

Vol. XVII. No. 13.

[Price 6d.

THE
SHIRBURNIAN.

—
SECOND SERIES.
—

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



—
DECEMBER, 1896.
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Sherborne:

PUBLISHED BY F. BENNETT, THE PARADE.

THE
SHIRBURNIAN.

No. CLXXXIII. DECEMBER, 1896. VOL. XVII.

EDITORIAL.

IT is customary, we believe, to begin an Editorial with a quotation of sorts, but as none has come to hand I must fain do without one and proceed to give a short *résumé* of the most noticeable events of late.

We beg in the first place to offer Mr. Crosthwaite our heartiest congratulations on his marriage, at the same time offering our humble apologies for not having done so before.

At the end of the summer term a large number of Shirburnians went up to the Universities though the majority showed a marked preference for Oxford, only one going to Cambridge. We hope that during the time to come we shall do as well in the Scholarship and Exhibition line as we have done last year ; but the names of those who have gained those distinctions are already well known to us all, and so we will content ourselves with expressing a hope that they may continue as they have begun. At Woolwich too, Sherborne has excelled herself.

As regards football, the XV. is quite up to its usual form being able to boast the best three-quarters Sherborne has ever seen ; that the forwards have improved wonderfully, under the invaluable tuition of G. M. Carey Esq., was best seen in the Tonbridge match when they held their own easily, every one playing splendidly. Yet as a whole the XV have suffered from shall we call it bad luck, losing matches which should have been pulled off easily, partly owing to men being injured.

A large number of O.S.S. have been distinguishing themselves on the Football field of whom we might specify C. Dixon who has been playing regularly for Blackheath, O. M. Dyke for Harlequins A. and A. H. Moberly for Woolwich.

As regards the Musical Society we hope to produce the second part of the 'Elijah' next Easter as successfully as we did the first part last Easter. We cannot sufficiently thank those generous masters who to further help the Society have had the organ entirely repaired and also have added two new stops, the Horn and a Combination stop. This term Mr. L. N. Parker's 'Sylvia' is to be performed at the Concert on Dec. 21st.

The Debating Society has quietly subsided after three or four debates, which, in spite of its grand success last year, failed to excite any peculiarly keen enthusiasm this.

Might we ask if the Field and Photographic societies have subsided or are they only hibernating?

In conclusion we hope Sherborne will find some one to represent her in Public Schools' sports next spring as successfully as last, and on the whole the School is to be congratulated on as prosperous a year as one could wish.



In Memoriam.

ROBERT HOLE

DIED DECEMBER 8th, 1896; AGED 33.

He came to Sherborne at Michaelmas, 1876, being in Hetherington's (now Hodgson's) house. In 1880 he obtained a place in the XV, and was one of the best forwards of his year, which reputation he maintained, as afterwards, for some time, we find him a regular member of the Somerset County team.

He left Sherborne in 1881 and studied for the law. In the same year he took a commission in the 2nd Volunteer Battalion Somerset L.I. and quickly gained a name as a marksman. Amongst the many minor prizes he won the County Challenge Cup and Medal, The St. George's Challenge Vase at Wimbledon, and was also numbered amongst the "Queen's Hundred."

For several years he has been in practice as a solicitor at Minehead, where his kindly and generous disposition made him beloved and respected by all who knew him.

He died, after a few days' illness, of typhoid fever at his home in Dunster, leaving a wife to mourn his loss after only one short year of married life.

 MR. WILDMAN'S HISTORY OF SHERBORNE. *

This monumental work on Sherborne was published about Commemoration Day last June—a time which is likely to be long remembered by those who were at Sherborne then. Among other events of that time came the publication of this book which will certainly remain the standard work on the history of this place, so minute and painstaking is it, and so complete in every detail. It is an ill wind which blows nobody any good, and it seems certain that we owe this book to Mr. Wildman's troublesome throat affection of some terms ago, which prevented his talking but not working. His enforced leisure was then given to the study of the old Governors' accounts and other authorities enumerated after the table of contents, of which the result is now to be enjoyed by anyone who is able to afford a shilling—*facta jam facilia esse vulgo credunt*.

All parts of this History are not of equal interest, at any rate to Shirburnians. The very learned chapter on the Castles of Sherborne and the long account of the 'Imperfect Deed' will perhaps interest antiquarians only, but the account of the two sieges of the castle—one in 1642 and the other in 1645—will be read by all. It is delightful also to imagine the skirmish in the Civil War at the corner of Half-Moon Street where Captains Fight-the-fight and Bind-their-Kings-in-Chains came to blows with the carnal followers of the man Charles Stewart.

Excellent also is the chapter upon the Hospital of S. John the Baptist and S. John the Evangelist, and the letter of Mr. Whittock upon the famous triptych, printed *in extenso*, is a masterpiece of criticism. This letter was written in 1836 and is in answer to a request by the Master and Brethren that Mr. Whittock would examine and report on the picture. The

* A History of Sherborne from 705 A.D., by W. B. WILDMAN, M.A. Price 1/-; or, 1/6 (cloth). Published by F. Bennett, Parade, Sherborne.

following speaks for itself: "Lazarus is rising from the earth; the grave clothes are dropping from the body, and a benevolent friend (!) is in the act of removing the napkin from the head of Lazarus."

But after all it is Sherborne School and its history which is most to readers of the *Shirburnian* and nearly sixty pages of the book are devoted to this engrossing subject. Nothing could be better than the account of the buildings as given in chapter VII. Mr. Wildman is more competent to write on this subject than any other man alive, and he writes about his delightful theme with a restrained and chastened enthusiasm which strikes us as exactly the right thing. When we look now on our buildings as spacious as they are picturesque, which owe so much to the Digby family, to the unselfishness of Dr. Harper, to the fine mediaeval instinct and knowledge of Mr. R. H. Carpenter, we are apt to forget for how many centuries the School was crowded into the space at the East and North East of the Abbey. The other buildings were standing, waiting for the generous benefactor who was 'to restore them to religion,' but given up to ignoble uses, and every Shirburnian will re-echo Mr. Wildman's words on this point—'It would be impossible to exaggerate the importance to the School of that splendid gift.'

In Chaps. VIII and IX more than elsewhere Mr. Wildman proves his right to be considered an historical researcher of a high order. He seems to revel in dates. When he discovers a blunder (terrible word of opprobrium!) he reminds us, if we may say so without offence, of Mr. Micawber reading his great indictment of Uriah Heap. We can imagine him, when he has pounced upon a wrong date, 'much affected' by the blunder—'much affected,' but for all that 'intensely enjoying himself' in the thought of its exposure. Speaking seriously, however, it is doubtful whether Mr. Wildman's conclusions will be ever upset on any of the points which he conceives himself to have settled. Since the boards of the Headmasters of Sherborne were put up

in the Schoolroom a still earlier headmaster than Mr. Myddleton has been discovered by this tireless investigator, but probably no other will be discovered in the future. Thomas Coke has now emerged from the obscurity of utter oblivion and has gained a place in the new historical West Window of the Chapel and is now for all time the first headmaster of the reformed School of Sherborne.

Mr. Wildman rightly says that it not easy for us to call up the picture of any pre-Harperian Sherborne at all because of the changes which he was the means of making in the place both in outward appearance and in its studies. It is interesting to read in connection with this part the new Memoirs of Dr. Harper, lately written by a distinguished O.S., Mr. Lester, Headmaster of Victoria College, Jersey. In these Memoirs we see what Mr. Wildman could not tell us—the endless struggles, sacrifices, hopes and fears which this great headmaster went through in his efforts to make Sherborne what he conceived it should be—*Tantae molis erat Romanam condere gentem*. We present Shirburnians have entered on this heritage and most of us take it quietly and as a matter of course, just as children take the devotion and self-sacrifice of their parents.

Mr. Wildman, where he does criticize, which is not often, shews in the main a just and delicate taste. Some of us may demur to his pronouncing the beautiful roof of the present Schoolroom ‘crushing,’ but he is rightly severe upon the people who talk of the ‘King’s School,’ under the impression that they are reproducing an ancient title. The title is not earlier than 1830 and we are sorry that the earlier editors of the *Shirburnian* seem to have given way to it. We may be thankful, however, that we are still ‘School’ and not ‘College’—though in these days there are probably many ignorant people who would esteem us more highly for being Sherborne ‘College’—“a word Defamed by every charlatan, and soiled with all ignoble use”! Again, Mr. Wildman is dead against the conversion of that most interesting Elizabethan work—the old Headmaster’s

house into a sham XIXth-century Gothic Lady Chapel. This dreadful recommendation we are sorry to see supported in Mr. Lester's interesting Memoir. We should like to invite him to 'Oh! Yet consider it again!'

Want of space prevents our doing real justice to Mr. Wildman's book. We have pointed out only a few of its merits and conclude with entreating all Shirburnians to study it, if they wish to understand and appreciate their Alma Mater. The *edition de luxe* is beautifully printed in a somewhat small but clear type; it has some excellent plans, and the whole appearance of the work is creditable to all who had to do with its production.

VITA NUOVA.

(These verses are by an Old Shirburnian, now in India, and have already been published there.)

I had seen Mrs. Grundy in breeches,
 I tired of Cycles and Rays,
 Of London—its rags and its riches,
 Its century closing in craze.
 What hope in thy examinations,
 What faith in thy gods, Cannon Row!
 When I passed through the portal of nations,
 Via P. and O.

O magical, mystical Indies!
 O punkas, pyjamas and pice!
 Where cows give us typhus and shindies,
 Where coolls give us curry and rice!
 O land of the sahib so hybristic,
 Of natives kept up to the mark,
 By a Government based on statistic,
 A code and a clerk.

You took in the English as boarders,
 You own their omnipotent sway,
 They give you executive orders
 And Justice - for once in a way.
 New laws they are ever enacting,
 Each year they migrate to the hills,
 Their taxes and rates still exacting—
 But you pay the bills.

From Oxford and Cambridge and Dublin,
 The civilian is captured when young,
 The powers that be seldom troubling,
 In what sort of seat he is flung.
 His work to count stamps and sign papers,
 His references date from the Flood,
 O race of official red tapers!
 It runs in the blood.

Great Service of great disappointments!
 May Congress ne'er touch our preserve!
 May we all be confirmed in appointments!
 All get C.I.E.'s we deserve!
 Imperial instincts around us
 Are spread by the wire and the pen,
 And most of our intellects found us
 By Gurney and Wren.

We can blend the Babu and Barbarian,
 And make him a "Blood" and a "Blue,"
 Coalescing the Celt and the Aryan,
 O great Ranjitsinghi, in you.
 We can keep the Mahomedan quiet,
 Create the Parsee an M.P.,
 Reform and recover the ryot
 And reduce the rupee.

The native—we hardly count him in,
 Unless his subscription is meant,
 On clubs and our colourless women,
 Our leisure is decently spent.
 What with pegs and gymkhanas and polo,
 With races, regattas and rinks,
 The person of culture sings solo!
 No sahib ever thinks!

At the prospect of hot-weather survey,
 At the Board of Examiners' frown,
 At languages wrote topsy-turvey,
 The bumptious Assistant climbs down.
 It is India without the reporter,
 He sees with its pleasure and pain,
 When once he has crossed the Black Water,
 And taken the train.

Say, is all that we learnt worth the learning?
 Is the East but a flatterer's spell?
 Are proconsular posts worth the earning
 For sweat in a climate of hell?
 Is it callousness or is it banter,
 Are the fetters beginning to fret?
 As the days and the nights *imputantur*
 Like my cigarette.

Was I snared by the charms of Delilah?
 Was the salary set as a bait?
 That distance appeared no exiler,
 Rupees more than mere silver plate.
 To think I've made tea out of sodas,
 That I live on tinned bacon and jam,
 Is this shaking thy tree of pagodas,
 Vizagapatam!

Hindustan! many tongued, many handed!
 Why camest to dazzle our eyes?
 We learnt all thy lures when we landed,
 And sampled thy smells and thy skies.
 In thy administration enfolden,
 Let our envied existence escape,
 To emerge on a pension that's golden,
 Crushed out of all shape.

Surely England on bread and on butter,
 Its fads and its fashions complete,
 Is worth all the pomps of Calcutta,
 The *entrée* to Simla's *élite*.
 ὦ πάθος, o ties that we sever!
 O curse of the covenant's chain!
 There are many in India who never
 Want India again!

Sometimes we have sung it in metre,
 More often we put it in prose,
 The sound of a verse may be sweeter,
 But scent is the test of a rose.
 To serve you with every endeavour
 Clause One of my bargain ordain'd.
 You have bought me for ever and ever!
 Is it we who have gained?

J. J. C.

MR. RHOADES' TRANSLATION OF THE ÆNEID.*

Mr. Rhoades has now completed his translation of the Æneid, having finished the first half of this long work about 4 years ago. His Æneid has been most favourably criticised by most of the leading papers and we venture to quote this article from the *Daily Chronicle*.

“A POET'S VIRGIL.”

“We congratulate Mr. Rhoades on accomplishing or nearly accomplishing, the holiday task which he set himself on his retirement from the busy life of a public school master. He began with the Georgics; the present volume completes the Æneid; only the Eclogues, a comparatively easy undertaking, remain to be done. When he has rounded off his work by this slight addition he will have produced what we have no hesitation in characterising as the most satisfactory rendering of Virgil in English verse, at once an English poem and a faithful reflection of the original.

“Mr. Rhoades brings to his task the two essential qualifications of a translator: ripe scholarship and a practical knowledge of the laws of poetic composition. And to these two essentials we may add a third: sympathy with the individual genius of his author. Lack of this sympathy, or rather inabil-

* “The Æneid of Virgil.” Books VII.—XII. Translated into English verse by James Rhoades. (London: Longmans, Green and Co.)

ity to express it, is the fatal flaw in Conington's ballad measure, which when at its best is least like Virgil.

As to scholarship, we need only compare the opening lines of the *Æneid* in Mr. Rhoades's and Sir Theodore Martin's versions to see the difference between the professional and the amateur. "Till what time a city he might found him" exactly expresses the force of the subjunctive, which is wholly missed in "a city which he strove to found." Again, "that most Virgilian of phrases, half inverted, half direct," *tot volvere casus*, is at least adumbrated by "still to ply the round of peril," and loosely paraphrased by "Such disasters to pursue."

A translator may be plucked for lack of scholarship, but scholarship is but, as it were, a preliminary test. The Kennedys were unrivalled as Latinists; but who, except perhaps Shrewsbury schoolboys, now read their version? Dryden still lives, though he is full of blunders for which a Shrewsbury boy would be whipped. Unless Mr. Rhoades's version satisfies us as poetry it will go the way of the Kennedys. That in our judgment it has this supreme distinction we have already indicated, but its special merits can hardly be appreciated in the brief specimens to which our limits restrict us. Mr. Rhoades was an original poet before he turned to translation. His blank verse is musical, sonorous, and varied. It is, moreover, his own; and though there are distinct imitations of Milton's verse and some Tennysonian echoes, it is not modelled on any one master metrist. As a sample of the ordinary movement we may take the description of the stricken stag that provoked the war:—

Their sister Silvia with all tenderness
 Had tamed it to obedience, and would deck
 Its antlers, and with pliant wreaths entwine,
 Comb the wild thing, and in pure water lave.
 Trained to her hand, and at the master's board
 Familiar, it would wander in the woods,
 And of itself again, how late soe'er
 Home to the well-known threshold wend its way.

This is simple and graceful, but there is nothing out of the common except the exquisitely happy phrase, "comb *the wild thing.*"

Take as a contrast a Virgilian simile :—

Vast as Mount Athos or as Eryx vast :
Sire Apennine no vaster, when he roars
Through all his quivering holm-oaks, and aloft
With snowy crest soars jubilant to heaven.

Here is something of Miltonic majesty. In single lines again we detect a Tennysonian ring :—

The four-foot tramp
Of galloping horse hooves shakes the crumbling plain.
A cirque
Of hollow hills enfolds it, with black pine
Girdling the forest.
Easing an old wife's sorrow with the loom.

Lastly, to illustrate the flexibility of Mr. Rhoades's rhythm, we will give a somewhat longer passage of impassioned rhetoric, the challenge of Remulus in the ninth book :—

Hardy, and of a hardy stock,
Down to the river our very babes we bring,
And brace them with the water's cruel cold.
Our boys hunt tireless, and wear out the woods ;
Patient of toil, to need inured, our youth
Tame earth with mattocks, or shake towns in war.
No age of life but with hard steel is worn ;
With spear reversed our bullocks' flanks we goad ;
Nor sluggish eld doth our hearts' strength impair,
Or warp our vigour ; on white locks we press
The helmet-rim, and evermore delight
To mass new plunder and by rapine live.
Yours are embroidered robes of saffron tint
Or gleaming purple ; sloth is your delight ;
Ye love to revel in the dance and wear

Sleeved tunics and stringed turbans, Phrygians ye,
Women, indeed, not men ; go range the heights
Of Dindymus, where to practised touch the pipe
Utters its twofold note. The timbrels, hark !
The Idæan mother's Berecynthian flute
Calls you : leave arms to men and quit the sword."

FOOTBALL.

THE SCHOOL *v.* EASTLEIGH.

This match took place on November 14. The visitors kicked off, but the ball was soon returned and they were pressed back into their XXV, where our forwards showed their superiority. Some fine passing among our three-quarters was shown, but owing to the slippery state of the ground it was not easy to run. Our opponents made some vigorous efforts and forced the School back into their XXV. Here Crawford made a punt and following up well dribbled the ball all along the line, and passing the back, succeeded in scoring. Parsons' attempt at goal, though a good one, failed. After the ball was restarted further scrimmages ensued in which Hay, Ford, and Metcalfe showed to advantage, and Parsons obtaining the ball made a fine run, but was brought down in time. Scrimmages now took place for a considerable time and Prichard, Hay and Stenning all did well, our forwards having considerably the advantage. At last the ball was got out, and after some neat passing Crawford got the ball, and was within an ace of again scoring. About this time also Partridge put in a good run, and afterwards stopped a dangerous rush. Prichard and Metcalfe presently got the ball and made some good dribbles. After half-time our forwards played up well, and made some fine combined rushes, taking the ball well into our opponents' XXV. Partridge and Lee-Warner both made good dribbles, and the former attempted to drop a goal. During the rest of the game the ball remained within their XXV, our three-quarters, though they got the ball, being unable to do much with it, owing to its slippery state. Winch and Crawford both very nearly scored. When time was called the School were left victorious by a try to *nil*. Though we only got in once we had had far the best of the game, but the ground was so very muddy that it was

impossible to do much. Of the outsides Crawford, Partridge, Winch and Parsons were all good, Lee-Warner and Sopper also played well. Hay, Metcalfe, Prichard, and Ford were perhaps the best forwards. Teams:—

School.—Kemp, back; L. Partridge (capt.), A. J. Crawford, I. G. Winch, and M. H. D. Parsons, three-quarters; A. Lee-Warner and F. W. Sopper, halves; G. W. Hay, W. O. Prichard, H. F. Metcalfe, C. Ford, E. A. Wilson, H. E. Stenning, C. T. Cheatle and Stanger-Leathes, forwards.

THE SCHOOL *v.* TONBRIDGE SCHOOL.

This match was played at Tonbridge on Nov. 21st. The game throughout was of rather a close character. At a very early stage it became evident that there was very little to choose between the sides. Neither side seemed disposed to run any risks, so that the game was a long series of hard fought grovels, careful marking by the outsides and strong tackling. The 'halves' were repeatedly called upon to stop dangerous rushes. In the second half a finer game was played, but still a certain unwillingness to part with the ball was marked. The intense strain of the first 'half' seemed to have affected the judgment of the 'outsides,' as on several occasions the ball was kicked when there was a really good opening for a pass. Our opponents had a slight advantage in the matter of weight, but our forwards appeared to pack better. Partridge won the toss and Tonbridge kicked off. Winch returned and the game settled down in our XXV, but very soon Lee-Warner coming round the scrum started a dribble and being backed up by Winch, they took the ball together right up to the Tonbridge goal. Tonbridge touched down. The next incident was a good combined run by the Tonbridge three-quarters, which, with the help of a free kick, took the ball into our territory, where it remained for a considerable time. Crawford again changed the aspect of the game by intercepting a pass and racing down to their XXV. The game settled down at half way for some time, neither side being able to claim any distinct advantage. Lee-Warner and Sopper saved very pluckily and Parsons put in some good punts.

Once more our opponents began to press and for some time carried all the scrums, until the ball was finally worked over the goal line. Fortunately a touch down was the only result. Until half time we once more took our turn in attacking. Result at half time no score. Prichard re-started the game. The

return was poor, but was compensated for by a good dribble by one of the Tonbridge three-quarters. Prichard headed over one or two useful rushes and Crawford was conspicuous in saving. Shortly afterwards the Tonbridge three-quarters got fairly started and passing out quickly along the left they scored a very good try near the corner. Roddis gained the try and Langhorne took the kick, which went wide of the goal. Shortly afterwards Kemp tackled one of the Tonbridge three-quarters near our goal line and Partridge was applauded for some brilliant collaring. From this point the game completely changed. The whole of our side made a combined effort and carried the ball into the Tonbridge XXV. Time after time we just missed scoring, Stenning caught the ball in a very favourable position, but failed to make his mark in time. Then at last the opportunity arose and the ball passing quickly among the backs, came to Partridge: he re-passed to Winch, who had little difficulty in crossing the goal line and scoring a try. Parsons took the kick, but failed to convert the try. For the rest of the game Parsons and Lee-Warner were very conspicuous, Lee-Warner giving his three-quarters many good openings, which they made very good use of, getting on two or three occasions within a few feet of the goal line. During the last few minutes we were once more driven back to our own territory and had to play a defensive game.

The game which was played in the most friendly spirit, brought our very enjoyable visit to an end. When the whistle went all was over, except the generous cheering of the Tonbridge fellows. Half an hour later we were speeding on our return journey to the West. Teams:

Sherborne.—Kemp (back); L. Partridge, I. G. Winch, A. J. Crawford, and M. D. Parsons (three-quarters); A. Lee-Warner and F. Sopper (halves); G. W. Hay, W. O. Prichard, H. F. Metcalfe, C. Ford, E. A. Wilson, H. E. Stenning, H. E. Shaw and H. E. Stanger-Leathes (forwards.)

Tonbridge.—S. Hammill (back); F. Roddis, E. Beeching, H. W. Blackburne and A. Milner (three-quarters); E. T. Langdale and O. Jevers (halves); H. D. Beeching, J. D. Langhorne, C. H. Ilott, F. G. Jackson, A. F. Maclean, C. S. Cossar, H. C. Van Laun and H. E. Perks (forwards.)

SCHOOL v. S. R. BASKETT, Esq.'s XV.

This annual match was played on Wednesday the 25th November, and ended in a victory for the School by 2 goals to *nil*. Manfield, who captained the opposing team, kicked off, but our forwards soon worked the ball back to half-way.

Here Pavey got the ball and made a good run, but was eventually collared by Partridge. Manfield made a good dribble, and for a time their forwards had the advantage. S. Bradford and Bennett both made runs, and were successively collared by Parsons, who soon afterwards ran right into the visitors' XXV. But here McEney broke away, and made a good dribble, being well supported by Manfield. From a line out Stenning got the ball and made a short run, and Crawford also broke away. Our forwards, headed by Prichard, gradually worked the ball back, and at length Lee-Warner got the ball and made a fine run, and got well into the opposing XXV, and transferred to Parsons who only just failed to score, being collared by Manfield on the line. Winch now received the ball and passed to Crawford, who transferred to Parsons, who ran right on to the line and then passed back again to Crawford, who scored right behind the posts. Winch kicked a good goal. After restarting Hartnell made a good run for our opponents, but Crawford collared him. Partridge following up a kick of Crawford's now nearly succeeded in getting over. Our opponents were now worked back right on to their own goal-line by a series of scrimmages in which Prichard, Metcalfe, and Ford showed to advantage. Offside was awarded against the School and S. Bradford took the kick, but Prichard made his mark, and Winch unsuccessfully attempted a goal. Manfield made a good dribble but was just stopped in time. Partridge made some efforts to break away, but was too well marked to effect much. Directly after this Crawford intercepted a somewhat indifferent pass about half-way, and eluding the back, again scored. Winch again converted, and soon after time was called.

The game had been well contested, and the School thoroughly deserved their victory. Of our outsides all played excellently, especially Crawford and Partridge. Of our forwards Prichard, Metcalfe and Ford were perhaps the best. Of the visitors' outsides Hartnell and Pavey were the best, while among their forwards Manfield and McEney both worked very hard both in the scrimmage and the open. Teams:

School.—Kemp, back; L. Partridge (capt.), I. G. Winch, A. J. Crawford, M. H. D. Parsons, three-quarters; A. Lee-Warner, F. W. Sopper, halves; W. O. Prichard, H. F. Metcalfe, C. Ford, E. A. Wilson, H. E. Stenning, H. E. Stanger-Leathes, H. E. Shaw, and L. G. Sunderland, forwards.

S. R. Baskett's XV.—M. T. Whensley, back; B. P. Pick, S. Bradford, J. Hartnell, and R. R. Pavey, three-quarters; W. Bennett, A. E. Bradford, halves; W. H. Manfield (capt.) E. H. McEney, J. V. Jeudwine, R. M. Rendall, H. Harding, P. W. Seabright, R. Willan, and A. E. Gibbs, forwards.

SCHOOL *v.* CLIFTON CLUB.

On Saturday, November 28th, the School encountered Clifton Club, and were defeated by 16 points to 3. Prichard kicked off for the School and for some time the School forwards played up with considerable dash, and more than held their own. The superior weight however of the opposing forwards soon began to tell, and Metcalfe heading the Clifton forwards made a good dribble. But Parsons soon after got the ball and relieved by making a good run into the opposing XXV. A free kick was also given against the Club, and we gained some more ground. But we were forced back by our heavier opponents, and James made a fine run into our XXV, but was brought down in time by Crawford. Soon afterwards Kemp was forced to touch down in self-defence, and Partridge had to do the same a little after. But our forwards now made great efforts, Prichard, Metcalfe, Wilson and Stenning all playing well. Winch made a good kick, and the game was transferred to their XXV, where it remained for a considerable time. At last a free kick was given in our favour, and Parsons taking it obtained a most excellent goal. Half-time was then called and we were thus leading by 1 goal to nil. However on changing ends the Clifton forwards made most determined efforts and forced back the game into our XXV, where it remained for some time. Winch at length broke away, and Parsons, Sopper, and Lee-Warner made a combined rush, carrying the ball on to half-way. Metcalfe, Prichard, Stenning and Cheatle dribbled onward, and Partridge and Parsons both made good runs. But nothing could stand the superior weight of the Clifton forwards who made a combined rush, and dribbling the ball on, secured a try, which was improved upon. The game still remained in our XXV despite all efforts, and two more tries were secured, but neither of the kicks succeeded. The School were still unable to drive back their opponents, and as a result, after some exceptionally brilliant passing among our opponents' three-quarters, another try was secured, and an easy goal was kicked. Soon afterwards time was called the School thus being defeated by 2 goals and 2 tries, to a penalty goal. Of our outsides Parsons and Partridge were perhaps the best, while Prichard, Ford, and Stenning were all good forward. In this, and the preceding match the School were greatly handicapped by the absence of Hay, who was unable to play on both occasions. Team:—

School.—Kemp, back; L. Partridge (capt.), I. G. Winch, M. H. D. Parsons, and A. J. Crawford, three-quarters; A. Lee-Warner, and F. W. Sopper, halves; W. O. Prichard, H. F. Metcalfe, C. Ford, E. A. Wilson, H. E. Stenning, C. T. Cheatle, H. E. Stanger-Leathes, and H. E. Shaw, forwards.

SCHOOL *v.* YEOVIL.

This match was played at Yeovil on the Yeovil club ground on the 5th of December. The dribbling and passing of the School team was greatly impeded by the unevenness of the ground. Prichard started the game and after the usual exchange of kicks play settled down in the Yeovil XXV. From a scrimmage Crawford got the ball and made a good run which he followed up by an equally good kick, and for the first ten minutes or so the School had quite the best of the game. After Yeovil had failed in an attempt to get away, Smith got the ball and took the ball right into our XXV. Some temporary relief was afforded by an offside kick, and then our forwards made an excellent rush in which Stenning and Ford showed to advantage. Despite the efforts of the School forwards all of whom worked hard, especially Hay, Wilson, Ford and Stenning, Yeovil got over our line but their kick failed. After restarting the home team made a determined rush, which was well stopped by Ford, who afterwards put in a good dribble, and Winch also made a good kick. The School forwards pushed hard and the ball was brought past half-way and then into the Yeovil XXV. Parsons now obtained the ball and nearly scored after an extremely good run. The School continued to press, and several times Winch, Partridge, and Crawford seemed just on the point of scoring; once indeed the ball was rushed over the line, but was touched down by one of the opposing forwards. Half-time was then called, and after the usual interval the School were forced back into their XXV., but Lee-Warner managed to break away. Soon after Winch got the ball and made a splendid run, dodging in and out among the Yeovil outsides and finally succeeded in scoring a try for the School, but Parsons' kick failed. Some good passing among the Sherborne threequarters afterwards ensued, and Parsons made a good run. But despite the efforts of the School the game was taken in our XXV., and a penalty kick was given against the School which resulted in a splendid goal being kicked. Our forwards, headed by Stenning, played up with renewed vigour, and we reached the Yeovil XXV., the home forwards however made renewed efforts and in spite of the efforts of Prichard and Stenning, Kemp was compelled to touch down in self-defence. But Yeovil continued to press and one of their forwards secured a drop-goal. Again Yeovil succeeded in getting in, and a good long kick resulted in a goal. For the remainder of the time the School played up very hard, but were unable to effect anything. Yeovil were thus left victorious by 16 points to 3.

Of our outsides Parsons and Winch were good, and

Prichard, Hay and Stenning played well at forward. Of our opponents Smith at half, McEnergy, and Manfield all played extremely well.

School—Kemp, back; L. Partridge (capt.), A. J. Crawford, L. G. Winch and M. H. J. Parsons, three-quarters; A. Lee-Warner and F. W. Sopper, halves; G. W. Hay, W. O. Prichard, H. F. Metcalfe, C. Ford, E. A. Wilson, H. E. Stenning, C. T. Cheatle and H. E. Stanger-Leathes, forwards.

OLD SHIRBURNIAN SOCIETY.

At the beginning of this month some seven hundred circulars had been dispatched to Old Shirburnians throughout the world, inviting them to join the new society.

The number of members is at present one hundred and twenty-five, which is not a bad result on the whole, taking into consideration that it is six weeks only since the first batch was sent out. The response to the circulars has, however, been curiously unequal, very few among the Old Boys who have left the School within the last ten or twelve years having joined. This fact will perhaps be explained as time goes on; it is at present beyond the power of the Secretary to explain. The members ought to number at least two hundred before the printing of the first Annual Report next autumn, for here we can get and have got upon the Register some of those who entered the School as early as 1823 to 1830—a feat clearly beyond the power of our most brilliant and flourishing new rivals to perform.

H. R. K.

Secretary O.S.S.

 GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY.

Voiage and Travaile of Sir John Maundevile, kt., London, 1727; given by the Rev. Neville Lovett, O.S., Rector of Caundle Bishop. The Library has hitherto been without a copy of this famous work, and it is all the more pleasant to get it now in such an admirable old edition.

Odes and other Poems; J. C. Powys, 1896; given by the author, an O.S., and noticed in the last number of the Shirburnian.

Crags and Craters; William Dudley Oliver, M.A., London, 1896: given by the author an O.S. Mr. Oliver's book gives us the story of a stay of six months in this island of Réunion; it is vividly and clearly told. There are illustrations from photographs by the author, an excellent map and full index. For our own part we have learnt a great deal from the book, first the situation of the island, second to whom it belongs, third its attractions, fourth its drawbacks. But we do not mean to make our new knowledge public; for that readers must go to the book itself. This bit of information however we will disclose, for it may be useful to intending colonists; like most other colonies belonging to the nation which now holds it, it is a failure.

 OXFORD LETTER.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

In a term productive of two such great events, as the St. John's Strike and the Christ Church Controversy, it is a great pity that neither College can boast an O.S. who might have given us a vivid description of at least one of them. Things must have reached a pretty bad state of affairs, when the whole of a College refuse to come to Hall, and prefer to suffer the

pangs of starvation to partaking of the fare the College cook provides. Imagine such a strike in the School House.

As you probably know all about the affair at the 'House' it will be hardly necessary to touch upon it here. Think of yourself, gentle editor, being dragged from your bed at midnight, and hurled into a pond through a thin coating of ice,—yet such is the fate of those who abuse the freedom of the fare. "Shirburnian" take warning from the fate of the "Isis," and forbear too freely to criticise your masters.

But now "to the more important point in question." How have the various O.S. been faring lately? Stevens, Finzel, Wyatt-Smith have been performing with customary brilliance on behalf of the Exeter XV. Ransford has played in the Freshers Match, and has been given his College Colours. He and Martin have been regular members of the Worcester XV. Perhaps it is difficult to realize at Sherborne how badly a visiting XV can be treated by a School. We learn that a certain school in the Midlands having first refused to supply their visitors with a meal, offered them at the end of the game on a freezing day the choice between four basins of cold water and two cold baths. The majority reached Oxford unwashed. Moberly played for the R.M.A. against Keble, and distinguished himself amongst a distinguished crowd. Radcliffe has been doing great things on the river, short of absolutely setting it on fire, and it cannot but be regretted that he has given up football. The report that a certain fresher from Sherborne had his "impedimenta" conveyed to the college gates in two furniture vans, only to find that he had been given one of the smallest rooms up a flight of 70 steps is only partially founded on fact. F. J. Lys is a successful tutor at Worcester. I am only too grieved to see that the Grotesque School has claimed another O.S. as its victim—human nature is weak—Old Shirburnian nature is weak sometimes, but there is really no need to parade its lunatic productions. But forewarned by the memory of Christ Church pond I must cease this somewhat severe criticism, and bring this laboured letter to an end.

 CORPS NOTES.

A sham fight took place on Saturday, November 7, between the Right-half Company (School House sections) under Lieut. Dunkin and the Left-half Company under Sergt. Langhorne, on the farms to the N. and N.W. of Osborne. The object of the Right-half Company was to clear, for the purpose of transmitting a supposed baggage train, the lane from Dodd's Cross to Osborne Church. A stubborn resistance was offered by the School House, but they were driven back and took refuge in the Churchyard, and Lieut. Dunkin led his battered tho' victorious section into the village. A heavy fall of rain the day before made the ground rather heavy, but apart from that we had a most enjoyable day.

 SCHOOL NEWS.

The following have been presented with their colours:—
 1st XV. W. O. Prichard (*c*), A. J. Crawford (*f*), M. D. Parsons (*a*), H. F. Metcalfe (*f*), C. Ford (*a*), F. W. Sopper (*f*), E. A. Wilson (*a*), H. E. Stenning (*a*).

2nd XV. H. E. Stanger-Leathes (*b*), H. E. Shaw (*f*), L. G. Sunderland (*a*), F. Kemp (*a*).

On Saturday Nov. 28, Mdlle. Marie Adolphy gave a Violin Recital in the big School, between 5 and 6. Her playing was much appreciated by the audience amongst whom were the Clifton Club XV, in whose honour also the Flower Song and the Football Song were sung.

On Thursday, Dec. 3, Mr. Wildman entertained us in the Big School by a most interesting lecture on a "Walk round Sherborne," illustrated by lime-light photographs many of which were taken by a School amateur.

The Organ in Big School has been thoroughly repaired by the generosity of two of the masters, and two new stops added as well.

The match against Tonbridge ended in a draw, each side scoring a try.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Sir,

Might I suggest that before next term the floor of the pavilion be renewed, for several times this term I have noticed holes in the boarding, which might lead to serious accidents.

Yours truly,
ALLEBARA.

Dear Sir,

Might I suggest through your valuable columns that those hideous old posts and chains in front of the Pavilion be removed. If turf were then laid right up to the Pavilion, at least 8 yards more could be added to the upper ground and thus lessen the disadvantage caused by playing on foreign grounds.

Yours truly,
TOM TAGS.

Dear Sir,

Might not better ink be provided in the Classrooms and through the whole School. The present stuff corrodes in about a week and the trouble caused to those who have to clean the ink-pots must be immense. Surely too it would be less expensive to supply Stephens' (this is not an advertisement) than the present, half of which is thrown away.

Hoping this will meet with the approval of the authorities.

I remain,
Yours ever,
ARRY B.

Dear Sir,

I should like to call attention to the fact that on the 'fourth' there is a brick-drain-head which might cause some one serious injury by falling on it. Could not the authorities have this removed and oblige?

Yours truly,
HALF.

O.S. NEWS.

The Rev. A. J. Galpin, late Assistant Master at Marlborough College, was unanimously appointed by the Dean and Chapter to the Headmastership of the King's School, Canterbury.

E. J. Holberton has also obtained a Mastership at Malvern Wells.

The following have been playing Football;

Somerset	L. C. Powys.
R. M. A., Woolwich	A. H. Moberly.
Kensington	J. H. Bennett.
Barnstaple	A. R. Chichester.
Worcester College	C. Martin.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ALLEBARA.—Are you willing to defray a portion of the expenses?

HALF.—We are not the right people to be blamed in such a matter.

The Editor begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following Magazines:—*Marlburian*, *Wellingtonian*, *Lorrettonian*, *Lancing College Magazine*, *Upinghamian*, *Elizabethan*.

(a) School House; (b) Blanch's; (c) Wilson's; (d) Wildman's; (f) Hodgson's.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

All Business Communications with regard to the Shirburnian should be made to the Publisher, Mr. F. Bennett, The Parade, Sherborne, to whom alone Subscriptions should be sent.

CONTENTS.

EDITORIAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	297
IN MEMORIAM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	299
MR. WILDMAN'S HISTORY OF SHERBORNE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	300
VITA NUOVA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	303
MR. RHOADES' TRANSLATION OF THE ÆNEID	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	306
FOOTBALL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	309
OLD SHIRBURNIAN SOCIETY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	315
GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	316
OXFORD LETTER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	316
CORPS NOTES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	318
SCHOOL NEWS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	318
CORRESPONDENCE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	319
O.S. NEWS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	320
ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	320

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Letters and Articles intended for publication should be sent to the EDITOR, School House, Sherborne, Dorset.

The Annual Subscription is 3/3 including postage. The *Shirburnian* is published six times in the year, twice each term.

Subscribers changing their addresses are requested to communicate at once with the PUBLISHER, as otherwise the *Shirburnian* cannot possibly be forwarded to them. This applies especially to subscribers entering or leaving the Universities.

No anonymous contribution 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.

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

We decline to hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our contributors.

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