

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE SCHOOLS MAGAZINE.

VOL. V. No. 4.

FEBRUARY, 1891.

OUR Editors are this month showing their pluck and enterprise by bringing out the *Magazine* in a new and much improved shape. It is certainly the duty of everyone of us in the School to testify our appreciation of the change by helping them in the only way we can—*i.e.*, by becoming regular subscribers. The *Magazine*, if regularly taken in and bound in volumes, will be a never-failing source of interest to us in the days when, instead of being boys, we have become "old boys." There are many hundreds of old Institute boys now alive who would be only too glad of having such a record of their old schooldays. The rising generation will have this advantage over them.

ALFRED HUGHES.

Editorial.

IT was with feelings of considerable anxiety that we looked forward to the first issue of our *Magazine* for 1891. We felt that the time had arrived in its existence when we were bound in loyalty to the School and by the example of former editors to endeavour to make some advance. We thought it would be an improvement to present it covered in its present form, and seeing that it was often too crowded, we determined to increase its size from eight to twelve pages, and to use a larger type, which might increase the interest of our parents, whom we have sometimes seen re-adjust their spectacles when condescending to glance at it.

Our thanks are due to the Secretary of the School, Mr. C. Sharp, for the design of the cover and the expense attending it. We trust also that the contents will prove so satisfactory that we shall receive no effusions from captious critics.

It is only twelve months since we lost our honoured old head-master, Mr. Sephton, for whom we shall ever have feelings of loving respect, and from whose pen we some day hope to have the pleasure of printing a few words. How we all wondered about the new head-master! Well, he has been with us twelve months, and has bound us to him with feelings of loyalty and respect. We are sure he will not let the lustre of the school diminish, but continue its advancement till it becomes second to none of its order. Partakers in out-door sport should be specially grateful to his efforts on their behalf. It is indeed a favourable augury for the success of our *Magazine* that we are privileged to print an expression of encouragement and hope from Mr. Hughes, in which he has expressed the one thought that alone can insure its existence in the present form, namely: "That it is the duty of every one of us in the School to become regular subscribers."

In the past we have been much helped by Mr. Bulmer and Mr. Brown, who have constantly brought the *Magazine* under the notice of the boys. We feel sure we shall not ask in vain for the like interest of the other masters.

As the expense attending our *Magazine* in its present form is considerable, perhaps the honoured directors of the school may be induced to encourage us by a small grant, which would very much conduce to our peace of mind. We have been led to express this hope by seeing that editors of School Magazines are so assisted.

T. J. T. D. S.

A MEETING was held on 27th Nov., 1890, A. J. Ewart presiding. After the usual preliminary business, Wolde opened in the affirmative the debate "Is the Doctrine of Land Nationalisation absurd and impracticable?" He treated first of the doctrine of community of goods, of which he asserted Land Nationalisation was a development, and attempted to demonstrate its absurdity and impracticability. He further affirmed that Land Nationalisation would most unfairly shift the responsibility of the individual on to the shoulders of the body. He maintained also that State management would be decidedly inferior to personal ownership, and gave in support of his assertions the opinions of John Stuart Mill, Mr. G. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., the Hon. G. C. Brodrick, and others on the subject. He met various statements brought forward in Mr. Henry George's book, and concluded with an earnest appeal to his hearers to vote for commonsense, order and decency. A. E. Ewart replied. After touching upon various arguments of Wolde's, he pleaded against the condemnation of a scheme not put into practice. He said that had Wolde been so minded he might have found an excellent illustration of the principle in France and Germany, both of which countries were in a highly prosperous condition. After dealing with Feudalism and its methods, he spoke of the notorious badness of our present Land System, and also asserted that the value of land depends not upon the efforts of the individual but upon society. He closed his speech by treating of different plans of Land Nationalisation. In the discussion which then took place, Braham, W. O. Jones, and Marshall supported the affirmative, and Kanthack and Baddeley the negative; while Harvey, who also spoke, remained neutral. After the Chairman had spoken and the leaders had replied, the vote was taken with the result of a majority of seven for the affirmative.

Dec. 4th., 1890. A meeting was held on this date, A. J. Ewart in the chair. After the reading of the minutes and some other business had been gone through, the Chairman called upon Lyons to open in the affirmative the debate "Would Compulsory Military Service be of advantage in England?" He advocated it on the ground that the country would at all times have a most able defence, that the tone of the army would be vastly improved, and that the male population would benefit individually. He urged the inefficiency of our present volunteer

service, and affirmed that the adoption of the system would be a return to old English customs. Having drawn a comparison between the glory of ancient and modern battles, greatly in favour of the former, he concluded by combating various objections to his proposition. R. Roberts replied. He endeavoured to prove the impossibility of the scheme, both from the national spirit and on the ground of expense. He pointed out that from our insular position and our volunteer troops, compulsory military service is unnecessary. After having attempted to show the futility of comparing England to Germany in this respect, he met various arguments favouring the scheme adduced by various writers as well as in the course of Lyons's speech. On the subject being debated, A. E. Ewart, Braham, Bowler, Harvey, and Wolde supported the negative; and Jenkins and H. L. H. Millard the affirmative. After the Chairman's speech the leaders briefly replied, and the vote was taken with the result of a victory for Roberts.

A meeting was held on Dec. 11th, A. J. Ewart presiding. There was an exceptionally large attendance, including, in addition to many ordinary members and visitors, Mr. Owen (Vice-President), and Mr. Caldicott. Considerable time was occupied in preliminary and private business, some lively discussion ensuing in which Lyons, Braham, Roberts, Hilton, and a few others joined. After the Chairman had disposed of this, Long, who was enthusiastically received, read a most excellent paper on "The Struggle Against the Corn Laws." He treated first of the origin and history of the Corn Laws, and depicted the deplorable condition of England during the last years in which they were in force. He then spoke of the Anti-Corn Law Association, mentioning in terms of warm praise Cobden and Bright. He next referred to the great Irish famine; Peel's break with his party, etc.; and proceeded to give the history of the League up to its final dissolution. Having summed up the general as well as the immediate effects of the struggle, he spoke at considerable length of Sir Robert Peel, and concluded a most able and interesting paper by reading an extract from that statesman's speech on his retirement. A. E. Ewart, Braham, Harvey, Wolde, and Marshall took part in the discussion which followed, and after Long had replied the meeting adjourned.

The first meeting after the Christmas holidays was held on Jan. 15th, 1891. A. J. Ewart presided, and there was a fair attendance. After the reading of the minutes, Wolde, seconded by A. E. Ewart, proposed

that two members be elected, in addition to the Committee, to take steps respecting the Annual Entertainment. This having been carried, Marshall and Jenkins were eventually elected. Various other business of a private nature having been disposed of, the Chairman announced a subject for impromptu debating, viz., "Is the Study of Mathematics of more Educational Value than that of Natural Science?" The following were selected at random and spoke:—For the affirmative, Braham, Barnett, Millard, and Jenkins; for the negative, Clark, Crake, Wolde, Harvey, A. E. and R. J. Ewart, Cheeseright, and Roberts. The voting resulted in a majority of six for the affirmative.

Jan. 22. A meeting was held on this date, A. J. Ewart presiding. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, Banks, Bell, and R. Harradine were proposed and unanimously elected members. The Chairman then called upon L. D. Barnett to read his paper on "Slavery." He commenced by defining slavery, both from a Grecian and a Roman point of view. He explained the status and condition of slaves in primitive communities, and affirmed that as civilisation advanced slavery both changed and increased. Treating first of Grecian slavery, he gave the nationality of the slaves, interesting particulars of their mode of life and treatment, details of the slave market, etc., illustrating his remarks by quotations from various plays of Aristophanes, and from Thucydides. Coming to Roman Slavery, he treated at some length of its growth and development. As in speaking of Greek slavery, he gave an account of their life and condition, as also of the slave market, and quoted from Cicero, Terence, Plautus, and Juvenal in illustration. He concluded a most admirable and scholarly paper by drawing a comparison between Greek and Roman slavery generally. The paper was then briefly discussed by Wolde, A. E. Ewart, Marshall and the Chairman. After Barnett had suitably replied the meeting adjourned.

The following items appear on the card for February, 1891:—Feb. 5, debate, "Would the Extension of Home Rule to Scotland and Wales be a wise Reform?" Mohammud and Roberts. Feb. 12, paper by W. McI. Brown, subject as yet unannounced. Feb. 19, Debate, "Ought Capital Punishment to be at once Abolished?" Addinsell and Hilton. Feb. 26, paper, "Liberalism," by Braham.

Chat on the Corridor.

WE hope, among many other of our sincere wishes, that "cribbers" will pay close and continued attention to such matter as immediately concerns their inmost selves. Let them ponder, consider the direction in which they have launched themselves, and endeavour, by unbiassed argument, to arrive at a just conclusion concerning this source of classical knowledge (doubtful).

Readers will notice, in another part of the *Magazine*, that a letter deserving of considerable attention has been received from an Old Boy. We heartily agree with him on the subject of an Old Boy's correspondence column); but should, at the same time, like to learn other old Institutionions' views of the idea. Such a page in the *Magazine* would establish a channel of communication between friends otherwise separated, and we do not doubt in the least that matters discussed therein would also be a source of interest to present pupils of the School. Alluding to his second suggestion, we express our thanks for it, and also intimate that it has been immediately acted upon, and Old Boys may receive a copy of the *L. I. S. M.* at the office.

The following has been put into our hands as being a very good illustration of French wit: "A gendarme, on being asked if a tailor, who had murdered his wife a few weeks previously, had been captured, replied, 'Non Monsieur, parce qu'il était tailleur' (était ailleurs)."

We are very proud to state that poets have at last condescended to send us, of course for insertion, some of their sublime effusions. The receipt of matter—especially of a poetical nature—always stimulates the Eds. They take a greater interest in their work when they find someone else also doing such, but they have not decided to admit the insertion of anything which would tend to forward the pugilistic tendencies of youth. Also we think that, had the metre been a little more correct, the article might, in a somewhat altered form, have reached the standard of mediocrity. The foregoing remarks refer entirely to "Kalokagathos." In reference to the letter we received from S. B., we read it with considerable interest, but are sorry to say that it hardly came up to the mark of poetry suitable for the *Magazine*. We can only commend his attempt, and hope that he may improve in style.

It would not be an outlandish speculation to say that boys slide over their lessons at this period of the year (not the last few warm days) in about the same way as they do the ice. Of course, Institute boys have become peculiarly graceful skaters by this time, but if the figures they cut on the ice bear the slightest resemblance to those sometimes unconsciously portrayed on the slides in the yard, we shall really get up a petition for a half-holiday to see the real thing.

All communications respecting the *Magazine* should be addressed to Editors of *L. I. S. M.*, Liverpool Institute. We do not undertake to return, in all cases, manuscripts received, but if such contributions be accompanied by a stamp, and address of sender, we shall endeavour to forward them.

Cribbing.

"Quid Romae faciam? Mentiri nescio."—JUVENAL.

IN speaking of cribbing, or—for the term is liable to be misunderstood—the use of translations in preparing set work, we would place beyond our remarks boys who would copy off a companion's paper, or open a book during examination. For such the head master's cane would prove a far more cogent argument than a page or so of *Magazine* article, and the loss of a half-holiday than any amount of reasoning. We would speak then, mainly, to those who, in translating, make use of what has been well called "the coward's aid—a literal translation."

It may be fairly thought that the end and aim of learning any language whatever is two-fold. First, to acquire proficiency in that language; second, to expand and strengthen the mind for the acquisition of further knowledge. Cribbing defeats both these ends. The test, you will doubtless admit, of proficiency in any language is to be able to translate with comparative ease a passage from it into clear, forcible, idiomatic English. By using the crib a standard of crib English is attained, excellent, doubtless in its way, but a poor substitute for one's own work and thought. Then, too, the passage in question, when got up by the crib, is known for next day, and for next day only. If anyone doubts this, let him look at a book he read six months ago with a translation, and attempt to construe it at sight; the result will probably surprise him. If, also, we read a book and finish it, having only a general idea of what the author has written, we may take it for granted that we have failed woefully. If we have no conception of the beauty of an author's style, no appreciation of the finer shades of meaning, more than half our work has been simply thrown away.

But in regard to the second particular, namely, that our minds should, by reading, be expanded for the acquisition of further knowledge, we may be sure the habitual use of cribs does infinite harm. How can we expect that by shuffling through a book anyhow, losing sight of all beauties of language, and all else worthy of close observation, doing the difficult parts with ease, and the easy parts at racehorse speed, we can ever expand or lastingly strengthen our minds? Just as gymnastic excellence is only attained after hard and long practice, so, we may feel certain, excellence in a language comes only after hard and long study. The fact that all masters and men of experience denounce habitual cribbing in the strongest possible terms would amply prove to our minds the folly of it all.

But cribbing is not only harmful to ourselves, it is a distinct injustice to those who do not make use of it. We have often and often heard a most refreshingly pat translation of a difficult piece of Latin or Greek come from the lips of a boy who, we knew for a fact, used cribs, and accepted with acclamation by the master. A passage which took the non-cribbers ten minutes to a quarter of an hour to elucidate, has been rendered in something like thirty seconds by the cribber, and with more directly personal advantage, too! This latter consideration may indeed

appear slight to some, but it must be remembered that it is not by any means so in a school like our own, where the place in class is obtained by an aggregate mark, and where every nerve is strained to obtain the highest number possible. In the case of a boy who uses cribs merely for outside examination purposes, and who by their use gains no special advantage over his fellows, we cannot apply any of the above remarks, although we would venture to think that in all cases his own work would serve him better than anyone else's, however good; that is, of course, a matter which, inasmuch as it does not affect his neighbours, is for his own private judgment. We would only, in the humblest manner possible, dedicate this article to those of our schoolfellows who, not seeing as we do, overreach others and injure themselves. Perhaps, on maturer consideration, the article calls for apology. Very well; only our strong conviction, unhappily strengthened by recent events, that the *morale* of the Institute is not too high, has induced us to write it. Let this be looked to, then, for the opposition of the best to cribbing is feeble in the extreme; and if it spreads, as it now threatens to do, we may bid good-bye to linguistic excellence of any sort.

The Old Boys' Dinner.

IN December, 1889, a score of recent members of the Sixth Form had together so successful and enjoyable a dinner, that they resolved to perpetuate the event on a greater scale. The accession of Messrs. B. Howorth and Harold Pemberton to the committee assured the success of the undertaking. To these, and the other secretary, Mr. H. Cope West, and the gentlemen who attended the many committee meetings, the hearty thanks of all Old Boys are due.

On the 22nd December last, ninety-nine gentlemen assembled at the Exchange Station Hotel, and sat down to dinner under the able and genial chairmanship of Mr. Danson, the President of the Institute, who had most graciously accepted the invitation of the committee to take the chair. The other invited guests were the Rev. J. Sephton, Mr. Hughes, and the representatives of the daily press; Mr. E. R. Russell honouring the occasion by appearing for his own paper.

With no help but the toast-list and Uncle Jack's wretched memory (I know he will forgive me), it will be hardly possible to give more than a bare outline of the proceedings, and should any mistakes be made I beg to apologise beforehand.

After the loyal toasts came that of "The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces," proposed by one of our directors, Mr. Ker, and responded to by Surgeon-General Archer, Dr. Gemmill, and Colonel Whitney.

Then "The City and Commerce of Liverpool," proposed by another director, Mr. Abraham, was responded to by Mr. Robt. D. Holt, C.C., and Mr. Armour, Chairman of the Iron Section of the Chamber of Commerce.

Then "The Old School." Here Mr. Sephton received quite an

ovation, the company standing and singing "For he's a jolly good fellow." His reply was excellent, and quite the thing for such an occasion. It was amusing to hear the account of his experience of Old Boys telling such yarns of their wicked doings at school, and the consequent "Wednesdays," and his examination of a case of the kind, and finding that the culprit in question was one of the quietest and most inoffensive of boys, without a record of punishment against him.

Mr. T. C. Ryley replied for the Directors. Mr. Hughes, our worthy Head Master, who was a stranger to many, was most cordially welcomed, and replied for the Masters; and another director, Mr. R. J. Lloyd, M.A., D.Lit., and Mr. R. A. Sampson, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, the latest great successes of the Institute, replied for "Old Boys."

"The Learned Professions" was proposed by Mr. Hugh Farrie ("Hugh Westbury"), author of *Frank Hasledean, Acte*, and *The Experiences of Robert Carter*, in his customary humorous and piquant style. He wanted to know which were the "Learned Professions," and asked if the schoolmaster or the man who made a bridge were without learning.

The toast was responded to by the Rev. L. J. Rich, Mr. Alsop, another director, and Dr. Barnes.

Mr. Alex. White proposed "The Press," and Mr. Russell responded. It goes without saying that he spoke well; the manner of his allusion to Mr. Sephton as his closest friend was fine; his compliment to Mr. Cutter, the well-known musical critic, was pleasing; but what was particularly gracious, and more interesting than all to us Sixth Form fellows, was the kindly way in which the gifted, successful and (may I write it?) veteran journalist alluded to the rising brilliant young press-man, Mr. E. J. Phillips, the representative of the *Mercury*, a former editor of this Magazine, and author of many of its best articles and sonnets, and of the parody on the "Song of the Shirt," viz., "Sine and cosine and tan."

All the speeches had a fine ring about them; they were full of loyalty and gratitude to the Old School, and of kindly feeling to the masters. As evidence of the latter, Uncle Jack says, that when the names of Messrs. Kennedy, Burton, and Ewart were mentioned incidentally by different speakers, there were quite storms of applause, which would have been most gratifying to the first two had they been present. Of course Mr. Ewart was there, so was Mr. Book, and, I fancy, Mr. Owen. Two other Old Boys, who have done well in the teaching profession, Mr. E. J. Simpson, M.A., Head Master of Cowley Schools, St. Helens, and Mr. John R. White, M.A., Mathematical Master of Rossall, sat not far off.

Mr. Alfred B. Ewart, who is ever generous with his assistance, gave sweet music; and Drs. Gemmill and Hayward, and Messrs. Keef, Wilson, Fabert, and Roberts, sang to the enjoyment of all. Unfortunately, from the lateness of the hour, we missed the treat of hearing Mr. Book singing "Three men in a boat."

Then came the well-deserved vote of thanks to the Secretaries and to

the Chairman; and after "Auld Lang Syne" in proper style, the proceedings ended.

The 22nd December, 1890, is undoubtedly a red letter day in the annals of the Liverpool Institute.

Football Notes.

RUGBY.

NOVEMBER 26th, 1890. Institute *versus* Merchant Taylors' School. This match was played on our ground, and resulted in a draw. The match was one of the hardest fought games that we have played this season, and it is much to the credit of our team that they managed to baffle the holders of the Schools' Shield. Gething once more distinguished himself by preventing Rogers from obtaining a try. When time was called, neither side had scored.

December 9th, 1890. A match was played on this date *versus* Liverpool College. After the match with the Merchant Taylors, our team naturally expected a very hard game with the College, and in this their anticipation was fully realized. During the first five minutes or so the game was very quiet, until Marshall, getting hold of the ball, got a try by a very sharp run. Ker, however, failed at the place. Irving next obtained a try for the College, which was not converted into a goal. The game at this juncture became very exciting. Our forwards having "rushed" the ball down to their opponents' goal, F. E. Marshall, by a very neat drop kick, obtained the first goal for the Institute. Irving and Wilson then, by very smart passing, obtained another try for the College. It was, however, not converted, and the game was won by the Institute's one goal one try to the two tries of the College.

ASSOCIATION.

December 17th, 1890, Institute *versus* School for Deaf and Dumb. This match was played on the Institute's ground in Lower Breck Road, and resulted in a victory for the Institute by nine goals to nil. It should be mentioned that our opponents had three masters playing. The goals were obtained by Morrow (4), R. Roberts (3), and J. Carmichael (2).

The Entrance Fee has been reduced for the remainder of the season.

Harrier Club.

THERE were two meets before the holidays—on Wednesday, the 27th November and 4th December respectively. Francis and Watkin were the hares on the first occasion, and they laid the scent through Sefton Park to St. Michael's Station, thence by the railway to Otterspool and Mossley Hill, down Rose Lane and home by way of Smithdown Road. Copp, who acted as pacemaker also, reached the tent first. Messrs. Bickerstaff and Graham very kindly acted as whips.

The run which took place on the 10th was far and away the most poorly attended of any we have ever had; six hounds turned up, and, were it not that some had come a long distance, the run would have been abandoned. Brooking and Duthie were the hares, and they took us through Childwall, Woolton and Allerton. Towards the end it became so dark that it was thought well to make for the Park by as short a route as possible; this was done, and the little band of faithful hounds arrived at the tent at about five o'clock, to the no small relief of Messrs. Cowan and Bickerstaff, who were in charge for the afternoon. Wolde arrived first. Unless a better attendance is secured it is perfect nonsense to occupy the football tent, which could be better employed on Wednesday afternoon in holding more footballers.

Chess Club.

A MATCH was played by the above on January 13th, against the Liverpool North End Club. The total scores were as follows:—Institute, 1½ games; North End, 8½ games. It may be remarked that the Club meets in Mr. Eaves' room, and not in Mr. Bailey's as formerly.

Orchestral Society.

THIS Society stills holds its place among our many interesting ones, and I feel sure that a boy who has fair ideas concerning music should, and can, notwithstanding his connection with sports, etc., be a member of this very creditable institution. If there is anything which stimulates the mind after hard mental work it is to hear good music, and, especially, to take part in its suffusion. Practices are still conducted regularly, and with great patience, by Mr. Bulmer, and all members feel to what a great degree they are indebted to him. An Overture from Haydn is being practised, and there is a prospect of a good Concert being held.

The Choral Society.

ON Tuesday, the 13th, we met for the first time, and Mr. Bain took the names of about twenty boys, but on the following Tuesday about forty made their appearance. We have taken up four four-part songs namely: "The first day of Spring," "The Primrose," "The celebration of Spring," and "The Lark's Song." The latter was almost conquered on the 20th. We are rather short of tenors, and without them our songs will not be a success. We have only about three members out of the High School now, while over one half of the Society consisted of High School boys when it was started. Mr. Bain's untiring efforts are bringing us nearer to perfection.

Correspondence.

To the Editors of the *Liverpool Institute Schools Magazine*.

GENTLEMEN,—May I be allotted a small space in your columns to suggest an improvement which I think will meet with universal approbation.

I, as one of them, have been surprised that there is no encouragement offered to old boys to take in the paper of their school, in which I am sure they all take an interest. Could not a small space be kept open each month in the *Magazine* for Old Boys' News, &c.? I think this would be an advantage both to old boys and to scholars; as the former could see what their school was doing after their departure, and the latter could, in the same way, interest themselves in the welfare of the old boys.

Another suggestion I might venture to offer is that a few copies of the *Magazine* should be obtainable at the office, so that boys like myself, who are not fortunate enough to have brothers attending school, could see the *Magazine* regularly.

Hoping this letter will not be without effect,

I am, gentlemen, yours faithfully,

F. K.

To the Editors of the *Liverpool Institute Schools Magazine*.

DEAR SIRS,—I should be extremely grateful to you for the insertion, in your February issue, of this letter. Throughout my school career, I have always looked forward to the time when a Library should be opened for the accommodation of all the classes at school. The upper fourth and lower fifth forms have managed to get together a few books, but their sense of independence will not even allow them to unite. Separate places have been chosen for the reception of these "concentrations of useful knowledge," one being in Mr. Snow's room, and the other in Mr. Caldicott's. Not being in either of these classes—both noticeable for their propagation of new and original ideas—I am unable to read any of those books from which, I firmly believe, they have derived such gigantic amounts of extraordinary knowledge. However, I propose that, in order to approach towards equality with these classes, other forms, viz., Sixth and Upper Fifth, commence a library of their own, or else something which would be infinitely better—a library for the whole School. I feel sure that, if a start were once made, we should easily maintain a supply of suitable books. Hoping the Sixthers will take this proposal under their wing, and air it often, too, so that it may sprout into something better than a mere proposal,

I remain, yours truly,

INTENDING MEMBER.