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On Personal Beauty.

IT would have been much to the profit and little to the loss of mankind if it had been the disposition of nature to make all men exactly alike in figure and complexion. For whereas likeness had produced a certain confusion and inconvenience, as may be readily imagined, yet unlikeness hath been the cause of unending disputations touching the nature of personal beauty, so that a man of peace hath long been weary of the whole matter. It would be pleasanter for us to meander through the free and tranquil realm of ameness than to drag the reader through the briars and thickets of contention. But we would in no wise have the reproach of speculation, and as even a contentious matter may divert the peaceful onlooker if he will but remove himself to a convenient distance, as in a nest of wasps, so we shall essay to view personal beauty with circumspection, and as having no proper share or concern in it.

He would be the greatest of philosophers who, by his subtle alchemy, should discover the abode of beauty and should extract its principle. But no Jack-o'-Lantern leads the seeker into more quagmires and perplexities than does the essence of beauty. "It is here," one cries, and with the cry it is gone. He steals near to it and seizes upon it, and under the grasp of his hand it crumbles to powder. How then shall we examine it; by what scale compute it? Herein is one slight advantage of our removed station. Like a timid bird, beauty may not fly from us, if we do not approach too near.

The prime essence of personal beauty is unknown—that is, the root of the matter. In different times, places, ranks and occupations, it mounts itself in varying settings. The champion of boxers cuts but a sorry figure in a ball-room; nor does the greatest of poets enjoy distinction in a company of ostlers. And if the reader should see a picture by a famous artist of old time, entitled "Portrait of a Beautiful Lady," he is likely to condemn either the judgment or the skill of the painter. Nor is the effect of clothes slight in the concealing or disclosing of beauty, for if one through misfortune or neglect shall be deemed dowdy or shabby, he will have much ado to make his beauty conspicuous through the cloke of his ill-equipment; and it hath ever been allowed that the gleam of a necklace of diamonds doth add a reflex of lustre to the eyes of a

lady; and yet, again, there be some of whom the wealth of clothes more effectively reveals the meagreness of their beauty.

It is a mischievous humour which prompts beauty to play these pranks of hide-and-seek; an ironical humour, for he who laughs with her to-day, will be her sport to-morrow. The reader and I can walk gaily along the corridors of his ancestral portrait-gallery, with many a good laugh at the quaint furniture and the solemn visages of his progenitors; nor will he be wroth if I remark, as we go backwards through the series, how the personal likeness between him and the pictures grows less and less, until it is imperceptible. But in a hundred years he will be on the wall, and some impudent stripling—his descendant—will smile on him with not all the respectful veneration that is his desert.

No balance and counter-poise can weigh out the measure of personal beauty, for the elements and proportion of its quality are unresolved. Nevertheless, there are certain standards which are counted capable of its estimation, but as much ill-will would be engendered if these measures were quite fixed, it is arranged that they should be a little plastic, so that each man may mould them to his fancy. Thus, if one has an ill-fashioned nose, he may hold that the nose is a useful organ, but is not a feature of great consequence in the account of personal beauty. This accommodation doth suit such as are ordinary common-place folk, but as the scale may not stretch beyond a point (for else not most, but all people might be comely) there be some who lie without its compass. These are in evil case. Full many of them make endeavour, by machines and applications, to shape them to the common model, in which endeavour they but make them ridiculous, as the ugly sisters of Cinderella. The rest shew as much discretion as boldness in rebelling against the majority. They maintain that they are different from, not worse than, the common sort; that they are distinguished, not ugly. And as it is no merit in a bull-dog to have an amiable aspect; nor in a dwarf to be of size approaching the ordinary, but quite the contrary, so these make that their boast, in which they are peculiar, and are at pains to make it more prominent. Thus, one who has a native disability and distaste for personal tidiness, will be careful to make his carelessness more evident, and will not only suffer, but encourage his doublet to come unfastened, and his hose to be bespattered with mud. Or if he have legs remarkable for their slenderness, he will make an ostentatious display of their leanness, to shew his pride in his singularity, and when by his art and valour he has overborne the common scorn, many who before reviled him will become his imitators; whereupon the sly witch, Beauty, will chuckle at her jest.

Thus it appeareth that the very blemishes and defects of birth, as they are accounted, may by exaggeration be made to shew as graces and ornaments. Doth it result that personal beauty is but a mocking phantasm; a mere affection of the eye? Nay! Beauty hath a mighty power. It soweth the seeds of friendship, it openeth the heart and ennobleth the soul. But it is no thing of rules, of

measures, and arithmetic, for it transcendeth proportion. And he who would have its secret must know this—that not to flames and furnaces, nor to crucibles and vapourings, but to a more refined and gentler alchemy, will it yield its principle.

Examination Results.

OXFORD LOCAL EXAMINATIONS, 1901.

SENIORS.

Second Class Honours—H. W. McCann (24th), H. E. Jones (41st). *Third Class Honours*—P. L. Pratley. *Pass List*—H. Grace, A. McWilliam, S. Schnitzlander, A. J. Sturgeon, S. Watkins, J. W. Whitwell.

DISTINCTION. Mathematics—H. W. McCann (13th).

JUNIORS.

First Class Honours—B. Cowan (37th), H. H. Mackney (48th). *Second Class Honours*—H. Winstanley (37th), E. H. Ashton (70th). *Pass List*—A. F. Barry, J. Clark, R. A. Davies, F. W. Duhnke, H. L. Edwards, R. H. Holden, B. Howarth, W. J. Hughes, W. E. Jones, R. J. Lloyd, J. C. McCrory, J. G. McCulloch, A. J. Milliken, W. Nedwill, J. S. Olley, W. Parry, D. A. Paterson, W. Pightling, J. Salter, G. S. Veitch, A. H. Walker, J. A. Willan, J. R. Williams.

DISTINCTIONS. English—D. A. Paterson (8th), H. Winstanley (26th), H. H. Mackney (48th). *French*—H. H. Mackney (24th), W. Pightling (54th). *Mathematics*—B. Cowan (4th), W. Nedwill (32nd), F. W. Duhnke and H. Winstanley (bracketed, 43rd), H. H. Mackney (47th).

UNION OF LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE INSTITUTES, 1901.

FRENCH (Advanced): First Class—R. C. Andrew. *Second Class*—R. A. Davies, H. E. Jones, H. W. McCann, J. G. McCulloch, W. Pightling, S. Watkins, J. W. Whitwell. *Pass List*—L. Adamson, E. H. Ashton, E. H. Brass, A. W. Edwards, H. L. Edwards, B. Howarth, C. A. Lunham, J. S. Olley.

(Elementary): First Class—H. H. Mackney (2nd in Union), J. D. O'Neill (3rd in Union), A. F. Barry, H. J. Book, A. W. Brown, G. Hargreaves, R. Hargreaves, C. E. Harris, R. H. Holden, T. L. Ker, R. J. Lloyd, S. Schnitzlander, J. N. Taylor, G. S. Veitch, A. H. Walker. *Second Class*—J. L. Balmforth, G. B. Bare, J. H. Ellis, T. K. Evans, C. H. Jennings, J. C. McCrory, H. Owen, A. F. Pugh, A. P. Raymond, A. C. Reynolds, H. W. Thornton, G. H. Williams, H. Winstanley, H. Woods.

SCIENCE AND ART EXAMINATIONS, 1901.

THEORETICAL MECHANICS (SOLIDS): First Class (Advanced)—J. W. Whitwell, S. Schnitzlander. *Second Class (Advanced)*—H. W. McCann.

MATHEMATICS (PURE): *Third Stage*:—*First Class*—R. C. Andrew, J. W. Whitwell. *Second Class*—H. W. McCann. *Second Stage*:—*First Class*—B. Cowan, H. Grace, P. Pratley, S. Schnitzlander. *Second Class*—G. Birrell, W. Davies, F. W. Duhnke, W. E. Jones, A. McWilliam, W. Nedwill, F. E. Ogle, J. D. O'Neill, A. J. Sturgeon.

Cadet Corps Notes.

ABOUT sixty members of the school have joined the Cadet Company which was formed last Easter. The Company forms part of the 1st Cadet Battalion of the King's (Liverpool) Regiment, and has already earned the praise of Major Leslie, the acting Adjutant of the battalion.

The battalion went into camp at Parkgate, on Saturday, 20th July, the school company supplying fifty members—a very good percentage. The week under canvas was thoroughly enjoyed by the majority, though wet weather made things rather uncomfortable at times.

The whole battalion, headed by the band, marched to camp on the 20th, from Rock Ferry, and the seven mile march, in spite of the heat and dust, was completed in good time, and without any one falling out. A sham fight on Heswall Hills on one day, with some scouting and outpost work on another, formed the two most enjoyable days of the week. Reveillé sounded each morning at 5.30, and coffee was provided at 6, after which company and battalion drill occupied an hour or so before breakfast.

A night attack on the camp by two companies was arranged for, but just as the defending force—the school company and one other—was about to take up its position, a deluge of rain came on, so that Major Leslie ordered all to be dismissed. Unfortunately, the attacking force had gone too far to be recalled, and when it did get back, all the members of it were soaked, but luckily no harm resulted.

Major Leslie was very pleased indeed with the conduct of D (Institute) company in camp, and has since written to the Headmaster praising their behaviour in every way.

Since the holidays the battalion has been inspected by Major Ford of Warrington. After examining uniforms and accoutrements, the inspecting officer saw the battalion attack an entrenched position, and then each company was told off to some special work—such as outposts or forming an advance guard—the latter being undertaken by the school company. Each company was then put through about half-an-hour's drill by the company officers, after which Major Ford addressed the whole battalion, and told them that he was very pleased with what he had seen, and that he should have great pleasure in making a favourable report.

On Saturday, 14th September, the competition for the Cohen

Challenge Cup was held at Altcar. This cup is held for a year by the company which does best in shooting. This year the competition took the form of a quick firing one, each team of eight having two targets to fire at. Each member of the team had five rounds of ammunition, and one minute only was allowed for all the shots to be fired. When the result was declared, it was found that the school company had won by one point.

A Week in Camp.

THE Cadet Battalion assembled its camping members on Saturday, 20th July, at 3.30, at Rose Hill Police Station. After marching to the Landing stage, they arrived at New Ferry at five o'clock. The day being very hot and the roads very dusty, three halts were made, and they did not arrive at Parkgate until 8.30.

The first night no one was able to sleep, and the camp was therefore fairly rowdy. The writer and two companions left their tent about 1 a.m. in pyjamas, and strolling out of camp reached the railway line, and the stealthy movements of these three white objects startled very much an engine driver there. When five o'clock at length arrived we dressed, and at six had some skilly, and at 6.30 paraded. After having been to church in the morning, we were free for the rest of the day. A bathing party was formed and went down to the shore, only to find a young fellow drowned, owing to heart failure from the great heat. Major Leslie thereupon ordered our return to camp.

On Monday morning we paraded at 9.30, and left camp, the battalion breaking up into companies at four cross roads, and the companies again breaking up into hiding and scouting detachments. After our return to camp and dinner, we went out scouting, while the main body followed in extended order. After two hours of this, we returned and had tea. After tea, the Institute beat Gordon Institute in a football match by 1—0. A sing-song was then held, and at ten o'clock we retired to our tents.

Tuesday morning, after parade at 9.15, we marched to Heswall Hill, where a sham fight took place on the common with blank ammunition. In the afternoon, in spite of the heavy rain, we went for a pleasant bathe in the Dee.

Wednesday, the rain prevented any manœuvres being gone through, and we were forced to keep in camp. Rooms were procured at the Chester Hotel for any who were tired of the rain, but no Institute cadet, and in fact no cadet at all, would avail himself of this permission.

Thursday, B. G. Bare was appointed Orderly Sergeant for the day. The duties of the Orderly Sergeant are to keep the camp peaceful and tidy, and to get up fatigue parties for water, provisions, fuel, etc. The weather was very wet, and prevented much work

being done. At night it was arranged that a fight should take place from 10 to 12 p.m. About 9.30 the A company went out, and at 10 the Institute (or D company) turned out in the pouring rain, and waited for B and C companies to fall in. They, however, considered that the weather was too wet, and stayed in their tents. The Institute company then returned, wet, but conscious of duty fulfilled. About 12.30 the camp was attacked by the A company, who, however, were forced to go to their tents without the promised coffee, the rain having put the fire out.

We woke up Friday morning to find the rain had ceased. At parade, Major Leslie complimented the A company on their pluck in braving the rain and taking the camp. A cricket match afterwards took place between the cadets and Mostyn House School, the cadets winning by 54 runs to 39. At 3.30 we paraded in fatigue dress, A company having left camp to dig trenches about a mile away, and we moved in extended order to attack them. Captain Osburn, who commanded the attacking force, sent out scouts to report the enemy's position, and we advanced accordingly. The numbers of the attacking party, in spite of their unfavourable position, secured them the victory. At the sing-song that night, Major Leslie made a speech, and after "God Save the King" had been sung, silence soon reigned over the camp for the last night.

On Saturday, after the battalion had been engaged in fatigue duties, at three o'clock they marched off towards New Ferry, and caught the 6.30 boat, arriving at Rose Hill at 7.15. At 7.30 we were dismissed to our respective homes.
B. G. B.

Chat on the Corridor.

A MEETING was held on Thursday evening, 19th September, to consider the formation of an Old Boys' Company of the Cadet Corps. Nearly sixty fellows turned up. Mr. Fletcher gave an account of the progress of school company, and explained that those members of the corps who had left school last term had been very anxious to maintain their connection with the corps, and to give them an opportunity of doing so, it was hoped that an Old Boys' Company might be formed. Major Leslie, himself an Old Boy, then spoke and explained the nature of the corps, and it was unanimously decided that an attempt should be made. Forty-one gave their names at the meeting, and several have since written expressing their desire to join. As it was only possible to write to comparatively few, may we ask any who did not receive any intimation, and who would like to take part in it, to write and give their names to Mr. Parkes, who is the lieutenant of the company.

In the Mathematical Tripos, J. E. Wright, who was Senior Wrangler last year, gained a First Class, First Division, and P. J.

Rose was twentieth Wrangler. Rose left the Institute in 1898, with a scholarship to St. John's. One of the examiners in the Tripos, Mr. J. H. Grace, is also an Old Boy, who went up in 1892, and was second Wrangler in 1895. H. B. Jenkins, who has been rowing in the second boat at St. John's, has gained a First Class in his first year May's. At Oxford, E. Tebbutt has taken a Second Class in the Final Honours School of Mathematics, and C. H. Grimshaw a Second in History. At Victoria we have to congratulate F. T. Ellis on getting a First Class in the Honours School of Mathematics, and on winning the Derby Scholarship. B. T. J. Glover has also won the Lyon Jones Scholarship.

Agricultural Scholarships of the value of £45 have been awarded by the Cheshire County Council to J. McKenzie Brown and F. W. Cooke; and a Commercial Exhibition, offered by the Lancashire County Council, has been won by A. W. Brown.

The following gained the School Prizes last term:—

Lord Derby's Prize for Mathematics	...	H. W. McCann.
Lord Derby's Prize for Modern Languages	...	R. C. Andrew.
Holt Prize for English	J. W. Whitwell.
Holt Prize for Latin	H. E. Jones.
Holt Prize for Science	R. C. Andrew.
Booth Prize for Mathematics	B. Cowan.
Booth Prize for Science	{P. L. Pratley and B. Cowan.

We have to congratulate H. W. McCann on gaining a City Council Scholarship to University College, and also on winning the £10 prize offered by Lord Derby for the first place in the Liverpool Centre of the Oxford Local Senior.

May our best wishes for success go with R. C. Andrew, who has left us for Aspatria Agricultural College, Carlisle; and L. Adamson, who has gone to University College with a Gee Scholarship.

In the Lancashire and Cheshire Institutes' Examination in French, out of nearly 1,500 candidates, Mackney and J. D. O'Neill secured the second and third places respectively, and have been awarded prizes.

Last year's Swimming Gala was so successful that there was no hesitation in repeating it this year. It will be again held at Lodge Lane Baths on Monday evening, 7th October, and we hope that last year's success will be surpassed. There will be an Old Boys' race of six lengths, and those who desire to race should send their names in to Mr. Eaves or Mr. Bickerstaff.

Athletic Sports.

THE annual Athletic Sports were held on the Stanley Athletic Grounds, on Saturday, 1st June. Though a heavy shower of rain just at the commencement no doubt kept many people away, there was, nevertheless, a very good attendance of spectators, who thoroughly enjoyed the good racing provided.

An innovation this year was the Junior Championship Competition for boys under fourteen years of age, on the same lines as the Senior Competition. A very close and interesting competition resulted in F. A. Bell, of the High School, winning the medal, with Benson (Commercial School) a good second.

The Inter Schools race this year again only attracted competitors from the Shaw Street College. Unfortunately, one of their two representatives was unable to run owing to an accident, and, as Bare, one of the two chosen to represent the Institute, had damaged his wrist in the High Jump, only two runners turned out for the race, which was easily won for the Institute by Paddock.

The Championship Cup was won by B. G. Bare, who thoroughly deserved his success as a reward for his pluck in continuing to run after the nasty accident he received in the High Jump.

The Lemon and Spoon and Sack races were, as usual, well patronised, and provoked much amusement both for spectators and competitors.

Although Bare won the championship, mention must be made of the good running of W. B. Hoe and C. O. Work in the mile, half mile, and quarter; Work's performance especially, being quite a surprise.

As the High School had been successful in securing both the senior and junior championships, the Commercial School made a determined effort to retrieve their fallen fortunes in the Tug of War. A very keen contest resulted in a hard earned victory for the Commercial School—the first for some years—after a struggle which reflected great credit on the perseverance of both teams.

The prizes gained in the sports were distributed on Thursday afternoon, the 4th of July, by Mrs. F. C. Danson in the School Hall. In responding to the vote of thanks accorded to Mrs. Danson, Mr. Danson asked the Headmaster to grant the school a holiday, the Headmaster acceding to the request, amidst the demonstrations usual on such occasions.

Camera and Field Club.

A NUMBER of interesting and enjoyable excursions were made during last term. Many boys take advantage of these outings, especially those possessing cameras; but it would be more pleasant to those masters who give up their Wednesday afternoons for the benefit and help of the club, if more would accompany them in the weekly rambles.

The club was instituted for the purpose of nature study, as well as photography, but the fascinating art of "sun printing" has, for the time, put the naturalist at a discount. This, we think, is to be regretted, considering that there is no more interesting or more mind-strengthening pursuit than that of natural history in the field; besides it is a school of education which every boy can attend without let or hindrance; no fees, no books, and no detention.

A little guidance is all that is necessary, and that the club supplies in its referees, who are always ready and willing to give information and assistance to members. The committee wish to revive this branch, and hope that many boys will join this term, whether they possess a camera or not.

The technicalities of photography have been so simplified that almost any one can make a photograph by following a few printed instructions, but the club has higher aims and uses for the camera. The accurate manipulation of the camera, and the care requisite in developing a good negative, affords an excellent manual training. The searching for suitable subjects gives good training to the eyes, as well as sharpening the powers of observation. The selecting and choosing of subjects and positions assists in the forming of a mind which rejects all that is vulgar and common, and accepts only that which is refined. For hints on the various technical processes and on pictorial composition, the club is fortunate in having the services of Messrs. Gore-Harvey and Ramsay.

The first excursion of the term was to Raby Mere, *via* Dibbins Dale. The route chosen was by boat to New Ferry, thence by road through Bromborough. No lovelier spot than Dibbins Dale is to be found round Liverpool. A flat meadow land surrounded by wooded high ground, with wild flowers in profusion. Golden buttercups and white daisies in the meadows, marsh marigolds in the wimpling stream, and a carpeting of blue hyacinth beneath the trees, give a charming effect which is not readily forgotten. A number of good pictures were obtained here, as well as at Raby Mere, where, in the way of variety, an hour's boating was indulged in. Nice scenery was all very well in its way, but availed little towards satisfying a peculiar craving that took hold of each; with one accord adjournment was made to a cot near by, where the craving was appeased for a time. The return journey was made *via* Eastham.

Our next outing was to Burton, a quaint little village on the estuary of the Dee. We were fortunate in having a whole day for it. The "Sands of Dee" may be poetic at times, but we chanced to go there when the tide was full, and the sands were nowhere to be seen, presenting an appearance which did not appeal to our picture makers, so steps were made up the hill towards the village, where material for picture-making was found in plenty. A visit to the old church and a ramble through the woods filled in the time between tea and train. The landing stage was reached about seven o'clock, each tired but delighted with the day's excursion.

By the kind permission of Miss Watt, Speke Hall and grounds were visited one Wednesday afternoon. The Hall is one of the

best examples of sixteenth century half timber architecture which is to be seen. The picturesque chequer work, the bold projections, and the variety of sky line, makes it a prized subject for the painter and photographer. Some excellent photographs from various stand-points were secured.

Another afternoon nine members journeyed to Kirkby Moss. Kirkby is a station on the L. & Y. Manchester line, and the Moss is four miles distant, so that the greater part of the afternoon was spent getting there. However, the road had its attractions; the rustic farm houses and the flat dreary road, with its cart ruts and low hedges, supplied suitable material for the camera. When the Moss was reached it was discovered that we had very little time to wait, but, nevertheless, we took time to photograph the graceful silver birches shimmering in the sunlight, as well as time to get a refreshing drink of fresh milk at a farm house on the way. We reached the station just in time to catch the Liverpool train. Through the kindness of Lord Derby's estate agent, the club was permitted to spend an afternoon at Knowsley. The palatial mansion of renaissance architecture, the long avenues, and the lakes in the parks, afforded ample material for the camera. A very jolly afternoon was also spent at Eastham woods, and the last outing of the term was made to Leasowe. The tide being out an excellent view was obtained of the submerged forest. On the sand-hills good sport was had hunting the meadow brown and the lesser tortoiseshell butterflies. Two good specimens of the five-spotted Burnet moth were secured. The bathing drill of two hundred lads from the Manchester Industrial Schools presented a most interesting and novel scene, which gave plenty of opportunity for the snapshotist.

The programme for the winter is not quite complete, but already some nice excursions have been arranged; perhaps the most important item will be an exhibition of work done by the members during last summer. Mr. Gore-Harvey has promised to give a lantern exhibition illustrating the picturesque scenery and towns round Carlingford Lough, Ireland. An excellent enlarging lantern is the most recent addition to the club, and it is to be hoped that a number of members will make good use of it. For the benefit of those who don't quite understand the terms of membership, we may say that the entrance fee is one shilling, and one penny a year afterwards.

Editorial Notices.

We beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following contemporary Magazines:—*Birkenhead School Magazine*, *Esmedrana*, *Fettesian*, *Manchester High School Magazine*, and the *Ipswich School Magazine*.

We would be obliged if those gentlemen who have promised to become Subscribers, or whose subscriptions are now due, will send the same as soon as possible.

We have received, with thanks, annual subscriptions from Messrs. R. C. Andrew, A. C. Hern, and T. Lodge.