

Misericordias  
Domini



in aeternum  
cantabo.

# THE ABINGDONIAN.

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## EDITORIAL.

In this number all doings and happenings that call for comment will be found fully commented upon in their proper places,—with the possible exception of the weather, and comments under that head are perhaps better left unprinted. (That is why we have hitherto refrained from publishing weather reports, as is done so rashly in the columns of our daily contemporaries). And even the weather of this summer, which during the greater part of the term might best be described as a "frost," has been moved to an eleventh hour repentance, and was really on its best behaviour when most we needed it for the success of our annual functions; while at the time of writing, encouraged, no doubt, by the commendation it received, it is making amends with a vengeance, and doing its level best to warm us up to the work of the summer examinations. Why, then, write an editorial,—more especially when we have so much good reading to fill up the body of our magazine?

## SCHOOL NOTES.

### DEATH.

HARPER.—On the 2nd July at 5 De Montfort Square, Leicester, the Rev. Edmund Tristram Horatio Harper, M.A., Oxon, Rector of Luddington with Garthorpe, Lincolnshire, since 1871, in his 98th year.

A scholar of Pembroke College, Oxford, Mr. Harper took his degree in 1845. After a short curacy at Cottesmore he became second master at Abingdon School, and was in fact the last of the Tesdale Ushers. On the resignation of Dr. Strange in 1868 he acted as Headmaster of the School until Dr. Summers took over the new buildings in 1870. In the following year began his fifty-two years' tenure of the Rectory of Luddington.

It will be of interest to local Abingdonians to read that Mr. T. S. Simpson, of 19 Ock Street, Abingdon, who will be 82 on his next birthday, was a pupil of Dr. Harper's.

*Valete.*

VI. Form.—H. S. D. Stiles (1918). School Prefect, 1922; 2nd XI. Football, 1922; 1st IV. Rowing, 1922; Colours, 1922; O.S.L., 1922; Sergt. O.T.C., 1923.

A. W. Miles (1918). 1st XI. Football, 1922; Colours, 1922; 2nd XI. Cricket, 1922; O.S.L., 1922.

A. W. Staniland (1917). 1st XI. Football, 1922; O.S.L., 1922.

VA. Form.—C. R. Davidge (1919). 1st XI. Football, 1921; Colours, 1922; 1st XI. Cricket, 1922; 2nd IV. Rowing, 1922; Athletic Colours, 1923; O.S.L., 1923; L.Corpl. O.T.C., 1922; Shooting Team, 1922.

C. E. Lowe (1919).

VB. Form.—M. G. Candy (1920).

Remove Form.—J. E. Ballard (1920). Athletic Colours, 1923.

*Salvete.*

VB. Form.—P. G. Perks-Morris.

Remove Form.—R. F. L. Thomas.

III. Form.—M. Ogle, R. S. L. Robinson, M. K. S. Girdler.

II. Form.—W. J. Farmer, G. E. Sinclair.

The number of boys on the school books this term is 146, of whom 72 are boarders and 74 day-boys.

C. C. Woodley has been made a School Prefect.

R. L. C. Foottit has been Captain of Cricket this term, and R. G. Spencer Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Cricket Colours have been awarded to J. F. Sinclair, R. Taylor, W. G. Hancock, R. G. Spencer, W. E. Steele and G. S. Sturrock.

The Batting prize (bat presented by the Masters' Common Room) goes this year to J. F. Sinclair, whose average is 28·7: the Bowling prize (bat presented by the Headmaster) goes to R. Taylor, who has the excellent average of 5·7, having taken 58 wickets at a cost of 330 runs.

R. L. C. Foottit has been awarded the Shooting prize, with a score of 109 out of 120 (Empire Test).

C. R. Davidge successfully passed the Oxford School Certificate examination (Senior Oxford Locals) in March.

At the request of the Secretary of the Over-Seas League a copy of our last Christmas number was sent out to Canada for the exhibit of British School Magazines at the Canadian Conference, which met in Toronto in March.

We have on loan for a year a fine collection of exhibits from the Victoria and Albert Museum. These consist of specimens and illustrations of the Arts and Crafts of various ages and countries. They are beautiful objects in themselves and full of historical and antiquarian interest; and they are displayed in the middle corridor of the School buildings, where all may see and study them.

Thanks to the energy of Mr. Southern and his company of wood-workers, the new School Tuck Shop was completed in time for the Founder's Day festivities.

On Thursday, 26th April, the School, by special request, was granted a whole holiday in honour of the Duke of York's wedding. The weather, though showery, was not unpleasant, and a happy day was spent in games and sports of an athletic nature, organized and directed by the prefects.

The usual half-holiday was granted on Whit-Monday.

On Saturday, 7th July, members of the VIth Form, First Class Shots and Colours (Cricket, Football, Athletics and Rowing, with members of the 2nd Four as well), were given an opportunity to visit Henley, as in former years, to witness the finals of the Regatta. The weather was perfect, and the pleasure of an altogether pleasant day was much enhanced by the double success of R. E. Eason in the races for the Ladies' Plate and the Silver Goblets.

We have received from the Editors of "Public School Verse" a notice to the effect that "Public School Verse, Vol. III." can now be obtained from all booksellers, price 3s. 6d. Contributions for Vol. IV. should be posted before Nov. 30th 1923 to The Editors of "Public School Verse," c/o The Holywell Press, Oxford. Only those may contribute who are now at school, or who did not leave before March of this year: and in the latter cases the verses submitted must have been written before leaving.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following Contemporaries:—*The Aldenhamian*, *The Alfredian*, *The Bloxhamist* (2), *The Chigwellian*, *The Laxtonian*, *The Leightonian*, *The Log of the Nautical College*, *Pangbourne*, *The Magazine of the City of Oxford School*, *The Monktonian*, *The Totnesian*.

The Rag Concert is fixed for Saturday, 21st July. Boys going to Camp leave for Tidworth

Pennings on the following Monday afternoon, and the rest of the Boarders depart on Tuesday the 24th.

Next term begins on Tuesday, 18th September. boarders returning on the previous day.

#### FOUNDER'S DAY.

This year Founder's Day was observed on Friday, June 29th, when the usual programme was successfully carried out. At the service in St. Helen's Church the preacher was the Rev. T. Layng, Rector of King's Stanley, who ten years ago resigned the Head Mastership of the School. The singing, under the able direction of Miss Sheldon Peach, was most successful.

The Rev. T. Layng, preaching from the text "Blessed is the people whose God is the Lord Jehovah," (Psalm 33, verse 12), first asked, "In what did the blessing consist?" It was an age of tribal deities. Various gods were held to have their seat of influence in different lands. The Moabite who prayed to Chemosh, the devout Syrian who bowed himself in the House of Rimmon, and many others, would claim with equal fervour that their national god watched over their race, much as Jehovah guarded the tribes of Israel. Why had these other gods vanished with the tribes which paid them reverence, while the worship of Jehovah had developed in thought, range and ideal until it had reached the all-embracing spiritual conception of the Fatherhood of God, wide as the world in command, vast as eternity in love? Professor Robertson-Smith, Dr. Hamilton and others had answered that question. A heathen god was on the same ethical level as his worshippers. His virtues were their virtues; his imperfections were their imperfections; and so his worship, without effect in developing character, proved unfruitful to his votaries. But Jehovah revealed himself to the Prophets as a God of Righteousness, with a purpose ever rising above the current ideas of His worshippers. By His actions were weighed. The highest ideals of the most spiritual minds of each generation were used as descriptions of His unapproachable attributes. To know Jehovah and to serve Him aright involved moral effort. The conception of Jehovah was ever-growing; and so the claims upon His worshippers were ever increasing. Heathen deities claimed allegiance from their worshippers, but demanded no moral effort. Mere patriotism was not enough. The Public School idea owed many of its conceptions to

the type of religion depicted in the Old Testament. The Psalms descriptive of Jerusalem breathed the very atmosphere of Public School life, its affection for a special place, its corporate spirit, its common worship and its intimate friendships. The Law of Jehovah, so passionately described in Old Testament literature, had its counterpart in the traditions, the tone, and the characteristics which each school guarded as a precious possession peculiarly its own—a precious possession which no other school could claim. But the history of faith taught them that patriotism was not enough, and that there must be moral effort also. Their school traditions must correspond to the best Public School thought. They must impose upon themselves a continuous effort to rise to higher things. If they did this, they would be able to prevail over any evil which might arise in their midst. New boys should realise that. One of the sad things of life was that whenever they entered upon wider experience, they were always confronted with additional knowledge of evil. A young boy fresh from the more sheltered conditions of a preparatory school or from the tender protection of home life was sometimes shocked by the unexpected appearance of evil where he had hoped that all was noble. This might cause him to wonder what attitude he ought to adopt with regard to School thought and tradition. The story of the Jewish faith would seem to say, "Seek out the highest ideals offered by the School and resolutely follow them." In that way he would best battle with evil. A true life was far deeper than its corruptions, and their School would bid them to reverence their conscience and stand apart sternly and haughtily from all evil; but it would also add "trust our ideals; trust and exalt them." The seventy names on the Memorial Tablet in the chapel showed that those who lived the life of the happy schoolboy could attain to the highest patriotism and the noblest sacrifice.

The preacher concluded his sermon with an appeal to the older members of the congregation to show the same principles of loyalty and moral effort in the wider experience and more spiritual beliefs of later life.

After the service a large company assembled in the Corn Exchange for the distribution of the prizes by Mr. A. T. Loyd, M.P., O.B.E. The Rev. T. Layng and Messrs. R. W. Langford, A. P. Iliffe and W. T. Morland were also present on the platform.

The Head Master first made his customary speech. He thanked Mr. Layng for coming to

preach to them that day. Mr. Layng's visits to Abingdon were always very welcome. It would be idle for him to dwell on the debt which the School owed to Mr. Layng. He had been aptly described as one of its great builders, and it was in a large degree to his energy and foresight that they owed the erection of their best classrooms, the laboratories, the chapel and gymnasium, the workshop and the school lodge, and, though it was ten years since he resigned the head mastership of the School, in many ways his influence in it was still to be felt. He was a man who had put his life's work into the School, which would not have been and could not have been what it was without his work. Turning to the School life, the Head Master enumerated the examination successes of the past year, which have been elsewhere recorded in our pages. Among boys who had recently left, H. P. Tame had passed the final examination of the Institution of Civil Engineers, with special recommendation for his draughtsmanship, at an exceptionally early age, and J. E. A. Clark had passed the intermediate Actuaries' examination. The Head Master then asked Mr. Loyd to give away the prizes. In doing so, Mr. Loyd was only adding to the many services which his family had rendered the School for so long, and it was with great pleasure and gratitude that they welcomed him there that day.

Mr. Loyd then distributed the prizes as follows :—

VIA. Classics, A. F. James ; VIB. Classics, C. R. Wright ; Meredith Greek Prose Composition, A. F. James ; Meredith Latin Prose Composition, A. F. James.

VI. Mathematics, R. L. C. Footitt.

VI. Physics, (Major Sydney Harold Baker Prize) G. S. Sturrock.

VI. Chemistry, W. H. Stevens.

VI. French, A. F. James.

Form Prizes : VA., W. G. Hancock ; VB., S. R. Hunt ; Remove, N. J. Banes ; III., J. G. Waldron ; II., P. J. Squire.

Mathematics : VA., W. G. Hancock ; VB., S. E. Clark ; Remove, N. J. Banes, III., E. W. Edgington ; II., R. M. Robinson.

Latin : VA., W. G. Hancock ; VB., S. E. Clark ; Remove, C. Hall ; III., E. W. Edgington.

Greek : VA., W. G. Hancock ; VB., S. E. Clark ; Remove, E. G. Langford.

Science : VIC., B. W. L. Buckland ; VA., W. G. Hancock ; VB., S. E. Clark.

Divinity : VI., C. C. Woodley ; VA., K. C. Smith ; VB., S. R. Hunt ; Remove, T. E. Gardiner ; III., J. C. R. Gardner ; II., P. J. Squire.

Singing : A. M. Thatcher.

Pianoforte : R. F. Martin.

Nature Study : II., W. B. Smith.

Addressing the boys, Mr. Loyd said that looking back on his own experience, when he left school he started out to find out what it was that older people could enjoy that he could not when at school. What was the mystery ? He had never got an answer yet. He had not found any very great difference, and he could assure them that the future was not so wonderfully new as they thought it was going to be. It was surprising how very like school it was. The idea that he wanted to give them that day was that life was rather like a relay race. They must look on it as the start of a relay race and think that they were the fellows who were waiting. It might be dull and cold, and they might for the moment feel out of it ; but they should look at it from the point that the older generation were running, and when they got up to them they were not going to stop and tell them about it. By the time that they had got to them they would be pretty well blown, and they would hand the stick on to them to carry on. They were not wasting time in training, and were really part of the show even now, and the time was coming when someone would run up to them, and it would be up to them to snatch up the stick and carry on. That, he thought, was the real explanation of things, and why, when they tried to get at the bottom of things with the older generation, they could not. In conclusion, Mr. Loyd expressed the hope that, when the time did come and they got the stick and started running, they would run straight and hard to the best of their ability.

When cheers had been given for the Rev. T. Layng, Mr. Loyd, the Head Master and Miss Grundy, and the Visitors, the assembly adjourned to the school grounds, where the Head Master and Miss Grundy were "at home" and tea was served. A selection of music was given by the Oxford City Band.

The donors of the prizes were the following :—

Mrs. Baker, Rev. P. C. Bevan, H. S. Challenor, Esq., M.D., H. T. Clarke, Esq., W. M. Grundy, Esq., Rev. H. A. Kennedy, J. Knowles, Esq. (President of O.A. Club), R. W. Langford, Esq., A. T. Loyd, Esq., M.P., O.B.E., Rev. Canon W. M. Meredith, W. T. Morland, Esq., W. H. Nash, Esq., Miss Sheldon Peach, A. E. Preston, Esq., C. A. Pryce, Esq., C. Rippon, Esq. (Mayor of Abingdon), H. P. Simpson, Esq., Mrs. Stevens. Our best thanks are due to the above for their generosity.

THE FAIRS AND MARKETS OF  
MEDIÆVAL ABINGDON.

BY ARTHUR E. PRESTON, F.S.A.

[*Erratum*—Read “market” for “fair” in the previous article p. 96, line 51.]

Of the old Abingdon fairs enumerated in the previous article it is only necessary to speak more in detail of two of them, namely, *St. Mary's* and *St. Edmund's*. No date can be set for the commencement of *St. Mary's* Fair. The religious festival of its patron saint was no doubt observed from the earliest days of the Abbey, but when the festival began to assume the character of a fair as well cannot now be known. It was a gradual process and may well have commenced in the age beyond the Conquest. The Lent Fair and *St. Margaret's* Fair (July) are also of unknown antiquity and it is not easy to understand their origin.

Of all the local fairs *St. Mary's* stands out pre-eminently beyond the rest and indeed beyond any other fair in Berks and the surrounding counties. It took rank with the greatest mediæval fairs of England, and Jusserand in *English Wayfaring Life of the 14th Century* (p. 248) says that the largest and the more widely known fairs were Winchester, Abingdon, *St. Bartholomew's* Smithfield and *Sturbridge* in Cambridgeshire. Mr. Hubert Hall in *Social England* (i. 656) speaks in a similar sense. In popular estimation Abingdon came before such well-known gatherings as *St. Albans*, *Stamford*, *Oxford* and *St. Neots* (Hunts.)

A comparative idea of the reputed beginnings of fairs may be obtained from a glance at what occurred in other places. The first recorded grant was to Winchester by William the Conqueror. At Reading there was no fair till after the foundation of the Abbey in 1121 and we only know of its existence from its subsequent confirmation as *St. Lawrence's* Fair (2 Feb.) by Henry II. about 1156-7. The original grant is missing but was of a date between 1121 and 1135. At that time and reckoning only from its reconstruction and rebuilding by Ethelwold, Abingdon Abbey had been in existence for over two centuries and *St. Mary's* Fair was already an established and popular institution. It may not be too much to suppose that a neighbouring fair of no artificial creation, but that had arisen out of ordinary circumstances

in a natural way, may have served as the example for similar privileges to the first Henry's new foundation at Reading. From Henry II. and King John the monks of Reading got two other fairs at dates not recorded. The first of the *Newbury* fairs, granted in 1215 to the Hospital of *St. Bartholomew*, was also due to King John. All these fairs it will be observed were granted to religious houses, the almost universal recipients of the time.

Wallingford as the site of a royal castle affords an exception. In 1205 we find the burgesses obtaining from King John a free fair in Whitsun week for three years. It was their earliest recorded privilege in this direction, but was only temporary and did not survive. Windsor also, although a royal residence from the time of the Conqueror developed no early fairs. There is no record of any such gatherings there till *St. George's* Chapel received amongst its privileges two annual fairs from Edwd. III. in 1353. It is of course possible that fairs at Windsor may have had an earlier and prescriptive existence, but their legal establishment only dates from the middle of the fourteenth century. At *Wantage* there are indications as will be seen below of a fair in lay hands as early as King John.

The struggle for the lordship of fairs by great landowners is well shewn by a litigation into which the Abbot of Abingdon was plunged just before the time of *Magna Charta*, and from it we get interesting sidelights on the genesis of fairs and the growth of their privileges. The rolls of the *Curia Regis* inform us that in 1212 the abbot Hugh on complaint of the Earl of Albemarle (notorious for his violent and illegal practices) was called on to show by what right the Abbey held the “fair” of *Salingsford*, which the earl alleged was carried on to the injury of his own fair at *Wantage*. Both fairs fell on the eve and day of *St. Faith* (6 Oct.) and so conflicted. The *locus* of the fair was the village now known as *Shellingford*, about 2½ miles from *Faringdon* and 5 from *Wantage*. The Abbey possessed there two manors embracing about 1400 acres, and these manors formed one of the ten “wicks” or dairy farms whose special duty it was to keep the Abbey supplied with eggs, poultry, cheese, malt and other produce. Take the item of eggs alone. The yearly quota of each wick was to amount to no less than 3100, of which 500 were due at *St. Mary's* Fair. A like contribution from the other dairy farms—except *Cuddesdon* which only sent half quantities—brought up the number collected for the occasion to the

respectable total of 4750 : and from this may be gauged the extent of the hospitality expected from the Abbey during the week of the festival and the fair.

The abbot appeared to the writ by his attorney Walter de Riparia, of Beedon, a descendant of one of the original military knights of the Abbey. He may not have been a lawyer, but the subtlety of the reply he was to make is worth notice. The "fair" at Shellingford, he pleaded, was not really a fair but only a concourse called a *vigilia*, at which, although there was buying and selling, the abbot took no tolls. This *vigilia* had been there from the Conquest of England and all the abbot's predecessors had been seised of it. The earl by his attorney joined issue and contended that the *vigilia* had never been held before that year, and that the abbot had got it up as an impediment to his (the earl's) fair at Wantage. And moreover that as the abbot admitted receiving nothing in the way of tolls, it would do him no harm if the judgment of the court were given in his (the earl's) favour. A day was given to the parties to hear judgment in the quindene of St. John and there the record ends. Owing to the disappointing gaps that so often occur in the public records it is not possible to trace the actual verdict, but we are able from after events to infer that the abbot's defence proved good and that he succeeded in keeping his *vigilia*. In later days these gatherings got in many places to be known as "wakes" or "revels."

The next stage in the matter was some nine years later when in the course of his journey from Gloucester to London the young Henry III. paid his second visit to the Abbey. He was at Oxford on the 7th and the morning of 8th Sept. 1221 and at Reading on the 10th. As he could easily have reached there direct from Oxford in part of a day, there must have been some purpose in making a detour to Abingdon. The object of the visit was perhaps two-fold—to take part in the great anniversary festival of the Abbey and at the same time to make acquaintance with the newly installed abbot, Robert de Henreth (or Hendred) an Englishman and perhaps the first man of local birth and training to attain the position. The King's first duty would have been to the religious ceremonies. But the fair being in full swing we may imagine that as a lad not yet fourteen, and not greatly accustomed to such sights, he was taken to see the enormous concourse of people, commodities, booths and stalls on the Bury and in the streets and open places of the town. Being

less built over than now there were then more open spaces. Every corner was thronged and the place was full to overflowing. And what would the King have seen? Vast stores of local produce, horses, cattle, wool and the woollen cloth for which Abingdon was famous. Ornaments for the Churches, chalices, books and vestments. Merchants and dealers from all parts of the Kingdom with linen cloth, household stuff, lead, pewter, brass, tin and other metals. The horse and cattle markets were in the Ock Street. The cloth, meat and iron markets had special positions assigned to them on the Bury. This much is proved by contemporary documents that can still be seen in the old Hospital Hall. Franklins and bailiffs found ready to their hand leather, harness, requisites for the farm and salted meats and herrings for winter use. From the Levant came currants, raisins and almonds. Here the knight and the squire could supply themselves with armour and arms from Milan, and with saddles and spurs. Here were falcons for sportsmen; and for the wives of the well-to-do, silks, velvets and other foreign products that could only be purchased at fair-time. Teutons brought furs, amber and pottery; Norwegians tar and pitch; and merchants from Venice and Genoa glass and jewellery. Nothing was too cumbrous or too costly for a mediæval fair. If the dealers could find no customers there, they could find them nowhere else. Gascons were present with wine for the vintners, whilst booths for beer and stalls for cakes, bread and sweetmeats were innumerable. It was a cosmopolitan gathering. The Jew, not yet expelled, was in evidence to assist purchasers; and the whole countryside with minstrels, tumblers, clowns, cheats and rogues made up a bustling and clamorous scene. Over all presided the abbot's bailiffs with their white wands preserving order and collecting tolls. In the tiny old Guildhall where the Market-house now stands sat the Court of Pie-powder, under the abbot's steward, ready to administer summary justice in case of dispute or disturbance. The stocks, the cage, and the duñgeon were conveniently near at hand.

With the impressions of the fair fresh in mind it would have been strange if discussion at the abbot's table had not revived a memory of the lawsuit of nine years ago about Shellingford Fair, and the precarious position in which the abbot's rights had since rested. A suggestion for royal sanction and confirmation became relatively easy and was as readily granted. The chancery officials who accompanied the King were directed

to draw up a new charter, and on the morrow it was dated and issued from Abingdon 9 Sept. 1221. That at least is an undoubted historical fact. (*Rot. Litt. Claus.* 1835. i. p. 469). And what did the abbot get under the new instrument? It was something more than a *vigilia*, as it was now styled a "fair"; but notwithstanding the hospitalities or convivialities of the occasion the King's ministers were giving nothing away. The fair was to be held annually at the feast of St. Faith, but was not to be to the injury of any neighbouring fairs; then followed words usual during the King's minority, that the grant was only to last "till we come of age." With these precautions the sheriff was ordered to make proclamation of the fair. Possibly the words of limitation may have meant more to the King's advisers than the abbot thought of, and they certainly turned out to be material. In less than two years (April 1223) Henry was declared by the Pope to be old enough to govern, although not then sixteen years of age. On this declaration taking effect the grant expired and contrary, we may be sure, to the abbot's expectation was not renewed. The fair passed into the hands of the Crown; and the abbot had the mortification of finding that he had lost both the old rights and the new. Contentment with his original title, such as it was, might have retained the fair in his hands, but the attempt to strengthen and enlarge it proved the abbot's undoing. The King's party may have seen further ahead than he did. If this be a right interpretation of the observed events it was an astute piece of business—but withal perhaps unscrupulous.

Even in the hands of the Crown there was still strife about Shellingford Fair. From the Hundred Rolls we get a momentary glimpse of what was going on half a century later when Albemarle's successor in title, Fulk FitzWarren, is found about 1275 driving away with force and arms the people assembled at Shellingford to his own fair at Wantage. There was obviously resistance as in the course of the "drive" a Shellingford man named Seman was killed. It would be foreign to the present purpose to trace out the happenings after 1275; it is enough that the fair had permanently gone from the abbots of Abingdon. No mention of it is found in the accounts of the Crown officials at the Dissolution in 1538. In all likelihood it dwindled away into the ordinary village feast; and that also came to an end some fifty years ago. So quickly did the memory of it perish that old inhabitants of the village were

not able on recent inquiry to say even at what season of the year it had been held.

During the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries the internal trade of the country depended chiefly on the great seasonal fairs; and at these gatherings every commodity could be found in greatest variety and at lowest prices. Fairs in fact were a necessity of the age. From the Patent and Close Rolls we get occasional evidence of the importance reached by *St. Mary's Fair* and of the use made of it for the royal establishment. A few examples will suffice. In Sept. 1240 the King being in want of cattle for his park at Woodstock directed one of his officers, Walter de Tywe, to go personally to *St. Mary's Fair* at Abingdon and there "by view of Alan the King's servant" to buy forty oxen for the King's use "as Alan should tell him." Alan was to find the judgment and Walter to have care of the money—a judicious combination. A few years later in 1249 the bailiffs of the fair were directed "to take 2000 ells of cheap grey cloth in *St. Mary's Fair* at the price of 7d. or 8d. and to deliver it to the keeper of the King's wardrobe in London for the King's alms." This was almost certainly cloth of Abingdon manufacture. In Sept. 1253 Queen Eleanor comes on the scene when two of the royal household were sent to make purchases at *St. Mary's Fair* on her behalf. No hint is given of the nature of these purchases. In the following spring it becomes a matter of the larder, the bailiffs of Abingdon being commanded to give assistance to the royal messengers "in buying fresh and salted meat for the Queen against the feast of Easter." This from the date of the writ could not have been at any fair but only at the ordinary weekly market.

The peaceful pursuit of commerce at the fair, of which we have seen instances, was as might be expected occasionally disturbed by brawls. An incident of this kind comes from the Assize Roll for 1241-42 and affords an illustration—in some aspects comic—of the administration of justice in the time of Henry III. Amongst the people coming to the fair for business or pleasure or both were a certain Roger le Champyun and William de Brassemore of Clifton with Bartholomew his servant. Roger's name is in itself of interest. Are we for example to understand the words "le Champyun" as a description or as a surname? Was Roger in fact a real fighting man, a professional champion? Have we before us one of the skilled duellists maintained by almost every abbey, cathedral, corporation or great landowner to do battle on their behalf if in the course of litigation trial by

combat were claimed? Probably. Trial by combat in the first half of the thirteenth century was by no means obsolete, and it is at least as likely that the words betokened Roger's vocation as that they had crystallized into a surname. It is inevitable perhaps that the circumstances attending the disturbance were not recorded, but is nevertheless to be regretted. If we picture to ourselves Roger as a man of great size and strength and (as such people sometimes are), rather slow of wit, we may imagine that he was not an unlikely target for the rough witticisms, horse-play and buffoonery common at fairs. It had to be a matter of combination as his stature forbade undue license or liberties single-handed. Jocularities begun as rude fun ended in a serious affray and the drawing of blood. Except from some such cause why should a peaceable visitor to the fair have been fallen upon by assailants with bludgeons? All that we know for certain however is that Roger appeared before the itinerant justices at Reading at some time during the regnal year 1241-42 with a complaint that on the day of St. Mary's Fair at Abingdon, Brassemore had assaulted and struck him on the head with a stick, "wickedly and feloniously and against the peace." Brassemore's servant followed suit and struck Roger on the shoulder with a *tinellus* or cowlstaff—a stout pole for carrying burdens between men's shoulders. Brassemore's errand at the fair was clearly to buy commodities, many of which were bulky and heavy, and he had brought his servants with him to carry them away. The other man, being without a weapon, did not intervene. [For the legally minded it may be observed that the plea of felony had ousted the abbot's local jurisdiction.]

It was unfortunate for Roger—presumably an 'illiterate'—that in making out his *appellum* or bill of complaint he omitted—or the lawyer who acted for him omitted—to specify the year, the hour and the day of the assault. These details were all well known to the parties before the Court but it was a fatal defect, and the complaint was held by the judges to be bad on that technical ground. This put Roger in the position of having made a false charge. He was thereupon subjected to fine and sent to gaol till he paid. The assailants were allowed to go free! This is no fanciful picture of judicial procedure under Henry III. but a serious record of facts. It was by no means an unusual case. The functions of the justices in eyre were more fiscal than judicial and their main office was to supplement the royal revenue. They were quite ready to fine the guilty

if circumstances permitted, but if not the innocent would do as well. The King's revenue must be kept up somehow. It is true that on this occasion the judges remitted the fine, but only after assuring themselves that Roger had absolutely nothing and that it was useless to keep such a man in prison. There would have been the obligation to feed him and that was enough.

It seems only just to Roger to say that he had another complaint at the same Assize in which he met with slightly better fortune. This time it was not Roger or even the culprit who was fined, but the jury and others only incidentally concerned. Roger alleged that one Adam de Ropford had broken the King's peace and wounded him. It is not said where or when. The defendant did not appear and the two sureties who had vouched for his attendance were fined because of his default. With no defendant before them the judges would not proceed to judgment, but so far unbent as to tell Roger that his remedy was to sue for attachment or outlawry against Adam in the County Court. The twelve jurors from Abingdon (who, in common with a like number from all other townships in the County of the status of a *burg*, were bound to attend the Assize) also found themselves in trouble over Adam's case. In the long interval since the last circuit of the itinerant justices at Wallingford in 1224 the jurors maybe had forgotten or perchance had never even heard of Adam's offence—real or supposed—and therefore had not included it amongst the presentments it was their duty to make to the Court. That was concealment; and did not the King's justice require that concealers should be amerced? The "twelve from Abingdon" found themselves enriching the royal revenue accordingly.

(To be continued.)

#### O.T.C.

On Monday June 18th the Corps was inspected by Lt. Colonel A. C. Dawnay, C.B.E., D.S.O., who commands the Oxford University O.T.C.

He thought that the work of the contingent was quite good and in his report emphasized the fact that section commanders do control their sections. This is as it should be, for one of the primary aims of the O.T.C. is to develop leadership amongst people who someday may be called upon to lead.

Sgt. Foottit and Corp. Spencer were successful in the Certificate "A" examination held in March. With our congratulations we express the hope that Sgt. Foottit may become a shining light in the Cambridge O.T.C. and that Corps.



Spencer may find some outlet for his military abilities.

Thirty-one cadets are going to camp on July 23rd for nine days at Tidworth Pennings, where a small camp of about 900 cadets is being formed for schools that break up rather early this year. Amongst other delights we are to have "Regulars" to give various demonstrations in drill and tactics, and also R.A.F. planes to do a few stunts.

The shooting results are fair on the whole and a few good shots have been discovered among the newer people in the corps.

Next term it is hoped that all boys in the school over 13½ years of age will volunteer to join the corps. There will be about fourteen vacancies to be filled, but it must be understood that whoever joins must look upon his going to camp as a duty as well as a pleasure.

#### THE MORNING WATCH.

"A quarter to four, Sir."

Silence.

"A QUARTER to FOUR, Sir" (Crescendo).

"Ah-Oh-Yes-alright." More silence.

"Five minutes to four, Sir." (Allegro con molto espressione).

"What! Why wasn't I called?" (Fortissimo).

A hasty toilet and just as eight bells strike I run up the bridge ladder. It is pitch dark, and coming from the lighted lower bridge I am blind, and collide with the fourth officer who gently reproves me by, "Good morning, Sir; rather dark." He is a nice youth, with a taste for fancy socks when he hits the beach.

The Second suddenly emerges from the dimly lit chart-room, and there is another "good morning, Sir" to be received and returned. Then we get to business and he hands over the watch to me thus, "She's going S56°W standard, S53°W steering, S57°W true, logging 11.2 this watch and I think I'll get down to it"—which he promptly does, or I suppose he does, for he disappears down the ladder.

I call the Fourth, who keeps watch with me, and send him up to the standard compass to check the course, and having ascertained that everything is O.K. and that the lights are burning brightly, I start on my promenade up and down the bridge. The sea is a flat calm and the breeze only faintly perceptible. The sky is cloudless and dotted with stars. Venus is just rising in the South East and Jupiter and Saturn are setting close together. There is just the slightest tinge of red to the

Eastward, which shows a promise of daylight not far off. As time passes the red turns to orange in patches and finally throws out long fingers of green and blue, which reach half way to the zenith like beams of a searchlight. Two bells strike: it is 5 o'clock. The quartermaster reports the distance run in the last hour, which is noted in the rough log book. Then the horizon appears distinct all round, and all but the brightest stars fade away. Now is the time for an observation of the stars to find the ship's position. The Fourth stands by the chronometer to take down the exact moment that each sight is taken, for an error of one second on the chronometer makes an error of a quarter of a mile in the longitude of the ship. The sights are quickly taken, Venus and Jupiter for longitude and the North Star and *alpha* Pavonis (not visible in England) for latitude. I just settle down to work these up and the bo'sun arrives to receive his orders for the day. These are given, and as three bells (5.30) strikes, his whistle shrills out, and soon the grate of the holystones, and the swish of water on the decks inform me that the ship is getting washed down for the day. The position is soon worked up, pricked off on the chart and entered in the log book. It is full daylight now and suddenly the red disc of the sun appears over the horizon. The Fourth runs up to the standard compass and takes a bearing of the sun to ascertain the error of the compass, for on a ship the compass seldom points to the north exactly, either the True or Magnetic North, and the difference varies as the ship changes her latitude, and also for the different directions in which her head is pointing. To be sure that the right amount of error is being allowed, the correction is obtained every four hours when possible.

Six o'clock is struck, and I leave the Fourth in charge and go below. As I go round the saloon deck, I meet some of the Early Rising Brigade doing a mile or so in pyjamas and bare feet. Morning greetings are exchanged and I make my way aft on to the poop and into the steam steering house. Here is the engine that works the rudder. It is controlled from the bridge, the wheel there working against a pressure of oil which operates the valve and lets steam into the engine. Here I meet the Chief Engineer, who is testing things, and we yarn for a few minutes, "shop" mostly. I then continue my round, visiting the crew's quarters and cook houses and seeing everything spick and span. The saloon deck is dry by the time I get back there, and deserted except for the portly figure of the Chief Steward. I can see by

his eye that he has a complaint to make. "Good morning, Sir; a fine morning." "Yes," I reply, "this is the sort of weather you read about in books, and send boys to see." "Possibly, sir, but I am sorry to say I've a complaint to make." "Well, what is it?" "When they was washing down, Sir, they let the 'ose down the skylight of the gents' bath on the sta'bud side, Sir, and that there old Colonel Chutney got it in the neck as you might say, Sir, and his langwidge is somethink awful." "Well," I say, "tell him it was a spray, as the sea is pretty lively this morning." He looks at me in a hopeless sort of way, gulps, and retires below.

One bell strikes,—a quarter to eight. I return to the bridge and find the "Old Man" up there in pyjamas taking his morning observation. I make my report to him on things in general. A Quartermaster approaches and salutes: "Eight Bells, Sir." I turn to the Captain and salute: "Eight Bells, Sir." "Make it so," he replies. "Make it so, Quartermaster," I say in my turn. Ding-ding,—Ding-ding,—Ding-ding,—Ding-ding. The morning watch is over.

#### NAUTILIUS.

#### AN ENGINEERING ORCHESTRA.

Nothing strikes a newcomer in engineering shops more quickly than the tremendous extent to which compressed air is used. The big hammers in the blacksmith's shop are pneumatic, a lot of chiselling and drilling is done in the erecting shops with the aid of compressed air, and on outside work or in a shipyard, the wind machines violently assert themselves.

The "windy driller" with his tiny portable machine and long flexible pipe is a very inoffensive fellow. His machine eats through a steel plate with a quiet contented buzz. Not so the chiseller, maybe taking a burr off a hefty steel casting. Here is a noisy devastating sort of barbarian, who makes a man swear inwardly from the futility of wasting his breath to no purpose. This type of machine is in evidence when the concrete foundations of roads are coming up, for it is rapidly supplanting the gangs of navvies who aforesime smote a crow-bar in rotation with such uncanny precision.

The tally of the engineers' fascinating, though most unmelodious, band of wind instruments is by no means finished. There is the pneumatic riveter, than which no machine is more called for, when steel structures are being erected in place.

Jimmy, the riveters' lad, cooks rivets to a bright red heat, and he knows just the right colour, for woe betide him if he either burns them or under-heats them. The glowing rivet is popped into place, and firmly held there. On the other side is the chap with his riveting machine ready waiting. It looks like a badly bloated Webley, and goes off like a Lewis gun when Mike presses the trigger. It takes about twenty seconds in all to shape the protruding end into another rivet head.

Meanwhile, at the portable fire, young Jimmy continues to create scintillating parabolas as he slings more ammunition along; and if he bursts into song, proves sometimes but little more melodious than the rest of the concert!

A.C.V.

#### CRICKET.

We started the season with only one old 'colour,' and not a few apprehensions in consequence. Fortunately, however, there was some promising material to hand, and no lack of keenness. The result was a steady improvement which enabled the XI to render a satisfactory account of themselves in the later matches, and finally to compile the creditable total of 163 runs against a strong O.A.C. XI.

Two practice matting pitches have been in constant use for coaching the elevens and the more promising junior boys, who have made great progress as a result.

The 1st XI, though improved in batting, have yet a long way to go before they can be called a good fielding side. It must be remembered that fielding does not consist merely of holding every catch and stopping every ball that comes your way (though to do even this much is something). A good fieldsman is one who is always trying to anticipate the intended direction of the batsman's stroke, and to place himself accordingly. Backing-up and throwing are equally important branches of the art of fielding.

R. Taylor is to be congratulated on his splendid performance with the ball. To take 58 wickets for 330 runs is no mean feat. Unfortunately the XI had no second bowler to back him up, though possessing several useful change bowlers.

The 2nd XI have not had a successful season. In view of their weakness it is gratifying to note that the under 15 XI contains a number of boys who should develop into sound cricketers, if they maintain their present keenness.

FIRST ELEVEN MATCHES.

May 12th v. Pembroke College 'A'. Away. The weather was not encouraging for the commencement of the cricket season. Hail fell at intervals, but fortunately never heavily enough to stop the play. Pembroke batted first and scored 149. We went in, and lost 4 wickets for 20 runs. A collapse was saved however by a great stand by Sinclair and Sturrock, who put on 71 before Sinclair was bowled, when he needed but 2 for his 50. The 10th wicket fell for 106 runs.

A.S.C.C.

W. A. Rudd, b Dickinson	1
W. Bevir, c Batchelor, b Robinson	4
J. B. E. Alston, b Dickinson	2
R. L. C. Foottit, b Robinson	9
J. F. Sinclair, b Seecombe	48
G. S. Sturrock, b Dickinson	24
R. Taylor, b Seecombe	0
C. C. Woodley, lbw Dickinson	0
R. G. Spencer, st., b Dickinson	5
W. G. Hancock, b Seecombe	4
W. E. Steele, not out	0
Extras	5
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Total	106

PEMBROKE COLLEGE.

Dorey, c. Sturrock, b Spencer	19
Dickinson, b Spencer	52
Robinson, lbw Taylor	9
Watts, b Taylor	7
Lester Smith, b Sturrock	13
Guest, b Taylor	3
Thomas, lbw Taylor	0
Batchelor, run out	13
Seecombe, b Steele	15
Thompson, b Steele	6
Evans, not out	0
Extras	12
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Total	149

May 16th v. Leighton Park School. Away. Again the weather was unfavourable; a sharp hail storm necessitated the suspension of play for a few minutes at one period of the game. The School won the toss, and batted first. A third wicket stand brought the score up from 13 to 62, and after that runs were scored steadily until finally a total of 124 was reached. Good bowling on the part of Taylor, Sturrock and Hancock then dismissed our opponents for 72, the last wicket falling just on time.

A.S.C.C.

R. L. C. Foottit, b Symonds	37
J. F. Sinclair, c March, b Redfern	0
C. C. Woodley, c March, b Baynes	3
R. Taylor, b Baynes	0
G. S. Sturrock, b Redfern	33
R. G. Spencer, run out	12
H. D. Shallard, b Symonds	6
S. W. D. Shallard, st., b Redfern	19
W. G. Hancock, c Jacobs, b Baynes	4
W. E. Steele, b Baynes	0
C. Ellis, not out	0
Extras	10
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Total	124

LEIGHTON PARK SCHOOL.

A. E. Richmond, b Taylor	11
G. Dick, b Taylor	5
R. R. Mертtens, b Sturrock	12
G. N. Simmons, b Taylor	5
H. A. March, b Sturrock	4
D. S. Crichton, b Hancock	4
R. Grimshaw, c & b Steele	19
M. L. Jacobs, b Sturrock	19
G. Ytler, c Shallard i, b Hancock	0
K. Redfern, not out	2
N. K. Baynes, b Taylor	0
Extras	8
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Total	72

May 19th v. Magdalen College School. Away. The School batted poorly, and were dismissed for 40 in the morning. Magdalen did not seem quite at home at the wicket after lunch, and they were all out for 73, chiefly through the fine bowling of Taylor, who took 6 wickets for 16 runs.

A.S.C.C. (1st innings).

R. L. C. Foottit, b Evans	5
J. F. Sinclair, b Evans	4
C. C. Woodley, b Clarke	3
R. Taylor, lbw, b Evans	8
G. S. Sturrock, b Evans	1
R. G. Spencer, b Clarke	1
H. D. Shallard, not out	7
S. W. D. Shallard, c Evans, b Clarke	1
W. G. Hancock, st., b Evans	3
W. E. Steele, st., b Evans	0
C. Ellis, c Evans, b Clarke	0
Extras	7
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Total	40

2nd innings.—R. L. C. Foottit, b Evans, 0; J. F. Sinclair, c Imeson, b Evans, 31; C. C. Woodley, c Horsley, b Evans, 2; R. Taylor, c Hey, b

Prendergast, 23 ; G. S. Sturrock, c Hey, b Clarke, 1 ; R. G. Spencer, c Clarke, b Prendergast, 13 ; H. D. Shallard, not out, 7 ; S. W. D. Shallard, c Imeson, b Prendergast, 1 ; Extras 3 ; total 81.

## MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL.

J. G. Imeson, b Taylor	18
H. L. O. Rees, b Taylor	2
R. A. V. Prendergast, b Taylor	0
M. D. A. Evans, lbw, b Sturrock	3
E. G. D. Pritchett, lbw, b Steele	10
C. G. Hey, b Taylor	9
J. T. Horsley, not out	4
C. N. Bushell, b Taylor	2
G. D. C. Sandiford, b Sturrock	3
F. L. Clarke, c Sinclair, b Steele	10
C. K. Hole, b Taylor	9
Extras	11

Total 73

May 23rd v. Brightwell C.C. Home. On a good wicket both sides scored freely. The School batted first, and declared after making 153 with only 3 wickets down. Mr. Bevir played a splendid innings of 58 not out. Unfortunately, stumps had to be drawn when Brightwell had scored 120 for the loss of 6 wickets, thus robbing both sides of any hope of victory.

## A.S.C.C.

W. A. Rudd, c Franklin, b Wood	24
R. L. C. Foottit, b Choun	36
J. B. E. Alston, b Franklin	0
W. Bevir, not out	58
J. F. Sinclair, not out	24
Extras	12

Total (3 wkts.) 153

## BRIGHTWELL C.C.

Brooke, b Sturrock	15
Gray, b Spencer	32
H. A. L. Donkin, c Sinclair, b Spencer	16
Wood, not out	32
Choun, b Taylor	6
Sutton, c Foottit, b Bevir	8
Duke, b Bevir	2
Extras	9

Total (6 wkts.) 120

May 26th v. Abingdon Town C.C. Away. The School batted first, and owing to the sound play of Mr. Bevir and Taylor, reached a total of 88. The same two players were entirely responsible for the dismissal of the Town side for 32, Mr. Bevir taking 5 wickets for 15, and Taylor the same number for 10 runs.

## A.S.C.C. (1st innings).

W. A. Rudd, b Bradfield	0
W. Bevir, c Day, b Hay	26
R. L. C. Foottit, c Cullen, b Carter	8
J. F. Sinclair, c Cullen, b Carter	6
R. Taylor, run out	22
G. S. Sturrock, c & b Hay	0
C. C. Woodley, b Hay	2
R. G. Spencer, c & b Carter	9
S. W. D. Shallard, b Carter	1
W. G. Hancock, c Stone, b Carter	2
W. E. Steele, not out	4
Extras	8

Total 88

2nd innings :—J. F. Sinclair, run out, 0 ; G. S. Sturrock, lbw, b Donkin, 5 ; C. C. Woodley, b Carter, 0 ; R. G. Spencer, b Bradfield, 6 ; S. W. D. Shallard, b Carter, 19 ; W. G. Hancock, run out, 37 ; W. E. Steele, lbw, b Horsley, 9 ; Extras, 8 ; Total (7 wickets) 73.

## ABINGDON TOWN.

G. E. Bradfield, lbw, b Taylor	5
H. A. L. Donkin, c Taylor, b Bevir	4
B. Porter, b Bevir	2
H. V. Stone, b Taylor	1
J. Carter, b Taylor	0
H. R. Lewis, b Bevir	0
J. Hay, c Foottit, b Bevir	0
H. Horsley, c Rudd, b Bevir	4
C. Caudwell, not out	8
O. Cullen, c Sturrock, b Taylor	1
H. Day, b Taylor	0
Extras	7

Total 32

June 2nd v. Abingdon Town C.C. Home. The wicket was distinctly in favour of the batsmen, and both sides scored freely. The Town won the toss, and their ten wickets cost the school 203 runs, The latter, however, batted very well, and, largely owing to the excellent performance of Mr. Bevir and Sinclair, finished up, when stumps had to be drawn, only 67 runs behind, with 7 wickets in hand.

## ABINGDON TOWN C.C.

H. A. L. Donkin, c Hancock, b Spencer	1
R. A. Snoxall, c Taylor, b Hancock	21
J. Carter, c Sinclair, b Taylor	0
B. Pointer, b Hancock	24
H. R. Lewis, c Rudd, b Bevir	1
G. E. Bradfield, c Sturrock, b Bevir	7
J. Hay, c Bevir, b Taylor	11
H. Horsley, not out	54

C. C. Caudwell, b Taylor	10
O. E. Cullen, b Bevir	46
H. Day, b Bevir	9
Extras	25

Total 203

A.S.C.C.

W. A. Rudd, c Bradfield, b Carter	5
J. B. E. Alston, b Snoxall	29
R. L. C. Foottit, lbw, b Carter	19
W. Bevir, not out	40
J. F. Sinclair, not out	34
Extras	9

Total (3 wkts.) 136

June 6th v. City of Oxford School. Away. The match was characterized by low scoring, except in the 2nd innings, which were not taken seriously. Oxford batted first, and owing to the splendid bowling of Taylor, who took 6 wickets for 9 runs, were dismissed for 66. The first School wicket fell for no runs, and this "set the ball rolling," Woodley seemed the only batsman able to keep his end up at all. The 10th wicket fell when the score stood at only 38.

CITY OF OXFORD SCHOOL (1st innings).

C. W. Wyatt, lbw, b Taylor	13
L. Adams, b Taylor	12
P. Jones, b Taylor	9
R. E. Dickinson, b Taylor	0
T. A. Warnock, lbw, b Hancock	11
G. C. Smith, b Shallard ii	3
R. W. P. Collings, b Shallard ii	2
M. F. Harrold, c Shallard, b Taylor	2
W. W. Soundy, lbw, b Shallard	0
G. D. Eely, not out	0
J. F. Eeley, c Salisbury, b Taylor	0
Extras	14

Total 66

2nd innings:—G. C. Smith, not out 27; M. F. Harrold, not out 18; G. D. Eely, c Sturrock, b Sinclair 0; Extras 5; total (1 wkt.) 51.

A.S.C.C. (1st innings).

R. L. C. Foottit, b Dickinson	0
J. F. Sinclair, c Eely, b Wyatt	0
C. C. Woodley, c Jones, b Wyatt	14
R. Taylor, b Wyatt	0
G. S. Sturrock, b Dickinson	0
W. G. Hancock, b Dickinson	0
R. G. Spencer, c Smith, b Wyatt	12
S. W. D. Shallard, c Collins, b Dickinson	2
H. D. Shallard, not out	5
B. W. L. Buckland, c & b Eely	1

G. W. Salisbury, c Jones, b Dickinson	0
Extras	4

Total 38

2nd innings:—R. L. C. Foottit, b Adams 8; J. F. Sinclair, b Warnock 20; C. C. Woodley, not out 17; R. Taylor, not out 4; Extras 3; total (2 wkts) 53.

June 9th v. St. Edmund's Hall. Home. The School showed consistent batting all through the team, and put together a score of 121. St. Edmund's Hall then went in but were dismissed for 61. Taylor bowled well, taking 5 wickets for 13 runs.

A.S.C.C.

J. B. E. Alston, c Lamb, b Rowe	4
R. L. C. Foottit, b Harvey	16
W. A. Rudd, run out	13
W. Bevir, c Smart, b Rowe	4
J. F. Sinclair, b Barber	19
R. Taylor, b Branston	9
C. C. Woodley, b Rowe	9
G. S. Sturrock, c Barber, b Rowe	14
R. G. Spencer, b Branston	13
W. G. Hancock, c Barber, b Rowe	8
G. Salisbury, not out	8
Extras	4

Total 121

ST. EDMUND'S HALL.

Miles, c Taylor, b Spencer	6
Harvey, b Taylor	9
Rowe, lbw, b Spencer	1
Barnston, lbw, b Taylor	2
Lamb, b Taylor	0
Coghlin, not out	11
Evans, c Foottit, b Bevir	9
Barber, b Taylor	3
Price, lbw, b Sturrock	8
Smart, c & b Taylor	1
Ingram-Cotton, run out	2
Extras	9

Total 61

June 13th v. Leighton Park School. Home. This proved a very good match, with a close finish. The School batted first, but would have fared indifferently but for an excellent innings of 55 by Taylor. Eventually a total of 115 was reached before the last wicket was taken. Leighton then went in, and scored 100 before the third batsman was out, but only succeeded in adding 21 to this total for the loss of 5 more wickets.

## A.S.C.C.

R. L. C. Foottit, c Jacobs, b Baynes . . . . .	27
J. F. Sinclair, b Redfern . . . . .	4
C. C. Woodley, c Simmons, b Baynes . . . . .	2
R. Taylor, not out . . . . .	55
W. G. Hancock, lbw, b Baynes . . . . .	4
R. G. Spencer, c & b Dorey . . . . .	1
G. S. Sturrock, run out . . . . .	0
S. W. D. Shallard, c Crichton, b Tyler . . . . .	0
W. E. Steele, lbw, b Tyler . . . . .	1
H. D. Shallard, c March, b Simmons . . . . .	9
G. Salisbury, run out . . . . .	1
Extras . . . . .	11
Total	115

## LEIGHTON PARK SCHOOL.

Richmond, b Taylor . . . . .	45
Dick, c Salisbury b Hancock . . . . .	4
Merttens, lbw b Taylor . . . . .	25
Simmons, lbw, b Steele . . . . .	15
March, c Sturrock, b Taylor . . . . .	3
Dorey, b Taylor . . . . .	1
Crichton, not out . . . . .	8
Tyler, b Spencer . . . . .	0
Jacobs, c Shallard, b Taylor . . . . .	5
Redfern, not out . . . . .	2
Extras . . . . .	13
Total (8 wks.)	121

June 16th v. Magdalen College School. Home. This again was an excellent match, which the School lost by 109 to 94. Magdalen batted in the morning, and scored 109, Taylor taking 6 wickets for 34. Soon after lunch the School started their innings rather disastrously, but recovered well. Sturrock showed good form until he was caught at mid wicket.

## MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL.

## 1st. Innings.

J. Imeson, c Buckland, b Taylor . . . . .	0
F. Clark, b Taylor . . . . .	25
H. O. Rees, c Sinclair, b Hancock . . . . .	6
M. D. Evans, lbw, b Taylor . . . . .	0
R. A. Prendergast, c Sturrock, b Spencer . . . . .	19
E. K. Hole, b Taylor . . . . .	13
C. G. Pritchett, c Salisbury, b Steele . . . . .	4
C. G. Hey, not out . . . . .	25
C. N. Bushell, b Taylor . . . . .	2
R. E. Fenton, b Shallard . . . . .	6
G. D. Sandiford, c Buckland, b Taylor . . . . .	0
Extras . . . . .	9
Total	109

2nd Innings :—J. Imeson, b Taylor 2 ; F. Clark, b Sturrock 14 ; H. O. Rees, lbw, b Taylor 17 ; M. D. Evans, b Sturrock 6 ; R. A. Prendergast, c Steele, b Sturrock 6 ; E. K. Hole, not out 36 ; C. G. Pritchett, lbw, b Spencer 6 ; C. G. Hey, b Taylor 6 ; C. N. Bushell, c & b Taylor 0 ; R. E. Fenton, not out 10 ; Extras 5 ; total (8 wks.) 108.

## A.S.C.C.

R. L. C. Foottit, st, b Evans . . . . .	0
W. G. Hancock, c Prendergast, b Evans . . . . .	8
C. C. Woodley, c & b Evans . . . . .	6
J. F. Sinclair, c Hole, b Clark . . . . .	19
R. Taylor, lbw, b Evans . . . . .	0
G. Salisbury, c Pritchett, b Evans . . . . .	10
G. S. Sturrock, c Pritchett, b Evans . . . . .	26
R. G. Spencer, run out . . . . .	4
W. E. Steele, b Evans . . . . .	3
H. D. Shallard, c Hey, b Evans . . . . .	7
B. W. Buckland, not out . . . . .	0
Extras . . . . .	11
Total	94

2nd Innings :—R. L. C. Foottit, not out 24 ; R. Taylor, not out 13 ; Extras 0 ; total (no wkt.) 37.

June 23rd v. City of Oxford School. Home. The School took the field, and dismissed their opponents for 35. Spencer and Taylor were responsible for all the damage, the former taking 4 wickets for 9 runs. By tea-time the School had made well over 100, which they increased to 195 before the innings closed. Sinclair batted splendidly for his 63, hitting a six off his first ball, and was soundly supported by Salisbury. Time robbed the School of an innings victory, for, although the first two bowlers did not go on, the Oxford side only managed to collect 56 runs for 6 wickets.

## CITY OF OXFORD SCHOOL.

## 1st Innings.

C. W. Wyatt, c Spencer, b Taylor . . . . .	0
S. Adams, b Spencer . . . . .	3
P. Jones, lbw, b Taylor . . . . .	9
R. E. Dickinson, b Spencer . . . . .	0
T. A. Warnock, b Taylor . . . . .	3
G. C. Smith, b Taylor . . . . .	2
M. F. Harrold, c Taylor, b Spencer . . . . .	1
R. W. Collings, c Shallard, b Spencer . . . . .	4
J. F. Eeley, b Taylor . . . . .	2
J. D. Eeley, not out . . . . .	0
W. W. Soundy, b Taylor . . . . .	10
Extras . . . . .	1

Total 35.

2nd Innings :—C. W. Wyatt, b Sturrock 11 ; S. Adams, b Hancock 5 ; P. Jones, c Foottit, b Hancock 13 ; R. E. Dickinson, c Shallard, b Foottit 9 ; T. A. Warnock, c Hancock, b Foottit 2 ; G. C. Smith, b Foottit 0 ; M. F. Harrold, not out 4 ; R. W. Collings, not out 5 ; Extras 7 ; total (6 wks.) 56.

A.S.C.C.

R. L. C. Foottit, run out	14
W. G. Hancock, b Dickinson	24
C. C. Woodley, c Warnock, b Eeley	9
J. F. Sinclair, b Dickinson	63
G. Salisbury, c Dickinson, b Wyatt	34
R. Taylor, c Jones, b Dickinson	0
G. S. Sturrock, b Dickinson	4
H. D. Shallard, c Wyatt, b Dickinson	0
R. G. Spencer, c Jones, b Dickinson	0
W. E. Steele, not out	22
S. W. D. Shallard, c & b Dickinson	9
Extras	6

Total 195

June 27th v. Brightwell C.C. Away. Brightwell batted first and scored 90, a figure not to be despised when made on a ground on which to score more than two at a time is next to impossible. Several catches were unfortunately missed. A first wicket stand on the part of the School realized over 30 runs, and other members of the team, Mr. Rudd and Sinclair particularly, carried on the good work until the stumps had to be drawn, when the score stood at 135 for 4 wickets.

BRIGHTWELL C.C.

Brooke, b Taylor	4
Gray, c Woodley, b Spencer	26
Wetherall, c Sinclair, b Hancock	5
R. Wells, b Hancock	13
Wood, b Spencer	4
Matthews, b Foottit	23
Tarry, run out	0
Choun, b Taylor	1
G. Wells, not out	9
Sutton, c Sinclair, b Taylor	0
Saunders, b Taylor	3
Extras	2

Total 90

A.S.C.C.

W. A. Rudd, b Choun	37
J. B. E. Alston, c Sutton, b Brooke	12
R. L. C. Foottit, b Sutton	16
J. F. Sinclair, not out	49
W. G. Hancock, c Matthews, b Sutton	0

R. Taylor, not out	1
Extras	20

Total (4 wks.) 135

June 30th v. Old Abingdonians C.C. Home. An excellent match for the close of the season, which displayed the consistency of the batting in the middle and tail of the XI. The Old Abingdonians won the toss and elected to take the field. Two School wickets were down for 10 runs, and the prospect at first looked black. The team recovered, however, and collected 163 runs altogether. Spencer batted well for his 34 and H. D. Shallard supported him with a useful 23. The School were very unfortunate in not having Sturrock both to bat and bowl for them. N. V. H. Riches, the Glamorganshire player, and C. E. H. Dolphin opened the batting for the O.A.s and together they scored 128 before being separated. They declared at 192 for 3 wickets.

A.S.C.C.

1st Innings.

R. L. C. Foottit, b Knowles	3
W. G. Hancock, c & b Riches	14
C. C. Woodley, b Knowles	0
J. F. Sinclair, lbw, b Mathias	18
R. Taylor, c & b MacFarlane	9
G. W. Salisbury, b Mathias	12
R. G. Spencer, lbw, b Riches	34
H. D. Shallard, b Dolphin	23
W. E. Steele, c Mathias, b Riches	17
S. W. D. Shallard, not out	4
B. W. Buckland, lbw, b Riches	2
Extras	27

Total 163

2nd Innings :—R. L. C. Foottit, run out 13 ; W. G. Hancock, run out 10 ; C. C. Woodley, b MacFarlane 3 ; J. F. Sinclair, not out 2 ; R. Taylor, not out 0 ; Extras 4 ; total (3 wks.) 32.

O.A.C.C.

N. V. H. Riches, c Buckland, b Taylor	67
C. E. H. Dolphin, lbw, b Shallard	67
P. W. Morley, c Salisbury, b Spencer	13
G. S. Deacon, not out	17
L. S. Mathias, not out	16
Extras	9

Total (3 wks.) 192

SECOND ELEVEN MATCHES.

The following played for the second XI :—K. T. Wood (Capt.), B. W. L. Buckland, W. D. Shallard, J. S. Fox, F. M. Cole, R. W. Snell, C. R. Wright, T. T. Theophilus, P. G. A.

Kennington, F. G. Allen, P. T. Thomas, T. A. Wiggins, H. S. Bartlett, J. H. Hooke, C. Ellis.

The matches were as follows:—

*v.* Leighton Park School.—At Home, on May 16th. The School lost, 72—118 for 5.

*v.* Magdalen College School.—At Home, on May 19th. The School lost by 4 wickets on the two innings, the match being an all day one. 1st innings:—School 67, Magdalen 95. 2nd innings: School 56; Magdalen 39 for 6. W. D. Shallard made 40 in the 1st innings, and R. W. Snell had a bowling average of 6·2 in the 1st innings and 5·75 in the 2nd innings.

*v.* Abingdon Town C.C.—At Home, on May 26th. The School won by 7 wickets. 1st innings:—Town 58; School 119 (7 wks. dec.) 2nd innings:—Town, 87; School 32 (3 wks). The School were 34 for 6 in the 1st innings, but owing to the brilliant batting of C. Ellis they were able to carry the score to 119 before the next wicket fell. Ellis made 84, including two sixes and thirteen fours. R. W. Snell had a bowling average of 1·5 on the first innings, taking 4 wickets for 6 runs.

*v.* Abingdon Town C.C.—Away, on June 2nd. The School lost by 4 wickets. 1st Innings:—School, 33; Town, 42. 2nd innings:—School, 79; Town, 76 (6 wks). W. D. Shallard made 43 not out in the 2nd innings with 4 fours to his credit. C. Ellis had a bowling average of 3·3 in the 1st innings, and R. W. Snell 6·6 in the 2nd innings.

*v.* City of Oxford School.—Played at Home, on June 6th. The School lost, 41—116 (5 wks).

*v.* Leighton Park School.—Away, on June 13th. We unfortunately did not start play until 3.45 p.m. owing to a motor breakdown on the way, and the game resulted in a draw. Leighton 82 (7 wks dec.) School 59 (7 wks).

*v.* Magdalen College School.—Away, on June 16th. The School lost by 78 runs. School, 64; Magdalen, 142 (9 wks. dec.) In the 2nd innings we did better, being 43 for 2 wickets when stumps were drawn. C. R. Wright had the best bowling average, taking 3 wickets for 25 runs. S. W. D. Shallard and C. R. Wright made a good stand after 4 wickets had fallen for 11 runs, taking the score to 49 for 5 before Wright was dismissed. Shallard made 38 and Wright 10.

*v.* City of Oxford School.—Away, on June 28th. The School lost by 56 runs. 1st innings:—C.O.S., 42; School, 17. 2nd innings:—C.O.S., 61 (5 wks. dec.); School, 30.

*v.* Old Abingdonian C.C.—Played at home on June 30th. The School lost by 3 wickets on the

two innings after getting a lead of 13 on the 1st innings. The match was played in the Lower Field on cocoanut matting, owing to the unevenness of the ground. The best bowling average was R. W. Snell's; he took 8 wickets for 18 runs in the 1st innings.

The O.A. team was as follows:—B. J. Bury (Capt.), W. Lupton, L. H. C. Creswell, E. H. Smeeth, P. E. Andrews, O. E. Cullen, W. D. Price, A. L. Edwards, W. J. L. Robinson, W. Memory, C. R. Davidge.

#### UNDER 15 MATCHES.

The following played for the "Under 15" XI this term under W. D. Shallard as captain.

W. D. Shallard, H. S. Bartlett, F. M. Cole, P. Perks-Morris, H. M. Insley, W. F. Smith, P. T. Thomas, E. Tinegate, C. Hall, R. M. Robinson, T. E. Gardiner, E. P. Rice, J. P. Martin.

The first match was against New College School, and was lost by 68 to 36. Robinson and Thomas bowled well, the former taking 2 wickets for 3 runs in 7 overs.

The next match, against the City of Oxford School "Under 15," showed a decided improvement. The Oxford team were dismissed for 48, Thomas taking 5 wickets for 12 runs, while the School made 82. H. S. Bartlett played a sound innings of 20 and kept wicket well.

The third and last match, against the same team as the previous one, was the most successful of all. The City of Oxford School were all out for 63, while we made 94 for 6 wickets. Perks-Morris showed great promise in his innings of 44.

#### HOUSE MATCHES.

The matches between the houses resulted in a triumphant victory for Blue House. Although greatly handicapped by the absence of G. S. Sturrock, their captain, they managed to win all their games, beating, in the Senior match, Red by one run and Green by one wicket. In the Junior matches they were quite irresistible, and carried all before them.

In the Green *v.* Blue match Taylor played an excellent innings of 54, while Steele hit up 36 in half as many minutes.

#### CRICKET CHARACTERS.

R. L. C. Footit, Captain. (Colours 1922). A steady bat, with a fairly sound defence, though inclined to be over-cautious. Keen in the field. He might perhaps have bowled more frequently than he did. A painstaking captain, he discharged his many duties with commendable vigour and enthusiasm. Batting average 14·6.



J. F. Sinclair. (Colours 1923). Has amply fulfilled the promise shown during the last two years, and has been the mainstay of the batting throughout the season. Can pick out the ball to hit, and hit it cleanly, with, however, an occasional tendency to sky. Has filled very creditably the difficult position of 'point,' and is, except when excited, a safe catch. Batting average 28·7.

R. Taylor. (Colours 1923). The best all-round cricketer in the team. Has borne, with conspicuous success, the brunt of the bowling this season. A deceptive delivery, a fierce break, consistent good length, total absence of loose balls, and above all, the use of his head, have combined to build up his excellent average. He has played some very useful innings, and has a good stock of very nice strokes, but should learn not to play across the ball when driving. A good fielder and sure catch. Batting average 11·6; bowling 5·7 (58 wickets for 330 runs).

W. G. Hancock. (Colours 1923). A most useful first change bowler, who keeps a good length and is usually on the wicket. Difficult to score off, until he gets short, and should be dangerous when he learns to use his head. Has played one or two good innings. He has a variety of strokes, though a little inclined to be stiff. Has fielded soundly throughout the season. Batting average 6·5; bowling 15·3.

R. G. Spencer. (Colours 1923). Has greatly improved during the season in all departments of the game. Lifts his bat well up and drives nicely to the off, but is weak on the leg side. Must learn not to leave go of the bat with his left hand at the end of a stroke. As a bowler, he has a useful break but is inclined to be loose when he bowls fast. His fielding, poor at the beginning of the season, has improved tremendously. Batting average 9·1; bowling 16·3.

G. S. Sturrock. (Colours 1923). A keen and persevering member of the team. Not a very stylish batsman, but distinctly one with run-getting possibilities. Should learn to play a ball to the off occasionally, and put more force into his strokes. Has made some useful scores this season. Fair success has attended his bowling, but he is inclined to be short, and rather expensive. Batting Average 11·3; bowling 15·6.

W. E. Steele. (Colours 1923). A useful change bowler, with a very nice action. Fairly fast, and, until he tires, fairly straight. His length, however, is erratic. Is capable of making runs in a very short time, and has some nice strokes on the leg, but should learn to keep the ball down unless he

can hit it out of the ground. A good fielder. Batting average 9·4; bowling 18·6.

C. C. Woodley. A persevering cricketer who has been three years in the team. He started the season as wicketkeeper, but was not at home behind the stumps, and met with indifferent success. As a batsman, his chief faults are stiffness and inability to watch the ball and time it correctly. He should learn to drive with more force, and to play a ball on the leg. Sets a good example by his energy in the field. Batting average 4·8.

G. W. Salisbury. Owing to an accident he was not able to play until half term, but since then has done very well. Succeeded Woodley as wicket keeper, and although slow in stumping, and not very sure of catches, he keeps the byes down quite creditably. Plays a very straight bat, and can score runs on occasions, but must learn to play forward and to drive. Batting average 13.

S. W. D. Shallard. Has a fair complement of strokes, and can sometimes make runs, but must learn to lift his bat well up and keep his shoulders in the line of the wicket when driving, instead of turning round to face the bowler, and poking the bat forward. His fielding leaves room for improvement and he should watch the ball more carefully. Batting average 5·2.

H. D. Shallard. A very promising young member of the team. Has a good idea of batting, and can generally keep the ball low, but should be more patient with good bowling. A clean fielder and a good catch. Batting average 11·4.

## THE REGATTA.

The Regatta was held as usual on Wilsham Reach, on June 28th. The weather was perfect and consequently there were many more spectators present both on the banks and in boats on the river than there have been for several years. All the arrangements were planned by Mr. Bevir, and as the programme was a long one, the first heat was started at 2 o'clock. As usual there were numerous spills in the canoe races, but Mr. Bevir obtained special distinction by managing to sit in the water over the side of a perfectly solid and well-meaning tub four.

An interval was allowed for tea, and when that was finished, the finals were rowed off. Stevens, who won the canoes last year, repeated his success this year, and was also in the winning boat in the Senior Pairs, which he won with Steele as stroke; the winning pair rowed consistently well. Fox

and Shallard ii. won the Junior Pairs; they were a much stronger combination than any of their opponents. Stevens and Snell won the "canoes," finishing a long way ahead in the final. The House Fours, as usual, provided the most excitement. Blue did very well to win both the Junior and the Senior events. In the Senior Blue beat Green and thus rowed Red in the final, which they won quite easily. In the Junior Red and Blue met in the first round, and Blue, the winners, rowed Green in the final. This proved a most exciting race, Blue just winning on the post.

The whole programme was carried through without a hitch, and was an entire success, for which our thanks are wholly due to Mr. Bevir.

The prizes were presented in the evening by the Rev. T. Layng.

The following are the prize winners:—*Senior Pairs*:—Steele, Stevens, Dodwell (cox). *Junior Pairs*:—Fox, Shallard ii, Taylor (cox). *Canoe*:—Stevens, Snell. *Dongola*:—Cullum, Edsall, Smith iv, Thomas ii, Shallard ii, Martin ii. *Senior House Fours (Blue)*:—Wood i, bow; Steele, 2; Stevens, 3; Hancock, stroke; Brown i, cox. *Junior House Fours (Blue)*:—Insley, bow; Udal, 2; Smith iv, 3; Allen, stroke; Holbrook, cox.

#### OLD ABINGDONIAN CLUB.

##### THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual General Meeting was held in the Masters' Common Room at the School at 2 p.m. on Sat. June 30th during the Past v. Present Cricket Matches. The President (Mr. J. Knowles) took the chair and 31 members were present. Mr. W. A. Rudd was elected President for the ensuing year. The Vice Presidents, Committee and Hon. Secretaries were re-elected and Mr. J. Knowles was elected London Secretary. The accounts were passed shewing a credit balance of £20 13s. 11d., which was considered very satisfactory. The Hon. Secretary reported that the Committee proposed to issue a booklet containing the rules of the Club and the names and addresses of members and other information. The President welcomed the presence of the Rev. T. Layng once again.

The Meeting adjourned with a vote of thanks to the President for taking the Chair.

##### PAST v. PRESENT CRICKET MATCHES.

For the first time since 1913 the Club turned out two cricket XIs against the School, and were successful in both. Reports of the matches will be found elsewhere.

For the first XI the batting of N. V. H. Riches of Glamorgan and C. E. H. Dolphin from Sand-

hurst proved the School's undoing; and for the 2nd XI P. E. Andrews hit well in the 2nd innings.

##### THE CLUB DINNER.

The Club Dinner was held at the Lion Hotel after the cricket matches and 33 members and their guests were present.

Mr. Mayhead provided an excellent dinner, and the Toast List was as follows:—

The Memory of John Roysse, proposed by the President.

The Town of Abingdon, proposed by Mr. J. Townsend and replied to by the Mayor of Abingdon (Mr. C. Rippon).

The Guests, proposed by Mr. H. G. W. d'Almaine and replied to by Mr. H. Donkin.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. A. L. Donkin) welcomed the number of members who had turned up for the cricket matches and the Dinner, mentioning especially Mr. W. W. Richardson, the oldest member present.

Mr. W. W. Richardson replied.

We welcome the election of Mr. W. A. Rudd as President of the Club, and wish him a very successful year of office. He is the first member of the Staff to be elected to this office.

We were very pleased to welcome many old members for the Functions, amongst whom were Messrs. W. W. Richardson, F. H. Pryce, M. G. Hannay, G. S. Deacon, T. S. Wilding and E. F. Harvey, the last named just back from India. Mr. W. R. Portal wrote a letter to the Secretary regretting his inability to be present.

It was proposed to hold a Club Reception on Friday, June 29th, but owing to the fact that very few acceptances were received, it was cancelled.

#### O.A. NOTES.

##### BIRTHS.

PAYNE.—March 31st, to Mr. and Mrs. A. S. B. Payne, Frome, a daughter.

DONKIN.—April 14th, at Abingdon, Mary, wife of Capt. H. A. L. Donkin, M.C., of a daughter.

##### DEATH.

MORLAND.—March 24th, at Sheepstead House, near Abingdon, the Rev. Anthony Thomas Morland M.A., last surviving son of George Bowes Morland of Abingdon and Mary, daughter of Thomas Thornhill of Woodleys, Oxon, aged 80.

Mr. A. T. Morland, who survived his brother the late Alderman Morland by one week, was for a short time at Abingdon School before proceeding to Rugby. He afterwards graduated at

Trinity College, Cambridge, and was ordained in 1869. In 1878 he was appointed Rector of Chilton, which office he held until his resignation in 1920.

We have received for publication from Mr. E. M. Baker an extract from the Will of his brother, the late Major S. H. Baker, which should prove of interest to all Abingdonians, and more especially to those who knew and loved the testator. The extract is as follows:—

“Amongst these friends the testator would hope to find many Abingdonians, and so that they may know of the kindly thoughts toward them, the testator sends friendly greetings to the Editor of the Abingdonian, desiring him to inform the former old pupils that a former Editor (if only for one solitary number) has left a very small sum available, through which these said pupils, whether they be of lordly birth or lowly, may obtain as their companion “The Cardinal’s Page,” who shall remind them of happy days at Abingdon with the testator; only to claim the said book, “The Cardinal’s Page,” these former pupils must write to their old Head Master, telling him of how they fare, and any present pupils must write to the author of the said book, namely to the testator’s father.”

Note.—As the testator’s father died shortly after completing a life of Major S. H. Baker under the title of “A Leader of Men,” his executors think that the “former pupils” may prefer this book.

We have read with much pleasure in *The Scottish Churchman* for April 1923 an appreciation, headed “Men of Mark in the Scottish Church,” of the Rev. Canon W. M. Meredith, best known to later generations of Abingdonians as the kindly donor of our annual prizes for Latin and Greek Prose Composition: a portrait of the Canon appears as the frontispiece to the same periodical. Another Scottish journal, *The Strathearn Herald* of July 7th, 1923, contains an account of a presentation to Canon and Mrs. Meredith, made on the occasion of his jubilee in the ministry by members of his congregation of St. Columba’s Episcopal Church, Crieff, where he has been Rector for upwards of twenty-five years, and numerous other friends.

Councillor A. E. Preston has been made an Alderman of the Borough. He has already for some time been an Alderman on the County Council.

We regret that H. G. W. d’Almaine has been obliged, for reasons of health, to resign the office of Town Clerk, which he has held since 1918.

F. H. Pryce has come to live in Abingdon, and has entered into partnership with his uncle, Mr. C. A. Pryce.

Congratulations to H. P. Tame on his appointment as Assistant to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor of Paddington. There were over two hundred applicants for this important post.

John Knowles, B.A., Oxon, has passed the Trust Accounts and Book-keeping of the Intermediate Examination of the Law Society.

Ronald Saxby, who passed out of the E.T.C. Training School in October, is now stationed at Malta. He is to be congratulated on gaining a First Class Certificate of proficiency in Radiotelegraphy, granted by the Post Master General.

In the “Eights” at Oxford R. E. Eason again stroked the Trinity Boat which made three bumps and ended third on the river. The Pembroke Boat, which accomplished the wonderful feat of making seven bumps during the six afternoons’ rowing, contained two O.A.s, C. V. Davidge being stroke and E. O. Hills 4.

Both the above mentioned crews put in for the Ladies’ Plate at Henley. Pembroke College were beaten after a good race by First Trinity, Cambridge. Trinity, Oxford, on the other hand, after disposing of R. M. C. Sandhurst, Worcester College and First Trinity in the first three days of the racing, crowned these successes by beating Jesus College, Cambridge, by one length in the final. But besides stroking the Trinity Eight; Eason, with W. F. Godden (an old Shrewsbury boy who rowed 7 in the Trinity Boat), was also entered for the Silver Goblets and Nickalls Challenge Cup. These two had won the Pairs at Oxford in June, but even so they were hardly expected to beat the strong Leander pair, G. O. Nickalls and H. B. Playford, at Henley. This, however, they succeeded in doing in what proved the closest race of the day. “The Leander men,” to quote the *Times* account of the race, “held a two lengths’ advantage for the greater part of the race. Off the enclosure the Trinity men spurred in desperate fashion, and in spite of indifferent steering they snatched a victory by 5 feet.” “Trinity” (so the *Times* rowing correspondent continues) “were largely indebted to R. E. Eason for their dual success. He stroked eight and pair right well, and is evidently a sound oarsman, full

of pluck and the determination to fight to the last stroke. He stroked the winning boat in the Oxford Trials in 1921, and on his rowing at Henley may be counted somewhat unfortunate to have missed his Blue."

While on the subject of rowing we may state here that the Abingdon Town Regatta has been revived this year, on Saturday, July 14th.

Congratulations to N. V. H. Riches on being selected to play for the Gentlemen *v.* Players at the Oval on Wednesday, July 4th, and following days. In the first innings of the Gentlemen, going in first, he made 81,—which is more, by the way, than he had compiled against the School on the preceding Saturday; but perhaps other conditions besides the bowlers were different at the Oval. At his second venture, going in first after a long day's fielding, he was not equally successful, being dismissed for a small score before stumps were drawn for the night.

Cornejo i. (Harold) is still doing flying stunts. He is travelling the Country with three "buses," and giving shows in the provinces. Photographs in daily papers have shown him walking on the wings of machines in flight, and splendid accounts are given of the feats of this intrepid Californian airman. A few months ago Pathe Frères induced him to perform an 'Air' thrill at Brooklands to be filmed under the title of "The Lost Diamond." From a considerable height he dropped with "the diamond" by a parachute from a plane doing at least sixty miles per hour to the wings of one on a lower level, and from this second one he descended by a suspended rope ladder to the back seat of a four-seater car, also doing sixty miles per hour.

He says that the course was encircled six times before the right moment came to drop from the position of hanging by his hands on the bottom rung. This perilous adventure ended in a rather severe shaking at the back of the car. The fumes of the castor oil of the engines were very overpowering, but the amateur would consider the dizzy heights much more so. We congratulate Cornejo on his daring and hope that he will have the best of luck in his adventures.

Sir Michael Bruce has lately been at Quixeramobim, in the state of Ceara in Northern Brazil, where he has been assisting in the building of a dam for the Brazilian Government.

We have had news of F. L. England, who has left Bridport, but for what destination we are not informed. He seems to have been active as a Cricketer, and captained the Bridport Town Cricket Team last season.

We have heard likewise from Tom Johnston, who writes from Moulmein, between a voyage to China, Australia and Java and another to Lower Burma and Bombay. He says he sees quite a lot of Mr. Adcock, when he is in Calcutta. His fixed address is Post Box No. 35, Calcutta.

We have met C. S. Louth at Henley. His home address is "Wynchcroft," Warwick Road, Reading, but his work is in the Engineer's Office at Paddington Station, and he asks us to state that he will be delighted to welcome any O.A.s who happen to find themselves in that neighbourhood about 1 p.m., with an hour to spare for lunch. C. S. Louth was married in 1920 and has one son aged nearly two.