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THE
SHIRBURNIAN.

SECOND SERIES.

"A trivial Grammar School text, but worthy a wise man's consideration."—*Bacon's Essay on Boldness.*



JULY, 1874.

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THE
SHIRBURNIAN.

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VOL. VII.

CLASSICS.

Continued.

 have now given some reasons for supposing that classical education stops the way of an education which is better worth having, and that classics might at least be relegated to the position of a special subject, to be followed by those who have a special taste for it. I will not pretend to say that I think very many will do so; but I am prepared to deny that very many even now keep up their classical knowledge, even among those who ever really had any to keep up. A select few will read Greek and Latin for the sake of the literatures, and very few will study them for the sake of the advancement of the science of language. Others will be reduced to translations, and those who never read the original may often—as in the case of Keats—see less in the imperfection of a translation than those can do whose eyes have been opened by the study of the original author. It is not worth the Greek scholar's while to turn to an English translation of Homer; but even the moderate scholar, to say nothing of the man who is ignorant of the language, will get as much from the translation as from the original; and even the present system fails to raise very many to the level from which it is possible to enjoy the Greek literature. That literature, though it can never be adequately represented by any art of the translator, is now being made known in various ways to

the general public, and would probably be all the more appreciated if so many did not connect it chiefly with the waste of their youthful energies, and the frustration of their hopes of early success in more congenial subjects. Something, too, must be sacrificed, when more is to be gained: and the loss of a general acquaintance with the elements of Greek will have to be submitted to. Probably Latin will continue to be learnt, as the key to the romance language, and to much else; but there is no reason for making it compulsory on everybody. The schools have been doing all that they can, and Sherborne has not been at all behind hand; the masters everywhere appreciate the spirit of the times, and know what is wanted; but they have to wait for the Universities, and the Universities, though they have begun to move, are moving very slowly. Perhaps it is not as generally known as it should be that Oxford (and, I believe, Cambridge) still requires a modicum of Latin, and even of Greek, from everybody without exception. Very few take a real interest in the higher education; not too many even in the mere elementary branches: and nothing proves this lamentable fact more decisively than the complicated system of pass-examinations by which non-classical men are handicapped at Oxford. It was bad enough before; but now the new wine of the unattached men has been put into the old bottles, and those who come up at a comparatively advanced age to get their degree, or who want to get it very young, are told that they must waste a long time on perfectly useless knowledge, or they had better stay away. Some man who really knows some science, or some practising lawyer who wants to take a degree, may enter as an unattached student; but he must conform to the regulations, and pass in Greek and Latin, before he is allowed to be a candidate for honours in the subject in which he might add lustre to his class! and, if he delays too long, and is not quite as apt a pupil in Greek grammar as some younger person may be, he can never take honours at all, to say nothing of the years which may elapse before he can get his degree, and the amount of valuable time spent in what is to him an unprofitable study. He can hardly become more cultured, or better affected towards what passes for culture, because he has

struggled through this ordeal. The whole system of compulsory passes, for men who compete for honours, is a disgrace to the Universities; this may be a strong term to use, but anyone who will calmly consider the facts will not wonder at it. A concession is now being made to public opinion (so far as there is any public opinion on the subject of education), and responsions may be passed at school; but the amount of classics is not diminished. We may be thankful for small mercies, but the case of older men, and of those in humble grades of life, is not met. Anyone from a public school ought to be able to pass in Classics; of course everyone does not, but that fact is a stigma on the success of the system in producing its least unlikely results. But a good Classical education cannot be got everywhere, and all have neither the money nor the time to waste upon it. There is a sort of notion, widely prevalent at Oxford and elsewhere, that the "lower classes" will swamp and demoralise Oxford if the sons of "gentlemen" haven't some advantage given them; and I fancy that this notion leads many to shrink from demolishing the barrier of necessary Classics, and diminishing the expense of collegiate life, and carrying out other very desirable reforms. It may be added that undergraduates and the so-called "upper classes" in general are much more deeply infected with this notion than those who have the actual work of education; but it is not without effect even among these last, and takes the edge off their enthusiasm for real University reform. No doubt many of the poorer men would be less polished in manner, and might not care to spend so much on dress; they might even wear the same hats on Sundays as on other days, never wear dress-clothes, give no expensive wine-parties, not ride in horse races, and commit other enormities; and at economy and common sense they might work hard, as if a degree and a class were really matters of life and death to them; and the atmosphere of the University might be less charged with tobacco smoke, and wine bills might be very much smaller. Possibly they might object to such orgies as are occasionally reported from Christ Church, and might not have so much money to spend in fines as to be able to break University regulations

with impunity. But, strange to say, some of the more gifted members of these despised classes do actually come to the Universities ; and, stranger still, many of them are not only intellectually, but even socially in the front rank, and far above a few noble lords and their less noble followers. Probably the greater number of the poorer men would not be in personal qualities very much above or below the student of the present race of undergraduates ; they would certainly, as a rule, work harder, and they might be their equals in rowing, and running, and in such other amusements as are compatible with hard work. And the effect of reform will be cumulative, and will act with immense effect on succeeding generations. Harder work will invigorate the moral and intellectual life of Oxford ; the competition, which is not really as severe as it is the fashion to represent it as being, will be greater, while the abolition of useless and vexatious "passes" will distribute it more evenly and give everyone a chance of doing his best in that subject which is best suited to his tastes and abilities ; a change which will involve less of that over-work which does harm. The most trying work is that which one knows or thinks to be useless, and which is not congenial to the worker ; and a diminution of such unnecessary labour might be accompanied by a judicious increase in other work without doing any harm at all. Then the next generation of the "lower classes" would be really educated, and might send up their children with the polish which they themselves had only acquired by their later education.

Another way in which the grip of the "dead hand" of the Greeks and Romans is laid upon our Universities is almost more serious. Fellowships, if desirable at all, ought to be distributed according to the relative importance of the subjects of education. At present the chance of a non-classical man is small at Oxford ; that of a non-classical and non-mathematical man smaller still at Cambridge. Some colleges have given all their fellowships for Classics. The only amelioration of the evil results from the nature of the Classics encouraged. No "books" are taken up, and general knowledge of English, of philosophy, of history, and of everything else, can be made to tell ; and in many instances these tell much more than

pure Classics do. With scholarships this is less the case, most of these are given for pure classics, helped out by general, and especially historical knowledge. The result is that a man who knows much science may have a scholarship if he is lucky, while the man who knows a very little Classics is very unlucky if he hasn't one. Of course one reason is that half the clever non-classical men are kept away by the classical pass-system, so that it is complained that there are no candidates for scientific scholarships. And look at the science class list! there are half-a-dozen sciences bundled together, and the chemist, the physiologist, and the experimental philosopher, all get simply a first in "science" without anything to show that their studies are far more distinct than Latin and Greek! Then there are University scholarships and prizes for every branch of classical knowledge, but only two scholarship and one triennial prize for science; and one of the scholarships is the medical "travelling fellowship," which is, of course, confined to a limited profession, though one not too lavishly endowed at the University of Oxford. That can hardly be called a fair participation of honours and emoluments; yet some persons seem to hold that the University gives too much encouragement to science, and that Classics are being neglected in comparison. There is much to be done yet—to say nothing of the time it will take to wear out the traditional notions of the superior dignity of classical literature—before the unfairness will be on the side of science. Meanwhile, those who are earnest in the cause of educational reform have a great work to do, and the labourers are neither many nor quite unanimous; unhappily many of the most zealous are spending all their energies in a contest against effective religious teaching, and thereby drawing some timid reformers into an indifferent, if not hostile, attitude. Many of these enthusiasts are teaching a real evil, for it cannot be denied that there are places where religion is badly taught, or unchristly taught, and where nothing else is taught at all; but the total abolition of religious teaching (as a branch of general education) would be worse than anti-reformers imagine that the abolition of Latin and Greek would be.

I began by saying that I wished to raise the subject of educational reform in this magazine; and if anyone, either at school or elsewhere, is stimulated to consider the question, I shall feel that I have accomplished something, and shall not complain if his conclusions are different from mine. I have hopes, as some have fears, that a new era may be dawning, "*cedit enim rerum novitate extrusa vetustas.*"

"The old order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils himself in many ways,
Lest one good custom should corrupt the world."

M. H. G.

POPULAR ERRORS AND PREJUDICES.

HE times are gone by when witchcraft had its votaries, and when trial by fire was esteemed far superior to trial by jury; ships now sail from port on a Friday, and one solitary magpie by the road-side no longer awakes imaginary terrors; but though the number of superstitions be daily diminishing, and the spread of education is gradually extinguishing old errors and prejudices, still the innate love of the supernatural within us is strong enough to keep alive, even now, old erroneous theories, and to foster the growth of new ones. The peasantry of Oxfordshire still believe that the rite of confirmation is efficacious in curing rheumatism, and the present generation has seen the rise of "table-turning" and "spirit-rapping."

It is interesting to trace the early superstitions of Greece to their foundation, and to discover how slender were the facts on which these fictions were founded. The fable of Orpheus, who, by the melody of his reed-pipe, made woods and rocks to follow him, originated in his having been followed for a while by a poor mad woman who carried a bough in her hand. The story that Niobe, while weeping over her children, was turned into a stone, had its origin

in the simple fact that she caused to be placed over their grave a marble statue of herself. The famous Charon, whom the Greeks made the ferryman of the infernal regions, was nothing more than a poor ferryman of Egypt, who wafted across the Nile the dead bodies from Memphis; and when we read that Actæon was devoured by his dogs, we need not fancy that this is anything more awful than what happens in our days. Actæon was simply a fast young man who kept big hounds, and was ruined by his excessive love for the chase, and figuratively was eaten up by his dogs. That the solemn stories raised on these slender foundations should have met with religious belief is not, after all, so very surprising, if we consider that they were current in an age when grave historians told of Archimedes burning a fleet by means of concave mirrors, and when a learned man like Pierius could seriously recommend as an antidote for the sting of a Scorpion, to sit upon an ass with one's face towards its tail, "for so the pain leaveth the man and passeth into the beast."

Learned men indeed are not proof against the superstitious mania which is the moral malady of mankind. It is not long since a society of French philosophers sat in solemn discussion over the reported discovery of a race of long-tailed negroes in central Africa; at a more distant time scientific men asserted that if you put a live fish in a vessel full of water, it will not add to the volume contained by the vessel, and that no water will run over; and further back still, a naturalist immortalised in our School *Delectus* maintained that elks have no joints, and so being unable to lie down they prop themselves up for rest against a tree, "which the hunter observing, saws the tree almost asunder, whereon the beast relying, by the fall of the tree, falls also down itself, and is able to rise no more."

We have become sadly sceptical in these degenerate days. The charms and amulets of our grandfathers, the evil eye, the lucky shilling, the fairies and broom-stick-riding witches, are but pleasant poetical fancies that beguile and amuse us. There are countries, however, where superstition still reigns supreme. The peasantry of Britany still wear amulets in the shape of little pictures of the

Virgin Mary printed on cloth, and worn under their garments as a preventative against all sorts of accidents by flood or field ; and everyone of them still *crosses* himself after a flash of lightning to insure his escaping safely through the dangers of the peal of thunder ; it never seems to have struck anyone that it would probably be wiser to go through the incantation just before the flash, if possible. With us the whole system of charms and incantation is become a matter for jests. If we turn our money in our pockets when we hear the cuckoo's first spring note, or salute the faint crescent of the new moon, it is with very equivocal gravity that we perform this incantation ; in our day of strong mindedness, we dare even allow three candles in a row at a supper party, and we dread no fatal catastrophe if thirteen guests should sit round the festive board ; bold matter-of-fact people, we have ceased to believe in the Phoenix and the Salamander, and we dread less the *death-watch* that ticks near our bed than we do the flea within it. The common tricks of the conjurer only excite now a quantum of admiration worth a shilling of the standard money of our realm, though our forefathers would have canonized the performer, and possibly worshipped him. Two hundred years before Christ, Eunus established himself as the leader of the insurgent slaves by breathing fire and smoke from his mouth ; and Barchochedas the ringleader of the revolted Jews in the reign of Hadrian, claimed to be the Messiah from his power of vomiting flames. How great would have been the success of these gentlemen had they been able, like the conjurers of the present day, to produce a little goose out of an apple pie, or to swallow a Turkish scimeter.

We must not, however, boast too much of our enlightenment ; we no doubt are wiser than our grandfathers were, but we are not free from *errors* and *prejudices*, we are even prone to resuscitate old errors ; the love of the supernatural still leads us astray, and our grand children will probably ridicule our boasted nineteenth century wisdom.

WORDS IN JEST AND IN EARNEST.

EVERY man has his own favourite phrases, his peculiar sayings, which apart from other data would, if collected, give an insight into his moral character and enable a physiologist to class him among the fools or the knaves, the clear-headed or the large-hearted men of his generation. Just as by studying the proverbs of a nation it is quite possible to form a correct idea of the general character of the people and to trace the moral improvement or deterioration it has undergone through successive generations, so by studying the paintings of an artist it is possible to get an insight into his character which it would take a volume of biography to convey with equal clearness, and a collection of Madonnas by different painters would tell more of the general tone of their mind, and would reveal most clearly the ascetic, the enthusiast, or the sensualist.

But if this be true of proverbs and of works of art, it is no less true of words in jest and in earnest which stamp a nation as well as a man with a peculiar individuality. If we can recognise at once the Irish parentage of the epitaph :

“Beneath this stone lie two children dear,
One buried in England, the other here,”

also the quaint saying “No one can have two birth-days save those that are twins,” so can we recognise the “happy-go-lucky” spirit of the Frenchman in the pithy sentence “After me the deluge.” But to descend from nations to individuals, we have the school dunce, the muddle-headed boy of Form I A, exemplified in the words in earnest, “My duty towards my neighbour is to believe in him as myself, to renounce all the articles of the Christian faith, and when I come of age to get my own living.” It was a boy of this stamp who, when grown into an Oxford undergraduate, stated, among his answers in Divinity, that “Nineveh was a place so densely peopled that a man could not tell his right hand from his left, but that

there was much cattle in the place which repented at the preaching of Jonah."

The man who is possessed of an argumentative spirit will reveal this weakness at all times; logic will be uppermost with him. The old gardener who tried to prove that witches still exist, and added "Well, Sir, there was the witch of Endor, and as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be," displayed very little logic but much love thereof; so did the young Divine, who asserted that "the connection between the Old and the New Testament consists in this, that Peter cut off Malachi's ear." Both exhibited their own intellectual bias as plainly as Nelson showed his over-ruling sense of duty in the memorable words, "England expects every man to do his duty," or La Rochefoucauld his philosophical turn of mind in that beautiful maxim of his, "Flattery is a base coin, which only passes current through our vanity."

But there is a neutral space between foolish absurdity and proverbial philosophy, which has been enriched by many words in jest, all of which give an insight into the character of their authors. There is something quaintly original in the saying of Douglas Jerrold, "We must allow that women ought, as much as in her lies, make this world quite a paradise for man, seeing that she lost us the original garden. We talk as philosophers, and when all is said and done about what we owe to woman, it must be allowed that we have a swinging balance against her; there's that little matter of the apple still to be accounted for." A man who could write in this strain could not be a soft hearted, mild-eyed *troubadour*. There is something equally original in the exclamation of the Cambridge tutor whose servant recommended him chairs with cane seats, "Woman, will you have me go to my grave with my body stamped all over with regular *hexagons*?" Such a question reveals a character in which humour predominates, and gives the assurance that the lectures of such a professor must have been highly flavoured with wit.

The *bons mots* of Sydney Smith will stand the test of time; they teem with happy sallies of humour. It was he who said, "You

will find a Scotchman always says, 'What is undermost?' I on the contrary say everything that is uppermost;" and the history of his life certainly shows the truth of this assertion. We see him giving full course to his sallies on all occasions; at one time exclaiming, when a lady complained of the oppressive heat, "Heat, madam, it was so dreadful last week that I found there was nothing for it but to take off my flesh and sit in my bones." At another he breaks through his rule of never speaking a word to his neighbour when dining out; and turning to the lady next to him, whom he had heard, in a subdued voice, say "No gravy, sir," he solemnly tells her, "Madam, I have been looking all my life for a person who disliked gravy, let us swear eternal friendship." A few of his sayings are maxims in a humorous garb. His remark that "You find people ready enough to do the good Samaritan without the oil and the twopence" is a bitter censure on the selfishness of human nature, almost equal in pathos to the saying of De Levis, "It is on account of the scarcity of gold that gilding was invented, which, though without the solidity of gold, has all its brilliancy. Thus, to supply the place of the kindness we lack, we have substituted politeness, which has all its outward appearance."

It was said by one of the wits of Jeffery's time, in illustration of the argument that many of the most eminent men of the world have been dimiutive in stature, "Why, look at little Jeffery, he has not enough body to cover his mind with, and his intellect is improperly exposed." This could not have been said of Boswell, for he was tall enough for the Guards, and would have belonged to that branch of the army had he not disliked the notion of being shot at for 3s. 6d. a day. But in spite of his good looks and high stature, he excelled in colloquial wit, and ranks high in the literary oligarchy. Many of his sayings are perfect moral maxims, to wit the simile "A stick kept always moist becomes rotten;" with which he enforced his assertion that a drunken fellow is not generally honest. With him, as with Sydney Smith, *words in jest* were also *words in earnest*; their humour had a point; it spoke out in parables, each witty saying was, as it were, a fable with a *moral* implied; and this

is the perfection of wit, for it then is no longer an intellectual fire-work, that leaves nothing behind it, but it becomes a word in earnest told most pleasantly, and consequently most acceptable ; so true it is that truth is often best spoken in jest, for, as an old writer said, or should have said,

“Jucundissime dicitur ridendo veritas.”

X. Y. Z.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE OLD SHIRBURNIAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

To the Editor of the Shirburnian.

DEAR SIR,

I must ask you to insert a few remarks with regard to Mr. Beadon's letter in your June number. Up to the time of my reading that letter I was under the impression that one of the main objects of the *Shirburnian* was to ventilate subjects of interest to the School, and I can hardly conceive one of much greater interest to all who study its advancement than the establishment by old Shirburnians of a fund to provide Scholarships to be held by boys in the School. Moreover, the fact of Rule XII. requiring the annual publication of the list of subscribers and statement of account in the Magazine, and your placing its columns at the disposal of the committee for the purpose, show most distinctly that the welfare of the fund is a subject which may be freely discussed in the *Shirburnian*. Unfortunately the annual meetings are not very largely attended (there were *seven* present on the last occasion), the principal cause no doubt being the distance of London from the residences of a large proportion of the subscribers.

These two circumstances combined suggested the far wider scope that would be given to my remarks were they addressed to you than they could possibly obtain were they reserved for the general meeting in December next, and, in addition, I had great hopes that

they would elicit the views of other subscribers who have been unable to attend the meetings, as well as perhaps some suggestions from those who have hitherto not contributed to the fund.

There is one other remark about my letter which calls for observation. I would tell Mr. Beadon that in cases of anonymous communications of a *bona fide* nature it is not unfrequent for the authorship to be suppressed from an objection to the writer's name being brought prominently forward, and not by any means from want of courage, as he suggests; and that whilst I adopted the course after ample consideration, it appeared to me that the reason for my doing so would be obvious to everyone.

Judging from the first paragraph of his letter, it seems that Mr. Beadon has rather mistaken his position as secretary to the fund, and I would point out to him that he has apparently overlooked the fact that *in that capacity* he is merely the agent of the committee, and is only entitled to address you by their direction. In his individuality as a subscriber it would, in my opinion, have been far more to the purpose for him to have replied to my letter than to have attempted to prescribe with an appearance of authority what constitutes "the only audience I need or ought to address."

I am, yours very truly,

AN ORIGINAL SUBSCRIBER.

11th July, 1874.

AN OLD SHIRBURNIAN FUND DINNER.

DEAR SIR,

I venture to hope that some scheme for an annual dinner will be matured; but I for one would fain see it a "Shirburnian Dinner"—a point of reunion for all who can avail themselves of it—and not confined to the subscribers to the Old Shirburnian Scholarship Fund for the current year. Certainly the more limited scheme would be better than nothing, and would give some members

an inducement to make an effort to attend the annual meetings, which at present are unsatisfactory enough. But if some plan could be arranged for a general Shirburnian dinner to take place at the same time as the annual meeting of the Old Shirburnian Scholarship Fund subscribers, I am pretty confident that it would benefit the latter, while it would have its own especial attractions.

Whether, however, it be ultimately decided that the dinner should be open to all Shirburnians or only to subscribers, I cannot but think it would be better to transact the business before dinner, and not immediately after dinner, as Mr. Beadon proposes. Business should always be conducted as business, with all due regard to proper forms. This is not, however, always an easy thing to remember; and still less easy over the "festive board."

May I add a few words on another not wholly unconnected subject, viz. : the correspondence between "An Original Subscriber" and the Secretary of the O.S.S.F. ? It is no part of my business to defend "An Original Subscriber," who is doubtless quite able to take care of himself; but, being also an original subscriber, I should like to know how I am to proceed, if I should ever have any suggestions to make, or "views to air," as our secretary courteously denominates it.

It may be "one of the chief objects of the annual general meeting to give subscribers an opportunity of discussing the affairs of the Fund," but, as subscribers are only conspicuous at these general meetings by their absence, there is not a chance of eliciting any *general* discussion, nor is there the slightest reason to suppose that the decision of such a meeting represents the feeling of the main body of subscribers. That such a decision must be accepted as final *for the time* of course I grant, but it becomes a question of common sense, not of courage, to choose a different way of ventilating subjects of general interest to all the subscribers; and if the *Shirburnian* be not a proper organ, what is?

It struck me on reading "An Original Subscriber's" letter that his suggestions were at least worth consideration, and that the facts brought forward deserved more explanation; while one, if

true, required it. The Secretary may not be bound officially to take notice of communications in a periodical: but, if he does, surely it would be more seemly to give a definite answer than to affect the airy superiority of his present unsatisfactory reply.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

C. E. HAMMOND.

6, Park Villas, Oxford, July, 1874.

DEAR SIR,

The following valuable document, apparently of great antiquity, has been found in the precincts of the ancient monks' cells, now converted into School-house studies. I lose no time in forwarding it, knowing your high appreciation of learning, and hope you will deem it worthy a wise man's consideration. The style is very obscure, and in some places the original is illegible; however, I enclose it intact, in case you should consider it deserving of a place in your world-renowned columns.

In wayside resting-place, the orgies' scene,
Sat laggard swains o'er foaming cups of malt,
Amid them all, the cynosure of eyes,
Sat fortune's son lacking in face a fault.

Deep had the many-swipes-imbibing John
Drank, e'er he sought a half-seas-over rest,
With hat o'er eyes sunk, and with head on floor,
Not lightly snored his ever-heaving breast.

While thus entranced, the loud resounding clock
Sonorous toll'd the oft-recurring flight
Of twelve hours twice told. While enchanting sleep
Still crowned the labours of diurnal fight

Entered the lily-handed mistress fair

Of John, the name receiving from his sire
Of Smith, which many toilsome hours recall'd
Spent by his ancestors with forge and fire.

"Ah! luckless wight," quoth she "thy father's name
Thus to disgrace, in spending all the day
A worshipping of Semele's dread son,
With such as squander all life's strength away.

"Though destitute of *evil-rooted wealth*
Thy nether pockets be, *hot coppers* still
Thy dearest head will circumvent in pain,
When dawning Phoebus gilds the distant hill."

Started those limbs which had "*de solido*
Die" o'er pewter pint pots long time spent,
With snorting sounds, such as fat-liver'd swine
Their dainties treat to, and the table sent

In much convulsion, as tho' spirit *rapt*,
(While t'was with supper's apparatus laid,)
Reversed on floor, and widowed of its wealth,
With noise to waken e'en Quintilius' shade.

No *rapture* his, tho' but a brief space past,
He was full soundly *wrapt* in slumbers deep,
So hard his knuckles falling chattels *rapt*,
That to himself the pain he scarce could keep.

Nor free escaped his ruby-budded nose
From shattered glass descending, as from skies,
When rain it raineth in a torrent-sheet,
So splinters filled his sapphire-spangled eyes.

"Ho! Sirrah! drunken sot! dost thou not hear,
While I, thy spouse, am waiting thro' the night?"
She said, unheeded, answer came,

"Oh, raise me from this malt-begotten plight."

"'Tis better thou should'st know, since thrice ten years
Have crossed thy brow, nor is't unlike a boy
That thou art now behaving ;" but, quoth he,
"ὄγκ' εἰς ὄλεθρον wī' ye, be not coy."

Hotly retorted she, " Why, thy dear life
Will scarce be illness free, when thou go'st home—"
"A ghost at home ! did I then hear thee say ?"—
"Till 'Roberti' blue dressed have hither come."

"The law's dire myrmidons, here will I stay
Till Pluto's grisly home my spirit hold."
"No spirit is there in you, barring gin."
"Well, sure I want it on a night so cold."

"Would'st thou, the day disgracing, honour night,
Reel home, and like a learned scholar talk,
From Horace quoting and all revered bards,
While like a ship 'twixt two seas thou dost walk."

"ὦ φίλτατον καρ'α, this won't occur
Till next time, or indeed the after-time."

[Excuse this want of sentiment refined,
A word I want with the above to rhyme.]

The fumes of malt his nostrils curl, and tell
How for his god-like palate trickling through
His throat had been of gin large potions. "Sweet
Spirit ! hear my prayer," he cried. "E'en but few

Drops of thee have I drunk, and yet my spouse
Will not allow me my limbs to compose !"

"Not otherwise than mad thou art," she said.
Short-cut invectives 'scaped his lips. He rose,

Fell arch-fiend-like ; of Milton's composition,
For further 'ticulars see our next edition.

* * * * *

Ye readers, grudge not pity's gift of sand,
 The bones of my pen's progeny to hide,
 Which now unburied on the shore of fame
 Lie, e'er defying critics stern to chide.

Oh! shield them quickly, for the censure's tide
 Is ruffled by the *moonshine* of delay,
 Which editors *Shirburnian* late have caused,
 In bringing the lines you see to-day.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Allow us through the medium of your valuable columns to make a few remarks about the choir. First, Why is it necessary that each member should have such a library in front of him? Secondly, Why do we have the psalms printed on loose sheets of paper every Sunday? Thirdly, Why do so many members shut their mouths and stare vacantly about the chapel? Fourthly, Why is there no regular choir-practice? Fifthly, Why is it that such a monstrous course of chants and hymn tunes are inflicted on us when there is such a very large variety in the mercer? Lastly, we may add that the creditable performances of the concert-room clearly show that the chapel singing might by a little more alteration be improved.

Yours, &c.,

TWO "CHORISTERS."

CRICKET.

THE SCHOOL v. KINGSTON PARK.

Played at Sherborne on June 25th, and resulted in a victory for the foreign team. The School having won the toss took innings, and sent in Bewes and Tudor to oppose the bowling of Kelsey and Salmon. A short stand was made, when Bewes was disposed of for 8, one for 14. The next two wickets fell for 17 and 25 respectively, Tudor having made 14. Barnes, having made 4, returned an easy one to the bowler. Carver played well for 14. The innings closed for 63. For Kingston Park the bowling of Kelsey and Salmon was good; the analysis reads as follows:—

	<i>Overs.</i>	<i>Maidens.</i>	<i>Wickets.</i>	<i>Runs.</i>	<i>No Balls.</i>
Kelsey	25	15	5	26	0
Salmon	24	9	6	29	2

The Park team was first represented by the Rev. C. Kennaway and Major Elliott; the latter having scored 1 retired hurt. Merri- man in his third over bowled Kennaway. Hamley and Salmon made a good stand for 27 and 13 respectively. The chief score was 31 not out, made by Elphinstone, comprising a 4, two 3's, three 2's, &c. Steeds was the only other who reached a double figure, and the innings closed for 111, the last two wickets failing to score.

As there was still an hour left, Bewes and Tudor again went to the wickets, and when time was called had scored respectively 20 and 11 not out. Score:—

THE SCHOOL.

<i>First Innings.</i>			<i>Second Innings.</i>		
R. A. Bewes, b Kelsey ...	...	8	not out	...	20
H. A. Tudor, c Salmon, b Kelsey ...	...	14	not out	...	11
R. T. Finch, c Kennaway, b Salmon ...	...	0			
H. M. Merriman, b Salmon ...	...	0			
W. M. Barnes, c and b Salmon ...	...	4			
W. A. Carver, b Salmon ...	...	14			
F. F. Schacht, b Kelsey ...	...	5			
E. S. Eade, b Kelsey ...	...	3			
A. Blaxland, b Kelsey ...	...	0			
W. Watts, st Mansell, b Salmon ...	...	3			
W. F. Evans, b Salmon ...	...	4			
E. E. Heathcote, not out ...	...	1			
b 3, 1 b 1, n b 2 ...	...	6			
Total ...	...	63	Total ...	...	31

KINGSTON PARK.

Rev. C. Kennaway, b Merriman	3
Major Elliott, retired hurt... ..	1
A. Pepys, Esq., c and b Bewes	4
J. P. Gundry, Esq., c and b Merriman ...	0
— Wilkinson, Esq., c Merriman, b Bewes	5
W. R. Hamley, Esq., b Schacht	27
— Salmon, Esq., c Merriman, b Schacht	13
R. D. Elphinstone, Esq., not out... ..	31
Captain Kelsey, b Merriman	4
W. E. Steeds, Esq., c Carver, b Merriman	13
Rev. C. Phillips, b Tudor	0
Captain Mansell, b Tudor... ..	0
b 2, w 3, n b 5	10
Total	111

THE SCHOOL v. CLIFTON COLLEGE.

Played at Sherborne on July 3rd and 4th, and resulted in an exceedingly easy victory for the College by an innings and 83 runs. The College having won the toss elected to take the field, and began the bowling with Stubbs and George, Tudor and Shettle being the first to represent the School; they were both disposed of by Stubbs for two runs. Tanner and Bewes, the next comers, then effected a short stand, till the latter was bowled by Stubbs, three for 26. The next wickets fell quickly, till Schacht and Carver got together. The former after having put up two to long slip, which were refused, was eventually bowled by Stubbs for 16. Carver followed, having made 16 in good form, including some fine drives to the off. The innings closed for 83.

The College began their innings with Maisey and Heath, and the former retired with the score at 22. Fowler, who followed, was not disposed of till he had put together 22, two for 63. The next five wickets fell more quickly; but when time was called there were still three to go down. On the following morning Heath and George, the not outs of the previous day, commenced operations at 11.30. The latter was bowled by Merriman, after adding but few to his previous score. Saxton succumbed to the next ball, and Stubbs ran himself out in attempting a short one off the third. The innings closed for 218, of which Heath, who went in first, and

carried his bat, claimed 120. His innings was good cricket throughout; his score comprised two 4's, seventeen 3's, eighteen 2's, &c.

In the second innings of the School, Stubbs' swift round was even more destructive than it had been in the first; this aided by some bad judgment in runuing, brought the School innings to a close for 52, Bewes, with 12, being the only one who reached a double figure.

This match showed the School to be weak all round; the batting with the exception of Bewes, Carver, and perhaps Schacht, was feeble in the extreme; in the bowling, Schacht did most service, though Merriman picked up a little on the second day; in the fielding some absurdly easy catches were missed, notably those by Barnes and Tanner, and the throwing in was anything but straight or good. Score:—

THE SCHOOL.

<i>First Innings</i>			<i>Second Innings</i>		
H. A. Tudor, b Stubbs ...	...	0	run out ...	...	4
H. W. Shettle, b Stubbs ...	...	2	b Stubbs ...	...	0
E. Tanner, c Stubbs, b George...	...	7	s Rucker, b George ...	...	0
R. A. Bewes, b Stubbs ...	...	13	b Stubbs ...	...	12
W. M. Barnes, b Stubbs ...	...	7	run out ...	...	7
H. M. Merriman, c Saxton, b George...	...	2	b Heath ...	...	2
F. F. Schacht, b Stubbs ...	...	16	c George, b Stubbs ...	...	0
W. A. Carver, b Heath...	...	16	b Heath ...	...	5
E. S. Eade, c Taylor, b Stubbs ...	...	0	b Stubbs ...	...	7
W. Watts, b Stubbs ...	...	1	not out ...	...	3
E. E. E. Heathcote, not out ...	...	3	b Stubbs ...	...	8
b 3, l b 9, w 1, n b 3...	...	16	b 2, l b 1, n b 1...	...	4
Total ...	...	83	Total...	...	52

CLIFTON COLLEGE.

E. S. Maisey, b Bewes ...	...	9
A. H. Heath, not out ...	...	120
H. Fowler, b Schacht ...	...	22
A. D. Greene, c Heathcote, b Schacht ...	...	6
R. E. Bush, b Schacht ...	...	7
S. Taylor, c Bewes, b Tudor ...	...	7
R. W. Rucker, lbw, b Bewes ...	...	6
A. S. Trevor, b Watts ...	...	8
A. George, b Merriman ...	...	22
G. S. Saxton, b Merriman ...	...	0
G. W. Stubbs, run out ...	...	0
l b 9, w 2 ...	...	11
Total...	...	218

FIRST ELEVEN v. NEXT TWENTY-TWO.

Played May 20th.

TWENTY-TWO.

<i>First Innings</i>		<i>Second Innings</i>	
H. W. Macaulay, c Tanner, b Bewes	4	b Merriman	19
R. T. Finch, c Shettle, b Merriman	3	b Merriman	3
A. Cattley, b Merriman	2	c and b Merriman	3
G. E. Twynam, c Tanner, b Watts	2	b Bewes	7
W. A. Carver, c Tanner, b Schacht	45	b Bewes	3
H. Grepe, c Tudor, b Watts	6	c Blaxland, b Watts	2
E. E. Heathcote, c Barnes, b Merriman	10	c Tanner, b Watts	7
E. H. King, c Tudor, b Merriman ...	1	b Merriman	7
E. Sellon, b Merriman	0	b Watts... ..	9
E. Crosby, c Tudor, b Merriman ...	0	b Merriman	0
A. Monro, b Merriman	1	not out	14
H. M. Twynam, b Schacht	1	not out	7
E. A. Travers, c Barnes, b Schacht	6		
J. B. Brine, c Merriman, b Schacht	4		
T. A. Rees, b Eade	1		
H. H. Bastard, b Schacht	1		
F. E. Lacey, thrown out by Shettle	2		
A. Clapp, b Schacht... ..	0		
C. E. Cuming, c Bewes, b Eade ...	1		
C. J. Mayers, b Schacht	0		
A. J. Wayet, b Schacht	0		
M. Watts, not out	0		
b 3, l b 1, w 4	8	b 4, w 1, n b 1	6
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Total	98	Total	87

ELEVEN.

H. A. Tudor, b G. Twynam	21
H. W. Shettle, c Finch, b Macaulay ...	14
H. M. Merriman, b G. Twynam	1
R. A. Bewes, b G. Twynam	28
E. Tanner, b G. Twynam	8
W. M. Barnes, b G. Twynam	33
A. Blaxland, b Grepe	15
E. S. Eade, b Grepe	0
F. Schacht, c Heathcote, b Twynam...	7
W. Watts, not out	6
R. Tanner, (subs.) b G. Twynam	7
b 18, l b 2, w 6	26
<hr/>	
Total	166

SIXTH v. SCHOOL.

Played June 30th.

SIXTH.

W. M. Barnes, b Bewes	...	...	...	75
E. Tanner, b Tudor	...	...	...	45
E. A. Travers, c and b Bewes...	...	...	...	11
F. F. Schacht, c Watts, b Bewes	...	...	...	36
G. E. Twynam, b Watts	...	...	...	3
A. Cattley, b Bewes	...	...	...	15
S. Churchill, c and b Tudor	...	...	...	10
E. S. Eade, b Bewes	...	...	...	19
R. Tanner, b Bewes	...	...	...	0
H. M. Twynam, b Bewes	...	...	...	0
E. Sellon, not out	...	...	...	1
Extras	...	...	...	14
Total	...	...	...	229

SCHOOL.

<i>First Innings</i>		<i>Second Innings</i>	
H. A. Tudor, c and b Tanner	... 34	c and b Tanner	... 28
H. W. Shettle, run out	... 14	c Cattley, b Twynam...	... 6
R. T. Finch, b Barnes	... 12	b Schacht	... 5
W. A. Carver, run out	... 2	not out	... 12
E. E. Heathcote, c subs., b Schacht	... 26	b Tanner	... 0
H. M. Merriman, b Twynam	... 6	c subs., b Tanner	... 6
G. F. Evans, l b w, b Schacht...	... 5	c subs., b Tanner	... 0
A. Monro, c and b Twynam	... 0	l b w, b Tanner	... 13
H. Grepe, b Schacht	... 1		
E. H. King, b Twynam	... 3	not out	... 0
W. Caunter, not out	... 3		
l b 2, w 4	... 6		
Tota	... 112	Total	... 70

PRICE'S v. WOOD'S.

Wood's.

<i>First Innings</i>		<i>Second Innings</i>	
H. A. Tudor, b Barnes	... 75	b Barnes	... 45
C. G. Cuming, b Shettle	... 3	b Shettle	... 28
W. A. Carver, b Shettle	... 36	c Travers, b Barnes	... 16
H. W. Grepe, b Barnes...	... 14	c and b Barnes	... 12
W. M. Maybery, b Blaxland	... 19	b Barnes	... 10
J. T. Clapp, b Blaxland	... 16	b Shettle	... 0
W. F. Beadon, b Blaxland	... 0	b Blaxland	... 1
H. G. Aldous, b Barnes	... 0	b Blaxland	... 0
C. Pink, b Barnes	... 0	not out	... 2
W. W. Pope, b Blaxland	... 2	b Barnes	... 9
W. Watts, not out	... 1	run out	... 5
Extras	... 12	Extras	... 8
Total	... 179	Total	... 136

<i>First Innings</i>		PRICE'S.		<i>Second Innings</i>	
W. M. Barnes, b Tudor...	...	1	b Watts	...	4
H. W. Shettle, b Grepe	...	1	b Watts	...	2
E. A. Travers, c Pink, b Tudor	...	62	b Grepe	...	3
E. H. King, b Grepe	...	7	b Watts	...	3
M. Watts, b Pope	...	15	c Pink, b Grepe	...	0
A. Blaxland, c Clapp, b Beadon	...	20	c and b Watts	...	0
J. Holland, b Beadon	...	2	c and b Grepe	...	0
J. Mayo, c Carver, b Beadon	...	4	b Grepe	...	8
W. Trask, c Pink, b Tudor	...	1	run out	...	0
C. Petgrave, c and b Beadon	...	2	b Watts	...	0
J. Andrews, not out	...	0	not out	...	0
Extras	...	20	Extras	...	8
Total	...	135	Total	...	28

F. F. Schacht has been presented with his First Eleven colours, and E. A. Travers with his Second Eleven colours.

SCHOOL NEWS.

L. E. Upcott has gained a first class in the Final Classical School.

F. W. Bennett, playing for the Gentlemen of the South against the Players of the North, made 31 (not out) and 33.

The Swimming Races are this year arranged as follows :—

A long race of one-third of a mile.

A short race of 150 yards.

A race of 100 yards, to be swam in clothes.

There will also be competition for a header and a somerset.

There will be no junior races owing to the small number of competitors.



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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No contribution will be inserted which is not the *boná fide* production of some one who is, or has been, a member of the School.

No anonymous contributions will be accepted: but the full name must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, which will not be opened if the article be rejected.

If an article is to be continued in successive numbers, the whole is to be sent in at once.

N.B.—No contributions will be returned.

Contributors are requested to write legibly, and only on one side of the paper.