

# LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE SCHOOLS MAGAZINE.

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## Some Institute Recollections.

BY DIOGENES, A VERY "OLD BOY."

"To tell tales out of schoole."—*Proverbs of John Heywood.*

### III.

MY next coming to Liverpool was for life. I came with a flat from Penmaenmawr. She carried a cargo of stones for the Liverpool streets, and was so deeply laden that the smooth water came through the scuppers, alongside the Graiglwyd stage—there was no Plimsoll loadline then. Luckily, the weather was fine, the wind fair, and the passage fast, so that apart from our shipping a wandering wave off the mouth of the Dee, which clean surprised and captured a plateful of bacon on the way from the galley to the cabin, our deep draught did us no ill.

Schooldays followed, broken by a short business interval, which taught the "Old Boy" to work harder than ever when he got back to school. Otherwise uneventful, this period affords nothing to recall. 'Tis true, as genial Charles Lamb says—

I have had my playmates, I have had companions  
In my days of childhood, in my joyful schooldays;  
But, all, all are gone, the old familiar faces,

without any interesting recollections to chronicle here.

Afterwards, a little taste for reading, some little thirst for more knowledgo, were begotten of the first struggles in the battle of life, and these led to the Institute Library and to the evening classes of the school.

The evening school was, at the time, one of the great features of the institution. It had a roll of over 500 pupils, and an average attendance of about 400. There can be no doubt that the strength of the day schools in their palmy days, their Augustan era, in the seventies and the eighties, when they distanced beyond account the secondary schools of the country, was to a great extent drawn directly or indirectly from the families of those who were old boys of the evening classes in the '40's and the '50's. The classes reached their climax, and began to fall off within a quarter of a century, and they are now but a memory; but they left, as their legacy, a tradition to encourage the masters and pupils of the later years to sweep the board of the Oxford Middle Class Examinations,

capturing, year after year, for how many years? the first place in all England for the Liverpool Institute, and entitling it to be placed *primus inter pares*.

I joined the evening classes in the triad of the R's—Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rithmetic—in a suite of three rooms off the upper corridor, in the west wing, with Messrs. Stewart, Temple, and Johns as our teachers. The last-named, a genial greybeard of the old school, taught us English in the inner sanctuary. He was to the manner born, a "most potent, grave and revered signior" of the olden time. He not long afterwards left the Institute, and, in conjunction with Mr. Hickie, who was a mathematician, opened an advanced school not far from Mount Street. Our arithmetic master, in the middle room, was Mr. Temple, who was proprietor of a wooden-leg, the badge, at one time, of the British dominie, and his title among the boys was an application of the ordinary practice in the rule of simple addition. He was a bit of a martinet, and had a somewhat irascible temper, not quite "the touch of celestial," good natured though he was ordinarily. He was gifted too with a vein of dry humour, which was occasionally tapped by *diablerie* of the boys, and as he was one of those "who can be wise, amazed, temperate, and furious in a moment," this would now and then lead to consequences. I was one of a band of a half dozen boys given more or less to fun. Alas only three of us are left now. One of them dispenses justice under Her Majesty's Commission; another is perhaps one of the best read of Dicky Sams, and an accomplished linguist. It may be they will not like my recounting schoolboy escapades. Well, we six agreed one evening that when Mr. Temple did the roll call (arranged in alphabetical order) we should shout—yell—"Here" when our names came. Five knew the sixth would be first. He did his part. Mr. Temple exploded, and grasped him firmly by the right ear, and pulled him face foremost into the corner, with the sentence "*Here* are you! then stand *there* until the class rises." It need scarcely be added that the other conspirators turned tail. But this story had a sequel. Going home along Clarence Street there was a great argument on the tail-turning, and it was very hot as we passed a house with a porch built out to the railings on the pavement. The bell was temptingly near my hand; I gave it a sharp pull, and away scampered my five companions, followed by the house owner, who lay in wait behind his door. He caught—let me see—surely not the subsequent Member of Parliament—but anyway he caught one, and handed him over to Bobby Peeler. There was noise, and amid it all, another of the mischievous boys struck on the ground one of the then new and very explosive phosphor matches; the blaze circled round the policeman's legs, and in his fright he lost his capture. It was long before we ventured that route again to or from school.

I have a pious memory of Mr. Stewart, our writing master, a firm believer in the doctrine of the Duke of Buckinghamshire that—

Of all the arts in which the wise excel,  
Nature's chief masterpiece is writing well.

This accomplishment was then assiduously cultivated at our schools. We had not arrived at the stage we old boys think the very foolish one of marking the good scholar by the illegible penman—nobody regards good writing in these latter days.

Many were the pranks we played—and our little band was well furnished in various ways. Among other of our tools were several private keys to the old wooden barrier which in ancient history did duty in the vestibule, where are now the handsome, bronze painted and gilt, wrought iron gates. I am not sure that my particular replica of this key is not even now in my possession. But I must not tarry with these things, and tell how rich and rare was the fun we had—young Alec MacIlveen and George Cutter and the rest of us. There are yet some masters I should name: Mr. Ephraim Pugh, the landscape drawing teacher, and Mr. Roberts and Mr. Robert Norbury, who taught line and figure drawing in the sculpture gallery. What a promotion we did regard it to get to that side of the school, and what pleasant memories we have of the evenings spent there.

One more class and I must bring to an end this very discursive paper. My last attendances at the Evening School were to the French class, conducted by Monsieur Hubert. There was a little romance connected with this little Frenchman's history. In my time he was, speaking mildly, more than middle-aged; and in his time he had been a Parisian, and an Imperialist of Imperialists of the first Empire. He prided himself strongly upon this, and if he prided himself upon anything more than that, it was upon the spotless purity of his Parisian pronunciation and accent. These characteristics of his French he tried, and he boasted he tried successfully, to impart to his Institute pupils. At all events he was a conscientious teacher, and it was really a treat to be a disciple of his—this very perfection, incarnate of all that one thinks of as the peculiar elements of what is best in the true Frenchman, in personal character, in mind and manners, as well as manner. What a charm there was in the opening proceedings each class night, when, after a short preliminary and informal chat, he began, with military precision, quickness, and commanding decision, "Now, Messieurs, Verbe! Conjugation! Infinitif? Participe present? Participe passé? Indicatif?" and so on,

M. Hubert was too Napoleonist for the France of the Restoration and of the July Monarchy, but he was recalled to his country when Louis Nap. became President and Emperor, and the erstwhile Institute teacher was rewarded for his loyalty to the Empire by the decoration of the Legion of Honour and a pension. His pupils made him a complimentary presentation before he left them, and the ceremony at that function was one not easily forgotten. There were some leading townsmen there, one of whom died but recently, Lord Lieutenant of his county, after serving before as its High Sheriff, and for many years as its representative in the House of Commons.

The fourth and last of these papers will deal with part of my

experience in the government of the Institute after I had by favour of the members been elected Director and Trustee.

The indulgent kindness of my colleagues did me the honour of appointing me thrice Vice-President of the Institution, and once its President, thus enlarging my experience, and bringing me near to some of the eminent men who have from time to time attended our public gatherings and prize distributions. About directors and visitors, therefore, we may have a word to say.

### The Natural History of the Student—The Classic.

THE Classic is a high-spirited, ingenious, and attractive animal. He is not vicious or spiteful, when left unmolested, but he is very wriggly and slippery. He is still to be found in most seminaries and colleges, though there has lately been an outcry for his extermination. A sort of Classic may often be found dodging about among the columns of newspapers, calling out "hoi polloi" and *nem. con.* This last cry is said to mark him as a degraded or canine variety, for the Classics have a law:—

"From nemo let me never see  
Neminis and nemine."

The tribe has many laws of this character, and the early years of the young animal are spent in learning them. It seems that these laws press heavily on the young, chiefly through their almost brutal definiteness. The answers which the young must make to the questions of the old, usually consist of just one word, and no modification is admitted. The answers of the old, however, are usually of greater length, but of less significance. The ancient method of the lot is still in general use for settling doubtful points of law, a *denarius* being often used for this purpose.

After these rudimentary studies are concluded, the Classic is made acquainted with the writings of his ancestors. Here he begins to meet with surprises. He discovers that his early heroes, Balbus, the fearless sailor and the unslothful husbandman, are mere nonentities; also that the ancient Classics were not required to be very particular about keeping the laws of the tribe. Then he learns how to prove a thing by thirteen methods, and by reference to twelve authorities, and to disprove it by twelve methods, and by reference to thirteen authorities. This is a very useful and an eminently classical accomplishment. Next he learns to make verse, which is something like a mixture of noughts and crosses with pot-hooks. The chief aim is to avoid words with doubtful pedigrees.

Up to this point most Classics travel over the same ground. To their subsequent habits and occupations we shall return later. The Classics who have reached this stage call themselves "humanised."

It is now necessary to pause to consider the relation of the Classic to the other tribes. Though he doesn't like you to think so, he is, in reality, very like the others, and quite capable of living peaceably with them. It is true that, in the public assembly, he

has an annual combat with the Math., each claiming the greater nobility. But this is only a ceremonial observance. In an orderly and solemn manner, each recites the words that have been used on such occasions, for as long as can be remembered, and a breach of the peace can only occur through the vigorously expressed impatience of the Athlets.

But if the tribes are so alike in appearance, how is the naturalist to know a Classic when he sees one? This is very easy in the general assembly. Let the observer wait until one of the orators, with a smile of self-satisfaction, begins to utter sounds which are quite unintelligible. A reflection of his smile will spread over the faces of the Classics who are present, and leaning back in their places they will beat their hands together. Then the observer will know the strange sounds for a classical quotation, which it is a point of honour with the Classics to recognise and applaud. Let the naturalist now arise, and after making a general remark, let him address the people in Gaelic or Polynesian. The Classics will now begin to shake their heads and to mutter to one another "false quantity," and perchance in his rear the speaker will hear a sound as of the barking of a dog. The Classic is often better acquainted with the opinions of Cicero and Aristotle than with his own opinions on the same subject; this is another useful method of distinguishing him.

Hitherto, we have spoken only of the common and humanised variety, but there is a higher order of the species. The mark of this order is the possession of special characteristics, or as they are called, theories. These are of many and very diverse kinds, and no list can pretend to be exhaustive. Here we have a "Universal Dignomatite," there a "One-man Homerite." There is one sort which is fond of burrowing in the earth, and of worming its way through musty galleries and corridors. This kind returns with a piece of carved stone, or a shred of papyrus. The latter is covered with all manner of scratchings, like the floor of a hen-run. It is a shocking specimen of caligraphy, but ingenious Classics set to work to decipher it, their results being often at variance. Then the theorists pounce down upon it. "The recently-discovered manuscript," says one, "furnishes an overwhelming flood of new evidence in support of what has long been self-evident to all but the most opinionated and self-deluded of scholars." The repeated allusions to the "blue" sky of that country (the MS., be it remembered, was found in Crete), and the word beginning πολ— (unfortunately the remainder is torn away), which must certainly mean "long-horned," has settled for ever the too long disputed fact that the *Odyssey* is a Cretan epic. "The use of *μεν—δε* in this significant passage," writes another, "proves that even in the earliest times the Greeks had a conception of immortality. If Mr. R. persists in his heresy after the Gods have sent this MS. with the special purpose of enlightening, we can only say—

ὅταν δὲ δαίμων ἀνδρὶ πορσὴν κακὰ  
τὸν νοῦν ἐβλαψε πρῶτον

and recommend for his complaint a few text-books which, no doubt, he can borrow from the library of his grandson." These are called the classical amenities.

The highest ambition of the Classic, however, is to invent an "*emendatio*" or a new reading. If he can occupy all the working hours of life in demonstrating that for *ab* in a particular passage we must read *a*, his fame is established, and his work is termed "scholarship." This is the end for which he has so long been striving, El Dorado at last attained. But, the warning must be added, not many dare hope to reach this glorious goal.

There is one matter connected with the tribe which is shrouded in considerable mystery. This is the thing commonly known as the "crib," a name of doubtful origin. There appear to be two varieties, the one robust and well-favoured, the other small and meagre. The former is called a "Rendering," and can often be met with. The latter, called a "Translation," is believed to be the more numerous, but it shuns the light of day, and hides itself in dark places. It is said to be very harmful to the classical spirit. It is seldom seen by any but the Classic, and he affects to know little of it. Hence, it is that the natural historian cannot speak with more confidence concerning it. Of any difference of character or function between the two varieties, other than those already noted, he must confess his ignorance.

### Swimming.

THE Annual Swimming Sports were held this year on Monday evening, 15th Oct., at Lodge Lane Baths. This year the two clubs—the High School and Commercial School—combined to hold one meeting, and the committee are to be congratulated, both from a sporting and financial point of view, on the success of the new departure. It seems only right that the competitions which close our swimming season should be held at such time and place as will allow parents and friends interested to witness them, and to see for themselves the result of the season's coaching and practice. This year, the First Combined competition, though held on a miserable night, was marked by a crowded attendance, and great interest was manifested in all the events, the end of a long and interesting programme not being reached till close on 10 o'clock.

One very interesting item was an exhibition of ornamental and trick swimming by Messrs. W. W. Robinson, and M. J. Warriner, the former an old Institute boy. The imitations of the Seal and Porpoise were especially striking, while the Duet under Water—or Buckets—called forth an encore, and the smoking under water revealed a new joy of the natatory art.

Throughout the evening close finishes were the order, and the results of the handicaps reflects the greatest credit on the care and judgment of Messrs Eaves and Bickerstaffe.

In both the Diving Competitions—Senior and Junior—the three

or four leading competitors were remarkably close, some excellent diving being seen, while the judges had great difficulty in naming the winner.

The races for the Championship of the High and Commercial Schools respectively resulted, as was expected, in victories for E. G. Turner, and W. Hadden. Bare and McCulloch, however, are to be congratulated on the good race they had for second place in the High School race.

The Inter-School Squadron race was won by the Commercial team, which was very strong, including Hadden and J. G. Mackenzie, with W. White and W. Ingham. K. Mackenzie, the last of the High School team to enter the water, made a splendid but fruitless effort to place his side in front.

Of the new fellows who were racing, two especially—W. White and G. Butterworth—showed promise of being really good swimmers.

On the whole the style of the swimming was very good, but some fellows, especially among the younger competitors, seemed to have the idea that they must imitate some well-known swimmer. They should remember that it is impossible to run before they can walk, and should make sure of a really good style of breast swimming before trying any other.

In conclusion, it must be said that the number of Old Boys who competed in the race set apart for them was very gratifying to the committee. Both the heats and the final were good races, and though, of course, Robinson won, Thomas showed what a really good swimmer he is by coming in an easy second.

Appended is a list of the winners:—

Beginners Race:—*a* (1) E. O. Pritchard.

" " *b* (1) J. G. Johnston; (2) H. R. E. Pay

Neat dive under 15:—(1) R. Bowman; (2) J. Rathbone.

Back swimming:—(1) C. G. Butterworth (2) J. R. Williams.

Four Lengths, under 15:—(1) C. G. Butterworth.

Two Lengths:—*a* (1) A McCulloch; (2) J. Rathbone.

" " *b* (1) R. Dunning; (2) A. Wands.

Neat Dive over 15:—(1) J. H. Quinn; (2) J. Flinn.

Four Lengths, over 15:—(1) J. G. Mackenzie; (2) E. G. Turner.

Old Boys Race:—(1) W. W. Robinson; (2) A. S. Thomas.

Clothes Race:—(1) C. G. Butterworth; (2) W. Ingham.

Obstacle Race:—(1) K. J. Mackenzie; (2) W. Hadden.

Championship High School:—(1) E. G. Turner; (2) A. McCulloch.

Championship Commercial School:—(1) W. Hadden; (2) W. Ingham.

Squadron Race:—Commercial School:—W. Hadden, J. G. Mackenzie, W. White, W. Ingham.

The medals given by the Humane Society were competed for on Monday, 29th October, and resulted as follows:—High School: (1) B. G. Bare. Commercial School: (1) W. Ingham.

\* Second Prize presented by W. W. Robinson, Esq.

### Personalia.

WE offer our humblest apologies to B. G. Bare, A. F. Barry, and H. J. Book, for having inadvertently omitted their names from the list of successful candidates in the Lancashire and Cheshire Union of Institutes' Examination in French. All three gained a Second Class in the Elementary Division.

K. J. Mackenzie and W. Knowles have passed the Victoria Preliminary.

Scholarships have been awarded or renewed to the following:— R. C. Andrew, H. E. Jones, S. Schnitzlander (Tate Scholars). H. W. McCann, J. W. Whitwell (Cochran Scholars). T. Lodge, E. G. Turner, J. D. O'Neill (Institute Scholars).

W. P. Blevin has, by private study, passed the London Intermediate B.A. Examination, gaining First Class Honours in History.

E. Chamberlain is on active service with the volunteer company of the 2nd Liverpool Regiment.

P. J. Rose, St. John's College, Cambridge, has been elected to a Foundation Scholarship.

R. Holt, former pupil of the Institute and Whitworth Scholar, has been appointed Professor of Engineering and Vice-Principal of the Polytechnic School, Cairo.

Among the newly-elected aldermen for the Borough of Hampstead are two Old Boys, Mr. James Colley and Mr. Thomas Greenhill.

### Games Reports.

#### ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

##### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. WALLASEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Played at Wavertree, in bad weather, on 10th October. Thompson won the toss and took advantage of a strong wind. Institute pressed from the start, and held the upper hand throughout, leading by 6 to 0 at half-time. In the second half the Institute continued to press, and five more goals were scored. Final result:—Institute, 11; Wallasey Grammar School, *nil*. Goals: Mackenzie (4), Hale (3), Jones (3), Bare (1).

##### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. WATERLOO HIGH SCHOOL.

This match was played at Blundellsands on Wednesday, 17th October. Institute lost the toss, and started against a slight breeze. Waterloo pressed, but were driven back by the fine defence of Bellamy and Gray. Waterloo again attacked, and the Institute goal had a narrow escape. After this we livened up, and Paddock made ground on the right, but the home backs cleared well. Just before half-time, Bare scored a grand goal with a grand shot. In the second half the School played better, and the ball was taken to the Waterloo quarters, where Paddock beat their custodian. The home team now attacked, and we had a hard time, Brockill being

repeatedly called upon. After some midfield play Waterloo forced a corner, and their captain scored a splendid goal. On restarting, Jones and Mackenzie passed well, the former transferring to Paddock, who centered finely, Mackenzie heading through. Our opponents now tried hard to reduce the lead, but without avail. Full-time:—Institute, 3; Waterloo, 1.

##### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. COLLEGE (COMMERCIAL SCHOOL).

Played at Wavertree on the following week. College won the toss and decided to play with the wind. Institute started, and Paddock and Bare, being nicely served by Duhnke, made an attack on the visitors' goal, the ball eventually going behind. The College now became aggressive, but Brockhill saved well. Our forwards now livened up, and Flinn scored with a fine shot. On restarting, the home team attacked, and Hale scored from close quarters. Half-time:—Institute, 2; College, *nil*.

Flinn started for the Institute, who immediately took the ball to their opponents' goal, but could not score, although we pressed almost the whole of the time, owing to fine goal-keeping on the part of the College custodian. Full-time:—Institute, 2; College, *nil*.

##### ALEXANDRA v. INSTITUTE.

Played at Wavertree, Saturday, 31st October. Thompson won the toss, and decided to play with the wind. The visitors were much bigger than the home team, but the Institute played pluckily, and often baffled their opponents by fine passing, with the result that we scored twice in the first half through Bare and McNair. In the second half, although playing against the wind, we succeeded in keeping out our opponents' and won a good game by 2 to *nil*.

##### MIDDLE SCHOOL (COLLEGE) v. INSTITUTE.

Played at Wavertree, on Wednesday, 31st October. Thompson won the toss and decided to play with the wind. Visitors kicked off before a large assembly of spectators. College immediately attacked, but Mackenzie and Duhnke cleared well, and a determined onslaught was made on the visitors' goal, where Jones scored with a fine shot. The College after this reverse tried hard to equalize, but could not break through the Institute defence. Fine passing between Hale, Jones, and Flinn took play to the visitors' half, but were driven back by the splendid defence of Gow. After midfield play, Hale, receiving the ball from Jones, made a grand run down the left wing, and passing to Paddock, the latter scored. Half-time:—Institute, 2; College, *nil*.

On restarting, the College, who now had the wind in their favour, penned the Institute in their own goal, and despite the efforts of our backs succeeded in scoring. On resuming play, Flinn and Hale tried hard to score, but the College defence was sound and proved equal to all demands. The College again pressed, and scored from a scrimmage in front of goal. This livened up the Institute, and Jones, receiving a pass from Gray, scored a fine goal.

Play was keenly contested until full-time, neither side having the advantage. Full-time:—Institute, 3; College, 2.

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

Played at Wavertree, on the 14th of November. Institute lost the toss and played against the wind. Flinn started for the School, but the *Conway* quickly took up the play and penned us in our own quarters; at last a clearance was effected through Duhnke. Again the *Conway* pressed, the ball finally going behind. Our forwards now had a turn, and, being nicely served by Gray and Mackenzie, attacked strongly, Hale and Jones each trying shots without effect. *Conway* combined well and forced a corner, from which they scored a good goal. The Institute after this loss tried hard to equalise, but the *Conway* proved too strong. Half-time:—*H.M.S. Conway* 1; Institute 0.

On changing ends, the Institute, who had the wind in their favour, made tracks for the visitors goal, Bare and Paddock combining well on the right. *Conway* now played with great determination, and succeeded in beating Brockhill. The game at this stage was very keenly contested, the Institute making up in science what they lacked in weight, and just before full-time scored. Score:—*H.M.S. Conway* 2; Institute 1.

## LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. ST. FRANCIS XAVIERS.

Played on Thursday, 15th of November, at Wavertree. Thompson won the toss and took advantage of the wind. Institute pressed from the start, and gained several corners in quick succession, but were unable to score. Xaverians now attacked, and a fine centre from the left was almost turned to account, but the pressure was not kept up, and the Institute taking play to their opponents quarters, Jones beat their custodian. From the re-start Institute again attacked, and Flinn placed the ball in the net with a grand shot. A few minutes later Bare scored, making the score at half-time:—Institute 3; St. Francis Xaviers 0.

In the second half the Institute had most of the play, and two minutes from the start Jones scored from a grand individual effort. Xaverians now pressed for a short time, but Brockhill cleared. The Institute now attacked, and Hale scored with a long shot. Xaverians now became quickly disorganised, and Jones, Hale and Mackenzie succeeded in scoring, while Paddock had hard luck in twice hitting the upright. Score:—Institute 8; St. Francis Xaviers 0.

Team:—Goal, Brockhill; backs, Duhnke and Thompson; half-backs, Gray, Mackenzie, Bellamy; forwards, Paddock, Bare, Flinn, Jones, Hale.

## Camera and Field Club.

THE first excursion this term was to Sefton Church, one of the most interesting and picturesque in Lancashire. Immediately

on leaving the car terminus at Aintree, Sefton Spire is seen at what seems to be a short distance across a bit of flat country, but the winding and zig-zag nature of the road makes a good walk for one hour. This church shows distinctly the various periods of Gothic architecture from Norman to Perpendicular. A few heavy block capitals mark the earliest or Norman period (1066–1189). The tower, with its parapets and pinnacles, surmounted by a well-proportioned spire are the distinguishing features of the decorated period (1300–1400). The nave, chancel, and south aisle belong to the Perpendicular period (1400–1500), as shown by the upright lines of the tracery and the shallow meagre mouldings; the exquisite wood carving on the chancel stalls, screen in south chapel, and oak benches and ends belong to the same period. The pulpit is made of cedar wood and is richly carved. On some of the tombs are examples of sixteenth century brass work. A number of photographs were taken of the interior from various points.

The second excursion was to Woodchurch. None of the masters being able to be present, E. M. Abraham, who also supplied the notes for this outing, undertook the leadership. The party journeyed to Upton by train, then walked across the fields to Woodchurch. The church is quaint and interesting; it consists of nave, chancel, and south aisle, with a very fine porch. Part of the north wall in the chancel is late Saxon or early Norman, and has one of the original Saxon windows, very narrow daylight, large splay, and glazed with pretty glass. The tower is substantial, and belongs to the early decorated period; the buttresses were put up in 1072. The windows in the tower had new mullions put in last year; those in the south aisle and north wall are perpendicular. In the south aisle are two shelves dated 1641 and 1670 respectively, with the donors' names inscribed; these were for the purpose of keeping bread for the poor. Photographs of the interior, the porch, and Saxon window were taken. A walk across the fields to Oxton brought the party to E. M. Abraham's home, where tea was provided, and various games indulged in.

To keep up the interest during the Winter months, when the weather would not be suitable for field excursions, arrangements were made to visit some of the centres of industry about Liverpool. The first was to Port Sunlight. This proved a very popular outing, as sixty-five boys, accompanied by the head master and three assistant masters visited the famous soap works, by permission of Messrs. Lever Brothers Limited. The party was conducted through the various departments, including printing, book-binding, box making, laboratories, boiling, cooling, and packing rooms. The souvenir of views presented to each was much appreciated.

Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co. made special arrangements for the club to visit their s.s. *Lake Ontario*. F. Smith, Esq., Marine Superintendent at the Alexandra Dock, conducted the party over the ship, explaining the various compartments, cargo and passenger accommodation. The cargo consisted chiefly of Canadian produce: butter, bacon, eggs, cheese, apples and grain. One of the engineers,

an old Institute boy, explained the parts of the engines and boilers. The navigation instruments were examined with much interest. In the saloon tea was provided in proper sea going style, each lad doing justice to the good things set out; had their opinion been asked then as to the best shipping company in the world, Elder, Dempster & Co. would have been the decision of all.

Ince Woods was the next rendezvous. The route chosen was *via* overhead train to Seaforth, electric tram to Crosby, thence walk to Ince. The old mill on the way was inspected and photographed. The walk was much enjoyed, a number of late flowering plants being picked up. The members had to content themselves by keeping on the outskirts of the woods, as a special permit granted by Charles Weld Blundell, Esq., of Ince Blundell Hall, was not received until the following day. The entrance gateway, built in the Roman Doric style, attracted some attention. The woods were glowing in full rich autumn colouring. The elms, still clothed in strong dark green, contrasted well with the pale delicate yellows of the beeches, which gave richness and depth to the orange and brown tints of the oaks; the gray trunks and the blue atmosphere completing the harmony of the composition. The homeward journey was made by way of Little Crosby. Some excellent photographs were taken.

A visit was next made to the Diamond Match Factory at Bootle. Match-making machinery is about the most ingenious ever invented. The feeding of the machines with wood and boxes, and putting these into outer coverings, are the only processes requiring hand labour, mechanism does the rest: splitting, dipping, drying and filling the boxes. The paper boxes and wrappers are made by special machinery; each machine has a capacity of 750 per minute. The various processes in the manufacture of the wood boxes were closely followed, the cutting of the rough logs of Aspen, shaving machine, guillotine, and finishing machine.

The wax vesta and taper department attracted attention. The room in which the various ingredients, phosphorous, silicate of lime, etc., were being mixed was of special interest, as it is from this process the fumes arise that cause the awful disease among match-makers known as "Phossy Jaw;" but here the ventilation is perfect, and over each turbine is placed a cover and funnel which carries off the poisonous fumes, so that no cases have occurred. Each boy was presented with a sample packet of matches. After thanking the Manager, Horace Wright, Esq., for the privilege of visiting the works, the party returned to town by the overhead train.

### Editorial Notices.

We beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of Subscriptions from:—  
Messrs. H. B. Jenkins, K. J. Mackenzie, J. Quinn, P. Little, P. J. Rose, H. Eggington.  
R. C. Andrew has been appointed Sub Editor.