

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE SCHOOLS MAGAZINE.

Editors :—H. B. JENKINS, T. LODGE, E. G. TURNER.

Sub-Editor :—T. A. MORICE.

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The “*Libelle of Englyshe Polycye*”

NO department of English history has been less cultivated than that relating to the domestic and social affairs of the people during the Middle Ages. To trace the progress of a nation in the arts of social and domestic life is, strictly speaking, to trace its advance in civilisation, of which those events which form the staple of political narratives are but simple results. This pursuit, however, derives little aid from those who, in the past, chronicled the events of their own or of preceding times. If they possessed the requisite knowledge, they lacked the imagination to conceive that their everyday life would eventually become a subject of absorbing interest to posterity, for whose benefit they professed to write.

But, if historians fail to supply the desired information, other and ample sources are open to enquiry. Many account books have come down to us of the daily expenditure of individuals belonging to the higher ranks of society; there is a series of records of criminal trials which, besides illustrating the spirit, necessarily involve some detail of the most remarkable features in the internal condition of the people during successive ages; and, best of all, we have, in the form of songs and political ballads, a mass of reliable information, and a means of understanding the feelings of the men of that time, altogether unique.

And, amongst these political ballads, that which holds the first place, and furnishes an invaluable storehouse of information on economic ideas in the Middle Ages, is the little poem called the *Libelle of Englyshe Polycye*.

Its date is fixed by internal evidence, for it was written after the siege of Calais by the Duke of Burgundy and the invasion of his territory by the Duke of Gloucester, which latter event occupied the first half of the month of August, 1436, and while the Emperor Sigismund was still living, and, therefore, before his death in 1437.

Ffor Sigesmonde the grete emperoure
Whyche yet regneth,

says the second stanza of the “Prologe.”

From the tone in which the defeat of the Flemings is spoken of, we are justified in supposing that it was written soon after that event; and, in a marginal note, one MS. refers to a pirate, Hankyne Lyons by name, as “*archebere one the see*” (that is, “*arch-pirate on the sea*”) “*anno regis H. VI, xiiij^o*,” which ended 31st August, 1436.

It is hardly necessary to point out that "Libelle" (*libellus*) means a little book. The policy which it endeavours to enforce is that of keeping the supremacy of the seas, and might serve as a text to many politicians of the present day. Its author was almost certainly Adam du Molyns, Bishop of Chichester, murdered or lynched, for he seems to have had a kind of rough trial at Portsmouth early in 1450.

The poem breathes a spirit of national ambition and desire of power that stirs the blood. Its central idea is contained in the lines of the first verse of the prologue:—

Who saile the southe, northe, est, and west,
Cheryshe marchandyse, kepe thamyralté
That we bee maysteres of the narrowe see—

And it enforces this advice with all manner of arguments.

But as the writer proceeds in his argument that, on the keeping of the narrow seas depends all England's greatness, he reveals, clearly and minutely the most important facts about the trade of the time. As each country is mentioned, a catalogue is given of the products which make up the trade with England. For instance, when "Spayne" is dealt with in the "ffyrste chapitle," the "commoditys" are—

Fygues, raysyns, wyne bastarde, and dates,
And lycorys, Syvyle* oyle, and grayne,
Whyte Castelle sope, and wax, is not in vayne;
Iren, wolle, wadmole†, gotefel, kydefel‡ also,
Ffor poynt-makers fulle nedefulle be the ij;
Saffron, quiksilver, wheche arne Spayne's marchandy.

Scotland can only boast of a few commodities:

ffelles, hydes, and of wolle the ffleesse,

whilst "Pruse" (Germany), the Turks with their carracks, and especially the Venetians and the Florentines, have evidently a flourishing trade—

The grete galees of Venees and Fflorencie
Be wel ladene wyth thynges of complacence,
Alle spicerye and of grocers' ware,
Wyth swete wyne, alle manere of chaffare,
Apes and japes, and marmusettes taylede,
Niffes, trifyles, that litelle have availede,
And thynges wyth whiche they fetely blere our eye,
Wyth thynges not enduring that we bye;
Ffor moche of thys chaffare that is wastable
Mighte be forborne for dere and dyssevable.

There are also medicines brought in the "galees of Venees"—

skamonye
Turbit, enforbe, correcte, diagredie
Rubarde, sené.

(To be continued.)

* Seville. † A coarse woollen cloth.

‡ Gotefel and kydefel are leathers of different finenesses from kid-skins (fells), used by the makers of points (that is, of laces), to fasten hose.

Chat on the Corridor.

WE regret to have to announce that there was a slight falling-off in the sale of the last issue of the *Magazine*. We hope that the sale of the present issue will more than make up for it, as, though we have been gradually paying off the debt, it will be impossible to clear it off finally unless we have the support of everyone in the school.

The Debating Society has been in a flourishing condition during the first half of the term. The attendance at the meetings has been excellent, and many new members have shown great interest in it. It is to be regretted, however, that a certain section of those who attend seem only to come for the purpose of making a disturbance. The majority, however, we feel sure have a real interest in the society, and will do its best to put down these unruly ones.

We have to congratulate Mr. F. M. Baddeley on having passed with honour in the recent Civil Service Examination in Chinese held in Canton.

We are also pleased to state that T. Lodge has been awarded a Queen's Prize in the recent Science and Art Examination in Mechanics.

There is about to be published an English translation of the *Swerri Saga*, by the Rev. John Sefton, who translated the *Olaf Tryggvason Saga*. It is explained that "the *Swerri Saga* is one of the most important sources for the history of the Scandinavian North at the close of the twelfth and the beginning of the thirteenth century. Earlier of date in composition than *Helmskringla*, it follows it chronologically, *Helmskringla* being written down to the *Swerri Saga*." Mr. Sefton, who was for many years the head master of the Liverpool Institute, is now Reader in Icelandic in University College in this city.

Up to the present, the Association football teams have had an extremely successful season. The first eleven proper have played 7 games, and won 6 of these, scoring 38 goals against the 9 scored against them. The "A" team, composed of partly first and partly reserve, have played 5 matches, and won them all, scoring 22 goals against 11. The second eleven have won 3 matches out of 5 played, being defeated by St. Pancras Reserve and Caldý Grange Grammar School.

With regard to the Rugby football, it is to be regretted that so little interest is taken in it by the High School. The labours of the captain and secretary deserve far greater reward than they at present receive. Detailed accounts of the matches will be found elsewhere. Owing to the inclemency of the weather, four matches

have had to be scratched, and of the 6 played, we have won 2, and lost 4.

An account of the Swimming Competition will be found elsewhere.

The Affix, "-ation."

One morning, not so long ago, when walking to a station,
I thought upon a matter of some great signification.
In my opinion (p'raps I'm wrong), 'twill interest the nation;
But whether or not, I considered much about the ending, "-ation."

'Tis somewhat strange, but so it is, about the affix, "-ation,"
That it occurs in words of quite diverse signification,
But this is true, and if you'll hear without undue vexation,
I'll give you a few examples, just by way of illustration.

The City Councils are composed of Mayor and Corporation,
Whose places men do often seek with eager emulation,
Yet when so fixed, they feel indeed uneasy trepidation
At having to maintain in part the welfare of the nation.

Though great the striving for a post in law administration,
Men oft ignore how much is done 'mid petty aggravation.
And though when first they're made M.P., men feel much exaltation.
*It very often happens that they soon seek relaxation.

A schoolboy waits for a result with great anticipation,
And if he hears his own success cries out with jubilation;
For he has tried, perhaps, to pass a "stiff" examination,
And if he'd failed it would have been a source of tribulation.

But why go on? I've said enough about this ending "-ation,"
And you perhaps have listened with a very great temptation
To cry aloud "Have done! have done! with your long explanation;
We knew all that quite well enough, without this intimation."

But, anyhow, it is to me a pleasant occupation
To think upon the beauties of the language of this nation;
Yet if I tried to make a list of words that end in "-ation,"
I'm afraid I'd have to give it up when I came to "botheration."

H.E.

Literary and Debating Society.

THE first ordinary meeting of the society was held on Friday, September 30th. After the private business had been concluded, Mr. T. A. Morice rose to move that "Electric Trams are superior to those drawn by horses." He argued upon the advance

*A certain Member of Parliament was recently complained of because he did not attend the House for 12 months at a time.

in civilisation that it showed, and pointed out its probable cheapness in the future. He showed that they were less costly and faster, and on the whole easier to repair.

Mr. Turner opposed the motion. His chief arguments were—the cost of the trams about to run in Liverpool; the danger of accidents on a steep gradient; the noise and lights which would frighten horses; the unsightliness of the posts and wires.

Mr. Stoner left the question under discussion entirely to expatiate upon the advantages accruing from Debating Societies in general. Messrs. Haworth, Bell, Mackenzie, Glover, Unsworth and Millis supported Mr. Morice, and Mr. Lloyd spoke for Mr. Turner. The voting resulted:—Affirmative, 15; Negative, 6.

A meeting was held on October 7th, and Mr. Glover opened for the affirmative in the discussion—"Is the British race degenerating?" He asserted that it was not progressing as much as others; that it was inferior as regards education, and that labour was now less cheerfully done. Shipping too, he said, was declining, partly through lack of commercial enterprise. Mr. Nixon, for the negative, divided his remarks into two sections: (1), as regards physical development; (2), as regards culture. He said that although a man's living did not in general depend on his physical strength, yet his strength had not deteriorated as much as might have been expected. As for culture, there had been vast strides made; the abolition of prizefighting to a certain extent; improved sanitary conditions; excellent pastimes introduced.

Messrs. Stoner, Turner, Morice, Whiteside and Donovan also spoke. Voting:—Affirmative, 11; Negative, 21.

At the meeting held October 14th, Mr. Stoner opened the debate—"Is Total Abstinence preferable to Temperance?" After a few preliminary remarks of warning to the chairman lest his (the speaker's) feelings should get the better of him, he commenced his speech with a graphic description of his feelings as he stood to address the meeting; coming to the point, he pointed out how alcohol sapped the bodily vigour and deteriorated the mental energy. He then proceeded to relate to the audience a pathetic tale about a man given to imbibing in moderate quantities, who was unable to withstand an attack of influenza, and departed this life. At the conclusion of this heart-stirring anecdote, several handkerchiefs were seen at the owners' eyes, so moved were they by its pathos and the speaker's eloquence. Mr. Stoner then commenced another anecdote, but in the middle of it, the hard-hearted Chairman reminded the speaker that he had passed the twenty minutes limit, and amid great applause Mr. Stoner subsided.

Mr. Donovan, for the negative, touched upon the sociability of a temperate man, and as another reason for drinking moderately, asked where the taxes would be if no alcohol was drunk. He professed a great contempt for any one who was unable to stop when he had had enough. Messrs. Glover, Schierwater, Lloyd, Woolfe and Lodge also spoke. The voting resulted:—Affirmative, 15; Negative, 11.

On Friday, October 21st, after the ordinary business had been concluded, Mr. Mackenzie opened the debate—"Is conscription desirable in Great Britain?" He said that the army was too small, and that the establishment of conscription would, in addition to remedying this defect, smarten the nation as a whole. He denied the superiority of volunteers over pressed men, and cited Trafalgar and Camperdown as gained by sailors forced to serve. He pointed out what a calamity it would be if the navy were defeated with the army in its present state.

Mr. Lloyd, for the negative, asserted that free men work far better than pressed; that in time of need, men out of work would join the army. He asked why, as England is ahead of all countries without it, should it be introduced now.

Messrs. Stoner, Turner, Donovan, Morice also spoke. Voting: Affirmative, 21; Negative, 16.

At the meeting held on Friday, October 28th, Mr. Brooke opened for the affirmative in the debate—"Is it more advantageous to live in the country than in the town?" He laid stress on the fact that the town was the work of men's hands, and that it was less healthy to live in than the country; as for the absence of theatres, he asserted, that the singing of the birds in the trees was far better than anything heard in the "Halls."

Mr. Lee in opposition, expatiated upon the better means of conveyance, roads, water and postal arrangements to be found in the town. He pointed out that through so much contact with one another, men became more refined and cultivated. He also laid emphasis on the fact that in towns it was easier to obtain baths.

Messrs. Stoner, Turner, Quin, Morice, Lloyd, Glover, Unsworth and Bell also spoke. Voting:—Affirmative, 15; Negative, 17.

On Friday, November 4th, Mr. Woolfe opened for the affirmative in the debate—"Should Capital Punishment be abolished?" He dilated upon the hardness of the treatment meted out to innocent persons in being executed, and the demoralizing effect upon the executioner. Mr. Machray in opposition based his support of the continuance of capital punishment on the fact that it had been the practice of the world for centuries. He strongly denounced the cowardice of a prisoner in being afraid of death, and pointed out the increase of expenditure that its abolition would entail. He next gave the meeting some harrowing details on the modes of punishment of the Chinese, and seemed to regret that such modes were no longer in force in England. After putting forth his overwhelming argument, that once a prisoner was executed it was absolutely impossible that he should commit another crime, he gave way to Mr. Stoner, who, in a characteristic speech, regretted that the sternness of the chairman forced him to keep strictly to the question, as, though on capital punishment he had very few ideas, there were many other questions in the universe on which he would willingly give them his opinions.

Messrs. MacKenzie, Unsworth, Donovan, Lloyd, spoke also. Voting:—Affirmative, 13; Negative, 38.

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Games Reports.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. WATERLOO HIGH SCHOOL.

THIS match was played at Crosby on October 8th. The weather having been fine for some time, the sandy ground was in good condition. Cheeseright won the toss, and during the first half of the game there was hardly any kicking, the play mostly consisting of rushes into the Waterloo "twenty-five," and scrumming at five yards, Watson and his partner Wood making short dashes through the men, but being generally foiled. The second half was more even, and J. Watt, following up a short kick, scored a try, which was converted by R. S. Turner. Watson, soon afterwards, scored again, and this also Turner converted. Waterloo then succeeded in gaining a try, but were unable to convert it. Score:—Liverpool Institute, 2 goals (10 points); Waterloo High School, 1 try (3 points).

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. MERCHANT TAYLORS.

This match was played at Sefton Park on October 12th. The Institute, with a very light team, were unable to hold their opponents, who literally shoved them all over the field. Though Nixon went forward for a short time, he had to return to his place soon, where he stopped two or three rushes until the forwards came up. The game was terribly one-sided, the Institute not getting a chance to score. Score:—Merchant Taylors, 12 goals 7 tries (81 points); Liverpool Institute, *nil*.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. J. B. AFFLECK'S TEAM.

Played at Sefton Park on October 29th. Affleck turned up with a good representation of old schoolfellows, while the Institute team was strengthened by the inclusion of Mr. Hemsley and Mr. Kenyon. Cheeseright won the toss, and the game started very evenly at the half-way line, but eventually the Old Boys' weight told, and we were gradually worked into our own "twenty-five." Pemberton and Bell both scored for the Old Boys, but the tries were unconverted. During the latter part of the second half our men had the game all to themselves, but, on account of the spectators obstructing, the referee disallowed two of the tries. On this occasion, Hyer scored his first try this year. Score:—Liverpool Institute, 2 goals 1 try (13 points); Old Boys, 1 goal 3 tries (14 points).

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. WATERLOO HIGH SCHOOL.

Played at Sefton Park on November 9th. Waterloo played up very well at the start, and rushed us into our own "twenty-five," but we gradually worked up the field again into their quarters. The forwards played splendidly, and Haworth, Pitts, and Turner all scored in the first half. The play in the second half was all on Waterloo's goal-line and "twenty-five," Thomas very neatly obtain-

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ing a try by dropping over the line. When another scrum. was in progress, Waterloo's three-quarters came too near, and gave Watson his opportunity, who scored between the posts. Score:—Liverpool Institute, 1 goal 4 tries (17 points); Waterloo High School, *nil*.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. BIRKENHEAD PARK THIRD.

Played at Birkenhead Park November 19th. The Institute were two men short. Birkenhead, losing the toss, kicked off down hill, and play settled in our "twenty-five," the ball being kicked over the goal-line many times, only to be touched down. About half-time, owing to their far superior weight, the Birkenhead forwards kindly lent us a man. After half-time, the forwards played up very well, and more than held their own, Hyer playing a splendid game as left-half. Score:—Birkenhead Park, 1 goal 3 tries (14 points); Liverpool Institute, *nil*.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL—CLASS MATCHES.

The League has not been a complete success this term, and it is of no use disguising the fact. There has been a falling off in keenness amongst forms that are weak, and a disposition to give up the points rather than take a licking. This is a very serious matter, and it is to be hoped that next term, lower forms will do their level best to make up for deficiencies of this term, and to lay the foundation of a good school team for future years.

On several occasions also, teams have played short throughout the game, and have been apparently quite satisfied to play with eight or nine a side. This is as great a sin as scratching a game, and boys who give their word to turn up, and then fail to do so, cannot be too strongly condemned. They not only break their word, but they spoil the pleasure of their companions, and often spoil the holiday of a master, who has sacrificed his time to accommodate them.

With regard to the first fault mentioned, one thought is naturally suggested, viz.:—that the younger boys are wanting in that grit and pluck which has so constantly distinguished league football in the school in the last few years; a disagreeable thought, and one to be dispelled as soon as possible.

It has been said that Waterloo, and, more recently, Omdurman, were won on the playing fields of England, for there a boy first learns self-reliance, pluck, endurance, and self-restraint. Never were truer words spoken, but let the younger boys of the Institute remember—that there must be more need, if possible, in the future, for Englishmen to possess those characteristics for which they have ever been famous, if England is to hold her own against the world, and that those same virtues can never be acquired by shirking disagreeables, or following always the bent of one's own will. Let

them remember the words of the world-famous Harrow song, and be able to say with truth in days to come:—

"Never the battle raged hottest, but in it
Neither the last nor the faintest were we!"

The following are the results up to date, and the competition looks at present to be very open, if any preference is to be given or prophecy made, it must be in favour of the middle second, who have a very level team.

CLASS MATCHES.

SENIOR DIVISION.

- First Round.*—First Class beat Upper Third, 7-1.
Middle Second beat Upper Second, 6-1.
Middle Third beat Lower Third, 6-1.
- Second Round.*—First beat Middle Third, 3-0.
Upper Second and Upper Third drew, 1-1.
Lower Second beat Lower Third, 5-1.
- Third Round.*—First beat Lower Third, 6-0.
Middle Second beat Middle Third, 3-2.
Lower Second beat Upper Third, 7-2.
- Fourth Round.*—Lower Second beat First, 5-0.
Upper Second scratched to Middle Third.
Lower Third scratched to Middle Second.
- Fifth Round.*—Middle Second beat First, 5-0.
Upper Third beat Lower Third, 8-0.

JUNIOR DIVISION.

- First Round.*—Upper Fourth beat Upper Sixth, 4-1.
Middle Fourth beat Preparatory, 12-0.
Lower Fourth beat Upper Fifth, 11-1.
- Second Round.*—Upper Fourth beat Middle and Lower Fifths, 9-0.
Middle Fourth beat Upper Fifth, 10-0.
Upper Sixth beat Lower Fourth, 6-0.
- Third Round.*—Middle Fourth beat Upper Fourth, 3-1.
Upper Fifth beat Upper Sixth, 2-0.
Middle and Lower Fifths beat Preparatory, 3-0.
- Fourth Round.*—Upper Fourth beat Upper Fifth, 6-1.
Lower Fourth beat Middle and Lower Fifths, 8-0.
Upper Sixth beat Preparatory, 9-0.
- Fifth Round.*—Lower Fourth scratched to Upper Fourth.
Middle Fourth beat Middle and Lower Fifths, 8-0.
Upper Fifth beat Preparatory, 3-2.
(Other Rounds incomplete.)

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. OAKES INSTITUTE.

This match was played at Aintree on the 14th of September, in splendid weather. The Institute won the toss, and the home team set the ball in motion. It was quickly monopolised by the Institute, and a shot quickly made which passed outside. Oakes Institute now pressed, but their play was individual throughout. Bartholomew made a good run for our opponents, but Leece disposed easily of his shot. The Institute now took matters up, and Short opened the scoring. Shots were now placed in rapid succession, and the score at half-time was 3-0. Pollard restarted for the Institute, who quickly took up the game. Goals were the order of the day, the whole forward line scoring. Full-time score: Institute, 14 goals; Oakes, *nil*.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. COLLEGE COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

Played at Fairfield, in very miserable weather, on the 21st of September. Institute won the toss, and Rogers opened the game for the College, who took up the play. From the kick-off, the Institute combined, and some fine long passing ensued, Pollard opening the scoring for the Institute. Crawford, for the College, played a hard defensive game, but was not followed up. The College now passed well, but could not beat our defence, and the forwards being in possession of the ball, raced up, and added another point in favour of the Institute. Half-time score:—Institute, 2; College, *nil*. On resuming the play, the Institute quickly pressed, and after some passing Knowles succeeded in defeating the College custodian, and afterwards added another goal in favour of the Institute. At the finish, the College were pressing slightly. Full-time score:—Institute, 4 goals; College, *nil*.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. WEST KIRBY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Played in good weather, at Caldy Grange, on the 5th of October. West Kirby won the toss, and Pollard set the ball in motion for the Institute. West Kirby, however, secured the ball, but, after a fine sprint down the field, placed it outside. Institute now pressed, and Cross, from the outside right, put in a fine shot, which was, however, well saved. From a free kick against the Institute, West Kirby monopolised the play, and, after a short scrimmage, placed the ball through the goal, giving Leece no chance, thus scoring the first goal of the season against the Institute. From the kick-off, the Institute now began to show much better form, and, after tricking the backs, the left wing centred, and Pollard equalised amidst great cheering. Half-time:—Institute, 1; West Kirby, 1. From the restart the Institute pressed, and, although Emmerson tried hard by individual play to force the game, he could not pierce our defence. Cross secured the ball, and, with a good shot, gave us the lead. West Kirby now lost heart, and we quickly took up the game, Short, W. G. Jones, and Mackenzie each scoring. Full-time:—Institute, 6 goals; West Kirby, 1 goal.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE "A".

This match was played on October 19th, and the School were beaten by 5 goals to *nil*. Almost from the kick-off, the University forwards broke away, and scored from a free kick. They soon added another, so that we had heavy odds against us from the start. We played up better, however, in the second half, W. G. Jones and Mackenzie combining splendidly together, being ably supported by Mahon, who made up in skill what he lacked in weight. Pooley and Alexander played a magnificent game throughout.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. WALLASEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

On October 26th we beat Wallasey by 6 goals to 1. Pollard and W. G. Jones each scored three.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. COLLEGE C. S.

This match was played at Fairfield in ideal weather on November 9th. The Institute lost the toss, and Pollard opened the game for the Institute. Cowley, on our opponents side, cleared, and some fine combination on the part of the College brought them into our quarters, but Pooley and Alexander managed matters, and the Institute left took the ball up and passed to Cross, who easily defeated the College custodian. The College after the restart took the play, and after a sharp tussle with our backs placed the ball through the goal. The Institute claimed for offside, but the point was allowed. Half-time—Institute, 1; College, 1. The home team started the second half, and mid-field play ensued. Cowley, who had come forward, made a good run, but would not part with the ball. After the clearance the Institute forwards combined well, and Short had very hard lines with a shot which hit the crossbar and bounced into the goal. The Institute claimed, but their claim was again disallowed. From this point the Institute had most of the play, and the game ended in a well-earned victory for them by 2 goals to 1.

INSTITUTE v. UNIVERSITY COLLEGE A.

On November 16, in our return match, we had ample revenge for our previous "licking." Though without one or two of the regular players, we were strengthened by the inclusion of Mr. Parkes, whose fine back play warded off many awkward rushes. After losing the toss, for the first few minutes our goal was besieged, but after a short time W. H. Knowles (who was taking Pollard's place, the latter having sprained his knee) combined excellently with Mackenzie and W. G. Jones, and put the ball through after about fifteen minutes play. Encouraged by this success the team played up splendidly and scored five more goals, Mr. Parkes contributing two, W. H. Knowles two, and W. G. Jones and Short one each. Special praise is due to Knowles, who pluckily filled an important position at a moment's notice. The half-backs too were beyond reproach.

For the "A" team we have usually had a foundation of first eleven, supported by D. J. Thompson, P. T. Thompson, West, Henshaw, W. H. Knowles.

The second eleven has varied considerably, the most regular players being J. Mackenzie, Wooler, Wood, Davies, Masheder, whilst W. H. Knowles, R. Knowles, E. J. Jones, J. Mackenzie, H. H. Woolfe, R. T. Bell, Bird, Sutton, Hickson, and Taylor have played on various occasions.

HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING CLUB ANNUAL COMPETITION.

The above Competition took place on October 10th, in the presence of a fair number of masters and boys, at Cornwallis Street Baths.

In the Ten Lengths Championship, A. S. Thomas, the winner of the previous year, swam exceedingly well, again obtaining the first place. E. G. Turner was second.

The Four Lengths Handicap was won by J. Watt, and the Two Lengths Handicap by J. Quin.

The Neat Dive resulted in a tie between J. Quin and J. Watt; whilst the Beginner's Race, One Length, was won by L. Whitaker.

In the Competition for the Humane Society's Medal, A. S. Thomas was first, beating E. G. Turner by $6\frac{1}{2}$ seconds.

The Medals are to be presented at the Christmas Prize Distribution.

Correspondence.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

To me, school-singing used to be a source of mingled delight and dread. I loved the uproar with a boy's love; but I could always hear the grating of my own harsh voice distinct above the general chorus, and until receiving your last issue I feared that the Hall still rang with the echoes of my discord. I am very pleased then to learn from the letter of your correspondent R. M. W., that time has blended these echoes into unison with the rest. I am sorry, however, that your correspondent used that objectionable word "ditty" in connection with those good songs "Here's a health unto His Majesty" and "John Peel." I think that he himself would be very sorry for the school, and would write you a letter very full of "Alacks" on the day when he heard Institute boys singing ditties, however stirring, in the Hall.

Believe me, Sir,

Your humble correspondent,

EURUS.

Editorial Notices.

We beg to acknowledge the following annual subscriptions received since the last issue:—Messrs. T. H. Williams, J. Bawden, H. E. Williams (2 years), J. B. Tayler (2 years), H. D. Walkden, T. J. Williams, H. Eggington. Many annual subscriptions fall due this month, and many are greatly overdue. Further notice will be found enclosed with this number.

Since our last issue we have received the following contemporaries:—*Kelly College Chronicle*, *King Edward's School Chronicle*, *Plymothian*, *ettesian*, *Portcullis*, *Ipswich School Magazine*, *Red Man and Indian Helper*.