

Misericordias
Domini



in aeternum
cantabo.

THE ABINGDONIAN.

No. 23. Vol. VI.

MAY, 1928.

Price 1s.

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SCHOOL NOTES.

The School has lost an old friend by the death of the Earl of Abingdon, High Steward of the Borough of Abingdon, which occurred at Oaken Holt, near Oxford, on March 10, at the great age of 91. He was co-opted to our Governing Body in 1901, in place of the late Lord Wantage, and maintained his connection with the School until 1915. Those who were present at our 350th anniversary, in 1913, will remember his speech at the Prize Giving, when he was in the chair. On an earlier occasion, in 1907, he was a guest at the O.A.C. dinner, and proposed the health of the Club. It is a pleasure to record that he retained his interest in affairs and much of his activity until the end of his long life.

The following were confirmed in the School Chapel on March 18 by the Bishop of Oxford:—S. S. Bates, W. G. C. Denny, G. Garton, F. C. L. Humphrey, J. H. F. Kay, W. R. A. Kettle, W. H. C. Mayhead, L. P. Mosdell, G. A. Page, J. W. Page, G. E. Sinclair, J. E. Spencer, P. J. Squire, S. F. Thatcher, H. N. Trye.

Hearty congratulations to S. R. Hunt on gaining an open Scholarship in Mathematics at St. John's College, Cambridge, in December.

Likewise to A. M. Thatcher on gaining an Exhibition (open) in Mathematics at Jesus College, Oxford, in January.

Likewise to E. G. Langford on his election to the Pembroke Scholarship (in Classics) in February.

D. J. W. Hillier, F. W. Jennings and J. C. Too-good obtained School Certificates in the O.S.C. Exam in December; K. R. Savage successfully passed the London Matriculation Exam in January; and W. B. Smith was equally successful in the entrance Exam to the E.T.C. in April.

A. J. K. Smith, M. Ogle and K. R. Savage have been appointed School Prefects, and F. W. Jennings, R. M. Short, W. B. Smith and P. J. Squire Sub-Prefects.

Members of the School were enabled to attend a special *séance* of the Ben Hur film at the Stert Street Cinema on Jan. 18.

The following were awarded their Athletic colours last term :—S. A. Fabes, F. W. Jennings, L. P. Mosdell, K. R. Savage, W. B. Smith, S. F. Thatcher.

Rowing colours were gained by G. V. Cook, S. A. Fabes and A. J. K. Smith.

E. P. Rice has been elected Captain of Cricket, with T. G. Austin Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Mr. A. E. Winter is again helping us as Cricket coach.

We are indebted to Mr. H. A. Lynn Robinson for a handsome Challenge Cup for House Football, presented to the School "as a souvenir of his three sons, Walter, John and Roland, 1915-1927."

The Rag Concert at the end of last term had for its *pièce de resistance* a sketch written by Mr. Alston entitled "Rabbits." This was capably acted and much appreciated. Other welcome items in the programme were "A Spanish Tragedy" and various dramatized folk songs.

Our Headmaster has been re-elected—again unopposed—as member for the Western Division of Abingdon on the Berkshire County Council.

Miss Grundy returned in February from Suez, where she has been spending the autumn and winter with her aunt, Mrs. Sturrock.

We offer our condolences to Mr. J. W. Reynolds on the unfortunate accident which befell him last term in the Gymnasium, whereby his right arm was badly fractured. We are glad to see him about again this term, and trust it may not be long before he has completely recovered from his injury.

We have to thank Miss Richardson, of 24 Lathbury Road, Oxford, for her gift of some interesting framed prints of the School. These had belonged to her father, the late Mr. W. W. Richardson, O.A.

A Young and Summers Scholarship in Classics has been awarded to S. J. Lansdown, of Ripley Court School, Surrey.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following :—*The Aldenhamian*, *The Aluredian*, *The Chigwellian*, *The Laxtonian*, *The Leightonian*, *The Lily*, *The Limit*, *The Log of the Nautical College*, *Pangbourne*, *The Magazine of the City of Oxford School*, *The Monktonian*, *The Totnesian*.

Founder's Day is fixed for June 22. The School Regatta will take place on June 21, and the Past v. Present Cricket Match on June 23.

The Oxford examinations begin on July 10. Term ends on July 23, boarders leaving on the following day.

VALETE.

(December, 1927.)

VI. Form.—J. C. R. Gardner (1922, i). School Prefect, 1927. Rowing Colours, 1927. Sergeant O.T.C., 1927. 1st Class Shot, 1926. Certificate A, 1927. O.S.C. Exam., 1926.

R. E. Broadbent (1920, iii). School Prefect, 1927. 1st XI. Cricket, 1926-7, Colours, 1926. 1st XI Football, 1926-7, Colours, 1926. 1st Class Shot, 1927. O.S.C. Exam., 1927.

C. J. E. Steff (1921, iii). Sub-Prefect, 1927. 2nd XI. Cricket, 1927. O.S.C. Exam., 1925-6.

R. S. L. Robinson (1923, ii). Sub-Prefect, 1927. 2nd XI. Cricket, 1927. 2nd XI. Football, 1927. Lance Cpl. O.T.C., 1927. 1st Class Shot, 1926. O.S.C. Exam., 1927.

E. W. Edgington (1921, iii). O.S.C. Exam., 1927.

L. L. Baumann (1924, iii). 1st XI. Football, 1926, Colours, 1927. 1st XI. Cricket, 1927, Colours, 1927. Athletic Colours, 1927. Certificate A, 1927. O.S.C. Exam., 1927.

F. M. Butterfield (1925, iii).

VA Form.—D. J. W. Hillier (1923, iii). 1st XI. Football, 1927. O.S.C. Exam, 1927.

S. E. Roberts (1923, iii.)

VB Form.—W. C. E. Heath (1923, iii).

J. H. Harris (1920, iii).

C. H. Farrar (1925, iii.)

(March, 1928.)

VI. Form.—S. A. Fabes (1924, iii). School Prefect, 1927; 1st XI. Cricket, 1926-7, Colours, 1927. 1st XI. Football, 1926-7. Colours, 1926. Athletic Colours, 1928. Sergeant O.T.C., 1927. O.S.C. Exam., 1926, 1927 (twice). Hon. Treasurer L.S.D.S.

H. F. Good (1923, iii). Sub-Prefect, 1928. 2nd XI. Football, 1927. O.S.C. Exam., 1927.

J. G. W. Randall (1922, iii). 1st Class Shot, 1926. O.S.C. Exam., 1927.

H. W. Stone (1922, iii). 1st XI. Football, 1927. Colours, 1927. 1st Class Shot, 1926. O.S.C. Exam, 1927.

VA Form.—J. C. Toogood (1925, ii). 2nd IV. Rowing, 1928. O.S.C. Exam, 1927.

VB Form.—S. H. L. Walford (1926, iii).

SALVETE.

(January, 1928.)

VB Form.—H. B. Healy.

III. Form.—D. E. Healy.

(April, 1928.)

VB Form.—S. D. Plummer.

II. Form.—P. R. Wood, S. R. Hinks.

LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC, AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

The first meeting of the Society was held in the Pembroke Room at 6 p.m. on Saturday, 21st January. The Vice-President was in the chair. The motion before the House was 'that Aviation will not supersede other means as the chief facility for transport.' The Hon. Sec. proposed the motion, and N. J. Banes seconded. M. Ogle, seconded by the Hon. Treas., opposed. The following members also addressed the House:—

Pro: Messrs. Spencer, Jennings and Kettle.
Neutral: Messrs. Rice and Bates. *Con*: The Vice-

President and Messrs. Humphrey, Wood, Kay and Squire. On being put to the House the motion was carried by 7 votes to 6.

On March 10th the Society met again, with the President in the chair. Mr. A. F. James then read an extremely interesting and comprehensive Paper on 'Piracy.' At the conclusion of the Paper the Chairman thanked Mr. James very warmly for the trouble he had taken, and the House showed its appreciation in the usual way. This concluded the second half of the session.

FOOTBALL.

THE O.A. MATCH.

This was played on the School ground on Saturday, Dec. 10, and resulted, after a very fast and exciting game, in a win for the O.A.s by five goals to one.

Savage played an excellent game in goal, where he had more than enough work to do. The O.A. forwards were fast and made the most of their chances. The school forwards, however, especially the insides, were too slow, and ought to have scored more than they did. The halves, who have proved themselves the mainstay of the team, played well up to their usual form, the backs also playing a very sound game.

The teams were as follows:—

School.—Goal, K. R. Savage; backs, R. W. H. Taylor and F. A. Povey; halves, S. A. Fabes, L. L. Baumann and E. G. Langford; forwards, D. J. W. Hillier, A. E. Belcher, G. V. Cook, H. W. Stone and E. P. Rice.

O.A.s.—Goal, J. F. Sinclair; backs, W. H. Lowe and H. V. Stone; halves, P. G. Perks-Morris, R. E. Eason and G. S. Sturrock; forwards, H. M. Insley, H. A. L. Donkin, C. Ellis, C. R. Wright and J. G. Waldron.

HOUSE MATCHES.

The competition was won this year by Green House with three victories (two junior and one senior) to one each of the other two Houses. The

senior team was composed as follows:—A. M. D. Greene; F. A. Povey and W. B. Smith; G. Garton, S. A. Fabes (captain) and S. R. Hunt; D. J. W. Hillier, J. G. W. Randall, G. V. Cook, W. B. Badcock and G. E. Sinclair; while the junior team comprised J. E. Emmett; E. R. Leslie Smith and W. H. C. Mayhead; R. F. Brown, J. M. Allison and P. O. Darbishire; E. F. Slatter, D. S. Kite, W. B. Badcock, L. S. Bailey and G. E. Sinclair (captain).

In the senior games Green House beat Blue House by 2 goals to 1, but lost to Red House by 0 to 4. The match between Red House and Blue House was not played, and in any case it could have made no difference to the result of the competition as Green House were already two points ahead.

The Green juniors won both their matches by easy margins, while the Blues beat the Reds by 3 goals to 2.

JUNIOR HOUSE SIXES.

Two rounds of Sixes were played off this year, and resulted in the victory of Blue House with a score of 187. Green House were second with 147, Red House scoring 49. Blue A was the best A team, Green B the best B team, and Blue C the best C team. There was no lack of enthusiasm and the rivalry was keen.

Blue A, the best six, consisted of F. H. G. Taylor (captain), A. F. Hill, V. E. Pollard, S. P. Austin, L. A. Smart and J. T. Hicks.

ROWING.

Tubbing began on January 19th and was carried on under adverse conditions for ten days before it was possible to find a prospective crew. Owing to strong winds, stream and flood water the two light boats were not used until February 14th, and then troubles began. Various hindrances supervened to check the necessary daily work of the constituted crews, and only on February 23rd were we able to settle down to regular work. Seeing that the first race was fixed for the 25th we could not exactly anticipate much of a show.

The First Crew improved appreciably during the ensuing week, and their visit to Oxford waters was beneficial. They appeared to find the Talboys boat more comfortable and more easy to sit than the John Roysse. Their best work (no doubt about it) was done on their first visit, and had they been able to repeat that performance on the following Saturday, we might quite reasonably have been able to record a different result.

In spite of each member's particular and individual faults, the First Crew developed into a fairly sound and attractive combination, but their lack of punch and stamina was probably due to the absence of avoirdupois. Few junior crews ever realize the necessity of rowing themselves 'right out' in practice, and consequently, when the day arrives, they are very quickly 'done.' The First Crew rowed quite 'nicely,' but this is not sufficient to win races, especially against heavier crews which have had an opportunity of getting together a few times.

In reference to this the performance of a crew of Oxford O.A.s was particularly striking, and it is sincerely hoped that in further years a similar effort will be made. With so many O.A.s in residence at Oxford it would be very gratifying to have this as an annual fixture, at a time when training and practice are not entirely impossible.

The Second Crew suffered somewhat from compulsory variations in its composition and was unfortunate in being together only for a very short time, as necessary substitutes had to be provided at short notice to fill the places of those stricken down by illness.

The one and only race for this crew was with Magdalen College School II, and it came as a great shock on the day of the race to row the full course from Weirs Bridge. This was quite unexpected; all the more so when it is remembered that in 1926 the Second Crews rowed a course beginning at Long Bridges. However, they acquitted

themselves valiantly in the race, in spite of their somewhat ponderous and laboured style.

In the later stages there was seen a Third Crew, but it is not easy to sing its praises without a reference to our gratitude for our own personal safety on each occasion that we entrusted ourselves to its tender care. Time and perseverance may work wonders with any who remain long enough to learn some of the essentials of the art.

An account of the races is appended:—

v. Old Abingdonians.

This race was rowed on Culham Reach on Saturday, Feb. 25th, under excellent conditions. The O.A.s got away to an extremely good start, obtaining a lead of about three quarters of a length. At the Big Tree the School began to draw level, and from that point training and condition enabled them to maintain their advantage to the end. They won by one and three quarter lengths in 4 mins. 58 secs.

Crews:—

SCHOOL.	O.A.s.
S. A. Fabes (bow).	D. C. K. Wright (bow).
A. J. K. Smith.	W. G. Hancock.
G. V. Cook.	R. E. Eason.
E. G. Langford (str.)	K. C. Smith (str.)
G. E. Sinclair (cox.).	R. F. Brown (cox.) (subs.)

v. Magdalen College School.

These races were rowed on Saturday morning, March 3rd, the course being from the Weirs Bridge to Salter's Boathouse—about three-quarters of a mile. It was a beautiful morning and large numbers of boys, masters and parents assembled on the towing path to watch the races.

The Senior Crews were sent off first by Dr. P. Mallam (O.U.B.C.), who acted as judge for each event. Magdalen had the Oxfordshire station and along the Willows the crews were rowing level. At this point, however, they gradually drew away, and finally won a good race by $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths. The following were the crews and weights:—

ABINGDON.

S. A. Fabes (bow.)	..	..	9 st.	7 lbs.
A. J. K. Smith	..	..	9 st.	11 lbs.
G. V. Cook	..	..	10 st.	5 lbs.
E. G. Langford (str.)	..	..	10 st.	$4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
G. E. Sinclair (cox.)	..	..	8 st.	$4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

MAGDALEN.

R. W. Richardson (bow.)	..	9 st.	12 lbs.
J. R. D. Scott	.. ..	10 st.	12 lbs.
D. Sanderson	.. ..	11 st.	1 lb.
J. W. L. Isaac (str.)	.. ..	11 st.	5 lbs.
H. N. Harwood (cox.)	..	6 st.	4½ lbs.

The Second Crews followed, and Magdalen again had the Oxfordshire station. At the Free Ferry the boats were practically level, but in the Gut Abingdon went ahead and secured a lead of half a length. Along the Willows Magdalen drew level, and from this point went right away to win easily by six lengths.

Crews and weights:—

ABINGDON.

J. A. Howard (bow.)	.. ..	10 st.	4 lbs.
R. A. Langford	.. ..	10 st.	7 lbs.
J. C. Toogood	.. ..	10 st.	5½ lbs.
R. W. H. Taylor (str.)	..	11 st.	
R. F. Brown (cox.)	.. ..	8 st.	4½ lbs.

MAGDALEN.

F. J. Ivimey (bow.)	.. ..	9 st.	
J. F. O'Carroll	.. ..	10 st.	3 lbs.
D. V. S. Scott	.. ..	14 st.	9 lbs.
O. G. Melville (str.)	.. ..	8 st.	7 lbs.
R. C. Forsyth (cox.)	.. ..	7 st.	

v. Oxford O.A.s.

Rowed on Wednesday, March 7th, under ideal conditions. The School were, as on previous occasions, slow in getting away at the start, whereas the O.A.s were well away, and rowing firmly and together had gained three-quarters of a length at The Minute Tree. The School then got in about a minute's good steady work, but failed to maintain their drive. From this point the O.A.s, who were rowing very strongly and together, increased their lead, and finished in the excellent time of 3 mins. 55 secs., with a length and three-quarters to spare. The School Crew was as on the previous occasions. The Oxford O.A.s were as follows:—

O. T. M. Rayment (Pembroke) (bow.)
A. F. James (Exeter).
J. B. O. Durell (Pembroke).
S. E. Clark (Pembroke) (str.)
with R. F. Brown (substitute) (cox.).

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The School Sports were held in the Upper Field on Saturday, March 17th. The weather was very pleasant and the track was in good condition. No extraordinarily good results were obtained, and on the whole the standard of performance was about the same as that of last year. The officials of the Athletic Club were as follows:—President, The Head Master; Chairman of the Committee, W. A. Rudd, Esq.; Starter, J. B. E. Alston, Esq.; Judges, E. J. P. Ross Barker, Esq. and W. A. Rudd, Esq.; Timekeepers, C. O. Wright, Esq. and W. Bevir, Esq.; Stewards, A. J. K. Smith, R. A. Langford and A. M. Thatcher.

Results:—

1. Long Jump (Open).

(Challenge Cup presented by A. Stockton, Esq., O.A.)

1. L. P. Mosdell.	2. P. D. Smith.
	Distance, 17ft. 4½ins.

2. Long Jump (Under 15).

1. W. B. Badcock.	2. R. F. Brown.
	Distance, 16ft. 0½ins.

3. High Jump (Open).

1. K. R. Savage.	2. F. W. Jennings. }
	P. D. Smith. }
	Height, 4ft. 10½ins.

4. High Jump (Under 15).

1. S. A. Paige.	2. A. F. Hill.
	Height, 4ft. 5ins.

5. Hurdles (Open).

1. E. G. Langford.	2. G. V. Cook.
	Time, 19 4-5th secs.

6. Hurdles (Under 16).

1. W. H. C. Mayhead.	2. L. P. Mosdell.
	Time, 20 1-5th secs.

7. 100 Yards (Under 12).

1. C. J. Hedges.	2. G. E. H. Warrick.
	Time, 15 secs.

8. 100 Yards (Under 15).

1. W. B. Badcock.	2. A. F. Hill.
	Time 13 1-5th secs.

9. 100 Yards (Open).

(Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Price.)

1. W. B. Smith.	2. A. M. Thatcher.
	Time, 11 3-5th secs.

10. 220 Yards Handicap (Under 13).
 1. C. J. Hedges (12 yds.) 2. G. J. Goodey (scr.)
 Time, 31 4-5th secs.
11. Quarter Mile (Under 15).
 1. D. P. Edsall. 2. S. A. Paige.
 Time 67 1-5th secs.
12. Quarter Mile (Open).
 (Challenge Cup presented by W. Pierpoint Esq.)
 1. E. G. Langford. 2. S. F. Thatcher.
 Time, 58 4-5th secs.
13. Throwing the Cricket Ball (Open).
 1. G. V. Cook. 2. K. R. Savage.
 Distance 78yds. 1ft. 7½ins.
14. Half Mile (Open).
 (Challenge Cup presented by D. H. Brown, Esq.)
 1. S. A. Fabes. 2. S. F. Thatcher.
 Time, 2 mins. 21 secs.
15. Half Mile (Under 15).
 1. D. P. Edsall. 2. S. A. Paige.
 Time, 2 mins. 36 1-5th secs.
16. Putting the Weight (Open).
 1. E. G. Langford. 2. L. P. Mosdell.
 Distance 27ft. 3ins.
17. Relay Race (Junior).
 1. Green House. 2. Blue House.
 Time, 3 mins. 17 2-5th secs.
18. Relay Race (Senior).
 1. Red House. 2. Green House.
 Time, 2 mins. 51 2-5th secs.

The prizes were distributed by Mrs. Kirkby. The Heber Clarke Challenge Cup was won by E. G. Langford, last year's holder, with 40 points. The Shallard Challenge Cup, for boys under 15, was won by W. B. Badcock and D. P. Edsall, each of these having obtained 20 points.

The House Cup (presented by the Ladies of Abingdon) was won by Green House with 196 points, Red House being second with 133 points.

The prize donors, to whom our best thanks are due, were as follows:—Lady Norman, Mrs. Dawson Clark, Mrs. H. Donkin, Miss Grundy, Miss Sandys, Mrs. Tatham, and Messrs. B. Challenor, E. M. Challenor, H. S. Challenor, F. G. W. d'Almaine, H. Donkin, J. F. Downing, W. M. Grundy, A. P. Iliffe, J. H. Kirkby, R. W. Langford, A. W. Morland, W. T. Morland, A. E. Preston, E. J. P. Ross Barker, W. A. Rudd, G. Saxby, H. P. Simpson, T. Skurray, M. T. Tatham, J. G. T. West, T. S. Wilding, and the following Ladies of Abingdon, who subscribed for prizes for the Quarter Mile Races, junior and open:—Miss Florey, Miss Hugh Smith, Mrs. Woodford, Mrs. Rudd, Mrs. Reynolds (Wootton Road), Mrs.

Hayward, Miss Edwards, Miss L. Harris, Lady Laeta Shirley, Mrs. Challenor (The Firs), Miss R. Clarke, Mrs. Gardner, Miss B. Challenor, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Preston, Mrs. Mainwaring, Mrs. Budgett, Miss P. Challenor, Mrs. Reynolds (The Gables), Mrs. Kirkby, Mrs. B. Challenor, Mrs. Carter, Miss Cope, Mrs. Cornish and Mrs. Barge.

THE STEEPLECHASES.

On Friday, March 9th, the annual Steeplechases were held on Abingdon Common. For some time preceding this day the weather had been fine and cold and the streams were not particularly full; the ground, however, was very heavy. During the Junior race there was a sharp hailstorm, which made it even more uncomfortable than usual. The Senior race was not marred by any such occurrence and, apart from the usual excitement at the last water jump, did not afford much entertainment to the spectators or competitors. The first three home in each race were as follows:—

- Senior.
 1. E. G. Langford. 2. R. A. Langford.
 3. S. A. Fabes.
 Time, 12 mins. 42 2-5th secs.
- Junior.
 1. W. B. Badcock. 2. G. J. Goodey.
 3. J. Ashby.
 Time, 6 mins. 23 1-5th secs.

In these events the Houses were placed as follows:
 Senior, 1, Green; 2, Red and Blue equal.
 Junior, 1, Red; 2, Green; 3, Blue.

THE MILES.

The Miles were run on Monday, March 19th, after being postponed several times owing to inclement weather. The Senior event was very exciting at the finish when E. G. Langford, who had been leading for some time, was challenged by S. F. Thatcher. Langford managed to win by a margin of about 3 inches. The Junior was not remarkable except in the smallness of the entry. The first three in each event were:—

- Senior.
 1. E. G. Langford. 2. S. F. Thatcher.
 3. S. A. Fabes.
 Time, 5 mins. 14 1-5th secs.
- Junior.
 1. E. F. Slatter. 2. R. C. Clarke.
 3. D. P. Edsall.
 Time, 5 mins. 48 4-5th secs.

The results for the Houses were as follows:—
 Senior, 1, Green; 2, Red; 3, Blue.
 Junior, 1, Green; 2, Red; 3, Blue.

A.S.A.C. v. O.A.C.

The annual sports meeting between the School and the Old Abingdonian Club took place on Saturday, March 24th. This was the 29th meeting held.

The weather was rather dull, but there was no rain.

The School won the high jump only, but this compares favourably with last year, when all the events went to the Old Abingdonians.

The programme was as follows:—

100 Yards.

1. G. F. Powell (O.A.C.).
2. C. C. Woodley (O.A.C.).

Time, 10 2-5ths secs.

Powell won by several yards, but the rest were quite close together. It will be remembered that Powell won this event last year for the O.A.C. in the same time.

High Jump.

1. F. W. Jennings (A.S.A.C.).
 2. K. R. Savage (A.S.A.C.)
- and O. T. M. Raymont (O.A.C.) equal.

Height, 4ft. 11ins.

This was rather a surprise as N. A. Carr (O.A.C.), who was expected to win easily, fell out quite early. Jennings jumped well and earned his colours by his win.

Hurdles.

1. N. A. Carr (O.A.C.).
2. C. C. Woodley (O.A.C.).

Time, 17 2-5th secs.

The best finish of the afternoon was witnessed in this event, Carr seizing the victory by throwing himself forward on to the tape.

Half Mile.

1. C. Ellis (O.A.C.).
2. S. A. Fabes (A.S.A.C.).

Time, 2 mins. 15 2-5th secs.

Fabes ran well, but Ellis had the advantage of experience and won without exertion by about 3 yards.

Long Jump.

1. G. F. Powell (O.A.C.).
2. N. A. Carr (O.A.C.).

Distance, 19ft. 6½ ins.

Powell's winning jump might have been a foot longer if he had been able to take off from the board. As it was he won easily, the best jump made by Carr being 18ft. 6ins.

Quarter Mile.

1. C. R. Wright (O.A.C.).
2. E. G. Langford (A.S.A.C.). Time, 58 secs.

This was rather a surprise, as Powell was looked on as the School's most formidable opponent; but Wright ran very well and deserved his victory.

Mile.

1. C. Ellis (O.A.C.).
2. S. F. Thatcher (A.S.A.C.).

Time, 5 mins. 17 secs.

G. S. Sturrock (O.A.C.) led right up to the last lap, but the pace proved too much for him and Ellis, Fabes and Thatcher were left to finish. Fabes ran very cleverly, but dropped out half way round the last lap. Ellis was then leading, and again his extra stamina and experience had their effect, and he won by about 10 yards. The time was not as good as in the School Mile on the preceding Monday.

Putting the Weight.

1. G. F. Powell (O.A.C.).
2. C. C. Woodley (O.A.C.).

Distance 33ft. 6ins.

The distance was 18 inches better than last year and only 22 from the record.

Relay.

1. O.A.C.
2. A.S.A.C.

Time, 2 mins. 2-5th secs.

This time constitutes a new record. The old record was 2 mins. 3 secs. The School tried hard and several times made up lost ground, but lost in the end by about 10 yards. The School were easily within the old record, but the O.A. team was very strong. The teams were as follows:—

A.S.A.C.

O.A.C.

W. B. Smith.

C. R. Wright.

L. P. Mosdell.

C. Ellis.

E. G. Langford.

S. E. Clark.

F. W. Jennings.

C. C. Woodley.

A. M. Thatcher.

O. T. M. Raymont.

M. Ogle.

G. F. Powell.

O.A. CLUB.

A committee meeting of the Club was held after the Past v. Present Sports. It was decided to hold a Dance, as usual, in the Council Chamber on the evening of Founder's Day, June 22nd. The Past v. Present Cricket match will be played on Sat., June 23rd, and the Club Dinner will be held in the evening in the Lion Hotel.

Some twenty new members have joined the club this year, as against nearly thirty last year. The Secretaries will be glad to hear of any likely new members.

THE MERCHANT.

Once in the marble days of Pericles,
 When Beauty dwelt in Athens, from the West
 A merchant came, and as his bark caressed
 The quay-side of Peiraeus, ill at ease
 He gazed and cried, 'No mortal men are these!'
 For, as it fell, there moved among the rest,
 With his pet quail half tucked within his vest,
 The gay and-godlike Alcibiades.

He heard the seaman's cry, and at the word
 One playing Hermes to his Zeus advanced.
 'With what consignment—nectar for my Lord?
 —Mak'st thou the harbour of Olympus?'
 Blanched
 'I sailed for Athens!' the scared seaman roared:
 'By Triton's tails I know not how it chanced!'
 W.W.

AN INDULGENCE FROM ABINGDON ABBEY.

The following extracts, which we quote from an article by Professor A. W. Pollard in *The Times* of Feb. 14, should prove of interest to all Abingdonians on personal as well as historical grounds:—

"Inquiries at the Public Record Office by a well-known Abingdon antiquary, Mr. A. E. Preston, as to the document to which was attached the seal of John Sant, Abbot of the Benedictine monastery in his town, have led to the discovery of an Indulgence printed by Caxton and issued by Abbot Sant to Henry Langley and his wife, Katherine, on December 13, 1476. The earliest date hitherto connected with any piece of printing by Caxton at Westminster is November 18, 1477, in the copy of the "Dicts and Sayings of the Philosophers" in the John Rylands library at Manchester."

* * * *

"We have thus definite proof that within ten and a half weeks of Caxton's renting his house in the Almonry at Westminster Abbey at Michaelmas, 1476, a piece of his printing, though only of some 360 words, was in circulation at Westminster."

* * * *

"Clearly he wasted no time, and now our knowledge of his quickness enables us to say with certainty that printing began in England not in 1477 but in 1476.

Professor Pollard adds a translation of the Indulgence, an illustration of which appeared in *The North Berks Herald* of February 24. Translation:—

"John, Abbot of Abingdon, of the most holy father in Christ and our lord lord Sixtus IV. by divine providence pope, and of the Apostolic see unto the Kingdom of England, Wales and Ireland, in conjunction with the collector of the fruits and increments of the Apostolic Camera in the aforesaid Kingdom, duly the Nuncio and specially deputed Commissary, To our beloved in Christ [Henry Lanley and Katherine his wife,

of the diocese of London] health everlasting in the Lord: Whereas, frequently considering with consideration's eye the infirmities of human frailty you are often pricked at heart, fearing that by the delights of this world you are being swallowed up unawares as by the waves of a great sea, daily wounded by the darts of the old serpent, Knowing that only by the plank of penitence can wounds, deaths and dangers of this kind be avoided, with humble hearts and devout minds you have fled for a health-giving remedy to us the dispensers of most ample indulgences, We therefore, inasmuch as, taking counsel for the health of your souls, you have gone to the place by us appointed for obtaining the grace of the Jubilee and with contrite hearts have humbly confessed your sins to the confessors appointed by us to this end, And also you have contributed a competent sum to a naval expedition and the maintenance of a fleet against the faithless Turks, the enemies of the Christian religion, from the means granted to you by God (by a happy trafficking changing earthly things into heavenly, the perishable into the abiding) Declare by the apostolic authority which we exercise in these parts the fullest remission of all your sins, however great and grave, and though they be such as of right should be referred to the apostolic see; Moreover absolution of censures and judgments of every kind whether passed by man or law, and the grace of the Jubilee in like manner as if you had visited the basilicas of Peter and Paul and the other churches and places of Rome, and as if any one of you had visited them and you had obtained the solemn absolution of our most holy lord the Pope, and release from every kind of vow, if you have made any vow and wish to be released from it by us (vows of pilgriming to St. James of Compostella beyond the sea, of entering religion and of continence alone excepted,) also restoration to the unity of the Church and to the sacra-

ments; Furthermore we grant by the tenor of these present the power of choosing a fit confessor who from whatever kind of crimes, however grave, and such as of right should be referred to the Apostolic see, at the point of death should grant absolution, and in matters not reserved as often as any of you shall please shall provide for the benefit of absolution and enjoin a salutary penance, And at the point of death may impart a full remission and the grace of the Jubilee. Given [at Westminster on the 13th day of the month of December] in the year of the Lord fourteen hundred and seventy [six] and of the

pontificate of the aforesaid lord our lord by divine providence Pope Sixtus IV. [the sixth]."

The original of this curious document may be seen in the Library of the Record Office in London. A notable feature is the granting of its benefits by the Abbot direct, as the Pope's deputy, and without insisting on a pilgrimage to Rome. Abbot Sant, who had obtained this authority from the Pope, would appear to have commissioned Caxton to print blank forms of this Indulgence, filling in by hand the names of those to whom it was granted, with the appropriate dates, as shown by the square brackets in the above translation.

ORGANISED CHEERING AT MATCHES.

Cheering at matches is a necessity to make the contestants and spectators enthusiastic. In addition to that there is the encouraging effect on the individual players and the team as a whole.

There are two kinds of cheering—organised and unorganised, or individual, spasmodic shouts of encouragement from some person or group of persons over-excited for the moment. Of the two, the former is practised extensively in the United States and the latter in England and other European countries.

Unorganised cheering needs no explanation as everyone who has ever watched a match of any kind is well versed in it. But organised cheering, or "rooting" as it is called in the United States, needs describing to you, for I think it is almost entirely confined to the United States, and I myself have never observed any cases of it in England or elsewhere.

At all college, school, and club athletic matches in the United States there is what is called a "rooting" section for each team. This section comprises a picked body of men from the college or school, etc., under the direction of one who is elected as yell leader. At large and important matches this yell leader has two assistants, owing to the size of his rooting section. There is a special portion of the grandstand reserved only for the rooters, with a small platform in front, on which stand the yell leader and his assistants, facing the rooting section. The rival rooting sections are on opposite sides of the field.

Each college has its own particular set of cheers or yells, as they are called, and songs, which are composed by the students or graduates and submitted to the athletic committee for approval and acceptance as a college yell.

The yell leader leads his rooting section in their

particular yells by waving his arms in several different ways, too intricate to describe in writing, to get the proper effect and feeling into the yells. This waving of the arms is varied for different yells and colleges, but it all follows the same general trend.

A rooting section was originally intended for organised cheering only, but lately there has been a very interesting development along another line. Stunts have been introduced into the rooting section. At the beginning of the term suggestions for stunts are sent in to the same committee as for the yells. These stunts consist of giving each member of the rooting section a set of coloured squares of cardboard, about one foot or eighteen inches square, which are numbered and arranged beforehand, by means of diagrams, in the order the stunts require for each member of the section. The best example of these stunts that I have seen was at the football match between Stanford and California Universities, two of the greatest rivals in California. At half time, which lasted about twenty minutes, each rooting section gave their selection of stunts, the visiting college doing theirs first. In order to see these stunts at their best, they must be viewed from the other side of the field.

The yell leader calls out the number of the stunt through a megaphone, and the members of the rooting section find the cards with that number on them and hold them in their laps with their heads down, and on a given signal from the leader they all sit up with the squares in front of their faces to form the stunt picture. For instance, California, whose colours are blue and gold, put up a blue C on a gold field and then a gold C on a blue field. Then came a picture of their coach, in five different colours, in his typical coaching position.

Stanford, whose colours are red and white, followed this with a red S on a white field and then a white S on a red field. Then came a white swan on a red field, the reason for this being that their captain's name was Swan. There are usually a dozen or so of these pictures formed by the rooting section during half time.

The members of the rooting section each have a reversible felt hat. In Stanford's case one side of the hat is red and one white. And California's hats are blue one side and gold the other. After half time Stanford formed a red S in a white field by the use of these hats, and California formed a gold C in a blue field with their hats. This year

Stanford let go into the air, just before the match, some thousand toy red balloons. Last year it was California who sent up toy blue and gold balloons.

These stunts are as interesting as the yells and in many cases are very amusing and clever.

The rooting section at a match is almost as much a part of the match as the team itself, and gives, I believe, a great deal more encouragement to the team, with its full-throated, clear-cut and organised yells, than a lot of single unorganised shouts from individuals. It also gives some of those unable to play on the team a chance to watch an "away" match.

G.R.D.E.

O.T.C.

The only event of note last term was an excellent field-day near Bloxham in the first week of March.

The following cadets passed the Cert. A Examination held last November:—J. C. R. Gardner, E. P. Rice, L. L. Baumann.

Promotions: To be Sgts., E. P. Rice, M. Ogle, E. G. Langford; to be Corporals, T. G. Austin, R. A. Langford; to be Lance-corporals, A. M. D. Greene, F. W. Jennings, K. R. Savage, G. V. Cook.

The annual camp this year will be from July 31 to August 8 at Strensall, Yorks.

THE LOCALS.

The Local Exams are an ominous fear,
And one works for them just like a nigger;
And we see in the distance our time drawing near,
And our terror grows bigger and bigger.

A play, writ by Shakespeare, called *Julius Caesar*,
And selections from Tennyson's verse!
I wish that these 'Coverley Papers' were easier,
And this Virgil is twenty times worse.

Ninety-six chapters on Caesar in Gaul,
And hundreds of pages of history!

Two hours and a half's preparation (that's all!);
The way the work's done is a mystery.

For French we have verse books and idioms too,
And a Siepmann amongst all the rest.
For physics we work in the lab. (it is true!)
But our answers are usually guessed.

Now I must stop, 'cause I've got to get on
With some Algebra prep. for the morn.
Oh, how I wish that my school days had gone,
Or that I had *never* been born.

A LOCAL SUFFERER.

O.A. NOTES.

MARRIAGES.

MORLAND—PENN SYMONS.—On Thursday, April 12th, at St. James' Church, Tunbridge Wells, by the Rev. R. C. MacKeown, Vicar of Abingdon, assisted by the Rev. G. T. Manley, Vicar of St. James', Tunbridge Wells, Robert Benjamin Hough Morland, second son of the late Mr. F. J. Morland, of Abingdon, and of Mrs. F. Morland, of Yew Tree Cottage, Marcham, to Muriel Arabella Penn Symons, niece of Major-General E. Owen Hay and of the late General Sir William Penn Symons.

DEATHS.

DAVIS.—In December, near Dundee, South Africa, suddenly, the result of an accident, Oliver Davis, of Umhlanga Rocks, near Durban, son of the late Mr. Gabriel Davis, of Abingdon, and brother of Louis and Richard Davis.

TOWNSEND.—On Jan. 20th, at his residence, 34 St. John's Road, Abingdon, James Townsend, youngest son of the late Mr. Thomas Townsend, of Glenburn, the Park, Abingdon, aged 55.

MILES.—On Feb. 5th, at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, Ivor Stanley Miles, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Miles, of Ock Street, Abingdon, aged 28.

CARD.—On Feb. 20th, in Alberta, Canada, suddenly, the result of an accident, William Alfred Meyrick Card, son of Dr. Alfred H. Card and Mrs. Card, of Muswell Hill, N., aged 19.

RICHARDSON.—On Feb. 27th, at his residence, 24 Lathbury Road, Oxford, Walter Wycliffe Richardson, in his 81st year.

ROGERS.—Recently, at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, after an operation, Herbert George Rogers, in his 49th year.

W. W. Richardson, younger brother of the late W. H. Richardson, O.A., the antiquary, was a boarder at the School from Midsummer 1860 to December 1864, and of course received his education in the old School buildings behind the Council Chamber. Those who would care to know what School life at Abingdon was like in those days will find a very interesting account, under the title "Recollections," in our Christmas number of 1920. This, we may now state, was from Mr. Richardson's pen.

After leaving School he followed banking as his career, entering as a junior clerk in the Westminster Bank (London and County, as it then was.) In due course he rose to the top of his profession, and was for many years before his retirement manager of the important Kensington Branch in London. When the war broke out, he returned to the banking service at the Oxford Branch, where he did much useful work while his services were needed.

Making his home in Oxford, he took the opportunity to renew an active interest in the doings of his old school, which he placed under a debt of gratitude for many kindnesses of a practical nature. Elected President of the O.A. Club for 1926, he took the Chair at the annual dinner of that year, proposing the health of the School.

An excellent shot himself, he maintained to the last a keen and active interest in Rifle shooting—more especially (of late years) in the Oxfordshire Miniature Rifle Association, of which he was for some time Secretary, and Treasurer at the time of his death. He devoted much time also to the Oxford Branch of the League of Nations Union; likewise to the Oxford Boy Scouts Association; and to both of these he acted as Honorary Treasurer.

Boys and Old Boys alike will miss his kindly presence at athletic and social gatherings, at which,

since he came to live in Oxford, he has been one of our most constant, as he was also one of our oldest, visitors.

Oliver Davis, well-known in South African sporting circles and popular wherever he went, was killed in an aeroplane accident in December. He had started to fly from Durban to Johannesburg, piloted by his son; but the aeroplane crashed at Dundee with fatal results to the father and serious injury to the son.

Oliver Davis was born in Abingdon and was a pupil at the School in the 'seventies. He went to South Africa in 1880, and when the first Boer War broke out in 1881 he joined the South African Mounted Police, remaining with them until 1891. He then went to live at Harrismith, where he became secretary of the Orange Free State Turf Club and did much useful work in that connection. Later he made a great name for himself as an amateur jockey, and in 1895 headed the winning list in South Africa with an average of wins more than twice as high as the most successful professional. He had been connected with the Durban Turf Club for about twenty years, and in 1925 was appointed secretary.

James Townsend's death, which occurred very suddenly, has robbed the School and the Town of a much more familiar figure. He was a pupil at the School from September 1882 to July 1891. Proceeding in due course, with the School scholarship, to Pembroke College, Oxford, he graduated in 1895 with a Second Class in Classical "Mods" and a Second in "Greats" to his credit.

After spending three months in Paris, he taught for two years in an English school at Montreux, Switzerland, and was then for eight years a master at All Hallows School, Honiton, Devonshire. He subsequently taught at an English school at Frankfort and at Leeds Grammar School.

In 1907 he retired and returned to live in Abingdon, devoting his attention to local history. His "History of Abingdon" was published by the Clarendon Press in 1910, and "News of a Country Town," consisting chiefly of eighteenth century extracts from "Jackson's Oxford Journal" relating to Abingdon, early in 1914. As a historian and archaeologist James Townsend possessed an extensive knowledge of church architecture, both English and Continental, and among his chief pleasures were the frequent short visits which he paid to places of interest abroad. In earlier years these holidays were often taken on the bicycle, but an unfortunate accident two years ago compelled

him to abandon this method of travel. It also debarred him largely from another favourite hobby, the personal cultivation of his garden.

During the war he returned to Abingdon School as a temporary master to replace men on active service. He took a great interest in his old school, and was in 1911 president of the O.A.C., and subsequently for five years hon. secretary and treasurer. In the life of the town, too, he took an active part. For many years he was secretary of the Cottage Hospital. He was also chairman of the Free Library Committee and an active director of the Abingdon Gas Company, and during the war (1914) was chairman of the local Belgian Refugees' Committee.

Of a disposition eminently sociable James Townsend possessed a large circle of friends, to whom he endeared himself, not only by community of interests (and his interests were many), but also by ever-ready helpfulness and wise counsel in their affairs, and by an inexhaustible fund of humour, which rendered him on all occasions the very best of company.

H. G. Rogers, who was a native of Abingdon, was a pupil at the School in 1895. He afterwards took up farming, and of late years had carried on a successful mixed business at Foxhall Bridge.

I. S. R. Miles came to the School in September 1911 and left in July 1914. During the war he was a despatch-rider in East Africa, but the trying climate and the hardships of campaigning appear to have undermined his constitution, contributing in no small degree to his early death.

The accident by which Meyrick Card lost his life was one of those which occur where danger is least expected. He had taken up farming in Canada, and was employed upon a farm near Edmonton, Alberta. Walking round the fields with his gun, he had improvised a sling to hang it from his shoulder. Somehow the trigger must have caught in a woollen mitten which he was wearing, and the gun was discharged. The bullet entered his head, and death must have been instantaneous.

At the time of his death he was just packing up to go to Peace River, and he was to have been leading stock-man on the Cuchullin Stock Farm at Berwyn. By all accounts he had taken kindly to his new life and won golden opinions of his character; and it is sad indeed to think that so promising a career has been so early ended.

We publish elsewhere an account of the discovery made at the Public Record Office, through Mr. A.

E. Preston, F.S.A. (O.A.) and Mr. S. C. Ratcliff, Assistant Keeper of the Records, of an Indulgence issued from Abingdon Abbey, which proves to be the earliest known specimen of printing in England.

The following engagements are announced:—

C. V. Davidge to Ursula Catherine, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Smyth, of Little Houghton House, Northampton.

C. E. H. Dolphin to Eileen, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel A. B. Johnson, D.S.O., 2nd Battalion, the Lincolnshire Regiment, and Mrs. Johnson, Lucknow, India.

W. H. Enoch, M.C., to Eunice Wentworth, daughter of Major James F. Tompkins, of New York and Washington.

G. R. Kirkby to Margaret Joyce, elder daughter of the Rev. P. U. Lasbrey, Vicar of Higham, Rochester, and Mrs. Lasbrey.

Besides his engagement to be married we have to congratulate C. Vere Davidge on his appointment this term as University Lecturer in Law at Oxford. He has been lecturing in Law at Keble since last October, but still keeping up his connection with the Church as sub-editor of *The Guardian*.

Congratulations to J. C. R. Gardner on passing the entrance exam to Sandhurst.

Likewise to H. W. Charleton, of the Tank Corps, who has qualified for the post of Army Schoolmaster.

Likewise to H. S. Bartlett, who has passed the final examination of the E.T.C.

J. Harding is now employed in the Refugee Section of the International Labour Office in Geneva, where they are dealing with "about a million Russian and Armenian refugees, who are gradually being transported from near Eastern countries to South America and elsewhere, where they can find better working conditions." "The whole business, which is intensely interesting and human, is under the direction of Dr. Nansen."

W. N. E. Bruce is now appearing in "Two White Arms" at the Ambassadors Theatre.

M. G. Candy is not, as we stated in our last issue, in the Air Force, but in the Air Force Reserve.

C. R. Wright has been awarded Third Class Honours by the Classical Moderators at Oxford.

Condolences to J. F. Sinclair, who has again been disabled by an injury to his knee.

G. F. Powell ran fourth in the Varsity Hundred Yards Race at Oxford last term. He has been

elected to the Achilles Club.

S. E. Clark was stroking the Pembroke First "Togger" last term, and O. T. M. Rayment and J. B. O. Durell were rowing at "bow" and "6" respectively in the Second. A. F. James was rowing at "3" in the Exeter Second "Togger."

N. V. Pearson was Junior Hockey Captain at the Borough Road Training College last season.

We have heard again from F. B. Glenney, who is now at Lambarene in the French Congo, working three timber concessions on Lake N'Kovie. He has about 120 "boys" working under him, lives in a bamboo house on a small island, and transports himself to the places where the gangs are working in a small canoe with a couple of paddles. There are hippos in the lake—plenty of them: not pleasant things to meet when you are in a wee canoe. Game is plentiful at times: for fresh meat, roast monkey is acceptable, while bush-pig and antelope are rarer delicacies. "It gets a little lonely here at times: I see a white man about once a month." However, there is plenty to do during the day-time. When the trees are felled (Okoumie is the name given to this timber) roads have to be cut to the water's edge. The trees are then sawn into logs, rolled into the water and rafted. Raft-crews are then engaged to take them down to Port Gentil, where they are shipped for their destination.

R. C. W. Waterhouse, who is with the Caribbean Petroleum Co., Maracaibo, Venezuela, is now Chief Maintenance Engineer of their Mene Grande Gas Plant—a large new concern involving much hard work in a hot climate. Indeed the work tends to be too hard, and Waterhouse has had six weeks in hospital; but he hopes to return to England in January of next year, and meanwhile the pay is good.

S. Brown writes happily from his new address near Nevertire, N.S.W., where he is working on a sheep farm. But his main work lately seems to be exterminating rabbits from a 350 acre

paddock, 200 acres of which is dense scrub. This they do by burning off the scrub and ploughing out the warrens; after which they can fumigate the rabbits with the exhaust of an old "Dodge" car. The process appears to be very successful.

E. M. Holbrook has left the Experimental Farm at Glen Innes, N.S.W., and is now at work on a Dairy Farm—c/o R. Bergin, West Gresford, N.S.W.

C. R. Hall has obtained a post in the Sales Department of Messrs. Alex Cowan and Sons, Paper Merchants.

A. B. C. Jenkins has secured a congenial billet with a firm of Yacht Builders in Cowes.

A. J. A. Watson has joined the Grenadier Guards. He is stationed at Portsmouth.

R. F. Martin is studying at the Regent Street Polytechnic, with a view to taking up pharmacy.

D. C. K. Wright is now with Messrs. Simmons and Sons, Auctioneers and Estate Agents, Henley-on-Thames.

Of those who have left since our last issue was published, J. C. R. Gardner is in residence at Sandhurst, C. J. E. Steff is in Barclay's Bank (St. Aldate's branch) at Oxford; E. W. Edgington is a clerk at Messrs. Starling and Son's, Carpet Manufacturers, Oxford; L. L. Baumann has returned to Italy and is to take up a business career; R. S. L. Robinson and H. F. Good are in Grindlay's Bank in London; J. G. W. Randall is with Messrs. Lowe and Oliver, electrical engineers, Ship Street, Oxford; H. W. Stone is an apprentice in carpentry, with his relatives; S. A. Fabes is going into an Accountant's office; D. J. W. Hillier is with Messrs. Burberry in London; J. C. Toogood has gone to France for educational purposes; W. C. E. Heath is in W. T. Morland's office; J. H. Harris is with Messrs. Harris and Matthews; and S. H. L. Walford is with Messrs. Wm. Cory, Ltd., London.

THE ABINGDONIAN.

CRICKET FIXTURES.

1ST XI.			2ND XI.		
5 May	Abingdon Town.	Home.	16 May	Magdalen College School.	Away.
16 "	Magdalen College School.	Home.	19 "	Abingdon Imperials.	Home.
23 "	City of Oxford School.	Home.	23 "	City of Oxford School.	Away.
26 "	Pavlova C. C.	Home.	30 "	Dorchester College.	Away.
2 June	Pembroke College.	Away.	9 June	Abingdon Imperials.	Away.
6 "	Culham College.	Home.	20 "	Leighton Park School.	Away.
9 "	St. Catherine's C.C.	Home.	4 July	City of Oxford School.	Home.
13 "	Pembroke College.	Home.	' UNDER 15 ' XI.		
20 "	Leighton Park School.	Home.	6 June	City of Oxford School.	Away.
23 "	Old Abingdonians.	Home.	30 "	Wantage School.	Away.
30 "	Wantage School.	Home.	4 July	New College School.	Away.
4 July	City of Oxford School.	Away.	7 July	City of Oxford School.	Home.