



The Elizabethan.

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JOHN DRYDEN, 1631-1700.

I HAVE not the back numbers of *The Elizabethan* by me, but I can hardly doubt but that some account of the life and works of John Dryden has already appeared in the 'Westminster Worthies' series. Yet I hope your readers will forgive me for writing a few lines to commemorate the bicentenary of one of the best known of Westminster poets. It seems hardly right that the occasion should be suffered to pass unnoticed. I do not propose to chronicle his life, but rather to offer an appreciation of his work.

Many great men and great writers have never enjoyed a high reputation in their life-

time; Dryden was not one of these. For at least thirty years of his life he was recognised as the most distinguished writer of the day in England, whilst even on the Continent his work was held in high esteem. The simplicity of the inscription on his monument in Westminster Abbey is quite as expressive as an inscription need be: he has, what is a far higher distinction, '*monumentum aere perennius*,' in the honourable position which he holds among British poets of all ages. Johnson, in his 'Life of Pope,' gives liberal praise to Dryden. The passage in which the Doctor contrasts him with Pope (to the advantage of the latter, it is true) is unfortunately too long to be quoted here; but he sums up with wonderful precision the respective merits of the two. Dryden had the

advantage of a sound education at Westminster (under Dr. Busby) and Trinity College, Cambridge, and the results are to be seen in his works. He displays considerable familiarity with classical subjects, and always has illustrations ready: the range of his ideas is extensive. Moreover, as Johnson says, we must allow to Dryden 'superiority of genius; that power which constitutes a poet; that quality, without which judgment is cold and knowledge is inert; that energy which collects, combines, amplifies, and animates.' The general tone of this genius influenced the whole of his writings, the distinguishing characteristic being, perhaps, the power of accurate reasoning and of adequately reproducing the result in appropriate language, and the natural ability for ratiocination, for investigating and appreciating what is really good. These instincts, accompanied by a command of language and fanciful illustration, are among the essential qualities of a poet. Dryden shines not so much in the gentler and more tender affections as in the fiercer and more ambitious passions of anger, pride and the like; he seems to have had little idea of expressing delicate sentiment, and his romances are often deficient in refinement, and at the same time in themselves absurd and unnatural.

What was said of Augustus in reference to the improvements that emperor made in Rome, has been applied by Johnson to the effect that Dryden had on English poetry: he found it brick and left it marble. This was not so much the result of his selection of subjects or of his graceful ideas (though in these points, too, he was superior to most of his immediate predecessors) as to his perfect conception of harmony, consequent on a close, accurate and continued study of his own language. 'He knew how to choose the flowing and the sonorous words; to vary the pauses and adjust the accents; to diversify the cadence, and yet preserve the smoothness of the metre.' Swift ridicules the introduction of the Alexandrine, a verse much used by Dryden to vary the monotony of the ordinary five-step metre, but there are many critics who are fully conscious of the advantages attendant on its occasional use.

In lyrical poetry Dryden is universally admitted to have very few superiors; it is a style to which his language is admirably adapted. 'Alexander's Feast' alone would entitle him to a very high place among our lyric poets. It is simple in expression but striking in its 'majesty' and 'loftiness of thought,' to borrow the phrases of Pope applied to the epics of Milton; it is not obscured by abstruse allusions and far-fetched metaphors. The latter part of the ode has some defects, but they hardly merit the severe censure which is pronounced against them by some critics. It is a brilliant poem, and not the least considerable claim to perfection is its musical harmony throughout.

I must apologise for the incompleteness of the above; not a word has been said of Dryden's dramatic and satirical works. There are doubtless many other omissions and imperfections. But it has been written very hurriedly, indeed within twelve hours of the request for a leader, so I ask the indulgence of my readers.

EX-ED.

THE ANTIQUITY OF PLAY- ACTING AT WESTMINSTER.

It is a little more than a year ago since Westminster was indebted to Mr. E. J. L. Scott for establishing the certainty of what had before been regarded as almost mythical concerning the great antiquity of the School. The evidence was shown Up-School at the Commemoration of Benefactors on November 17, 1899, and for the benefit of those who did not have the opportunity of seeing it with their own eyes an article appeared in *The Elizabethan* early in this year clearly setting forth the conclusions drawn from those documents.

Now we have again cause to be grateful to Mr. Scott's research in the Muniment Room at the British Museum. A letter from him appears in *The Athenæum* of November 17 giving an almost certain proof that Plays were acted by Westminster boys long before the time of Queen Elizabeth. In the 'Accompt-Roll of Frater John Saffrey as Receiver of the Moneys of the Abbat from Michaelmas Eve 1 Henry V.

to Michaelmas Eve 2 Henry V., and also of the same John as Seneschall of the Hospice of the Abbat from the said Michaelmas Eve to November 18 following (A.D. 1413-14), there appears, under the heading 'Dona Data,' the following entry:—'Item data Pueris de Eleemosinaria ludentibus coram Domino apud Westmonasterium, iij^s iiiij^d (3s. 4d.). He adds that this Roll is about to be placed in the Chapter House, so that those who are interested in his discovery will be able to see the evidence for themselves. Hitherto it has always been supposed that the annual acting of Plays at Westminster dated only from the Tudor times. This new discovery will be welcomed with much gratification by all who take a genuine interest in our ancient history. Unfortunately we have at present no record of the Plays themselves, but perhaps that, too, will come in time.

A. S. G.

School Notes.

ANOTHER room in Ashburnham House has been fitted up with oak bookcases and added to library. A gallery has been erected in it, so that portable steps will not be needed. The room is at present reserved for fiction.

We have to announce the departure, at the end of this term, of two undermasters, Mr. Winder and Mr. Jones. They will be very much missed on the Modern Side and in the Mathematical VI. Mr. Jones has been appointed senior mathematical master at Bradford; we wish him all success in his new position. In his stead we hope to welcome back E. Hackforth (O.W.), who left the School in 1897 and has since gained such conspicuous honours at Cambridge.

We must take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Harford for the copies of his interesting pamphlet, which he so kindly sent to members of the Classical VI. and VII.

The following corrections and additions should be made in the list of 'Westminsters at the War,' which appeared in our last number:—

- 1875-78 Battersby, H. F. P. *Morning Post* Correspondent.
- 1883-88 Wilkins, F. A. P. . Capt. and Adj. Suff. Reg.,
killed at Rensburg.
- 1893-98 Robinson, J. P. B. 2nd Lt. Roy. Dublin Fusiliers.
- 1895-99 Quin, H. G. . . . 2nd Lt. Northumbld. Fusiliers.

'A public school word book,' by J. S. Farmer, has lately been published by Hirschfeld Bros., for subscribers only. As might be expected, Winchester claims a great part of the pages; but we cannot say that Westminster is at all adequately represented.

We hope that in a future edition more of our phraseology will be included.

Sir Walter Phillimore has awarded his translation prize to D. S. Robertson.

We congratulate C. W. Adams and P. T. Browning on obtaining exhibitions at Trinity College, Cambridge, at the late examination.

Our readers may remember that this year, besides being the bicentenary of the death of Westminster's greatest poet, John Dryden (1631-1700), who forms the subject of our leader, is also the centenary of the death of another of our poets, William Cowper (1731-1800). In this connection we may note the publication, a month or two ago, of 'The Unpublished and Uncollected Poems of William Cowper,' edited by Thomas Wright. Though such fragments will hardly add to the poet's fame, their antiquarian interest is considerable. A biographical sketch having Dryden as its subject appeared many years ago in our columns (Vol. III., No. 10), and a similar one of Cowper a few years later (Vol. IV., No. 26, and Vol. V., No. 1). To avoid misunderstandings we may mention that many works of biographical reference erroneously give 1701 as the date of Dryden's death.

The following is the Football Card filled in up to date:—

		1900.	
Sat.	Sept. 29 .	Clapham Rovers.	(Lost 2-3.)
"	Oct. 6 .	R. N. R. Blaker's XI.	(Lost 2-9.)
Wed.	" 10 .	Old Carthusians.	(Lost 0-7.)
Sat.	" 13 .	Emeriti.	(Lost 0-4.)
	2nd XI. v.	Clapham Rovers 2nd XI.	(Won 5-4.)
"	Oct. 20 .	Casuals.	(Lost 0-1.)
"	2nd XI. v.	London Hospital 2nd XI.	(Won 5-2.)
"	Oct. 27 .	St. John's College, Oxford.	(Scratched.)
"	2nd XI. v.	A. B. Challis's XI.	(Lost 2-3.)
"	Nov. 3 .	Old Foresters.	(Scratched.)
Wed.	" 7 .	R.M.A., Woolwich.	(Lost 4-6.)
Sat.	" 10 .	Christ Church, Oxford.	(Lost 0-4.)
"	" 17 .	New College, Oxford.	(Lost 0-3.)
"	2nd XI. v.	Old Foresters 2nd XI.	(Lost 1-6.)
"	Nov. 24 .	Old Harrovians.	(Lost 1-3.)
"	Dec. 1 .	Old Westminsters.	(Won 1-0.)
"	" 8 .	Old Felstedians.	(Lost 0-5.)
"	2nd XI. v.	Technical College 2nd XI.	(Scratched.)
		1901.	
Sat.	Jan. 19 .	Clapham Rovers.	
"	" 26 .	Old Wykehamists.	
"	2nd XI. v.	Clapham Rovers 2nd XI.	
"	Feb. 2 .	Selwyn College, Camb.	
"	2nd XI. v.	O.W.W. 2nd XI.	
"	Feb. 9 .	University College, Oxford.	
Wed.	" 13 .	Old Etonians.	
Sat.	" 16 .	Old Westminsters.	
"	2nd XI. v.	Old Foresters 2nd XI.	
"	Feb. 23 .	Charterhouse (at Godalming).	
"	Mar. 2 .	Old Brightonians.	
Wed.	" 6 .	L. A. M. Fevez's XI.	
Sat.	" 9 .	An Eton XI.	
"	" 16 .	Casuals.	
"	" 23 .	T.B.B. v. Q.SS.	
Dates not fixed.		{ H. O. C. Beasley's XI.	
		{ L. J. Moon's XI.	

The following is the Card of the Debating Society with results to date :—

October 4.—‘That the Late Government is worthy of censure for its procrastinating policy in China.’ Proposer, R. D. Kitson; Seconder, T. M. Mavrogordato; Opposer, C. W. Adams. Lost by acclamation.

October 11.—‘That British shipyards should not be allowed to build armaments for other nations.’ Proposer, H. A. Roberts; Seconder, G. N. Ford; Opposer, W. A. Greene. Lost, 10-11.

October 18 and 25.—‘That the Boers have been treated with too great clemency.’ Proposer, D. Whitmore; Seconder, M. Castle-Smith; Opposer, J. A. C. Highmore. Carried by acclamation.

October 25 and November 1 and 8.—‘That this House would welcome a universal system of motor-cars.’ Proposer, P. T. Browning; Seconder, C. B. H. Knight; Opposer, E. C. Stevens. Lost, 4-16.

November 8, 15, and 22.—‘That this House would regret the abolition of the School Mission.’ Proposer, C. M. Page; Seconder, F. H. Nichols; Opposer, A. Beney. Carried, 11-8.

November 22 and 29.—‘That active measures should be taken to suppress the large number of foreign sailors employed by British merchant vessels.’ Proposer, F. W. Hubback; Seconder, W. A. Greene; Opposer, H. A. Roberts. Carried, 13-6.

December 6.—‘That Bull-Fighting is unworthy of a civilised Nation.’ Proposer, G. K. A. Bell; Seconder, A. G. Sefi; Opposer, W. T. S. Sonnenschein. Carried by acclamation.

December 13 and 18.—‘That the Underground Railways should be compelled to use Electric Traction.’ Proposer, T. M. Mavrogordato; Seconder, G. N. Ford; Opposer, W. T. S. Sonnenschein.

THE MISSION.

THE Special Committee has reported in favour of continuing the Mission. Their decision has been confirmed by the General Committee. Particulars will be given in the Annual Report issued before Christmas. The work is now carried on by the clergy of St. Mary's parish assisted by O.W.W.

The Club House at 102 Regency Street is now open every weekday evening, except Tuesdays, from 8 to 10 P.M. On Tuesdays the Church Lads' Brigade drills in St. Mary's School, Vincent Square. On Wednesdays the gymnastic class is held in the Horseferry Road Board School.

It is hoped that O.W.W. will make a point of visiting the Club.

THE FIELDS.

WESTMINSTER *v.* R.M.A. WOOLWICH.

THIS match was played on Wednesday, November 7, at Vincent Square, and after a good game resulted in a win for the R.M.A. by (6-4). Farmer kicked off at

2.50 and scored after a few minutes' play. The School forwards then forced a corner; our opponents, however, who played a very energetic game, had matters all their own way during the first half, and scored four times, Ogle securing two goals and Archdale one just after half-time. Archdale then added another goal. From this point the game became very exciting, as the School team woke up and made a splendid effort, which unhappily came too late in the match. Our first goal was the result of a good run by Woodbridge and an excellent centre to Kitson, who had no difficulty in scoring it. A few minutes later Whitmore beat Vernon with a good cross shot. The third goal was added by Battle, who made two clever runs, but was robbed by Bethell the first time; our forwards then slackened for a few minutes, but the School backs cleared a rush by the R.M.A. forwards, and from a long pass from Stevens, Woodbridge ran the ball down and centred to Harrison, who scored with a high shot. The R.M.A. retaliated, and Ogle added their sixth goal, four minutes before time. For the School, Knight and Woodbridge played well. For the R.M.A., Ogle and Coller showed good form.

Teams :—

R.M.A. WOOLWICH.

C. E. G. Vernon (goal); K. K. Bethell and O. H. B. Trenchard (back); J. L. R. Weil, C. Coller (capt.) and K. R. G. Stevens (half-back); F. P. Ouchterloney, A. S. Archdale, C. Farmer, A. B. Ogle and H. C. Salvin (forward).

WESTMINSTER.

C. B. H. Knight (goal); E. C. Stevens, H. A. Roberts (back); A. T. Willett, M. Castle-Smith, E. A. Lewis (half-back); P. M. Battle, D. H. Whitmore, R. D. Kitson, F. I. Harrison, L. A. Woodbridge (forward).

WESTMINSTER *v.* CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD.

In this match, which was played 'Up-Fields' on November 10, the School were defeated by (4-0). From the kick-off Christ Church ran down and nearly scored, but it was not till twenty minutes later that Davies shot their first goal, during which time the ball had been continually in our half. Willett conceded a corner soon after this, and from a well-placed kick by McKenna, Davis again scored. Just before half-time he added another goal, after some clever play between Plaskitt and himself. On changing over, the School improved in their attack, and pressed throughout the rest of the game, but without scoring, as their shooting was again at fault. The House forwards only once got away, and then Plaskitt managed to knock the ball past Knight, when B. H. Willett had centred it into the mouth of our goal.

Teams :—

CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD.

R. Taswell (goal); H. E. Cooke, P. T. Jones (back); A. M. Todd, F. H. Bowring, A. H. McKenna (half-back); B. H. Willett, R. Truslove, H. Plaskitt, E. Davis, R. Woodward (forward).

WESTMINSTER.

C. B. H. Knight (goal); A. T. Willett, E. C. Stevens (back); E. A. Lewis, M. Castle-Smith, P. F. Lock (half-back); L. A. Woodbridge, F. I. Harrison, R. D. Kitson, H. A. Roberts, P. M. Battle (forward).

WESTMINSTER *v.* NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD.

This match was played 'Up-Fields' on November 17, and the School were beaten by three goals. Only forty minutes were played each way, owing to the bad light; rain was falling heavily all through the second half. New College pressed continuously from the beginning of the game, but failed to score until after the whistle had blown for half-time. Twenty minutes after the game had been resumed, Joy from outside right scored with a good shot, which Knight might have saved if he had used his hands instead of trying to kick the ball. Shortly after this Simonds was allowed an easy chance of scoring, owing to a misunderstanding between Knight and Castle-Smith. Their third goal was scored by Pidcock just before time. The weather was certainly not pleasant, but it is a pity that we cannot play a more energetic and cheerful game under such circumstances.

Teams :—

NEW COLLEGE.

M. N. Hobart (goal); W. N. Weech, O. R. A. Simpkin (back); M. L. Braithwaite, D. S. Addison, F. de Zuleta (half-back); A. G. Murray-Graham, A. H. Ley, G. T. Simonds, R. G. Pidcock, F. D. H. Joy (forward).

WESTMINSTER.

C. B. H. Knight (goal); A. T. Willett, E. C. Stevens (back); M. Castle-Smith, P. F. Lock, E. A. Lewis (half-back); L. A. Woodbridge, F. I. Harrison, A. T. Coleby, H. A. Roberts, P. M. Battle (forward).

WESTMINSTER 2ND XI. *v.* CLAPHAM ROVERS 2ND XI.

This was the first 2nd XI. match of the season, and our team did well in winning by (5-4). From the kick-off at 3 o'clock Clapham Rovers soon scored, but Beney almost immediately retaliated, and Scott followed his example with a very long shot; in fact, our reporter declares it was from the half-way line. From a well-placed corner we again scored. Clapham Rovers then succeeded in getting past Wallis, and the score stood at (3-2) when half-time was given. Our forwards missed many opportunities after this, and it was late in the game when Beney again scored. Clapham Rovers also gained a point through Chatterton, but Page saved the situation by a long shot—another very long one—which quite baffled Oppenheimer. Shortly before time the Clapham Rovers forwards had two easy chances, but failed to score off

either owing to a mistake in Chatterton's shooting. Napier played vigorously against Oppenheimer. Beney and Page played a sound game for us. Fraser, Schwann, and Sonnenschein were playing as 'subs.' for the Clapham Rovers.

Teams :—

CLAPHAM ROVERS 2ND XI.

H. P. Oppenheimer (goal); H. S. Oppenheimer, R. Fraser (back); G. Schwann, W. G. Chatterton, J. M. Langton (half-back); R. E. Duke, C. H. Lydall, E. V. Chatterton, W. T. S. Sonnenschein, E. H. Winslow (forward).

WESTMINSTER 2ND XI.

D. McG. Wallis (goal); F. D. Baker, C. M. Page (back); F. W. Hubback, T. S. Oldham, W. Parker (half-back); P. H. Napier, R. B. J. Scott, A. Beney, R. D. Kitson, L. A. Woodbridge (forward).

WESTMINSTER 2ND XI. *v.* LONDON HOSPITAL 2ND XI.

This match was played 'Up-Fields' on October 20, and resulted in a win for our 2nd XI. by five goals to two. From the kick-off at 2.40 our opponents secured a corner, but failed to score from it, and our forwards, after a good run, enabled Coleby to score the first goal. Beney followed his example shortly afterwards. Leyston then defeated Wallis with a rather soft shot. Our third goal was scored by Coleby; Topping partially saved the shot and then heeled it through his own goal by mistake. Napier and Coleby played well together, and after a good run the latter again put the ball through, but this time wide of the goalkeeper. Shortly after half-time Whitmore scored our fifth goal, and from that point to the end of the game there was not much excitement, as neither side played up very hard. Colmer scored the second goal for London Hospital.

Teams :—

LONDON HOSPITAL 2ND XI.

J. A. Topping (goal); W. Beet, E. M. Hearne (back); D. Facey, T. S. Dudding, W. Tresider (half-back); C. B. Davis, H. W. Jones, M. N. Colmer, H. Leyston, V. E. Redwood (forward).

WESTMINSTER 2ND XI.

D. McG. Wallis (goal); C. M. Page, F. D. Baker (back); R. L. Fraser, G. M. S. Oldham, F. W. Hubback (half-back); L. G. Connor, A. Beney, D. H. Whitmore, A. T. Coleby, P. H. Napier (forward).

WESTMINSTER 2ND XI. *v.* OLD FORESTERS 2ND XI.

This match was played 'Up-Fields,' in very wet weather, on Saturday, November 17, and resulted in a win for Old Foresters by six goals to one. The

game was very even in the first half, and neither side scored. Directly after half-time Scott scored with a good shot, which gave Rees no chance. After this the Old Foresters had all the game, and scored six times before the end. Roper secured their first two goals, and after a few minutes' interval Baker, Bevan, and Munn scored in rapid succession. Our forwards then made an attempt to get away, but Bevan, at centre half, got the ball and passed to Baker, who added the sixth goal. Time was called about five minutes later.

Teams :—

OLD FORESTERS 2ND XI.

L. O. Rees (goal); V. Ramsey, R. A. Ramsey (back); A. R. Bryant, the Rev. C. O. Bevan, C. R. Hickman (half-back); R. G. Roper, H. F. Baker, K. D. Abbott, C. F. Bryant, J. S. Munn (forward).

WESTMINSTER 2ND XI.

D. McG. Wallis (goal); C. M. Page, C. Powers (back); R. L. Fraser, G. M. S. Oldham, E. M. Parker (half-back); P. H. Napier, A. Beney, D. H. Whitmore, R. B. J. Scott, E. W. Colt-Williams (forward).

HOUSE TRIALS.

GRANTS *v.* H.BB.

THIS match was played on November 28. H.BB. kicked off from the hospital end. Whitmore and Smith first scored for Grants. Scott soon after kicked H.BB.'s first goal, which was followed not long after by one for Grants from Battle. Lowe for H.BB., and Dickson for Grants, scored before half-time, when Grants were leading by (4-2). Sonnenschein and Dickson both scored again for Grants, and the latter afterwards put the ball through, but was given off-side. H.BB.'s last goal was scored by Scott; the result being a win for Grants by 6 goals to 3.

The teams were as follows :—

GRANTS.

J. M. Logan (goal); H. Logan and E. C. Stevens (back); J. P. Blane, M. Castle-Smith, C. W. Lonsdale (half-back); A. L. Woodbridge, S. A. Dickson, W. T. S. Sonnenschein, D. H. Whitmore, P. M. Battle (forward).

H.BB.

C. B. H. Knight (goal); E. O. Bartlett, R. E. Graham (back); L. J. Connor, G. Wilkins, A. M. Macdonald (half-back); P. H. Napier, S. P. Lowe, R. B. J. Scott, H. McPherson, J. C. Vernon (forward).

RIGAUDS *v.* ASHBURNHAM.

Ashburnham kicked off at 2.30, and for some few minutes pressed. Rigauds, however, soon changed the aspect of the game by taking the ball into the

Ashburnham half, where it stayed for a considerable time. Beney on the right wing ran up smartly several times and centred well time after time, the insides missing easy shots more than once. Kitson, however, at length scored, and soon afterwards another goal was obtained off one of the Ashburnham backs. In the second half Rigauds had all the game, except for individual efforts on the part of Lewis and Parker, who played a plucky game. Powers unfortunately was seized with cramp, and had to retire for a short time, Page coming forward in his stead. Several times goals should have been scored, but the game ended without further alteration in the score, the result being a win for Rigauds by 2-0.

RIGAUDS.

S. W. B. Langton (goal); A. T. Willett, C. M. Page (back); R. L. Fraser, J. M. Craig, F. S. Fleuret (half-back); A. Beney, C. Powers, R. D. Kitson, W. S. Lonsdale, C. J. Couchman (forward).

ASHBURNHAM.

D. McG. Wallis (goal); G. Schwann, W. Parker (back); A. E. H. Conolly, E. A. Lewis, Wallis min. (half-back); A. R. Malcolm, R. C. Dolbey, H. M. Edmunds, K. N. Colville, P. M. Bendall (forward).

THE WESTMINSTER LEAGUE.

THE following are the results of the League matches to date :—

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

Captains :—

- (A) Blane, J. P.
- (B) Sefi, A. G.
- (C) Mavrogordato, T. M.
- (D) Hubback, F. W.
- (E) Law, H. D. G.
- (F) Lowe, S. P.
- (G) Dickson, S. A.
- (H) Sonnenschein, W. T. S.

DEBATING SOCIETY.

ON November 8 the House met to discuss the motion : 'That this House would regret the abolition of the School Mission.'

The motion did not give rise to a very good debate, perhaps partly because the probability of the continuation of the School Mission had by this time become a certainty.

C. M. PAGE, who proposed, was optimistic. He dwelt on the opportunity for charity which the Mission afforded ; an opportunity which, he declared, should be welcomed by all alike. Every Public School should have some such institution ; for to help to support a hospital, which was the only alternative, was very uninteresting. There should be a certain amount of sacrifice for the good of the Mission, without which sufficient funds could not be raised. He next commended the Mission to the notice of O.W.W., as a method of keeping up their interest in the School. Had it been given up, it would never have been started again as having already been stigmatised as a failure.

A. BENEY, in opposing, made a plausible maiden speech. He referred to the meeting held Up-School in Election Term to discuss the abolition ; he said that the headmaster had objected that the Mission did not fulfil the purpose it had been intended to fulfil. He disagreed with the Proposer on the question of the interest taken by the School, and pointed to the very deplorable falling off in the offertories. He further suggested that, as the lease had been given up, the School should either support something else or buy a new and cheaper site. Moreover, the people in the district had considerably changed since the foundation of the Mission.

The SECONDER (F. H. Nichols) in a sensible maiden speech suggested that, in consideration of the ignorance of the Mission displayed by members of the School, the headmaster should preach an annual sermon on the aims of the Mission. Although the Mission might perhaps have been a failure, with some little trouble it could be made to flourish ; for example, fellows might go down to the Mission more frequently on Saturday evenings. He agreed with C. M. Page that such a School as Westminster should support some charity.

C. M. PAGE again rose. He entirely agreed with F. H. Nichols ; the Mission at present does not identify itself with the School at all. He again dealt with the question of the destination of offertories in the event of there being no Mission, and thought that something might be done for the poor of Westminster who surrounded us.

G. N. FORD reminded the House that the Vicar of St. Mary's had said the situation was not a good one, and the neighbourhood was too superior. He pointed out that the lower members of the School

must know about the Mission from the offertories on Saints' Days, from *The Elizabethan* and from the Conference Up-School. It was quite unfair to compare the Westminster School Mission with that of Eton when one took the numbers of supporters into consideration.

P. M. BATTLE suggested that members of the School should help to entertain the Mission with music and singing.

After a few remarks by C. M. PAGE and W. T. S. SONNENSCHNEIN, the PRESIDENT rose. He remarked that the headmaster had declared that the Mission could not go on as it did now ; surely he knew more of his subject than C. M. Page? He also brought to the notice of the House the great falling off in the offertories.

Further speeches were made by C. W. ADAMS, A. BENEY, and G. N. FORD.

The PROPOSER again rose. He suggested South London as better ground for Mission work, that being one of the poorest places in the world ; especially in view of Mr. Napier's statement about the former locality of the Mission.

Here the House adjourned.

At the next meeting of the House C. M. PAGE continued his speech, with a few remarks.

G. N. FORD spoke against the motion on pecuniary grounds.

The motion was then put to the vote and carried by 12 votes to 8.

The House met on November 15 to discuss the motion : 'That active measures should be taken to suppress the large number of foreign sailors employed by British merchant vessels.' This motion lasted from November 15 to November 29, and produced a debate that was long if not interesting.

F. W. HUBBACK, who proposed, made his maiden speech. He opened it with the statement that members of the merchant service might be wanted for the navy, for which Englishmen were necessary. Foreigners were less steady as sailors than Englishmen ; and in time of war we could not get foreign sailors. The Proposer then made several suggestions for the Government to adopt in order to increase the willingness of British sailors to serve in the merchant service.

The OPPOSER (H. A. Roberts) repudiated the Proposer's idea of training ships as useless. He said that without foreign sailors we could not have a large merchant service, for Englishmen would never consent to do the work of stoking and the like. Were a Bill to this effect carried our trade would be ruined.

The SECONDER (W. A. Greene) declared that the employment of foreigners was due to the greed of the shipowners. The efficiency of the fleet was increased by British labour. Further, he asked, if Englishmen could stoke warships, why could they not stoke

merchant vessels as well? He was quite of the Proposer's opinion as to the result in time of war.

The OPPOSER again rose to point out that if foreign labour were suppressed in the merchant service it would be extensively used in factories, &c. Again, he said, in time of war all the men thrown out of work could be employed on ships.

W. A. GREENE reminded the House that when ships are manned with foreigners, the officers were unable to stop mutinies. He denied the dulness with which H. A. Roberts charged the merchant service.

F. W. HUBBACK agreed entirely with the last speaker.

C. M. PAGE declared that the foreigners would increase until they eventually turned out Englishmen altogether; for the shipowners who employed foreigners owing to the small wages paid were able to have a larger crew, so that other shipowners would follow their example very soon.

H. A. ROBERTS said that though the employment of British sailors was preferable, yet it was not practicable; he proceeded to quote Mr. F. T. Bullen, who said that it was very difficult to get British sailors to stay in the merchant service. The number of foreigners employed had not increased during the last fifty years.

W. A. GREENE averred that in time of war the foreigner would desert and could not easily be replaced. English sailors refused to join the merchant service because of their aversion to foreigners.

The motion then degenerated into an irrelevant discussion about zones, stokeholes, brotherly love and other things; even the war and the C.I.V. were not forgotten.

Subsequently the motion was put to the vote.

For the motion, 13; against, 6.

The motion was therefore carried.

The House met on December 6, when the following motion was discussed, 'That bull-fighting is unworthy of a civilised nation.'

A very poor and uninteresting debate ensued, in which there was neither brilliancy on the one side nor cogency on the other.

The SECRETARY (G. K. A. Bell), who proposed, made a very short and poor speech. He seemed unable to grasp many arguments, or to put those he did grasp together.

He pointed out the demoralising nature of the sport (*sic*), and gave a short description. Not only were the bulls ill-treated, but the horses also; the bulls were starved for days before the fight (which usually took place on Sunday) in order to increase their fury. The sport had been put down 100 years ago in England, and quite lately in France. A comparison between bull-fighting and prize-fighting would be obviously unfair, as in the one case there was no

chance of escape, and in the other the combatants had equal chances.

W. T. S. SONNENSCHNEIN, in opposing, was very bloodthirsty; he brought forward no very plausible argument. He said that the very fact that the French Government had put down bull-fighting was an argument in its favour. Besides, it improved the physique of those who took part in the fight; and it got rid of a few unnecessary Spaniards. It was quite as cruel to kill them (the bulls) for food; in fine, to object to this sport was sentimental and un-English.

The SECONDER (A. G. Sefi) was also short. He took exception to the Opposer's arguments and reminded the House that though bull-fighting may improve the physique of the participators, yet it demoralises the spectators. All Englishmen, except the lowest classes, were averse to cruelty to animals.

The OPPOSER again rose to point out that the Spaniards had the reputation of being the first gentlemen in the world.

W. A. GREENE said that the excitement to spectators was obviously no greater than in a football match. Both prize-fighting and pigeon-shooting were equally brutalising and cruel.

G. N. FORD defended prize-fighting.

The PRESIDENT had seen a bull-fight, which had disgusted him. He also described some toys of Spanish children, which he said tended to demoralise them. The fact that pigeon-shooting was as cruel as bull-fighting did not make the latter desirable.

H. A. ROBERTS asked the House to take a sportsmanlike (*sic*) view of bull-fighting. He agreed with W. A. Greene about pigeon-shooting.

D. WHITMORE contended that pigeons had a good chance of escape, whereas the bull had none. After further remarks by G. N. FORD and R. D. KITSON about pigeon-shooting, the PRESIDENT put the question.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

House Notes.

COLLEGE.—We have to congratulate Baker on appearing for the School in goal, and Lock, Coleby, Roberts and Harrison on playing regularly, though the first-named is at present at Oxford, scholarship-seeking. We have also to congratulate Adams on an exhibition of £40 at Trinity College, Cambridge. The Fives ties have reached the final stage, Roberts and Cooper-Willis, Crowe and Chesney being the couples still left in. The Literary Society has read 'Julius Cæsar' and 'A Comedy of Errors,' this ending the term's readings.

RIGAUDS.—All our news this number is concerned

with the football achievements of the House. We regret to say that our Juniors have not followed up their initial success, and have suffered two defeats, one at the hands of College by (3-1), and the other at the hands of Ashburnham, also by (3-1). Against this we have to set a most gratifying success in the first round of Trials, having defeated Ashburnham, after a most one-sided game, by two goals to love. At the time of writing our fate against Grants still hangs in the balance. In the absence of A. T. Willett, C. M. Page played back for the School against the Old Westminsters and the Old Felstedians, and in recognition of his valiant services has received his 'Pink and Whites,' on which we heartily congratulate him.

GRANTS.—We were successful against H.B.B. in the first round of the Trials, and are looking forward to playing Rigauds, but we shall be without Ashley, which will make a great difference to us. We congratulate Robertson on getting the Phillimore Translation Prize; this is the second year it has come up Grants. We beat H.B.B. in the Juniors and drew with Ashburnham.

H.B.B.—Thanks to the dry weather of the past week, we have been able to finish our Fives ties. The winners were C. B. H. Knight and E. O. Bartlett, who won very easily. It seems a pity that the draw for the final did not result in a more even game. In the Senior Trials we were beaten by Grants, the result being (3-6). For us Lowe and Macdonald showed good form. In the Juniors we lost to Grants (2-3). Congratulations are due to Browning on having gained an exhibition of £40 a year at Trinity College, Cambridge. We shall be glad to welcome back E. Hackforth as a master next term. We are glad to hear that B. G. Brown (O.W.) has been doing great things at chess at Cambridge.

ASHBURNHAM.—We have to report varied success in the Juniors. We drew against H.B.B. and Grants, and defeated Rigauds by 3 goals to 1. In the Seniors, however, they proved the stronger side, the result being (2-0). We congratulate W. Parker on obtaining his 'Pink and Whites,' and also on playing for the School on several occasions. The finals of the Fives ties have still to be played. We are suffering from a considerable diminution of light in the Upper Room owing to the new carpenter's shop, but we hope to see reflectors put up shortly.

Obituary.

WE record with regret the murder of ARTHUR CHARLES WILLIAM JENNER. He was Sir William Jenner's third son, was born in 1864, and was at the School from April 1879 to May 1882. He graduated from Christ Church in 1886, and was called to the Bar in 1889. He was appointed Vice-Consul at Zanzibar in 1894, Sub-Commissioner for Kismaya, in the province of Jubaland, in 1895, and Vice-Consul in the Protectorate in 1896. He was treacherously murdered by a tribe of Somalis, desirous of an outbreak against British rule.

We have also to record the death of CHARLES EARLE DYSON. He was the younger son of the Rev. William Henry Dyson, was born in 1875, and was at the School from May 1888 to Christmas 1890. He was afterwards of Clare College, Cambridge. He died at King William's Town, S. Africa, on December 4.

Correspondence.

THE RACKET COURT.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—May I encroach on your valuable space so far as to lodge a complaint against the present abominable condition of the racket court? I consider it a standing disgrace to the School, and in the light of the revived interest taken in the game here, it seems desirable that steps should be taken to remedy this sad state of affairs. I feel certain that all who try to play rackets will sympathise with me, as at present it is simply a test of who can jump about most agilely to hit balls that do not come off true.

I am, Sir,
Yours, &c.,
SLOPPER.

NAMES UP-SCHOOL.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—In your number for October you ventured to doubt the truth of a letter I wrote to you on the above subject. In that letter I endeavoured to bring to the notice of the School in general, and to all O.W.W., the disgraceful state of the names on the walls of Up-School. I mentioned how illegible or nearly illegible many of them were. A little paint will soon put this right. You asked for instances, but it would be impossible to give anything like a true list in a letter. I would ask you or anyone interested in this matter to choose a bright sunny day, to take a walk round Up-School, and examine the walls carefully. It will be found impossible, or next to impossible, to make out many of the names or dates, especially those in the windows. I again assert that such a state of things

is a disgrace to the School, and also I repeat that steps should be taken to add more names, for many famous names are absent.

I am, Sir,
Yours, &c.,
D. O. T.

[We can only repeat that our correspondent is deceived by names which are put up in two places, illegibly in the one place, legibly in the other. As is well known, anyone can have the name of an O.W. painted up if he pays for it.—ED.]

SINGING ON SAINTS' DAYS.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—I have long desired, through the medium of your valuable paper, to complain about the singing in Abbey on Saints' Days. No school is so privileged as Westminster in having for its 'chapel' so magnificent a building as the Abbey; and, further, on Saints' Days, in being allowed the use of its organ played by one of its organists. I consider that it is greatly to be regretted that the School does not show its appreciation of these great privileges by entering more heartily into the services. Fellows who sit in the stalls do, I think, sing, but there is room for improvement. The chief culprits, however, are the smaller boys who sit in the transepts. Among them it seems to be considered *infra dig.* to sing; and especially those who sing treble seem to feel that, because their bigger school-fellows sing bass, they ought to do so too, and so do not sing at all. I hope that in future all fellows will endeavour to make these services go more brightly, and I remain, Sir,

Yours, &c.,
WYND.

OUR COVER.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—As 'Water' at Westminster has long been a thing of the past, might not the oar depicted on the cover of *The Elizabethan* be replaced by a tanning-rod, or some such up-to-date instrument?

Yours, &c., &c.,
TEMPORA MUTANTUR.

[No doubt when the present block is worn out the Editor will take the opportunity to rectify the incongruity, which has been pointed out before in our columns.—ED.]

O.W.W. FOOTBALL.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—Silence very often implies consent, and therefore I think that some reply should be made to the letter signed 'Loyally Indignant,' which appeared in your last number. In that letter two charges are made: one against the Secretary of the O.W.F.C., the other against O.W. footballers. Two instances are cited in support of those charges, namely, the matches against Cambridge University and R.M.A., Woolwich. The Secretary is accused of remissness. I wonder whether the writer of that letter has had any experience of the difficulties which beset the secretary of an old-boy team. I am afraid he has not. I would ask him, however, to kindly bear this in mind, that the Hon. Secretary of the O.W.F.C. has to get his team, not from a school or university, or any particular locality, but from various parts of the kingdom, and that his position when, in consequence of a sudden disappointment, he has at the last moment to sally forth and raise a substitute, is not one to be envied. As a matter of fact O.W.W. have been, and still are, singularly fortunate in their secretaries. Mr. A. J. Hemmerde, from 1894 to 1900, displayed an enthusiasm

so intense that the news of his retirement early this year was viewed by most of us with something approaching to consternation. However, Mr. W. F. Fox at once stepped nobly into his place, and has loyally, generously, and most successfully devoted time and skill to a difficult task. So much for the Secretary. 'Loyally Indignant' goes on to remark that the appearance of such names as 'A. Rotter,' 'A. N. Other,' signifies a want of keenness. On the contrary, it may well signify the reverse. In the match against Cambridge, for instance, 'A. Rotter' was compelled to appear under some such name owing to the fact that his services were required in some other capacity on that afternoon. After all, both he and A. N. Other (?) played on the winning side. If the writer were to cast his eyes over the *Sportsman* on a Saturday morning I think he would find that on an average one team in every three has A. N. Other appearing in it. He ought to know that the state of the ground on the day of an important match often decides the question as to this or that person playing. With regard to the Woolwich match, it is true that O.W.W. had only nine men (*not* eight) playing, and were consequently beaten (1-2). Yet most of the teams which go down to Woolwich curiously enough turn up short, a coincidence which may generally be accounted for by the lamentable railway service.

I do not complain of the writer's *loyalty*, I like it; but I certainly think that before styling himself *indignant* he should be able to satisfy others, if not himself, that he has good cause for being 'indignant.' Such a groundless accusation as his might do a lot of harm if seriously believed in by the outside world. As a matter of fact it would be hard to point out a body of men more loyal or more united than O.W. footballers. Apologising for the length of this,

Believe me, dear Sir,
Truly yours,
R. R. CAMPBELL.

December 7, 1900.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

SIR,—I note with some astonishment and not a little amusement the remarks contained in a letter which appeared in your last number, signed 'Loyally Indignant.'

It appears that his indignation is aroused by what he terms the slackness of Old Westminster football players, and the want of organisation on the part of the Secretaries. He is not content with indicting the players, but he also assails our worthy and painstaking Hon. Sec., and it is more in defence of the latter than of the former that I write this letter.

The O.W.F.C. has been singularly fortunate this year, and also in past years, in the choice of its secretaries. Our secretaries have, without exception, ungrudgingly given up much of their valuable time for the benefit of the club, and have worked generously and zealously in its interests. People do not seem to realize the great difficulties with which the secretary of an old-boy club is beset. Unlike a school, college, or university club, where one is more or less in the companionship of the other members, an old-boy club has its members scattered over a much larger area; some of them at the 'varsities, others in London and in business, and the remainder in different parts of the United Kingdom, and to get these members together is of necessity a matter of the greatest difficulty. Our Secretary is doing all in his power to make the present season as great a success as former seasons have been, and all who are acquainted with the facts of the case agree that he is succeeding admirably. Another reason assigned for your correspondent's wrath is that on occasions 'A. N. Other' has made his appearance in the team advertised in the *Sportsman* as doing duty for the O.W.F.C., and I fear that we must plead guilty to this indictment, and, if an offence it be, we offend in company with the Corinthians, Oxford and Cambridge, Old Carthusians, Blackheath, Richmond, and other powerful Association and Rugby clubs, who are quite capable of looking after their own business without requiring outside assistance and advice. It does seem to me to be almost incredible that anyone should take offence at

such a trivial fact as this. Does 'Loyally Indignant' really not perceive that necessity often compels a club to advertise in its teams the *nom de guerre* to which he takes exception? For instance, is it not often the case where two players are chosen for the same position, and the final choice is made after the teams have been sent in to the *Sportsman*, or on the morning of the match?

He mentions the match against Cambridge as an instance. In this match, he remarks, positions were assigned to 'A. N. Other' and 'A. Rotter,' and he ends up by saying 'this does not speak well for the keenness of O.W.W.' This conclusion is entirely incorrect. Here are the facts of the case: 'A. Rotter' obscured the identity of an O.W. whose services were required elsewhere, but who preferred rather to represent his own club; and if 'A. N. Other' appeared, which by the way I very much doubt, it was for the above-mentioned reason. Then again, take the R.M.A. match, the O.W.F.C. were on that occasion represented by nine players, not eight, and the absence of the other two was caused by a delay on the railway.

In both the instances which 'Loyally Indignant' has cited in support of his contention there is not a trace of any want of keenness among O.W.W., and he has simply jumped at conclusions without seeking to investigate the cause.

And finally, if your correspondent is as loyal as he seeks to imply, let him refrain from publishing letters which in the long run might do the O.W.F.C. harm by giving readers of *The Elizabethan* a false impression of the way the club is carried on, even though such letters are written under a *nom de plume*, and thereby lose most of what little force they may have originally possessed.

Trusting that you will insert the above letter,

Yours, &c., &c.,
H. O. C. BEASLEY.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—Kindly prepare yourself for a somewhat lengthy piece of correspondence, which, as will be seen by the title, vitally concerns the interest of past and present Westminsters in these days, where sport plays so vast a part in the welfare of those who have left school.

You received in your last number a letter concerning O.W.W., which attacked them for slackness with regard to 'footer.' If all said by your correspondent be true, I am perfectly prepared also to sign myself 'Loyally Indignant,' but I cannot believe that it is. For good reasons I am unable to attend O.W.W. teams on their tours. I am, however, like all other loyal members of the club, a very keen observer of their doings. I received no intimation at any time that there was a lack of enthusiasm among them to such an extent as your correspondent seems to imagine; but I leave it to others whom the letter more nearly concerns to defend themselves from such seditious libel. I will now turn to a point or two which may rouse all those who take interest in their doings to a pitch of enthusiasm which ought not to need any goad.

No card of O.W.W. fixtures has been printed in *The Elizabethan*. This alone puts those who are not football players in the dark as to the doings of their old associates at school.

In the second place no account of any O.W.W. match has been printed and no results have been published in the paper that concerns the doings of old and present Westminsters.

These two points are the main cause of any lack of interest that exists. After all, it is not so very hard to rectify them. How O.W.W. have fared so far in their matches is highly creditable and quite keeps up the reputation that the club holds. Though this year the London Charity Cup has passed beyond their reach, owing to the victory of Clapton (who are the present holders, and, it appears, are likely to remain so), this fact does not denote any failing in the football of Westminster. On several occasions matches have been won against

splendid teams. But where is there any record of these acts, and how can the younger generation of Westminsters be expected to long to join in the struggles in which their predecessors at school are taking part? They have no means of finding out these results. The *Sportsman* is the only paper (occasionally others) that has a detailed account of a match, and that is not always accessible. May I ask you, Mr. Editor, to print, even if it is short, some account of these matches? I feel sure you could find someone ready to give you help in your exertions. I feel heartily sorry that other schools should see what your correspondent writes without any real cause for his indignation. With due apologies for the length of this letter,

I remain, Sir,
Yours, &c.,
ENTHUSIAST.

INTER-HOUSE FIVES CUP.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

DEAR SIR,—It was with great pleasure that I read your correspondent's letter, signed 'R.W.' in your last number, on the above subject. You may remember that nearly a year ago I wrote to your paper on this subject, advocating an Inter-House Fives Cup, which should be given away at the sports. I can see no reason why this should not be done this year. If it be objected to on the ground of expense, fellows, I am sure, would subscribe the small amount necessary, for it need not be a very expensive cup. Each house should send up what it believes to be its two best players, and they should play on the cup system. This would not interfere with the other games; on the contrary, it would improve them, because it would tend to make fellows keener. Hoping to see this project speedily put into action.

I remain, Sir,
Yours, &c.,
N. A. N.

O.W.W. OF FICTION.

To the Editor of 'The Elizabethan.'

St. Peter's College, Westminster, S.W.
December 9, 1900.

DEAR SIR,—As the author of 'Old Westminsters of Fiction' asks for the smallest contribution towards making his short study more complete, may I quote the following extract from 'Lavengro,' by George Borrow? Francis Ardry had conducted Lavengro to a place not far from the 'Abbey Church of Westminster,' where dog-fights and other amusements of like nature were held. Lavengro suggests to the proprietor that, among other things, learning and letters might keep people away from dog-fights. This is the answer:—

'Pretty things, truly, to keep people from dog-fighting. Why, there's the young gentlemen from the Abbey School comes here in shoals, leaving books and letters, and masters too. To tell you the truth, I rather wish they would mind their letters, for a more precious set of young blackguards I never seed. It was only the other day I was thinking of calling in a constable for my own protection, for I thought my pit would have been torn down by them.' (Chapter xxxv.) Comment is unnecessary.

I am, Sir,
Yours, &c.,
B.

Our Contemporaries.

WE acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following:—*St. Peter's School Magazine, The Reptonian, Wycombe Abbey Gazette, Ulula, The Fettesian, The Tonbridgian, The Meteor* (2),

The Felstedian, The Bradfield College Chronicle, The Melburnian, The Rossallian, Our Boys' Magazine, King's College Magazine, Sutton Valence School Magazine, The Wellingtonian, The Cantuarian, St. Michael's Chronicle, Lancing College Magazine, The Radleian, The Malvernian, Edinburgh Academy Chronicle, The Penn Charter Magazine, The Carthusian, The Cheltonian, The Wykehamist, and The Marlburian.

ERRATA.

Vol. 9, p. 275. Cricket, 3rd XI.'s: for C. W. Colt-Williams read E. W. Colt-Williams.

Vol. 9, p. 275. Football match *v.* R. N. R. Blaker's XI.: Result should read (2—9).

Vol. 9, p. 288: for Castlesmith read Castle-Smith.

NOTICES.

The Life Subscription to 'The Elizabethan' is £5.

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

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Subscriptions now due, of which there are a considerable number, should be forwarded to G. K. A. BELL, 3 Little Dean's Yard, Westminster (*not* addressed 'The Treasurer').

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

Moreat.