

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo.

THE ABINGDONIAN.

No. 9. Vol. IV.

APRIL, 1908.

Price 6d.

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EDITORIAL.

WE have had an imperious visitor this term. He has upset the general work of the School even more than the Board of Education Inspectors love to do. He made havoc of the time-table; he suspended at one time or another about a third part of our numbers; he demanded the temporary dismissal of four of the staff; he had the audacity even to lay sacrilegious hands upon our revered Head-master (who however we

are glad to say soon sent him packing); and he took a prominent but not useful part in the sixes, the rowing, and the sports. He was, as our readers have doubtless guessed, The Influenza Fiend.

Still, we must be thankful that he came on the whole in a mild form, and that he resisted all temptations to be the Measles.

The Sports, our chief event this term, suffered much from this visitation. More than one boy, who had every chance of winning a prize, was unable to compete; and a comparison of our records with those of last year will show that several successful competitors yet failed to do so well as they then did. This is conspicuously the case with G. H. G. Shepherd; who though he won the Heber Clarke Challenge Cup, would doubtless have done better still had he not only just recovered from the influenza.

It may come as a surprise to some of our O.A. readers to find a record of Rowing in this number. The explanation is, that it has been decided to devote this term henceforth, rather than the Summer term to this sport. The advantages are obvious. Rowing, Cricket, and Football will now each claim one term as primarily their own, and will not interfere with one another. It ought also to be easier to arrange races with crews from other schools. The race against the O.A.s will, it is hoped, be held henceforth in this term; and, though the race *v.* Magdalen College School had to be abandoned this year, it is hoped that it will be a regular event for the future: but the Regatta, with the more frivolous side of the sport, will still, as before, take place during the Summer term.

The boiler took a rather prolonged Christmas holiday. As we had cheerful fires blazing in all the class-rooms instead of the hot-water radiators nobody objected very much except those who had to light the fires. Rumour says the giddy thing had run up to town to recruit its health, and could not be induced to return till long after the rest of us had settled down to work.

The builder is in evidence: and we hope to see the carpenters' shop finished soon at the back of the studies. Then we hope that Scribbler Minor and all his crew will find some better kind of wood-carving to employ their idle hands than the scratching of particularly worthless names where they should not be.

We extend a hearty welcome to Mr. H. C. Hopkyns who has been temporarily taking some classes at the school, to get his hand in before teaching the little darkies in India. We only hope those gentry will profit from his teaching as much as we have done, and that he will find his work there pleasant in every way.

A glance over the contents of this number will reveal the fact that, in spite of the influenza, this has been a term full of life and interest; we wish all our readers an equally happy holiday.

IN MEMORIAM.

Alfred Pott. Edgar Summers.

We record with deep regret the death of two well known friends of the School, whose influence upon its history was prominent and fruitful when it was entering upon new conditions through a change of site, and under the regulations of a scheme from the Charity Commission.

The late Archdeacon Pott took an active interest and share in the government of the School from his appointment as Vicar of Abingdon in 1869, until he resigned his seat on the governing body in 1902. For a large portion of the time until 1900, he acted as Chairman, and, in all the decisive changes which followed upon the Report of the Public Schools Commission of 1866, his authority and influence did much to guide the policy of the School. He was succeeded as Chairman by Bishop Mitchinson, while Mr. J. H.

Benyon, the Lord Lieutenant of the County, was elected to his seat on the Governing Body.

The services rendered to the school by Mr. Summers during the years of his Head-Mastership, (1870-1883), were not less notable, and were naturally far more intimate in character. Under his rule the School created for itself fresh traditions in its new home. Numbers grew. The best results in Scholarships were attained. The New Buildings soon proved inadequate to the work brought to them. Studies and a Sanatorium were added to the School House. The Playground was enlarged and enclosed. The first block of Class Rooms was erected. Mr. Summers was not only the mainspring of all these improvements, but was also a very generous contributor to them. His liberality to the School was shown in several gifts of recent years also, and conspicuously by the Scholarship which bears his name.

CONCERT.

The School Concert was held in the Gymnasium, on December 12th, and was well worthy of its many excellent predecessors.

Once more it is our pleasant duty to mention with whole-hearted praise the excellent efforts of the Orchestra. It was somewhat larger than usual this year, and every member of it attacked his work with vigour, while the balance and tone bore witness to very careful rehearsal. Perhaps the piece most appreciated by the audience was a selection from Puccini's 'La Bohème.'

The Choir rendered their part songs excellently, their clear enunciation being particularly noticeable. It is perhaps a musical heresy, but in a school programme, for our part, we would gladly welcome a larger selection from our many good English part-songs.

Mr. Martell's selection of songs was excellent, and all the numbers were much appreciated. Andrews and Day were the two pianists, and both played with considerable taste and appreciation. Collingbourne sang a couple of old favourites. He has a very good voice, strong without being harsh, and is not afraid of using it. Haywood was perhaps not so well suited by his pieces, and showed traces of nervousness, but was well in tune, and, as we know, has the voice of a lion when he can overcome his modesty.

In conclusion we would thank Miss Hughes and all others who kindly gave us assistance, and trust that our appreciation will make them ready to help us again in the future. The full programme is appended.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Valse | "Luna" | <i>Lincke.</i> |
| | The Orchestra. | |
| 2. Part Song | "The Water Nymphs" | <i>Smart.</i> |
| | The Choir. | |
| 3. Piano Solo | "Aubade" | <i>Székdcs.</i> |
| | C. S. Day. | |
| 4. Song | { (a) "Son of Mine" | <i>Wallace.</i> |
| | { (b) "The Rebel" (<i>Freebooters</i>) | |
| | R. Haywood. | <i>Songs.)</i> |
| 5. Part Song | "Sweet May" | <i>Barnby.</i> |
| | The Choir. | |
| 6. Song | "Toreador's Song" (Carmen) | <i>Bizet.</i> |
| | E. A. Martell. | |
| 7. Suite | "Monsieur Beaucaire" | <i>Bucalossi.</i> |
| | The Orchestra. | |

PART II.

1. Part Song "Oh! Skylark for thy wing" *Smart*.
The Choir.
2. Piano Solo { (a) "Graceful Dance" *Cowen*.
{ (b) "Country Dance"
P. E. Andrews.
3. Song "Go Pretty rose" *Marzials*.
Trebles of the Choir.
4. Song { (a) "Drink to me only" *Old Melody*.
{ (b) "The Minstrel Boy" *Irish Melody*.
A. W. Collingbourne.
5. Part Song "Now all the Roses" *Brahms*.
The Choir.
6. Song { (a) "The Camel's Hump" *German*.
{ (b) "The First Friend" (*Kipling* "Just
{ (c) "Roll down to Rio" *so* "Songs").
E. A. Martell.
7. Selection "La Bohème" *Puccini*.
The Orchestra.

—
God Save the King.

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THE ORCHESTRA:—

1ST VIOLINS:—Mrs. Faithorne, Mrs. Humfrey,
H. U. Drayton.

2ND VIOLINS:—Miss C. Hughes, W. H. Puckridge,
S. Cullen, P. E. Mobbs, J. McG.
Mitchell, W. R. Mortleman.

VIOLA:—Alderman Shepherd, H. B. Wilsdon.

'CELLO:—Miss Payne, Miss E. Dixon.

BASS:—Miss Layng, C. A. Pinnock.

CLARINET:—C. Child.

PIANO:—Miss M. Hughes.

—
CONDUCTOR:—E. A. Martell.

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FOOTBALL.

A.S.F.C. v. OLD ABINGDONIANS. This annual match was played on the School ground on Wednesday, December 18th, under favourable conditions. The School had W. Leach playing centre-forward again after a long absence, while the Old Boys were able to bring quite a representative team. We kicked off into the Lodge goal, and the first half produced ragged play, in which neither

side was able to score. In the second half both teams played up harder, as the result of which Leach shortly scored for us from a difficult angle. Following this, however, N. B. Challenor headed through for the Old Boys from a centre from the left wing, and so equalised. Now both sides were struggling for the winning goal, which we eventually got by a hard shot from Mortleman. The whistle was blown without any more scoring, and so we won an even game by 2 goals to 1. Leach was the pick of our forwards while at times our opponents, left wing proved dangerous. The following were the teams:—

A.S.F.C. (Goal) F. E. Parker; (Backs) E. V. Dyke, L. G. Drewe; (Half-Backs) O. B. Challenor, K. G. Stevens, R. B. Leach (ii); (Forwards) J. H. Bridgewater, L. W. Holland, W. Leach, E. H. Harvey, (capt.), W. R. Mortleman.

O.A.C.—(Goal) A. A. Brown; (Backs) R. G. Rice, R. F. Baker; (Half-Backs) H. O. Winship, N. Duncan, (capt.), L. F. Gale; (Forwards) A. S. B. Payne, H. J. A. Payne, N. B. Challenor, F. D. Smith, J. W. G. Mortleman.

SIXES.

The Sixes were played in the usual manner this term, though starting somewhat earlier than is customary and hurried through on account of boating. The Senior Sixes again proved very exciting, and a keen struggle was fought for the first place. There were six teams, among which those of F. E. Parker, W. Leach, and L. W. Holland took the lead: the first finally proving successful, without having undergone a

single defeat. The following is the winning team:—F. E. Parker, (capt.) C. W. Edgington, H. A. Mills, J. McG. Mitchell, F. Parker, H. R. Hobday.

JUNIOR SIXES.

The members of the Junior Sixes were increased in number this year, but greatly decreased in size. In spite of this they afforded great interest and often amusement. There were eight teams; those of E. G. Tame and B. L. Kaye proving the strongest. These teams met in the final, the former winning by 3 goals to 2, and so deservedly winning the Sixes. The following is the winning team:—E. G. Tame (capt.), C. W. E. Hoare, F. W. Lupton, A. W. Collingbourne, H. W. Short, S. C. W. Robinson.

GYMNASTIC DISPLAY.

A Gymnastic Competition and Display was held in the Gymnasium, on Thursday, March 19th. There were four entries for the Competition, for which a silver and a bronze medal were offered by the Headmaster. The silver medal was won by W. J. Read, with 203 marks out of a possible 230, and the bronze medal by W. Leach, with 178 marks. C. J. Butler entered, but was unable to take part owing to illness. The Judges were Messrs. W. A. Rudd, and E. A. Martell; and Col.-Sergt. Inst. Parmenter acted as referee.

In the Display, the feats done by the different Forms were thoroughly appreciated by all, especially so the set-piece on the Horizontal Bar by the Remove Form, and the Bar-Bell Drill

by the Third and Second Forms.

On the whole, the work done by both Seniors and Juniors showed decided improvement since the last Display.

The Programme was as follows:—

COMPETITION (for the Silver and the Bronze Medal offered by the Headmaster.)

EVENT 1. HORIZONTAL BAR.	{ C. J. Butler. W. J. Read. F. Read. W. Leach.
" 4. VAULTING HORSE.	
" 6. PARALLEL BARS.	

EVENT 2. PARALLEL BARS : Shell Form.

E. F. Harvey.	F. Parker.
L. W. Kaye.	E. H. King.
H. T. Habgood.	W. A. Deane.
E. G. Tame.	H. A. L. Donkin.

EVENT 3. BAR-BELLS : III. and II. Forms.

A. G. Ellison.	K. V. King.
W. N. Hooke.	R. d'Almaine
F. H. Abbott.	R. I. Comins.
G. L. Atherton.	F. R. H. Robinson.

EVENT 5. HORIZONTAL BAR: Remove Form.

Robt. B. Leach.	C. W. Edgington.
H. A. N. Medd.	H. R. Hobday.
Richd. B. Leach.	C. C. Painter.
R. Haywood.	W. H. Enoch.

EVENT 7. VAULTING HORSE : Fourth Form.

L. O. Burge.	G. J. H. Ashwin.
W. H. Whitlock.	A. W. Collingbourne.
V. Comfort.	E. A. Mortleman.
C. W. E. Hoare.	E. H. Mann.
W. W. Leach.	H. V. Campbell.

LECTURE.

On Saturday March 21st, Mr. Bromley Challenor (senior), gave us a most instructive and interesting lecture in the gymnasium, on his recent travels in North Africa. The lecture was admirably illustrated by some very fine photographic lantern slides, which had been taken on his journey.

Mr. Challenor described the habits and customs of the Moors he met in Algeria, and several of his slides were greeted with loud applause. He then proceeded to tell us about his journey southward, in which he traversed a

large piece of desert land, where, it appears, there was very little food to be obtained, and still less water. Among other pictures he showed us was a very fine slide, in which we could see the way in which the Moors carried their wives about. They were fastened up on camels' backs, in what appeared to be a kind of basket, which certainly did not seem large enough for any comfort. Mr. Challenor told us that they were often kept in these for several days.

The homeward journey appeared quite as trying and difficult, and must have required a considerable amount of pluck and endurance. Here the lecture was brought to a close, and, after cheering Mr. Challenor, we left the gymnasium, having thoroughly enjoyed a most pleasant evening.

CHINESE ON THE RAND.

Life in a Mine Compound; by Capt.
R. G. S. Miller, Witwatersrand Rifles.

Much has been said on the above subject on either side, and perhaps it would not come amiss if the life of the Chinaman on the Rand Mines was described by one who has been attached to their Police for the last two and a half years, and during that time has served in two of the biggest mines, viz:—the Summer East with 3,500, "boys," and the Jupiter with 500.

First then as to the backbone of the Compounds, i.e., the Police.—Each Compound is divided into sections, and each section with its number of boys controlled by so many police, as a rule in

the proportion of one to fifty.

The Chinese Police are all picked "boys," most of whom have served in the Wei-hai-wei Regiment, and many of them are in possession of the late China war medal, and have been taught discipline by the British Officers in China. They are all dressed in uniform and wear the chevrons according to their rank.

These then are the men who are primarily responsible for law and order. They have their own quarters and mess, and pay at the rate of 2/6 per diem, the head police "boy" getting 3/-. These "boys" are accorded special privileges as to leave, etc.

Now as to the working "boys;" by that I mean the "boys" who work in the deep levels or surface gangs. Their hours are eight per day and their pay averages about 1/6 per diem with certain deductions for boots, etc., which each "boy" is supplied with on arriving at the mine. The "boys" are paid monthly and always on Sunday mornings, so as not to interfere with the work.

At 5 a.m. the gangs fall in under their own police, and are marched off in single file to the Cook House, where each "boy" receives a pannikin full of rice with meat and vegetables, and also a tin full of what they call "Kai swee," (hot water). A Chinaman drinks his tea very weak, almost in fact like hot water.

This finished, "fall in" sounds for work at 6 a.m., and away they march to the different shaft heads, again under their own police control, and so descend finally to their different "bosses" with

whom they may be working. Each "boy" going underground receives a loaf of bread for lunch before leaving the Compound.

Returning about 3 p.m. they first go to the washing room at the shaft head, where they are at liberty to have a cold or hot bath as they wish, and then to the Compound, when they are free to roam about the mine area, receiving a dated pass at the Compound gate for that purpose. Blasting in the shafts takes place between the two shifts, and the Chinamen do not attend to this. Tea comes at 4.30 p.m., and the night shift parade at 5 p.m. as before, after the work tickets of the day boys have been marked.

Compound gates are shut at 7 p.m. and lights put out at 9 p.m., when the Compound is left in charge of the night white official, whose duty it is to go round and stop gambling and opium smoking, which offences are punished with fines or imprisonment by the visiting Inspector. The latter comes twice a week to try prisoners detained in cells, and is usually a British officer who has served in China, and is conversant with their habits and language.

Usually first offenders for desertion, opium smoking or gambling get punished at the rate of 7 days' hard labour, or a fine of one pound, and for bigger offences correspondingly.

Most of the desertions and murders on the Rand can be directly attributed to gambling, or to a secret society known as the Red Door Society; and suicides invariably to opium smoking.

The purchase of the latter it is still almost impossible to stop, owing to the Chinamen being aided by low principled Europeans.

Much has been said of the immorality of the Compounds: let me at once say how wilfully and grossly this vice has been exaggerated.

In two years, with over five thousand "boys" through my hands, I have only known one case, and that an Interpreter, an English speaking "boy," who, previous to his appointment in S. Africa, had been living in New York.

It may be interesting to know how these so called "Slaves" are cared for. Should a "boy" feel sick he falls in with the morning sick parade, and is sent to the Hospital which each Compound has, and which, in most cases, for cleanliness and order would do credit to one of our big Hospitals at home; and for a simple case he is treated by the attendant, but each Hospital is visited daily by a qualified doctor.

On Sundays, "boys" of good character are given passes, either a yellow one permitting them to travel by trains to distant mines to see their friends, or a white one for the neighbouring mines. Each pass has the "boy's" number, and the name of the mine he is visiting, distinctly written on it, and is returnable by 6 p.m. the same day.

Sunday Morning at 8 a.m. is the General Parade, when the Mine Manager visits the boys and inspects their quarters: the boys fall in outside their respective rooms into each of which the Manager together with the Compound

Manager go.

Again, as to the thoughtfulness of the Mine Officials, it is usual to give the boys a case of fireworks to celebrate their New Year, and permission is granted to let them off during the night in the Compound Field.

Attempts have been and are being made by English missionaries to convert the boys from Confucians, but this with very few exceptions has unhappily proved fruitless. Again there is a Society in China which sends Chinese Missionaries to S. Africa: these missionaries are permitted by most Compound Managers to enter their Compounds.

After work it is quite a common sight to see a crowd of boys kicking a football about, or, as in the case of the Jupiter Mine where a trapeze was erected, disporting themselves on it.

And again you will find the watch-maker mending watches, the tailor making clothes, and this mind you after the days "slavery" is over.

By the foregoing I have tried to faithfully portray the daily existence of the Chinamen in S. Africa. Chinese labour is essential to the Mining Industry of the Transvaal and firmly am I convinced that in spite of opposition the Chinaman has come to S. Africa to stop, notwithstanding the show of repatriation being made by the present Government.

RICHARD G. S. MILLER,
Capt. Witwatersrand Rifles,
Transvaal, S. Africa.

17th Sept. 1907.

RIFLE SHOOTING.

Since last November not much has been done except class-firing, the course selected being that performed by the Royal Artillery. We have a fair percentage of marksman, and third class shots are rare. Matches are almost impossible in the winter, because the light fails so soon after school, and the schools we approached had no indoor range, and could not manage to shoot in the middle of the day. Reports of the few matches that were found possible are appended: the consistency of the scoring in last term's matches is worthy of notice. The four drill sections competed in shooting and drill: in shooting Section I. won by one point from Section IV., while at drill Section III. won rather easily. A Field Day was held on the Common on Wednesday, 18th March. The general idea was that a red force was surrounded in Abingdon, and that a waggon of supplies was being sent from Faringdon, and had to get through the lines of the besieging blue force. This it succeeded in doing, mainly because a blue party, sent to guard the Shippon road, disobeyed orders and returned before making sure that the coast was clear.

RESULTS OF MATCHES, &c.

A.S. v. Abingdon Rifle Club, Nov. 25th.

SCHOOL.		ABINGDON R.C.	
C. W. Edgington	93	A. B. West	95
S. H. Baker, Esq.	92	E. Humfrey	91
L. G. Drewe	91	J. Bunidge	89
R. J. Weaving	88	J. L. West	88
C. J. Butler	82	W. Martin	88
H. T. Habgood	81	G. Fame	86
G. C. Rice	81	W. G. Candy	86
H. Meredith	81	J. Timms	78

A.S. v. Abingdon R. C. (A team) Dec. 9th.

SCHOOL.		ABINGDON R.C.	
H. Meredith	93	J. L. West	97
C. W. Edgington	92	N. B. Challenor	94
H. T. Habgood	89	W. H. Hooke	93
R. J. Weaving	88	J. Burridge	92
L. G. Drewe	87	W. Martin	87
C. J. Butler	82	J. Timms	81
G. C. Rice	81	V. Tame	81
O. B. Challenor	76	W. H. Tombs	80
	688		705

Abingdon R. C. won by 17 points.

Section Competition. Scores:—

I.		IV.	
C. W. Edgington	83	C. J. Butler	86
L. G. Drewe	80	O. B. Challenor	86
G. C. Rice	70	Robert B. Leach	75
L. W. Holland	69	E. V. Dyke	68
W. Leach	66	K. G. Stevens	64
G. H. G. Shepherd	61	W. J. Lightfoot	49
	429		428

Section II., 396 (H. Meredith, 84) Section III., 323

A. S. v. Old Abingdonians. 17th December, 1907. Scores:—

SCHOOL.		O.A.C.	
R. J. Weaving	91	J. L. West	94
C. W. Edgington	89	A. B. West	92
O. B. Challenor	89	P. Aidwinckle	89
L. G. Drewe	87	N. B. Challenor	88
H. Meredith	85	E. Humfrey	80
G. C. Rice	83	J. H. E. Morland	75
C. J. Butler	82	W. T. Morland	50
H. T. Habgood	81	A. W. Morland	21
	687		589

The School won by 98 points.

Drill Competition. Section III., 338, I., 304, II., 301, IV., 301.

A.S. v. Trent College, Derbyshire. 26th February, 1908.

SCHOOL.		TRENT COLLEGE.	
C. W. Edgington	94	Selwyn	95
O. B. Challenor	85	Polhill	89
R. J. Weaving	81	Silvester	87
H. Meredith	81	Hinton	87
C. J. Butler	80	Goodhall	87
G. C. Rice	77	Davies	83
L. L. Edwards	77	Moffatt	82
H. T. Habgood	67	Lunn	69
	642		679

Trent College won by 37 points.

ROWING.

As it was decided that the Easter Term should in future be given up almost entirely to rowing, a crop of promising oarsmen has sprung up, who should prove very useful another season. It would be almost superfluous to mention that, owing to the new arrangement, the number of boys who have earnestly devoted themselves to the sport this season is much larger than in any previous one.

With increasing numbers enthusiasm would doubtless have increased, had it not been at its utmost height before. Indeed the keenness shewn by all who have once entered the boats is as pleasing as it is promising.

In spite of the fact that the races arranged with Magdalen College School had to be scratched,—need we say that it was owing to influenza,—and in spite of the prevalence of this illness among ourselves also, and the wintry weather, we cannot help thinking that the season has proved satisfactory. For we easily won the race against the Old Boys, and the increase in numbers combined with the enthusiasm of oarsmen more than compensates for all disappointments and disadvantages.

A.S.B.C. v. O.A.B.C. This race was rowed on March 28th on Culham Reach. Several of the main-stays of the Old Boys' Club on the river were unable to assist this year, and there was even some slight fear of the race falling through, had not Payne stepped pluckily forward and sacrificed personal comfort for the good of the cause. As the Old

Boys' crew had not been out together previously, the race was expected to go to the School, and so it turned out. The Old Boys chose the Oxford side, and the race was rowed under most favourable conditions. Both crews got a good start, but the School soon began to draw away; and without much difficulty won by about eighty yards, in 3-min. 47-secs. The time on the whole was poor, as the stream was very dead and, what little wind was blowing, was behind the crew. Stroke rowed well and pluckily, but was worn out by the absolute slackness of three. Throughout the race he was a mere passenger, and ended up fresh as paint. Two and bow both rowed well. We were glad to see Louth rowing for the Old Boys again. His crew stuck to their work pluckily, and had they been enabled to get a fortnight's practice would have made a fight of it.

Crews:—

A.S.B.C.

- (bow) F. E. Parker.
 (2) H. A. Mills.
 (3) O. B. Challenor.
 (str.) T. Johnston.
 (cox) G. F. S. Mann.

O.A.B.C.

- (bow) H. J. A. Payne.
 (2) L. L. Edwards.
 (3) B. M. Challenor.
 (str.) H. G. Louth.
 (cox) H. W. Weaving.

CHARACTERS OF THE FOUR.

F. E. Parker. (bow—10st.) Has learned to make more use of his legs, but not yet enough. He has a steady body-

swing, but is not so neat with his hands as he was last season. Rowed very well in the race.

T. Johnston. (2—10st.) Is very keen and rows a plucky race. Towards the latter end of the season, and in the Old Boys race, he took the place of stroke, who was down with influenza, and bore himself very creditably indeed. He still has the old fault of digging too deep, and is apt to let his head hang down on his chest. Has a good long reach but is rather light. He set an excellent stroke in the race against the Old Abingdonians.

H. A. Mills. (2—9st. 11lbs) Took the place of Johnston when the latter acted as stroke. Though rather short, he is neat in getting his hands away, and gets a good leg-drive. Rows a plucky race, but should mind the time more carefully.

O. B. Challenor. (3—10st. 6lbs.) Rowed very well in the middle of the season, then fell away somewhat. Gets a good drive with his legs, but is decidedly poor with his hands, neither getting them away smartly nor in one piece. Has a useful weight but no length. Should infuse more energy into his work.

C. J. Butler. (str.—11st.) (Capt.) Works very hard in the boat, but spoils his efforts by an awkward finish, which makes him short. Has been a keen and energetic captain.

R. Haywood. (cox—5st. 11lbs.) Is inclined to be very nervous in the boat. Kept a good eye on his crew but should remember to encourage them more.

G. F. S. Mann. (cox—6st. 10lbs) Coxed in Old Boy's race, Haywood being down with influenza. Rather heavy for a cox, but manages the boat well and keeps a good eye on his crew, not forgetting to give them plenty of encouragement in a race.

LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

The Society met in the Pembroke Room on Friday, Jan. 24th, the Vice-President in the chair. The post of Treasurer having fallen vacant, T. Johnston was elected.

P. E. Andrews was then called upon to propose:—"That, in the opinion of this House, so-called labour saving machines do not save labour."

T. Johnston seconded, and H. Meredith opposed.

The following also spoke: Con:—Mr. H. H. Gibson, A. L. Edwards, G. C. Rice, C. J. Butler.

The motion was lost by 5 votes to 7.

The Society met in the Pembroke Room on Friday, Jan. 31st; with the Vice-President in the chair.

L. W. Holland then proposed: "That, in the opinion of this House, the supremacy of Japan is a menace to western civilization."

R. E. Greatbatch seconded, and C. J. Butler opposed the motion.

The following also spoke: Pro:—P. E. Andrews, L. W. Kaye, J. McG. Mitchell. Con:—H. Meredith, J. H. Bridgwater, T. Johnston, Mr. H. H. Gibson.

The motion was carried by 9 votes to 7.

The Society met in the Pembroke Room on Friday, Feb. 14th; with the Vice-President in the chair.

Mr. G. Wilson proposed:—"That, in the opinion of this House, a conflict between England and Germany is inevitable."

J. H. Bridgwater opposed and H. A. N. Medd seconded the motion.

The following also spoke: Pro:—G. F. S. Mann, T. Johnston, A. L. Edwards, Richard B. Leach, C. J. Butler. Con:—Mr. H. H. Gibson, Mr. S. H. Baker, R. J. Weaving, P. E. Andrews, H. Meredith, J. McG. Mitchell, W. B. Busby.

The motion was lost by 6 votes to 12.

On Feb. 7th, P. E. Andrews read a paper entitled "The World's place in the Universe."

The reader in his paper endeavoured to point out the relative position of the Earth, (regarded more especially as a human habitation), with regard to other celestial bodies.

He showed how there might exist myriads of systems like our solar system, how such systems, even now in course of formation, could be examined through the telescope; and how photographs of the well known spiral nebulae all pointed to the truth of the great Nebular Theory.

A great nebula, he said, or fire-mist, in cooling, would give rise to such a system as that of which the Earth forms a part, and, in course of time, whilst the smaller units of the system might cool, yet they would still borrow heat from the main body, namely, in the case of our Earth, from the Sun.

As the earth cooled further, he went on to show, too, how the task of providing food and fuel must become exceedingly difficult, and how, even at the present day, these problems are engaging the attention of Scientists.

Dealing more especially with the Solar System, he showed how different were the conditions on the different Planets. In an amusing sketch he pointed out how the varying force of gravitation would enormously effect the movements of a normal human being, if placed on another planet. He dwelt at some length on the possibility of there being life on Mars, and much interested the house as he described how astronomers had observed the polar ice melting away at approaching summer. He pointed out in conclusion that, in spite of the frozen fate astronomers promised for our earth, yet no other celestial body was known possessing conditions so favourable to human existence as those prevailing on the terrestrial globe.

The honourable reader then successfully dealt with the many questions asked him, amongst those seeking information being Mr H. H. Gibson, C. J. Butler, and H. Meredith.

Mr. S. H. Baker in an appreciative speech proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the reader of the paper. C. J. Butler seconded: and it was unanimously carried.

The Society met in the Pembroke Room at 4.15 p.m., on Friday, February 21st, the Vice-President in the chair.

T. Johnston then read a most

instructive and interesting paper, entitled: "Some City Churches."

The essayist, after giving a brief sketch of the various parishes up to the time of the great fire, proceeded to describe the rebuilding of the majority of them by Sir Christopher Wren, and to show how they gradually reached their present form. The paper was most admirably written and he quoted many amusing epitaphs.

The following members interrogated the reader:—Mr. S. H. Baker, Mr. H. H. Gibson, and C. J. Butler.

The Headmaster then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the reader. Mr. H. H. Gibson seconded the motion, and it was carried *nem. con.*

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The Sports were held on Saturday, March 28th. Although the afternoon was exceptionally fine, the attendance of visitors was smaller than might have been expected. The condition of the ground was splendid, except on the bottom part of the field, where runners in the Half and Quarter found the track somewhat heavy. Some of the times and distances might possibly have been better if so many boys had not been just recovering, or just recovered, from the lowering effects of influenza.

Appended is a list of the results:—

LONG JUMP (open).

(Prizes presented by A. K. Loyd, Esq., K.C., and J. T. Harris, Esq., O.A).

1.—W. Leach. 2.—G. H. G. Shepherd.
Distance 18ft. 10in.

LONG JUMP (under 15).

(Prizes presented by J. S. Nowill, Esq., and A. K. Loyd, Esq., K.C). 1.—C. C. Painter. 2.—L. O. Burge. Distance 15ft. 4in.

HIGH JUMP (under 12).

(Prizes presented by J. T. Harris, Esq., O.A., and W. R. Portal, Esq., O.A). 1.—F. R. H. Robinson. Height 3ft. 2½in.

HIGH JUMP (Open).

(Prizes presented by E. A. Strauss, Esq., M.P., and W. A. Rudd, Esq). 1.—W. Leach. 2.—L. L. Edwards. Height 4ft. 10½in.

HIGH JUMP (under 14).

(Prizes presented by J. F. Downing, Esq., and Mr. and Mrs. F. Mitchell). 1.—G. J. H. Ashwin. 2.—A. W. Collingbourne. Height 4ft. ¾in.

HUNDRED YARDS (under 12).

(Prizes presented by Rev. R. F. Ashwin, and IV. Form). 1.—G. L. Atherton. 2.—F. H. Abbott. Time 14 1-5th secs.

HUNDRED YARDS (under 14).

(Prizes presented by A. E. Preston, Esq., O.A). 1.—B. L. Kaye. 2.—A. W. Collingbourne. Time 13 1-5th secs.

HUNDRED YARDS (under 16).

(Prizes presented by G. W. Shepherd, Esq., O.A., and E. J. Harris, Esq). 1.—F. Read. 2.—C. C. Painter. Time 11 3-5ths secs.

HUNDRED YARDS (Open).

(Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Price, and Prizes by Mrs. Layng, and M. T. Tatham, Esq). 1.—G. H. G. Shepherd. 2.—W. Leach. Time 10 4-5ths secs. A capital race won by a couple of feet.

PUTTING THE WEIGHT (OPEN).

(Prizes presented by J. T. Morland, Esq., and J. F. Downing, Esq). 1.—G. H. G. Shepherd. 2.—W. J. Read. Distance 31ft.

QUARTER MILE HANDICAP (open).

(Prizes presented by The Ladies of Abingdon). 1.—C. J. Butler, (scratch). 2.—L. L. Edwards, (15 yds). 3.—W. Leach, (8 yds). Time 58 3-5ths secs. Butler won by 3 yds. Leach was a good third.

220 YARDS HANDICAP (under 13).

(Prizes presented by W. Pierpoint, Esq., and Remove Form). 1.—F. H. Abbott. (25 yds). 2.—H. W. B. Burkett. (10 yds). Time 31 3-5th secs.

HURDLE RACE (under 15).

(Prizes presented by W. R. C. Adcock, Esq., and Mrs. Donkin). 1.—L. O. Burge. 2.—C. C. Painter. Time 22½secs.

HURDLE RACE (Open).

(Prizes presented by H. H. Gibson, Esq., and H. W. Weaving, Esq). 1.—G. H. G. Shepherd. 2.—F. Read. Time 18 1-5th secs. Shepherd won easily.

CHOIR RACE (300 yds. Handicap).

(Prizes presented by E. A. Martell, Esq., and E. L. Shepherd, Esq). 1.—J. G. Shepherd, (30 yds). 2.—A. W. Collingbourne, (25 yds). Time 41 1-5 secs.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL (Open).

(Prizes presented by Rev. T. Layng, and II. and III. Forms). 1.—D. Napper. 2.—W. Leach. Distance 83yds. 1½ins.

HALF MILE HANDICAP (Open).

(Prizes presented by J. H. E. Morland, Esq., O.A., H. G. W. d'Almaine, Esq., O.A., and W. H. Puckridge, Esq). 1.—L. W. Holland, (scratch). 2.—K. G.

Stevens, (40 yds). 3.—R. B. Leach, ii, (65 yds). Time 2min. 20 4-5th secs. Holland won by four yards.

OLD ABINGDONIANS' RACE.

(100 yards in ordinary clothes). (Prize presented by W. R. Portal, Esq., O.A). 1.—N. B. Challenor.

CONSOLATION RACE (1 lap).

(Prizes presented by C. A. Pryce, Esq., and J. G. T. West, Esq., O.A). 1.—W. H. Whitlock. 2.—G. C. Rice. Time 48 3-5ths secs.

STEEPLECHASE (OPEN).

Run on Tuesday, March 24th, on the Common.

(Prizes presented by S. H. Baker, Esq., H. P. Simpson, Esq., J. C. Cobb, Esq., and Shell Form). 1.—L. W. Holland. 2.—A. L. Edwards. 3.—H. V. Stone. Time 12 mins. 29 secs.

Holland won easily.

STEEPLECHASE (under 14).

(Prizes presented by E. J. Harris, Esq., G. Saxby, Esq., and W. Legge, Esq.). 1.—H. V. Campbell. 2.—H. A. L. Donkin. 3.—M. W. S. Bruce. Time 7 min. 25 secs.

The finish was very close, Donkin leading till the last few yards.

ONE MILE RACE (Open).

Run on Thursday, March 26th. (Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Burkett, Prizes by H. Burkett, Esq., Player Isaac, Esq., and VI. and V. Forms). 1.—L. W. Holland. 2.—O. B. Challenor. 3.—J. H. Wakefield. Time 5 mins. 17 1-5th secs.

Holland won quite easily.

"HEBER CLARKE" CHALLENGE CUP.

Won by G. H. G. Shepherd, with 35 points, Holland coming next with 30 points.

The Mayoress, (Miss Harris) very kindly distributed the Prizes from the Pavilion immediately after the last event.

SCHOOL NOTES.

A School Blazer has been adopted which all boys may wear. It is black with cerise and white stripes.

The cerise and white blazer will remain as hitherto the privileged garment of those who have won their colours for Cricket or Rowing.

The Head-Master has taken an *Ad eundem* degree at Oxford, and incorporated as M.A., at Pembroke College.

Mr. B. Challenor, O.A., has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

We heartily congratulate R. J. Weaving on his election to the Abingdon Scholarship at Pembroke College.

We have to record our best thanks to Mr. B. Challenor, O.A., for several interesting gifts to the Museum, which he gathered in his recent tour to North Africa; to Mr. S. Ingrams for two Bank Notes issued during the siege of Mafeking; to Captain R. G. Miller, O.A., for a curious example of a musical instrument in use among the Hansas; to Miss Ellen Payne for three prizes awarded at the School on Roysse's Day 1828 and 1830, which have been placed in the Library; and to Mr. B. Challenor, O.A., for two volumes on the Geology of Mexico.

L. W. Holland, W. Leach, and W. J. Read have been made prefects this term.

O. B. Challenor and H. A. Mills have been awarded their colours for Rowing.

G. H. G. Shepherd has been elected Secretary to the Games Club.

M. G. Weaving, and H. T. Habgood were awarded colours for Rifle-shooting last July. We apologise for having inadvertently omitted to record this before now.

R. N. Turnbull is working as an Engineer in Ontario.

F. W. Holmden is Mining at Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

R. M. Cory has gone to Canada to take up Fruit Farming.

Lieutenant E. F. Berry left for India in January, to join the Wiltshire Regiment, where he will have another O.A., Lieut. R. A. Sparkes, as a brother officer.

H. W. Weaving again coxed the winning Scratch Four at Pembroke College.

Jim Murray has passed the final examination of the Incorporated Law Society.

Jack Murray is prospering in Canada.

The Rev. Winton Montgomery has been ordained to a curacy at Bushy Heath.

The Rev. C. P. B. Montgomery has taken up parochial work at Prestwick in Lancashire.

L. S. Matthias has obtained an appointment in Canada.

P. L. Deacon writes cheerily from the shores of Victoria Nyanza.

The Rev. E. D. Stone, late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, preached to us on Feb. 23rd., and Dr. Field, the Warden of Radley College, on March 22nd.

The Abingdon Musical Union gave their Annual Concert on Feb. 6th, in the Corn Exchange, and their rendering of "Hiawatha" was much appreciated by the Boarders and many Day Boys.

On Feb. 27th, nearly all the school attended, and much appreciated a lecture in the Corn Exchange, on "Animals I have known," by Mr. Thompson Seton.

New boys.—School House—C. E. Cook, G. L. Atherton.

Day Boys.—D. E. S. Cousins, P. Porter.

Boys left.—School House—L. G. Drewe, E. H. Harvey, W. R. Mortleman, R. M. Cory.

Tesdale House.—F. A. Bennett, A. R. C. Sadler.

Day Boys.—G. D. Deane.

The passages selected this year for the Meredith Composition Prizes are from Oman's History of Greece, viz.:—for Latin, p.p. 169-171.—for Greek, p.p. 466-468.

BIRTH.

Gerald Willington Forster Ashwin, born on March 10th, at Tesdale House, was baptized on April 1st, at S. Nicolas Church, by the Rev. T. Layng.

OBITUARY.

On Dec. 18th, 1907, at Radley House, Winchester, the Rev. Edgar Summers, B.D., Head-Master of Abingdon School 1870-1883, aged 73 years.

Mr. Summers was formerly a scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge. He took his B.A. degree in 1857, being placed in the First Class of the Classical Tripos. In 1858 he appeared again in the First Class of the Theological Tripos, and won the Scholefield University Prize for Biblical Greek. He took his M.A. degree in 1860 and became B.D. in 1880. From 1859-1862 he was

