

LIVERPOOL
INSTITUTE SCHOOLS
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PRICE 1D.

BUT little worthy of comment has happened since our last issue. The Easter holidays have come and gone, and the Science and Art Examinations are close upon us, and the upper forms of both schools are nerving themselves for the dreaded and all-too near Oxford. The clubs generally are in a fairly-prosperous condition, except the Cricket Club, about which we have heard a rumour which so scandalised us that we have considered it worthy of a place in "Chat on the Corridor," where you will find it dealt with at what length it deserves. We heard reports of a Lawn Tennis Club, a short time ago, but they seem to have died a natural death, and Tennis, as far as the Liverpool Institute is concerned, appears to be an imaginary quantity. As if to compensate for the lack of energy in Cricket and Tennis, this year will witness the first Athletic Sports of the School, and we trust that every boy will recollect that its success depends to a considerable extent upon his own individual efforts and co-operation. The cap, about which our headmaster has had so much trouble, has at last been fixed. It is an ordinary blue cricket cap—the one to be worn by the High School having a single red ring round it; the Commercial one two rings. After so much bother has been caused to Mr. Hughes about it, it is only right that everyone should wear it, whether suiting his peculiar form of beauty or not. The present term, as everyone is well aware, is the most trying of all to the average Institutionian, for, not only do the proximity of the examinations and the hot weather make him cross, but he is engaged in a dreadful struggle to "pull off" a prize of some description, or, at least,

a certificate—a feat which none knows better than he will occasion paterfamilias to beam in a genial and cheery way, and even to supplement the beaming process by some more tangible evidence of his satisfaction. But it is, in our opinion, upon the masters and not upon the pupils that the bulk of the hard work falls, and we sincerely hope that every boy will remember, and do all he can to lighten their work. As will be seen from our signature this month, the old order has once again changed. We cannot, in reason, comment upon that circumstance here, and will conclude with the hope that the change may prove satisfactory to all.

F. WOLDE,
H. C. HILTON, } EDITORS.

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L. I. L. D. S.

March 27th.—A meeting was held on this date, J. B. Dale in the chair. It was unanimously resolved that the suggestion of the Headmaster of performing certain scenes from “Much Ado about Nothing” should be adopted. The resignation of A. J. Ewart, one of the editors of the *Magazine*, was announced. After some discussion it was determined that Wolde should be sole editor, with Galley for the High School, and Hilton for the Commercial, as sub-editors. A. J. Ewart then read a paper on “The Rise of the Middle Classes.” He dealt with (i) the past, (ii.) the present, (iii.) the future of the Middle Classes. Under the first head he showed that there were originally no Middle Classes, the ancient Romans, for example, being divided only into nobles and plebeians, and traced the history of the Middle Class in England from its formation to the Tudor period. Under the second head he gave an interesting account of classes and parties at the present day. The concluding portion of the paper was devoted to an elaborate and highly ingenious scheme of Socialism, to which the speaker believed we were advancing. Ewart's views on this subject were most extreme, and the changes he proposed to introduce were of a highly revolutionary character. A short discussion then took place, the speakers being Long, Braham, and Dale. Ewart then briefly replied.

A meeting was held on April 1st, on which occasion Mr. Hughes occupied the chair. There attended, in addition to Mr. Hughes, Mr. Ewart, Mr. Owen, Mr. Cowan, and Mr. Clarke; and the following old boys—Phillips, Millard, Armstrong, Brown, Barnett, and A. J. Ewart. The chairman, in a short speech, expressed the pleasure he felt at being present at the meeting. V. C. H. Millard, of S. Catherine's College, Cambridge, one of the founders of the society, then read a paper on “The Literature of Epigrams.” He commenced his remarks by giving a history of the etymology and meaning of the word “epigram.” He then instanced different methods of classification, and quoted numerous examples. He treated of the origin of epigrams in a very able manner, and also of the value of this class of literature. He contrasted Greek and Latin epigrams, and gave the palm for general superiority to the former, stating that they seldom, if ever, lacked refinement. Examples were cited of both ancient and modern epigrams, among others, from Martial, Cahillus, Sir Thomas More, Owen, Cowper, and Coleridge. Many of these were of a very humorous character, and the audience was continually kept in a state of laughter. In conclusion, the essayist gave some very scholarly and

interesting criticisms on epigrams in general, and gave it as his opinion that politicians, clergy, and others, would do well to curb their usual prolixity, and adopt the terse style of epigrams in preference.

Some discussion then took place, the speakers being Armstrong, Phillips, Barnett, Long, Dale, and A. J. Ewart. The paper was very favourably criticised, and the speakers were also of opinion that the Society owed a debt of gratitude to the Chairman and other masters for attending, Millard then replied. The Hon. Secretary announced that, as Galley had resigned the sub-editorship of the *Magazine*, Wolde and Hilton were now sole editors. The meeting subsequently adjourned.

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CHAT ON THE CORRIDOR.

TO those of us who knew him the sight of Sampson striding into Mr. Owen's room the other morning came as a pleasant surprise. How big, and well, and strong he looked for all his mathematical genius! Why, it gave us quite a thrill of pride to think that we belonged to a school which had produced such a magnificent creature. Would there were more like him now-a-days is our heartfelt cry.

It is with considerable pleasure that we welcome two more boys from “sunnier climes.” If they are in any way like our friends Ahmad and Rasul they will, indeed, be acquisitions. We are perfectly sure that everyone will remember that they are strangers, in a strange land, and that Yonus and Halim will carry away none but pleasant remembrances of England and English boys.

REALLY the debate on April 1st left nothing to be desired, either in point of numbers or of interest. Millard's paper was excellent, as were the speeches that followed. The old question of Classics *versus* Mathematics was raised by Long, and in the presence of such classical enthusiasts as the essayist and Barnett, but little was said for mathematics. Ewart very sensibly pointed out how much English literature was neglected at the present day, and thanked Millard for having, practically, introduced him to a new and engrossing study, viz., that of English epigrams. It was quite refreshing to hear Armstrong and Phillips again, after so long a separation; one was tempted to say with Virgil, “Quibus Hector ab oris expectate venis!” The attendance was eminently satisfactory, and as Long neatly put it, “Not even in the palmy days of Armstrong's secretaryship was such an attendance usual.”

WHILE we are on the subject of the Society non-members will forgive us if we devote one more paragraph to it. According to the letters which appeared from time to time in last year's magazine, the Society would go to smash, utterly and irretrievably, no order would be kept, and a state of squabbling and bickering would be general, after Burn had left. Let the gentlemen who penned those pessimistic letters please note the following facts:—Dale has proved a capital chairman, Ewart an excellent vice; the attendance has been, we venture to think, considerably above the average; the speeches have been, on the whole, capital, much rising talent having been discovered; while last, but by no means least, the order preserved would be a model to the City Council. In the face of such a bright present, may we not prophesy an equally hopeful future?

ALTHOUGH the chief place in the *Magazine* is devoted to matter of a purely local character, yet, really fine original contributions would be most acceptable. There *must* be some literary ability in the school, and why, O Poet or youthful Novelist, shouldn't the fruit of your intellect appear in the pages of this high-class pennyworth? We are inclined to the belief that some schoolfellow could wax

eloquent over such a theme as "The Joys of Early Rising," "A Wednesday Afternoon with my Virgil" or "Todhunter, and what I think of him." Certainly the more youthful portion of the school consume, it appears, such a quantity of highly-coloured (inside and out) fiction, that we think it a great pity that such stores of romance should be lost to the general public.

We have received a copy of *The Atom*, the journal of the South Shields High School. It is a capital little paper of eight pages, and contains a feature, which will be a new idea to many of our readers, namely, that of advertising various things in connection with the school, such as "A Bicycle for Sale," etc. Its cost is three times that of the *Institute Magazine*, although we do not think it contains so much matter.

It seems that last month we made one or two slips, for which we are heartily sorry. Thus we wrote (in connection with the Rambling Club) Mr. W. J. Reed, for Mr. A. J. Reed. This was a purely accidental mistake, as we had fully intended to write Mr. A. J. Reed's name; we repeat we are very sorry, and beg to apologise to him as well as to G. F. Galley, whose name we managed to twist into Gelby.

THE rumour which we have mentioned re the Cricket Club is simply, that it appears likely that there will be *no High School Club at all*. Of course we are aware that before going to press some arrangement may have been arrived at, which will mend matters; but, all the same, it seems a scandalous thing to us that, at so late a date as this, on which we are writing, out of a school of 400 boys, sufficient material cannot be got to form a respectable club. Now, High Schoolers, how's this? Don't you think you're showing a shameful lack of *esprit de corps* in not joining? Hurry up, at once, and back up the old school, and shew us what you're made of.

It is, as we said, to be hoped that the Debating Society's decision regarding the Editorship will give general satisfaction. The only Commercial Editor there has ever been was, as far as we can recollect, R. Pride, who wielded the "puissant pen" in conjunction with two others during the later part of 1888; and that movement was a decided success. We trust, we repeat, that the appointment of the head-boy of the commercial school will be a like success, and that the *Magazine* will be even more generally supported than under Ewart's able command.

ON Wednesday, April 22, a meeting of both schools was held in the Lecture Hall. The Headmaster made a short speech. In the course of his remarks he said that as it was the last day of his first term among us, he had called the whole school together. He wished too to bid every boy who was about to leave God speed on his way through life. He referred briefly to the events of the term, commenting upon improvement in punctuality. After having touched upon various other matters, and, having announced the Debating Society's entertainment and the Athletic Sports, he dismissed the meeting.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL SWIMMING CLUB.

THE meeting of the Commercial School Swimming Club was held in Mr. Bickerstaff's room on Monday, March 31st. After some discussion the colours of the Club were changed from black and white to blue and red. Wilson was re-elected secretary and treasurer, and the following members were elected to serve on the committee:—D. W. Wilson, R. Jones, T. A. Fraser, W. C. Millington, T. Martin, and J. R. Taylor.

On Wednesday, April 2nd, the contest for the captaincies took place, and after a good race the successful competitors were W. C. Millington, T. Martin, H. C. Copp, and J. R. Corless. The first practice took place at Cornwallis Street Baths on Friday, April 18th, under the superintendence of Mr. Bickerstaff, 57

members being present. The numerical strength of the Club is now 105 members. The objects of the Club are to teach and encourage the art of swimming, the first ten minutes of each practice being devoted to that purpose.

HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING CLUB.

At a meeting of the above Club, held on April 3rd, the following officers were elected for the ensuing season:—President, Mr. Hughes; vice-presidents, A. M. Kennedy, M.A., E. B. Ewart, B.A., A. Brown, Esq., D. Eaves, Esq.; captain, F. E. Marshall; D. Eaves, Esq., secretary and treasurer; committee, A. M. Ker, F. J. Macphail, J. E. Gething, G. F. Littler, N. Vickess, S. E. Davies. Swimming matches, it is hoped, will be arranged between Liverpool College (V.S. and M.S.) and Liverpool Commercial Swimming Clubs. A great many members have already joined, and prizes and medals will be offered for competition.

CHORAL SOCIETY.

THE first practice of the United Choral Societies (High and Commercial) took place on the 15th, when nearly 80 members and several masters assembled in the Lecture Hall. Mr. A. Hughes, the president and conductor of the Society, has selected for practice "The Lay of the Bell"—a work of some importance by Romberg, which affords full scope for a great variety of talent of which the Society has a good supply. The first chorus was attacked, and considering the music was entirely new to all the members some progress was made. With such numerical strength good results should be the outcome, but these are only to be attained by the regular attendance of every member at each practice; for without regularity of attendance progress will be slow and the beneficial influence of the Society will be crippled.

Tuesday 22nd, the usual practice was held and marked progress was made. The members shewed a greater acquaintance with the music, and Roberts varied the proceedings by singing two bass solos. At the close of the meeting several members were requested to practice the solos and duets. Mr. Hughes conducted.

ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.

PRACTICE during the month has been continued without any great hitch, and, though on some few occasions the absence of some powerful arm has been felt, a method has now been put into shape for keeping in harness, those facile knights of the bow, who feel an occasional desire to shirk a rehearsal; so that it is expected the full and mighty power of the catgut can be "twined on" at all future meetings. We are informed the Society *wants bass* and that with two 'cellos and two violas a fair show can be made. For this, however, that usual obstacle, lack of *lucre*, must be overcome, and already we believe, it is suggested to send round the cap. We hope the move may be successful, for it will be rather too regretful to allow such a Society either to exist in a state of poverty, or to "die in the attempt to live." We wish the Orchestra every success and that assistance it so much merits.

RAMBLING CLUB.

UNFORTUNATELY, I have not much to write about the above this month. On April 20th, arrangements having been previously made for an excursion to Eastham, the Ramblers started by the two o'clock boat to New Ferry, and from there walked along the shore, directed by one of the party, reaching Eastham at about 3.45 p.m. The ship-canal was then viewed, and subsequently walked back

through Eastham woods, catching the five o'clock boat home. The weather was everything which could be wished, but the party was small, presumably because of the Easter holidays.

THE next ramble, all being well, will be to Sefton church, a very fine old structure, dating from the 15th century. By the time this magazine is printed the excursion will have been made, but I hope to chronicle it for your next issue.

RAMBLER.

AT BIDSTON.

OF course, every boy in the First Class will know by the heading to what I refer, and even should the ensuing description prove incapable of conveying to his mind any clearer ideas on the subject, yet for the benefit (doubtful) of those who were not in the party a short description of it is attempted. The writer is fully aware that there are many boys in that class who could favour us with a full and lucid account of it, but as this talent has failed to offer itself for the task, it has devolved upon the present scribbler. On the day proposed for starting the weather was everything to be desired, and although earlier in the year than the previous visit yet the weather, if possible, seemed to have taken a special liking for us, and we were treated by it with great mercy—such as seldom happens pleasure friends. It was arranged to start by the two o'clock boat from the landing-stage and accordingly, we all assembled there—some no doubt, having had a terrible scramble to be in time. These superhuman efforts could have been dispensed with as Mr. Flett's consideration again came to the rescue in the shape of his appearing some ten minutes behind the time appointed. After this the embarkation took place, and on arriving at Birkenhead, we found that none of our noble fellows had succumbed to that terrible sea-sickness. This tended to screw our courage to the tension suitable for a long walk, but it was communicated to us that the tram was to be taken, and thus our sufferings greatly alleviated. On dismounting from this vehicle we found ourselves pretty near the place of which we sought, and allowed ourselves, therefore, a little recreation in the shape of football. Soon, however, our escorts in the shape of Mr. Flett and Mr. Cowan arrived, and we gained admittance to the Observatory. We were most graciously instructed in the nicety of mechanical arrangement suitable for taking astronomical observations, and were then taken to see the "equatorial." After gazing at this for some time with a feeling of awe we ventured a little closer to it and saw the micrometer wires in the eye-piece. When this had been performed satisfactorily we visited the transit instrument. This did not come up to our expectations, and it was considerably smaller and insignificant looking compared with its neighbour. There remained now little to see, excepting those complicated arrangements for ensuring accurate time, and this being gone through, we once more gained the open air. The party here divided, but all met together at Leasowe. After a long trudge over the sand, during which frequent examples were given of the first coming last, we reached New Brighton, and thence took boat for the good old city, after spending a most enjoyable afternoon. Readers will kindly excuse me for cutting the narrative so short, as the only reasons for doing so are want of talent and space. We are all much indebted to Mr. Flett, for his trouble, and also to Mr. Cowan, for his attendance.

THE ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT OF THE L.I.L.D.S.

ON Wednesday, 30th April, the Lecture Hall was filled by a large audience which assembled to be present at the fourth annual Concert and Dramatic Performance, with which the Debating Society closes its Session. During the present session the Society has made many advances, and not one of the least is the one made last week. Hitherto, it has been usual to hold the Entertainment in Mr. Owen's Room; but as each time it was filled to its utmost capacity, and it

being known that many more would have come if it had been possible to issue more tickets, the Society ventured to ask for the use of the Lecture Hall. Nor were they disappointed in their expectations, as was seen on Wednesday. The Entertainment as usual was divided into a concert followed by a dramatic performance. In this respect (if in no other) is the Society conservative. Changes were suggested, but none met with general approval; and it was considered that nothing better could be done than was done in previous years.

Coming to details, the concert as a whole was very good, and feelings of pleasure were freely expressed by those present. The Society has good reason to be gratified that, by the aid of Mr. Hughes, such an excellent purely amateur concert was arranged. It is the first time that we have had the pleasure of hearing Miss Hughes play, but we hope it will not be the last. Both the violin solos were highly appreciated by the audience, as was exhibited in a very marked manner. Miss Raleigh is an excellent singer, and rendered well both the songs against her name—the second one especially calling for note. Mr. Book is always sure of a hearty welcome, and—we hope our meaning will not be misunderstood—of a still heartier dismissal which usually induces him to return. "The Wolf" was rendered in fine form and voice, but it is a matter for regret that through his labours earlier in the day, hoarseness manifested itself during the second song. "My Love's an Arbutus" which Mr. Book gave in response to the *encores*, is an extremely pretty song, and it may be interesting to know was taken from an Irish source, and harmonised by Villiers Stanford. It is impossible to find fault with Zagury's execution; but the pieces selected were somewhat too classical. Mr. Broadfield was unfortunately not heard to the best advantage; still the songs were both creditably rendered. One of the best features of the programme was undoubtedly the items which stood against the names of Francis, Moore, and Evans. It was a totally new departure to have boys of the school singing at the annual concert, but we are sure that as it is one of the results of the formation of a Choral Society so, so long as that Society exists, and music is cultivated at the Institute which there is every prospect of being more and more done, the boys of the school will always find a place in the programme. "Punchinello" is a pretty song and was well given by Francis, but his voice was scarcely strong enough for the large hall. "Sigh no more, Ladies," which he, as Balthazar, sang in the second part also calls for notice. And last, but by no means least, Moore and Evans. Of these two we can say nothing but praise, and especially the clear, rich fulness of the latter's voice, completely enraptured the assemblage. We must not leave this part of our subject without mentioning the kindness of Mr. Hughes who accompanied the soloists, thus once again showing his deep interest in all that concerns the Institute.

Concerning the Dramatic Performance, everyone agreed that it was an entire success. The various characters in the scenes selected from "Much ado about

Nothing" were well sustained by all who took part in the act. Shakespeare is always difficult to represent on the stage, but the almost unanimous verdict of the spectators was that the difficulties had been most satisfactorily overcome. Where all the performers did so well it would perhaps be invidious to name any for special commendation above another, for as *Dogberry* assured us "comparisons are odorous." However, we may venture to say that Marshall as *Dogberry* left little to be desired, and appeared to have entered very fully into the spirit of the character which he represented. The same may be said of A. Marshall as *Verjes*. These two being the chief figures of the whole performance certainly most creditably carried out their really difficult parts.

Ker as *Benedict*, Dale as *Don Pedro*, and Long as *Claudio*, formed a very effective trio, to which may be added Williams as *Leonato*; Braham and Hargreaves as *The Watch*; and Hilton, Murray, and Francis also satisfactorily performed their parts. *Borachio* and *Conrade*, as presented by Ewart and Jones, well carried out their villainous part. Altogether the performance was an entire success, the costumes being a special feature, which was much admired. The only drawbacks were perhaps the want of scenery and the unduly long interval which elapsed between the first and second part. However, these are only very subordinate points; and, in conclusion, we can only say that the L.I.L.D.S. has every reason to be congratulated on its entertainment.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of the Liverpool Institute School Magazine.

DEAR SIRS,—Although unacquainted with the writer of the first letter about Association Football in your April issue, and, although an ardent "Rugbeite," yet I must protest against the way your "Rugbeite" correspondent has behaved. Not only is his letter illogical and prejudiced, but it is worse, it is ungentlemanly and even "caddish" in tone; and, further, I don't think you yourselves have behaved in a very proper manner in showing "An Association Player's" letter before publication. I will, however, trespass no longer on your valuable space, but will conclude in the hope that you will act upon this well-meant hint.—Yours, &c.,

A WELL-WISHER.

[We are indebted to "Well-Wisher" for his letter. If we hurt our correspondent's feelings, we regret it, and apologise most sincerely.—Eds. L.I.S.M.]

To the Editors of the Liverpool Institute School Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,—I wish to offer a suggestion which I hope will be taken up. I have been in the Institute some years, and in spite of a very enjoyable school-life I have found one or two things very burdensome. Among others was the fact that I had constantly to buy books, and it often struck me that if I could have met some one who was about to leave, I could purchase those books for which he had no further need, and thus save a not inconsiderable amount. Could not boys (who are about to leave) be put, through the medium of your columns, into communications with boys who will enter their classes, and thus a mutual benefit would result? However, this suggestion may be taken, I make it in all sincerity.—I remain, yours, &c.,

PENNY SAVED.

[By publishing letters in this column we by no means endorse opinions contained in them.—Eds. L.I.S.M.]