

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE SCHOOLS MAGAZINE.

Editors:—F. WOLDE, J. H. ADDINSELL.

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JUNE, 1892.

Editorial.

THE most important event which has happened since our last issue has been the holding of the Athletic Sports. Friends and foes agree in pronouncing them a complete success, and we may fairly congratulate our readers on the cordial response made to our appeal on their behalf, and the general pluck and public spirit shewn on all sides. This outburst of enthusiasm is all the more gratifying for being apparently lasting, for the Cricket Club has indeed become something more than a phantom as a glance at the reports we publish elsewhere will show; if our readers will only bear well in mind the conditions on which the ground is held, and that they, and they only, can decide whether we are to hold it for next season as well, we do not feel overbold in asking for still more support. In other parts of the School there is no lack of the activity usual to the Summer Term. Both the Swimming Clubs have their full tale of members; and more gratifying than all, the Cricket Club, started, as we noted last month, in the Preparatory part of the Commercial School has been quite phenomenally vigorous. As full accounts of these clubs and their doings are to be found in other parts of the Magazine, we simply express our sincere hope that they and the good work they do will in no way decrease as the term wears on.

We call special attention here to the article entitled, "Idle Gossip of an Old Boy," written for us by one who is fast making his way in one of the newest and certainly one of the busiest of all professions—journalism. Is it out of place in an editorial to express our gratitude to him for his contribution, and to say how much we would appreciate articles from other old boys as well? We publish, also, two letters, one on "The study of the Classics," the other on the article entitled "The Athletic Sports," which, however contrary they may be to some of our readers' ideas, shew, in a very gratifying way, the interest taken generally in the Magazine; we trust that this interest may so far continue as to enable us to print further letters next month, setting forth the views of others of our schoolfellows.

We are now in the thick of the most important term of the year; a certain examination in which we are all interested is drawing very near;

rumours of Prize Day are growing clearer; and the rehearsals for the Debating Society's Annual Performance have commenced in good earnest. In the midst of all this, and despite our hopeful strain, we would yet remind our readers that there is much, very much, to be done still; there is the prestige of the schools and ourselves to keep up in a hundred ways known only to us individually, and it is only by carrying out, even to a greater extent than before, all that is summed up in the words "pluck" and "public spirit" that this term may be made memorable in the annals of the Institute.

Literary and Debating Society Notes.

MARCH 24th, 1892. A meeting was held on this date, D. D. Braham in the chair. In the absence of the hon. secretary, Addinsell very kindly consented to read the minutes. After these had been confirmed, the chairman announced the following subject for impromptu debate:—"Is Patriotism on the decline?" Inman opened by remarking that, in his opinion, Trade-Unions and the present commercial situation of the nations tended to make patriotism fall into the background. Addinsell replied by asserting that for the present situation of commerce, patriotism should not be allowed to run away with consistency. He called attention to the improved patriotism in public schools generally, and in the Liverpool Institute in particular. Of the subsequent speakers, Mr. Harvey and Ewart supported the affirmative, and F. E. Marshall, Millard and Eggington the negative. On votes being taken, the negative won by a majority of 4.

March 31st. The last meeting of the session was held on this date, J. H. Grace presiding. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, Addinsell proceeded to read a most excellent paper on "Earth-worms." He spoke first of the usefulness of worms, and controverted the popular idea that they are quite useless and must be at once exterminated. He treated of their formation, their digestive organs, their means of respiration, and their susceptibility to light, noise, taste, and smell. He gave interesting facts in illustration of their eating powers and their digestion. Speaking of their habits, he treated of their means of seizing their food, and the way in which they excavate their burrows, reading a passage from Darwin in illustration. He closed a thoroughly enjoyable paper by claiming for worms no inconsiderable share in the history of the world, and by pointing out their great use in fertilising the land. On discussion being invited, Wolde, Millard, Mr. Harvey, Braham, Baddeley, C. M. Jones, Inman, Francis, Bell, Ferguson, and Banks all briefly addressed the meeting. After the chairman had spoken, and Addinsell had replied to the various questions raised, Wolde, seconded by Braham, proposed a very hearty vote of thanks, which was carried with acclamation. The meeting then adjourned.

Chat on the Corridor.

ONCE again our old friend "Hermes" is a contributor to these pages, after how long a silence we do not like to think. This is not "Hermes'" fault; we know, and none better, how ready he always is with help, and with what kindly feelings he regards his old school; but we also know how busy he is, and our editorial faculty of asking, like Oliver Twist, for more, has to be kept well in hand if our old boys are to give us assistance. So it is some time since "Hermes'" ever-welcome writing has adorned this Magazine, and, although he has struck a mournful note, and thinks this article of his may be the last, we, for the School and for ourselves, most cordially hope he will long continue to be the blessing to succeeding generations of editors which he has always been to us.

We cannot say how glad we are to find that in the matter of the Sports neither our prophecy proved false nor was our encouragement to "pull all together" rejected. We claimed for ourselves last month a humble task, and, judging by the result of editors' labours in general, the task would indeed appear a humble one; nevertheless, last month our efforts were not wholly unavailing, and we are glad to feel that the Magazine has contributed something, however small, to the success on which we congratulated all our readers in our editorial. In this success masters and boys, spectators and competitors, all had their share, and we therefore give all the heartiest thanks of the school. Of course, the Sports had their weak points—it would be foolish to deny it—but our contributor is right in saying in his article that they were "in all ways successful." As he has also mentioned the names of those whose performance called for special remark, and we have appended a full list of the events and winners, we would here only give W. A. Jones the full and public praise he deserves for so well upholding the credit of the school. With the remembrance of the Sports, then, fresh in our minds, may we not hope for an equal, if not a greater triumph next year?

The Cricket Club, on the whole, may feel fairly well satisfied with its progress so far, considering how early in the season it is as yet, and that the ground is quite new to the majority of the players. We want, if possible, being the greenest of laymen on the subject of the national game, to keep off technicalities, and will leave our Cricket Notes to go into the mysteries of long legs and straight bats, of yorkers and slow lobbs, and all the thousand and one subtleties which make the brain of the unsophisticated reel; but speaking from the unprejudiced standpoint of the ignorant—alas, how often does it fall to our lot to do so!—we see much reason for hope. The match with the Upper School of the Liverpool College was certainly rather galling, but there were one or two mistakes made there, sufficiently obvious even to us, which will not, it is to be hoped, be repeated. There is one thing which should surely be a decided factor of success, and that is that we have masters thoroughly well acquainted with the game, and thoroughly enthusiastic about it, who will, we know, always be ready with help and advice.

We said in our editorial, and we cannot help saying here, how glad we are to see the vigour and spirit of the Commercial School juniors in carrying on the Cricket Club which they started so successfully at the close of last term. A full account of a match which they played against the High School juniors, on Wednesday, May 11, will be found in our Cricket Notes. We offer them our heartiest congratulations on their victory, and would urge their brothers of the High School to give them a most glorious licking, if ——. It may be that the observant reader can fill up the blank.

We learn that in the upper part of the Commercial School matches are frequently arranged between the various forms, and played on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. This is an excellent arrangement, and we have no doubt that a goodly number of our readers on that side take full advantage of it. We shall be very happy to publish any accounts the forms care to send in to us, and venture to suggest that when a match is arranged, one of the twenty-two, or some spectator (we are informed on good authority that these see most of the game), should be asked to take down all particulars for the Magazine. We may as well say here that in all probability we shall only publish once more before the holidays, and that, therefore, that issue should contain a very large amount of school news.

Those who are to take part in the Literary and Debating Society's annual performance began rehearsing about the middle of May, once again under Mr. Book's able guidance. The play selected this time is Sheridan's "Rivals," and the date of the performance is as yet not definitely fixed; we understand that it will certainly not take place before the Oxford, which this year begins on Monday, July 11, and ends on Saturday, July 16. As Prize Day falls exceptionally late this year, there is ample time for the play; we hope all will do their best to make it the signal success it was last year.

The operetta, "Wednesday," the libretto of which is written by Dr. R. J. Lloyd, ex-president of the board of directors, the music composed by Mr. Frank J. Lloyd, is, we are told, not to be performed this term, but is postponed to next, and will probably take place in October. While this cannot but be a little bit disappointing to some of us, who looked forward to a treat of an unusual sort before leaving school, we believe that this postponement will really ensure a finish and excellence which perhaps could scarcely be looked for if the practices took place in the midst of a term already overcrowded with great and glorious events. So let us possess our souls in patience, and look confidently for that perfection which comes ("odds proverbs and saws") with practice.

The examination for the Tate scholarship of £70 a-year for three years began at 9 a.m. on Monday, May 23, and closed at 12-30 p.m. on the Friday in the same week. Papers were set by Professors Strong and Carey (University College, Liverpool) in Greek, Latin, and Mathematics. There was also an English essay on "The Develop-

ment of the Drama, either in (1) Greece and Rome, respectively, or (2) France and England, respectively."

We understand that the Mathematics prize will be awarded on the results of this examination. The conditions on which this prize was founded preclude the same boy being the winner two years in succession, so that J. H. Grace, the successful candidate of last year, will not be allowed to compete this time.

The William Durning Holt prize for Latin Essay and Literature will be given this year for the best Latin version of the first chapter of Macaulay's *History of England*, and probably, also, for the best work done on a paper of general classical scholarship to be set during the term. The Latin prose has to be sent in on or before Wednesday, July 20.

As our readers will have seen from the notice posted on the School board by the Secretary and Treasurer, the Sachs Memorial Fund is now closed. The subscribers were, according to arrangement, members of the three upper forms only of the High School, and the total sum collected was £15. We have received an acknowledgment from Mrs. Sachs for our efforts on behalf of our late master's family through the Magazine. We are certain that we only express the general feeling when we say that the little we have been able to do has been done with the most reverent affection for Mr. Sachs' memory, and with the deepest sympathy for his family in their bereavement.

Once again it is our pleasing duty to congratulate our old friend and schoolfellow, H. E. Long, of St. John's, Cambridge, on a striking success in his college exams. Last year, it will doubtless be remembered, he was sixth among the men of his year. This year, in a naturally much stiffer exam., he is fourth. We congratulate him with all our heart, and hope that when his Tripos comes round, these two triumphs may have proved no false prophets of final success. *Apropos*, we also offer our heartiest congratulations to W. McI. Brown, a former editor of this magazine, for his success in passing the intermediate M.B. exam. (Vict.); he, as well as H. Hughes and J. Wigglesworth, who have just passed in Chemistry in the First M.B. Examination, left us for University College; they deserve our best thanks for reflecting credit upon the school by their successes.

A very gratifying feature of our April number was the increased circulation in the Commercial. We are very glad indeed to see this, as we do our utmost to make the Magazine as interesting as possible to all our readers, but had really begun to fear that our efforts in this part of the School at least were useless. Last month's satisfactory increase, however, was balm to our wounded spirits, and we wish to convey our most cordial thanks to Mr. Bulmer and to Mr. Bain for their kindness in assisting the sale.

We are glad to learn that the rivalry among the boys in the junior

classes to obtain the first place on the class list is becoming keener. Each of the following boys carried the list of his class to Mr. Hughes on May 16th, and received the hearty applause of his class-fellows:— Lower Sixth—Hassall, H. Lower Seventh—Porter, G. F. Upper Seventh—Scott, R. C. Eighth—Wilby, G. B.

We beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following Magazines this term:—*Ulula* (2), *Portsmouthian*, *Atom*, *Merchant Taylors' Review*, and *Liverpool College (Upper School) Magazine*.

We have also received an annual subscription from A. Sweeting, Esq.

The Cricket Club.

THE Institute has secured a very fair ground near Sandown Lane, Wavertree. The only drawback to it is the distance from the School. But in spite of this, the Cricket Club has shewn signs of considerable vigour, and ought to have a very fair record at the end of the season. As will be seen from the list of subscriptions below, a large number of members have already paid, and more will doubtless pay as the term goes on.

The chief faults at present noticeable are a tendency to edge away from the wicket, and partly, as a result of this, an inability to play straight. It is of the utmost importance to remember that the right foot should never be moved except in cutting, unless, of course, when the batsman jumps out to drive, a practice which is only justifiable when one is well set, and has got the "length" of the bowling throughout. Nothing but careful practice will eradicate these faults, and we urge members to practice as much as possible, even at the expense of some personal inconvenience. We are in for the Schools' Cricket Shield, and if we are to do well we must strain every nerve.

The bowling is exceedingly promising. There are five or six boys who have a distinct aptitude for this, the most important branch of the game. They should remember (1) not to bowl too fast. This has been the ruin of many a promising bowler. (2) to try always to keep a good length; (3) to make use of every artifice to dislodge the batsman—the head plays as great a part in the lowering of wickets as the arm; and (4) not to be discouraged by want of immediate success. Keep pegging away as good a rule for bowling as for more important pursuits.

The fielding leaves something to be desired. Every one would do well to remember that many a match is lost through bad fielding, and won through good fielding.

A word to those boys who are not fortunate enough to be in either eleven:—Take every opportunity of playing, and use the field when the eleven is engaged on the ground of another club. The Committee is industriously hunting in both Schools for merit, and for merit alone. Every boy who plays, plays on his merits. But no one can expect to be put into the eleven unless he practises, for the Committee, unfortunately, can only detect capacity when they see it.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. WALLASEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Played at Wallasey, on Saturday, May 7th. This was the first match of the season, and resulted in a victory for the Grammar School by 48 runs to 28.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. PARKFIELD SCHOOL.

Played at Sandown Lane, on Wednesday, May 11th. Parkfield went in first and only scored 33 runs. The Institute followed and made 122 for eight wickets, of which R. L. Shaw made 49, and W. L. Ker 24.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. H.M.S. CONWAY.

Played on the latter's ground on May 14.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE.		CONWAY.	
R. L. Shaw, b. Roe	0	Mr. Kearsley, c. Shaw, b. Jones	24
W. L. Ker, b. Mr. Kearsley	24	Smythies, b. Jones	2
Mr. Hulley, b. Mr. Kearsley	2	Richardson, b. Mr. Snow	2
W. A. Jones, c. Jenkins, b. Roe	5	Foxley, b. Jones	0
W. Beatty, c. Peel, b. Roe	8	Roe, b. Jones	15
R. B. Ker, not out	37	Johnson, c. Mr. Hulley, b. Mr. Snow	5
Adamson, b. Mr. Kearsley	0	Mesham, b. Mr. Snow	0
Mr. Snow, b. Mr. Kearsley	5	Peel, b. Jones	6
Millard, b. Mr. Kearsley	0	Hudson, b. Mr. Snow	0
Date, b. Mr. Kearsley	1	Jenkins, not out	1
Gotting, b. Mr. Kearsley	6	Mesham (II), c. Mr. Hulley, b. Mr. Snow	1
Extras	11	Extras	3
Total	94	Total	59

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. LIVERPOOL COLLEGE (U.S.)

Played at Sandown Park on May 21.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE.		LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE.	
Kidman, c. Forster, b. Hawkes	25	Ker, stumped Todd	10
Sutherland, b. Fall	5	Shaw, b. Crosthwaite	17
Todd, b. Hawkes	31	Jones, c. McSymon, b. Crosthwaite	1
Rogers, c. Collins, b. A. Ker	12	Beatty, b. Crosthwaite	6
Goodacre, b. A. P. Ker	0	A. P. Ker, run out	2
Bird, b. Hawkes	8	Collins, b. Rogers	0
McSymon, c. Fall, b. Hawkes	3	Hawkes, c. and b. Rogers	11
Graham, not out	10	Fall, b. Crosthwaite	2
Crosthwaite, not out	0	Forster, b. Rogers	5
The College declared their innings closed.		Adamson, b. Crosthwaite	0
Extras	16	Ellis, not out	0
Total	110	Extras	2
		Total	56

HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATORY versus COMMERCIAL SCHOOL. PREPARATORY.

This match was played at Sefton Park, on Wednesday, May 11. Beautiful weather prevailed and a large number of Institute boys assembled to witness the game. Miller won the toss and sent the Commercial team to the wickets.

After a little more than an hour's play the Commercial boys were dismissed with a total of 50. Great praise must be given to Shaw for his good bowling, and he was well backed up by careful and attentive fielding.

The High School boys went in but were unable to withstand the splendid bowling of Miller and Cornish, and were eventually all out for 28 runs, leaving the Commercial School victors by 22.

Mr. Hulley kindly took charge of the High School arrangements, Mr. Harvey doing the same for the Commercial School. Score:—

COMMERCIAL PREPARATORY.		HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATORY.	
Rae, c Thomas, b Shaw	1	Herivel, b Cornish	2
M. Wilby, c Thomas, b Shaw	6	Wilkinson, b Miller	2
Jewitt, b Shaw	0	Chisholm, run out	4
Cornish, b Shaw	5	Richardson, c Wilby, b Miller	0
Miller, b Shaw	6	Shaw, b Cornish	12
Coxon, b Chisholm	9	H. G. Thomas, c Wilby, b Miller	2
Robson, b Chisholm	0	Williams, b Wilby	6
Hood, c Shaw, b Chisholm	10	Horsburgh, b Cornish	0
Wood, not out...	2	Fisk, b Miller	1
Rogers, c Savage, b Shaw	6	Savage, not out	0
Longcake, b Shaw	0	King, run out	0
Extras	5	Extras	7
Total	50	Total	28

The Treasurer begs to acknowledge, with thanks, the following subscriptions:—

J. S. Brown, Esq.	0	10	0	J. B. Tayler	0	2	6
Rev. A. H. Caldicott	0	2	6	W. Woodward	0	2	6
W. Snow, Esq.	0	2	6	G. Cato	0	2	6
H. T. S. Storrs, Esq.	0	2	6	W. L. Ker	0	2	6
S. J. Roberts	0	2	6	— Guillian	0	2	6
A. C. Armour	0	2	6	W. W. Beatty	0	2	6
B. J. Wood	0	2	6	F. Read	0	2	6
H. S. Brown	0	2	6	G. H. Ellis	0	2	6
J. L. Hawkes	0	2	6	H. P. Richards	0	2	6
W. A. Jones	0	2	6	H. L. H. Millard	0	2	6
G. M. Thomas	0	2	6	W. J. Roberts	0	2	6
R. J. Ewart	0	2	6	R. V. G. Adamson	0	2	6
R. L. Shaw	0	2	6	H. M. Tayler	0	2	6
J. H. Addinell	0	2	6	D. R. Jones	0	2	6

And 13 subscriptions of one shilling from boys in the Preparatory.

The High School Athletic Sports.

THE Athletic Sports of the High School took place on Saturday, April 9th. They were in all ways successful, and the experiment of holding them at the end of the Easter term must undoubtedly be pronounced to have succeeded. The School enjoyed great good luck in the weather as it left nothing to be desired, and the company present, if not quite so numerous as last year, was very representative, and fully appreciated the programme, which was got through in capital time. There is only one failure to be chronicled, and that was in the high jump. When we remember Squire's performance in the Gymnasium last year, we cannot help being disappointed at his failing to clear 5 feet in the Sports. Except for this one failure the average of the sports was well maintained, and in several cases the competitors showed that they had improved both in numbers and in style.

To come to the races themselves, perhaps the best two races of the day were the Quarter-mile Handicap and the Bicycle Race. The former resulted, after a splendid finish, in a dead heat between Beatty and Dale, of whom Beatty was receiving 15 yards start. It was an exceptionally well judged race on the part of both competitors, and it appeared at the finish as though they were both run to a standstill. In the latter

there was a fine finish between Squires and Heaney. Until the last thirty yards it looked like Heaney's race, but Squires putting on a tremendous spurt, just beat him on the post. Our advice to this competitor would certainly be to make his effort a little sooner in future races, especially when we remember how two years in succession he has been nearly beaten. Though these two races caused the closest finishes, there was some very good running shown by Jones and Armour in the sprints, and by Beatty and Fall in the Mile. One of the best features of the sports, and one of the races which was run in the best style was the Half-mile Handicap, which was won by F. P. Cox, with A. Wilkie a good second. Both these boys, who are quite small, should do a great deal in future to uphold the credit of the School at Athletic Sports. The winner promises, if he grows a little more, to make an excellent athlete, his style of running being particularly good; and this, Wilkie, who proved successful in the race last year, may take to his comfort. The races amongst the small boys were on the whole well contested, though there might with advantage have been more competitors in the race for boys under ten. A word of praise also is due to R. J. Jones for his running in the under sixteen race, which resulted in a very good finish between Jones, Gething, and Adamson. The latter of these boys also distinguished himself in the Two Jumps, and in the 120 yards, under fifteen.

The Egg and Spoon Race was a very one-sided affair, as there was no doubt from the beginning who would win. W. J. Roberts evidently had devoted a great deal of time and study to the practice of carefully carrying his burden.

The Three Legged Race provided a better competition than was expected, for though for the second year in succession Gething and Dale won, Armour and Fall were by no means badly beaten.

In the Open Quarter of a Mile W. A. Jones had matters pretty well all his own way, but still the time, 61 secs., was very fairly good. Armour finishing a good second.

In the Mile Beatty and Fall were considerably better than any of the other competitors, but Heaney also ran well, and Crichton and Raleigh, though evidently outclassed and outpaced, showed that they possessed plenty of pluck, and stuck to their work in a very game manner.

The Challenge Cup was won by Jones, who scored a win in the 120 yards, the Quarter Mile, the Hurdle Race, and Throwing the Cricket Ball, and a tie in the High Jump.

The following are the results of the various events:—

- Throwing the Cricket Ball* (decided on Friday).—1st, W. A. Jones (84 yards 1 foot); 2nd, W. L. Ker; 3rd, W. W. Beatty.
- Broad Jump* (decided on Friday).—1st, J. Dale (16 feet 9 inches); 2nd, H. C. Squires. R. G. Adamson gained the second prize, being the 1st under 15.
- 120 Yards, for Boys over 15*.—1st, W. A. Jones; 2nd, H. C. Squires; 3rd, J. Dale.
- 120 Yards, for Boys between 12 and 15*.—1st, R. V. G. Adamson; 2nd, S. A. Wood; 3rd, W. Woodward.
- 120 Yards, for Boys under 12*.—1st, G. W. Davies; 2nd, W. R. Long; 3rd, W. M. Horsey.

- 100 Yards, for Boys under 10.—1st, W. R. Long; 2nd, P. T. Jackson.
 Quarter Mile Handicap.—1st, J. Dale (scratch); 2nd, W. W. Beatty (15 yards).
 440 Yards, for Boys over 14.—1st, W. A. Jones; 2nd, A. C. Armour,
 440 Yards, for Boys under 14.—1st, F. P. Cox; 2nd, A. E. Norbury; 3rd, C. J. Purdy.
 Half Mile Handicap.—1st, F. P. Cox (130 yards); 2nd, A. Wilkie (100 yards).
 Mile Race.—1st, W. W. Beatty; 2nd, S. Fall; 3rd, S. H. Heaney.
 220 Yards, for Boys between 13 and 16.—1st, R. J. Jones; 2nd, W. E. Gething; 3rd, R. V. G. Adamson.
 220 Yards, for Boys under 13.—1st, F. B. Cox; 2nd, W. R. Hornby.
 Hurdle Race.—1st, W. A. Jones; 2nd, H. C. Squires; 3rd, A. C. Armour.
 Bicycle Race.—1st, H. C. Squires; 2nd, S. H. Heaney; 3rd, H. T. Garner. (All rode on pneumatic machines.)
 High Jump, for Boys over 15.—W. A. Jones and H. C. Squires dead heat (4 feet 10 inches).
 High Jump, for Boys under 15.—1st, R. V. G. Adamson; 2nd, S. A. Wood.
 Three-legged Race.—1st, J. Dale and W. E. Gething; 2nd, S. Fall and A. C. Armour.
 Egg and Spoon Race.—1st, W. J. Roberts; 2nd, E. Bowden.
 Sack Race.—1st, W. E. Gething; 2nd, A. C. Armour; 3rd, H. W. Lovelock.
 Consolation Race.—1st, W. L. Collins; 2nd, R. M. Neill.
 Old Boys Race.—1st, A. M. Ker (winner of the Challenge Cup, 1890); 2nd, A. H. Davies.

Swimming Clubs.

HIGH SCHOOL.

There are now 68 members in the High School Swimming Club, and the average attendance so far has been between 20 and 30 on each day. This is a much more satisfactory attendance than that of last Season for the corresponding month. The better facilities for teaching swimming seem to have attracted more non-swimmers this year, but as every boy ought to know how to swim, and it is possible for every boy to learn, and further, as the Club was established chiefly with the object of inducing boys to learn, the number of beginners ought to be larger than it is at present. Until swimming is a more general accomplishment there should be a majority of non-swimmers in the Club.

The Humane Society has again offered its valuable medal and certificate for proficiency in Life-Saving exercises, and it is to be hoped that all boys who can swim the necessary distance (5 lengths of the Bath) will compete.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

The practices have been held regularly during the month, and we are glad to report that satisfactory progress has been made. All non-swimmers are recommended to attend the practices regularly and avail themselves of the services of Mr. Bickerstaff, who will be very pleased to teach them. About twenty boys have already learned during the month. All boys who have not yet joined the club are again invited to do so, and participate in this useful, healthy and invigorating exercise. The club is in a flourishing condition, and is at present, we

are informed, the largest in Liverpool, having enrolled 150 members. A new Polo Ball has been purchased as well as a "dummy" for life-saving exercises. A silver medal and framed certificate have again been offered by the Liverpool Shipwreck and Humane Society to be awarded for proficiency in Swimming Exercises, with reference to saving life from drowning. Boys wishing to compete can obtain a copy of the rules from the secretary.

The late Mr. Sachs.

WE publish here the letter in reference to Mr. Sachs' family of which we spoke in our "Chat on the Corridor." Our reasons for doing so are that we feel that every boy who has in any way shown his affection for our late master's memory, or sympathy for his family, would like to see that letter.

74 EGERTON STREET,

May 22nd.

To the Editors of the *Institute Magazine*.

Through the medium of your paper, Mrs. Sachs and family wish to return their sincere thanks for kind expressions of sympathy and assistance in their great trouble.

Idle Gossip of an Old Boy.

"I was in a referee, Sammy."

IT is so long since my handwriting struck dismay into the hearts of the printers of this Magazine, that I hesitate even in the face of an editorial invitation to trouble either printer or reader again. An "Old Boy" writing in the journal of his School can scarcely fail to give pleasure to himself, for his pen stirs so many happy memories. But I am not ignorant of the fact that the effect on the reader is almost certain to be the reverse. The writer will seem completely out of touch with the school of to-day. His mind will dwell on heroes of his decade whose names are almost forgotten, for they are not all enrolled on the Honour List; while new masters, new heroes, new regulations, and later variations of the old familiar scrapes will be unknown to him. There is nothing much sadder in life than the thoughts of an "Old Boy" on revisiting the place where he was taught. Except the last great change, there is no break in a life so sharp, so severe as the change from school to the world. Those who have the good fortune to leave school for college no doubt feel the break less keenly, but I am speaking more of those who go straight from school to business, and from the Institute, these must always be the large majority. I do not say for a moment that many a boy is not glad to leave school. He is allured, it may be, by the additional liberty he sees before him, and may have the commercial instinct so strongly developed, that he longs to take his place beside the money-grinding mill and gain the independence and power which gold

will give him. I do not say that, for the most praiseworthy reasons, he may not feel merely a sense of emancipation upon leaving school; but I do say this, that looking back two or three years later, he must be conscious of the enormous change which has come over him within these few months, and know how surely the first volume of his life has been sealed. Let him live the full span of human life, let him engage in a dozen pursuits, let him travel and sojourn in every country in the globe, and be rich and poor by turns, he will never, I am persuaded, experience so violent a snapping of old bonds until he is "no more subjected to the change or chance of the unsteady planets." For these reasons therefore, I am painfully conscious that my words will prove uninteresting to the majority of those who read them; but, as we forgive and indulge the garrulity of an old man, perhaps the garrulity of an "Old Boy" may be pardoned also.

I spoke just now of the sadness of a visit to one's old School, and I spoke from experience. I chanced to enter the dear old gloomy building in Mount Street, the other afternoon, about four o'clock; I wandered along the well remembered passage which leads to the yard, and, walking into the sunshine, could almost imagine I was at school again. The windows of thick green glass, the grimy brickwork of the old building contrasted with the somewhat bedimmed but still vivid red of the new, the black notice boards upon which are traced the laws as to the throwing of balls, the four-sided pillars against which so many heads and shins have knocked, and which were so useful at "tick," the sheltered washing basins for which we waited so long, the little shed where, nine years ago, the "Happy Band" of the Upper Third held revel, the window sill in which thousands of slate pencils had worn away a deep cleft, all seemed close to my life. Wherever I looked I saw what I expected to see. Nor was it difficult, shutting my eyes, to remember the older yard which sloped away to the left instead of to the right, and to see again, leaning from an upper window of one of the big houses which used to overlook us, the tantalising young man who jeered at us as we played relieve, and upon whom we were fain to revenge ourselves by epithet and orange peel, because stones broke windows. Alas! the ringing of the bell made my dream to disappear. The diminutive youths (forgive me) who burst into the yard seemed quite different from the race I had known. Their mouths poured forth strange names, or if not strange, belonging to strange faces, and they stared at poor me, who had just felt so much at home, as if I had been an intruder. An intruder, in fact, I was. What had I to do with my old School or its scholars, I who had deserted it for another where the lessons are harder and the fees higher? I turned, like Peter Schlemihl from the light and sought the companions whose faces I knew—the walls and passages. On the left I came to the room I had first entered more than twelve years before to be examined. Two years later, I spent an entire half in it, and well do I remember being initiated into the mystery of French accents, of Practice, and of Regulars, which were so easy to prove when you did them in the way you ought not, and which, strange paradox, always came out wrong when you worked them right. Regulars I never liked, their associations were unpleasing, but I felt very proud of my Practice. I could do

the same sum in three or four different ways (I forget which number, but I know we called one variety Formula), and get a more imposing and more valuable answer upon each occasion. Practice always charmed me, there was so much of the element of chance in it. You had always the option of leaving the top line in or out, and, in a pleasing uncertainty, could elect to divide either by the number of shillings or by the fractional part of a pound.

Entering the room at the top of the first flight, I saw the slate covered, as in the old days, by mysterious symbols and huge conglomerations of figures. These led me to reflect upon the unkind way in which my sensitive mathematical feelings used to be outraged. My schoolfellows may possibly have had more knowledge of Euclid, of Trigonometry, and of Algebra than I, but I am perfectly certain that they never watched that ample surface of slate with more genuine interest. They looked on with the base end in view of getting good marks. My gaze was fixed from entirely disinterested motives. I enjoyed watching it as I enjoyed the performance of a conjuror. The small beginnings up at the top, with the neat and innocent looking brackets. The rapid downward extension as line of figures and symbols was added to line, the magnificent *finale* in which letters, small and capital, figures, brackets, square and cube root signs, and symbols of every description, rushed impetuously and yet in perfect order upon the slate, and then the lightning descent of the lessening chalk, the sacrifice of countless thousands, and the ringing down of the duster upon a_1 or a_2 , or an a or a b , or, most often, nothing at all. It used to thrill me, and I grew delirious with excitement. It was the destruction of Sennacherib mathematically presented. My nature was too sensitive to allow me to go through the same performance upon my slate afterwards. With one or two obviously unimportant variations, I went through all the first four acts of the mathematical drama I had just witnessed, but at the fifth act I stayed my hand. The characters and figures showed such a genuine disinclination to go out with each other, that I had not the heart to send them; so they all remained, and the tragic ending was left to a hand less tender than my own. Of course, my conscientious scruples were always either blamed or ridiculed, and I was told I was too stupid to understand. I bore my rebuke in silence, passively. It was not that I did not understand, it was that I was misunderstood.

As I wandered from staircase to staircase, from corridor to corridor, from room to room, the memories thickened so quickly that tears almost came. When we go through a ruined abbey or castle, we are in the habit of saying how much the walls could tell us had they tongues. Here it was different. The whole building was full of voices which mingled confusedly as they told their silent tales. The tales would not interest you if you were to hear them, which you never can, but they were precious beyond all speaking to me. They told of comrades scattered the wide world over, never again to meet together while they see the sun; of friendships which laugh at distance, which grow closer as the years lengthen; of those other friendships which the world dissolved so easily; and they told, also, of those who guided us with such true-hearted counsel, such kindly discrimination, many of whom

remain with us and you still, some of whom have passed beyond our ken.

I have changed my note as the voice of an old man changes from bass to treble and back again to bass, and, I doubt not, you find my fun as forced as you find my meditations maudlin. I promised no more; and now I have no heart to let my pen keep pace with my memory, for I know I weary you. But before I end my latest, it may be my last, contribution to this journal, which has grown so wonderfully from the meagre seed some of us planted half a dozen years ago, I should like to say something which is neither forced, nor, I trust, maudlin. In my first paragraph I spoke of the money-grinding mill to which most of you will go. The prudent husbandman does not grind away all his corn. He keeps a large proportion to sow, and to bear him fruit in the days to come. So, when you take your places beside the mill, do not cast in all your being to be ground. Flour and meal are good and necessary, and money and influence are good also; but you cannot sow flour; and money and influence and social position may increase to you beyond measure, and yet you may also be poor beyond measure if you grind all your life away to get them. The world will be always assailing you with the appeal to the lust of money, the lust of power, and the lust of pleasure, which heard alone is the appeal to death. If you listen you may also hear the Divinity appeal to you in music, in art, in literature, in nature, and in the opportunity of kindly actions, which is the appeal to life most glorious.

HERMES.

High School Choral Society.

Owing to the approaching examinations, Mr. Book has resolved to postpone all further meetings until after July 18th, when the Society will resume the practice of the Gleees for Prize Day.

Correspondence.

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

GENTLEMEN.—I have heard the other side, and if it has not convinced me it has at least made me laugh, for which I am indeed grateful. How thankful I am to find that the world contains another ass as big as I am myself! It was so lonely before. Think of how much sugar long-stick or juicy carrots we could have bought with the proceeds of the labour expended on writing these letters! and how much better expended the labour might have been! We are indeed asses, we so-called leaders of education, to imagine that progress (dear patient old donkey) will proceed in the direction in which we try to shove it. Two equal forces, we form either a couple, in which case we waltz round and round without ever getting any further onwards, or else, equal and opposite, we neutralize each other.

If once the parents decide that their boys shall be taught subjects which are at once useful and educational (a quite practical combination), what value do you suppose all the reams of paper you or I could

splash with ink would have to influence their decision? He who lifts his eyes from the ground on which they are fixed can readily read signs of an approaching time when Latin and Greek will be special studies for the enthusiastic few, just as the far more important languages of Hebrew, Sanskrit, and Arabic, nowadays are. And who will dare to say that they will suffer from being handed over from the profane schoolboy to the appreciative scholar? How often must a classical master suffer on hearing his pet classic rendered up a miserable hash of a boy's muddled wits, a lexicon and (alas!) a crib, whilst any good translation has, you may at once suspect, been "Bohned."

It seems to me that there is a great tendency to admire and respect things simply because they are old, and not necessarily because they are worthy of our admiration and respect. It is indeed to this tendency that much of the support and veneration given to the classics is due. I should never dream of comparing Homer with Shakspeare. It is true that my knowledge of Homer is confined to Church's *Stories from Homer*, but to say that therefore one cannot appreciate the beauties of the author is as true and just as to say that because one does not know Hebrew, one cannot read and appreciate the Bible.

The tale is about the siege of a certain fabulous city for the sake of a woman who would nowadays have figured in the Divorce Courts. The "heroes" are rude uncultured savages, the best of whom frequently perform acts of revolting cruelty or of despicable meanness and cowardice, and when any of the warriors favoured by the gods (they were awful heathens, by the way) happens to get into a tight place, he is very obligingly rescued by his favourite deity.

The whole thing is unutterably crude and barbarous, the worst of moral actions (revenge, murder, theft, etc.) are held up as virtuous, and indeed, if such a production were brought forth nowadays it would either be laughed out of existence or relegated to the realms of the penny dreadful. Many of the classics, if printed in English, would be handed over to the Public Prosecutor. And this is the author that compares favourably with Shakspeare!

When will the divine fact of evolution become impressed upon the human mind? Since the time of the classical Latin and Greek authors we have been continually pressing *en avant*! Our morals now are far more lofty and noble, our intellect is immeasurably superior, and the powers of thought much more highly developed than were those of the ancients. Virgil, Aristotle, Homer, were giants in their day; nowadays they would be pigmies.

With regard to Virgil and similar Latin poets, I do not see how the beauty of the verse is enhanced by the way in which the component words are scattered all over each sentence, in order to make the metre run smoothly.

As an example, I append a verse written in the English and then in Latin style.

ENGLISH.

"They talk about their Latin Class,
And how it educates.
They say that he must be an ass
Whoe'er the subject hates."

LATIN.

"Class Latin their about they talk,
It and how educates.
An ass that he must be they say
The subject whoe'er hates."

We must bear in mind that a true system of intellectual education should exercise the reason, improve the memory, and bring into play the powers of accurate observance.

The latter faculty is almost entirely neglected in ordinary school education, whilst classics give undue prominence to memory over reason.

Moral education is best carried out by studying the lives, thoughts, and works of great and noble men.—Yours, etc.,

ANGLO SAXON.

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

GENTLEMEN,—We were much interested and not a little amused at the article on the Athletic Sports which appeared in your April number. The writer records a fragment of a real or imaginary conversation, and proceeds to draw from it, as he says, a moral. This moral seems to be that the matter of primary importance in the School is the Athletic Sports, and that a boy should remember that his enthusiasm for the Sports is the best way to show his affection for the School. We may therefore infer, that a boy who does no work, but goes in solely for athletics, has a real affection for his school; and that a boy who does his work at school, and does not pretend to an enthusiasm for athletics which he does not feel, is to be looked down upon. Considering that previous to the year 1890 the school had no Athletic Sports, are we to believe that before that time neither boys nor masters had any real affection for the School? The writer also asserts that those boys who cannot, or will not, take an active part in the sports, should subscribe to the prize fund. Might we not just as reasonably expect that those boys who are too lazy or too stupid to study, should subscribe to provide or augment prizes for their companions who work for them? As for the statement that a boy is an absolute coward who does not enter for any race in the Sports because he is sure he will not win, we will leave it without comment.

We should, however, like to assert that we are far from disputing the value of athletics, and consider it good that the school should hold athletic sports. What we would like to point out is that the sports are not the chief institution of the school.

Unfortunately, in the Institute, a boy who does any work at all is supposed to be *ipso facto* utterly opposed to the athletics of the school; and the mere fact of a boy being an athlete is supposed to exempt him from doing any work. Why is this so? Who are to blame? We distinctly assert that it is the athletes more than the "swots." The former do no work, they think that no one else should, but continually complain of the lack of *esprit de corps* on the part of those who are not athletic. Is it not rather they who show the lack of *esprit de corps* by not caring at all for study, which, unless we are mistaken, is the main object of the school.

And, in conclusion, it should be remembered that though we may belong to a school which is good at football, that certainly we do belong to a school which has been in the past and, let us hope, will be in the future, good at other and more important things.—We are, yours, etc.,

DAMON AND PYTHIAS.