

Liverpool Institute Schools' Magazine.

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THE last month of the year has now been entered, and we are already looking forward to the cessation from study—however brief it may be—which comes at the end of the year. We hope that from the beginning of next year, we may be able to place our Magazine on a sure basis. The most essential requisite for its success is to increase its size; we have felt very cramped for space, and on this account have been compelled to exclude many contributions of merit.

With regard to the first number, we had a second edition printed, owing to its success, and have still a few copies remaining.

We shall receive monthly letters from Old Boys at the Universities.

We cannot conclude without thanking the masters for the great interest they have shown in this undertaking.

L. I. L. D. S.

A MEETING of this society was held on Tuesday, November 9th, the chairman, R. BURN being absent, H. R. ARMSTRONG took his place. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. F. ARNEY was proposed as a member by B. RICHMOND, seconded by C. V. H. MILLARD, and duly elected.

C. V. H. MILLARD put a question with regard to the General Meeting. S. JENKINS wished to know if, in case of terms being adopted, the General Meeting would be postponed.

W. M. BROWN then read a most interesting paper on "EDMUND BURKE," in which he gave an account of Burke's life, both private and parliamentary. He adduced some arguments to show that Burke was probably the author of the "Letters of Junius," and put forward several reasons for this assumption. He was followed by S. JENKINS, C. V. H. MILLARD, J. SHEARER, and E. J. PHILLIPS, who criticised the paper. H. R. ARMSTRONG pointed out that the reasons put forward by BROWN would quite all well apply to some other persons of that period, and that "Junius" was more probably Sir Phillip Francis, but that the whole matter was in the greatest doubt. A vote of thanks was proposed by C. V. H. MILLARD, and seconded by E. J. PHILLIPS, and after W. BROWN had replied, the meeting terminated.

A meeting of this society was held on November 16th, 1886, R. BURN in the chair.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read, and after a slight alteration confirmed. W. HAYWARD gave notice of a resolution. H. LONG then opened a debate on "Has fiction an elevating tendency on the mind?" He showed that in the lists of books published in the *Pall Mall Gazette* fiction played an important part; he also showed that it gives us an account of what we cannot personally see. He divided Fiction into (1) Poetry, where many of the finest thoughts occur, taking as an example Shakspeare; (2) Novels, whose chief object is to present human life to us; (3) Fables, the oldest form of fiction, which inculcated moral ideas, and under a pleasant guise; (4) Allegories, e. g., "Pilgrim's Progress," and Satirical Fables which aim at reforming abuses, and (5) Purely imaginative. By copious examples he showed the beneficial effects of fiction, and concluded with an extract from Lord Bacon. O. JONES opened the case of the negative, by saying that he never included Bunyan's work in fiction. He discarded LONG's classification of fiction, and divided it into Superior and Inferior, the latter being the cheaper was the most easily diffused. He considered that novels took no effort in reading, and that they tended to carry away the mind and produce a passion for such literature.

MILLARD, BARKER, JENKINS, SHEARER, HAYWARD, DALE, PHILLIPS, ARMSTRONG, and BURN followed, all of whom spoke in the affirmative, B. A. RICHMOND spoke in the negative.

The vote on the subject resulted in ten for the affirmative and five for the negative.

After the customary vote of thanks the meeting was adjourned.

A meeting of this society was held on November 23rd, Mr. BURN in the chair.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were then read and confirmed, and W. HAYWARD withdrew his resolution.

L. BARNETT then read a paper on "Ants." He gave a description of several species of these insects and their habits. He

related various instances of their destructive propensities. He described their mode of warfare, social life, and also their slaves. He was followed by PHILLIPS and HAYWARD. B. RICHMOND gave an interesting incident relating to beetles and ants residing in the same ant-hill, and of the keener instincts of some species over others.

MILLARD, JONES, ARMSTRONG, JENKINS, and BURN offered a few remarks, and after BARNETT's reply, a cordial vote of thanks was then accorded to the essayist, and the meeting terminated.

THE SECRETARY,
L. I. L. D. S.

FOOTBALL.

L. I. F. C. versus WATERLOO HIGH SCHOOL.

This match, played on November 10th, resulted in a defeat of our club by eight goals and innumerable minor points to nil.

L. I. F. C. versus MERCHANT TAYLORS.

On Wednesday, Nov. 17th, this match was played at Crosby. The Institute played without their captain, but had an old boy. The game resulted in a victory for the home team by a goal and a try to a goal. The goal for the Institute was dropped from the field by A. Fall, who played well throughout.

The match which was put down to be played on the 20th with the College was scratched.

PARODY.

THE lazy boy to his school has gone,
In the lowest ranks you'll find him;
His satchel of books, when fastened on,
Bears all his lore behind him.

"Hateful school," said the boy aloud,
"Though no one else decry thee,
One boy, at least, not learned and proud,
Will venture to defy thee."

He straight declared all learning vain,
And ignorance, "no matters";
The bag he burn'd, ne'er serv'd again,
His books he tore to tatters;

And said: "No more you'll harry me,
Ye books of bosh and knavery;
Let harness'd asses carry ye:
Not born, was I, for slavery."

EPIGRAM:—

Dant Superi annos; magistri horas.

OXFORD LETTER.

THIS term is the least interesting and most monotonous of the terms that compose our academical year. Too cold to boat for pleasure, too wet often to walk or play tennis, the football teams made up, likely men for the 'torpids' soon picked out, and the others told that their services at the river will not be required, half the 'Varsity spend the afternoon in easy chairs or libraries.

At the beginning of term much amusement is often caused by the eccentricities of freshmen in the town as well as on the river. Though it is somewhat comical to see a "verdant one" decked out in cap and gown, stick and gloves, perambulating the "High" or "Corn" stile, more so is it to witness the tyro's struggles with the oar like a baby with a soup-spoon, in blissful ignorance what to do with it. Behold a man who tries so hard to do what the coach tells him, make a bad shot at the water altogether, or catch one of those awkward fish which sends him heels uppermost just where he shouldn't aught to be. It would be interesting to know how many promising young crabs are caught on the Isis during this term alone, though, forsooth, such fish usually live in salt water.

There was an exciting "town and gown" on the 5th of Nov., when "the battle raged loud and long" round Balliol and the Varsity Church. Two valiant warriors were conspicuous above the rest, and fast and thick the blows were rained on the blustering, hooting, and half frightened crowd, that gathered in numbers wherever a cap or gown was to be espied. The gownsmen, however, have the hardest time of it, for whereas the town have only the gownsmen and occasional bobbies to fight, the less fortunate backers of the gown have townsmen, bobbies, proctors, and bulldogs arrayed against them, with the result that ten gownsmen are "run in" and fined for every townsman who shares a like fate—the which ain't fair.

There is always a great run this term on the College Debating Societies, in which private business often forms the chief and most interesting feature, as each member has then an unlimited field for the display of his wit and power of repartee. And here let me seize the opportunity of wishing the L. I. L. D. S. every success. Debating Societies are grand things, and none ever regrets belonging to one at school.

May I just add that Oxford does not get her share of Institute men. It is not fair that all should go to Cambridge. Let more visit the ancient Oxenford, sprung from the Dorcie of St. Bivinas (the Dorchester of to-day) and give it its share of the intellect of the Liverpool Institute.

OXONIENSIS.

AN OLD HOMER.

I AM a law-student, an articulated clerk in the well-known firm of Pesky, Walker, & Co. I am 21 and in the third year of my articles, am by no means brilliant, never went to college, have no friends, have an instinctive and lasting dread of mathematics, and live by myself in a populous and dusty part of the Metropolis. My lodgings, or "apartments" as my landlady calls them, are extremely commonplace, consisting of a three cornered little back "parlour" and an excessively small bedroom of about seven feet square; the former of which is always redolent of "kitchen," while the latter resounds regularly every morning at about five with inspiring notes of about sixty chanticleers. I say sixty, there may be more, I can't tell, but all I know is that when having been awakened by them, I have endeavoured to count them, I have invariably failed, and have finally had to give up the task as hopeless.

Having thus given a description of myself, business, and surroundings, it may not be out of place to offer some account of my recreations.

To begin with, then, I am, I fancy, what the world would call a "good young man," that is to say I don't drink, I don't go often to the theatres, I don't gamble, and I go regularly to a certain place of worship every Sunday morning and evening.

In order, however, to save myself from the title of saint, I must confess that I smoke, play chess, and, last though not least, collect books. When I say I am a bibliophile, I would have you understand that I am not by any means a collector of very rare and expensive books; on the contrary, my purchases never or at any rate very rarely extend beyond half-a-crown. My general source of literature is one of the old bookstalls that are reared against many of the walls in the great Metropolis, and among whom I am generally known as "that queer young gent who buys nothing but rubbish." My usual purchases are old classical and school books, which have always had a curious attraction for me, and this, perhaps, accounts to a certain extent for the contemptuous remarks with which my last sentence closed.

The day on which the somewhat remarkable and mysterious adventure, which I am about to relate, happened, I paid my accustomed visit to the old bookstall and was there struck by a very fine old edition of Homer's Iliad, with a Latin translation on the alternate pages, and by the aid of which I hoped to enter however slightly into the poetry which I had hitherto vainly attempted to understand by reason of my very limited knowledge of Greek.

I hurried home with my new prize (for which I had paid the enormous sum of 1s. 6d.) and deposited it in the aforesaid little bedroom while I descended to the lower regions to partake of my evening meal. After I had satisfied my inner man, and ground away for the regulation time at Stephen's Digest, I again betook myself to my sleeping apartment, in this case my "study," and

Farewell to the passenger friends !
 May your voyage be pleasant and short ;
 Let your love and your sympathy blend,
 And discord and jars be forgot.

Farewell to the sailors and crew !
 May your little ones soon see your face ;
 Your smiles and your tears to renew,
 As you fall in each other's embrace.

Good ship Oregon, we bid you adieu !
 Thou hast long ploughed the watery main ;
 May the storms that shall meet you be few,
 Till you enter the harbour again.

SCHOOL NEWS.

A MEETING was held on Friday, 12th Nov., in MR. WRIGHT'S room, to discuss the future of the Magazine—R. BURN in the chair. The meeting consisted of delegates from the High and Commercial Schools, and members of the L.I.L.D.S. It was resolved that the paper consist of 8 pages, and be sold at 1d. As the previous title was considered too comprehensive by the authorities of the school, it was agreed to change it. It was decided to appoint a delegate from each class agent for the sale of the paper. The meeting then closed.

O. W. OWEN, who was so distinguished in the last Oxford Local Examination, intends to compete for a Scholarship at Cambridge this year. H. R. ARMSTRONG and R. H. DEMPSTER are competing for the Albert Scholarship. It was gained the last time it was vacant by T. A. LAWRENSON, who went up to college this autumn. R. BURN intends entering the Junior Cambridge this year also.

J. W. MAGUIRE, an old boy of the Institute, has gained a place in the Home Civil Service. We beg to congratulate him sincerely.

