

# LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE SCHOOLS MAGAZINE.

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APRIL, 1904.

## Places and People.

### III—AN OUTLIER OF EMPIRE.

THE subject of this sketch cannot lay claim to the charm that attaches to the accounts of victories won on the frontiers of civilisation over wild beasts and savages. The forces arrayed against the frontiersmen herein depicted are those of famine, of the devastating tempest, and of the unwearying Atlantic. Victorious, the Lewisman gains a bare subsistence; defeated, he sinks, and there are few to mourn him. Yet, it is hoped that a brief account of his life may not be entirely devoid of interest.

Among the sources of perplexity, for which the science or art of geography is responsible, few surely surpass the map of Scotland. A certain obscurity surrounds its arrangements which extends perhaps to all things Scottish. How, for example, did the strange disintegrated county of Cromarty come into being, if not by some primæval volcano which, exploding beneath it, scattered its fragments broadcast over Ross-shire? A benevolent legislature has healed the wounds by binding Ross and Cromarty into one. But peculiarities remain even in this same county. Attached to it is a portion of an island which man has cut asunder in defiance of nature. The southern division, Harris, forms part of Inverness. The northern division, Lewis or the Lews, belongs to Ross and Cromarty. With it is our present concern.

The Lews is in outline pear-shaped, and is forty miles long and twenty-five miles broad in its widest part. It is thus considerably larger than the Isle of Man. On its western flank it receives the first rude shock of the Atlantic. On the east, The Minch severs it from the mainland, frequently referred to as the "Continent." Nor is the name inappropriate, for the shallow channel separates two very different peoples. In early times the island formed part of the territory of the northern Picts, whose descendants survive in the short, thick-set, dark-haired inhabitants of the Barvas district. From the ninth century onward to the thirteenth the land was harried, and then permanently colonised by the Norsemen who survive in the Ness district. The Norse domination of the Hebrides ended with the battle of Largs in 1263. Thenceforward the Lews became a possession of the Scottish Crown and a part of the Earldom of Ross, the chief possessors, however, being Macleods. The next three centuries and a half of Lewisian history may be passed over with the remark that they were not uneventful. At the end of

the sixteenth century, James VI (James I of England), made an interesting attempt to colonise the island, which will be noticed later. It will suffice for the present to say that the venture failed, and that, in 1610, the Lews came into the hands of the Mackenzies of Kintail, who retained it till 1844, when it was sold to Mr. J. S. Matheson for £190,000. His descendant, Major Duncan Matheson, is the present owner.

The existence of two races in the Lews, the dark aboriginal and the fair Norseman, has already been referred to. To them has been gradually added an infiltration of western highlanders, so that there are now three main stocks, each of which still retains in large measure its original purity, and each of which has contributed its share to the national character and language. The population thus constituted amounted in 1901 to about thirty thousand, having increased from less than ten thousand in 1801. This rapid increase (which still continues) is remarkable, both as being contrary to the general rule of diminishing or stationary population which prevails in the highlands and islands, and as giving rise to the gravest of economic problems. As showing the exceptional position of the Lews in this respect, it may be stated that whilst its population trebled during last century, that of the mainland of Ross and Cromarty shewed an increase during the same period of only a few hundreds.

This growing population subsists in a land which is described as being "a vast peat moss, studded over with small fresh-water lochs." The hills, few in number, are covered with heather, whilst the lower grounds consist of broken hags, with heath and moss plants and large tracts of flow grounds. As to the fertility and resources of the island, varying estimates have been made. In 1598, James VI, who would apparently have flourished in an age of company promoters, granted the lands of Lewis to a company of gentlemen known as the Fife Adventurers. The prospectus issued by the king took the form of an Act of the Scots Parliament, and declared that "the saidis landis and Iles ar be speciall providence and blissing of God Inrychit with ane incredibill fertilitie of cornis and store of fischeingis and utheris necessaris surpassing far the plentie of ony pairt of the Inland." The Lewismen, however, did not give the company much chance of earning a dividend, for the Macleods, with the secret aid of Mackenzie of Kintail, obstinately refused to be civilised; and after repeated attempts had failed, the invaders finally withdrew discomfited, and the riches of the Lews remained as far from the pocket of the king as did the wealth of Raleigh's gold mine on the Orinoco. A different estimate of the resources was made in 1721 by one Zachary McAulay. Acting as factor in Lews for the commissioners of the estates forfeited in the rising of 1715, he writes: "As for resistance or disobedience, there is no danger att all, ther being no spot of ground in Great Brittan more effectually disciplined into passive obedience than the poor Lewes Island. But I can assure yee shall find one rugged hag that will resist both king and government, viz.: POVERTY."

It is unhappily the case that Z. McAulay was much nearer the truth than J. Rex. When he wrote, the scanty crops of the island consisted of barley, oats, rye, flax and hemp. The live stock comprised cattle, horses, sheep, goats and hogs; and the chief agricultural products were "meal, beeves, muttons, wedders, butter, cheese, tallow and wool." Potatoes were introduced about 1750, and of recent years there has been a considerable development of poultry rearing. Indeed, it is in connection with poultry that the Lews makes a fitful appearance in public affairs, on the occasions when Mr. Weir asks his annual question in Parliament as to the number of eggs exported from the mainland which, during the preceding twelve months, have acquired the status of chickens.

Agriculture has at all times been the principal occupation of the Lewisman in spring, summer, and autumn. In winter he endeavours to eke out existence by following various industries. In the past, net making was among the chief of these; but cotton nets, manufactured in the south, have long ago superseded the native hemp nets. Flax spinning and straw plaiting have been tried and abandoned. The distillation of whisky flourished until about the middle of the nineteenth century, but the Lewis distilleries exist no more. Most important of all, perhaps, was the burning of sea weed to make kelp, an industry which came to the Hebrides from the same place—Ireland—and at about the same time, 1750, as the introduction of potato growing. At the beginning of the last century the annual product of kelp in the Lews amounted to about 1,000 tons, worth, when prices were good, some £18,000. Subsequently the industry declined, and in Lews and the Hebrides generally it is now at a low ebb, though in Orkney it remains of considerable importance.

Compensation for the failure of industries once prosperous or promising has, however, been found in the development of the local fisheries. This development, and practically the origin of the fisheries, is of a much more recent date than might have been expected. The first serious effort was made in the reign of Charles I. There appear to have been two rival parties. The first was an association backed by the patronage of the King. The other was headed by Mackenzie, Lord Seaforth, proprietor of the Lews. He took the unpopular step of introducing Dutch fishermen, and was censured for doing so by the all-powerful Privy Council. But the result appears to have vindicated his action, for a few Dutch families settled in Stornoway, and, under the influence of their example, the fisheries made great progress. By the end of the eighteenth century the annual export of herrings, in a good year, amounted to 10,000 barrels; and of cod and ling to 120 tons. How great a development has since taken place may be inferred from the fact that, in a recent year, 26,000 tons of herrings, valued at £127,00, and 5,000 tons of "white fish," valued at £24,000, were landed in the island; whilst 3,500 men and boys were employed in the boats.

Taking a general survey of the last two hundred years, there

seems no reason to doubt that the Lews has made a great advance in general prosperity since the date when Zachary McAulay declared the rugged hag—poverty—to be the king's worst enemy. In spite, however, of the general advance, the life of the Lewisman is still a hard and anxious one. Two great evils threaten and oppress him. In the first place the island is over-populated, or, to use the technical term, "congested." The small crofts into which the land is apportioned are barely sufficient to maintain one family. Yet, owing to there being no outlet for the increasing numbers, it frequently happens that a croft is occupied, not only by the actual tenant, but by several families who have "squatted" upon it. In the second place, the fishing industry is extremely variable. Lean years follow fat years, and when, as too frequently happens, a bad land-harvest coincides with a bad sea-harvest, there is much distress and misery.

At this point it is necessary to break off the narrative. Having given in the foregoing pages a brief preliminary account of the history, and of the natural conditions and resources of the place, it is hoped, on a subsequent occasion, to complete the matter with a description of the institutions and the customs of its people.

(To be continued).

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### The Debating Society.

THE Debating Society will have ended its session in a few weeks. Here, then, we stop to review the situation. We ask has it justified its existence? We reply with an affirmative. Not that all expectations have been fulfilled, not that all members have supported us as was hoped they would, nor that all those eager aspirants to oratorical renown have spoken forth without fear or hesitation. Too often, alas, has indifference deprived us of many we should have liked to see among us, and natural shyness deprived us of precious thought. Yet, on the whole, we are convinced that the Society has justified what one chairman was pleased to term a twenty-fifth recrudescence. There has been a solid body of the faithful who took an interest and delight in the finer pleasures of existence. There has been a stalwart few who have invigorated the proceedings by their speech. We congratulate the members on the success of their venture, and counsel them to keep on in the good work.

On Monday, 8th February, 1904, Mr. Tiffen presided over a large assembly. The Member for Kilbury, in an amusing yet sincere speech, moved "That in the opinion of this House, Vivisection is justifiable." The Member for Middlewich, after his dogged fashion, opposed the motion. To him, Vivisection meant only the cutting up of harmless animals to no good purpose. We are obliged

to confess that the clinical knowledge of the speaker quite confounded us. Might we venture to suggest that he adopt a medical career. Despite his antipathy to Vivisection, the speaker made some very cutting remarks. It has been said that some men lack the sense of humour. We trust Middlewich is not so afflicted in its member. Yet the anecdotes related, which were excruciatingly funny in their absurdity, he gravely asked us to take seriously. It was useless, and so we enjoyed those tall American episodes.

The Member for Birmingham should remember that "honourable member" is the correct form of reference. Apart from this, his speech was a decided exposition of the illogical conclusions the Anti-vivisectionist arrives at. True to the principles of soldiery, the man of pop-gun fame supported the Vivisectionist.

The motion being put, the Ayes had it by 21 votes for to 4 against.

On 15th March the Member for Hatfield moved "That professionalism is injurious to true sport." A racy chat in support of his view followed, and he concluded by saying that men ought to play for the love of the game. A lovely idea, was it not? The Hon. Member for Buryton vigorously opposed the motion. The Member for Middlewich said he had been to a football match, and thereby caused a great commotion. We are able to state, however, that nothing serious resulted.

In the end Lancashire professionalism asserted itself, and the motion was rejected by 9 votes for to 25 against.

For the sake of future speakers we hereby notify that "ladies and gentlemen" has been struck off the roll of jokes.

22nd February saw a battle royal between the forces of peace and war. The Hon. Member for Paisley took up the cudgels on behalf of peace. He spoke of the exalting influence of literature and the advance of civilisation (Ed.—Where to?).

The Member for Kewton rose to oppose the motion. He averred that war provided material for literature, that the Roman Empire was the work of the sword, and that by the sword the American slave was freed. One gentleman, the representative of Wallaroo, asked, if someone were to play free with us, would we take it lying down?

Eventually the motion was carried by 20 votes for to 6 against.

"Is Theatre-going advisable?" provided a spirited debate. At the request of many influential colleagues, the Member for Buryton moved the affirmative. He endeavoured to show that the theatre had a religious origin and served a useful purpose. Then came the Member for Middlewich's *dénouement*. Considering the lack of intellectual benefit, the demoralising effect, the weakening of national vigour, the waste of good money on unsubstantial and visionary pleasures, how else could he do otherwise?

But are not the finest pleasures unsubstantial, visionary, and only existent in thought? Up to 7th March we were unaware that the currency was otherwise than good.

On the whole his speech was very interesting and spoken

sincerely. Yet the "reformer" stood alone in his views, 18 voting for the motion and 1 against it.

On 14th March, 1903, the Society had a day in the country. Clean clothes and "chokers" were laughed to scorn, and the "height of fashion" collapsed from fright at the new-fangled notions. The Muggleton member was a townite, with yearnings for the country. The member for —— made his maiden speech in the House. He opposed the motion in a very creditable attempt. The Irish members attempted to obstruct the motion, but failed ignominiously, and the motion that "Country life is preferable to town life" passed by a majority of two (11-9).

**Mock Trial.**—A mock trial is always entertaining, and it provides a welcome diversion from the cut and dried speech of debate. It is the half-way house between the serious and the ridiculous. Here we found a resting place on 21st March, 1904.

The prisoner, John Jones, residing at 699 Plum Street, Never Never country, was accused of getting up on 1st April, 1904, to do a French exercise which was not set.

Counsel for prosecution, in Ciceronian fashion, paid a compliment to twelve upright and honest men. He dwelt on the serious character of the crime, and asked what could have induced the prisoner to ruffle his usual complacency, and by a dastardly machination endeavour to subvert a fundamental law of the great British nation. In his opinion, in one so virtuous previously, it amounted to an act of anarchy, deserving of the utmost severity. He implored the intelligent, right-feeling, sympathetic, unbiassed, conscientious men of the jury to bring in a verdict of guilty.

The witnesses followed, and, as usual, gave very intelligent, coherent answers to the questions, but between their different evidences there was a marked agreement. Some were bashful, others eager and prepared. One gentleman was prepared to swear (on oath), but the judge deemed it unadvisable.

Counsel for defence urged the absurdity of the charge, and the unlikelihood of prisoner doing any exercise at all. With marked coolness and deliberation he asked the jury to dismiss evidence of prosecution, to consider prisoner's station in life, and find a verdict for the defence.

His Lordship summed up as follows:—Between the evidence there was a remarkable balancing. If jury were of the opinion that greater credence could be placed on the word of the prosecution, they would bring in a verdict of guilty. If, on the other hand, they could place more reliance on the statements of the defence, they would bring in a verdict in accordance with that opinion.

After a lengthy deliberation, the foreman of the jury, amid intense excitement, found prisoner guilty of the charge, with a strong recommendation to mercy on account of inherited weakness. Prisoner, with suppressed emotion, declared his complete innocence of the charge of which he was convicted. His Lordship then passed sentence, and the court adjourned.

### Chat on the Corridor.

**WEDNESDAY**, 23rd March, was a great day for Institute sport, Institute spirits, and Institute life. For at last fortune turned, and our champions romped through the College defence to the tune of six goals to one. Yet the College, with an eleven somewhat inferior to that of last year, are still to be congratulated on their plucky and stubborn exhibition.

Our captain, Pugh ("Nil desperandum Pugho duce et auspice Pugho!") returned from a visit to the College on the 24th with that remarkably handsome Shield, which we hope will decorate our school premises for some years to come.

We have perpetrated a somewhat lengthy treatise elsewhere on the debates that took place since last issue, and the first session of the Society is now practically at an end. It is unlikely, and in our opinion inadvisable, that the meetings be resumed next term; for to most boys it is more congenial (and why not say more beneficial?) in the lengthening summer evenings, to while away an hour or so in the open air (if so startling a blessing as a fine summer is in store for us this year); more congenial than to pass the same time in a schoolroom, even though it be to discuss matters of universal interest, and to pronounce, in impassioned rhetoric, weighty opinions on burning questions of the day. Looking back on the session as a whole, we have reason for much satisfaction. Good speeches have been delivered. Naturally, however, there is room for improvement, and we cannot be thoroughly contented until every member has on some occasion or other got up, pulled himself together, and made a speech.

Old Boy news for this issue all centres around Mr. T. Lodge. Competing for the "Vidil" Prize for French, value £20, offered at Trinity College, Cambridge, he was second on the list, and, moreover, the student placed above him was a Frenchman. Also in the recent Inter-Varsity Chess Contest, in which Cambridge came out conqueror by 4½ to 2½, Mr. Lodge made his contribution to the success of the Cantabs by winning his game.

Shade of the Institute Chess Club! Creepily lurking around the class-room doors, and stalking through the passages! Perhaps, perhaps, thou wilt find some consolation in this news—and wilt rest quiet for a time, perturbed spirit! And so, with Shakespeare in our minds, we are led to the final topic of these alarmingly discursive remarks. We intend holding, at the end of the present term, a dramatic performance—a modest representation of the Bond scene (i. 3.), and of course the Trial Scene (iv. 1.), from the *Merchant of Venice*. Rehearsals have been in progress for several weeks, and, offering our hearty thanks to Mr. Coxhead for his strenuous and patient efforts to make our amateurish attempts presentable and efficient, we look forward to a highly successful performance, varied and enhanced as it will be by vocal and instrumental items as well.

### The Record Breaker.

(After Longfellow—a very long way.)

The noontide hour was nearing fast,  
As down a country road there passed,  
A bicycle; its human load  
Consisted of a man who rode  
To break a record.

His cap was torn, his face below  
Made him look like a freak "on show;"  
And like a flat tin whistle rung  
The accents of that cyclist's tongue,  
"I'll break the record!"

Refreshment shops oft met his sight,  
Where lemonade was gleaming bright;  
But still that cyclist did not stop,  
And from his lips let these words drop,  
"I'll break the record!"

"Don't go so fast," the small boy said,  
"Or else you'll tumble on your head.  
The wayside ditch is deep and wide."  
But still that high cracked voice replied,  
"I'll break the record!"

"Hi you!" the policeman said, "Just  
mind,  
'Scorch' on like that and you'll get  
fined."

His cap fell off his downbent head,  
But still that cyclist only said,  
"I'll break the record!"

"Fail in the ditch just down the lane,  
Ten men won't pull you out again."  
These words the farmer slowly said;  
A voice replied, a mile ahead,  
"I'll break the record!"

At dinner time, as homeward bound,  
Some cyclists traversed o'er the ground,  
Piercing the air with "Dolly Grey,"  
A voice near by groaned, "Cease that  
lay,

It's smashed the record!"  
A cyclist with a shattered "bike,"  
They found half buried in a dyke;  
The wheels and chain on him were  
piled,  
But still he cried, in accents wild,  
"I'll break the record!"

They took him up from where he lay,  
And gently carried him away;  
And as they placed him on a bed,  
"I've broken both my legs," he said,  
"But not the record!"

H. W. G.

### Liverpool Institute Old Boys' Union.

THE Second Smoker of the season was held at the Junior Reform Club, Stanley Street, on Wednesday, 9th March, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Owen. A flying visit was paid by Mr. W. C. Fletcher, who stayed about a quarter of an hour. This will probably be the last social that Mr. Fletcher will be able to attend, as he very shortly leaves this, the scene for nearly eight years of his scholastic work. The evening opened with a chorus "Forty Years on," followed by "John Peel." Then Mr. Nickson came blushingly forward, and told us of one McBrae, who attempted to reform, one New Year's Eve, a number of braw Scots by the aid of buns and coffee; needless to say, the attempt was unsuccessful. Mr. Keenan then gave a Japanese Fiddle Solo, "Meditation," which was much applauded. Mr. Nickson was again called on, and, in tragic heart-rending tones, related a pathetic story of a man who possessed but a single hair. Then followed Mr. Lonsdale with a humorous song, "the Piano Tuner;" Mr. Nathan with a thrilling piece, "Stand from Under;" then a duet entitled, "The Larboard Watch," by Messrs. Keenan and Edwards; and another contribution from Mr. Nickson, a humorous song, "Advertisements;" as an encore for which, we were favoured with that old favourite, "The Irish

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### GAMES REPORTS.

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Fire Brigade." Mr. Quail sang a spirited "Bandolero," and Mr. Hartley a fine song, "In Sympathy." After the Interval, Mr. Lenton gave "The Devout Lover" in splendid style. Mr. Keenan followed with another Fiddle Solo, selections from "Il Trovatore." Messrs. Quail and Hartley sang very successfully the duet, "The Moon hath Raised," for which an encore was demanded, and in response to which, "Excelsior" rendered. Mr. Nickson, who was in great request, sang "Killiecrankie," the chorus being heartily taken up by all the company. This was followed, in response to an encore, by an amusing sketch on national characters, inimitably rendered. The Programme ended with a song, "Blow, Blow, thou Winter Wind," to which Mr. Lenton did full justice.

All this time Mr. Work had been filling, and very well, too, the post of accompanist, and he may be assured that his efforts in this most necessary and important line met with deserved appreciation.

The Chairman then arose, and, on behalf of the meeting, thanked the gentlemen who, one and all, had so excellently contributed to the pleasure of the Old Boys that evening. After which, Mr. Nickson moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was heartily accorded, and was followed by "He's a Jolly Good Fellow." The proceedings terminated with "Auld Lang Syne," rendered in proper and enthusiastic style.

The last Smoker will be held in April, on some date to be decided, at which the usual business of the Union will first be transacted. This does not amount to much, and members are asked not to keep away on account of possibly prosaic but altogether necessary proceedings.

H. A. L.

### Games Reports.

FOR the third time in the history of the Shield, the Institute have succeeded in obtaining that cherished trophy. We are sure that you will all accord the winning team the deserved congratulations for their victory. Our only word is to exhort all the younger lads of the school to endeavour to retain the Shield for many a long day by united effort and determination. It has been, as far as can be gathered, one of the most successful seasons of our football club, and what its former accomplishments have been, can be better remembered by many of the readers of this Magazine. Indeed, if only we can manage to do as well in Cricket as in Football, our dearest hope and desire will be gratified. We hope plenty of vigour, perseverance, and enthusiasm will be infused into this summer sport. As for several years past, our Cricket ground will be at Sandown Lane, and already a meeting has been held in Mr. Groom's room to elect officers. R. W. T. Middleton was elected captain, J. Lee, sub-captain, and P. Probyn, secretary.

On behalf of those interested in Football, we would like to thank

Mr. T. Whiting for the interest he has taken in our Football this season, and would like to assure him that we appreciate very much his self-denial and painstaking. We would not forget to remember the interest also displayed by Messrs. H. R. Parkes, F. Parkes, and H. Tiffen, and thank them for their encouragement, criticism, and advice.

If there are any mistakes in names in the following accounts, I beg to offer my apologies, and to explain that, as I play in each, I cannot be expected to remember every detail.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S.

The above match was played at Wavertree, on a nice pleasant day. Pugh won the toss, and Rumjahn kicked off with the sun at his back. The Institute attacked straightway, Frank trying a shot which failed to score. A corner was conceded on further pressure, but proved futile. St. Francis Xavier's then pressed in their turn, but Muir saved a good shot from their centre-forward, and clearing, play was transferred to the other end. There, after some aimless play, our left got away, and from a centre Rumjahn scored our first goal (1-0). The Institute pressed, and again our left was conspicuous for some smart play, but, though the ball was centred, Probyn just shot too high. However, he was not to be denied, and from a pass he shot hard and well, beating their goalkeeper, and making our score 2-0. Our opponents now pressed, and our defence was tried. From an individual run, their outside left centred well, and the ball struck Pugh, who was in the goal-mouth, and went through, thus giving Xavier's their only goal (2-1). Then Galley led the attack of our forwards on the right, and from a nice centre in their goal-mouth, Rumjahn scored his second goal (3-1). Frank now took the ball away by himself, and added another goal (4-1), before the whistle was blown for half time. After the restart, play became more even, but the Institute returned to the attack, and, from a corner nicely taken by Galley, Probyn, using his head, sent the ball past their goalkeeper (5-1). The right back then tried a long shot which their goalkeeper kept out, and Frank, from the return, scored another goal (6-1). This was immediately followed by a goal conceded by Bennett (7-1), and then one of their backs scored against his own side (8-1). St. Francis now attempted to break away, but failed to get through, and, play now being confined to their half, Rumjahn scored again (9-1), his goal being immediately followed by a successful long shot from Galley (10-1). Frank then scored our last goal after some individual work, and thus left the score at 11-1 for us, when the whistle blew for full time. The Institute team was the future Shield team, viz:—Muir, goal; Middleton and Pugh, backs; Milliken, Lee, and Hughes, halves; Galley, Frank, Rumjahn, Probyn, and Bennett, forwards.

FOOTBALL CHALLENGE SHIELD.—FIRST ROUND.

Interest in the Shield Competition seems to have revived very much this year, no less than six schools having entered teams.

The ground was rather soft, but a good piece was chosen, which, being on the slope, had drained fairly well, and as the weather had cleared up, everything pointed to a good game. A fair number of Institute boys and masters turned up to cheer on the team, every member of which was keen on winning.

Losing the toss, Rumjahn kicked off against the slope, but with the sun and what little wind there was behind him. It was soon apparent that playing up hill did not handicap our fellows, as they were almost constantly in the visitors' half. It was some time before a goal was scored however, Bootle's "keeper" being very cool and safe. Galley, Probyn, Rumjahn, Bennett, and Lee, all in turn tried to score, Lee in particular sending in a very fine shot, which just skimmed the bar. The first goal was eventually scored by Rumjahn, from a very fine centre by Galley, who, in combination with Frank, had brought the ball up from near the half way line. P. Probyn soon afterwards scored from close in, Bennett having a share in the previous work.

Just before half time Rumjahn shot just outside the post, but immediately afterwards Middleton took a free kick against Bootle, from which Probyn scored a third goal, the Institute thus crossing over with the advantage.

Everyone expected the leaders to show up even better in the second half, when playing down hill, but Bootle were by no means done with, and played up very pluckily, being helped by having the sun behind them. They almost immediately forced a corner, which was well cleared. Rumjahn next made a good individual run, finishing, however, with a weak shot into the goal-keeper's hands.

At this point several good chances were spoilt by the forwards lying "off-side," Galley especially being frequently pulled up for this. Eventually, Bennett ran well up on the left and centred well, Probyn again putting on the finishing touch and scoring the fourth goal. From now to the end the Institute pressed almost continuously, but only one goal was scored, Rumjahn getting the ball out of a scrum near goal and putting it through. Bennett put in several good centres from the left; Lee and Hughes tried long drives from half back, and Frank made a good run, but shot wide. As a matter of fact, one or two members of the team needed training, and tired towards the end, so that play became disjointed, while the final shots often lacked sting.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

On 24th February our team met the above at Manchester. The ground was very soft and yielding, though it was not raining. Just for a change, I suppose! Pugh won the toss, and Manchester kicked off against a very zephyr-like wind. They began to attack immediately, but our defence was quite sound. Milliken especially was tackling very well, and gave our right-outside the opportunity which he immediately took, and shared with the others. The Manchester goal-keeper dealt with the shots with which he had to cope time after time with great certainty and

coolness. They all failed, however, as very few possessed much sting. This must, in some measure, be attributed to the heaviness of the ball, the ground, and everything in general; but our forwards must remember that they have to shoot hard if they are to win. Hughes, indeed, at half-back, did shoot several times with great precision and force, but his best shot just went over the bar. Just before half-time the game assumed a very even character, both ends being subjected to severe bombardments, but without any definite issue. On changing ends, Manchester ran up and shot at goal. Muir cleared, but failed to recover in time to deal with the next shot—1-0. The Institute now pressed hard and looked like scoring. Probyn tried hard on the left, but just missed; whilst Hughes again failed to beat their goal-keeper. Rumjahn kept up the pressure, and forced a corner which proved futile. He tried again several times, but being too well marked, failed to equalise; and, though our forwards maintained the pressure, yet they failed to score, and at full-time we found ourselves beaten 1-0. The score hardly represents the game. Our halves played a very hard and sound game, but the forwards as a whole were poor, though individually at times quite brilliant. They should use their eyes when passing, and work together more. The team seems to be in good condition, else they could not have lasted the whole time of one and a half hours on such a wet ground, and at a great pace. We had a good tea, a good game, and an enjoyable afternoon and evening.

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

We owe our thanks to the University Captain and Secretary, Messrs. Ackroyd and Speight, for playing us two extra matches, and we also owe much, I am sure, of the undoubted efficiency of our team to playing against their superior weight. Of the first of these games I remember little except that we were beaten 4-2, after a fairly good game; but of the second and last I retain rather pleasant memories. It was played on the same day as the College were striving with might and main to beat Birkenhead Institute in the semi-final. Our full Shield team was playing, namely, Muir, goal : Middleton and Pugh backs ; Milliken, Lee and Hughes, halves ; Galley, Frank, Rumjahn, Probyn and Bennett, forwards.

The University won the toss, and faced Smithdown Road. Rumjahn kicked off, and we immediately attacked, but being repulsed, their forwards took up the offensive, and gave us a hard time in keeping them out. After ten minutes' play Frank got away and scored a brilliant goal. This roused up the University, who rushed up the field and equalised. Yet we doggedly returned to the attack, being rewarded by a goal from Galley after a long run on the right, and then Hughes took a beautiful shot from a distance which dropped with great force behind their goal-keeper's hands—3-1. Probyn now became conspicuous in their goal-mouth, and after eluding three of their defence, quietly placed the ball in the left corner of the net—4-1. The game now became quite



exciting, and we waxed hilarious when Frank nipped in and scored our fifth goal. How to account for the collapse of the University in the first-half is beyond me, yet they set to with the determination of giving us a hot time in the second-half.

Their centre-forward set the example, and getting ahead of everybody, scored 5-2. Then the Institute tried to get away on the right, but were beaten back by sheer weight. Their inside-left now got away, and shot the third goal for the University—5-3; but we got going again, and Rumjahn, dodging their backs, looked as if he would score, but his legs were taken from under him, and play was returned to our half. Again the University scored from a short and sharp scramble before the goal-mouth—5-4. For the next eight minutes the Institute kept strictly on the defensive, and succeeded in winning, though threatened by several ominous *melées* in the goal-mouth.

#### SEMI-FINAL.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. WALLASEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

This game was played on 9th March, in bright weather. The ground, however, though never a very good one, was in a horribly muddy state, especially in one goal-mouth. It being a clayey ground, it caused the ball to shoot very much—a very nasty thing for the defence. Throughout the whole of the first-half no goal was scored, many opportunities were thrown away most wantonly, whilst almost all the shooting was poor. It was very hard to keep one's feet, however, and this interfered greatly, no doubt, with the accuracy of the shooting. The "School" only once were very dangerous when their inside left had a shot, which Muir cleared very effectively. After half-time, however, the game assumed a different character, for Rumjahn, almost from the restart, scored a goal from close-quarters. The Institute then kept up the pressure, and for the next ten minutes gave their defence an exceedingly busy time. Frank next scored after a clever piece of individual dribbling, beating their goal-keeper with a well placed shot. If it had not been for the goal-keeper's smart display, I am convinced that the score would have been about doubled, despite the energetic efforts of their backs. Probyn next became evident, for after a piece of neat combination with Bennett, he succeeded in netting the ball. Wallasey remained entirely on the defensive, whilst all their forwards stood looking on at the fun in their own goal mouth. Indeed, they only crossed the half-way line about half a dozen times, and then not the backs. From a corner by Galley, Rumjahn obtained our fourth and last goal, and about five minutes later the whistle was blown for full-time, leaving the score 4-nil.

#### SHIELD FINAL.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. LIVERPOOL COLLEGE, SHAW STREET.

An ideal day for football from almost everyone's point of view; just a crispness in the air, sufficient to remind one that spring was

but two days old; to counteract it a pleasant warmth in the sunshine; a wind so slight as to make no appreciable difference to the play in the eyes of the spectators; and a ground in wonderful condition after the many struggles of which it had been the scene. Such were the conditions under which was played, at Goodison Park, on 23rd March, the final tie of the Competition for the Shield. A considerable crowd, mainly of youthful supporters, had assembled, and enlivened the proceedings by their enthusiasm.

Both teams turned out in their full strength, and our own, at any rate, in the pink of condition. The game had not been in progress many minutes before the Institute succeeded in placing the first point to their credit, as a nice pass by Galley from the outside right was rushed through by Rumjahn (1-0). Before long, however, the College replied, for Wilson, on their left, following up a good kick from their backs, eluded Middleton, and equalised matters (1-1). For some time there followed give-and-take play in all parts of the field. Our forwards seemed puzzled by the size of the ground, and were passing somewhat wildly to the opposing backs rather than among themselves. At the same time they failed to harry their opponents by following up the ball, a policy which, however futile it may seem to everyone else, is always most disconcerting to a full-back with the heavy weight of responsibility upon his shoulders. Our full-backs were able to cope with the occasional rushes of the College team, but as the halves had hardly yet settled down to their places the game was not without its anxious moments. When half-time was called there did not seem to be much to choose between the two teams, and as the wind was very slight, there seemed every prospect of a close and exciting struggle (1-1).

Whatever be the reason, the College certainly failed to make any adequate reply to the fresh and vigorous efforts of the Institute, and at the last they were playing like a thoroughly beaten team. On our side, on the other hand, the weaknesses which had been evident during the first half were now scarcely apparent. The forwards passed less wildly, and infused more dash and go into their harrying of the opposing backs, the halves played more scientifically, and the backs had so thoroughly got over the strangeness of their surroundings that there is little to be said of the goalkeeper's play. He kicked off nicely once or twice, but we can say nothing more, except to assure him that previous experience had taught us that he was to be relied on if occasion should arise.

For the first quarter of an hour after half-time no change was made in the score. The Institute had rather the better of the game, but one or two chances of scoring were missed. This period of dulness was ended by a really pretty bit of combined play. Rumjahn passed out to Galley, who took the ball almost to the corner-post, and then returned to Rumjahn. He passed it on into the mouth of the goal, where Bennett dashed forward and netted the ball (2-1). The next score came from a shot by Probyn, which their goal-keeper saved for the moment, though ineffectually, as

Rumjahn worried it through (3-1). After this several corners were conceded by the College. They were well taken by Hughes and Galley, and, in the exchanges which followed them, no less than three more goals were added to our score. Of these the first fell to Rumjahn (4-1), as also did the second when he put through a shot by Bennett which had embarrassed their goal-keeper somewhat (5-1). The third fell as a surprise to Probyn, whose shot the goal-keeper missed, apparently owing to a slip or some similar mishap (6-1). Soon after this the whistle went for time, leaving the Institute winners of a long-coveted and well-earned victory by 6 goals to 1.

In conclusion, may we offer a word of congratulation to our opponents on the spirit in which the game was played? It is easier to be good tempered when winning than when losing, but scarcely on either side did we notice any of that conduct which has led us in hasty moments to stigmatize all league cups and shields as the curse of our modern sport. May this ever be true of our games! for so long as it is true, and only so long, may football claim to be the best of our English games.

[H. J. TIFFEN] — R. W. T. M.

### Liverpool University Letter.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE L. I. S. M.

DEAR SIRS,—Our newly found honours have made us so very far from humble that not even the high honour of being accorded space in your columns for a University Letter will make us apologetic. We have had our own Inaugural Ceremony, we have had our own Matriculation Ceremony, we have our own *Calendar*, Why not a University Letter?

The Matriculation Ceremony was a very solemn affair. The Vice-Chancellor addressed us in a serious vein; we marched past him solemnly in Indian file; he enunciated the formula—"I admit you a member of this University," and we filed soberly out. Not a cheer was raised, nor a clap. Even the familiar strains of "John Brown's Body" were hushed. In fact, it was disappointingly tame. Amongst this gloomy crowd were Grace and Veitch.

The Lent Term was brought to a close with the performance of another historic ceremony—or at least one hopes it will be historic—the first Graduation Ceremony under the new charter. Four students graduated in Medicine, amongst them being Mr. R. F. Thurten, an O. I. This name will consequently be amongst the first four on the roll of graduates.

The new *Calendar* will doubtless have by this time appeared at school. Its blue back and gold crest are something of which we feel rather proud.

Mr. J. A. Twemlow, B.A., a student of University College, who