

Miseri cordias Domini

in aeternum cantabo.



THE ABINGDONIAN.

No. 17. Vol. 2.

APRIL 1900.

Price 6d.

Contents.

	PAGE
EDITORIAL	244
A JAPANESE FIRE	245
BEAUTY'S EPITAPH.....	248
LIFE'S UNREALITIES	248
FOOTBALL	249
SUMMARY OF MATCHES	252
CHARACTERS OF THE XI.	252
FOOTBALL SIXES.....	253
ATHLETIC SPORTS	254
SCHOOL STEEPLECHASES	255
SCHOOL NOTES	256

EDITORIAL.

AS there seems to be some doubt about what particular century we are in, we have this term created a couple for ourselves. But they are not of the chronological order. The first is numerical only and concerns our population, which has risen from 98 to 108. This is due to the opening of the new Boarding House in the Marcham Road, which promises to be a great success. We extend a cordial welcome to Mr. and

Mrs. Wimberley and the boys, several of whom have already shown their value in the life of the School. We were surprised and not a little awed when we first beheld the new comers, as we had not expected them to be either so numerous or so big: but familiarity has bred confidence, as usual, and we can only hope that they are as well satisfied with us as we are with them.

The other century alluded to is of a sporting nature. Our Football Club has for the first time in its history been successful in placing over 100 goals to its credit during the season. For more than half of these our Captain, P. L. Deacon, is responsible, but he has been ably supported by a keen and energetic following. If sometimes we have done worse than was expected, at others we have certainly done better, so that on the whole there is every reason why we should be pleased with our retrospect.

For the rest this term will be principally memorable for its good news and its bad weather. But the good news was public property, wherefore we thank God for our common heritage, the British Empire! And as we do not suppose that the bad weather was wholly confined to Abingdon, we content ourselves by remarking that it interfered somewhat with our Football fixtures, gave us, besides many colds, some snow-balling and a little skating, and postponed for a fortnight the beginning of the Rowing season, for the river was quite impracticable by reason of the floods.

The Rowing prospects of the School are very promising. There are two of last year's Four remaining and plenty of promising material from which to fill the vacancies. Mr. Airy is again indefatigable in his coaching and a new and valuable ally has appeared in the person of Mr. Wimberley. We note too that there is more general keenness amongst the boys than in previous years. It is to be hoped that the Crew will give a good account of itself next term, and that it will be possible to arrange for one or two other contests besides the annual race with the Old Boys.

Of our Cricket prospects we are not yet in a position to speak with any certainty. It is true that several of last season's champions have left, but, taking into account the increase in our numbers and the natural development of junior talent, we do not consider that there is any ground for apprehension.

Before this magazine is in the hands of its readers, the School Sports and the Sports *v.* the Old Boys will be things of the past. Our thanks are due to all those who in various ways are contributing to make them the success that they ought to be.

A JAPANESE FIRE.

Yokohama will not easily forget the spring of '95. In that year the town sustained, within three days, two disasters, either of which from a non-resident's point of view might be considered sufficiently formidable to warrant a longer interval. But familiarity tends to breed contempt, and the inhabitants of the Land of the Rising Sun have come to look upon such incidents as trivial and common place, on account of their frequency.

One excessively hot day, somewhere about noon, we were violently shaken up and reduced to a state of panic by five or six continuous shocks of earthquake. The damage was considerable, but most of it fell to the share of the houses situated on the "Bluff," which are built on a solid rock foundation. We on the "Bund," a road that skirts the shore, the fashionable promenade of Yokohama, escaped very cheaply, although the vibration exceeded the average in duration, lasting about four minutes.

The next little incident was a huge fire. At the fire the questionable advantage of personal experience felt during the earthquake was exchanged

for the position of an onlooker; nor was it less agreeable on that account! So to the fire.

The first intimation of the conflagration in progress was given by a dense track of smoke, that streamed out to sea overhead, as if the united factories of the Black Country were discharging their gloomy clouds into the smokeless atmosphere of Japan. Hatless I rushed off to the scene of operations. There was not the slightest difficulty in finding the way. Had not the dark line overhead been sufficient guide, the streets, as one neared the creek, were filled with a stream of poor people who swayed wildly along, regardless of everything but a confused idea of saving something amid the general destruction that had overwhelmed their homes. Each was doing his utmost in this direction and staggered along encumbered with every conceivable description of household furniture. One individual, for example, bore under his left arm a bundle of matting and a load of cooking utensils, whilst with the other he supported a panic-stricken child. On his head was a pile of mattresses crowned by a few lattice windows! Some were even more ambitious.

In the vicinity of the bridge progress became difficult against the tide of humanity, and some caution was needed in order to avoid violent collision. The Japs on this side of the creek manifested great activity, scrambling about the shingled roofs and gables of their houses and deluging them with water. I secured a capital position on the summit

of one of the bridge gates, which commanded a view of the blazing portion of the town; and as the bridge itself formed the only outlet from the burning area, the crowd that struggled across beneath was enormous.

Close here a poor old man, who had just crossed, tripped over one of the hoses. A large cabinet he was carrying slipped from his hands scattering its contents far and wide. As he stooped to collect them, the press behind overwhelmed him, and he was forced to abandon his treasure.

At the opposite corner stood the solitary fire-engine, belching forth smoke and working at its highest pressure, as indeed was necessary, for the miserable machine had to supply no less than seven hoses! All these had been conducted across the bridge, and as each leaked profusely, the condition of the road fully merited the terse description of a Yank, who "surmised" it to be "kinder damp." The efforts of this antiquated tin kettle were supplemented by hosts of hand-pumps, of construction wonderful, and varying in capacity from an ordinary manual to a glorified garden syringe. Mostly of native construction they bore fantastic devices laid on in colours of oriental vividness; but they were vigorously plied, with water obtained from the creek, and being on the spot probably contributed as much real service as the engine across the creek.

On the other side the fire continued to rage as furiously as ever, notwithstanding that it had swept away the greater part of the "Matenzie" quarter,

which consisted for the most part of small shops and bazaars. As the fire attacked each fresh house it smouldered for a moment; then blazed up in a terrific smother of flame and smoke, mounting twenty or thirty feet into the air, and finally subsided with a dull thud, audible for miles, as the massive roof fell in. The whole affair was over in five or six minutes and the operation was repeated with the next opposing structure.

A propos of such a statement, that to many will appear a gross exaggeration, it may be well to explain the wonderfully light construction of an ordinary Japanese dwelling. Light pine timbers constitute the framework, and the whole edifice is surmounted by an unusually heavy roof of tiles (three layers deep), which projects round the building, affording shelter to numerous balconies, and by its weight probably adding stability in view of frequent earthquakes. In lieu of windows delicate lattices, coated on one side with tough rice paper, are fitted in the form of sliding doors in the outside walls. They extend the length of a room and are also utilised to form the inner partitions of the house. These lattices slide in grooves horizontally and form an excellent substitute for glass. At night an outer row of shutters is drawn for further protection and warmth. A house better adapted to commemorate the 5th of November could scarcely be put together!

The creek itself, so often mentioned, presented a remarkable appearance. It

had done good service in checking the advance of the fire in the direction of the Bund, for nothing remained of the houses on the opposite bank but smouldering ruins, eve down to the water's edge. So situated the creek offered to the denizens by the riverside a desperate means of saving some of their property. Of this they were not slow to avail themselves and consigned their scanty furniture, matting, doors, in fact anything that would float, (together with much that would not!) to the waters of the creek. In a very short time the surface became absolutely covered, and amongst the heterogeneous mass of floating débris some of the owners thereof could be seen swimming, in the hope of recovering some cherished article. Others less venturesome pursued their quest from the useful if somewhat roughly built "sanpan."

The fire was now fast expiring before the assaults of its rival element, when an event occurred which gave it an opportunity of re-asserting itself. Some sparks from the stream overhead had at last succeeded in igniting the shingled roof of a resident's house this side the creek. Instantly a spectacle that awoke curious interest was transformed into one of anxious alarm, as far as the residents were concerned, and unless my memory plays me very false, from the seven hoses supplied by the engine, six were dragged back across the bridge, and their contents directed against this solitary outburst. Doubtless the comparative value of European and native (life and) property warranted the action.

Towards evening, a party of four, we explored the region over which the flames had lately raged with such effect. The smouldering cinders underfoot played sad havoc upon shoe-leather, but this reflection moved none of us very deeply. We seemed to be standing on a dusky plain, from which all traces of streets and pavements seemed to be obliterated. The ground was many inches deep in black dust, probably the result of intense heat upon the tiled roofs ; but here and there the blackened outline of a brick-built house rose up gaunt and dreary, just as the giants of the forest remain scorched and leafless, after the fire has swept away the undergrowth around them. These brick buildings, in anticipation of such events, are constructed with fire-proof doors and shutters, which, owing to the impatience of the flames to transfer their attentions elsewhere, are sufficient to preserve their contents.

The sum total of damage amounted to over 1000 houses destroyed, and although this number is thought by no means extraordinary for a Japanese fire, it created considerable excitement in Yokohama. The residents subscribed liberally towards a relief fund, and three days after the disaster, incredible as it may appear, the industrious little Jap had removed the débris, mapped out the streets, and laboured with such success, that everywhere the frameworks and scaffoldings of fresh houses had sprung up, Phœnix-like, from the ashes ; and ere the moon completed her allotted course, the benignant Fujiyama could

smile down once more on a peaceful and unbroken city !

C.B.G.

BEAUTY'S EPITAPH.

Here lies a temple, built for God,
The walls whereof, once fair to see,
Are lowly laid beneath the sod,
Untimely wrecked by high decree.

Men used to worship here, but one
Forsook the God to serve the fane :
Wherefore perhaps this deed was done,
To turn him to his vows again.

Then maybe that the Architect
Of these same relics of decay
Will yet a dateless fane erect,
All perfect in the perfect day.

R-B.

LIFE'S UNREALITIES.

The mind is its own place, and of itself
Can make a heav'n of hell.

MILTON.

How many of us have not often wondered, looking upon the life and characters around us, why there are so very few people who are truly miserable ? Life at the best often seems a cheerless burden, and the Fate which, moralists tell us, is working ever for the good of mankind in general, seems so stern and cruel in the case of each wretched unit, that it is a puzzle to us how some people find life worth living at all. And yet we manage to get a good deal of enjoyment out of it, as a rule. Some of us even find it pleasant, in the midst of the labours, the troubles, and other inconveniences which beset our earthly course. We are not oblivious to the bumps and joltings of the road, for we are always referring to them in our talk. We like to appear melancholy at times, and shew

other people that we fully appreciate the unutterable miseries of life. And yet there are very few men about, even among those who do not fear to die, who would willingly relinquish one moment of their allotted share in the sufferings of existence.

What is it, then, which makes these stubborn and unaccommodating realities not only bearable, but sometimes a source of actual enjoyment? If we were to write a diary of the facts of our daily existence, we should probably find that the number of real and actual events which we can honestly be said to have enjoyed is quite inadequate to counter-balance the list of uninteresting and even painful contingencies into which we are daily falling. No, the facts of life are far too ironically inconvenient for us to get much enjoyment out of them. It is in its unrealities, in those ideal creations of the mind which no Sphinx-faced destiny can mar, that most of our joys have their spring. We gain from Hope, and Expectation, and Memory, things often in themselves delusions, all those subtle pleasures which are so gratifying to the human mind, and which facts are too hardly defined to give.

We doubt this, perhaps, at first. But let us consider, when we have expected some joyful event, how often the anticipation has not after all been the pleasantest part. How unutterably wretched would be our lot if we were unable to anticipate, if we knew exactly the gravity of our joys and sorrows to come! How yet more dull and un-

interesting if memory were lost to us—Memory, which suffuses bygone joys with a radiance not all their own, and softens down even our sorrows to a melancholy happiness. These are the unreal phantoms which make life worth living, which go a long way towards taking the bitterness from the brutal facts of our threescore years and ten.

Who can blame, then, if we thus make up for the deficiencies of an uncomfortable world? Let us not grumble at our lot, but continue to ascribe to that all-expressive *olim* the happiness which is not always our portion here. Let the child dream of manhood, and the sage of the days of youth: and thus, like storied Lotus-eaters, let us pass our time, oblivious to the brutalities of the Present, and dreaming of the happy days

Which are not now, but which have been,
And O! which again shall brightly be.

LE PAUVRE DIABLE.

FOOTBALL MATCHES.

(Not reported in the Christmas Number of the Abingdonian.)

A.S.F.C. v. Leighton Park School. This game was played at Reading on December 9th, and the School after a most one-sided game won by 7 goals to nil. The opening of the game saw the Abingdon forwards continually on the ball, but every shot went in a wrong direction, half-a-dozen or more shewing a disposition to "soar." The first point came after a quarter of an hour, and Deacon was the scorer. Immediately after a fine shot by Saxby was headed

into the net. An excursion to the other end of the field was checked by Taylor, and, the Reading custodian only partially saving from Austin, Murray rushed in and scored the third. Three to nil was the score at half-time. On re-starting Abingdon were all over their opponents, and Hills alone prevented a huge score. Shots hit the posts and cross-bar, and numbers skimmed over. Deacon however got in a fourth; and soon after Murray notched his second. Another shot by Saxby was headed in, and Deacon put on the finishing touch to the seventh. School Team—N. B. Challenor, goal; R. Talbot and P. R. Taylor, backs; G. S. Saxby, H. F. Shepherd, and J. E. Montgomery, half-backs; A. W. Stevens, J. W. Murray, P. L. Deacon, A. M. Austin, and G. S. Deacon, forwards.

A.S.F.C. v. Old Abingdonians. Frost having made the postponement of this match necessary on the 16th, the last day at school, December 19th, was chosen to decide the game. The School playing towards the road soon began to press, and two nicely combined runs by the forwards were deserving of points, but the final efforts were saved. The Old Boys rallied, and Lay put a dangerous shot in, but Clayton was on his best behaviour. Taylor having stopped a good run on the right, Montgomery got possession and gave to Deacon. He and Austin went up the left together, and the outside man scored with a beauty. Soon after he added another, which P. L. Deacon followed with a third. Nothing more was scored, when

“half-time” was called. The School were quickly at work on resuming, and as a result of a header by Shepherd Stevens was able to score close in. The pressure being maintained good shots were directed by Austin and Shepherd, but the fifth point fell to P. L. Deacon, with a most powerful “grunder.” From a centre soon after he added the sixth. The Old Boys began to play more energetically hereabouts, and Clayton was given plenty of opportunities of shewing his powers. He saved splendidly on several occasions, but Morland and Rickaby beat him. The whistle sounded as the School returned to the attack, leaving the present victorious by six to two. School Team:—P. J. Clayton, goal; R. Talbot and P. R. Taylor, backs; G. S. Saxby, H. F. Shepherd, and J. E. Montgomery, half-backs; A. W. Stevens, J. W. Murray, P. L. Deacon, A. M. Austin, and G. S. Deacon, forwards.

A.S.F.C. v. Brightwell. This match, played on the School ground on February 21st, was the first played after the frost, and both teams were somewhat out of practice. This fact made the starting form of the School rather an eye-opener, for they pressed with some method in their attack, which was soon to succeed; for only ten minutes had elapsed, when Deacon, as usual, opened the School account. Riches celebrated his first appearance with the team by getting the second, and a third Deacon put through from a centre. Before half-time G. S. Deacon gave his brother another opportunity which was taken, and the School held a commanding lead

of four to one at the interval. The second half was more even, the School scoring twice (Deacon and Stevens) and Brightwell replying with one. The game thus ended in favour of the home team by 6-2. Our side was strengthened by the inclusion of the Tesdale House boys, Riches and Cottrell, and Bayley made a creditable first appearance. School Team:—G. S. Saxby, goal; S. Ingrams, Esq. and R. Talbot, backs; L. Bayley, H. W. Palmer, Esq. and J. E. Montgomery, half-backs; A. W. Stevens, V. N. Riches, P. L. Deacon, W. Cottrell, and G. S. Deacon, forwards.

A.S.F.C. v. Pembroke College. This match took place at Abingdon on February 26th. The game was most interesting and was played right to the finish, when probably both teams had had enough. In the first half Riches scored twice for the School, while Challenor got in for the other side. Riches again was responsible for a goal in the second half, and after the Collegians had replied, the match ended in a win for the School by 3-2.

A.S.F.C. v. Worcester College. This match, the last of the season, was played at Abingdon on March 5th. The School disposed of Worcester by 8-1 in the early part of the season, but for this match the College brought full strength, and a most even game was witnessed. It was really a contest between agility and weight, and agility, as represented by the School, eventually triumphed. Deacon scored for the School after ten minutes play, and a fine shot it was. Better was soon to follow, for Cottrell dribbled

right through and, although the final touch was unworthy of its antecedents, succeeded in scoring the School's 100th goal of the season. Loud cheering greeted this achievement, which has been a kind of philosopher's stone to the School in previous seasons. Worcester now got going and Porter scored with a good shot, and soon after he repeated the performance. Deacon however put the home team ahead before the interval. The second half was most exciting, and the issue was in doubt till the last minute. Deacon started by increasing the lead by two goals, and the forwards on both sides made the defence keep constantly active and alert, and both goalkeepers distinguished themselves. Worcester however alone managed to score, and five minutes from time they began again to attack, and Porter brought the scores level. But the School were not done, and Deacon again got going, and with a "Long-Tom" kind of variety won the match for the School, the final score being 5-4. To Deacon, Talbot, Saxby, and Riches perhaps most of all this result is due, but all worked well and should be satisfied with their success. School Team:—G. S. Saxby, goal; S. Ingrams, Esq., and R. Talbot, backs; L. Bayley, H. W. Palmer, Esq., and J. E. Montgomery, half-backs; A. W. Stevens, V. N. Riches, P. L. Deacon, W. Cottrell, and G. S. Deacon, forwards.

On Saturday, March 3rd, a third XI from the School journeyed to Oxford to play a match with the Christ Church Choir School. Our team, which was

captained by B. Abbott, consisted of the following boys:—V. Bayley, goal; B. Abbott and R. G. Rice, backs; F. L. England, E. F. Daw, and W. E. Jarman, half-backs; J. W. Duncan, N. Duncan, P. C. Miller, G. H. Holliday, and A. S.

Payne, forwards. The Choir School boys made a fairly even game of it in the first half, but were quite out-played in the second, and the score at the close was 10 to 1 in our favour.

Appended is a list of the 1st XI Matches played during the season, with a record of the goals scored.

DATE.	OPPONENTS.	RESULT.	GOALS.	
			For	Agst.
Sept. 30	Oxford High School	Won	11	0
Oct. 7	Leighton Park School	Won	11	0
" 11	Wallingford	Lost	1	5
" 14	Cygnets	Lost	2	5
" 18	Worcester College, Oxford ..	Won	8	1
" 21	Wallingford	Won	11	1
" 25	Mansfield College, Oxford ..	Won	2	0
" 28	Pembroke College, Oxford ..	Won	2	1
Nov. 1	Abingdon	Lost	1	5
" 11	Oxford High School	Won	9	0
" 15	Mansfield College, Oxford ..	Lost	1	3
" 22	Bloxham School	Won	6	1
" 29	Abingdon	Lost	4	6
Dec. 2	Bloxham School	Lost	1	2
" 6	Mr. S. W. Brown's XI.	Won	7	2
" 9	Leighton Park School	Won	7	0
" 19	Old Abingdonians	Won	6	2
Feb. 21	Brightwell	Won	6	2
" 26	Pembroke College, Oxford ..	Won	3	2
March 5	Worcester College, Oxford ..	Won	5	4

This gives a total of 14 victories to 6 defeats, with 104 goals scored for the School and 42 against. It is noticeable that in no match did the School entirely fail to score.

CHARACTERS OF THE FOOTBALL TEAM.

P. L. Deacon (1894). Has captained the team with most successful results. Is very conspicuous at centre. Is fast in the field and has great powers in front of goal.

P. J. Clayton (1898). An excellent goalkeeper, who could always be relied upon. Makes the most of his long reach, fisting out well. Has made some brilliant saves. A great loss to the team.

P. R. Taylor (1898). A first class back with great tackling powers, using

his weight well. A sure and powerful kick. Always worked his hardest all through a game and was greatly missed this term.

R. Talbot (1899). Plays a hard and plucky game at back. Has greatly improved this term though not yet sure in his kicking. Should make a good back with more experience.

G. S. Saxby (1899). His real place is in goal where he is brilliant. Very nimble and quick with his hands but a poor kick. Must improve in this respect. As a half last term was useful at times.

H. F. Shepherd (1899). Centre-half. A very sure kick, passing well and accurately. Is very good with his head and shoots well, but must endeavour to improve his pace.

J. E. Montgomery (1898). Left-half. Has at last found his place. A good hardworking half, keeping his wing well fed. Has been of great use this season. Might improve his kicking considerably.

A. W. Stevens (1899). Outside right. A very fast and clever forward. Centres beautifully and is also a good shot. Should turn out a first class player.

J. W. Murray (1899). Plays a modest but useful game, passing very neatly. Though small, has plenty of pluck.

A. M. Austin (1899). A very promising forward. Combines well with the outside man, and has shown that he can score also. Hesitates a little at times, but, when he is a little heavier, should make an extremely good forward.

G. S. Deacon (1898). Is very good on his day, his passing and centring being excellent. Is however inconsistent, and requires more dash and energy. A splendid shot at goal and has played some good games.

The following also played during the latter part of the season :—

L. Bayley. Right half. Plays a very plucky, hardworking game, and should be of great use next season.

W. Cottrell. Inside left. A very fast and useful forward. Plays a dashing game and is a fair shot at goal.

V. Riches. Inside right. A very speedy and tricky forward. Is a good shot at goal, but keeps the ball too long at times.

FOOTBALL SIXES.

The draw for the Sixes resulted as follows :—

Deacon i's VI. Chambers, Keitley, Philipps, Jones, Duncan.

Stevens' VI. Jarman, Winship, King, Mobbs, Crosse.

Montgomery's VI. Daw, Payne iii, Hewer ii, Harris, Baker.

Riches' VI. Herdman, Miller, Gall, Hett i, Berry.

Cottrell's VI. Edey, Holiday ii, Hodgson, Griffin, Crudgington ii.

Saxby's VI. Montgomery ii, Grahani, Betteridge ii, Long, Graff.

Talbot's VI. Duncani, Crudgington i, Collin, Staniland, Challenor.

Deacon ii's VI. Sparkes, Donkin, Gabriel, Coxon, Graham iv.

Austin's VI. England, Graham ii, Palmer, Hett ii, Meredith.

Pryce's VI. Rice, Holiday i, Davies, Lewington, Milward.

Sells i's VI. Turnbull, Graham iii, Nicholl, Rice ii, Bowe.

Bowman's VI. Abbott, Cullen, George, Pritchard, Talbot ii.

Bayley i's VI. Harragin, Good, Purves, Bayley ii, Wenn.

Hewer's VI. Mortleman, Louth, Neligan, Fowler, Goff.

The first round was remarkable for the high scoring which took place, those of the captains who were forwards as usual carrying all before them. The second round produced one splendid game, that between Deacon and Riches. Bayley showed good form throughout, and being backed by a good team reached

the final round, where however he succumbed after a good game.

The following were the results:—

First Round.

Bayley beat Deacon ii, 14-1
 Riches „ Bowman, 12-2
 Saxby „ Austin, 7-1
 Stevens „ Montgomery 7-5
 Deacon i. „ Pryce, 11-0
 Talbot „ Cottrell, 1-0
 Sells i. and Hewer were byes.

Second Round.

Bayley beat Sells, 2-0
 Stevens „ Hewer, 13-3
 Deacon i. „ Riches, 4-3
 Talbot „ Saxby, 3-1

Semi-final.

Deacon i. beat Stevens, 2-1
 Bayley „ Talbot, 3-2

Final.

Deacon i. beat Bayley, 5-1

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The School Sports were held on Saturday, March 31st. The Committee acting under Mr. Ingrams' direction are to be congratulated upon a very successful meeting. All the arrangements were admirable, including the weather, which could not have been better. There was a good number of spectators, who witnessed some interesting competitions. Most of the events were well contested, in spite of the absence, owing to sickness, of several promising competitors. The 100 yards races produced, without exception, exciting struggles, and were in several cases won almost on the tape. The prizes, which were distributed by Mrs. Blandy, were greatly admired, and our sincere thanks are due to the numerous donors and subscribers.

The following were the events:—

LONG JUMP (open).

(First prize presented by T. Romans, Esq.)
 W. Cottrell, 1; R. Talbot, 2. Distance 17ft. 7in. P. L. Deacon, who also competed, was unfortunate in being disqualified at each of his three jumps.

LONG JUMP (under 15).

(Prizes presented by E. M. Challenor, Esq., O.A.) B. Abbott, 1; V. Bayley 2. Distance 13ft. 10in.

PUTTING THE WEIGHT (16 lbs.) (open).

(First prize presented by Mrs. Layng).
 P. L. Deacon, 1; J. E. Montgomery, 2. Distance 26ft. 3in.

HIGH JUMP (under 12).

(Prizes presented by J. F. Downing, Esq.)
 A. G. C. Rice, 1; F. D. Holiday, 2. Height 3ft. 6in.

HIGH JUMP (under 14).

(Prizes presented by W. R. Portal, Esq., O.A.) In this event P. N. Graham and G. F. Neligan tied at 3ft. 11in. Both competitors jumped in promising style.

HIGH JUMP (open).

(First prize presented by S. Ingrams, Esq.)
 P. L. Deacon, 1; G. S. Saxby, 2. Height 5ft. 0½in.

100 YARDS (under 12).

(Prizes presented by the Rev. H. C. Orpwood). E. J. T. Phillips, 1; A. P. H. Fowler, 2. Time 16 secs. This produced a good race, a few inches separating first and second.

100 YARDS (open).

(First prize presented by J. T. Morland, Esq., Mayor of Abingdon.) P. L. Deacon, 1; A. W. Stevens, 2. Time 11 2-5th secs.

100 YARDS (under 14).

(Prizes presented by J. H. E. Morland,

Esq. and Mr. Councillor F. Legge.) J. B. Hodgson, 1; P. E. Mobbs, 2. Time 13 2-5th secs.

100 YARDS (under 11).

(Prizes presented by A. F. Blandy, Esq.) C. C. Hett, 1; R. A. R. Townsend, 2. Time 15 3-5th secs.

QUARTER MILE HANDICAP.

(Prizes presented by the Ladies of Abingdon.) A. O. C. Pryce, 1; P. L. Deacon, 2; A. W. Stevens, 3. Time 58 3-5th secs. Pryce, who received 5 yards start from the other two, ran strongly and well and won easily.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.

(First prize presented by the Rev. T. Layng.) J. E. Montgomery, 1; W. Cottrell, 2. Distance 85 yds.

220 YARDS HANDICAP (under 13).

(First prize presented by H. W. Palmer, Esq.) P. N. Graham, 1; N. Duncan, 2; Time 33 4-5th seconds. Graham, who is a promising athlete, ran well and won a good race from scratch.

HURDLE RACE (open).

(First prize presented by E. Ross-Barker, Esq.) P. L. Deacon, 1; R. Talbot, 2. Time 18 2-5th secs. Deacon took his hurdles in good style and won easily.

HURDLE RACE (under 15).

(First prize presented by the Rev. C. F. A. Wimberley.) R. G. Rice, 1; S. Cullen, 2. Time 22 secs.

CHOIR RACE (300 yards handicap).

(Prizes presented by W. S. Airy, Esq.) R. N. Turnbull, 1; J. B. Hodgson, 2. Time 41 1-5th secs. Turnbull won from scratch. Hodgson was conceded 20 yds. Both competitors ran well.

HALF MILE HANDICAP (open).

(Prizes presented by A. K. Loyd, Esq.,

Q.C., M.P., and B. Challenor, Esq., O.A.) A. O. C. Pryce, 1; A. W. Stevens, 2; L. Bayley, 3. Time 2mins. 20 4-5th secs. Pryce again ran strongly. He was conceded 10 yards start from Stevens, who was scratch man. Bayley received 20 yds.

OLD ABINGDONIANS' RACE (100 yards).

(Prize presented by C. A. Pryce, Esq.) There were five competitors. C. A. W. Payne won a good race from W. T. Morland by a foot.

CONSOLATION SACK RACE.

(Prizes presented by T. Townsend, Esq., and E. L. Shepherd, Esq.) S. H. N. Coxon, 1; R. R. Townsend, 2. Coxon evidently knew the game. He won easily.

CHALLENGE CUP.

The Challenge Cup was awarded again to P. L. Deacon, last year's holder, who secured a total of 45 points.

SCHOOL STEEPLECHASES.

These took place upon the Abingdon Common on Monday, April 2nd. The weather was again fine, though there was a cold wind blowing from the west. The course covered by the juniors was about three quarters of a mile in length, and that by the seniors about half a mile longer, with hurdles and water-jumps. Prizes were presented by Dr. S. I. Baker for the Seniors and by A. H. Simpson, Esq. for the Juniors. There were not so many competitors as we should like to have seen, but both events produced close races and were done in good time.

Seven started in the Juniors' race; V. Bayley took the lead and maintained it until the turning post, being followed

by F. H. Edey and R. T. Hewer, but Hewer gained upon his competitors at the jumps and won in 7mins. 8 1-5th secs. Edey ran pluckily and finished second, 10 yards behind Hewer, while Bayley was a good third. All the competitors finished out the course.

In the Seniors' race seven also started. A. O. C. Pryce took the lead halfway through the course and maintained it until the end, his time (8mins. 12 1-5th secs.) being, we believe, a school record for this event. A. W. Stevens was second and not many yards behind the winner. J. R. Hewer was third. All ran well. The conditions of the race were about normal, though there was a strong head-wind to contend against on the outward journey. Pryce may well be proud of his achievement.

The prizes were given away afterwards by Mr. Ingrams on the School steps.

SCHOOL NOTES.

We record with much regret the death of Sir W. W. Hunter, K.C.S.I., which took place on February 6th. He was elected a member of the Governing Body four years ago to succeed the late Mr. J. Cremer Clarke. Many of us remember his genial and witty speech when he distributed the Prizes on Founder's Day 1896.

Archdeacon Pott has resigned the Chairmanship of the Governing Body, which he has held for nearly thirty years. During his term of office the present buildings have been erected, the new scheme granted, and the transition from the old to the new buildings effected. In all these projects he took a dis-

tinguished part, and it would be difficult to overestimate his great services to the School. He has been succeeded as Chairman by the Right Rev. Bishop Mitchinson, D.D., Master of Pembroke College.

Sir William Anson, D.C.L., Warden of All Souls and M.P. for Oxford University, has been appointed a Governor in the room of the late Sir William Hunter.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Fowler Payne, O.A., of The Mill, Abingdon, who was thrown from his horse on Saturday, March 24th, and died of his injuries the same day.

The Rev. C. F. A. Wimberley, M.A., late of Chard School, Somerset, has this term become a master in the School, having taken over the control of the Juniors. He has opened a Boarding House in the Marcham Road, known by the name of "Tesdale House," and containing at present 16 boarders.

We congratulate J. E. Montgomery on his election to the School Scholarship at Pembroke College, Oxford.

Mr. H. C. Orpwood, who was ordained Deacon in Advent by the Bishop of Southwell, has been licensed to the Curacy of St. Ann's, Nottingham.

We congratulate W. G. H. Cam of Felstead School, a son of our late Headmaster, on gaining a Classical Exhibition of £20 at Corpus College, Cambridge.

The following are the passages selected this year for the Meredith Composition Prizes:—For Greek Prose: from the Temple Reader, p. 15, "Nigh to the city * * * sundry nations," on p. 16,

a selection from Richard Hakluyt. For Latin Prose: from the Temple Reader, p. 119, "Those who may * * * like an arch," on p. 120, a selection from Prescott.

On Tuesday, February 20th, the boarders and others attended an instructive lecture on China, by Dr. J. Stevens, in the Corn Exchange. Dr. Stevens, who with the other members of his family was dressed in Chinese costume, is well qualified to speak on the subject, as he has passed some years of his life in China. He illustrated his lecture with some admirable lantern slides, and displayed afterwards to his audience some interesting curios and souvenirs of the country.

On Thursday, March 8th, Haydn's "Creation" was performed in the Corn Exchange by the Abingdon Musical Union. There was a large audience, including about two-thirds of the members of the School, who greatly enjoyed the performance. The leading parts were taken by professional singers, and the choruses were well rendered by about 80 voices.

The Fire Drill has been resumed this term. There are five companies who practice on four evenings a week, in rotation, and are instructed, as in previous years, by Mr. Hellyer, late of the London Fire Brigade, in the Old School yard. The Town Corporation have again kindly allowed us the use of one of their engines for this purpose.

On Saturday, March 10th, we were entertained in the School Room at another of the Choir concerts. These concerts do good without being formal, and our best thanks are due to Mr. Airy and all who help to make them a success.

In celebration of the relief of Lady-smith we enjoyed a half-holiday on March 1st. For another we are indebted to the kind request of the Governing Body, and for a third to J. E. Montgomery, the successful Pembroke scholar.

The following boys left at the end of last term:—Lower sixth, P. J. Clayton; Shell, J. W. Murray, H. A. Crosse; Fourth, N. B. Challenor; Commercial 1, P. R. Taylor, A. Chambers; Commercial 2, R. G. Taylor.

The following boys have joined the School this term:—School House, E. F. Daw, S. H. N. Coxon. Tesdale House, W. Cottrell, N. V. H. Riches, F. L. England, E. A. R. Nicholl, J. W. Duncan, N. Duncan, W. E. Jarman, L. C. Davies, F. C. B. Keitley, H. P. Herdman, R. L. Hett, C. C. Hett, E. F. Berry, C. E. C. Graff, W. F. S. Milward, G. F. Neligan. Day Boy, W. J. Crudington.

Mr. Ingrams has accepted the office of Chairman of the Games Committee, of which A. W. Stevens has been elected Secretary. R. Talbot is Captain of Rowing. The above with P. L. Deacon and J. E. Montgomery form the Committee.

The following arrangements have been made for the end of term:—The School Athletic Sports are fixed for Saturday, March 31st. The Past *v.* Present Sports are fixed for Saturday, April 7th. Term ends on Tuesday, April 10th.

The names of the O.A.s serving with the Queen's Forces in South Africa are as follows:—

J. Aldwinckle, Cape Mounted Rifles; W. M. Austin, T. S. Collins, C. R. Powell, H. A. Taylor, Berks Imperial Yeomanry; A. W. Morland, Royal Berks Volunteers; A. M. Shepherd, Imperial Light Horse; A. S. Townsend, Durban Light Infantry (taken prisoner in Armoured Train at Estcourt); J. B. Robertson, H. J. E. Robertson, Oxford Imperial Yeomanry; J. R. Brown, E. Humfrey, A. Pritchard, W. Townsend.

The Committee of the Abingdonian beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following contemporaries:—Bloxhamist (2), Khedivieh School Magazine, Laxtonian, Reading School Magazine, Sedberghian (2).