



# LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE SCHOOLS MAGAZINE



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## Editorial.

TWO of the greatest names of Liverpool—names synonymous with all that is good—have in the past been ever intimately connected with the School. Which of our scholars has not felt a flood of gratitude come over him on hearing recounted what the Holts and the Tates have done for the Institute? What city might not be envious of us, for who will deny that Liverpool possesses some of the most public-spirited citizens in the world? We of the Institute already owe much to our public men, and to the names of our benefactors is now added another—a name well known wherever flies the British flag—a name to conjure with in commerce—a name whose rise has gone hand-in-hand with the increased prosperity of our city—the name of Sir Alfred Jones.

Sir Alfred has made many most enviable investments in the past, but perhaps none so spontaneous, so happy, and so far-reaching as the one he made on the evening of the 18th of February, when he so generously presented four Scholarships to the School.

The munificence of his gift may not at first be apparent; but when one considers that every year the path to a University career—the best possible start on the road of life—is now open to our scholars in a way never known before: that by Sir Alfred's princely generosity a hard-working student may now support himself entirely at the University; then do we perceive the effects of wealth well used. Of his other gift we will leave the Cadets to speak: we are sure they will with no uncertain voice. And of this, too, we are sure: that amongst the names of those who have in times past laid us under such deep debts of gratitude, that of Sir Alfred Jones now right worthily takes its place.

The School congratulates Dr. Donald Macalister on his appointment to the high position of Principal of the University of Glasgow.

Dr. Macalister is a splendid example of what talent united with industry can accomplish. Promoted from the Commercial School to the High School, he carried off all the chief honours of school life, showing remarkable versatility of accomplishments: for though ultimately he obtained his highest academical distinction as Senior Wrangler and Smith's Prizeman, yet he was even when at school a facile linguist, the memory of his delivery of the German recitation on prize-day being vivid yet. Appointed Fellow and tutor of St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1877, he devoted himself to medicine. In due course the degrees of M.A., M.D., D.C.L., and the diploma of F.R.C.P. were bestowed upon him; he became member of various British and foreign societies, and occupied many important posts. In 1902 he was honorary president of the International Medical Congress at Brussels. He has contributed largely to medical literature.

What with the Hon. Sir J. C. Bigham in law, Sir Henry Roscoe, F.R.S., D.C.L., LL.D., in science, Dr. Donald Macalister in medicine, Sir Alfred Jones, K.C.M.G., in commerce, Professor Sampson, F.R.S., of Durham, Mr. J. H. Grace, of Cambridge, and Professor J. E. Wright, of Philadelphia, the School may well be proud.

These fine examples of success should incite all boys to hope largely for the future and work earnestly thereto; by no means necessarily on academic lines, but to equip themselves cap-à-pie for the battle of life. From time to time one hears of splendid appointments in business, in the Civil Service, in municipal service: one meets constantly men who have apparently attained to comfortable, if not affluent, circumstances; and these men, old boys of the Institute, were not always, let it be impressed on you, the boys who carried off the prizes of the forms, but were mostly honest, steady, hard-working fellows of grit, no better than scores in the School at this very moment. But, alas! all may not command success who deserve it. If such will have acquired bodily health in reasonable sport, mental vigour and moral stamina by hard study and application to duty, even they may do their work manfully and well, notwithstanding the buffets of fortune with the stoicism of larger knowledge.

## American School Football.

THE football season is a very much smaller portion of the school year in America than it is in England. It begins with the term in September, and ends with the month of November. After December 1st frost and snow render the grounds unfit for play, and an indoor substitute called basket ball is played in the gymnasium. The season, then, was near its end on November 24th when the champion High School of New York met the Central High School, which held the same proud position in Philadelphia.

The ground, a rectangle of about 120 yards by 50 yards, or nearly the same size as our own football grounds, was divided into twelve divisions by lines parallel to the shorter sides. Hence the name "gridiron," by which the reporters love to describe it. Its surface resembled that of a so-called gravel tennis court, being formed of rolled sand or earth, with no stones evident, but also without a blade of grass. Around were the usual wooden benches, to accommodate some 3,000 spectators. About half the space was occupied by the friends of the rival schools, who were easily distinguishable by the favours, ribbons, and flags which they displayed. The most noticeable members of the audience, however, were two groups, each of about seventy boys. Each group served as a kind of choir, or band, with a conductor who trespassed most unwarrantably on the field of play, and whose business it was from time to time to lead the school cries or yells. These yells seemed to admit of some variation, and the conductor held a megaphone,

through which he instructed his choir as to which was to come next. As far as could be made out, the chief cry of the Philadelphia boys was somewhat as follows:—

"Hi! Hi! Hi!"\* Central High! Central High! Central High! Team! Team! Team!"

This was meant to encourage the team at critical moments, and to give vent to the enthusiasm aroused by success.

The game was played with a Rugby ball, and was, indeed, really a modification of the Rugby game. In the modifying process, however, it had lost all its claim to the name of football, as, if my memory serves me truly, the only occasion on which the ball was kicked was in the attempt to convert a try into a goal. Each team consisted of eleven players, of whom nine at the start formed themselves into a sort of wedge, each about two yards from his fellow, while the remaining two hung about on the outskirts, keeping guard or watching their turn to attack. The player at the point of one of the wedges stooped down with his heels wide apart, and at the sound of the whistle threw the ball swiftly backwards between his legs to the man behind. A universal rush forward was then made, during which the ball was rapidly passed from hand to hand. Meanwhile the opponents had also rushed forward, each at the man whom he had been told off to mark, and if they could secure the ball they passed it in their turn. This manœuvre was evidently a substitute for the English "scrum," and took place whenever the player was held or the ball lay upon the ground. Of dribbling, punting, or lining out there was none. As the pass off was always backwards, to secure it did not imply that any ground would be gained, and movements from one end of the ground to the other were by no means frequent. Indeed, the game lacked those brilliant bits of open play by the backs which are the delight of the spectator of the Rugby game.

The scientific interest of the game seemed to lie in the organisation of the scrum. As it was forming, the captain of the side would shout out a series of numbers—16, 24, 48, 27, &c. On hearing these several members of the scrum would suddenly change their places, and changes would also be made in the formation of the opposing team. Exactly what the numbers meant we could not make out, but they seemed to be a series of cryptic signals designed to dictate a common plan of action, and at the same time to baffle the comprehension of the opposing side.

The scoring was very like that of our own Rugby game, though the exact apportioning of the points was not easy to understand. On the occasion mentioned we were told that Philadelphia won.

And now a word as to the alleged roughness of the game. This appeared to us to have been much exaggerated. Of deliberate brutality we saw none; the game seemed just as fair and sportsmanlike as one would expect an English game to be. There may have been small infractions of the rules which we could not

detect, but such fouls as were given were mainly for those accidents which must occur. Perhaps some of the tackling was rather energetic, and especially dangerous was the habit of three or four men throwing themselves on to one, who might fall under them to the ground. This, however, is no uncommon feature of a Rugby game. On the other hand, we may not forget the large number of fatalities which every season brings, the fact that the players deem it necessary to wear nose protectors, and to have both shoulders and hips well padded, and that, even so, they frequently have to call on the reserves, of whom six or seven wait on each side of the field, and are allowed to take the place of the players as often as a change may be desired. I believe, however, that the true cause of the trouble is the state of the ground. Those who have played football in England during a frost or during a September drought know that a serious game is then unusually painful and dangerous. Suppose this game to be played on a ground without even the grass to break your fall, and you will readily understand that under such conditions football cannot be the game as we know it. Efforts are now being made to lessen this evil by opening out the game, and during last season passing forward was for the first time legalised, though as yet it is not much used. In several places the authorities are forbidding the game altogether, and apparently some more serious change must be made unless American football is to cease to exist. It is also said that "soccer," which is becoming increasingly popular, will soon replace the American game, though even for this the hardness of the ground must ever be a serious disadvantage.

### Lectures.

AMONG those lecturers whose words it is our privilege and enjoyment to hear, the name of Mr. Garstang is pre-eminent. He has already secured a warm place in the hearts of those who attend the lectures, partially due, no doubt, to the profound interest of the subject which he has made his life study, and partially due also, to the lucid and genial manner in which Mr. Garstang expounds the facts of his own and other eminent Egyptologists' researches. Additional interest is attached to the sentences which fall from an eye-witness and original investigator of the traces of ancient civilisations. Such a one is Mr. Garstang.

Our lecturer's narrative concerned that period of the history of the Hittites between 2000 and 1000 B.C., gathered partly from evidences extant in the area peopled by this ancient race and partly from references made concerning them by the Egyptians, who, we were informed, were intimately associated with the Hittites. The position of the nation in Asia Minor among the Taurus Mountains was conveyed to us by means of maps, and specimens of carved work on stone, chiefly depicting the warlike pursuits and religious rites of the Hittites, were shown. Among the implements of warfare the lance predominated, this being the earliest known use of that

\* A various reading, "High! High! High!" has some probability.

weapon. Mr. Garstang displayed several inscriptions of the cuneiform type, many of which still baffle the skill of savants to decipher them, the variety of writings, corresponding with the different *patois* of the Hittites, rendering interpretation more difficult.

The lecturer drew our attention to the two-headed eagle which figures prominently in the sculptures, remarking that it survived the extinction of the race which created it, and cited the national arms of Russia and Austria, which bear this emblem, as conclusive proof. Moreover, Mr. Garstang stated that the Sphinx itself was a creation of the Hittites, and was copied by the Egyptians, with whom the former race were long embroiled. The fact that the Hittites successfully coped with Egypt at the zenith of her power indicated, said our lecturer, that the warlike capacity of the Northern race was of no mean order. One of the most interesting of the inscriptions cast on the screen was the treaty between Pharaoh of Egypt and the King of the Hittites, the terms of which ratified an armed neutrality between the two nations. Strange to say, the duplicate of this has just been unearthed in Asia Minor, but its contents have not yet been published to the ears of the world. It was in the walls of the Palace of Thebes, the ancient capital of Egypt, that the first of these treaties was discovered, in company with several other facts relating to the history of the Hittites, including the barbarities practised by the Egyptians on their Hittite captives, which consisted of lopping off their hands, thus effectively putting their foes *hors de combat*. Mr. Garstang truly said that this phase of the relations existing between the two nations was too gruesome to dwell upon.

From the above remarks it will be seen that the lecture was as enlightening as it was interesting, and the conclusion came all too soon. One aspect, however, connected with the work of exploration and excavation, which, in our opinion, Mr. Garstang did not convey to us with sufficient emphasis, was the discomfort and hardship attending the efforts of such enthusiasts like himself in recovering for the world some of the pages of its history which the accumulations of ages have obscured. He declared that the field of his labours had been explored in the smallest degree only, and concluded by indicating that many valuable discoveries would ultimately be made. The sincere wish that Mr. Garstang would consent to lecture again to the School was expressed by our headmaster, while, in reply, the lecturer announced his intended immediate departure to continue his researches, and received an enthusiastic send-off from all present.

The lectures were recommenced this term on Thursday, February 28th, when a large number of boys assembled to hear Professor de Mouilpied speak on "Alpine Climbing." The lecturer stated at the beginning that he considered it a great privilege to be allowed to come and speak at the Institute. Then, turning his attention to the subject of the paper, he said that he wanted the boys to understand first of all that a holiday in Switzerland was not

necessarily a very expensive one, and that the best way to enjoy it was to go with knapsack on back, prepared to rough it to a certain extent. On his journey to Switzerland Professor de Mouilpied stayed a short time in Paris. Then he passed on to Geneva, commenting by the way on the beauty of the lake on which this town stands. From here he came to the Alps themselves. He described to us the glaciers and mountains of Switzerland, illustrating his remarks with slides, many of which he himself had taken. The slides shown throughout the lecture were extremely interesting and instructive, and they included pictures of the chief mountains of the country. The lecture came to a close all too soon, and, after greeting the lecturer with hearty applause, the meeting dispersed.

On Thursday, March 14th, Dr. Ellis gave a lecture entitled "The Mersey from the Moors to the Sea." This was the second occasion during the present winter on which an old boy of the School has given a lecture. On opening his account of the Mersey, Dr. Ellis remarked that, strictly speaking, the river has no source, but only commences where the Doit and the Tame meet. We first traced the course of the Doit from its source among the moors, where it is quite a tiny stream, until it meets the Etherow. The Mersey has served for a boundary from the time of the earliest account we have of it. Indeed it is supposed to have derived its name from the kingdom of Mercia, which was separated by this river from the neighbouring kingdom of Northumbria. Nowadays the Doit, too, serves as a boundary, separating the counties of Cheshire and Derbyshire. Both the Doit and the Etherow are very pretty streams, and near their banks are found many interesting relics dating from the 14th century, and, even, in some cases, from a still earlier period. The name of the stream between the conflux of the Doit and the Etherow and the river Tame is a disputed point. In the ordnance map it is given as the Mersey, but the inhabitants of that district call it the Doit. Assuming the inhabitants are correct, the Mersey proper does not begin until we reach Stockport. Henceforward there is very little of interest in the river, with the exception, perhaps, of the transporter bridge between Widnes and Runcorn. At the close the lecturer was greeted with three hearty cheers, and a promise was extracted that he would revisit us on some future occasion.

### "Chat on the Corridor."

IT will be recollected that Mr. Kennard was selected to play for Lancashire against the South Africans during the latter club's memorable tour last year, yet the circumstance arose too late for insertion in the December issue of the Magazine. But we cannot suffer such an important occurrence to pass unrecorded, inasmuch

as it redounds to the credit of the School, and affords us an opportunity of expressing our admiration of Mr. Kennard's capabilities on the football field. A member of the Liverpool Old Boys, he was selected as full back in the team that Lancashire put out to meet the almost invincible Colonial fifteen. He fully justified his selection. After a stern-fought contest, the County were compelled to admit defeat by the narrow margin of 11 points to 8, and the Lancashire full back was a strong factor in Lancashire's fine display. Thus comments a football critic: "Kennard went through his duties like a British workman, and, except for occasional weak kicking into touch, his display was faultless." It was indeed a strong statement for the South African team's manager to make, but one of firm conviction, that Mr. Kennard was "the best full back we have seen yet." We consider it superfluous to make further comment. Our master has not long recovered from an attack of appendicitis, which prevented him from turning out for Lancashire against Durham. Now that he has happily recovered, we hope that past honours will be but a prelude to greater in the future.

From an esteemed correspondent we learn that W. H. Davison, who left the School some eight years ago, played centre-half for Oxford in an Association match against the Navy. He is now in his fourth year at Keble College, and intends adopting the clerical profession. Mr. Davison is President of the Keble Union.

Mr. F. J. Allen, who was a member of the School staff during Mr. Hughes' headmastership, and for the last two years Science Master of King's College, Chester, died on March 16th. He contracted influenza, which turned to pneumonia, and, after the short illness of a week, he succumbed.

We have to congratulate P. F. Herbert on winning an open Mathematical Scholarship to Jesus College, Oxford, and A. K. Macpherson on passing his entrance examination into Sandhurst. Special compliments are due to Mr. Owen, to whose careful coaching Herbert's success is in part attributable. Macpherson has the unique distinction of having qualified for Sandhurst simply by school tuition, scoring high marks where competitors having special crammers failed miserably. His is an example which those whose ambition it is to adopt the Army as a profession should endeavour to emulate.

General satisfaction was expressed on the resumption of the Horsfall Cup competition. It is surprising, when there is so much football enthusiasm latent in the School, that such an admirable institution could have been suffered to languish. However, the keenness of the present contest makes amends for apathy in the past, and, the preliminary round having taken place, there remain but four clubs, three High School and one Commercial, to settle in whose possession the coveted trophy will finally rest. The issue, we take it, lies between VI. Commercial and Upper Sixth High School. Our judgment favours the latter.

A former member of the School, A. G. Veitch, of Wyggeston Grammar School, Leicester, has gained a Mathematical Exhibition (£25 per annum) at Queen's College, Cambridge. Veitch is a pupil of Mr. A. H. Atkins, British amateur chess champion.

We had previously foreshadowed the interesting event of the marriage of Mr. Coxhead to Miss Kelly, and it is now our pleasant duty to refer to the presentation made by the High School to them, which took the form of a beautifully chased silver tea service, coffee jug, and hot water kettle of quaint design. The presents were on view at the School during the first week after vacation, and we had the pleasure of a visit from several of Miss Kelly's relatives and friends. We have received two extremely nice letters from Mr. and Mrs. Coxhead respectively, acknowledging the present and expressing their gratitude and delight. Let us hope that the School's gift will serve for many years as a happy memento of the time that both Mr. and Mrs. Coxhead spent with us.

### IN MEMORIAM.

On March 6th the School received with deep sorrow the news of the death of their comrade Gilbert Kenyon Reid after a short illness. Having entered the Preparatory School in January, 1903, he had in four years worked his way almost to the threshold of the Sixth Form, and had won the sincere affection of all those with whom he had come in contact. Those who knew him must feel the poorer for the loss of his cheery friendship, and will join in heartfelt sympathy for the grief of the stricken home.

Splendid the gifts of gods! and of their giving  
Best is repose from toil, release from living.

Before their eyes have shed life's burning tears;  
Before their souls are crushed with doubts and fears;  
Ere yet the load has bowed the back to breaking,  
And the throbbing heart beats slowlier with long aching;  
With dawn's white aureole still about their brow;  
With feet unmired by sin's defiling slough;  
With lips untremulous, and with hearts unwrung—  
Whom the gods love, die young.

HAROLD BUCHANAN RYLEY.

## The Prize Distribution.

At last, after much delay, the annual distribution of prizes took place on Monday, February 18th. The prizes were distributed by Sir Alfred Jones. The chair was occupied by Mr. Danson, and there were many distinguished ladies and gentlemen on the platform. Sir Alfred was received by the members of the Cadet Corps, who were under the command of Captain Norman.

In his opening speech, the Chairman stated that the past year had been one of very great success from a director's point of view. In order to keep pace with the times and with modern ideals, great changes had been necessary, and there were strong indications that the desired results had been obtained. They considered twenty-five years ago that they gave a very good education, and so they did; but the methods used then would not suit now. He reminded the parents that, if their boys were to derive the utmost possible benefit from their education, there must be some system or continuity in it. In closing, the Chairman added that they were all pleased to hear of the appointment of Dr. Donald Macalister, an old boy of the School, as Principal of the University of Glasgow.

Mr. Weisse then rose to read his report. He hoped that the Government reports had satisfied the city educational authorities that there was no falling away from the high traditions fostered by Mr. Sephton and his two successors. The High School had in the course of the year 1905 to 1906 made great strides, and the Commercial School, in spite of a very deliberate pruning and concentration, had reached the point when they might confidently hope that it would begin to grow again on sounder lines. In the mere passing of examinations, to which he personally attached the very slightest importance as an end, but great importance as a test of the efficient working of this or that form, the Schools had shown true success. Boys whom they might have held back on the score of age to take high honours in the Junior Oxford had passed the Senior in their stride; boys who might have been kept back a year had passed the Junior in a solid block, many of them in the honours lists. Special honours had been won by H. A. T. Smith and W. E. Gibbs, who first won scholarships at Liverpool University, and had subsequently carried off, the one a Senior County and the other a Senior City Scholarship. Mr. Weisse then referred to Percy Herbert, our present head boy, who had won an Open Scholarship at Oxford, and also to Kilgour Macpherson, who had passed well into Sandhurst absolutely on teaching received from masters of this School.

There were three points on which he was anxious to speak clearly to the parents of present and future boys. The first was the all-important one of the length of school life in a secondary school. He urged parents not to substitute two years at an earlier age for two years at a later age, but to make up their minds in the first

instance whether they wished to open up a wide prospect in life for their children by sending them to a secondary school, which, at the close of its care of the boys, offered generous help to further education to its promising pupils, or whether they only wished to go a little further than their idea of elementary school work implied. He was quite convinced that, in carrying 400 boys through a complete course, the School would be doing a better work than by half-educated twice that number. Possibly this would not be such good business as a matter of ledger accounts.

The second point was the games question. He could not find it in his heart to do other than pity the man who read nothing but the records of matches and races, and he failed to sympathise in the least with the crowds who watched matches played by people in whom they had no personal interest. But he loved the boy who played games like a gentleman, for the sake of the game and for the honour of his class and school. The playing of regular, unselfish, plucky games was preferable to loafing. It developed the physique on proper lines, and it let off steam that might otherwise burst in very unwholesome directions. He did not believe in the danger to limb or health from hard-fought battles on the playing fields, and he did believe in that physical, moral, and civic training of the playing field without which no education is complete. He therefore urged parents to support him in this matter, and to provide their boys with change of clothing to enable them to play for their form or school, and to see that the boys changed back to their ordinary clothes immediately after the game.

The third point was the importance to the School of things that went on in that building outside the ordinary School work. He meant the School lectures, the School Cadet movement, and the School music. Mr. Weisse invited the parents to come to the lectures, and to encourage their boys to take an interest in the Cadets and in the music.

Sir Alfred Jones then rose to speak. He said that he had been a boy at the Liverpool Institute, and owed the School a deep debt of gratitude. He wanted the boys to realise that they had got the world to face, and that they belonged to an Empire which was the greatest in the world. If, as boys, they had not the determination to fight loyally for their country—commercially or in any other way—they were no use to their country or to the world. Sir Alfred then spoke in praise of the Cadet Corps, and presented the School with a rifle range. He also desired to draw attention to the Liverpool University, and, to strengthen the bond between the latter and the School, he would give four Scholarships annually. But mention has already been made of these generous gifts.

At this point in the proceedings the prizes were distributed, both for School work and for swimming.

The Chairman then thanked Sir Alfred for his munificence, and trusted that his gifts would prove of the utmost benefit to the School.

Dr. Caton, C.C., moved a vote of thanks to Sir Alfred Jones, and said that the career of an old Institute boy such as Sir Alfred should be an object-lesson to every boy in the School. The resolution was seconded by Mr. J. G. Legge, the Director of Education, supported by Professor Herdman, and carried with acclamation and the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow."

### Cadet Notes.

THOUGH some good hard work has been done this term, there is little of importance to chronicle. It is unfortunate that the Football and the Cadet Corps' arrangements should clash to such a degree, but, all due allowance being made for this, we undoubtedly ought to have bigger turn-outs at drill; in this respect the new recruits, especially the band, put many of the older members to shame.

Again, why should so many Cadets have such an antipathy against their uniform? The uniform is one of the strong links that hold the Corps together, and its moral effect on the minds of our younger brethren is by no means small.

The item of most interest was the confirmation of what we foreshadowed in our last issue—Major Leslie's appointment to be Colonel of the Battalion. We who know how he has deserved this promotion—how often he might have had it had he chosen!—know, too, that no better commander could have been found. We congratulate him on his appointment, and we congratulate the Battalion on having at its head an officer like Colonel Leslie, V.D.

Another promotion which gave us great pleasure was Lieutenant Norman's, to be Captain and Acting Adjutant. Mr. Norman has done much for D Company in the past, and we feel sure that his efforts will not slacken. May he have the health to carry them on.

It is not only schoolboys who suffer from "exams;" our officers have been undergoing that delightful species of torture, and we anticipate the announcement of their successes shortly.

Owing to the School examinations clashing with those for promotion, the following provisional promotions have been made, to be ratified by examination after Easter:—

Sergeant Service to be Colour-Sergeant.

Corporal Herbert, Lance-Corporal Shand, Private Barber and Dalzell, to be Sergeants.

Privates F. J. Roberts, Book, and Lowe, to be Lance-Sergeants.

Privates Bisset, Owen, Vincent, H. D. Roberts, Drewe, and Kinnish, to be Corporals.

Privates Machray, Ritson, and Alldridge to be Lance-Corporals.

The Easter training at Chester will be fully dealt with in our next issue.

### Football Notes.

#### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE V. COWLEY OLD BOYS.

In previous years we have played Cowley Schools, but this year we entertained the Old Boys, and our chances of obtaining any points were not extensive. On December 15th the following team lined up at Greenbank Lane:—Howlett; Dalzell and Thomas (J.); Thomas (W.), Roberts, McCulloch; Bell, Wright, Sturgeon, Roberts, Burnett. Cowley turned up with only nine men, so they accepted two substitutes, and we kicked off down the slope. The opposing team were, however, obviously not used to playing school teams, and it is a pity that a stringent referee was not operating. The tactics of Cowley were at times open to discussion, and this did not add to a good understanding between the teams. As it was, the Old Boys scored before half-time, and we resumed with one goal in arrears. The Institute then took up the running in good earnest, and gave the Cowley backs a warm time, and at last Burnett beat the opposing goalkeeper with a deceptive shot. Cowley were not disheartened, however, and rushed our men off their feet and scored. By the irony of fate, it was one of the substitutes who scored the winning goal, and we left the field beaten by 2 goals to 1.

#### INSTITUTE V. LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY 2ND XI.

We entertained the University on our ground on January 16, in the first match after the Christmas vacation. Plum pudding, &c., had left its traces on our men, however. It was with pleasure we noted the appearance of an Old Boy, namely, R. W. T. Middleton, in their ranks, and we hoped to show him that the School football had in no way deteriorated. The Institute team lined up as follows:—Howlett; Dalzell and Thomas; W. G. Thomas, Roberts, and Wilkinson; Cookson, Lunt, Wright, Bell, and King.

The team was not a typical one, and had several novices in its ranks. We won the toss, and kicked off with the assistance of a light wind. Ground was quickly covered on the left, and, from a centre from Ball, Wright shot the wrong side of the post. However, keeping up the pressure, the University left back became flustered, and, attempting to clear, placed the ball into his own net. Elated with our success, we attempted to repeat the performance, but were repulsed, and just before half-time the University scored. In the second half the University had the bulk of the play, and scored again, Howlett being powerless in an attempt to save. No further goals were scored, and again we retreated defeated by the odd goal. The standard of the football is rising, but it will need to rise several degrees higher before we can look forward with confidence to future matches.

#### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE V. LIVERPOOL COLLEGE.

Played at Greenbank Lane on January 23rd.

As this is one of the most important matches of the season, we attempted to put our full team in the field, but both Couch and

McCulloch were incapacitated. Still it is good to know that we have a capable reserve to fill McCulloch's place in Wilkinson.

The Institute team was—Howlett; Dalzell and Thomas (J.); Thomas (W. G.), Roberts, and Wilkinson; Cookson, Lunt, Wright, Barish, and Bell. The ground was extremely hard, and rendered good football impossible. Neither team was at full strength, although a good game was anticipated. Roberts won the toss, and the Institute immediately pressed, and Wright skimmed the crossbar with a hard drive. The College back relieved, and their forwards pressed. Then the unexpected happened. The ball appeared to be going outside, and Howlett naturally was allowing it to go, when suddenly it struck a projecting piece of earth and rebounded into play, and the College forward had the easiest possible task in beating Howlett, who was astounded. Following on the kick-off Bell immediately raced down and scored. Then mid-field play ensued, and the game assumed a very tame aspect until Lunt and Cookson obtained possession, with the result that Lunt scored with a high shot. The College then took the aggressive, and scored, although Howlett made a gallant attempt to achieve the impossible. Just afterwards half-time came, and the score stood at 2—2.

After the interval the Institute took the ball into the College quarters, and a mêlée in front of their goal ensued, in which Barish was rather lucky in scoring. The College, however, played up with great vigour, and shortly afterwards equalised. Following up their success, they gave the Institute defence an anxious time, and were rather unlucky. Just before time a terrific shot struck the upright, and several others gave trouble, but Howlett acquitted himself creditably, but we were nevertheless rather glad when the welcome whistle blew, leaving the score 3—3.

The Institute were decidedly the better team in the first half, but in the second they slackened considerably, and the College had a large share of the game. Still, with practice, the School should prove equal to the task of beating their opponents if they are drawn against them in the coming competition.

#### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. CALDAY GRANGE G.S.

On January 30th we met Calday in the return match, on our ground, and hoped to reverse the score of the previous match. The ground, however, was against good football, as it was in an adamantine condition. Calday were at full strength, and the Institute lined up as follows:—Howlett; Dalzell and J. Thomas; W. G. Thomas, Roberts, and McCulloch; Cookson, Lunt, Wright, Couch, and Bell.

We won the toss, and immediately pressed, and during the whole of the first half had the best of the game. The forwards initiated a very pretty movement, which resulted in Wright hitting the upright, and the ball travelled across the face of the goal, but did not go through. Yet our reward came in due time. While pressing for a long spell, one of the Calday backs attempted to clear, but the ball went to Roberts, who scored with a peculiar shot,

Following up the advantage, we still kept the upper hand, and, from a struggle in the goal mouth, Wright netted the second for the Institute. The whistle blew soon afterwards, and the score was 2—0 in our favour.

Play was very even in the second half for the first half-hour, until the Grammar School forced a corner on the left. This was perfectly taken, and Wright obligingly scored for Calday, much to the Institute's disgust. The "dead rabbit" seemed to give the visitors the necessary stimulus, and close before time they scored the equalising goal, and we retired in an unsatisfied condition with the score standing at 2—2.

#### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. BOOTLE TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

Played at Waterloo on Wednesday, February 6th. The Institute lined up as follows:—Howlett, Dalzell and Thomas (J. D.); Thomas (W. G.), Roberts, and McCulloch; Cookson, Barish, Wright, Couch, and Bell.

This match took place after a severe frost, and the ground in consequence was very hard and the ball difficult to control. At the outset the Institute pressed, forcing several corners, which, however, proved fruitless. After play had been in progress ten minutes two of the Bootle team who were late in arriving came on the field. This reinforcement proved very useful to our opponents, who in turn began to trouble our defence. At half-time the score stood at 2—0 in favour of the home team. In the second half Bootle had most of the game. The Institute forwards were ragged, and Barish was weak. Bootle again scored, and we left the field defeated, though in no sense disgraced, for our opponents were nearly all of superior size and weight.

#### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Played on February 13th, at Greenbank Lane. The Institute were at full strength, and hoped to retrieve the loss which they sustained at Manchester. Team:—Howlett, goal; Dalzell and Thomas (J. D.), backs; Thomas (W. G.), Roberts, and McCulloch, half-backs; Cookson, Lunt, Wright, Couch, and Bell.

The ground was in good condition, but a rather strong wind was blowing. Roberts lost the toss, and Wright kicked off against the wind. However, Manchester were on the alert, and we were repulsed, and play was carried on in our half. Dalzell and Thomas played extremely well, but the Manchester forwards gave them an anxious time until Thomas relieved. Mid-field play then followed, but, from good passing between their three inside forwards, our backs were circumvented and Howlett was beaten. Yet the Institute players were not disheartened, for they pressed, and enjoyed the greater part of the game. The forwards combined exceedingly well, and this resulted in Lunt missing by inches. However, Cookson obtained possession, and shot in, with the result that the goalkeeper saved but did not clear, and Wright, running up, had little difficulty in scoring the equalising goal. Even play then followed until half-time arrived with the score 1—1.

Immediately following the kick-off the Institute left ran down and Bell scored. Following this we were all over the Manchester defence, the right wing doing specially good work. Cookson, Lunt, and Wright all sent in shots, which the goalkeeper dealt with in masterly style, one save in particular being remarkable. But the Institute were not to be denied. Lunt passed to Wright, who beat the back and scored, although the goalkeeper ran out in an attempt to frustrate him. The School still kept the upper hand, and two corners were forced on the right, which were, however, taken too strongly. Manchester then roused up, but Roberts kept their centre forward in hand, whilst the backs easily accounted for the occasional spasmodic rushes. No further scoring took place, although Lunt almost netted with a terrific shot, and full time arrived with the score 3—1 for the Institute.

We were exceptionally pleased with the result, as it showed that we had a good team when at full strength. True, Manchester had a reserve right back, but this did not account for the result, for the Institute were superior in almost every department. The Manchester goalkeeper, however, was perfect, and he alone prevented us from reversing the score by which we were defeated earlier in the season. The left back was also a sterling defender, whilst the centre was the pick of the forward line. On our side all were good, and it is pleasing to notice that Howlett has dropped the habit of making risky kicks at the ball.

Thus, if such a performance can be repeated, we ought to go a long way in the Shield Competition. Last, but not least in many of the players' estimation, we must thank our headmaster for the brilliant tea which we enjoyed at the Yamen Café after the match. Most of the fellows did themselves justice, especially certain gentlemen at the end of the table furthest away from Mr. Parkes. Thus ended one of the pleasantest days in our fixtures, and we dispersed feeling very well satisfied with ourselves.

#### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE V. ST. PANCRAS'.

Played on February 23rd, away from home. The Institute were not with their full complement of players, Roberts and Thomas being absentees.

Howlett lost the toss, and Wright kicked off up the hill. The game was a very poor one in the first half, as the ball was continually going outside. There was no score at the interval.

Restarting, St. Pancras' rushed up and scored. Then very tame play followed. Wright missed a good chance, and Couch did the same soon afterwards. In the last quarter of an hour, however, matters livened up. The Institute pressed, and forced several corners, but could not score. Yet they hovered around the opposing goal, and Lunt had a good chance, but shot wide. Wright then sent a shot just over the crossbar, but the forwards could not score.

About five minutes from the end Couch shot, and the ball bounced off the back to Wright, who scored. Full time, 1—1.

The game was very poor up to the last quarter of an hour, but then the Institute gave a pretty display, and were decidedly superior to their opponents.

#### SHIELD COMPETITION.—SECOND ROUND.

We have been rather lucky in the draw for the Liverpool Secondary Schools' Shield, for we received a bye in the first round and played Church College in the second round, who have rather a weak team. We should have played on their ground, but, as their ground was engaged, it was arranged to play on ours.

On March 2nd the team lined up as follows:—Howlett, goal: Dalzell and J. D. Thomas, backs: W. G. Thomas, Roberts, and McCulloch, half-backs: Bell, Couch, Wright, Lunt, and Cookson, forwards.

Roberts lost the toss, and the Institute kicked off with ten men, as J. Thomas was a trifle late. The Institute immediately pressed, and kept the ball continually in the College half until Roberts drew first blood with a high shot which completely beat the College goalkeeper. Following up their advantage, the Institute had all the game. Wright scored, but offside nullified the point, although the decision was open to dispute. However, the Institute had their revenge, for Couch netted after a few minutes, and Bell still further increased the lead. Just before half-time Thomas the younger put in a good short, which the goalkeeper saved when apparently over the line, but the point was disallowed, and at the interval the score was 3—0 in our favour.

For the first quarter of an hour play was not exciting, but in the last half-hour the College were utterly routed. Wright reopened the scoring with three successive goals, and Couch, Cookson, and Lunt followed with one each. At full time the Institute were trying to make the score into double figures, and but for the inexorable whistle would no doubt have succeeded. As it was, the result at full time was—Liverpool Institute, 9; Church College, 0.

The team as a whole did exceedingly well. Wright missed several chances, and Couch kept the ball in the air far too much, but these are defects which can soon be remedied. The forwards combined very well, and their final touches were also good. Cookson in particular deserves a word of condolence, for he had very bad luck with several magnificent efforts. Bell also showed a welcome return to form. The halves were also good, and Roberts was the pick of the three. The backs and goalkeeper had no chance to distinguish themselves; Howlett, indeed, only obtained work by running out, for he had not a single shot to cope with. Such a performance augurs well for the semi-final, and, with a moderate amount of luck, the Shield ought not to be absolutely beyond our grasp.

## SHIELD COMPETITION.—SEMI-FINAL.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE.

This, the semi-final of the Shield Competition, was played at Birkenhead on Wednesday, March 13th. The conditions were in every way unfavourable. Heavy rains had converted the ground into a slough, and showers during the game only rendered its surface more greasy and slippery. A strong, gusty wind also prevailed throughout the play. Under such circumstances no real combination could be expected, and neither team can be held to have disgraced itself. In the intervals of their efforts to keep their foothold, our backs succeeded in maintaining a good defence, and only two shots eluded the goalkeeper. Meanwhile the forwards succeeded in scoring five times, though the luckless being who failed to stop their shots can hardly be blamed for his failure to do so.

Though strangers to the ground, our forwards had the best of the early part of the game, and before very long the score was 1—0 in our favour, Dalzell having scored off a free kick. A second goal was soon added by Wright after a pretty piece of combined play, and a penalty kick gave us a third shortly before half-time. Then followed a period of anxiety. Two goals were scored by Birkenhead in close succession, and for a moment it looked as if victory might be snatched from our grasp. The anxiety, however, was of short duration, as our team seemed now once more to find their foothold, and a fourth goal by Lunt rendered the result assured. That Bell should add another seemed quite unnecessary, as the only real pleasure possible for either players, referee, or spectators was that the game should quickly come to an end. When at last it did so it left in one memory at least a series of mental pictures of which mud, rain, and victory are the most prominent features. Final score—Liverpool Institute, 5 goals; Birkenhead Institute, 2 goals.

## CALDAY GRANGE v. LIVERPOOL COLLEGE.

The other match in the semi-final round resulted at first in a drawn game (1—1) between these two teams, on the ground of the latter. When it was replayed at Calday Grange the score was again 1—1 at the call of time. Extra time, however, was played, and Calday succeeded in scoring a second goal shortly before the two hours were completed.

## LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. ST. PANCRAS'.

Played at Greenbank Lane, March 16th. The Institute were represented by Howlett, goal; Dalzell, Thomas (J. D.), backs; Thomas (W. G.), Wilkinson, and McCulloch, half-backs; Herbert, Lunt, Roberts (H. D.), Owen, and Bell, forwards.

St. Pancras' won the toss, but there was very little to be gained from the wind, which was blowing right across the ground. The Institute pressed from the start, and a good run down by Lunt and Herbert resulted in a corner. Herbert took a beautiful corner, which was kindly put through the goal by one of our opponents.

After this it was all mid-field play until St. Pancras' left wing broke away, and a corner was forced, which ended in a goal for St. Pancras'. Immediately after this the whistle blew for half-time, leaving the score 1—1. In the second half St. Pancras' could not break through our half-backs. We kept in their goal mouth all through the remainder of the game. The forwards were shooting well, but could only beat the goalkeeper three times. The scorers were Herbert, Roberts (H. D.), and Wilkinson.

## FINAL OF SHIELD.

As Calday beat the College, we met them at Goodison Park on March 20th, before a large crowd of enthusiastic spectators. Ideal weather prevailed, and the ground was in good condition.

Roberts won the toss, and Calday kicked off against a fierce sun. The Institute made the first advance on the right wing, and Cookson served up to Wright, who declined to score. Then Calday relieved, but the Institute again took the aggressive, but the centre men would not or could not shoot. Several corners proved abortive, and Calday took up the running, and in turn forced a corner. This was admirably taken, and Cosgrove headed in when Howlett was out of goal. Just before half-time McCulloch sent in a very good shot, which missed by inches. Half-time then came with the score 1—0 in favour of Calday.

After a few minutes the game was resumed, and at once assumed a very exciting aspect. Dalzell and Thomas (J.) played grand games, and the halves also did admirably. They completely held up the Calday attack. Yet, although we were continually in their half, we could not score. Ten minutes from the finish the game grew faster than ever. Cookson and Lunt played remarkably well, Cookson sending in perfect centres. Eight minutes off time the right winger centred, and a mêlée ensued in the Calday goal, in which Bell scored the equaliser amid a burst of cheering. Re-centring, the Institute were all over the Calday defence, but the shooting was vile. Wright was palpably off colour, and Couch was not much better. Bell, Lunt, and Cookson, however, were very smart, and their efforts deserved a better result. As it was the whistle blew with the score 1—1.

Several of our forwards showed a want of training, although the size of the ground no doubt affected their play. Yet the Institute should have won. The defence was grand, and with better finishing touches in the replay there ought not to be any doubt as to the result.

Both teams were dead tired when they left the field, and the hot and cold baths proved a great benefit. Several players, not knowing whether to take the hot bath or the cold bath first, took about half a dozen alternately in order not to take cold. The Institute players suffered greatly from cramp, and this affected their shooting powers, yet if systematic training had been carried on this fault would have been evaded.

## REPLAY OF SHIELD FINAL.

It was in splendid weather that this game was played on Friday, March 22nd. The team, which was the same as on Wednesday, lined up at 3-15, owing to the late arrival of two of our opponents. Institute team:—Howlett; Dalzell and J. Thomas; W. G. Thomas, Roberts, and McCulloch; Cookson, Lunt, Wright, Couch, and Bell. Calday Grange:—McIntyre; Clarke, Birch; Bell, Winter, Massey; Machattie, Bozoli, Cosgrove, Mason, Edsworth.

Roberts won the toss again, and Calday kicked off against a brilliant sun. Great enthusiasm was shown by the spectators from the start. The Institute pressed, but were repulsed by the Calday backs. Bozoli, who was playing right inside, obtained possession, but was immediately robbed by McCulloch, and the Institute left wing got away with the ball, and Bell put in a well-judged shot, and Wright, fastening on the ball, beat the goalkeeper with a pretty shot, followed by a roar of applause from the Institute supporters. Re-centring, the Institute again pressed, and some neat play ensued between Cookson and Lunt, which resulted in Cookson centring, but the Calday back relieved. Mid-field play followed, and ten minutes from the interval Cosgrove ran through in brilliant fashion, and, shooting with tremendous force, hit the crossbar, and the ball, rebounding into play, was netted by Machattie. Howlett having absolutely no chance. Undismayed, the Institute pressed, and Wright nearly got through, but was stopped on the line by the Calday right back. Immediately after the whistle sounded for the interval. Half-time, 1—1.

On resuming the Institute at once took the ball into the enemy's quarters, and Cookson, after a fine sprint, centred to Wright, who again gave the Institute the lead. Re-starting, Calday again pressed, and after an effort Mason grazed the upright with a terrific shot. The game slackened considerably, the ball being too much on the line. However, Cosgrove ran down, but Roberts, who had been playing a steady game, and was throughout very clever with his head, dispossessed him, and the Institute again took the aggressive, which resulted in Lunt overrunning the ball. Soon after Cookson's leg gave way, and he retired to the barriers for five minutes. Our opponents then gave the Institute backs a lively time, and continued to do so till the whistle was blown for full time.

Thus the Shield again returned to the Institute, after a well-fought game. The team, on the whole, played a sterling game, and several of the forwards were infinitely better than on Wednesday, shooting being much more in evidence, the right wing especially being very good. W. G. Thomas acquitted himself very creditably, especially as his opponents were of superior weight. McCulloch, of course, was very safe, while the backs are the best that we have seen for some time in the Institute. Howlett effected some good clearances, and altogether the game was very enjoyable from the point of view of both spectators and players.

## Impressions of the Dramatic Entertainment.

SHAKESPEARE and Sheridan seem to vie with one another for the possession of the Institute "boards." Only a short time ago we were performing scenes from "The Rivals," and now we have had "St. Patrick's Day." I almost think the auxiliary title, "The Scheming Lieutenant," to be the better. It is a capital play, full of spirit and interest, and providing a wealth of opportunities for really good acting.

The writer hastened to the Institute Playhouse with a strangely new feeling. Instead of performing and helping to amuse the spectators, he himself was to be one of the amused spectators. I do not know which is the more enjoyable—possibly the former.

On entering the Hall we paused, partly because of an obstructing rope, but chiefly on account of the strange scene that met our eyes. Where the stage used to be—that stage on which we had acted "The Rivals" in yellow stockings and bathed in violet light!—here was a transformation startling to behold. Our stage had sprung into shape and form, and had taken to itself wings and a curtain. We awaited the raising of this curtain with much interest. When at last it was raised our expectations were more than fulfilled. Instead of gazing on the almost too familiar—I say it with all reverence—portraits of renowned ancestors, we had unfolded before us a panorama of great depth and beauty. We were looking out across the Connemara country, over a most realistic stone wall. Realistic?—Nay, real. The effect of the most ingenious headlights and this splendid scene was truly wonderful.

After thanking the company for coming in such good numbers, the Head proceeded to give us an outline of the play, and informed us that the stage, &c., was the work of the boys—of course, under the able direction of the Head and Mr. Bailey. The beautiful scenic effects were the work of Mr. Brierley, so that everything except the costumes was home-made. We ought indeed to be proud of a school that has such splendid resources, and, what is more, is so capable of making use of them.

After such an introduction we settled down to enjoy a good evening.

The play was full of interest from first to last. The different and in some cases difficult parts were interpreted with great insight and truth. Every word was attended to with intense interest by the audience—a sure test of the excellence of the performance.

And now a few words regarding the *dramatis personae*. Our distinguished friend Colour-Sergeant Macpherson excelled himself as Sergeant Trounce—dear Sergeant Trounce, with his

. . . . . eye like Mars  
To threaten and command.

He handled his soldiers with the precision and authority of an old campaigner. The soldiers made a very smart set-off to the rest of the play.

Our beautiful and silent Virgilia has blossomed out into a decidedly talkative middle-aged lady of the eighteenth century. Mrs. Bridget Credulous was remarkably good. The thousand and one little vagaries that are associated with the "weaker sex" were acted to perfection. Whittington makes a first-rate girl. Her husband, Mr. Justice Credulous, found a most successful interpreter in Sibbitt. The dignified "Representative of his Majesty" was very funny—he got so excited and was such a hopeless match for the "scheming lieutenant." One of the funniest scenes is that in which the Justice learns that he has been poisoned; his evident terror, and the consoling assurances of his wife of his certain death,

Consider, my life, how soon you will be dead!

the appearance of the Lieutenant; his dog latin: the final dénouement, and the happy ending.

Kininmonth played the part of the scheming lieutenant with great humour and ability. Lieutenant O'Connor, *alias* Humphrey Hum, *alias* the German Doctor, necessarily constituted the life of the play. He was the hero, and fully earned his "beautiful Lauretta."

Lauretta calls for a word of commendation. She really was most charming, although a little awkward at times; yet that was hardly noticeable.

Of course, Doctor Rosy was good. Honner was fully alive to the absurdities of the part. His indulgence in snuff and in mournful reminders of the excellence of his "poor dear Dolly" were all most entertaining. He was the guardian genius of the plot—the go-between—the interpreter. It was a capital performance.

It was most encouraging to see the fresh faces in the cast: it augurs well for the future success of these performances. The spirit is not confined to one generation of schoolboys, but remains constant, though different generations grow up and pass through the School.

The evening was thoroughly enjoyable, and was evidently fully appreciated by all present. Our very best thanks are due to the Head Boy, P. F. Herbert, who so ably presided at the piano; to the scene shifters, and to Mr. and Mrs. Weisse for the kindly help and interest that they have always shown in our dramatic performances.

As Dr. Rosy fitly says—

This is all as it should be.

I think these performances, in conjunction with the Choral Society, are a great force in the direction of that *esprit de corps* which is the great essential of all public schools like the Liverpool Institute. May that spirit thrive and flourish, and the School will have no cause to fear the future.

W. E. GIBBS.

## MUSIC.

ON Monday evening, January 28th, the School was favoured with a novelty in the way of lectures. Mr. Donald F. Tovey, whom we were both proud and happy to see amongst us once more, favoured us with an Historical Pianoforte Recital, prefacing each of his selections by explanatory notes, which rendered the programme both highly instructive and all the more interesting. A small charge to parents and friends was made for admission: but the lecturer, with his accustomed generosity and—shall we say it?—with the disregard for all things monetary of the true genius, insisted on handing over all the proceeds to the School Jamaica Disaster Fund: which gift, coupled with what was realised on the programmes—sold, at Mr. Weisse's instigation, at an optional price—helped considerably to swell the School's contribution.

May we incidentally offer Mr. Tovey our most hearty congratulations on the splendid reception of his new Pianoforte Concerto in D Major, performed for the first time by Dr. Richter's orchestra in London some few weeks ago. It is not given to us every day to see in the flesh a real composer, much less one of Mr. Tovey's seriousness of aim, high purpose, and epoch-making technique; in the future, therefore, may it be our pride to look back to this evening, and remember whom we had in our midst.

After a few preliminary remarks, made with the aim of drawing the School's attention to the varied beauties of varied Form, Mr. Tovey played for us, with his own firmness and clearness of touch, the ever-welcome First Prelude and Fugue (I., C Major) of Bach, and then two exquisite rippling Sonatas—so quaintly old-world in style—by Scarlatti. Next the C Minor Fantasia of Mozart, and, what appealed most of all, perhaps, to the School, Beethoven's celebrated Rondo a Capriccio (*Wuth über den verlorenen Groschen*). This was received with great applause, which was redoubled at the conclusion of Schubert's divine Impromptu in A flat, the technical difficulties of which seemed to vanish under Mr. Tovey's fingers. After two Polonaises, in diverse styles, by Chopin, and an Intermezzo and Rhapsody by that master to whose work Mr. Tovey's can best be likened—Brahms—the concert was brought to an end in a most delightful and unexpected way. Mr. Weisse announced that Mr. Tovey would give us an improvisation of any theme we cared to choose. The Trio from the "May Queen" was suggested, and for ten minutes we were entranced; never had that simple air seemed so deep to us, so many-sided, so many-coloured. With regret we heard the last lingering chords die away, and then the spontaneous thanks of the School—a great burst of cheering—broke up the evening.

Mr. Tovey knows well the gratitude we feel; we can only once more thank him most heartily, and wish, in that picturesque Irishism, with no reflection on his execution, "more power to his elbow."

On Tuesday afternoon, the 12th of March, we were surprised and delighted by a visit from Miss Mary Peddle, who has won such a reputation in true musical circles. Miss Peddle, who was singing at a Chamber Concert in Liverpool that evening, had kindly arranged to hold her final rehearsal in the Hall, with Dr. Pollitt, the well-known organist of the Church of the Blind, as accompanist. On Mr. Weisse's suggesting that the School might be present, Miss Peddle kindly acquiesced, and for over an hour the dull cares of school were banished by the magic of Miss Peddle's voice.

We are not without experience in such matters, and we have no hesitation in asserting that seldom, if ever, have we heard an artiste who possesses at the same time such a glorious contralto voice and such deep artistic feeling. Miss Peddle's enunciation is really beautiful, equal, in our opinion, to that of any artiste on the concert platform; and her choice of songs gave ample evidence of the sincerity of her art, ranging as it did from "Selve amiche," by Galuppi, through Scarlatti, Gluck, Händel, Beethoven, Schubert, to Schumann, and ending with a quaint old English Gipsy song.

It would be invidious to discriminate between the songs—all of which were listened to with rapt attention, and all heartily applauded—but perhaps those which gave most pleasure to the School were "Up the dreadful steep," by Händel, and the "Marienwürmchen" of Schumann.

May we wish for Miss Peddle, whom we most heartily thank for the great pleasure she afforded us, that her reception may always be as enthusiastic as that she was accorded by the School?

## Liverpool Institute Old Boys' Literary Society.

NOVEMBER, 1906, TO JANUARY, 1907, MEETINGS.

THIS Society was inaugurated on the 21st of November, 1906, and on that evening Mr. H. V. Weisse delivered his Presidential Address, and afterwards started a debate on the paradoxical question "Is the Electric Telegraph a Beneficent Factor in the World?"

In the course of his opening address, he said he felt very strongly that that evening's meeting was the first sign of vitality that had been shown in the Old Boys' Association. They had met there with no inducement whatever, and he was glad that the Society would include in its programme literature in its widest sense. At Oxford he had learnt little or nothing; indeed, he could give Oxford very little credit for anything except one thing, and that was breaking the rules by having seven or eight fellow-students in his rooms every evening discussing until the early hours of the morning both possible and improbable subjects. The only drawback was that the matters discussed had, in many cases, been settled and disposed of years before.

Coming to some of the functions of such a Society as he had the honour to inaugurate that evening, he said, first and foremost, it ought to cultivate literature in its best form by a communion with the best books. It is not enough to tell one another the title of the books read, but it is of importance to discuss what has been read, and exchange thoughts on things not yet in books. Then, of course, in second importance, comes the facility of speech which arises from one's having to formulate one's notions in a clear and intelligent way. Times often arise when one is compelled to speak extempore, and here comes the benefit of the ready tongue, fostered by clear thinking and speaking. It is an extremely valuable means of education, too; and, lastly, the community of feeling which exists between the members of a Society like this, whose one aim is one another's good, is of paramount importance, and helps to surmount at least some of the obstacles of life's path.

Passing on to the subject for debate, Mr. Weisse said he was entirely in sympathy with the motion that "This House is of opinion that

"THE INVENTION OF THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH HAS BEEN DISASTROUS TO MANKIND."

I take it, he said, as a debateable subject. I know quite well the arguments that will instantly be brought against me. They cover, too, a very large range of ground. The summoning to a dying relative's bedside was a means of disorganising one's whole arrangements, when it may be entirely unnecessary. These messages by electric telegraph either arrive long before the persons related to the sufferer are needed or too late, and they allow of a very shallow display of one's emotions. And then, in politics, sport, and commerce the electric telegraph plays its part. The man of commerce who can pay the longest price for a cable to America and back can juggle with the markets to his heart's content. The electric telegraph is undoubtedly under certain conditions a benefit. It is a gain to know at 6 p.m. what takes place 5,000 miles away at 4 p.m.: but one will find in ninety-nine cases out of the hundred where rapid communication of news exists there also is present corruption in some form.

On concluding his argument for the telegraph, the President was challenged by Mr. G. S. Veitch, who, in a rather humorous speech, showed that many evils which had been attributed to the electric telegraph were entirely dependent on economic, social, and many other causes. Messrs. Nathan and Hargreaves then opposed the motion on minor points, but they afforded material for Messrs. Harris and Goodwill to retaliate with, and the last-mentioned gentleman gave a very convincing argument in support of the challengers of the motion.

Mr. Hickinbotham then spoke, and in a very spirited oration crippled the arguments for the motion by instancing the use to which the telegraph had been put in the recent San Francisco

disaster. Personally he was very grateful to the electric telegraph, for he owed some important changes in his life to it.

Mr. Weisse now replied to his critics, and on the taking of the votes the motion was defeated by a majority of 9 votes.

The second meeting of the Society was held at the School on December 5th, 1906, and was under the chairmanship of Mr. Veitch.

Mr. H. A. Lee, who opened the discussion on the then rather momentous question of

#### "SHOULD THE HOUSE OF LORDS BE ABOLISHED?"

said there was no justice in the present constitution of the House, which was entirely out of sympathy with the times. What we wanted was an Upper House with more intelligence. It seemed very absurd, because the father had been a legislator, the son would also possess the essential qualities necessary for legislature. There was only one other Chamber of its kind in Europe, and that was constituted on the property qualification basis. The attendance, too, at the House of Lords was very small, and on an Opposition Bill coming up weeks and months were spent discussing it, so that the session might close with the Bill unpassed. However, if there is to be a Second House, let it be constituted of people who have proved themselves to be not only good advisers, but good politicians, and men of sound sense as well. In conclusion, there have been such a number of suggestions for reforming the Second House, more or less useful, but the ideal Second House should be composed of the best of both parties.

Messrs. Nathan, H. Book, and A. R. Book then spoke in support of the motion, the last-mentioned gentleman saying that he did not approve of the Commons electing the Second House. There should be some check on the Lower House, but the present House of Lords was woefully out of date.

The champions of the House of Lords now spoke, and Messrs. Hickinbotham, Parkes, and Cowan, in spirited speeches, supported the much-abused Second House.

Mr. Lee now rose to reply, and, in a strong speech, combated all his opponents' arguments. In spite of all the numerous suggestions for improvements, he still adhered to his first idea that the Second Chamber should be composed of the best of both parties. In conclusion, he said that meeting had to decide—and in a small way would give a representative decision of what he hoped the whole nation would give when asked the same question—the fate of the House of Lords.

The Chairman then put the motion to the meeting, and the motion was lost by 5 votes. Votes of thanks to Mr. Veitch and Mr. Lee closed the meeting.

On 30th January, 1907, owing to a misunderstanding with the School authorities, we would have been compelled to have an open-

air meeting had not Mr. Tiffen kindly allowed us to use his rooms for our meeting. The subject for the evening was a paper by Mr. G. S. Veitch, on

#### H. G. WELLS' "IN THE DAYS OF THE COMET."

An abridgment of the paper is given below.

Mr. Wells illustrates that paradox of modern society in which men are elevated to high and intellectual culture only to be deprived of satisfying its demands. Mr. Wells was a child of poverty, and his abnormal mental development made him sensible of its pressure. After gaining a scholarship at the London College of Science he became one of the tutors to the University Correspondence College. Our author shows a great power of projecting his mind beyond the condition of the moment. His new worlds have reality. "In the Days of the Comet" is particularly little burdened with the mere machinery of invention. It succeeds by mental and moral chastity, by the penetrative vision and convincing analysis of what it reveals. The mechanism matters little. The plot is simple. The atmosphere of a comet in part commingles with that of the earth. There is an hour or two of anasthesia, and from it awaken for the first time in the earth's history some sane and sensible creatures, no longer, indeed, animals, but men. In the light of this higher reason he examines the conditions of life before the "change," and indicates how the earth took on a new and brighter life. The new atmosphere made men seize on truth wherever it was propounded. Mr. Balfour could no longer reject sound sense because it emanated from "C. B.," nor could Mr. Redmond spurn measures of redress because they were fathered by Lord Rosebery or Mr. Walter Long. Mr. Wells has no mercy for the things that pass away under the change. The home—that peculiar Teutonic monstrosity, for which he always shows unmitigated contempt—is abolished in favour of public dwellings. It is a Spartan system without any of the rigour. There is no more of the old, unreasonable system of people starving to death for want of bread in India whilst unsaleable wheat was being burned in the grain lands of America. Education was reformed. Of course, it has been reformed since the days of Euclid, or perhaps even before. This reform substituted real education, as they all do, for the obsolete process of covering up. And, says Mr. Wells, it can all be done so easily. A love story cuts across the book, and after the "change" there is a new sort of love. It is possible to have more than one lover. Religion, too, is changed. The hero describes his mother's religion as having no touch with reality, but as smelling of lavender. Society, the industrialism of the potter, the young lord, the Press, war, and many other subjects receive treatment at Mr. Wells' hands, and all are dealt with by a master hand at description.

The book admits, more or less, of three criticisms. Firstly, we have a professed scientist, an avowed evolutionist, plunging into the unseen. Is he consistent? Secondly, his cheerful acceptance of a policy of beginning all over again seems to be a revival of a

hoary error. The maxim of the clean sweep is the favourite and most disastrous of all revolutionists. Lastly, the book might be held to preach pessimism. Ought not the mission of the scientist to be one of hope? My summer vacation was spent in the Yorkshire hills. As from the vantage of the heights I looked down upon the sleeping town it always seemed to be droning "The day after to-morrow." It has been doing that for fifty years or more, and if you go down and investigate you will find it redolent of "The day before yesterday." That is our own attitude. Mr. Wells has made it his business to waft the odium of the day before yesterday into painful proximity to us, and tries to make us realise what a nauseous and unpleasant thing it is. He is not merely a Radical. His demands are not met by any political programme, or his problems solved by the patent cure-all pills of any party. His insight carries us far beyond every scheme of benevolent revolution which the most conservative of us in our wisest moments in the early parts of the night confides to the inviolate secrecy of his pillow, only that we may instance the least-remembered of our dreams in the swift race to oblivion.

On the conclusion of the paper, which held us all attentive for about an hour, a very interesting discussion on the book, author, and characters took place, many knotty points being satisfactorily settled.

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At a meeting of the Committee of the Association on the 8th of February it was directed that the Fifth and Sixth Forms in each School should be invited to become members of the Old Boys' Literary Society.

To them we extend a most hearty welcome, and hope they will do all they can to forge an inviolable link between the Old Boys' Association and our old School—the Liverpool Institute.

C. D. W.

(Reports of the February and March meetings will appear in our next issue.)

### Editorial Notices.

The Editors desire to express their thanks to the Editors of the *Portcullis*, the magazine of the Emmanuel School, Wandsworth, for permission readily granted to publish the first verse of a poem entitled "Whom the Gods Love," which originally appeared in their columns; and to the Editors of the *Olarian*, through which magazine the poem was brought to our notice.

We have pleasure in acknowledging the following contemporaries:—  
*Sphinx* (3), *Birkonian*, *King Edward's School Magazine*, *Flymothian*, *Fettesian*, *Savilian*, *Wallascyan*, *Kelly College Chronicle*, *Yellow Dragon* (2), *The Gridiron* (Crewe County School Magazine), *Esmeduna* (2), *The Olarian*, and *The Mercers' School Magazine*.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of one year's subscription from J. G. McCulloch.

