

# LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE SCHOOLS MAGAZINE.

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## Editorial.

IT is our very pleasing duty to record in this issue the well deserved success of Messrs Goodwill and Whiting in the recent Bachelor of Science examination. As masters of our school, they have conferred another honour upon us. If they have gained such honours in a difficult examination, when their entire day is given up to the instruction of their pupils, what should we not be able to do when our whole time is devoted to study? The school has already shown its appreciation of the success, by its cheers in the hall, and we can only again offer them our hearty congratulations.

In recognition of these successes, the school was given a holiday on the morning of Saturday, 2nd December. Judging from the acclamation with which the announcement of the holiday was greeted, we conclude that those in whose honour it was given will be even more popular with the school than before, which is saying a good deal.

And now we must give our humble word of praise to our Headmaster. In striving to establish a stronger bond of union between the scholars of the two schools, he has organised a most interesting series of lectures, and has developed our existing choir in a manner of which we may be justly proud. On entering the hall on the evening appointed for the first practice, we saw a much larger assembly than we had anticipated, nearly every form being represented. Several days previously, when voices of prospective songsters were being tried, lengthy sixth-formers had amazed us—and themselves—by involuntarily producing the most unlooked-for harmonies. In his endeavours to qualify for a tenor, one of our friends, trying to exceed "top A," produced one of the most surprising sounds on record. We cannot attempt to describe it, even by simile; suffice it to say that he was quite taken aback at his own accomplishment. Thus we had reason to expect something amusing from the assembled choir, many of the members of which we knew to be novices. We were, however, disappointed—or should we say gratified—in our expectations. There was certainly some shyness at first, but that soon wore off, and in a short time the trouble was to suppress too lusty singing. The general effect was decidedly good, and reflects much credit upon our head, who was able to turn so much "raw material" to such good account.

Subsequent practices have been attended with increasing success, and—may we venture to hope it—our new choir should soon be able to turn out and give several items of a concert programme, when next our games fund proves unable to satisfy the claims upon it.

With regard to the lectures, the attendances are sufficient to prove that they are properly appreciated. Three hundred and three boys, as well as many parents and friends, were present at the lecture given by Professor Sidebotham on the "Polarisation of Light." We were somewhat surprised to see such a large number of the smaller boys present, for light polarisation is a very intricate and advanced subject. We got an inkling, however, when, on glancing at the notice board, we observed the "magic" words "with limelight illustrations," and our suspicions were strengthened during the evening, when the beauty of the illustrations decided the vigour of the applause. The beauty of the slides, however, was always directly proportional to the amount of trouble and patience expended in their manufacture. Mr. Sidebotham gave his lecture so well, that all present could understand its every point, and it was as interesting to those who had been previously ignorant of the subject, as to those to whom it was familiar. Probably the juniors knew the lecturer before, and hence were able to predict that any lecture given by him would be of interest to them.

Mr. Sidebotham's painstaking perseverance in manufacturing his exceedingly delicate slides and other apparatus, and his success in his very intricate hobby, should be a lesson to every boy who was present at the lecture. Accounts of the other lectures, each equally interesting, will be found in another part of the *Magazine*.

The exhibition has been extended this year to the whole school, after having for the two previous years been limited to the junior school. Previous exhibitions have brought much excellent work to light, specimens of nearly all the usual hobbies being shown, a high standard having been reached in painting, fretwork, drawing, modelling, carpentry, and in collections of all sorts. Now that the elder boys are eligible to compete, a still higher standard should be reached, especially in photography. We would make a special appeal to every boy to come forward and help this new—and what should soon become an important—feature of our school.

Finally, there seems to be considerable reticence on the part of our schoolfellows in submitting poems and drawings to us. There must be some budding poets and artists in both schools, and we assure them that we will willingly insert any of their productions which are reasonably good.

### Chat on the Corridor.

THE Musical Society is now well under way, thanks be to Mr. Weisse's untiring efforts, and of late, the Hall has resounded to

noises  
sounds and sweet airs that give delight and hurt not.

May the Society achieve the success which such a movement undoubtedly deserves.

A *propos* of things musical; we notice that the old upright which has done such yeoman service in the past, has been supplanted by a magnificent and highly polished grand, which occupies half the scanty platform.

On the suggestion of the Headmaster, a number of boys took the opportunity of attending the matinee performance at the Shakespeare theatre, to see Mr. F. Benson in the rôle of Henry V. The performance was capital, the interpretation of the character of *Pistol* being especially good. Several also went to see Mr. Maskelyne's show at Hope Hall and were mystified, if not initiated in the intricacies of sleight of hand, etc.

By a judicious arrangement with the managers, we were in each instance admitted at reduced prices.

The arrangements made with regard to the opera of *Lohengrin*, apparently fell through. Perhaps everyone was too *blasé* to manifest any interest in it.

Some of us were rather mystified when, during one morning, we were called into the Hall where much unaccountable cheering (to some) was indulged in. Our countenances cleared when we learnt that two of our masters had gained the degree of B.Sc. On the announcement of a holiday, which naturally followed, we blush to state that some thoughtless youngsters, unable to restrain their exuberance (at the thought of a holiday, I'm afraid), overstepped the bounds of propriety, and raised a cloud of dust, which, needless to say, was exceedingly disagreeable.

### "The Ordeal."

#### A MUSICAL EPISODE.

They slowly filed into the cold,  
draughty hall,  
Where now stood a stately new  
"grand,"  
With uncertainty writ on the faces  
of all,  
In response to the awful command.

But their fears were confirmed, for  
the Head struck a chord  
On the piano resplendent with po-  
lish.  
Their profuse protestations were se-  
renely ignored;  
One and all looked decidedly foolish.

The 1st and the 2nd beat a cowardly  
retreat,  
No. 3 sang delightfully low,  
No. 4 would have fain kept his hard  
wooden seat,  
For he sang like a broken-down  
crow.

No. 5 an octave too low then began,  
And groped with a pitiful zeal,  
Through the gamut of notes he be-  
wildering ran,  
The rest tried their mirth to con-  
ceal.

These painful proceedings continued some time,  
The voices (?) were mingled with grief,  
To harry their souls was a positive crime,  
The conclusion was hailed with relief.

A VICTIM.

### Our Lectures.

IT was with a feeling of mingled hope and pleasure, that we noticed a goodly list of lectures for the alternate Thursday evenings throughout the term.

Much speculation was rife as to the character of the first lecture when the subject was first announced. Those who came to that lecture ignorant of its character, yet trusting in the versatility of the headmaster, were very far from disappointed. The lecture was one of the most interesting and enjoyable of the series. We were startled by the colossal foes of our prehistoric ancestors, mammoths and megatheria. They recalled to the writer's mind the enormous skeleton of the *Diplodocus Carnegii* in the South Kensington Museum. We were shown the various ways in which many of our modern animals had been evolved from their prehistoric progenitors. From the huge foes of the past, we came to the almost infinitesimal enemies of our daily life. We were shown the bacteria of Anthrax and Erisipelas, Cholera and Consumption, the illustrations being interspersed with many interesting facts relative to their growth and the manner of their destruction. We went home in fear and trembling, half expecting to meet a woolly-haired rhinoceros or a mammoth at every corner, and fearing to breathe lest we should inhale whole armies of microbes. We are very grateful to Mr. Weisse for his most interesting and instructive lecture, and look forward to the time when he will be able to give us more.

On Thursday, 26th October, we were favoured by another visit from Mr. Garstang. There was a good attendance, a sure tribute to Mr. Garstang's popularity. We were once more transported to the land of the Pharaohs, with its temples and monuments of the past. We journeyed up the natural roadway of Egypt—the Nile—passing on our way the Pyramids and “the inscrutable Sphinx.” We stopped as before at the tombs and remains at Pylae, and were favoured with an excellent view of the great dam at Assuan. We then accompanied Mr. Garstang to his Egyptian residence, and were much interested in his description of the work of excavating a neighbouring tomb; our journey finished all too soon at Karnak. Our best thanks are due to Mr. Garstang for his excellent lecture, and also for the very fine set of slides which accompanied it. We trust that Mr. Garstang will find time to visit us again when he returns home after his next visit to Egypt, and can promise him a hearty welcome.

Those of us who take any interest in things scientific, looked forward with much interest to the lecture of Dr. Sidebotham, on Polarized Light. At length the evening arrived, and we were sitting listening while professor Sidebotham showed us a number of things that could be done with polarized light. We were first told how light is propagated, and the means employed in polarizing it. We were shown a large number of very fine effects obtained with

pieces of mica and a quarter-wave slide through the agency of polarized light. The lecture could not fail to be signally interesting to the veriest tyro. As the experiments were so numerous and varied, we cannot attempt to give any description of them,

An exceedingly interesting and instructive lecture was given on Saturday, 18th November, by Mr. Fulton, sub-editor of *Liverpool Post and Mercury*, the subject being the Production of a Modern Newspaper. A small charge was made for admission, boys paying fourpence and friends sixpence. A large audience—the largest, in fact, which has yet attended our lectures—patiently watched the large circle of light upon the screen until the appointed hour arrived, and then it was regaled with a very witty and fairly detailed account of the production of our newspapers. Commencing in the age when all epistles were written upon stone, we were brought down through the ages to the days immediately preceding the Renaissance, when printing was first seen in Europe, from whence we followed the development of the industry to its perfection in our own times. (By the way, it appears that in the olden days, he who aspired to the hand of an Egyptian beauty, was liable to be dismissed by her by means of his own love-letter—or should we say “love-tablet”—if his affections were not appreciated; in the case of economical maidens, the epistles were reserved for building the house when the lucky man was selected.) We were conducted through the printing offices, and allowed to inspect the various rooms and machines by means of the lantern. A description was given of the linotype and tape machines, and we were enabled to see both of them in operation by means of the cinematograph. The same instrument also permitted us to watch an exciting league football match, followed by the despatch by pigeon-post of the account and result of the match to the various newspaper offices. Returning to headquarters, we followed the news through the many stages preceding publication, and, finally, saw the papers despatched to the public. The lecture was a complete success, and that it was fully appreciated was made apparent by the hearty thanks accorded to the lecturer by his audience.

### The New Zealand Football Team in England.

AT the present time in England there are two things taking place. One is the over-turning of a Government, and the other is the shattering of all the principal Rugby teams in the country by the New Zealanders. But it is not proposed to discuss here the ethics of Balfour's or C-B's policy, nor yet Rosebery's antipathy to Home Rule, but rather the success of the Colonials—a theme which should prove of more interest to school-boy readers.

Everybody knows, of course, that through their peculiar costume, which is all black, even to their boots, and, for all I know, the laces as well, the visitors are nick-named the “All Blacks.” They seem, indeed, to be fond of introducing novelties, as for

instance their Maori cry, which they shout in chorus on the field just before every match, as if to strike terror into the hearts of their opponents. At any rate it serves to give proof of their tremendous lung-power.

Great success has accompanied their visit to this land. Up to the present moment they have scored 763 points against 22. They have claimed as victims all the crack teams—which now are “cracked” teams—of this country, including the three representative teams of England, Scotland and Ireland. Every victory, moreover, has been thorough.

The reasons for their phenomenal success are many. The principal reason is their excellent combination, and their machine-like sweepings down the field, which nothing can resist. Individually, every man is a tower of strength, a fast runner, and a perfect athlete. The team also includes one or two champions of sport, a hundred yards champion, and a hurdle champion. A great deal of their success must be ascribed to their perfect *esprit de corps*, for in their enthusiasm they can be compared to a team of school-boys, and their one object seems to be to win every game they play, and not to suffer one single defeat. They have already determined to score 1,000 points before leaving the country.

Then, they have brought a new formation of the players into the country, which they claim to be a more practical system than the usual one. The proof of the pudding is surely in the eating, and so many English clubs have tasted that they are going to cook their puddings in a similar manner and adopt this new formation.

England has always thought itself king in all branches of sport, but we have had to knuckle under this time in one branch at least. This may have the good effect of reviving Rugby football in the country, as of late years it has certainly been put in the shade by over enthusiasm in Association. Anyway, all Rugby players hope for this revival.

RED AND BLACK.

## Games Reports.

### FOOTBALL.

#### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. WALLASEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

PLAYED at Wallasey on Wednesday, 18th October. The Institute lined up as follows:—Middleton, Kininmonth and Jones, Wilkinson, Mackenzie and Schweitzer, Taylor, Scaife, Gourley, Sturgeon and Lee.

The opening stages of the game were of an even character. Our right made headway, but finished weakly. Pretty combination was shown all along by our forwards, and the result was a fine shot from Scaife which scored our first goal. Thus encouraged, Taylor ran down on the right and centred, from which Gourley added our

second goal. From the kick-off the Wallasey left got along nicely, but were pulled up by Kininmonth. Taylor again ran down, and gained a corner, from which Lee scored a third. Nice work by the Wallasey right and centre, ended in the latter scoring; Middleton having no chance of saving.

There was no further score in the first half. The second half of the game was very evenly contested, a fact which the score would not seem to indicate. Frequent rushes by the Wallasey forwards kept our halves busy, but these latter, especially Schweitzer, worked splendidly. Our forwards made good use of their opportunities, and Scaife and Lee each added two, bringing the score up to 7—1. Considering our team was rather an experimental one, the performance was distinctly good.

#### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. ST. FRANCIS XAVIERS

Played at Wavertree on Wednesday, 25th October. The Institute team was:—Middleton, Kininmonth and Jones, Milliken, Mackenzie and Schweitzer, Taylor, Scaife, Gourley, Lee and Watters.

This game was too one-sided in character to chronicle in detail. Our opponents' form has gone down very much, and we found ourselves opposed by boys of half our size. It was a great day for our forwards, every one of whom scored. Watters made numerous runs down the wing, and not only succeeded in himself scoring five goals, but also contributed largely to the scoring of the remaining five. Our defence had quite a holiday, and it is doubtful whether Middleton touched the ball at all.

#### INSTITUTE v. SHAW STREET COLLEGE.

Played at Wavertree Playground, 8th November. Result:—Institute, 6 goals; College, 1. Institute team:—Middleton, Thomas and Milliken, Ferguson, Lee and Mackenzie, Unsworth, Probyn, Gourley, Scaife and Sturgeon.

The weather on this occasion was not unfavourable, and there was no wind likely to spoil the pleasure of the game. The ground was not wet enough to cause discomfort from slipping, but just sufficiently damp to afford a soft treading to the players.

From the College team there was a marked absence of the majority of last year's players, whilst amongst our players more than half were old “reds.” This may act as a slight consolation to the College for their somewhat squashing defeat.

The Institute held the upper hand during the most part of the game, but their goal was nevertheless many times in danger from the rushes of the College forwards. Though the whole game was not a brilliant, but rather a disappointing display of football, the first part was without doubt the better. Five of the seven goals were scored before half-time. The Institute did not show much

combination, but they managed to score four goals through Probyn (3) and Milliken (from a penalty); whilst the College scored their orphan goal from the right wing after a bully in front of goal.

An utter lack of combination characterized our play in the second half. This is generally the case when victory seems so near, and no effort is required to obtain it. The College did not score again, but at the same time defended their goal better than before. Mid-field play formed the second half of the game, but we increased our score by two goals—Scaife and Sturgeon having the credit for them.

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

Played at Wavertree, Wednesday, 29th November.

The Manchester fixtures form one of the principal items of the season's programme, for in the Manchester team we find, as a rule, one of our toughest adversaries. The strongest team available was therefore put into the field to prevent the Mancunians from taking any honours home with them.

It will be remembered that in last season's encounters we won by a good margin at Wavertree, and succeeded in pulling off a draw at Manchester.

The Institute lined up as follows:—Middleton, goal; Milliken and Crosby, backs; Mackenzie, Lee and Ferguson, half-backs; Williams, Scaife, Gourley, Probyn and Watters, forwards.

Almost immediately after the commencement the home team made headway, chiefly on the left wing, and the Manchester defence was taxed to the utmost. Several "pots" were essayed, but in every case they went wide of the mark. Our first goal occurred about twenty minutes from the start, and accrued from a centre from the right wing which Probyn met and deftly turned into the corner of the net.

One would have thought that this reverse would have acted as a stimulus to the efforts of the visitors, but the "reds" again returned to the attack.

Gourley nearly succeeded in scoring, but overran the ball in the goal-mouth. Mackenzie volleyed in distinctly the best shot of the afternoon; but the Manchester's goal-keeper effected an excellent clearance at the expense of an abortive corner. Manchester next attacked for a short spell, and a glorious chance was missed, and half-time came with the Institute pressing.

After the re-start, the conditions of play remained similar to those which characterized the first half. The School maintained the upper hand, and it was only through the dogged resistance of the Manchester defence that their goal several times escaped downfall.

The visiting forwards now made an unexpected run, and scored with a rather tame, though perhaps deceptive shot—their only shot. This success spurred the Mancunians to further efforts, but their rushes were staved off. The light was beginning to fail. The Institute, as the result of a determined attack, gained several

corners, but in almost every case these were placed behind. Some effective combination between Watters and Probyn resulted in the latter scoring our second goal with an oblique shot a few minutes before time. Result: 2—1.

It might be surmised from the resulting score that the struggle for victory was a hard fought one. Had our forwards been a little happier in their shooting, at least double the number of goals obtained would have been recorded. The erratic shooting can only be accounted for by the greasy nature of the ground, and the poor condition of the ball provided.

#### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE.

Played at Birkenhead on Saturday, 2nd December. The Institute team was:—Middleton, Crosby and Jones, Mackenzie, Lee and Ferguson, Taylor, Scaife, Sturgeon, Roberts and Williams.

We were, unfortunately, forced to place rather a weak team against our opponents' strong combination, and hence sustained our second defeat of the season.

Immediately on the kick-off, the Birkenhead left rushed down and centred. Their centre shot, and the ball going through a crowd in the goal-mouth, scored. This reverse stimulated our forwards, and Taylor and Scaife made a good run on the right, but nothing came of it. However, we kept pegging away, and from a centre by Williams, Scaife equalised. The game now became very fast, and frequent rushes by their forwards kept our defence busy. The ground, rather soft to begin with, now became heavy, and the pace slackened visibly. Crosby pulled up their right wing smartly, and passed the ball to Williams who, however, was robbed. Birkenhead resumed the pressure from a scrimmage in the goal-mouth, the ball cannoned through off Jones. The interval came soon after this. The second half was not nearly so fast. Their left wing was very clever and fast, and Jones and Mackenzie had plenty to do to watch them. Sturgeon and Roberts made tracks for their goal, but the latter shot wide. Fouls, unfortunately, became rather common, and the game deteriorated in character generally. Birkenhead were pressing nearly all the time, and from a breakaway by their outside left they scored a third goal.

#### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. UNIVERSITY "A."

Played at Wavertree, Wednesday, December 13th.

As the previous fixture with the University had been cancelled owing to inclement weather, the two teams met on the University ground for the first time this season. The School team consisted of Middleton, goal; Crosbie and Mr. Kennard, backs; Jones, Lee and Ferguson, half-backs; Milliken, Scaife, Gourley, Probyn and Watters, forwards.

A slight wind was blowing across the ground when the University kicked-off, which gave neither side much advantage. The

blues (University have changed their colours) attacked for a few minutes, but we were soon down at the other end. After about ten minutes' play, Probyn opened the score with a dropping shot.

Watters was noticeable for his runs down the wing, and accurately timed centres, from one of which Scaife added a second goal. 'Varsity now had a spell of attacking, during which Crosby chested the ball, the referee awarding a penalty from which Flenley scored. A few minutes after the ball had been centred, Milliken scored from a cross on the right. The "reds" continued to have a good share of the game. Gourley finally closing the scoring in the first half with a fourth goal.

During the second half play slackened slightly, the right wing of the University making headway. Mr. Kennard, however, proved a tower of strength for the School, and cleared his lines time after time. Middleton, in goal, also acquitted himself well, and threw no chances away. We again opened the scoring as the result of a penalty against the blues' centre-half, Lee netting the ball.

End to end play followed, the blues' wing men sending in good centres which were not taken advantage of. The Institute gained a corner, from which an exciting *mêlée* took place in the goal-mouth, but the ball was kicked clear. Scaife closed the scoring with a good shot at a difficult angle close to goal.

Result :—Institute, 6 ; University "A," 2.

### Camera and Field Club Notes.

WE who revel in the "Art Pictorial" have had very little opportunity this term of increasing our collection of negatives. We have, however, spent some of our time in learning methods of improving and remedying the pictures we obtained last term. How to tone a print, having already obtained it, is a subject of which many beginners know very little. The introduction of self-toning papers possibly explains this ignorance, but can hardly be said to excuse it. The everlasting brown tones of self-toning paper tire the eyes, and it is with a feeling of relief that we turn to the purples and rich velvety blacks of gold toned prints.

It was with the object of demonstrating the advantages to be derived from suitable methods of toning that Mr. Malkin took charge of our first meeting. We had a smaller number turn up than was expected, but what we lack in quantity we amply make up for in quality in the Camera Club.

Our second meeting this term was held in the Physics Laboratory as usual. We briefly considered the various physical and chemical changes that occur in the process of making a photograph.

Of all the meetings held this term that devoted to enlarging seemed most popular. It is at these meetings that quantity as well as quality is found. It has been said that "every picture tells a story"—the sight of many pictures now adorning the walls of some

drawing-rooms will doubtless conjure up memories to the youthful artist—memories of swimming dishes and dripping paper, eager faces shining in the ruddy glow of the ruby lamp, a slight mistake in the order of the bath, resulting in the fixing of a blank piece of paper absolutely innocent of any mark or sign of picture. We had two meetings for enlarging, both of which were well attended—too well in fact for the limits of the dark room. We are greatly indebted to Mr. Malkin for his kindness in initiating us into the mysteries of this portion of our subject.

Of late we have noticed a certain commercial instinct making itself evident among our members. The enlargement whose production costs fourpence is sold to an obliging relative at a gain of 50%. Who said present-day precocity was confined to music?

We hope to have more meetings next term of a like nature, combined with a few out-door excursions. We shall always be pleased to give information to any who think of joining. Announcements and all necessary arrangements will be found upon the club's notice-board from time to time.

W. E. G.

### 1st C.B.K.L.R., D Company.

THIS is not the season for volunteering, so there is not much to record of the doings of the company. Drill has been very irregular this term, but in spite of that fact, the company has not lost the high degree of efficiency gained at camp. Recruiting has been most successful in the High School, but quite the reverse in the Commercial; we hope the Commercial will not be backward next term. A new feature, in the shape of a Topography class, has been tried, and has proved very successful. We have to thank Mr. Brierley for his kindness in conducting the class, and we feel sure that all will benefit from his instruction. Mr. Brierley has delivered a series of lectures on the subject, and intends to follow them up by some afternoons spent in the country, putting into practice what we have learnt at school. The idea of the class is to train a certain number of Cadets to be really expert scouts, and to be able to draw up a report of the nature of any area of country they have been sent to survey. It is most gratifying to see how popular the class has become. Major Leslie has twice taken Cadets out into the country to instruct them as to what they should report when taking a survey of the country, and as to how they should report it. The first expedition was spoiled by the rain, and nothing much could be done. The second, however, proved very successful, Major Leslie taking us as far as Roby, where he very kindly provided tea.

The Annual Prize giving of the battalion takes place next February, and we hope it will be as successful as its predecessor. There are quite a number of cups to be competed for, among them being the Ellison Cup, which will be won for the first time next

year. Besides the cups, there are the company prizes, for which competition is very keen.

There is nothing more to note, except that we wish any Cadets who may be leaving this term to keep on with the corps by joining the Old Boys (E) company. It is astonishing how ignorant many of the boys in the school are with regard to the company; they don't know what a Cadet corps really is, many of the older boys thinking it is nothing more than an advanced Boys' Brigade. They are quite mistaken. Cadet battalions are included in the volunteer list, they rank with all other volunteer regiments, they go through the same course, their officers hold their commission from the King, and every year they are inspected by an officer of the regular forces who is detailed for the purpose. In view of this, we hope to see many more recruits next term, and recruits of the right stamp.

### The Swimming Gala.

OUR fifth annual Swimming Gala was held at the Lodge Lane Baths on the evening of Monday, October 23rd. The weather without was exceptionally wintry for the time of year, and this fact perhaps somewhat lessened the number of spectators. Moreover it cannot always be our good fortune to be favoured with such an exhibition as Mr. Robinson so kindly gave us in 1904, and perhaps the attendance suffered also through his unavoidable absence. However, the loss was to those who failed to come. Those present once more enjoyed to the full as fine an exhibition of racing as they could wish, and an organisation which worked without a hitch. Perhaps the most remarkable feature was the closeness of the finishes. More than once the judges failed to separate the winners, and on still more occasions the casual spectator was surprised to find that they had been able to do so.

And was there no less satisfactory side to the picture? We may perhaps note one or two points which might be amended. To begin with there were not so many competitors from the High School as there should have been. Why this should be so, it is hard to say, but we could not help feeling that, though bringing no discredit on their representatives, the result of the squadron race was to the High School a blow which they thoroughly deserved. Dutton's accident may have been bad luck, but there ought to be far more competitors ready to take his place, and to enter for the other events as well. Let us now congratulate the Commercial School on a well-earned victory, and hope that they will not again win so easily.

The diving struck us as neat, though the thought also occurred whether it might not be possible to substitute either a long dive, or a dive for plates, in the place of that mysterious forward progression on the back, which takes so long, and seems so tiring and useless. Honest back swimming we would encourage as tending to improve the leg stroke, but this variation of it seems to savour rather of the acrobatic feat.

One other suggestion we would venture to make, and we fear that it involves a criticism. On consulting former records we find the same complaint made year by year, and the grounds for it have certainly not been removed. This complaint deals with the lack of leg stroke shown by all the competitors. With the finest example in the world to imitate, the result is almost grotesque. In one case it is hardly an overstatement to say that a boy swam a race without using his legs at all except as a pivot for the convulsive workings of his arms and shoulders. In racing, we know, all considerations of form and style must go to the winds, but on the other hand form and style are never of much value unless they conduce to speed or staying power. The highest development of these, however, can only be attained by a long period of careful practice, in which style and a strong leg stroke are persistently aimed at, and to any boy who will work at this for some weeks at the beginning of the season we may promise a rare harvest of victory when October once more comes around. Could not the authorities also do something to encourage such practice, by arranging that one or more races should be restricted to breast-stroke swimmers only?

In conclusion, may we heartily reiterate the very cordial vote of thanks by which those present showed their appreciation of the continuous work of Mr. Eaves and Mr. Bickerstaffe on behalf of the swimming club, and may we also express our thanks to those whose official assistance contributed to the success of the meeting?

The following is a list of the winners of the various events:—

*One Length Handicap for Beginners*—

Group A—1st, D. Dalzell; 2nd, H. Clarke.  
Group B—1st, R. J. Hill; 2nd, H. Wilkie.

*Two Lengths Handicap*—

Group A—1st, E. Gledsdale; 2nd, { W. C. Wilkinson.  
M. Lowe.  
Group B—1st, H. A. Rogers; 2nd, R. Aldersen.

*Four Lengths under 15 (Scratch Race)*—

1st, H. C. Bell and H. B. Bisset, equal.

*Four Lengths over 15 (Scratch Race)*—

H. F. Williams.

*High School Championship, six lengths*—

1st, R. F. Lodge; 2nd, H. A. T. Smith.

*Commercial School Championship, six lengths*—

1st, H. E. Williams; 2nd, W. Dowd.

*Neat Dive, under 15*—

P. Law.

*Neat Dive, over 15*—

A. E. Bagnall.

*Two Lengths on Back*—

H. C. Bell.

*Clothes Race*—

1st, H. E. Williams; 2nd, L. H. F. Young.

*Obstacle Race, two lengths*—

1st, W. Dowd; 2nd, H. A. T. Smith.

*Old Boys' Race, six lengths*—

1st, R. McKenzie; 2nd, J. H. Hughes.

### The Hobby Show.

ON the evening of Wednesday, December 13th, was held the Annual Exhibition of Hobby Work. The distinctive feature of this year's Exhibition lay in the fact that for the first time the Hobby Show was thrown open to the whole school, whereas in previous years it had been restricted to the Junior High School.

At 7 p.m. prompt the doors were thrown open, and immediately the Exhibition room, the largest which could be obtained for the purpose, was invaded by an ever increasing throng of visitors. The green covered tables bearing the various styles of work were quickly surrounded by an interested group of spectators.

The room itself was ornamented with festoons in such a manner as to make one quite forget that it had been the scene of heart-breaking examinations in the early part of the day.

The exhibits, we are glad to say, were both varied and numerous, each one bearing a distinct stamp of individuality and resourcefulness.

Some of them are specially worthy of comment. With regard to the specimens of drawing which were shown, we observed that the tendency to depict nautical scenes was predominant, and the youthful artist of 7½ years shows early promise as a seascape painter. We were astonished to find such a large amount of needlework of one sort or another. There were, amongst others, pincushions, penwipers, tablecentres, doormats and d'oyleys. Of the last named articles, one made by a boy of 13 was (though we do not set up to be critics in this particular department), to our mind, an excellent illustration of what deft fingers and a little patience can accomplish.

One or two models of the mechanical type were remarked, which, though somewhat crude in appearance, certainly embodied the principle of the more elaborate and practical machine which they represented.

There was a large percentage of fretwork in the room, amongst which the name of Hart was conspicuous; all of it reached a fair standard of workmanship.

Bisset is to be complimented on his choice selection of butterflies, which were arranged in a careful and judicious classification.

Several collections of miscellaneous articles helped to swell the exhibit, that of Eyton-Jones being decidedly interesting.

If the nature of the exhibit is in any way indicative of the disposition of its exhibitor, that of the young gentleman who submitted to the gaze of the visitors a particularly murderous looking weapon, must be exceedingly bloodthirsty.

The excellent photographic lantern slides manufactured by W. E. Gibbs were deserving of a close scrutiny.

One might continue at some length in enumerating the different objects that met the eye, but in conclusion we must state that the general standard of merit attained was, to our mind, much higher

than that of last year, and more ingenuity was shown in each department.

It is to be hoped that this will continue to improve in like proportion. Mr. Coxhead is to be congratulated on the success which has attended his efforts in organising the show of hobby work.

When the visitors had satisfied their appetites for examples of juvenile precocity they adjourned to the Hall, where a first-class musical programme was served.

Mr. Weisse opened the second part of the programme with a few words on Hobbies, pointing out the advisability of every lad having some "horse to ride," and appealing to parents to help him.

The concert began with one of "Papa" Haydn's quaint old works—a trio for violin, 'cello and piano. Quite in the master's style, the music soon transported us back to the days of long ago; it was admirably interpreted under difficulties. If there is room to criticise, we would say that the 'cello was rather too subdued: Crabbe must remember that the work is a trio, and his part not a mere accompaniment. Lyon has both skill and taste, and with increasing years will doubtless acquire that breadth of tone which is all that is needed to make him a very good amateur. The second, and better known movement, which was performed later in the evening, with its old repeated Gipsy melodies—so they seem to us—was enthusiastically encored, and with reason. Mr. Weisse, and indeed the school, has every reason to be proud of his two *protéges*. Of his own playing, one can only say this—it was worthy of him. The Glee Club made its first bow to the public and undoubtedly scored the success of the evening. Their first part song—Mendelssohn's ever fresh "Solitude"—was exceedingly well done, the parts were well balanced and sustained, and here, as in Smart's "Lady Rise" evidence was given of very careful training. A Roundelay was the last item on the programme, perhaps not quite so well rendered as the other two, but yet very creditable to all, and we feel sure that never again will a concert in the Institute be complete without our Glee Club. Success and long life to it!

Two songs were sung by Inglis and Finan respectively. They both have sweet clear voices, though Finan was rather indistinct in pronunciation at times, and Inglis appeared very nervous. They both deserve praise for their efforts, and assurance that there is no need for nervousness—we are all friendly and thankful to them.

Young Book, with his funny little bow, amused us much with the sad story of the mad dog, and his encore piece was very enjoyable—half-Book, albeit, as it was. He has a very clear voice and recites well, and we look forward to hearing him in something more ambitious shortly.

Eyton-Jones performed very creditably a rather pretty Waltz by Durand, and we hope to hear him soon in more serious works.

One item had, unfortunately, to be omitted owing to the illness of the young violinist, but the programme was in the highest degree enjoyable, and reflects great credit on all concerned. We await

the announcement of the next concert, and look forward to it with feelings of pleasure.

### Liverpool Institute Old Boys' Association.

A GENERAL Meeting was held on 11th October at the School, Mr. Weisse presiding. It was decided to arrange for life membership of the Association, the subscription for which was fixed at one guinea, this, however, not to include a free copy of issues of the *Schools Magazine*. It was also decided to change the official year from January 1st to December 31st, to October 1st to September 30th. Members, therefore, who have paid their subscription to December 31st, 1905, will be required to pay half the amount to carry them on to September 30th, 1906. Needless to say, the Treasurer will be glad to receive these half subscriptions. A musical programme then followed, and, after coffee, Mr. Weisse showed on the screen a number of very interesting microscopic slides. Messrs. H. R. Edwards and S. J. Roberts gave us some good songs, and Messrs. Woodley, Jarvis and Alf. Edwards obliged with humorous songs and sketches. Mr. Robert Harvey kindly officiated at the piano in a very able manner.

The second Social was held in the Hall on Wednesday, 6th December. The attendance was fairly satisfactory, about 80 or 90 Old Boys assembling. We hope, however, to have more than twice this number at the next meeting. It was a very successful evening, and our thanks are due to Mr. A. R. Book, who came at very short notice, and revived our memories of that well known and appropriate song, "Christmas comes but once a year," of which the chorus is not the least part. Our acknowledgements are also due to Messrs. S. J. Roberts, J. J. Bell, H. F. Lenton and W. Bailey, who all sang well; to Messrs. Work who gave a fine duet "Flow gentle Deva;" to Mr. Woodley Jarvis for several amusing yarns and sketches; and to Mr. H. A. Bell for some good Scotch stories. The accompanying was in the capable hands Mr. Weisse, Mr. Norman and Mr. Chas. Work, and a most enjoyable evening was terminated in the usual way.

The two remaining fixtures are the second Annual Dinner on January 24, and the last Social on March 7. Particulars of the Dinner will be announced later.

### Editorial Notices.

We have to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of subscriptions from the following:—J. Twemlow, Esq. (one year); H. Eggington, Esq. (two years); H. Watts, Esq. (four years); E. Cox, Esq., H. B. Jenkins, Esq. (two years).

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