy ground, Saturday, November 6th, and resulted in a victory for Upton Park by 4 goals to *nil*. Robson set the ball rolling for Westminster at 3.15 P.M.; and from the first it became apparent that we were over-matched both in pace and weight. Before five minutes had elapsed from the commencement of the game, the visitors charged the ball down to our goals, and Mitchell put the ball through. Shortly after this our opponents, who were completely penning us, secured another goal under similar circumstances, Welldon putting the ball between the posts out of a scrimmage. The School now rallied, and Squire and Bain relieved our lines with some good runs. However, Mitchell succeeded in again getting hold of the ball, and scored the third goal for Upton Park with a good shot. After half-time the game became much more evenly contested, and Squire, who alone seemed up to the pace of our opponents, made several fine runs up the right side; but all our attempts were frustrated by the fine goal-keeping of C. Warner. Shortly before the call of time, Barnard, getting hold of the ball, made a good run down the right, and, passing all our backs, scored the fourth goal for Upton Park. We regret to add that, just before the end of the match, M. Petrocochino, who was playing substitute for W. A. Burrige, in trying to shoot in front of the visitors' goal, had his ankle broken by an unlucky kick from one of their backs. For the

Uptonians, C. Warner (goals), J. Barnard, C. Mitchell, and A. B. P. Boyd worked hardest; while for us, Robson and Batley (back), and Squire (forward) strove their utmost to reverse the result. The sides were:—

WESTMINSTER.

H. N. Robson (captain) and F. C. Ryde (backs), R. C. Batley and H. Wetton (half-backs), R. T. Squire and M. Petrocochino (right side), G. Stephenson and F. W. Bain (left side), W. W. Bury and C. Ingram (centres), and C. W. Crowdy (goals).

UPTON PARK.

C. Warner (captain and goals), W. J. Mangles and P. C. Bates (backs), O. J. Cooke and R. Stuart King (half-backs), J. T. Welldon and J. Barnard (right), A. B. P. Boyd and A. S. Shaw (left), C. Mitchell and J. Winterbotham (centres).

WESTMINSTER *v.* OLD CARTHUSIANS.

This match was played at Vincent Square on Wednesday, November 10th, and, after a hardly-contested game, resulted in the favour of the Old Carthusians by one goal to *nil*. The game at first was very even, although slightly in favour of our opponents, and a good shot at goals was stopped by Lewin, the School goal-keeper. Before half-time hands were given to the Carthusians a few yards from goals, and Wake, kicking it hard against the crowd in front of goals, the ball touched one of our backs and went through (1—0). After half-time the School played up hard, and had the best of the game, but were not able to change the result. For the winners, A. T. Wake (back) and H. Somers-Cocks (half-back), A. L. Cole and E. H. Parry (forwards) were best; and for Westminster, Robson, Bain, Squire, and Bury. The sides were:—

WESTMINSTER.

H. N. Robson (captain) and F. C. Ryde (backs), R. C. Batley and S. A. Bird (half-backs), R. T. Squire and C. W. Crowdy (right), F. W. Bain and G. Stephenson (left), W. W. Bury and C. Ingram (centres), and F. E. Lewin (goals).

OLD CARTHUSIANS.

A. T. Wake and W. H. Norris (backs), H. Somers-Cocks and H. M. Page (half-backs), R. L. Escombe, A. L. Cole, E. H. Parry (captain), E. M. Pollock, A. T. Last, H. F. Brown, A. Guinness.

WESTMINSTER *v.* CLAPHAM ROVERS.

This match was played at Vincent Square on Saturday, November 13th, in which the School proved victorious by three goals to one. The Rovers won the toss, and elected to play with the wind, which was blowing a perfect hurricane, and greatly interfering with the play of our backs; but, notwithstanding, the School had the best of it, and soon Bury succeeded in making a good shot, and thus secured the first goal (1—0). Both sides now played up harder than before, and for us Burrige made some good runs down the right, well-supported by the centres. After half-

time the School, aided by the wind, pressed their opponents, and Bain scored the second goal for Westminster (2—0). The Rovers now played up furiously, and, rushing the ball down, Pittman put the ball through with a splendid shot just below the tape (2—1). The School from this point penned the Rovers, and, after an exciting piece of play in front of goals, Ingram made an excellent shot, sending the ball under the tape (3—1). From this point to the end of the game nothing further of consequence occurred, and so the School gained the victory by three goals to one. In this match we were deprived of the services of R. T. Squire; and, soon after the commencement, F. C. Ryde sprained his ankle, and his place was taken by C. W. Crowdy. W. W. Bury received his 'pinks' at the end of the match. For us, all the forwards played well, and Robson and Batley (backs); and for the losers, Vincent, Hamilton, Scott, Rawson, and Pittman did good work. The sides were :—

WESTMINSTER.

H. N. Robson (captain) and S. A. Bird (backs), R. C. Batley and C. W. Crowdy (half-backs), W. A. Burrige and T. Morison (right), F. W. Bain and G. Stephenson (left), W. W. Bury and C. Ingram (centres), F. E. Lewin (goals).

CLAPHAM ROVERS.

S. W. Scott (captain), J. Vincent, A. Ogilvie, H. Coles, J. Hamilton, R. Devonshire, W. Pittman, C. Newman, B. Hardy, F. L. Rawson, and R. Bartlett (goals).

WESTMINSTER *v.* WANDERERS.

This match was played at Vincent Square on Wednesday, November 17th, and, after an exciting game, resulted in a victory for the School by one goal to none. The Wanderers won the toss and elected to play with the wind; and from the first Westminster had the best of the game, although Barry and Maynard made some fine dashes through our lines. But, in spite of all their endeavours, the School penned them, and were only hindered from scoring a goal by their indifferent shooting. However, shortly after half-time, Bury got hold of the ball, and, sending the ball flying under the tape, secured the only goal of the day. The Wanderers then did their utmost to equalise matters, but all their exertions were of no avail, and so the victory remained with the School by one goal to *nil*. For us, Squire, Bury, and Morison (forward), and Robson and Batley were good behind; and for the Wanderers, Maynard, Barry, and Foley were most valuable. The School were deprived of W. A. Burrige and G. Stephenson, but, notwithstanding this disadvantage, played well together, and had by far the best of the game. The sides were :—

WESTMINSTER.

H. N. Robson (captain) and S. A. Bird (full-backs), R. C. Batley and E. C. Frere (half-backs), R. T. Squire and T. Morison (right), F. W. Bain and O. Scoones (left), W. W. Bury and C. Ingram (centres), and F. E. Lewin (goals).

WANDERERS.

H. S. Stratford (captain) and C. W. Foley (backs), F. W. Janson and C. Whitehead (half-backs), F. Barry, W. J. Maynard, C. Mortlock, W. F. G. Sandwith, P. G. L. Webb, and C. W. Crowdy (goals).

THE ELEVEN *v.* THE TWENTY-TWO.

This match was played at Vincent Square on Wednesday, September 29th, and resulted in a victory for the Eleven by three goals to none. The ground was rather heavy, but there was not much wind. The Twenty-two won the toss and elected to play with what wind there was. When the ball was kicked off at 3.15 P.M., both sides played up furiously, but the Eleven gradually forced back their more numerous opponents, and Bury ultimately kicked a goal for the Eleven. Soon after half-time Bain made a neat run and shot, thus scoring the second goal for the Eleven (2—0). This was soon followed by another from the foot of Stephenson (3—0).

The Twenty-two now made every effort to obtain a goal, and Petrocochino and Morison pressed the Eleven with some good runs; but these attacks were vigorously repulsed by the Eleven backs, who were equal to every occasion. Nothing further of consequence occurred, and so the Eleven remained victors by three goals to none—a result which was considered a good augury for the success of the coming season. For the Eleven, the centres played best forward, and Robson and Batley were good behind; while for the Twenty-two, Petrocochino, Morison, Higgins, and Crowdy did good service for their side, and Dale and Rogers kicked well. The sides were :—

ELEVEN.

H. N. Robson (captain) (back), W. A. Burrige, R. T. Squire, G. Stephenson, F. W. Bain, R. C. Batley (half-back), W. W. Bury, C. Ingram, S. A. Bird (half-back), F. C. Ryde (back), H. Wetton (goals).

TWENTY-TWO.

H. R. James, M. Petrocochino, Scoones, Crowdy, Langhorne, Dale (half-back), Coke (back), Higgins, Morison, Benbow, Rogers, Brandon, Fulcher, Bere, Bedford, A., Frere (back), Hart, Churchill, Ritchie, Heath, Crews, C., Jenner.

GRANT'S *v.* RIGAUD'S.

This house-match came off on Thursday, November 4, in splendid weather, and ended in a victory for Grant's by 1—0. The ball was started at 12.30, and both sides played up hard, the Rigaudites, in whose favour the wind was, having the best of the game. The Grantites made several determined endeavours to obtain a goal without avail, and their opponents had three good shots at the Granite goal, two by Petrocochino and one by Bedford, which, however, all went just over the tape. After half-time the Grantites, having the wind in their favour, made the game much more even, and made several good runs

down. At last Morison, making a neat run down the left, middled the ball, and, one of the Rigaudite backs making a mistake, Viner put the ball between the posts, thus obtaining the only goal of the day. For Grant's, all the backs played well, and Morison, Viner, and Poland were best forward. For Rigaud's, Petrocochino, Higgins, Crowdy, and Jenner worked hard forward; and Robson behind was invaluable. W. A. Burridge for Grant's, and C. Ritchie for Rigaud's, were unable to play. Sides :—

GRANT'S.

R. T. Squire (captain), R. C. Battley, H. Wetton, W. L. Benbow, A. H. Fulcher, G. Viner, E. Poland, T. Morison, H. Hart and H. Healey (goals).

RIGAUD'S.

H. N. Robson (captain), F. C. Ryde, M. Petrocochino, C. W. Crowdy, H. T. Higgins, A. E. Bedford, P. A. Whiston, A. L. Churchill, A. C. W. Jenner, C. B. W. Crews, and R. de Carteret (goals).

LAMPROBATICS.

This match was played at Vincent Square on Thursday, November 11, on a somewhat drizzly day. The Under-Elections were rather light compared with their opponents; still they made a better resistance than had been generally expected. When the ball was kicked off by Under-Elections, it was rapidly taken down into the T.B.B. vicinity, and good play was shown by Scoones and Peck. For a short time the Under-Elections penned their opponents, but soon the T.B.B., rallying, carried the ball to the opposite end, and Viner was enabled to score a goal by an excellent shot from a good middle by Heath. Under-Elections now played up, and Forster occasionally came near the T.B.B. goal, but failed to score; and Higgins was soon afterwards enabled to obtain a second goal for T.B.B. Nothing further occurred till half-time; some time after which Higgins made a good run and an excellent shot from a distance, which struck the goal-post, but would have failed to secure a goal had not Jenner pushed the goal-keeper through the posts. Neither side scored further, so T.B.B. remained victors by 3-0. For the Under-Elections, Scoones, who played excellently throughout, very narrowly missing the goals on one occasion, Dale, Peck, and Vavasseur, whose timely intervention before goals several times averted the T.B.B.'s success, played best; while for T.B.B., Frere, Higgins, Crowdy, Heath, and Viner were best. The sides were :—

UNDER-ELECTIONS.

O. Scoones, W. C. Dale, A. Rogers, H. W. Waterfield, R. Williams, E. P. Sandwith, R. E. Vavasseur, R. Forster, H. E. Trevor, H. C. Peck, and B. A. James.

T.B.B.

C. W. Crowdy, F. T. Higgins, E. C. Frere, G. Viner, A. Heath, C. Crews, W. Bonus, A. E. Bedford, V. Jenner, R. Ingram, and Healey.

We beg to state, in answer to inquiries, that Matches almost invariably commence at 3 P.M. The Match *v.* Old Westminster will take place on Friday, December 17, to commence at 11 A.M.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

THIS Society met on the evening of Thursday, November 4th, when F. F. James moved the following motion, that, in the opinion of this Society, 'the action of the Government in regard to Ireland shows great weakness and want of foresight.'

The following spoke :—

FOR THE MOTION	AGAINST THE MOTION
F. F. James (mover).	J. B. Hodge (opposer).
H. Gwinner (seconder).	S. Bere.
H. R. James.	

On a division being taken, the votes proved equal: H. R. James, therefore, as president, gave the casting vote in favour of the motion.

A subsequent meeting was held on Thursday, November 11th, when the motion discussed was that, in the opinion of this Society, 'the Naval Demonstration at Dulcigno was unfair, impolitic, and ridiculous.'

The following spoke :—

FOR THE MOTION	AGAINST THE MOTION
H. R. James (mover).	T. Morison (opposer).
F. E. Lewin (seconder).	J. B. Hodge.

H. R. James having responded, the House divided :—

Ayes.....	11
Noes	9

Owing to the proximity of the Play, it was agreed that further meetings of this Society should be postponed till next term.

School Notes.

It is with extreme regret and sorrow that we announce the intention of the Rev. H. M. Ingram to resign his arduous duties as Under Master, after twenty years of incessant labour here. We are sure that this feeling of sorrow will be shared by all past and present Westminster, especially those who have been intimately connected with him as Queen's Scholars or in the Under School. In him Westminster and College lose the personal care and assistance of one of their most faithful and devoted supporters, whose loss it will be very difficult, nay, impossible, to replace. The change is one which to many seems hard to realise, and which all will feel. Mr. Ingram was admitted into College in 1839, and was elected Head to Cambridge in 1843. He was Captain of Fields in 1842. In 1861 he was appointed Under Master, and since then has been unremitting in his exertions for the good of the School.

The Rev. A. Sloman will succeed him, with the title of Master of the Queen's Scholars, to whom we beg to offer our congratulations and best wishes for success in his new sphere of action.

The 'Play' this year is the *Andria* of Terence. The performances take place somewhat early on Thursday, Dec. 9th; Tuesday, Dec. 14th; and Thursday, Dec. 16th.

On Friday, Nov. 19th, we had a 'late play' given to commemorate the appointment of Lord Richard Grosvenor to a Secretaryship in the Treasury. His lordship was unfortunately unable to be present.

The Librarians beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a copy of the Variorum Bible from the editors, the Rev. T. K. Cheyne, M.A., S. R. Driver, M.A.; Rev. R. L. Clarke, M.A., Alfred Goodwin, M.A., and Rev. W. Sanday, D.D.; and six Spanish volumes from A. F. Valsy. The first six volumes of

Kinglake's 'Crimean War' have also been added to the Library.

The Dean has awarded his prizes for Greek Testament, first, to J. B. Hodge, T.B.; second, H. R. James, Q.S., nearly equal. The subjects were the Epistles of St. Paul to the Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians, and Acts, chaps. xv.—xxviii.

The first prize for the Gumbleton English Prize Poem on the subject of 'Joan of Arc' has been given to E. C. Bedford, Q.S.; the second to H. A. Munro, T.B.

In our last number it was stated, in an article on Westminster Athletics, that 'the times for the Mile and Half Mile were considerably below, for the Hundred and Quarter slightly above the average,' where 'below' should be read in both cases. It is perhaps unnecessary to remark that below the average means that the times were better. We may also mention that F. R. Clarke ran the Quarter in 58 sec. in 1878, as well as T. Wakley in 1868.

Obituary.

'On Saturday, October 30th,' the *Guardian* newspaper observes, 'there passed from among us one of those saintly but unobtrusive spirits of whom the world knows little, but whose departure leaves a terrible gap, and is sorely and deeply felt by the circle of friends wherein they moved. Arthur Charles Wilson was the eldest son of James Arthur Wilson, M.D., a distinguished Oxonian of the earlier part of the present century, (Westminster) Student of Ch. Ch. and a double First Class, and for more than 20 years Senior Physician of St. George's Hospital.' Both father and son were educated at Westminster, and Dr. Wilson's name appears among the admissions to College in 1808, and his son, who has just died at Nocton Vicarage, near Lincoln, stood out for College in 1839, but left, before admission, for King's College, London. Old Westminsters may remember Dr. J. A. Wilson's persistent testimony in favour of the healthiness of his old school, having, as he used to say, been frequently summoned professionally to attend cases of epidemic sickness at the great public schools *out of London*, but never to his old school haunts in the precincts of the Abbey. Though his son did not remain with us, to follow his father's example in being elected to Ch. Ch., he yet found himself afterwards, through the kindness of Dr. Pusey (who was attracted by his proficiency in Hebrew), nominated to a Ch. Ch. Studentship in 1845, and while there A. C. Wilson renewed many of his old school friendships, and also numbered among his other brother students, Mr. Frank Buckland, the famous naturalist, Mr. Herbert Fisher, after-

wards tutor to the Prince of Wales, Mr. George Ward Hunt, who afterwards became First Lord of the Admiralty, Canon Liddon, Father Benson, and others. Mr. Wilson, after taking a Class both in Classics and Mathematics, gave himself up to theological studies, and in due time was ordained Deacon and Priest by the late Bp. Wilberforce. He then threw himself, with characteristic zeal and energy, into the great educational movement intended chiefly for the middle classes, which was initiated, and is still laboriously and successfully carried on, by Canon Woodard; and Mr. Wilson received the appointment of Second Master at Lancing College, Shoreham, Sussex. Here, for many of the best years of his life, he was thoroughly identified with the life and studies of the place, helping mainly to establish the rules and discipline of the school after the model of his old school at Westminster, and even depending on 'College John' to furnish rods for the Lancing scholars! Mr. Wilson was thoroughly beloved by both boys and masters, for his kindly and sympathetic disposition, so full of playfulness and gentleness, yet on occasions showing itself stern, and even severe and sad. After leaving Lancing, and having filled one or two other posts, as Head-master of provincial schools, he was presented by his friend and patron, Lord Ripon, first to the rectory of Dunstan, in Lincoln Diocese, which he held from 1873 to 1876, and then latterly, by the kindness of the same patron, becoming Vicar of Nocton, in the same diocese. This living he held up to the time of his death. Mr. Wilson's interest in his old school continued to the last, concerning whose welfare he dictated to his wife an inquiring letter just before his death!

Our Contemporaries.

WE beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Blue*, *The Cambridge Review* (2), *The Carthusian*, *The Cliftonian*, *The Eastbournian*, *The Elizabethan* (Barnet), *The Epsomian*, *The Fettesian*, *The King's College Magazine*, *The Lily*, *The Meteor*, *The Ousel*, *The Radleian*, *The Rossallian*, *The Salopian*, *The Tonbridgian*, *The Ulula*, *The Wykehamist*.

Polyglot and mysterious is the opening of *The Blue*. An article on 'Purley,' which is explained as Horne-Tookeism, if we may coin such a word, and a poem in French addressed to the Empress Eugénie, are amongst its leading features.

The Carthusian is chiefly devoted to school news. 'Short Trips to Volcanic Regions' may no doubt prove instructive and interesting, but seems somewhat out of place in the columns of a school paper.

The Cliftonian is readable and well written. From the amusing article, 'Howlers Philosophically Considered,' we select the following two examples: 'ἀλεκτρυών ἀγενής' translated by a student well read in divinity, 'a cock with no fear of hell before his eyes,' and 'incolumem trajecit exercitum,' which is freely rendered, 'he threw across his army in a column.'

The Eastbournian contains little that calls for comment. The articles on 'Education, Present and Past,' though unpretentious, are well written and readable.

'Tempora mutantur nos et mutamur in illis' appears as the title of an article in *The Epsomian*, which gives a somewhat too full account of the disgusting practices formerly in vogue at the state dinners of Peter the Great. A match between the first XV. and next L. sounds unequal, although the XV. proved victorious.

This is an age of disenchantments, but we are hardly prepared to find the writer who contributes a letter on 'The Tropics' to *The Fettesian* denying the existence of such a region. It is somewhat rash of that gentleman, albeit well acquainted with the flora and fauna of *Hindustan*, to find fault with Canon Kingsley's picture of the primeval American forests.

We listen with awe to a poem in hexameters on the 'haughty five' whose plucky fight against the Bridport eleven is so graphically described in *The Lily*, but we cannot help wondering at the very considerable space devoted to describing the condition of the players' garments at various periods of the game.

We learn from *The Meteor* that an Old Rugbeian Club is urgently needed. We trust that, if such a club be started, it will meet with every success.

Why *The Radleian* should head an article on Works of Fiction with the startling words, 'The Slough of Despond,' is probably best known to the editor of that periodical. The conclusion of this article is fully worthy of Thucydides, 'To conclude with our final division of novels and that shall be &c.' Their boating accounts show a surplus of £47. 13s. 'O fortunati nimium sua si bona norint.'

The scholarship displayed in *The Rosallian* is truly alarming. A magazine which begins with an article on 'Pre-historic Man,' and concludes with a pathetic epistle from a 'Weather-beaten Seat,' who quotes freely from the opening of the Agamemnon, would be more thoroughly at home in Pater-noster Row than at a public school, however learned.

It is a somewhat rash experiment on the part of *The Salopian* to re-publish a poetical account of a football match played in November 1859. After twenty-one years such allusions as 'Stout Thomas of Cantabrigian race,' 'Prince of Salopian fame,' and 'the killing hound elect,' must be, we

should think, somewhat obscure to present Salopians; but we may of course be mistaken.

The subject of epitaphs is rather a gloomy one to be treated in the pages of *The Tonbridgian*, as the editor must have felt when he supplemented it with a comic 'Life of Cicero,' and the orthodox 'Week Abroad,' which reads like a page of Murray or Bøedeker. We cannot resist quoting the answer given to a question in physiology by a pupil at one of the elementary schools. In all the primitive simplicity of its spelling, it runs thus:—

'The skin is to make us swet or else we should dye it all over the body.'

The contents of *The Ulula*, especially the article on 'Un-suspected Neighbours,' are like Mr. Wopsle's representation of Hamlet, 'massive and concrete,' giving us an insight into the domestic life of such well-known insects as the Euglena Viridis and the Stentor Polymorphus. We wish the new football club every success.

The remaining magazines—*The Barnet Elizabethan*, *The King's College Magazine*, *The Ousel*, and *The Wykehamist*—being filled with school news, need no criticism.

Correspondence.

FROM OUR OXFORD CORRESPONDENT.

Though the term is now more than half over, I fear there is not much news from Oxford to interest the readers of *The Elizabethan*. The event that has absorbed most interest on the river is of course 'the fours,' which, however, I need not dilate upon, inasmuch as not a single O.W. rowed in them; nor did Westminster send any representative to the Freshmen's Sports. I see, however, that J. M. Stuart Edwards, of Lincoln, won the 100 yards at the Lincoln Sports yesterday, and was placed in several other events; and W. Beverley, of Pembroke, has likewise had some success in his College sports. The newly-formed O.W.F.C. played the 'Varsity' on Nov. 10, and were defeated 2-0. The following were the O.W.W. playing:—W. C. Aston (capt.), P. G. L. Webb, E. H. Alington, J. H. Williams, J. Arnold Turner, W. F. G. Sandwith (forwards), N. C. Bailey, B. M. H. Rogers (half-backs), T. F. F. Williams, C. W. R. Tepper (backs), and H. B. Dixon (goal). There is some talk of getting together a really strong team of O.W.W. for the return on Jan. 23, 1881.

The Westminster breakfast came off at Christ Church on Monday, Nov. 1, when between thirty and forty O.W.W. were present. The following freshmen have come up this term:—W. A. Peck, C. W. R. Tepper, R. S. Owen, to Christ Church; A. F. Maconochie to Balliol; J. Abernethy and J. H. Fawcett to Worcester; C. Ogle and J. R. Bell to Trinity; E. T. C. Weare, Non-Ascript; and we are glad to hear that our numbers will probably be still further increased next term.

FROM OUR CAMBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT.

Di fortunabunt nostra consilia! Valeat vivatque the long-desired O.W. Football Club! and our heartiest thanks are due to the enterprising and energetic spirits who have called it into being. And yet we O.W.W. up here have been bitterly reproached because certain of us were obliged to decline a four hours' trip to Oxford, and a week's excursion to the wilds of Epping Forest! *Qui s'excuse, s'accuse*, for we must plead guilty under extenuating circumstances. With regard to Cambridge we must begin at the Cam—for the river (so-called), despite the inclement weather, has still its desperate votaries. At the beginning of the term F. M. Lutyens was rowing in the 3rd Trinity Sculls, as he won his first heat after a foul, and on the following day was successful in the final. His name appeared among the entries for the Colquhoun Sculls, but for

some unknown reason he did not start. The O.W.F.C. was revived this year up here, and at the first meeting A. E. Black was elected Secretary, and H. C. Benbow Captain. Our first match was against Clare, whom we drew at 2-2, both our goals being kicked by Benbow. A tie at 0-0 was likewise the result of our next match against Old Reptonians. Old Uppinghamians shortly after beat us by 2-0, and we experienced similar treatment by 4-2 at the hands of Old Rossallians, Black doing good execution for us in the centre; but the want of an umpire and one of our men conspired to rob the game of much of its interest. On Nov. 19th we played Old Malburians, neither side being properly represented, and were defeated by two goals to *nil*. H. W. De Saumarez was the only O.W. freshman who stripped for the Freshmen's Sports; he was second for the Long Jump, with a jump of 17 ft. 3 in.; for the High Jump just lost second place, failing to clear 5 ft. 3 in.; he had a walk over for the Hurdles, but a bad sprain incapacitated him for the final heat. In the Third Trinity and King's Sports Beaumont ran second for the Hurdles, being defeated by W. E. Bayley, the Cantab blue; while De Saumarez, after winning his heat in the 100 yards, failed to distinguish himself in the final. In these sports R. H. Macaulay won six firsts and one second out of eight starts. The A.D.C. have given their last representation of 'The Day of Reckoning' and 'Parents and Guardians,' and the last remaining item of the programme of this term is the 'Previous Examination,' *vulgo* 'Little Go.' In conclusion, might we suggest that accurate accounts of the New O.W. Football Club should appear in *The Elizabethan*, so that O.W.W. may have the satisfaction, after their departure, of leaving foot-prints, however small, on the sands of time?

'THE ELIZABETHAN CLUB.'

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—I desire through the medium of your columns to call the attention of fellows now at the School to this Club. It is composed entirely of Old Westminsters, it holds monthly dinners, and exacts from its members the modest annual subscription of ten shillings and sixpence. The principal objects the Club have in view are the maintenance of a feeling of good fellowship between past and present members of the Old School, and the promotion, by means of its funds and otherwise, of such matters in which the School is interested, as the 'Water,' 'Cricket,' 'The Play,' &c. To what extent the Club has assisted the School in these particulars it is neither desirable nor perhaps necessary for me to enter upon here; but I think I may state that, whenever the School has wanted assistance, the Club has not been backward in affording help. At the present time the Club is in an exceedingly flourishing condition, and it also enjoys the good fortune of having as its President one who is well known to all who are connected with the School—I mean Sir Robert Phillimore. It having occurred to me that more fellows would join us as they leave the School if the existence of the Club was brought to their knowledge, it is for this reason that I have addressed you on the subject.

I remain, yours faithfully,
HERBERT MANISTY, Hon. Sec.

7 Fig Tree Court, Temple, E.C.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—As one hears a good deal now-a-days about the monitorial system, I have thought it not unfitting to say a few words on that much-discussed subject, especially in its bearings on Westminster School.

I may lay it down as the basis for my arguments, that any public school does, in some form or another, possess a monitorial system, and the want of such a system would *ipso facto* make any school, however large in mere numbers, a private school.

What, then, are the chief points in a monitorial system? Its main purpose is that, in school, the boys should be under the direct influence of masters, while their social life, their games and their amusements, should be in their own hands. Two

necessary ingredients of this form of school government are fagging and corporal punishment of some sort.

And first let us examine the principle of self-government, which, as we have seen, pervades the whole system.

The objects of a public school training are not confined to mere learning, but embrace also a manly self-reliance, and the training of the body. Now, unless the boys are left to themselves out of school, such a manly self-reliance can never be attained. A system which makes masters the main-spring of their social life must fail. They must be able to feel that they may act, always within certain limits, as they please; if they pass those limits, the credit of the school compels masters to step in and check abuse. All smaller offences which are not deserving of official recognition must be left unpunished, or punished by the boys themselves. And this punishment must be sufficient to repress these offences. It is necessary, then, to have some form of corporal punishment. For if the higher authorities themselves find it impossible to check the greater offences by merely moral means, so, and to a greater extent, must it be with the monitors. For offences of a certain class they are the final judges, and a boy might as well appeal to the governors against what he thinks an unjust imposition given him by a master, as to the master's against what he considers a wrong ruling of a monitor. If an appeal is to be made to the authorities on every small question, monitorial power must fall, and all discipline with it; for if, as we have shown, punishment be necessary to preserve order, the barriers in the way of inflicting this punishment must not be too many, or the whole system will fall into disuse. The public feeling of a school should surely be sufficient to check repeated injustice.

If a boy does appeal from the decision of a monitor, praefect, or whatever the officer's name may be, he should, if wrong, be liable to a double penalty, which would act as a check on this babyish habit. The tendency in school-life to infringe the privilege of the so-to-speak governing classes is only a reproduction in miniature of the radicalism which is rearing its unsightly head in the larger world around us. If the monitor cannot decide any question to the satisfaction of a school, do away with the system; altogether before it degenerates into an utter farce, which it surely will do if it once becomes the recognised habit to refuse to receive a tunding or tanning without the personal consent of the masters; for in this state a school is no longer a public school, except in its worst features, while the espionage of the private school system deprives it of all its elevating and manly tendencies. The reign of mind and ability is over, and the reign of brute force begins.

And now to apply these remarks to life at Westminster. It has been said, 'I am an Englishman first and a Conservative afterwards,' and let all endeavour to be Westminsters first, before they indulge in any minor party feeling. We conceive, too, that where all the monitors are agreed, the law should be allowed by the authorities to run its course, and indeed there would be no opportunity for it to do otherwise, were it not for the pernicious habit of appealing, which I have so strongly censured in the former part of my letter.

And above all we should imagine that the spontaneous and unsought interference of the authorities, where even the recipient feels he is but getting his due, is utterly unjustifiable and reprehensible. For here we have the private school system in its most aggravated form.

Let both sides, then, the seniors by justice and forbearance, the juniors by a fitting respect for their elders, work together to prevent the monitorial system, the mainstay of our existence as a public school, being ruined or at least debased by the crushing weight of an unsympathetic and uncongenial tendency to decry all corporal punishment as a barbarous relic of an obsolete system.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

O. W. OXON.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to call attention to what I am sure must have been an oversight in your last number. In the account of the Sports it is said that, in the Quarter under 16, Scoones beat Wilbé by half-a-foot, though it was given a dead heat.

Now, considering that the decision alluded to was so far concurred in by the Committee, and by the O.W.W. who were so kindly assisting them, that they ordered the men to run the race again, your remarks appear, to say the least of it, in bad taste.

Believe me to be your sincere well wisher,

JUSTITIA.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—I hope, in the interests of the School, that an effort will be made next term for some coaching for water fellows before Easter. I cannot but think that an amicable arrangement could be arrived at between the Masters and the Captain of the Water. If a Four is to go up to Henley this year, as it did last year, a show of better form ought to be made than was then. And if an O.W. oar were asked to coach, a much more satisfactory result might be attained. Westminster, happily, can lay claim to having bred some first-rate oarsmen—who are, if anything, better coaches than rowers. They would know the kind of fellows they would have to deal with, and would coach them thoroughly well. I have heard up here a doubt expressed as to a Four going up to Henley at all this year. Surely the authorities are not going to refuse to respond to the welcome accorded Westminster last year, on the pink uniform again appearing in a Public School contest on the Thames? At the time a too conservative Old Rigaudite protested in your columns against what he implied was Westminster being lowered by competing with what he also implied were Schools which were her *inferiors*. But their admittance to the list of competitors by the Committee ought to have been a sufficient answer for him. Westminster cannot now, unfortunately, afford to be so select as in former days. This year, also, I hope to hear that the 'cox' is properly receiving coaching in the 'duties' and 'tricks' of his 'art.' And if some energetic fellows were to take the matter up and work vigorously, who knows but what the pink might again pass the 'post' a winner?

Yours truly,

C. R.

Oxford,
Nov. 25, 1880.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I beg to call your attention to a most flagrant error in Westminster football. You may have noticed that there are no tapes to the goal posts in any of the games up-fields (except occasionally in the big game), and I think that this is very likely one reason why the shooting in the XI. has been so bad this year. How can we expect our forwards in the future to be good shots if they do not get any real practice when they are young? Hoping that this may be rectified,

Believe me, yours truly,

W. A. B.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I noticed in your last number that your corre-

spondent, 'Common Sense,' wished to know if there is any reason why everyone should not play in flannels up-fields. Now this is a very good proposal which has been put forth before. But most of the smaller fellows are shy, and pretend they don't play well enough to change; and also, if the smaller fellows did it, it would make the games so much shorter, as it would make them late for dinner. But I think it would be an improvement if everyone in the big game would don flannels, which is not the case at present.

I am, dear sir, truly yours,

PINK.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—It seems to me that something could be done to admit junior politicians into the 'debating society.' I myself know of some instances of fellows who take a great interest in politics, and who I dare say could speak pretty well if they got a chance. Hoping that something will be done in this quarter,

Believe me, yours truly,

WHIP.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

EXCELSIOR.—Your verses are scarcely spirited enough for your subject.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

Contributions are solicited for the Play Number, which will be published early in January.

All other communications must 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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The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of his correspondents.

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