

Misericordias  
Domini



in aeternum  
cantabo.

# THE ABINGDONIAN.

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## EDITORIAL.

It seems more than ever difficult to find inspiration or even energy for writing of school doings in what tradition and necessity is made an inevitably commonplace 'editorial' vein. All England must share the strain and anxiety of the critical happenings on the Western Front.

Nevertheless, like everyone else, we have to go on with the particular work that has fallen to our share; it is really the least we can do.

We try and help where we can as a school, if in prosaic ways; even the very youngest of us have taken their share

in the cultivation of our potatoes of the future.

The term has been normal and satisfactory; not without result, but uneventful. We may notice as a distinctive feature the ravages of the mild, but aggravating and un-patriotic sounding disease of German measles; even the editor himself has not been immune!

## ROWING.

Writing in the moment of victory, one's heart filled with joy, it is hard to look back on the season without a kindly feeling, caused by the result, a phrase at first sight rather paradoxical.

And yet, we have laboured under difficulties attributable almost entirely to the war, that unfortunate event to which all evil is assigned.

The fleet had been freshly varnished before the beginning of term, treatment which did all the boats good—especially the 'heavy tub' on which I would that I could write a panegyric—it holds out water better than it has done in previous years, and is in fact an exceptional example of second youth. In spite of bumps, collisions with the bank, and on one occasion the bridge, not a drop has entered—a truly marvellous boat, dear to the hearts of all who know it.

On the contrary the "John Roysse," our best four, has shown a tendency to leak. It has received some bad jar which caused the whole keel to gape, affording entrance to miraculous amounts of water—one board also was cracked, just on the water line. Such was the state in which we launched her for the first time, our temerity bringing us back with wet shoes. However, with frequent doses of paraffin wax in the most yawning wounds, she was trustworthy enough to win the race.

For the first fortnight the river was too high to get the raft down to the boat-house, incapacitating all maritime enterprise; but since then the river has been like a mill pond, low, very little stream and beautiful weather all along. Not once were we out in the rain, nor did we brave the reach in a snowstorm, as is usually our part; and only once was the canvas necessary. So much for that.

As in previous years, for the first few weeks we 'tubbed' all hopefuls vigorously and then moved into fours. The 'tub' four did valuable work in getting the crew together by way of preparation for a lighter

vessel. Then we moved into the 'Blue Four, for which we have no other name yet—might we ask for suggestions?—vacating the 'tub' for the second crew.

The 'Blue' Four, however, did not suit us; she seems too low in the riggers—and as soon as the leaks had been stopped we transferred.

By this time we had been fortunate enough to fix up a race with the 6th O.C.B., St John's College, Oxford, which gave us something to work for and look forward to. Before that we had intended having two scratch fours, an arrangement productive of decidedly less interest.

The date was settled for March 23rd, Saturday, and about three weeks beforehand we started regular training. We were fortunate in having more or less 'old hands' at the job—stroke, three and cox being two of the three and cox of the 1916 four, and bow and two having rowed three and two in the winning scratch four last year.

We were soon going well together in spite of a tendency to roll, caused chiefly by 'feathering under water' at first. This was, however, remedied and in the end the boat was steady as could be expected.

But, unfortunately, we were handicapped by the war. Every Tuesday military duties called stroke away, a fact which was very upsetting—especially as it was stroke and no two strokes row alike. All rowers know the Monday-feeling—how a day off the river makes one feel 'rotten,'—not until Wednesday could we effectually counteract this. It was unfortunate.

It is rowing together daily for a fair long stretch of time that 'makes' a boat—and this we could not do.—One must be on the river every day to do anything, and all along we were missing days owing to milita-

arrangements.

Luckily our opponents were in the same state, being even more under military supervision; but against a fully trained crew our weak spot would inevitably have been found out.

On Thursday, the 21st, the course was rowed in 3 min. 40 secs., quite a creditable performance. To add excitement the second four rowed with us and luckily we upheld our position, coming in six lengths or so ahead.

The day of the race dawned; beautiful, fine and warm; but with it came the awful news—bow had caught the measles; this at the last moment was almost too much. A council of war was held and stroke of the second four was transposed to bow—a sudden change; he had, however, rowed bow side at the beginning of the term. We went on the river for a few moments in the morning to see what would happen; and she went remarkably well.

In the afternoon at three o'clock we had the race; our opponents being in the 'Blue' boat; over the usual course; from the 'Cut' to the White Bridge. We luckily got away from the very first and preserved our lead to the end, finishing in 3 min. 43.8 secs., although for almost the last minute stroke's oar had slipped out of the rigger, reducing him to helplessness. At the end we had increased our lead to eight lengths.

Meanwhile the recruits had been coming along well; the 2nd IV. had the 'Blue' boat making her move quite successfully; while during the last week or so a third crew was put on the river in the heavy four; these also showed great promise for next year, although being rather small at present to do great things.

So ended a successful season, unique in

the favourableness of weather conditions, enabling many to be 'tubbed' who would have otherwise not been allowed on the river; who will compose a suitable backbone for rowing in the future, destined, I hope, to carry on the annals of the A.S.B.C. with renewed vigour next year.

In conclusion, our thanks are due to Miss Grundy for having, at the eleventh hour, made a flag for the four to carry to victory in place of the old one which has unfortunately been missing for the last two years, a flag which I must plead guilty of having forgotten to fly at the race.

C.V.D.

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ABINGDON SCHOOL B.C. v. ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE CADETS.—The race was rowed on Saturday, March 23rd, at 3 p.m., on Culham Reach. The weather conditions were extremely favourable for crews and spectators alike. The School got a good start and drew away almost at once, and at the tree were over two lengths up, and stroke keeping his crew going right to the end, they reached the finish eight lengths to the good in 3 min. 43-secs. The School, though very much lighter, were much the better crew to look at and the event showed that their appearance was a correct index to their racing ability.

The four consisted of—

*Stroke*.—J. N. SANDERS (Colours 1916), 10 st. 10 lbs. Has never yet succeeded in getting the finish right; either sticks out his elbows or raises his hands and rows deep through not finishing with the proper muscles. Otherwise is a very sound and steady oar and has quite fulfilled as a stroke the promise he showed two years ago, and has been invaluable to the crew and deserves much of the credit of the victory.

3.—C. V. DAVIDGE (Capt., Colours 1916) 10 st. 4 lbs. Has done a great deal of work at three, and been a reliable and useful oar; has nevertheless shown a distinct, though no doubt temporary, falling off compared with previous years; very often pulls in the finish with his arms, is occasionally unsteady over the stretcher and at the beginning of the season was uncertain of his feather. Has made a keen and efficient captain.

2.—R. E. EASON (Colours 1918) 10 st. 5 lbs. Has become a very neat oar. Still shows traces of his old fault of hurrying the finish with his arms and not sitting up square at the finish with legs still pressing on the stretcher, but has improved greatly during the season.

*Bow.*—W. LUPTON (Colours 1918) 10 st. 10 lbs. Gets a good deal of work on if in a rather awkward manner. Frequently feathers under water and seldom finishes sitting up well and firmly through wrong use of his arms. Rowed very well in the race considering he had only been brought in the same morning in the place of our regular 'bow,' who was . . .

C. M. HUMFREY (Colours 1918) 9 st. 10 lbs. A very steady and workmanlike oar. Is slow with his hands and sometimes not sure of a clean feather; when rowing is apt to become a little flurried and resort to 'bucketing.'

*Cox.* H. T. HAYNES (Colours 1916) 4 st. 8½ lbs. 'Cox' has now become quite a veteran of the river and confidently trusting have been relieved of considerable trouble. to his skill and experience coach and captain  
M.T.P.

## SECOND FOUR CHARACTERS.

F. M. MEACOCK (Bow), a somewhat small but persevering oarsman, with, however, an unfortunate tendency to pull the oar in too low. Has done well considering it is his first season on the river.

G. GWYTHYR-JONES (Half-Colours 1918) has done good work at two. He was stroke at the beginning of the second four, but was changed owing to substantial changes in the boat. Shines among the crew owing to a clean feather, and getting a good deal of work on; he has also shown great promise all along.

J. E. A. CLARK (Three), a hard-working keen, but ungainly workman. He does not seem to have got into the swing or action of rowing at all and shows a remarkable tendency to treating the remainder of the crew to shower-baths and sea-sickness.

W. LUPTON has stroked the four with great success, although starting as three at the beginning of the season. He was transferred to the first four on the day of the race.

J. F. SINCLAIR (Cox), has also passed his first year on the river. After taking some time to teach, has performed his duties quite respectably. Shares, however, the fate of most coxes, that is of getting 'muddled' at times when nothing will put things straight.

C.V.D.

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## A COMPLAINT.

Dear Mr. Editor.

May I take the liberty of making use of your widely circulating columns to call attention to the following simple facts which, for brevity's sake, I will merely state in three separate headings numbered 1, 2, 3.?

1. Measles will always be caught by those ill-starred enough.
2. All heavy things have an inevitable tendency to fall on one's toe.
3. When one wants anything specially it is never there.

Now to a casual observer there may seem to be but little connection between them; look at it this way, however—what need is there to be any connection?

I am not complaining of that. On the contrary, my ink is mixed with tears owing to the fact that they are at all. A combination of all the Furies to dog the footsteps of this human race, it would seem, even as gnats in summer gather round one with the greatest pertinacity when beads of perspiration are rolling down the brow, making one's blood boil with the futility of warding them off. We are troubled with the war and food cards and yet those three minor worries afore-mentioned still continue even as they did before we took up arms against Germany. This, sir, is my plaint. Let me go into the matter more fully.

For the first, most people have had Measles and know—once started, nothing will put a check to the virulence of the disease. A spot appears—then another and another—in your own mind you are then sure but, nil desperandum, you hope against hope that you are not the only denizen of your bed; all to no avail; despair seizes you and you fall back resigned to your fate.

The only thing to do is to engage in wild wagers as to where exactly the next spot will appear. Your idea in this is that you may have a substantial "balance in hand" on your leaving the sick room—and also to pass the time. You lose of course. Bad luck always comes with a run. You put your money on two inches to the right of the end

of your fifth rib. One does appear there in time and you joyfully snatch up the money; only to be told that one appeared long ago in the middle of your back. Not being able to dispute this, you are reluctantly forced into credence; though under your breath you may stigmatise your tormentor as "Liar"—it's no use; you mysteriously disappear for a fortnight and, if unfortunate, during the last two weeks of term, those most fraught with events of interest.

As for number 2, I am sure I have many supporters; those with corns, cannot but agree; and to anyone, who still may entertain doubts, all I say is, try. Anything with nasty jagged edges is sure to perform the antics described. Stay in your hands it will not—nor will it fall on the floor—it is your toe; and with unerring aim the most jaggedest piece scores a bull on your pet corn. Should we, I ask, be expected to put up with it? Surely the unanimous and indignant shouts of "no," I hear, put all doubt at rest; but I will not stop; I will bring white-hot rage into the hearts of all by touching upon my last heading—the fact that nothing is ever where it should be, when most wanted. Nothing, I repeat, from your handkerchief to the person you arranged to meet at mid-day in town; when you arrive at ten minutes past one, he is not there.

Just to mention a few small things as your collar stud when you are asked out to dinner; the latch-key when you return in the early hours of the morning; your food-card, the coppers you are sure you put in your pocket to tip the cabman.

All, all are missing. Think then of the aggravation caused by coming into an examination room with a fountain pen; so far, so good,—but when you begin to write, you have no ink inside.

Undoubtedly this is a most flagrant case of something that should be there absenting itself without leave. We all know what happens when a boy does not turn up to call over or chapel.—Why is it then that if erring humans are to be punished, such inanimate and unfeeling objects as your 'prep,' a sugar ticket, or your braces should get off with impunity; nay even bringing down the results of their absence in a heap on the head of the unfortunate owner?

Why, I repeat, should this be allowed to continue? Many blame the Government, but so far without result. It seems futile and yet—therein lies our only hope; if the Government took it up earnestly, who knows . . . . .

Mr. Editor, my indignation is too much for me; it is too exasperating—Mr. Editor, I say no more. Many have asserted that a short, bright sermon of ten minutes does more good than thirty-five minutes malediction; so I conclude, in the hopes that you will look with pity upon your unfortunate, "on the point of bursting with" righteous indignation correspondent.

C.V.D.

### ONE OF OUR FIELD DAYS.

Since our famous battle near Wittenham Clumps the enemy have retreated further north and were brought to a decisive engagement near South Hinksey by the School contingent, aided by Radley and St. Edward's School. The battle started about one o'clock, which necessitated our leaving school after one period.

Possibly some thought more of getting off school than the day of battle before them.

The parade before we start on our way to the scene of operations is really worth

watching. On the right some one rushes out with a huge tray of rations which consisted of sandwiches and apples, while on the left there sallies forth a youth struggling under the burden of a few hundred rounds of ammunition. When at length each person has been provided with both food for himself and his rifle, our contingent set out *en route* for the field very soldier-like.

Conditions were unfavourable and long was the march, yet the spirits of our brave host were undaunted.

At about mid-day, sheltered from the piercing blast by a low stone wall, we crouched munching our rations, which did not seem to take enough time considering how long we were encamped by the side of the road.

Suddenly, however, there was a call for a patrol, and one was sent out to spy on the enemy, but unfortunately, as our forces were not very large, that patrol robbed us of a whole section.

After waiting for about another hour with no news from our patrol we advanced, nor did we lose much time when once on the go, and strong would be a force have been to check such an advance.

Amid all the excitement and din of battle of course we missed our real objective, and how we finally arrived in the front line ready for a charge is more than I can explain. Our objective must have been evacuated by the enemy, for when we arrived there none were in sight, and we were informed that our task was over by the sound of the "cease fire."

That sound did not come unwelcome to such weary warriors, and we were glad to get a few minutes rest while the judges, who had been flitting about on horses, pronounced their verdict.

Although the battle was finished, then we weary warriors received no rest yet, for before us rose up the vision of a five mile march. How much longer that return journey seemed, and how weak the response in answer to an appeal for song. "Still, things like that must be after a famous victory."

Needless to say we finally rolled up at School feeling very tired, hungry and dirty, yet feeling very satisfied with having done what might called "our bit."

R.E.E.

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### MORE MINOR POETS.

The food shortage is a very serious thing,  
For we do not know what each day will bring;

It may be no meat for our lunch,  
Or it might be no bread to munch,  
And if we should lose our *Butter* card,  
It will be a case of eating bread and lard.

For jam is so rare  
On this side of the sphere;  
But if we can get potato flour  
In this our needful hour,  
We will fight on longer still  
Until we've floored Old Kaiser Bill.

S.G.B.

A new "boy" came to school this term,  
His name he said was Measle Germ,  
His highest score I think so far,  
Is five boys in one day,  
And so we have to give them each  
Fourteen days holiday.

H.W.F.

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### CIGARETTE CARDS.

[Suggested declamatory exercises, on receiving a time-honoured solicitation from a small child, outside a tobacconist's.]

## I.

"I am a soldier—ah—too true!  
Still, I'm a soldier—Who are you?  
I did not think we'd met before  
You ambushed me behind the door.  
I'm quite perplexed—I must admit  
I don't know what to make of it.  
Your ceaseless importunities they really quite  
unnerve one.  
'A cigarette card, please.' Forsooth—  
Begone, bold, bad, precocious youth!  
Accept this intimation that you really don't  
deserve one."

## II.

"I am a soldier—certainly,  
But I am human—so is he.  
How haltingly the dear child speaks—  
How bright his eyes—how flushed his cheeks!  
Well really now—I must admit  
I don't know what to make of it,  
This golden opportunity to mitigate his  
sorrow.  
'A cigarette card, please.' Why yes!  
I have a dozen, more or less;  
Here—take the lot—it's all I've got—and  
come again to-morrow."

P.L.H.

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### CAMOUFLAGING THE BOAT HOUSE.

From time to time improvements have naturally to be made if the old world has to push on at all. Things are improved in turn according to their need, and this term it was the turn of our Boat-House.

This remarkable edifice was built by the worthy youth of the School in 1914 A.D., and has survived the four years of its life without mishap and is still as strong as ever, and in fact it is now much stronger.

It was first built in a somewhat open place

and although it was really supposed to be private, it looked exceedingly public. At least so numerous scoundrels thought who treated it accordingly.

This of course could not possibly be tolerated, and the first step to stop this was to surround the whole place with barbed wire entanglements. This was done with no little labour and expense by some of the boys and a yokel hired for the occasion.

This effectively protected the boat-house but it certainly could not be said to enhance its beauty, in fact it must be admitted that it quite detracted from it.

This of course could be less tolerated than the publicity to which our long-suffering edifice had been subject. True, potatoes are to be cultivated by the well-meaning yokel, but how could that possibly cover the entanglements and so bring back the lost beauty. Besides in winter they wouldn't be there at all.

This is where the "Camouflage stunt" was brought into action. By the originality of our sports-master, numbers of shrubs of various sorts and sizes, from miniature Christmas trees to spreading laurels were invested in and were planted by a few members of the School, with the best omens for their growing into a spread of forest.

One worthy returning from the land, possibly trying to be funny, but more probably moved by patriotic sentiment, exclaimed "It bain't no good to plant those, sir; we can't eat them," but the quick retort was: "No, but they will hide the things we can eat."

J.E.A.C.

[This looks suspiciously like food-hoarding.]

—Ed.

## SIXES.

As usual, this term has, to a great extent, been spent in playing 'Sixes.' It was decided that, owing to the increasing number of boys, they should be divided again into Senior and Junior, the dividing age being fourteen.

Of the Seniors there were enough names to compose six, each captained by a member of last term's football XI., of whom there happened to be a like number; there were seven Junior teams.

As each side played the others twice, and the monotony was varied by runs and games on half-holidays, the afternoons of most boys were pretty well occupied until the second week in March.

On the whole sufficient keenness was shown to prevail upon one to institute a similar régime next year, but we must make one appeal to the 'sporting' instincts of a number of the smaller boys—our plaint is the mania for excuses that has prevailed. We know not if it is that boys, whose sixes do not show promise of winning from the very first, lose all interest in a game or what it is; but nevertheless to put it briefly, there seem to have been more excuses than necessary. On half-holidays especially one could almost count on ten or a dozen leaves, thus erasing one side or almost two sixes from the board; combined with the number absent this made it very hard for the 'six' captains to 'carry on.' We must, therefore, either complain that there has been a great deal of slackness and lack of interest, or else lament the fact that the physique of the School is lessening and the coming manhood of Britain on the decline.

We take this opportunity of congratulating Lowe's Six on winning the Seniors with 16 points out of a possible 20, and Beaven's on gaining the palm in the Juniors with 23



points out of 24. They were seconded by Miles and Eason ii., respectively with 14 points each.

Winning teams.—

SENIOR.

W. H. Lowe (Capt.)

F. M. Meacock.

F. B. Glenny.

A. V. Carpenter.

E. R. Barber.

H. W. Franklin.

JUNIOR.

E. C. Beaven (Capt.)

S. F. Wiggins.

J. F. Sinclair.

A. F. James.

R. C. F. Saxby.

W. H. Stevens.

C.V.D.

### WAYLAND SMITH'S CAVE.

We have received the following account:—

“Mr. Harry G. W. d’Almaine (O.A.) gave an exceedingly interesting and instructive lecture on “Wayland Smith’s Cave and our Stone Age Ancestors” in the Corn Exchange, Abingdon, on the 21st March, illustrated by about 60 lantern slides which he had had specially prepared.

The School attended, and the lecture proved of great interest especially to budding archaeologists in the audience.

The Lecturer started by unravelling the Scandinavian myth surrounding Wayland and gave the Norse version as it has come down to us in the Sagas and Icelandic writings. He then went on to show how closely the local, country, legend corresponded not only with the Norse version but with those told of Vulcan, Dædalus, &c., and he showed

how all these legends probably originated in the East and were brought West by the wandering tribes as they scattered abroad.

There was no explanation to offer as to how the legend became associated with the Cave which was in reality a Neolithic stone-age grave in which the Chieftains, or great men of the tribe, were buried from time to time in this family, or ‘passage’ grave.

Mr. d’Almaine then went on to explain how Sir Walter Scott had heard the local legends from “Madam” Hughes, the grandmother of Thomas Hughes, author of “Tom Brown’s Schooldays,” and had enshrined them in “Kenilworth” in a way that has made the Tomb famous throughout the world. Pictures of Madam Hughes and Sir Walter were thrown on the screen and the Lecturer severely criticized the great “Wizard of the North” for perverting the true story of the Cave and turning history upside down for the purpose of making fiction.

After giving Scott’s version of the exposure of Wayland the Smith by Tressilian, and the imaginary blowing up of the Cave, the Lecturer tried to impress on his audience the vast periods during which man had inhabited the Earth, and the enormous times covered by the Stone Age men of the Eolithic, the Palæolithic, and the Neolithic periods. He showed pictures of England when it was part of Europe, and the Stone Age people came over on dry land with extinct beasts such as the Mammoth, the Cave Bear, &c. Realistic pictures of some of these creatures followed, with sets of teeth of the Mammoth and Rhinoceros found in Abingdon; together with hunting scenes in prehistoric times; also some fine slides giving a good idea of the life lived by the men of the Stone Ages.

This gave us all some insight into the life

story of the men who built the Wayland Tomb.

After an interval, during which descriptive music from Greig was played by Mrs. Fairthorne, Mr. d'Almaine continued his lecture by giving a minute account of the Grave with many pictures; one of them especially interesting as it showed the Grave restored with the mound over it as the Lecturer believed it to have been when originally finished. This drawing was made by Mr. C. O. Wright, from a rough drawing Mr. d'Almaine had sketched.

The Lecturer also described the finds he had recently made of several, hitherto unrecorded, stones forming part of the monument, and, most interesting of all perhaps, of some bones of a bison probably slain to give food to the dead Chief on his long journey beyond this life, and bones of the Chief himself including his jaw-bone. All these finds were splendidly illustrated on the screen.

In an eloquent and thoughtful peroration the Lecturer laid stress on the enormous periods it had taken to evolve man up to his present very imperfect state, and foreshadowed the time yet to come when man would become the perfect creature and emerge into the Perfect Day.

The lecture was listened to with the greatest interest and attention throughout, and there was frequent applause.

Mr. d'Almaine was suitably thanked for his able lecture and he then made an appeal for new Members of the Berks Archæological Society, on whose behalf the lecture was given, and no less than 30 fresh Members enrolled."

Mrs. Fairthorne gave great pleasure by her playing on the piano and was listened to with great appreciation.

## WAR HONOURS.

### MILITARY CROSS.

Sec. Lieut. William Leach, Royal Berks Regt., for gallantry in holding a trench while under severe fire.

### MILITARY MEDAL.

Lance-Corporal J. C. Enoch, Royal Berks Regt., for gallantry.

### MENTIONED IN DESPACHES.

Lieut. W. H. Enoch, Oxford & Bucks L.I.

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## CASUALTY LIST.

### DIED ON SERVICE.

HEWER.—Killed in action in Palestine. Second Lieut. Richard Tuckey Hewer, aged 30 years.

[R. T. Hewer came to Abingdon in March, 1898. He shewed considerable ability as a Mathematician and took an active part in many school interests. On leaving school he joined a firm of Auctioneers with whom he worked until he volunteered for active service.]

BROWN.—On 4th March, 1918, abroad, from heart failure, Arthur Anthony Brown, Temporary Staff Captain, R.F.A., youngest son of John Brown, Esq., The Close, Purton, Wilts, aged 31.

[Anthony Brown was the youngest of several brothers who were all prominent in the School from 1885 to 1905. He came in May, 1900, won the "Heber Clarke" Challenge Cup in 1904, and was a member of the Cricket and Football elevens. He went up to Caius College, Cambridge in 1905 and played in goal for the 1st XI. He became later on a Tea Planter in Ceylon.]

### ADDITIONS TO ROLL OF SERVICE.

Cowburn, J., London Regt.

Fuller, J. G. B., 2nd Lieut., A.S.C.

Gabriel, R. G. M., L.-Cpl., D.L.I.

Greenwood, J. S. C., R.N.A.S.

## NOTES IN BRIEF.

Lieut. A. S. Payne is a prisoner in Germany.

Sec.-Lieut. J. E. E. Roylands-Chanter, South Staffs. Regt., has been wounded.

Lieut. H. A. L. Donkin has been gazetted as Temporary Captain.

Private Leonard W. L. Kaye was at Halifax at the time of the great explosion in December last and assisted in the work of rescue. He is now a member of the Mechanical Transport Section of the A.S.C. During the last six years he has lived in America.

Private Basil L. Kaye has joined the United States Army and is in training at Washington.

Lieut. L. S. Mathias, Leinster Regt., is now a Captain.

C. T. Baker has now a commission in the Canadian Contingent.

R. G. Rice is now 2nd Lieut., R.G.A.

H. M. Stevenson is now Lieut. in the A.S.C.

G. Brown is 2nd Lieut. in Anti-Aircraft Force.

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### THE SCHOOL CONCERT.

As in other departments of School life, we are managing to "carry on" in the musical sphere, and on the 12th of December last another very successful school concert took place in the Gymnasium.

We were happy in being able to include, as in 1916, a fair number of orchestral selections, which lent a pleasing variety to the other items, and with them helped to

make up a well-chosen and well-rendered programme. Though the instrumentalists were fewer in number than in the previous year, the standard of production was as good as ever, and the various pieces were all played with skill and taste. If we might single out one for especial mention we should say that the "Bourrée & Gigue" by Saint George gave particular delight to the audience.

The other instrumental items consisted of pianoforte solos by Miss Hughes and A. C. Mackinnon. The former gave a most delightful and truly Chopinesque interpretation of that composer's Fantasia—Impromptu (Op. 66): we have never listened to it with so much real pleasure before. As an encore a short piece by Rebikoff was given. Mackinnon played a waltz by Jephson in a direct, unaffected, but well-balanced manner, and was very justly given an encore. He follows worthily in his brother's footsteps as a promising pianist, and with a little more control and delicacy in his tone production should do well.

Mr. Bevir was heard to good effect in "Off to Philadelphia," and his encore: "False Phyllis" proved a very popular number. Mr. Perks too, it is unnecessary to add, was listened to with much appreciation, for he was already well-known to us as a tenor on 'the operatic stage' in the rôles of Ralph Rackstraw and Nanki-Poo. "The Farmer's Pride," however, was the first song we have had from him at the School Concert, and we trust it will not be the last.

Franklin and Wiggins gave a very pleasing rendering of Liza Lehmann's duet "Snow-drops," and the quartette proved to be a very tasteful combination of voices.

The four-part chorus singing was quite up to the standard of previous years, and the songs rendered were well-chosen from the

point of view of offering variety and contrast.

Altogether a very fair audience found the evening a most enjoyable one, and our thanks are due to those who helped to make it so, and particularly to Miss Hughes whose never-failing resources of taste, patience and ungrudging industry were responsible for the success of everything.

## J.Y.I.

## PROGRAMME.

## Part I.

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Preludio<br>Allemanda<br>Minuetto i.<br>Minuetto ii. | } from "Petite Suite" <i>Saint George</i> |  |
|   |   | The Orchestra.   |
| 2. Part Song "Let me the Canakin Clink."                |   | <i>MacEwen</i><br>The School.  |
| 3. Piano Solo "Waltz in C."                             |   | <i>Jephson</i><br>A. C. Mackinnon.   |
| 4. Part Song "The Potter."                              |   | <i>Gaul</i><br>The School.   |
| 5. Song "The Farmer's Pride."                           |   | <i>Kennedy Russell</i><br>M. T. Perks, Esq.  |
| 6. Part Song "Sir Eglamore."                            |   | <i>Balfour Gardiner</i><br>Trebles and Altos.  |
| 7. Duet "Snowdrops."                                    |   | <i>Liza Lehmann</i><br>H. W. Franklin, S. F. Wiggins.  |
| 8. Three Dances from "Tom Jones."                       |   | <i>German</i><br>The Orchestra.  |
|   |   | Part II.   |
| 1. Part Song "Gipsy Life."                              |   | <i>Schumann</i><br>The School.   |
| 2. Piano Solo "Impromptu in C sharp minor."             |   | <i>Chopin</i><br>Miss M. Hughes.   |
| 3. Selection { "Graceful Dance."<br>"Minuet d'Amour."   | } <i>Cowen</i>                            |  |
|   |   | The Orchestra.   |
| 4. Quartette "If I had but two little wings."           |   | <i>Parry</i><br>H. W. Franklin, G. L. Thatcher, S. F. Wiggins,<br>A. W. Staniland, M. T. Perks, Esq., J. N. Sanders. |
| 5. Song "Off to Philadelphia."                          |   | <i>Battison Haynes</i><br>W. Bevir, Esq.   |
| 6. Part Song "Kitty of Coleraine."                      |   | <i>Lloyd</i><br>The School.  |
| 7. Bourrée<br>Gigue                                     | } from "Petite Suite."                    | <i>Saint George</i><br>The Orchestra.  |
|   |   |  |
| 8. Part Song "The March of the Cameron Men."            |   | <i>Granville Bantock</i><br>The School.<br>"God Save the King."  |

## ORCHESTRA.

1st Violins :

Mrs. Fairthorne, Mrs. Humfrey, Miss Clarke.

2nd Violins : Miss M. Hughes, Miss R. Clarke.

'Cello : Mrs. Scott.

Piano : Miss Evans.

## SCHOOL NOTES.

We congratulate Mr. Bromley Challenor who has been created M.B.E., in recognition of his services in connection with Local Government work.

We were pleased to notice in the same List of Honours the name of Mrs. Benyon, the wife of the Chairman of our Governing Body. She was awarded the Dame Grand Cross of the same Order.

We have to thank one of our Governors, A. K. Loyd, Esq., K.C., M.P., very warmly for the gift of a Classical Scholarship of £20 for four years, which has been very welcome.

We are sorry to say that Mrs. Watson met with rather a serious accident while cycling on March 21st; she was unfortunate enough to injure both her arm and her knee and has been unable to continue her duties at school for the rest of the term. We are sure everyone will sympathise with her and wish her a speedy recovery.

The Rev. H. F. Shepherd has been appointed Temporary Chaplain to the Forces, 4th Class.

The official organ of the Modern Language Association for October last contained an article on Education from the pen of Mr. Ralph Prowde, a former Sixth Form Master.

The School Sports will be held on Wed., April 3rd, and the Steeplechase on March 30th.

R. E. Eason, J. E. A. Clark, and C. W. Lloyd have been made School Prefects.

C. V. Davidge has been elected Rowing Captain.

R. E. Eason, C. M. Humfrey, and W. Lupton have been awarded Colours for rowing.

The following portion of a letter from an O.A., dated February 20th, may be of interest.—

“ You ought to have heard us coming out of the line. After a decent little march we had hot tea and rum, and sandwiches. Then we had a short train journey in a miniature train (light railway). All the men were full of spirit and each truck load sang different songs nearly all the way. There were exceptions when they all sang the same, and it was great. It would do some people in England good to have followed behind and heard them.”

This term ends on Friday, April 5th, and next term will begin on Tuesday, April 30th; boarders return the previous day.

SALVETE.

V (A)—Memory, W.

REMOVE.—Genge, L. C., Barber, E. R., Miller, V. H., Wykeham-Martin, E. F.

III.—Stevens, A. H. K., Stevens, W. H., Hemming, B. N., Witham, J.

II.—Tinegate, E.

VALETE.

VI.—P. W. Morley (1913-1917) 2nd XI. Cricket, 1914; 1st XI., 1915, Colours 1915. 2nd XI. Football 1913; 1st XI., 1914, Colours 1916, Captain 1917; 1st IV. Cox 1915; School Prefect 1916; O.J.L. 1914; O.S.L. 1916; Sergeant O.T.C. 1917.

V.—J. H. Hodgson (1913-1917) 2nd XI. Football 1917; O.J.L. 1917.

BIRTH.

McCREERY.—On 18th March, at 3, The Esplanade, Dover, the wife of Major A. T. J. McCreery, M.C., R.A.M.C., of a daughter.

DEATHS.

CHALLENGOR.—On Jan. 8th, at Oday House, Abingdon, William Challenor, B.A., M.R.C.S., formerly of St. Helen's, Lancashire, aged 62 years.

[Mr. William Challenor was the third son of the late Mr. Bromley Challenor and a brother of the Town Clerk and of the present Mayor of Abingdon. He joined the School when Dr. Strange was Headmaster, graduated at Cambridge and entered the medical profession. He retired from practice two years ago and returned to his native town.]

PINNOCK.—At Bow Churchyard, on February 17th, 1918, Alfred Pinnock.

[Mr. Alfred Pinnock was the eldest surviving son of Mrs Pinnock, Coigne Cottage, Abingdon, and grandson of the late Mr. Thomas Winterborne. He was educated at the Old Grammar School and Bloxham School. He spent 41 years in the service of the firm of Copestake, Crampton & Co., of Bow Churchyard, London, where his work became of increasing value as the years passed. Notwithstanding his retiring disposition, his influence for good was very great among the young men of a staff numbering many hundreds; as proved by the numerous letters received from the Front expressing appreciation and gratitude for all Mr. Pinnock had done for them while at Copestake's. Only his patriotic sense of duty kept him at his post to the last, and he passed away at the end of a usual week's work.]

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