

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo.

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Contents.

	PAGE.
EDITORIAL	43
ABINGDON SCHOOL & SPANISH ARMADA	43
SONG OF THE UNSATISFIED	48
DAN'L	48
THE ORGAN	51
ORDINANCES OF JOHN ROYSSE	54
THE ISLAND OF THE PEAK	56
OXFORD LETTER	59
FOOTBALL	60
OLD BOYS' BOAT COMMITTEE.....	65
SCHOOL NOTES	65

EDITORIAL.

IN fulfilment of a promise made last April we are publishing in this number "the Ordinances of John Roysse," a copy of which was lately presented to the School by the Mayor and Corporation of Abingdon and now hangs in the library.

For our illustration, a Colotype reproduction of our Founder's portrait, we are indebted to the generosity of the Senior Common Room, but for which our Christmas Number must have lacked its customary supplement.

We wish our readers the Compliments of the Season.

ABINGDON SCHOOL AND THE SPANISH ARMADA.

To connect Abingdon School in any way with the Spanish Armada may seem at first sight to be rather a wild idea, probably because we are so pre-occupied and saturated with the affairs of the history we are engaged in making, and with our more or less approximate history, as to forget almost altogether that we have lived, so to speak, in the persons of our predecessors, through all the excitements and achievements of a prolonged historic past. But it must be remembered that in the glorious year of patriotism and victory, 1588, the School had been in existence for a quarter of a century: our Founder, John Roysse, (may his name ever be blessed!) had passed to his rest seventeen years ago, and many of his earlier scholars had come to man's estate, and were taking their share, as was fit, in the concerns of the town, and in the ever-varying business of the

country. And if knowledge was less : if news came more slowly and scantily : and getting about was far more difficult and therefore infrequent : still I do not think from all that one can read of those great days, that the patriotic feeling of the country was comparatively weaker, or the popular enthusiasm less marked than we have seen during the momentous period through which we ourselves have so lately passed. That a storm was gathering around this country had long been known, and the ministers of Queen Elizabeth were not slow in preparing to meet it, but it is apparent from a perusal of the State Papers of that period, that then, as now, the very same difficulties were experienced in obtaining guns, ammunition and stores, and the most imploring letters are written, especially by the naval commanders, for these and other supplies. The method by which an army was raised in those days, was by holding musters in the different counties, Commissioners being appointed to superintend the mustering, selecting and furnishing of men in their various divisions. Berkshire, for this purpose, was arranged in five divisions, and in an Order from the Council in 1581, addressed to the Sheriff and Justices of Berks, for the levying of additional men, we meet with a request which furnishes a curious comment on one of our chief military reforms of the present day, for the Council desires that the new force shall be provided "with coates of some darke and sadd colour, as russett or such like, and not of so light colour as blewe

and redd, w^{ch} heretofore hath commonly been used," so that after all, khaki has had its prototype, and is not altogether a modern invention. In 1534 mustering in Berks went on actively, the county being required to furnish 2000 foot; but the town of Abingdon claimed to act independently, and there is a petition of Thomas Smyth, then Mayor, and other inhabitants to the Privy Council, desiring to have a separate commission for taking the musters of the town, according to privilege. To this the County Commissioners objected, and wrote to Sir Francis Walsingham, Secretary of State, desiring that Abingdon should be included in the general musters. How this matter was settled I am afraid we cannot find out, for the Council registers from 1582 to 1586 are unfortunately missing. There are accounts of other musters in Berks, including 500 men for the Queen's guard, besides horse, and it is obvious that such preparations as these, extending over the whole country, to say nothing of the equipment of the fleet, could not be accomplished without considerable expense, which had almost wholly to be met by the patriotic munificence of the English people, and this brings me to the second part of my story.

There once existed, and possibly somewhere still exists, a contemporary M.S. list of those who contributed to the defence of the country at the time of the Spanish invasion in 1588. This contribution was by way of loan to the Crown, and the Queen by letters under

the Privy Seal, bound herself, her heirs and successors to repay the amount subscribed in a year from the time of payment. An authentic copy of this lost M.S. was published in a tract form in 1798, from which a reprint, with an introduction by Mr. T. C. Noble, was issued in 1886 by the late Mr. John Russell Smith, and it is from a copy of this reprint in my possession that I propose to quote. The names of the subscribers, 2416 in number, are arranged under counties, and on turning to the lists for Berks and Oxon, one at once recognizes many with which we are all familiar. First among these I am bound to mention Thomas Tesdale, the premier boy of Abingdon School, and next to the Founder, the greatest of our benefactors. He was at this time living on his estate at Glympton, Oxon, to which place he had retired about seven years previously, and on the 8th of April, 1588, he contributed, for defensive purposes, the sum of £25. Boys who read this must not, however, suppose that £25 in the year 1588, represented the same value as £25 in the present day: far from it. The value of a thing is what it will exchange for: and so the value of money (or at least, one of its values) is what *it* will exchange for; that is, in other words, how much it will purchase. Now £1, for instance, will buy more or less now, than it would have bought in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and consequently it is of more or less value now, than it was then; and since the value of £1, as Bp. Fleetwood observes, is truly such, and

not a mere name, it cannot be the same thing now, as it was in 1588. Moreover, we are all sensible that a man could not, with £1 or any other sum, buy the same quantity of corn, or as many rabbits, or the same length of cloth both at 300 years ago, at the present day, and at 300 years hence. It is impossible for things to be so ordered that anyone should do so, and therefore it is quite clear that the value of money must vary by lapse of time. To discover what this variation has been, and to find out with some nearness the comparative value of money in ancient times and now, is a matter of difficulty, and can only be determined by the consideration of a great mass of particulars, chiefly relating to the prices of things, and the wages paid for labour and services of all sorts, during the past centuries of English History. To this subject a number of eminent persons have given their attention, and from a perusal of their works, and conversations I have had with one or two learned friends, I have come to the conclusion that money was worth 10 or 12 times more in 1588 than it is now, and that therefore we may say, that Tesdale's contribution, in present day value, would amount to from £250 to £300, a sum which I believe to be well within the mark. It will thus appear that the value of money was 10 or 12 times greater towards the end of the 16th cent. than at the present time, and consequently, these figures may be taken generally as multiples for the monetary expressions of that date.

After this slight digression, which seemed to me necessary for the proper understanding of my subject, I may proceed to another name, that of William Blackenholl or Blacknall, who also gave £25, and appears to have been twice Mayor of Abingdon and the grandfather of John Blacknall, an Old Abendonian, whose monument is in St. Nicholas' church, and whose benefaction the School enjoys unto this day. Then there is Paul Orpwood, who gave a like sum, and who was Mayor of Abingdon in 1585 and 1593, and a Governor and Master of Christ's Hospital, and died in 1597. Whether he was educated at the School I do not know, but from his position in the town he must have had much to do with its management. It will also be remembered that a Thomas Orpwood was Mayor in 1563, the year of the foundation of the School; another Orpwood, whose Christian name is doubtful, was Head Master in 1572-3, and a William Orpwood was Abingdon Scholar of Pembroke College in 1627. The list further contains the names of Thomas Pleydall, John Pleydall and John Pledall, each of whom contributes £25, and one of the two latter appears to have been the father of Richard Pleydall M.A., Head Master, 1684-1716. Then there is the name of William Dunch, Esq., of Little Wittenham, who subscribed £100; and it was the wife of this gentleman, Dame Mary Dunch, at whose instance the Scholarship or Exhibition, formerly held by the School at Balliol College, was instituted in 1601 by her grandson, Sir William Dunch, K^t. but which mys-

teriously lapsed about the middle of the 18th century. Among other names on this list which are strongly Abendonian are those of Thomas Reade, Esq., of Barton, who gave £50, John Payne, Richard Chock or Choke, William and Richard Hide, John Whichlow, and Nicholas Badcocke; and it is noticeable that one of the officers of the English fleet was Capt. John Bostock, who commanded the "Tyger," a ship of 200 tons, with a crew of 100 men.

I now leave this list, and turn to what I may call the third part of my story, in which, after a lapse of about 150 years, the School reappears in the same connection, but this time in a literary, and not a patriotic character. Some, at all events, of those who read these pages, will be aware that the walls of the old House of Lords and the robing chamber attached to it were hung with splendid and famous tapestries, ten in number, representing the invasion and defeat of the Spanish Armada. Each of these illustrated a particular scene in the course of the invasion, and was surmounted with the royal arms and surrounded with a wide and elaborate border of floral and emblematic ornament enclosing medallion portraits of the principal commanders. The designs for the whole were made by Henry Cornelius Vroom, an eminent painter of Haarlem, and the weaving was done by Francis Spiring. But unhappily the whole of these magnificent works of textile art perished in the fire which broke out near the lower end of the House of Lords on the evening of

the 16th of October, 1834, and by which the Houses of Parliament were entirely destroyed, and the only record we now have of them is in the fine series of engravings published in 1739. This now invaluable work, a tall folio, was projected and carried out by Mr. John Pine, His Majesty's Chief Engraver of Seals, and Bluemantle Pursuivant of Arms in the Heralds' College. He himself executed the engraving, which is most elaborately and carefully done, but the drawings previously made of the tapestries, and from which he worked, were done by the hand of C. Lempriere, who died in 1746. I have been unable to find this name in the printed catalogues of artists or in any of the biographical dictionaries, although there is an engraved portrait of him, but in Mr. J. B. Payne's monograph on the House of Lempriere, and in a pedigree which includes the name of Dr. John Lempriere, Head Master of Abingdon School, 1792-1810, there is a C. Lempriere who was born in 1707, and might therefore have possibly been the person who was responsible for by no means the least important part of this undertaking. The remaining portion of the work, apart from certain maps and plans, consists of a historical account of the Spanish Invasion, descriptions of the different encounters between the two fleets, explanations of the engravings, and lists of all the ships on both sides, and this was written by the Rev. Philip Morant, M.A., F.S.A., whom we know as a distinguished Abingdonian, and whose portrait, I am pleased to say, hangs in the library. He was at this

time rector of St. Mary's, Colchester, a history of which town he published about ten years later, but his chiefest work, the History of Essex, was not issued till 1760-68. To his account of the Armada and of Pine's engravings, he writes a short introductory preface, with which I think I may appropriately close this paper, only remarking, that at the time he wrote, the glories of the Nile and Trafalgar had yet to be achieved. His words are as follows:—

“The Defeat of the SPANISH ARMADA being the most glorious Victory that was ever obtained at Sea, and the most important to the *British* Nation, every Method deserves some Praise that may in a suitable Manner propagate the Memory of it. Our Ancestors, that were personally interested in it, were so careful it should not pass into Oblivion, that they procured the Engagements between the two Fleets, to be represented in ten curious Pieces of Tapestry, with the Portraits of the several *English* Captains, taken from the Life, worked in the Borders, which are now placed, some in the Royal Wardrobe, some in the House of Lords, the most august Assembly of the Kingdom, there to remain as a lasting Memorial of the Triumphs of *British* Valour, guided by *British* Counsels. But because Time or Accident, or Moths may deface these Valuable Shadows, we have endeavoured to preserve their Likeness in the preceding Prints, which by being multiplied and dispersed in various Hands, may meet with that Security from the Closets of the Curious, which the Originals must scarce always hope for, even from the Sanctity of the Place they are kept in.”

The concluding paragraph seems almost to breathe a foreboding of the melancholy fate which befel these historic treasures, but even Morant, who must have known them well, could hardly have supposed they were doomed to utter destruction. The engravings, I should say, from their elaborate character, must accurately reproduce the original pictures, and they certainly, to

my mind, present the successive incidents of this great event more clearly and forcibly than any other representation I have ever seen.

In the list of subscribers prefixed to this work I notice the names of Sir James Dashwood, bart., of Kirtlington Park, Oxon, and Sir Justinian Isham, bart., of Lamport, Northants, both of whom were Old Abendonians.

W^{ll}. H. RICHARDSON. (O.A.)

THE SONG OF THE UNSATISFIED.

Oh would I were a merman bold,
 With a shining scaly tail,
 With my raven locks 'neath a crown of gold,
 On the back of a foaming whale :
 Through every gale
 I'd fearless sail,
 With my raven locks 'neath a crown of gold,
 On the back of a spouting whale.
 But a spouting whale would be a bore,
 When you wanted your cigarette,
 And though you'd have whitebait and eels
 galore,
 You would get exceedingly wet ;
 I'll freely bet
 You'd begin to fret,
 Though you dined off whitebait and eels
 galore,
 When you found your dress-clothes wet.
 No, let me be a turtledove,
 That croons to its mate in the nest :
 When the tempest comes, he flies to his love
 And pillows his head on her breast :
 With storm oppressed,
 A welcome guest,
 When the tempest lowers, he flies to his love
 And nestles close to her breast.
 But oh the draught when the north wind blew !
 And very unsafe it would be :
 And with ten young birds and a mother too
 There'd hardly be room in the tree ;
 Most certainly
 It seems to me
 That with ten fat birds and the mother too
 There would be a squash in that tree.
 No, I'd rather be a butterfly ;
 O'er the fringed brook I'd flutter ;
 Where my ladye sits at her casement high

I'd perch on the window shutter ;
 No word I'd utter,
 But softly mutter—
 "While my ladye sits at her casement high,
 I'll continue to perch on the shutter."
 But I might fall into the brook and drown,
 Or get asthma among the fringes ;
 And my ladye might shut the window down
 And leave me caught in the hinges :
 It gives one twinges—
 The boldest cringes,
 When a female shuts the window down
 And *you* get caught in the hinges.
 No, let me be quiet and cease to wish,
 And paddle my own canoe ;
 Hang butterflies, doves and gentlemen-fish,
 I'm best as I am, it's true.
 With cold I'm blue,
 I've toothache too,
 But hang butterflies, doves and gentlemen fish,
 I think I'm best as I am, don't you ?

J. A.

DAN'L.

Dan'l was the village politician. For this chiefly he was famous. A red-hot Radical he was ; a Radical with a grievance. On our Parish Council he often refused the office of chairman ; the other councillors were so intent on stopping his eloquence. Dan'l saw through their scheming, however, and quietly refused to be shelved. His grievance was Old Age Pensions. The Tory Government had incurred his sore displeasure by prosecuting minor affairs, and neglecting his pension.

Therefore Dan'l's politics were *Anti-Tory*. Every suggestion that young Squire Gasset made on the Council, Dan'l was wont to fight. The Squire was a Tory, and the Tories had not given Dan'l a pension.

A scheme of the Squire's for improving the road, in front of the cottages where Dan'l lived, fell through because of the old man's opposition. 'Twas said

his chief argument against the scheme was Old Age Pensions.

Dan'l did not, however, depend on politics alone for fame. He was a man with a mystery.

Now in the village of Hildacombe Betty Cornish knew, as a matter of course, the price of the flowers in Jenny Vurze's Sunday hat, and Jan Dadds could tell to a hair's breadth of accuracy what Jamie Bowden said when he wooed and won his next door neighbour Janet. But fifteen years of Dan'l's history were buried in the winding-sheet of his own perverse silence, and all the attempts, curious and persistent, of his fellows to find out anything about them were completely failures.

Dan'l had served in the police-force, and his six feet of Devon bone and muscle had been too much for many a sturdy poacher and fruit-thief. But Exeter had taken him from his native lanes and closes, and there wet nights and damp streets brought about his being invalided from the force. He returned to Hildacombe to walk in imagination his old beats, and to cause flutterings in the hearts of former admirers, for a few months. Then one morning the village missed him. For maybe a week he was talked about constantly, and for near a month occasionally mentioned. Then he was forgotten, save in one little cottage near the cove, where an old wife and her man could not but remember and mourn.

Years pass quickly where men toil. Fifteen times the wives had gathered in the strawberries and the cider harvest.

Fifteen times the valley's coat had turned from green to yellow, and then been stripped off; still Dan'l kept away.

No one remembered him now. The maids, who once donned extra ribbons for his entrapping, now unromantically washed and spanked their extensive families every evening. The cottage near the cove was empty. The churchyard on the hill had long since claimed the inmates.

But one evening Dan'l walked into the "Pack of Cards." All the men were there, as they had been for a score or more of years. They did not know him at first; but when he began to drink, they all jumped up to greet him. Dan'l always shut both eyes over a glass of beer, so he should not see how fast it was going.

But no amount of liquor would loosen his tongue. He asked many questions about many friends; but to the insinuating enquiries of his companions he was as deaf as a sun-dial.

Dame Rumour was busy next morning. The harvesters worked close together so as to talk about him. Numerous unnecessary calls were paid to neighbours, so as to remark in leaving "Zay, Annie! Vather zays that Dan'l Jones be come whöam." The score or so of fisher-folk, who lived round about the cove, discussed the event over their nets. But no satisfactory theory was arrived at. Dan'l had brought home neither wealth nor wife. Many a fine fabric of conjecture fell by the loosening of that one brick.

The curiosity of the village crowded

the parlour of the "Pack of Cards" that evening. But the object of it all did not put in an appearance. A discussion on his wanderings ended only in much confusion and more anger.

Tommy Huxtable was sent to try and wheedle the secret out of the returned son of the village. But although he came away trying to look as if in the possession of a weighty secret, he had at last to confess his failure to unlock the chamber of mystery.

Dan'l was now an old man of sixty-eight, older in heart than in years. Stonebreaking and occasional labour at harvest supported him. He lived in his two-roomed cottage, with Reynold's newspaper for his companion, and politics for his love.

The boys called him "Gladstone." The old man would frown and threaten, but was often caught rubbing his hands in great satisfaction.

The Vicar was once examining his school, and being up-to-date in his ideas of education, passed in his questioning from Arithmetic to current events. "And now, Robin," said he, "who is the Prime Minister of England?" "Dan'l Jones" replied small Robin with rare confidence and satisfaction.

Hildacombe stands in the fertile Arbage valley. Most of the dwellings lying in the hollow seem as old as the ground they stand on. Some of the newer cottages, with the wantonness of youth, have climbed the hills on either side to peep into the worlds beyond. The Church, however, oldest and loveliest of all, stands on the crest of the

Torr on the north of the village, and beyond this stern old monitor none of the restless houses have dared to stray.

The valley leads right down to the sea. A tiny cove, shut in by giant cliffs, ebbs and flows on to a rocky beach, and out beyond stretches the Channel. On a day preceding rain the peaks of the Welsh coast can be dimly seen.

Stand on the beach and look seaward: the cliffs rise sheer out of the water five hundred feet in height. Look inland: there is a fairyland of leaf and flower. Nature has nothing finer to shew to men than this comparison of the greatness of her work and its minuteness. As if to guard a pet place from profaning eyes, the entrance to the cove is almost blocked by black jagged rocks, which look like pebbles by the mighty cliffs, but still are full forty feet in height at low tide. Yet in the gales of November and March the waves play leap-frog over them.

The Death-point and Upland Lighthouses both lessen the danger of these crags; but light cannot quell waves or calm winds.

One awful night in March all Hildacombe stood on the beach; for in the glare of the lights a vessel had been seen drifting dead for the cove. In a trice she was among the rocks. From one to another she was thrown, in their wild game. So near was she to land, that the crew were seen to be light-haired. Soon it was said she was a Norwegian timber-boat—a brigantine on her way to Bristol. Among the crowd on the beach, none was so agitated as

Dan'l. His face was that of a man remembering cruel things. He had no plan to suggest; he seemed not to care about the vessel. The word "Norway" had awakened the sleeping memory—the memory he had tried to bury alive. That night is always remembered in Hildacombe.

Greybeards will ever gather in the inn, and one greyer than the rest will tell how the young Squire carried a rope to the ship. The Squire had once swum from Dee to Langham Bay—four miles along a dangerous coast; but it was child's play to that night's swim of just three hundred yards.

One after another the men came along the rope, and the boat broke up when the last had been welcomed by willing hands and lusty throats. 'Tis said the ship's boy was lost: but he was an orphan, so it did not much matter.

Next evening the usual assembly in the "Pack of Cards" heard the tale of the rescued men. It is doubtful what exactly happened. But in the middle of the story, told in broken English, Dan'l rose agitated, stumbled across the floor, and wept aloud on the neck of the skipper of the wrecked vessel.

Stories have been told of men recognizing birth marks or well-known possessions on those long lost to them. Dan'l saw none such: but there is a feeling in the village, that after all a father ought to know his own son without them.

The mystery of Dan'l's history was cleared up, when what both father and son had to tell were pieced together.

The disappointed constable had "gone to sea." The timber trade took him to Norway, where he lived to be skipper of his own boat. During a storm off Skiddaw his vessel went down, and with her he lost both wife and infant son. The boy was taken from his dead mother's arms. In ignorance of his parentage, he followed unconsciously his father's calling. Then Providence—or as most men say, Luck—brought them each to his own through the gale on the North Devon Coast.

For a few years they lived together in the father's native place. Then Dan'l was carried up the hill, and the *fjords* and snows of Norway called the son back to his home.

Dan'l is said to have made a weekly visit to the Squire to bless and thank him for that night's swim; but to his dying day he opposed him on the Council, for he never got his old age pension.

A.W.S.

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE HISTORY OF THE ORGAN.

I. Its Invention.

The early history of ancient musical instruments is surrounded by mystery and fable, their invention being usually attributed to the heathen deities. The Greeks understood by the word organon, and the Romans by their organum, not an organ, in our sense of the term, but an instrument of any kind. The expression is, however, more particularly applied to musical instruments.

The syrinx, or pipe of Pan, may be regarded as the first kind of organ.

building. This instrument consisted of a row of pipes placed together in ranks, according to their succession of tones, and sounded by wind.

2. The Hydraulic-Organ.

This was the first attempt to regulate the pressure of wind from the bellows. This was done by the water being used in such a way as to counter-balance the hitherto variable pressure. Athenaeus tells us that it was invented in the time of the second Ptolemy Euergetes, by Ctesibius, a native of Alexandria (B.C. 200) and by profession a barber; or rather that it was improved by him, for Plato furnished the first idea of the hydraulic-organ, by inventing a water-clock, which played upon flutes the hours of the night at a time when they could not be seen on the index. There are several accounts of hydraulic-organs, some being worked with cold water as well as hot.

3. The Pneumatic-Organ.

This organ was a return to the ancient bellows filled by manual labour. The Emperor Julian is reputed to be the author of the following words, the solution of which points to the fact that the organ was still unprovided with a key-board, and that the bellows were made of a bull's hide:—

“I see a species of reeds: surely from another and a brazen soil have they quickly sprung—rude. Nor are they agitated by our winds, but a blast rushing forth from a cavern of bull's hide makes its way from below the root of reeds with many openings; and a highly gifted man, with nimble fingers, handles

the yielding rods of the pipes, while they, softly bounding, press out a sound.” It is interesting to note here, that our ancestors were accustomed to gild the external pipes. This was as early as the seventh century.

4. Its Introduction into the Church.

Platina says that the organ was first employed for religious worship by Pope Vitalian I. A.D. 666; but according to Julianus, a Spanish bishop, it was in common use in the churches of Spain at least 200 years before Vitalian's time. The best organs were made in France and Germany. This was in the ninth century. Soon afterwards we find them in common use in England, constructed by English makers, with pipes of copper fixed in gilt frames. “St. Dunstan, in the reign of Edgar, erected or fabricated an organ, the pipes of which were made of brass.” We notice that copper or brass was generally used for making the pipes. The effect, of course, was exceedingly harsh. At the close of the tenth century many organs existed in Germany, the home of so many famous builders.

There is some reason to suppose that organ-building was carried on extensively in the eleventh century.

5. The Invention of the Key-board.

The close of the eleventh century saw the first use of the key-board. The keys of these instruments were very wide. Dom Bedos speaks of some of the keys being $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide! They were usually pressed down by the fist!

6. The Bellows.

These began to increase in size and

number. Some organs were blown by 20 or more bellows. They were fashioned in folds like the forge or smith's bellows, and were not provided with weights. The force of the wind depended entirely on the strength of the bellows-blowers. Thus it can readily be seen that it was impossible to keep the organ in tune; because the wind was admitted unequally.

7. The Regal, or Portative.

There is much doubt as to what these organs really were. One thing is clear, and that is they were small, portable, and generally worked by one man.

8. The Positive.

A non-portable instrument. This contained a key-board of full compass, and was played on by both hands. The word *positif* is thus explained in musical dictionaries:—"Positif, the small organ which is placed before the great one in all churches where there is an organ sufficiently large to be divided into two parts. The organist is placed between the positif and great organ, if the clavier are all attached to the great one, and of which the lowest belongs to the positif."

9. Invention of the Pedal.

The pedal was invented about the 13th century. There is little to show its introduction before this. For years it remained in a clumsy state; indeed, it is only of recent years, that any real improvement has been made in this branch of organ-building.

10. Cost of Organs in ancient times.

Whethamstede, abbot of St. Alban's, about the year 1450, gave to his church a pair of organs; for which, and their erection, he expended the enormous sum, in those days, of fifty pounds. A few years later Thomas Wyrcester, abbot of Hyde, near Winchester, gave eight marks and a horse to purchase an organ. Grey, Archdeacon of Berkshire, bequeathed £4, in 1521, to St. Mary's

Church at Oxford, "for a new payr of organs." In 1536 the churchwardens of St. Helen's, Abingdon, paid £8 for a "paire of organs."

"A fair payr of organs" was placed in Trinity College, Oxford, 1557, which "with the carryage from London to Oxford, cost £10."

Incomplete as this short account is, I must not trespass on the space of the Mag. further than to give one or two instances of the treatment to which organs were subject in or about the 16th century.

At Westminster "the soldiers of Westborne and Caewood's Companies were quartered in the Abbey Church, where they brake down the rayl of the Altar, and burnt it in the place where it stood: they brake down the organs, and pawned the pipes at severall ale-houses for pots of ale." At Exeter, Peterborough, Canterbury, Winchester and many other Cathedrals or churches, similar acts of destruction were committed.

Kings and Rulers in those days were just as cool about appropriating organs as anything else.

Cromwell had the organ standing in Magdalen College, Oxford, removed to Hampton Court. According to a memorandum in the College books, it was returned in 1660 for the sum of £16 10s. This organ now stands in Tewkesbury Abbey, though, of course, much of it has been altered. Many of the pipes formerly contained much silver. This fact was not unknown to the rabble, as many of them were stolen and replaced by lead ones.

Stamford Church was decorated with a handsome organ, which formerly belonged to the banqueting room, Whitehall, which by order of Cromwell was taken down and sold.

Smith & Harris, two celebrated organ builders, came over in this century.

The Ordinances touching as well the Free School of John
Abingdon in the County of Berks as also other C

FIRST the said John Roysse doth ordain that the said Free School shall be called the Free School of the Holy Trinity, founded within the Borough of Abingdon by John Roysse Citizen and Mercer of London

ITEM he doth ordain that there shall be perpetually threescore and three Children taught within the said School and the said threescore and three Children shall be of the Borough of Abingdon if so many may there be had and that there shall be but one Child of a House and for lack of that number in the Town to take out of the County adjoining for filling of the said number Provided always that the Fatherless Widows and poor mens Children such as be apt for learning be first preferred according to the discretion of the Mayor and his Brethren as they answer before God.

ITEM he doth ordain that the Mayor and Principal Burgesses of the said Borough for the time being shall from time to time as occasion shall serve choose an honest sad and discreet Man virtuous in living honest in his behaviour and charitable in his doings as near as they may a learned man a Priest or a wedded Man such as to them shall seem most meet to be Schoolmaster of the said Free School and that he hath no Cure or Benefice

ITEM that no Child or Scholar of the said School shall pay any more for his learning in the said School during his abode there than one penny which shall be at his first entry unless the Friends of the said Child of their own free will will give more without any demanding of the same

ITEM he doth further order that the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses or certain of them with the said Mayor shall every half year survey the said School Schoolmaster and Scholars to see whether that the Articles and Rules of the said School be observed and kept in every behalf or not and for the first time warning to be given and the second time to expulse or put him out and especially for any thing of the Prayers prescribed

ITEM he doth further ordain that the Children of the said School shall duly three times a day say such Prayers as shall be prescribed for them to pray and in the end of the said Prayers shall say "The Blessed Trinity have mercy upon our Founder John Roysse and all Christian People

ITEM he doth ordain that the Mayor and Principal Burgesses shall remove the said Schoolmaster and choose a new if the said Schoolmaster for his part do not see the ordinances touching himself and the said Scholars to be obeyed

ITEM he doth ordain that if there be any greater number of Scholars than is before mentioned that the said number shall from time to time observe and keep the Statues and Rules prescribed to be kept by the said threescore and three in all things and by all things as well of the Ten Scholars that I do allow the said Schoolmaster shall take his advantages as of all other appointed by the said Mayor

ITEM the Schoolmaster at his first admittance shall be sworn before the Mayor and Principal Burgesses of the said Borough to keep and observe the Statutes Rules and Ordinances appointed by the said John Roysse as well touching himself as the erudition of the Scholars

ITEM that the said Schoolmaster shall not license his Scholars to play above four days in the year and that to be at the request and desire of the said Mayor and his Brethren when they shall come to view the said School And if the said Schoolmaster shall otherwise license his Scholars to play then he to forfeit for every time three shillings and four pence of his wages which Forfeiture shall be towards the reparations of the said Schoolhouse Provided always that Sundays and Holidays shall not be accounted any of the said Play Days

ITEM the Schoolmaster shall thrice in the day hear with a loud voice the Children say these Prayers following that is to say in the morning upon their knees the Paternoster the Ave Maria and the Creed and at the end thereof shall say upon our Founder John Roysse and all Christian People the Blessed Trinity have mercy" And at eleven of the clock when they shall go to Dinner upon their knees Deus in nomine tuo saluum me fac &c and at the end thereof shall say upon our Founder John Roysse and all Christian People The Blessed Trinity have mercy" And at night at the breaking up of the School shall say upon their knees De Profundis &c with the Suffrages and at the end thereof shall say upon our Founder John Roysse and all Christian People The Blessed Trinity have mercy"

ITEM the said Prayers to be said in English or Latin at the discretion of the said Mayor and Schoolmaster

ITEM the said Scholars in the summer time shall come to School at six of the clock in the morning and at five at night to break up School and in the winter at seven of the clock in the morning and at five at night to break up School if that shall be so thought meet by the discretion of the Mayor and his Brethren

ITEM the said Schoolmaster shall teach his Scholars as well nurture as good manners Literature and virtuous learning and Christian Authors for their erudition

ITEM the Schoolmaster shall not absent himself without licence of the said Mayor and his Brethren not above fourteen days in the year and that to be upon some urgent cause well known to the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses and in his said absence shall appoint some honest learned Man to supply his room until his return

ITEM he doth ordain that the said Schoolhouse shall be swept and made clean every Saturday by some of the youngest Scholars such as the Master shall appoint

ITEM the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses shall see that the said Schoolhouse be repaired from time to time when occasion shall serve and upon request made by the Schoolmaster

ITEM he doth ordain that the Scholars and Children of the said School at such time as they shall go to church to hear service or preaching shall go two and two together with their Books in their Hands soberly and discreetly

zen and Mercer of London founded within the Borough of
be done in the said Borough to continue for ever

ITEM the child once received into the said School shall not be received again if he depart from the same and go to any other School

ITEM the said John Roysse doth ordain that all the Ordinances and Rules touching the said Free School shall be written in two Tables and the one is to be hanged up in the said Free School to the intent that the said Master and Scholars and others coming to the said School may well understand the Ordinances and Rules of the same and the other Table to be hanged in the Guildhall of the said Borough

ITEM he doth ordain that the Mayor and Principal Burgesses of the said Borough for the time being shall have power and authority to bring learned Men unto the said School to examine as well the said Master of his learning as also the said Scholars whether they do profit in their Learning or not by his doctrine.

ITEM the said John Roysse doth require that the Mayor of the said Borough for the better continuance of the said Free School and observance of the Orders and Rules thereof may at his first admission into the Office of Mayoralty be sworn to see the same ordinances and Rules performed and also the principal Burgesses at their first admittance

ITEM the said John Roysse doth further ordain that the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses the next Sunday after notice to them given of the death of the said John Roysse shall the same Sunday give or cause to be given in the Parish Church of Saint Helen within the said Borough to twelve of the Poorest people within the said Borough and especially to poor Widows if so many may there be found twelve pence in Bread that is to say to every of them one penny Loaf white or wheaten at the discretion of the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses and the advantage Loaf of the said Dozen to be given to the Schoolmaster and that the said Schoolmaster and Poor Folk at the time of the receipt thereof shall in the said Church upon their knees say "For our Founder John Roysse and all Christian people the Blessed Trinity have mercy" and that after upon every Sunday in the year the like distribution to be made at the place aforesaid in form before expressed for ever

ITEM the said John Roysse doth further ordain that the Mayor of the said Borough the next Sunday after notice of his death shall prepare some learned Man a Doctor or Bachelor of Divinity if he may be gotten to make a Sermon in the said Parish Church of Saint Helen and in some part of his Sermon shall say for John Roysse's Soul late Citizen and Mercer of London and all Christian People the Blessed Trinity have mercy" and the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses or some of them shall give to the said Preacher for his pains therein taken six shillings and eight pence and so to continue once in that time of the year for ever

ITEM he doth further order that the Mayor and Principal Burgesses and the Schoolmaster with his scholars shall be present at the said sermon if they have not any other lawful impediment or let And further he doth ordain that after the said sermon ended the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses together with the said Preacher and Schoolmaster shall repair to some convenient place within the said Town to be appointed by the said Mayor where they shall bestow upon a potation or drinking twenty shillings and six shillings and eight pence to be given in Bread Drink and Cheese amongst the Poor People of the said Borough And that the said Poor People shall say "For John Roysse late Citizen and Mercer of London and all Christian People the Blessed Trinity have mercy" and this yearly to be done for ever

ITEM he doth further ordain that yearly after that upon the same Sunday the like Sermon and distribution as well to the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses as to the poor people to be made in form aforesaid and the same to continue for evermore

ITEM he doth further ordain that the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses shall yearly have after the decease of the said John Roysse for evermore for their visitation and survey to be made in form aforesaid twenty shillings that is to say at every visitation ten shillings to be paid out of the Rents of the Lands to then assured

ITEM he doth further ordain that the Town Clerk of the said Borough for the time being shall yearly have after the decease of the said John Roysse for evermore for his pains to be taken in reading of the Oath unto the Mayor and Principal Burgesses at such time as they shall be admitted and for the writing of the said two Tables when occasion shall serve to be set up in the said Schoolhouse and Guildhall in form above declared eight shillings and the said Town Clerk to be sworn to see it done and performed as aforesaid

ITEM he doth further ordain that there shall be yearly given after the decease of the said John Roysse to such person or persons to whom the said John Roysse shall nominate and appoint for the time being for evermore twenty shillings of the rents and profits of the premises so that the said Parties for the time being do come unto the said Borough to peruse view and see whether the Articles contained in these presents be truly observed or not as well by the said Mayor Bayliffs and Principal Burgesses as by the said Schoolmaster and Scholars

ITEM he doth further ordain that if the said parties shall fortune to make default in any year and do not come that then the said twenty shillings for that year that they shall so make default shall be distributed by the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses to the Poor People of the said Borough at the discretion of the said Mayor and Burgesses Provided always and the said John Roysse doth further ordain that if there fortune at any time hereafter to be any Plague or Sickness in the said Borough of Abingdon by reason whereof it shall be thought meet by the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses for the time being that during the said Sickness no School shall be kept there That then the said Mayor and Principal Burgesses or their Successors for not keeping of any School there during the said time of Sickness shall not incur any danger in forfeiting of the said Obligation wherein the said Mayor Bayliffs stand bound for the performance of the covenants articles grants and agreements and Ordinances contained in these presents any thing hereinbefore expressed to the contrary thereof notwithstanding

ITEM he doth further ordain that the said Mayor Bayliffs and Burgesses and their Successors shall not at any time hereafter refuse any honest Man Gentleman or Richman's Son or others in the said Town or elsewhere that be willing to have any of them taught in the said School and the said Children observing the good Rules before mentioned the Master and the Usher being able to teach the number and the School being able to hold them to receive them and not take above six shillings and eight pence a year of any of them for their Learning the ordering thereof to be by the said Mayor and Chief Burgesses at their discretion

IN THE ISLAND OF THE PEAK.

In the winter of '97 we had taken up our quarters near the quaint little town of Orotava, nestling on the most fertile slope of that surpassingly lovely island—Tenerife. A village lying under the shadow of a little known and somewhat uncertain volcano suggests extreme isolation: it may have been so 50 years ago, but now—alas! Perhaps some learned physician of the past sent a patient to the Canaries “on trial,” who was fortunate enough to survive: be that as it may, the islands acquired a reputation as a health-resort, with the usual consequences.

At this time a monstrous erection, dubbed “Hotel,” crowns the summit of one of the many conical lava heaps, that lie scattered on the Northern slope of the island; and a less obnoxious “improvement” is the conversion, by intelligent labour and irrigation, of what was before but a pile of cinders into a delightful series of gardens, where Poinsettias and Geraniums attain to arborescent proportions, and where orange trees, citrons, and all our cherished exotics flourish in the open.

Looking down and out across the intense blue Atlantic the view is vast and refreshing, for the heaving plain is never broken by ought save perhaps a tiny fisher. The surf roars unceasingly upon the ragged lava fringe below; sometimes a breaker, larger than its fellows, quite swallows up the tiny mole, which gives scanty protection to a handful of fishing-boats, and pours a

white tide into the harbour. A storm on this deserted sea looks grand indeed.

More directly beneath us lies the Puerto, with its picturesque red-tiled villas, their white dazzling towers in strong contrast to the cool green of their porticoes. All seems asleep: ever and anon the musical clamour of the bell in the old church tower is wafted upwards through the drowsy air to be answered by a distant jangle from the Villa-Orotava above us. The very grass-grown streets dance about in the burning sunlight, and all seems distorted and impossibly steep from our high and overhanging watch-tower.

As we turn from this scene to the dark landscape behind us, the snow-capped Peak first holds our attention. But little of its 1200 feet is actually visible, for the lower slopes are hidden by a ridge of lava, whose sharp outline and furrowed side remains a perpetual memorial to that mighty river of molten rock, which once rushed forth from the crater above, and “sank in tumult to a lifeless ocean.” Above, the dark cedar forests are quite in harmony with its cold grandeur, and, though the slope of the adjoining valley waves evenly to the shore, this black-stream ends quite abruptly in surf-beaten cliffs, vastly tall and sheer. High up on the valley lies Villa-Orotava, with the towers of its ancient Cathedral clearly defined against the hillside, and the carved gables of the houses, around the Plaza, just to be discerned amongst the foliage. Little-

white dots mark the sites of Realejo and the other villages scattered over the mountain.

The slope is deeply scored with *barrancos*, steep gullies, cut out by mountain torrents, as they sweep down in a brief but overwhelming flood from the melting snows of the Peak, finally to mingle in muddy conflict with the rollers on the beach. In such a ravine as this we found the fern cave.

The Christmas season was particularly gay that year, and as the winter festivities made a pleasant interlude to the rather monotonous life, they were continued somewhat beyond their limit. Now, however, they were well-nigh forgotten: the weather had been consistently fine for more than a month, and outdoor amusements, chiefly confined to Tennis and Gymkhanas, were the order of the day. The gardens were brightening and nature generally was donning the light green mantle of Spring, when her intention was thwarted by a curious dust-storm,—one of the kind so prevalent in the adjoining continent. Previously a terrific gale had been raging, doing considerable execution amongst the plantations, where the depth of soil rarely exceeded a foot, and the lava sub-soil offered no attraction to the younger trees, so that they simply spread their roots near the surface. A sharp breeze will up-root an acre of them, but when it has passed, they are restored to the perpendicular by means of tackle and seem little the worse.

On the third morning the gale had

indeed subsided, yet it was difficult to believe that we were not in the full "enjoyment" of a London "pea-souper" fog. The dust was so light that it in great part remained suspended in the atmosphere. Objects a few feet away were indistinguishable, and the finest of dust lay upon everything, both inside and out, reducing the various shades of the landscape to a uniform khaki. Communications in the island are slow, and alarming reports began to circulate to the effect that the Peak was on the eve of eruption, and in support of this theory it was rumoured that the consequent disturbance of the Cañados plateau, a waste of rock and lava, from which the actual cone of the Peak rises, was the real source of this dusty deluge.

Things were becoming unpleasant enough, and the continual gloom was unearthly and depressing in the extreme: coupled with the constant uncertainty it reduced everyone to a state of nervous apprehension. So we continued for two days and then received an exaggerated account of the wreck of the steamer "La Flèche" off Santa Cruz, she having lost her bearings in this same "fog" and foundered within sight of the town. For many this proved the last straw. It also afforded an excuse for the open expression of their feelings, and the next day saw a good percentage on the road to Santa Cruz, animated with the intention of quitting this dangerous island at the first opportunity.

Berry, Courtney and myself found the

circumstances sufficiently annoying, for we had organized a party to ascend the Peak and secured the favourite guide with the necessary mules and equipment. Twice had we made the attempt, but the gale and afterwards the dust-storm had defied us.

In a few days the dust sank, a breeze cleared the air and a heavy shower gave back to Nature her wonted life and colour. The Peak party had all left except Berry, and he and I were equally in need of something to soften our disappointment. Finally we tempted Buller, the bug-hunter, by a promise of "sport," to join us in a hunt for a certain fern, said to grow only in the Barranco Martianez just where it enters the "cedarn cover."

Our preparations were soon made. A very big basket (var: *Canariensis*), in shape like a sugar-loaf, contained provisions enough to withstand a siege. This we entrusted to Pedro, whose acquaintance Buller made one day, near the Villa, while netting an *Archippus*. Pedro had watched the operation with intense curiosity and seemed especially fascinated by the deadly properties of the killing-bottle. He had insisted on "seeing us home" and jabbered on incessantly, encouraged by a grunt or nod, under the impression that we understood him! Ever afterwards he attached himself to me and taught me some words of a lingo which I then supposed to be Spanish, but which I have since had reason to believe was something else—certainly a "dead" language. On the present occasion Pedro insisted on balancing

the tall basket upon his head, treating our protests with cheerful disregard; and, not content with the original load, he quietly but firmly added thereto our Cameras, corked boxes and collecting tins, so that the pressure per square inch upon his brain must have been considerable.

We made across the intervening plateau and plunged at once into the rough bed of the *barranco*, now entirely dry, as it remains for quite four-fifths of the year. The usual vegetation presented itself, the monotonous *Euphorbia* bushes and shapeless clumps of Prickly Pear; or perhaps a more level patch bordering the bank gave unstinted sustenance to Wheat or Maize.

An hour's tramp along a mule-track, trodden in the main channel, brought us abreast of the "Cinder-heap," a conical hill which compels the river to sweep in a circuitous course round its base. Successive floods had sliced off a considerable portion of the Volcanic heap and in so doing laid bare its internal composition. This proved to be of the same material as appeared on the surface, viz. cinders, varying in size, but all extraordinarily light, even for lava, and glittering with bright metallic hues, blue being the predominant colour and the most vivid. The heap was destitute of all trace of vegetation on this side, though the other slopes are green. Its height would be about 600 feet, but the base is disproportionately large.

Leaving the "Cinder-heap" on our left we tramped steadily for some hours

till the *barranco* deepened into a ravine, evidently of recent formation, for the banks were very precipitous and seemed to consist of nothing more than hardened clay; but the bed was of granite. Under any conditions the ascent of a stream is slow work, on account of its circuitous propensities, but here our progress was further hindered by barriers of rock;—waterfalls they were in fact, but the term requires slight qualification, for there was no water. For some miles the sides of the *barranco* rose up a sheer 200 feet above us, leaving but a dark passage between; then, as it struck a harder formation, it widened out and exposed verdant tracts on either bank, where fresh and varied foliage succeeded to the dull grey spurges of the lower slopes. The Flora was especially brilliant, and we had good sport amongst the butterflies.

An hour of easy work through this fairy-like region and our scramble over jagged boulders began again, consequent upon a narrowing of the ravine. At this altitude the vegetation had changed completely and became increasingly interesting as we advanced; but the sun, now vertically above us, had been steadily asserting himself for some time, and the rocks around repaid his heat with interest, so that none of us, I think, was really sorry, when a turn of the gully revealed a mighty wall of granite barring our further progress.

It looked very grand, and we speculated on the magnificence of the waterfall, which must thunder down to our feet on those rare occasions when the

“river” appears: still we made very feeble attempts to extricate ourselves from this *cul-de-sac*. Pedro decided the question by solemnly unloading and then grinning as if he thoroughly fathomed our weakness. So amongst these strange and beautiful surroundings we did our best to lighten his load, in which operation he himself gave us generous assistance.

After lunch we discovered a fern cave, —one of the prettiest sights imaginable. From roof to floor it was clothed with delicate Maidenheads of every description, and below we counted at least fifteen other species of fern, among them the object of our search. Pedro’s basket put on weight alarmingly.

And so our excursion ended in the attainment of its ostensible object. The return journey was more rapid than the ascent, for not only had we the advantage of our former experience and of the down-hill trend of the pathway, but a rapid fall in the temperature at sunset made more violent exercise a necessity.

C.B.G.

OXFORD LETTER.

The School has this year sent us two new members, O. J. Couldrey who holds the School Scholarship at Pembroke, and C. B. Good who has gone to B.N.C.

As regards 'Varsity news in general, we naturally remark first upon the brilliance of the Rugger XV., who this year have so far proved invincible. We hope they will maintain their splendid form and crown their achievements by a brilliant victory at Queen’s Club on

the 11th. The "Soccer team has so far proved stronger in defence than in attack, but by next term they should be able to get together quite a useful side. Oriel as usual won the Inter-Collegiate Cup, defeating University in the final, after a somewhat uninteresting game, by 2-0.

The Trial Eights were rowed last Saturday, November 30th, over the Moultsford course: two very even Eights had been selected by the President, and after a keen race Whaley's crew won by a length and a half.

The Coxswainless Fours were won very easily by New, who met Worcester in the final.

As to Old Abingdonians in particular, we have nothing very startling to relate. B. Challenor and J. E. Montgomery have been playing "footer" for Pembroke; S. W. Brown has performed the arduous duties of Hon. Sec. of the Keble Association team, with more or less skill, and A. W. Stevens has played consistently well for Wadham.

We congratulate W. B. Collingwood on gaining his colours for bow in the Jesus Eight last Summer.

O. J. Couldrey has already shown good promise as an oar, and rowed in the Pembroke Robinson Fours.

C. B. Good has proved a victim to the motor-cycle craze: he may be seen any day whirling along amidst a cloud of dust, and we hear on good authority that he has already made several record runs.

We hope to see several more Abingdonians up next year, to replace those who are going down.

O. A.

Tuesday, Dec. 3rd, 1901.

FOOTBALL.

The performances of the team have been a good deal below its usual standard. Having so many places to fill and to place members in their proper position made the task of putting a good team in the field very difficult for quite half the season. The team has also been greatly handicapped by illness. The loss of P. L. Deacon has been greatly felt, but it is a source of great satisfaction to see him performing so well at Cambridge. The team as it now stands could give a much better account of itself than the results show. Lately there has been a great improvement in combination and individual play. In the forward line, the left wing is very hard-working but too light. The right wing is fairly fast but not clever. G. S. Deacon has not yet got into the work of centre-forward, although at times he performs well. Bowman, who was rather a source of weakness when in the forward line, has done excellent service at half. Pryce at back has always performed well. Colours have been given to L. S. Mathias, F. H. Edey, C. P. B. Montgomery, A. W. L. Graham, V. Bayley and W. N. Hobbs.

The 2nd XI. shows considerably more combination forward than the 1st, but there is not enough dash.

Result of matches to date :—

	Played.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost.
1st XI.	13	5	1	7
2nd XI.	4	2	1	1
3rd XI.	2	1	1	

A.S.F.C. v. Wallingford. Played on the School ground on Wednesday, November 6th. The School added further to their losses in this match,—losing it by 0-2. The home team started off with a great deal of dash, and if their shooting had been equal to their dash, several goals would have been scored. They were pressing all the first half continually, but the forwards did not shoot either hard enough or often enough. In the second half the School maintained the pressure for a time, but then they seemed to tire, and Wallingford, taking advantage of this slackness, scored twice. On the whole the School were decidedly unlucky to lose. School team:—J. H. E. Morland Esq. (goal); R. W. Sells, A. O. C. Pryce (backs); H. E. Armstrong, Esq., T. F. Bowman, C. P. B. Montgomery (halves); G. S. Deacon, P. C. Miller, S. Ingrams, Esq., E. Ross-Barker, Esq., L. S. Mathias (forwards).

A. S. F. C. v. All Saints' School, Bloxham. Played on the School ground on November 9th. The School team at last found their true form, and gained a comparatively easy victory by 4-1. The homesters at once went of with a rush and forced several fruitless corners. At length Deacon scored with a stinging shot, and almost immediately after Bowman scored very neatly from a corner. Towards the end of the first

half the School scored two more points in rapid succession from Mathias. In the second half the School acted mainly on the defensive, and just before time Tordiffe, who had distinguished himself by several clever rushes, succeeded in notching Bloxham's only point. School team:—V. Bayley (goal); A. O. C. Pryce and R. W. Sells (backs); C. P. B. Montgomery, T. F. Bowman and C. S. Louth (half-backs); F. H. Edey, P. C. Miller, G. S. Deacon, W. N. Hobbs and L. S. Mathias (forwards).

A.S.F.C. v. Mansfield College. Played at Oxford on Wednesday, November 13th. A very evenly contested game, resulting in a draw of 3 all. During the first half the School pressed, the score at half-time being 2-1 in their favour. After the interval Mansfield got together better and scored twice, to which the School could only reply with one, through Deacon. School team:—J. H. E. Morland, Esq. (goal); R. W. Sells and A. O. C. Pryce (backs); H. E. Armstrong, Esq., T. F. Bowman, E. Ross-Barker, Esq. (halves); F. H. Edey, P. C. Miller, G. S. Deacon, W. N. Hobbs, L. S. Mathias (forwards).

A.S.F.C. v. Mr. S. W. Brown's Keble College XI. Played on the School ground on Monday, November 18th. At the start the visitors pressed heavily, but the School forwards eventually got away, and soon scored through Hobbs. Roused by this success Deacon added 2 more goals before half-time. During the second half the game was very evenly contested, but Deacon got through again on the stroke of time,

leaving the School victors by 4-0. School team:—J. H. E. Morland, Esq. (goal); R. W. Sells and A. O. C. Pryce (backs); H. E. Armstrong, Esq., T. F. Bowman and E. Ross-Barker, Esq. (half-backs); F. H. Edey, P. C. Miller, G. S. Deacon, W. N. Hobbs, L. S. Mathias (forwards).

A.S.F.C. v. Leighton Park School. In this return match, played on the School ground on Wednesday, November 20th, the School gave a much better account of themselves, an exceedingly fast and even game resulting in a win for the visitors of 2-0. The first half, during which the School played in the teeth of a very stiff breeze, proved fruitless, thanks to the indefatigability of most of the homesters. After the interval however the wind dropped considerably, and Leighton managed to score twice. The School played pluckily against very superior weight, but the forwards should have been far more industrious, especially the centre. School team:—V. Bayley (goal); A. O. C. Pryce and R. W. Sells (backs); C. P. B. Montgomery, T. F. Bowman and C. S. Louth (half-backs); F. H. Edey, P. C. Miller, G. S. Deacon, W. N. Hobbs and L. S. Mathias (forwards).

A.S.F.C. v. Mansfield College, Oxford. Played on the School ground on Wednesday, November 27th. In the return match the School had their revenge for the draw on the Mansfield ground, and won a close game by 5-4. Mansfield began to attack at the outset, and immediately notched two goals. Incited by these reverses, the School forwards

at last netted the ball, but soon afterwards Mansfield again scored. Half-time arrived with the score of 3-1 against the School. On resuming, the School played up splendidly and netted the ball, through Deacon and Hobbs. After this, for a time, the Mansfield forwards held the upper hand, but failed to find the net, while Miller and Hobbs scored for the School, both goals being from centres by Mathias. Just on time, however, Mansfield rushed the ball through from a corner. The School played much better, especially the forwards. School team:—J. H. E. Morland, Esq. (goal); A. O. C. Pryce and R. W. Sells (backs); H. E. Armstrong, Esq., T. F. Bowman, C. P. B. Montgomery (half-backs); F. H. Edey, P. C. Miller, G. S. Deacon, W. N. Hobbs, L. S. Mathias (forwards).

A. S. F. C. v. Pembroke College, Oxford. Played on the School ground on Saturday, November 30th. The School suffered defeat by 2-0, after a very hard game. Pembroke were a heavy team, and the home forwards could do little, but the backs managed to keep out the visitors in the first half. However, after the interval, they let Pembroke through twice, who won as stated. School team:—J. H. E. Morland, Esq. (goal); R. W. Sells and A. O. C. Pryce (backs); H. E. Armstrong, Esq., T. F. Bowman and E. Ross-Barker, Esq. (halves); F. H. Edey, P. C. Miller, G. S. Deacon, W. N. Hobbs and L. S. Mathias (forwards).

A.S.F.C. v. Wallingford. Played on the Wallingford ground on Wednesday, December 4th. The School kicked off

against a slight breeze and for a time play was even. Then the visitors front rank got together and from a corner Hobbs registered the first point, and soon after got another. The Wallingford forwards next attacked, and Davis rushed the ball through. This was all the scoring in the first half, and the School crossed over with a lead of one goal. On resuming, Wallingford made a prolonged attack on the School citadel, but failed to pierce the defence, and the School forwards, rallying, pressed the home defence in turn. The result was that Deacon scored twice in quick succession, leaving the School victors by 4-1, after a good game. School team:—J. H. E. Morland, Esq. (goal); R. W. Sells and A. O. C. Pryce (backs); H. E. Armstrong, Esq., T. F. Bowman and E. Ross-Barker, Esq. (halves); F. H. Edey, P. C. Miller, G. S. Deacon, W. N. Hobbs and L. S. Mathias (forwards).

A.S.F.C. v. Magdalen College School, Oxford. Played on the School ground on Saturday, December 7th. A high wind spoilt all idea of combination in this game, and the result was that the match was rather a scrambling one. The School played with the wind first half and had most of the play, although they only managed to score once. In the second half, however, they fully maintained the pressure, once more netting the ball, while Magdalen towards the close of the game made some desperate efforts but failed to get through. School team:—V. Bayley (goal); R. W. Sells and A. O. C. Pryce (backs); C. P. B. Montgomery, T. F.

Bowman, A. W. L. Graham (halves); F. H. Edey, P. C. Miller, G. S. Deacon, W. N. Hobbs, L. S. Mathias (forwards).

A.S.F.C. 2nd XI. v. All Saints' School, Bloxham, 2nd XI. Played at Bloxham on Nov. 9th, a close game resulting. Abingdon scored first, and at half-time were leading 1-0. Shortly afterwards the School scored again. This put the Bloxham team on its mettle, and playing up gamely our opponents scored two goals before the whistle blew. The result was a draw of two goals each. Graham and England scored for the School. School team:—Goal, P. H. Donkin; Backs, F. C. B. Keitley, H. S. Mathias; Halves, R. G. Rice, H. L. Crudgington, M. H. Betteridge; Forwards, E. F. Daw, F. L. England, E. Rant, P. N. Graham, A. S. B. Payne.

A.S.F.C. 2nd XI. v. Oxford High School. This return match was played on the ground of the latter on Nov. 27th. At the start the home forwards got away and almost scored. Soon after Abingdon notched their first goal. The High School replied with their first goal. At half-time Abingdon was leading 3-1. After the start the School scored once more. This aroused our opponents who quickly rushed two goals. Subsequently the School won a good game by 4-3. The goals were scored by England. The team was as follows:—Goal, A. A. Brown; Backs, F. C. B. Keitley, R. G. Rice; Halves, H. L. Crudgington, J. W. Duncan, H. S. Mathias; Forwards, C. S. Louth, F. L.

England, E. F. Daw, P. N. Graham, A. S. B. Payne.

A.S.F.C. 2nd XI. v. Magdalen College School, 2nd XI. Played at Oxford on Dec. 7th, and resulted in a win for Magdalen School by three goals to one. Abingdon attacked for the most part in the first half, but the Magdalen forwards broke away several times and at half-time were leading 1-0. Shortly after the re-start Magdalen School scored again. Then Abingdon School scored through Daw. Subsequently our opponents notched another goal. Abingdon School had hard luck in not scoring more, but the Magdalen goal-keeper was in good form and safely cleared some dangerous shots. Team:—Goal, A. A. Brown; Backs, F. C. B. Keitley, R. G. Rice; Halves, H. L. Crudgington, J. W. Duncan, H. S. Mathias; Forwards, C. S. Louth, F. L. England, E. F. Daw, P. N. Graham, A. S. B. Payne.

A.S.F.C. 3rd XI. v. Christ Church School. This match was played at Abingdon on Nov. 13th. The third eleven had it all their own way throughout the game, and were perhaps a little too heavy for the Choir School, winning a one-sided game by 5-0. Louth (2), Talbot (2), and Cannon were the scorers. Team:—Goal, A. A. Brown; Backs, G. F. Neligan, J. B. Hodgson; Halves, T. S. Wilding, R. Louth, M. H. Betteridge; Forwards, F. E. A. Collin, R. W. Talbot, S. Cannon, A. Dunn, L. J. Anns.

A.S.F.C. 3rd XI. v. Christ Church School. The return was played at

Oxford on Nov. 30th. The game was a good deal more even than the first. The result was a draw of one goal each. The match was keenly contested throughout. Louth scored for the School. Team:—Goal, P. H. Donkin; Backs, G. F. Neligan, J. B. Hodgson; Halves, T. S. Wilding, R. Louth, M. H. Betteridge; Forwards, S. Cannon, C. M. Crosse, N. Duncan, R. W. Talbot, A. Dunn.

FOOTBALL CHARACTERS.

G. S. Deacon. (Captain.) Has had to play Centre forward, which is not his proper position. Shoots well, but with more work could secure more opportunities.

T. S. Bowman. (Centre-half.) At the beginning of the season he played Inside right, but Half is evidently his place. Tackles determinedly and feeds his forwards well. With improved shooting he would make a really good half-back.

A. O. C. Pryce. (Full back.) A hard-working back, who tackles and kicks well. The mainstay of the back division.

R. W. Sells. (Full back.) Has much improved since last season. His kicking is strong but often wasted through being too high. He should try to be faster.

C. P. B. Montgomery. (Half-back.) At the beginning of the season his play was in a very elementary stage: lately however he has improved, but still does not back up his forwards enough.

A. W. L. Graham. (Half-back.) Has played but little this season owing to illness. He shows great promise and should be useful next season.

L. S. Mathias. (Outside right.) Works hard and with plenty of dash. Wants to improve his centres and to be less selfish.

W. N. Hobbs. (Inside right.) Shoots well and combines usefully with Mathias. Wants more pace and cleverness.

P. C. Miller. (Inside left.) A hard-working and energetic forward, but should direct his efforts more to the ball and less to the man.

F. H. Edey. (Outside left.) Tricky and fast for his size. When heavier, he promises to be a first-rate forward.

V. Bayley. Cool in goal and clears well.

OLD BOYS' BOAT COMMITTEE.

To the Editor of the Abingdonian.

DEAR SIR,

My attention has been called to a statement in the July No. of the Magazine that the Old Boys' Boat Committee was "selected from the O.A. Club." This is incorrect. The selection was not made with any reference whatever to the O.A. Club, but to the School Boat Club, of which all the Members of the Committee save the Hon. Sec. had been Captains, and at the time of the selection a number of those chosen did not belong to the O.A. Club.

WIL. H. RICHARDSON,

Hon. Sec. Boat Committee.

(We sincerely regret that the misstatement referred to should, by an Editorial oversight, have been published in the Magazine. Perhaps the subjoined list of the members of the Committee, submitted to us for publication, will assist in clearing up any wrong impression that may have been conveyed.—Ed. "Abingdonian.")

COMMITTEE.

W. W. Goddard, Capt. 1859-60.
T. Roylands-Smith, Capt. 1869-71.
W. White, Capt. 1872.
W. M. Abbott, Capt. 1879-80.
F. P. Lysaght, Capt. 1881.
E. F. Shepherd, Capt. 1883.
F. E. Thorn, Capt. 1885.
W. E. Robinson, Capt. 1887.
A. R. Thorn, Capt. 1888.
J. W. Veysey, Capt. 1889.
F. H. Pryce, Capt. 1890.
M. G. Hannay, Capt. 1894-5.
A. W. Morland, Capt. 1896.
B. Challenor, Capt. 1898.
H. U. Drayton, Capt. 1899.
R. Talbot, Capt. 1900.

A. R. Thorn, *Hon. Treas.*

W. H. Richardson, *Hon. Sec.*

SCHOOL NOTES.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Abingdon, High Steward of the Borough, has been co-opted to the Governing Body in the place of the late Lord Wantage.

The Chairman of our Governing Body, Bishop Mitchinson, has in his time played many parts on many stages: he has recently however assumed a new rôle through his election to the City Council of Oxford. We understand that it is without precedent for the Corporation of a Town to include a Bishop among its members.

A link with the past has been severed by the death on October 30th of the Rev. Charles Lemprière, D.C.L., Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford, at the age of 83. The late Dr. Lemprière had a very busy and distinguished career but its special interest for Abingdonians lies in the fact that it

recalled the days when his father, the Rev. John Lemprière, D.D., issued his famous dictionary as Headmaster of Abingdon School.

The following members of the School were confirmed by the Bishop of Oxford on the first Sunday in Advent in St. Helen's Church:—H. W. Bate, W. O. Betts, J. W. Duncan, F. C. B. Keitley, G. F. Neligan, J. Cowburn, P. N. Graham, F. B. Graham, G. S. King, W. J. Wearing, A. B. West, J. L. West.

DEATH.—On December 2nd, at Appleton, Berks, James Ethelbert, second son of J. W. Kimber, of Fyfield Wick, aged 39.

BIRTH.—On November 23rd, at Rottینگdean, Sussex, the wife of A. G. Le Maitre, M.A., of twin daughters.

The Inspection of the School by the new Board of Secondary Education was made on November 11th and 12th. The Inspectors were Mr. R. E. Mitcheson, late Senior Student of Christ Church, Oxford, Assistant Charity Commissioner, Mr. G. W. Rundall, formerly Headmaster of Newcastle School, Staffordshire, and Mr. A. E. Tutton. Their report may be expected in January.

We congratulate Rear-Admiral J. L. Hammet, O.A., upon his appointment as superintendent of the Dockyard at Malta.

To our previous lists of O.A.s serving in South Africa should be added the name of G. S. Miller, who went out as Lieutenant in the 21st Batt. Imperial

Yeomanry. He was invalided home in October last.

We congratulate Lieut. A. M. Shepherd, of the Rand Rifles, on his promotion to the rank of Captain.

All who were at the School last term will be interested to hear of the publication (by Messrs. Methuen and Co.) of "Sketches of Christ Church, Oxford," by Mr. John Aston.

We have to thank Mr. C. Rippon, of the Oxford Times, for a most interesting lecture on "Modern Journalism," given in the School Room, on Monday, November 25th, and illustrated by some admirable lantern views of the machinery and processes of printing, taken from the lecturer's own photographs.

We are again indebted to the Mayor for a half-holiday, the work on two Monday afternoons being remitted.

P. L. Deacon has won his 1st XI. Football Colours for Jesus College, Cambridge. He also played for the Varsity *v.* Clapton. R. N. Turnbull has been playing for the 2nd XI. of Dalton Hall, Owens' College, Manchester.

The School Concert is fixed for Friday, Dec. 13th, and the Dance for Tuesday, 17th.

C. C. Caudwell has entered the School as a Boarder at Tesdale House.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of:—the Bloxhamist (2), the Coathamian, the Ipswich School Magazine.