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THE
SHIRBURNIAN.

—
SECOND SERIES.
—

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



—
DECEMBER, 1899.
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THE
SHIRBURNIAN.

No. CCI.

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SOME ACCOUNT OF THE BOERS.

PERHAPS at the present time it may not be wholly without interest to some readers of the Shirburnian to give a short account of the origin of the Boers, of whom we hear so much to-day. Everyone knows that what we call Cape Colony was not originally colonised by the English but by the Dutch about the end of the Seventeenth Century. The numbers of the colonists were increased by some Huguenots who had fled from the persecutions in France, and for a little more than a century these people lived under the rule of the Dutch East India Company. Towards the close of the Eighteenth Century the inhabitants of the district of Graaf Reinet threw off the Company's rule and declared themselves a Free Republic. Matters were in this state when the English first took possession of the Cape, and the people of Graaf Reinet had to be subdued by force. By the peace of Amiens the Cape was again ceded to Holland, but England once more seized it in 1806 and her title to it was confirmed by the peace of 1815. The position of the British Government at this time was a difficult one. A considerable number of the Colonists, who did not then extend beyond the Orange

River, were endeavouring to form a government of their own and cast off the yoke, while the native races and half-castes were appealing to the English for help against the cruelty of the Boers. Again, the English system of dealing out justice to white and black alike caused much irritation among the former. In 1815 the Borderers again revolted, but were soon subdued, five of their number being hanged at Slachter's Nek. This greatly increased their hostility to the British Government, which went on increasing for several years. In 1835, the emancipation of all slaves and the abandonment of Kaffraria by the English were the last grievances which led to what is commonly known as the "Great Trek." This took place in 1836-7. A large number of the Dutch colonists trekked north over the Orange River, and in 1837, under Maritz and Potgieter, inflicted a severe defeat on Moselekatz a Matabele chief at Mosega. Moselekatz withdrew beyond the Limpopo, and the colonists occupied Natal and part of the present Transvaal. In 1838, a large section of the Boers, under Pieter Retief, was defeated by the Zulu chief Dingaan at Umkoongloof and again at Weenen. Retief himself with a hundred others was treacherously massacred at Umgugundhloru. This was a terrible disaster for the Colonists, but towards the end of the year Andries Pretorius inflicted a check upon Dingaan and again defeated him in 1840. In 1847, Natal was proclaimed a British Colony, and once again the Boers had to trek. They crossed the Drakenberg in two parties, one occupying the country between the Orange and Vaal Rivers, the other crossing the Vaal into the land afterwards known as the Transvaal. The former division was defeated at Boomplatz in 1848 by an English force, and the Orange River Sovereignty was proclaimed. No attempt was made to reduce those beyond the Vaal, and their independence was guaranteed in 1852 by the

Sand River Convention. In 1854 the English Government decided to give up the Orange River Sovereignty and to grant to it self-government under the name of the Orange Free State. This was a great blow to British interests in South Africa, for there were a large number of Dutch as well as British in the Sovereignty who were perfectly loyal, and they regarded this act as a desertion on the part of England. The Boers across the Vaal found it very hard to establish a settled form of government. They were chiefly occupied in ousting the weaker native tribes from their lands, while the strong tribes of Zulus, Swazies, and Matabeles formed a standing menace. In 1870 diamonds were discovered in the native territory of Griqualand West, and in 1871 this was declared British territory. The annexation was greatly resented by the Boers on both sides of the Vaal, and race feeling was possibly stronger at this time than at any other. In 1875 the Transvaal Boers entered into war with Sikokuni, Chief of the Bapedi, and met with serious reverses. This brought the country to the verge of of bankruptcy, and the danger from the native tribes was so great, that in April, 1877, it led to English intervention and annexation by Sir Theophilus Shepstone. About this time a scheme of South African Federation was put forward, and Sir Bartle Frere was sent out as High Commissioner to support it. But there were many difficulties in the way, and after considerable discussion the subject was dropped. In 1880 Sir Bartle Frere was re-called, and this caused renewed irritation, for his recall was looked upon by Afrikaners as an abandonment. A few months later the Transvaal revolted, and met with some temporary successes owing to the fact that there were few British troops in South Africa and their commanders did not understand the Boer methods of warfare. Preparations were made for sending

out an adequate force, but the English Government unexpectedly made peace with the Boers, and gave up the Transvaal, only retaining a Protectorate over it. No sufficient precautions were taken to ensure the protection of British interests, and of the native tribes on the border, who had been disarmed by England. At the time this retrocession was considered by most people to be right, though time seems to have shown that it was a great mistake. It was specially unfortunate that it was done in such a way that the Boers thought themselves equal to defying England, for it was said that the annexation had been carried out in the face of a protest from the President, and the people thought that they had been fighting in a just cause and had conquered. It was humiliating for England, and gave the Boers an exaggerated idea of their fighting power. The arrangement, however, was only temporary, and for the next three years South Africa was in an alarming state of discontent and unrest, the English Government being regarded with suspicion on all sides. At length, in February, 1884, the Convention of London was signed, which considerably modified the English suzerainty, restricting it to the control of foreign affairs. At the same time it settled the Transvaal boundary and a small expedition was sent out to drive back the Boers who had trespassed on English territory. This was accomplished without bloodshed. Since this time matters have been going from bad to worse. In 1886 gold was discovered in the country, and this led to a great influx of foreigners, chiefly English. The old residents always looked with disfavour upon these newcomers, and steadily denied them the franchise. Educa-

tion was totally unprovided for, and these and other grievances caused widespread discontent among the immigrants or Uitlanders, who virtually paid all the taxation of the country and made it wealthy and prosperous. This discontent culminated in the winter of 1895-6 in an attempt at revolution, which was most unfortunately assisted by an armed expedition from English territory, chiefly composed of the forces of the South African Chartered Company. This force was defeated and forced to surrender, while the proposed rising never took place. The situation, difficult before, was rendered far worse by this absurd attempt. Since that time everything has been tending to war. The Dutch Boers, with a self-confidence engendered by Majuba Hill and Laing's Nek, and increased by the skirmish at Krugersdorp, have still further oppressed the Uitlanders and have disregarded the Convention of London, professing to understand it differently from the Ministers of the Crown. About a year ago Mr. Chamberlain sent a despatch to the Government of the Transvaal, asking it to remedy the condition of the Uitlanders. Long and fruitless negotiations ensued, which were finally put an end to by President Kruger's well-known ultimatum. The history of the Transvaal has been a long history of quarrels and disputes with the Imperial Government. When we have given way to them, they have regarded it as a sign of weakness, and have learnt to despise us. It is to be hoped that when the present disastrous war is over, and the Boers have been defeated, they will have learnt to respect the English and may yet become loyal subjects of the Queen.

P. L. H.

In Memoriam.

The death is announced, on Thursday, November 9th, 1899, at Debra Dun, N.W.P., India, from abscess on the liver, of Brevet-Colonel Eaton Aylmer Travers, O.S., commanding the first battalion of the 2nd (Prince of Wales' Own) Goorkha Rifles. Colonel Travers entered the School in December, 1869, as a Town Boy, played in the Eleven in 1874-75, and left as a member of the Sixth Form in 1875. In 1876 he was gazetted to a second-lieutenancy in the 25th Regiment, now the King's Own Scottish Borderers, and subsequently entered the Indian Staff Corps. He took an active part in the Afghan war of 1878-79-80, including the advance on Khelat-i-Ghibzai, the march of Sir Charles Gough's column to Sherpore, the march of Lord Roberts from Cabul to Kandahar, and the battle of Kandahar (medal with two clasps, bronze star). In 1888, he served as Deputy Assistant Adjutant General during the Sikkim expedition of that year, and was present at the attacks on Jeluk, Gnatong, and Jelap-la (mentioned in despatches, medal with clasp, and brevet of Major). In 1891, he accompanied the punitive expedition to Manipore (clasp). Major Travers was also a member of the Indian contingent despatched to the Soudan in 1896, as Deputy Assistant Adjutant and Quartermaster-General with the Suakin Force (medal and brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel). During the North-West Frontier campaign of 1897-98 he was present in command of the 1st Battalion 2nd Goorkha Rifles at the operations on the Samana, and also at the relief of Gulistan (mentioned in despatches, medal with two clasps). During the Tirah campaign of 1897-98 he took part in the actions of Chagru Kotal, Dargai (where he was the first over the fatal ridge) and the Sampagha and Ashanga Passes, the operations in the Waran Valley, at and around Dwatoi, in the Bara Valley, and against the Khani Khel Chamkannis (twice mentioned in despatches, clasp, and brevet of Colonel). Colonel Travers had been in his present regiment since 1877, and had been in command since 1897. He was a most distinguished soldier, and the announcement of his death has been received in India with universal regret. The 2nd Goorkhas carry a third colour granted for conspicuous service during the Mutiny, and is one of the crack Goorkha regiments. The Prince of Wales is their honorary Colonel, and their subahdar-major, or senior native officer is A.D.C. to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India.

 GIFT TO THE LIBRARY.

SECTION H.

Henry Whitehead, 1825-1896; Rawnsley, Glasgow, 1898.

The gift of Mrs. Whitehead, his wife. Henry Whitehead was the uncle of three well-known Old Shirburnians, and this history of his career as a clergyman in London and the North of England is full of interest. The Editor is the Rev. Canon H. D. Rawnsley.

 BOOKS ADDED TO THE LIBRARY.

SECTION D.

Britanniarum iter Antonini; Gale, London, 1709.

A nice copy.

SECTION H.

Harper, Rev. H. D., D.D.; Lester, London, 1896.

This book describing the career of a great Sherborne Headmaster by an O.S. ought to have been in the Library long ago.

 FOOTBALL.

SCHOOL v. G. M. CAREY, Esq.'s XV.

This match was played at Sherborne on November 1st, and resulted in the defeat of the School by four goals and two tries to one goal and two tries. Our opponents won the toss and elected to play towards the Little Field. Browning kicked off for the School, and the ball was quickly taken down to our line. Here it remained for some time while their three-quarters kept getting off, but were always stopped in time. At length the game was brought back to half-way, and

Horsfall and Wilson made a run down to their twenty-five. Their forwards rushed it right down to our twenty-five, where they were stopped by Waterall. Birks then kicked over their line and, following up hard, scored. Bond converted. On resuming the School were again put on the defensive, and finally the ball was passed out to Chichester, who scored between the posts. Poole-Hughes kicked the goal. The School played up with great energy and for some time kept their opponents in their twenty-five, but the three-quarters got the ball, and after some excellent passing, Chichester scored again. Carey's kick was successful. Soon after their three-quarters scored another try, which was converted. Some loose play followed about half-way, and at last our three-quarters by a good run brought the ball to their line. A free-kick was awarded to the School and Browning made a good attempt at goal. Soon after, Eglington intercepted a pass and scored after a good run; the kick failed. The whistle then blew for half-time. After the interval, the ball was brought back to our twenty-five, and Poole-Hughes broke away and scored a try, which was not converted. Horsfall got the ball, and after a run passed out to Birks, who ran right round the opposing three-quarter, and scored an excellent try. The kick was unsuccessful. Our opponents now pressed hard, but the School defended well and for some time prevented their scoring. At last Chichester got the ball and passed to Carey, who scored. The kick was successful. The ball remained about half-way, and Horsfall made a good run to their twenty-five. Grovels followed in their twenty-five, and the School looked like scoring. Just before time Carey got the ball and on reaching the back, passed to Bennett, who scored. The try was not converted. Time was then called.

The Scratch team was much stronger than the School, particularly outside, Carey, Chichester, and Bennett being perhaps the best. For the School, Horsfall and Eglington were the best of the three-quarters. Hawley-Edwards played well at half and Moser saved pluckily. Radford, Potheary, and Pullman were the best of the forwards. Teams:—

School.

Waterall (back); Birks, L. G. Horsfall, P. Eglington, and A. M. Wilson (three-quarters); S. F. Hawley-Edwards and H. B. Moser (halves); C. A. Radford (capt.), W. F. Potheary, R. E. Pullman, C. G. Bond, Bowman, Browning, Lush, and Custance (forwards).

SCHOOL *v.* D. LEGGE Esq., XV.

This match was played on Wednesday, November 8th, on the School ground. Radford won the toss and decided to play towards the National School with a strong wind. Scratch kicked off and the ball not being returned scrums ensued in the School twenty-five. Soon the School forwards headed by Browning rushed the ball down into their opponents' twenty-five. Soon after Birks almost scored but kicked the ball too far behind, and after the kick off Browning with a good dribble brought the ball into the Scratch twenty-five. Wilson obtaining the ball and running right through their forwards looked like scoring but was collared by Kidner. From a scrum the ball was got out to Birks who ran right round the back and scored. Browning converted. After the kick off the Scratch pressed the School hard but Hawley-Edwards got the ball and after a run almost scored, but, in kicking over the back's head, did not allow enough for the wind and the ball went outside behind. Then Moser got the ball and after a good run passed to Eglington who scored between the posts. Bond converted. After the kick off Scratch again pressed and Chichester got away but was well collared by Waterall. Wilson made a good run and Birks almost scored again. After a dribble by Buckmaster and some good passing Birks scored far out. Browning kicked a good goal. Half-time was then called, the School leading by 3 goals to nil. After half-time the scoring became very fast, the Scratch having the wind with them pressing very hard, Mr. Poolo-Hughes managed to scramble over the line and scored a try far out. Winch failed to convert. The Scratch three-quarters several times broke away but nothing was scored. Soon after a good run and kick by Hawley-Edwards, Moser scored a try for the School far out. Browning failed to convert a hard kick. Scratch then pressed the School very hard and scored in quick succession; Carey once and Winch twice, all being converted. Soon after the whistie blew for time, the result being a draw. For the School Browning, Potheary, and Radford were perhaps the best of the forwards, Hawley-Edwards and Moser were both good at half, Eglington was the best of the three-quarters. The team was—

Waterall (back); A. M. Wilson, P. Eglington, L. G. Horsfall and Birks (three-quarters); S. F. Hawley-Edwards and H. B. Moser (halves); C. A. Radford (capt), W. F. Potheary, R. E. Pullman, C. G. Bond, R. Browning, J. H. Bowman, Buckmaster and Woodhams.

Referee :—T. A. Bell, Esq.

THE SCHOOL *v.* ST. PAULS.

Our first School match was played on our own ground on Saturday, November 11th. The turf was in good condition. A fresh breeze from the West considerably assisted each side in turn, while the sun having taken one peep at the proceedings retired from view for the rest of the afternoon. St. Paul's won the toss, and rather to our surprise allowed us the benefit of the breeze for the first part of the game. The sides proved to be very evenly matched and the interest of the game increased steadily until the call of time. As an exhibition of football, the display was perhaps a little disappointing. There was not a lack of brilliant individual effort, but the combined attack generally broke down through ill-luck or wild play. The honours on our side rested with Eglington, who, in addition to securing a very fine try, was always turning up in unexpected places at the right moment. He played a sound game, and drew his opponents very cleverly on several occasions. Hawley-Edwards did a lot of hard work, and was at least as good as any half on the field—his defensive play was first-rate, but in attacking he was not quite up to his usual form. Radford, who as usual played a hard game, was particularly conspicuous in collaring: he set an example which was well followed and did much to bring about the success of the side. The forwards were out-weighted, but they all played as hard as they could, and gave a good account of themselves.

After the kick-off, play settled down in the St. Paul's territory. The first exciting incident in the game was a fine run by Wells, which put us on the defensive. Hawley-Edwards, supported by Bowman, brought relief by a dribble and a long kick. The ball was well returned by one of the Pauline backs to Browning, who failed to hold it. Once again Hawley-Edwards dribbled well, and was not stopped until he was well within the Pauline twenty-five. Here in quick succession we were awarded two free kicks, but no score resulted. In the first instance a splendid opportunity was missed. From the kick out Horsfall secured the ball and put in a good return. The game for some time was of an even character, neither side being able to claim the advantage for long. Potheary led a rush, and Radford did a fine bit of collaring in the open. A wild pass gave the Paulines an opportunity and the game was carried into neutral ground. This mistake was shortly afterwards atoned for by Hawley-Edwards giving Horsfall a very smart pass, who in turn handed the ball to Eglington. This gave Eglington his opportunity, and he never let the ball out of his possession until he had grounded it behind the goal-line.

It was a very characteristic piece of play. The attempt at goal was a weak effort. We did not enjoy our lead for long, as Galloway, after some good combined play, got the ball and running strongly through our three-quarter line, cleverly swerved past the full-back and scored a brilliant try. The kick at goal was a failure.

For the first ten minutes of the second half the game was a general scramble in our twenty-five. Galloway at last got the ball from a grovel, and darting off at a great pace, met with no opposition until he came to the three-quarter line. He was finally collared within a few feet of the line. Our visitors at this point seemed certain of victory, for Wells picking up the ball in the loose plunged over the line and scored a try. The attempt at goal from a difficult angle was a very good one—the ball striking one of the posts. From this point we had all the best of the game. Moser, who had been playing a sound though rather slow game, began to show up. In combination with Horsfall and Wilson, Moser started a series of very smart attacks on the St. Paul's goal, but the line was not crossed. The only other try was gained by Birks on the right wing, for whom a good opening was made by Eglington. During the last five minutes of the game we kept up the attack with great dash, but the strong tackling of the Paulines and some wild passing on our side prevented our scoring again. Thus a very even game ended in a drawn match.

School.

H. G. Waterall (back); G. R. Birks, P. Eglington, L. G. Horsfall, A. M. Wilson (three-quarters); S. F. Hawley-Edwards, H. B. Moser (halves); C. A. Radford, W. F. Potheary, R. E. Pullman, C. G. Bond, R. Browning, J. H. Bowman, H. J. Buckmaster, J. P. Woodhams (forwards).

Referee: Capt. Lawrence.

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SCHOOL *v.* L. C. POWYS Esq's. XV.

Browning kicked off towards the National Schools, and after the usual returns, play settled down about half-way. Soon after a free kick was awarded to the School; not much ground was gained however, and the ball was brought into our twenty-five. In spite of some short runs by our three-quarters their forwards got dangerously close to our line, when Eglington intercepted a pass and ran down to half-way. Shortly afterwards Birks got the ball and running round the back, scored between the posts. Bond kicked the goal. On

resuming Powys after a long dribble scored a try which he converted. Their forwards soon after broke away, but were well stopped by Waterall. Some even play then followed about half-way, and at length the ball was kicked over their line, but went outside behind. On resuming Powys made a good run but passed forward on reaching the back. Some good passing among our three-quarters carried the ball back to their twenty-five. Their forwards slowly worked their way back, and just before half-time, Lacey got the ball and scored a try which was converted.

After half-time, play remained about half-way till Rawlins got the ball and after a good run passed to Powys who was collared on the line by Waterall. A free-kick was given to the School, but Powys and McEnergy dribbled down to our line again. Hawley-Edwards relieved with a good kick finding touch near half-way. After some loose play, Rawlins got the ball, and eluding the back scored. The kick was successful. The School now pressed hard, and our three-quarters several times looked like scoring. At last Horsfall got the ball and after a good run passed to Birks who scored between the posts. Bond converted. On resuming Horsfall made a good run, being collared almost on the line, and soon after Eglington scored far out after a dodgy run. Browning's kick failed. The School tried hard to get in again but were unsuccessful and the match ended in a win for the visitors by three goals to two goals and try. For the School Horsfall and Eglington were splendid at three-quarters, while Birks put in some excellent runs, Hawley-Edwards was good at half, while Radford and Browning were perhaps the best of the grovel.

School.

H. G. Waterall (back); G. R. Birks, P. Eglington, L. G. Horsfall and A. M. Wilson (three-quarters); S. F. Hawley-Edwards and H. B. Moser (halves); C. A. Radford (capt), W. F. Pothecary, R. Browning, R. E. Pullman, C. G. Bond, H. J. Buckmaster, J. P. Woodhams and Wilson, mi. (forwards).

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THE SCHOOL *v.* CREWKERNE.

The return match was played on the Crewkerne ground under the most unfavourable conditions. We arrived on the ground at 3.30, where a general punt about was going on in which the populace generally were "cordially invited" to join. Finally a start was made—the Crewkerne Captain being a notable absentee—about 3.45. The state of the ground was not encouraging—the fine crop of aftermath which covered it

had been thoroughly soaked by a damp fog that had rested on it for many hours. The ball, originally intended for what some people call real football, had by long use been distorted into a form, which Geographers lucidly describe as "an oblate spheroid somewhat flattened at the poles." This ball had of course been thoroughly soaked and chilled before the game began. The game, which from beginning to end was a hopeless scramble, was played far into the night. It was discovered at the end of the game that we had suffered defeat by the space of 6 points. The whole conditions under which the match was played favoured the "kick and rush game" affected by our opponents. Their tackling was resolute and their tactics generally un-nerved our back division.

School.

H. G. Waterall (back); G. R. Birks, P. Eglington, L. G. Horsfall, A. M. Wilson (three-quarters); S. F. Hawley-Edwards, G. L. Leigh-Clare (halves); C. A. Radford, W. F. Potheary, R. Browning, R. E. Pullman, C. G. Bond, H. J. Buckmaster, J. P. Woodhams, P. H. Wilson (forwards).

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SCHOOL *v* H. R. DEAN Esq's XV.

On November 21st, the School played a weak team brought down by H. R. Dean, Esq. After a very one sided game the School proved victorious by seven goals and five tries to a goal. Dean kicked off towards the Little Field and after some grovels about half-way, Potheary made a dribble and picking up passed to Wilson who scored our first try. The kick was a failure. The game remained for some time in their half and five more tries were scored in rapid succession, two of which were converted. Their forwards then rushed the ball down to our line and Ransford scored a try for our opponents. The same player converted. Just before half-time Eglington scored again after a dodgy run. Bond converted. On resuming the ball was taken to our twenty-five. But Eglington and Horsfall both made some good runs, and Birks soon afterwards got in. The kick was successful. Wilson quickly scored two more tries, and some excellent passing among our three-quarters and useful runs by Horsfall and Hawley-Edwards kept the ball in their twenty-five. Birks intercepted a pass and nearly scored but ran into touch. Then Hawley-Edwards got away and after an excellent run passed to Birks who scored. Bond kicked the goal. Just before time Wilson gained another try, which was converted. Tries were gained by Wilson (6), Birks (3), Eglington (2), and Hawley-Edwards. The School outsiders all played well, their

passing being particularly good. Of the grovel Pothecary, Radford and Pullman, were the best.

School.

Kidner (back); G. R. Birks, P. Eglington, L. G. Horsfall, and A. M. Wilson (three-quarters); S. F. Hawley-Edwards and Lacey (halves); C. A. Radford (capt), W. F. Pothecary, R. E. Pullman, C. G. Bond, H. J. Buckmaster, J. P. Woodhams, Wilson, mi. and Le Cocq (forwards).

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SCHOOL *v.* HONITON.

This match was played at Sherborne on November 25th, and resulted in a win for Honiton by a dropped goal and six tries to one goal and one try. It was twenty minutes past three when Honiton kicked off towards the little field end, and almost immediately one of their forwards, picking the ball up after a rush, scored a try, which however was not converted. Play settled down in the School half, and we were several times obliged to touch down. A free kick relieved, but soon after one of the Honiton men gaining possession of the ball, dropped a good goal. On resuming Honiton continued to press and scored three times, failing, however to convert on each occasion. Half-time was soon after given, the score being four tries and a dropped goal to nil.

On resuming Browning kicked off for the School and play for the first time settled down in the Honiton twenty-five. The ball was, however, soon brought back, and though a mark made by Wilson relieved slightly, Honiton scored their fifth try. They again failed to convert. Play again settled in our twenty-five, but Eglington relieved with a good run and kick, while Birks following up scored between the posts. Bond kicked the goal. Soon after, Browning by a good dribble took the ball over the Honiton line and succeeded in touching it down, but failed to kick the goal. On resuming, Sherborne continued to press, till one of their threequarters securing the ball looked like scoring, but was well collared by Waterall. Honiton continued to press and scored another try, which they failed to convert. After this nothing further was scored, though Honiton repeatedly looked dangerous.

School.

H. G. Waterall (back); G. R. Birks, P. Eglington, L. G. Horsfall, and A. M. Wilson (three-quarters); S. F. Hawley-Edwards and G. L. Leigh-Clare (halves); C. A. Radford (capt.), W. F. Pothecary, R. Browning, R. E. Pullman,

C. G. Bond, H. J. Buckmaster, J. P. Woodhams, and P. H. Wilson (forwards).

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SCHOOL *v.* TONBRIDGE.

This match was played on the School ground on Dec. 2nd, and resulted in an easy victory for our visitors. From the first five minutes in which Tonbridge gained the first try, till the call of time, the School were kept entirely on the defensive, and with monotonous regularity try after try was added to the score, the final result being 2 goals, 1 goal from a mark, and 8 tries to nil. A detailed account of such a match is unnecessary, but it should prove instructive to young players to point out how the School collapsed so utterly on this occasion. That backs are powerless behind beaten forwards, and that the more thoroughly forwards are beaten, the more absolute must be the collapse of their side, are two facts that have been entirely proved time after time in football history. And this match only adds another example to the already long roll of instances.

Tonbridge possess this season a very fine pack of forwards, strong and dashing and with pace and cleverness beyond the average. Here lay the great weakness of this year's School XV., a weakness that was greatly increased by the absence of three of the regular forwards. From the earliest stages of the game it was apparent that the School outsidés would get no chance of showing their combination. Except for one occasion on which they nearly scored after the neatest passing in the match, they remained wholly on the defensive, and probably the most scientific, although not the most effective, back division the School has had for many years, were as useless as the worst would have been.

For the result much excuse can be found. Superior weight and strength of opposing forwards cannot be remedied, nor can the absence of a third of the XV. from illness be averted. But a want of dash and go, of footwork and collaring, can be remedied and must be deplored. Forwards who will push hard, use their feet vigorously, collar low, and invariably back up, are hard to find, but when found make a side. Weak in this respect, the School had the misfortune this year to find Tonbridge in the possession of eight such forwards. Hence the catastrophe.

Kidner, who was tried for the first time, played very well at back. He collared all he could reach, his fielding and kicking were cool. At three-quarters Eglington and Wilson played a most trying game as pluckily as possible. The halves were fair, and Radford in the grovel did his best to improve matters.

School.

Kidner (back); G. R. Birks, P. Eglington, Elton, A. M. Wilson (three-quarters); S. F. Hawley-Edwards, Lacey (halves); C. A. Radford, W. F. Potheary, R. Browning, C. G. Bond, H. J. Buckmaster, J. P. Woodhams, LeCocq, Custance (forwards).

Referee: Capt. Lawrence.

(The following three poems have appeared in the *Daily News*, and are now reprinted in the *Shirburnian* by the author's kind permission.)

GENERAL SYMONS.

Alas, the pity of it! alas, the pain!
 Left by the ebbing tide
 Of his own victory, England's loss and gain,
 Amid her foes he died.

O consummation that all grief beguiles,
 And death itself endears—
 To float, fame-wafted, to the Happy Isles
 Upon a nation's tears!

J. R.

(*Daily News*, Oct. 30th.)

STARS.

Stars in the north! world-fragments, that through space
 Æon on æon ran their darkling race,
 Strike fiery-white against earth's airy wall,
 And, luminous in dissolution, fall.

Stars in the South! dim souls, that could not shine
 While life's dull orbit did their course confine,
 Now, devious hurled on war's opposing breath,
 Flash in a brief magnificence of death.

J. R.

(*Daily News*, Nov. 18th.)

DULCE ET DECORUM EST.

O rank and file of England,
Bold privates of her line,
Whose battle-deeds unnumbered
In deathless glory shine.
Too cold the lips that praise you,
Too few the eyes that weep ;
Too oft with dull oblivion
In nameless graves ye sleep :
Untaught and roughly nurtured,
If faint in you the flame
Of loftier aspiration
That fire the soul to fame—
If life's best lore ye know not,
Yet this at least ye know,
To fight to die for England,
When England bids you go.

We, nursed in high traditions,
And trained to nobler thought,
Deem death to be less bitter
Than life too dearly bought :
Sharp spurs we have to honour,
But ye without their aid
Rush on the deadly breaches,
And storm the barricade ;
Though oft your lives belie you—
Rude hands and shameless lips—
At least ye shine transfigured
In death's apocalypse,
When by one deed that washes
Each soul as white as snow
From less than man grown godlike
To God at last ye go.

J. R.

(Daily News, Nov. 1st.)

OBITUARY.

Raymond Henry Thrupp.

Born 1834; entered the Schoolhouse in 1848; XI.; left 1850.
Was a Solicitor in London from 1859 to his death in July last.

John Wright Topham Manuel.

Born 1868; entered Rhoades' House; left 1887; died in
October.

John Garland Watts.

Born 1826; died suddenly in November at Lisbon, where he
had been in business for many years.

Colonel Eaton Aylmer Travers.

Died in November last.

(A further notice of him is found elsewhere in this number
of the *Shirburnian*.)

OXFORD LETTER.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Your second number of the *Shirburnian* this term would be far from complete if a letter were not to find a place therein recounting the doings of O.S.S. in Oxford. Often hitherto it has been no easy matter to collect any news of interest to you, and former letters have on many occasions had to deal with Oxford life in general through lack of any particular news of O.S.S. This term however, I am glad to say has had more than ordinary interest for you, since in one direction and another O.S.S. have come to the front. G. R. Garnier has undoubtedly earned the right to be mentioned first, since he has already more than justified the high opinion held of him at Sherborne as a hurdle-racer. On November 13th he won the hurdle-race in the Freshmen's sports, with ten yards to spare in $17\frac{1}{2}$ secs., a time which, considering the easy character of the win, was decidedly good. He also won on December 1st the Stranger's hurdle-race in Jesus College sports, though penalized eight yards. The highest compliment with regard to these performances was that of the starter at the running ground, who remarked, "I should like to have a nice little sum on you, sir, against Mr. Parkes next term." H. R. Parkes is first hurdler for Oxford and amateur champion 1898. Unless some unforeseen accident occurs Sherborne School will without doubt be able to boast a "Blue" before another term has passed.

L. G. Sunderland has also done well in his own particular line; I refer of course to football. He has already played for an Oxford "A" team and regularly for University College. This latter fact is in reality more than at first sight appears, since that College has an unbeaten team and there is considerable competition for a place among the forwards. Had Fortune but been kind enough to grant to your late captain an additional two stone in weight, we might reasonably expect him to have obtained a place in the 'Varsity XV.

C. Ransford has captained the Worcester College R.U.F.C. with conspicuous success; H. R. Dean and G. A. Cooper also represent New College on the football field: I. G. Winch, when he can spare the time from his reading, plays both Rugby and Association football for Merton.

O.S.S. are not prominent on the River just at present, which is to be regretted; there is no occasion to suppose that because a man does not come up from a rowing school he can never excel in that line: some of the best oars that Oxford has ever turned out were complete novices in the art when they first came up.

I hope there may be a good influx of O.S.S. coming up in October next: our numbers are very small at present, and it would be a source of great pleasure to us if we could bring down a XV. from Oxford against the School composed entirely of O.S.S.

Yours, etc.,
OXONIENSIS.

SCHOOL NEWS.

The following have been presented with their colours:

1st XV. P. Eglington (*c*), W. F. Pothecary (*a*), L. G. Horsfall (*a*), R. Browning (*b*), R. E. Pullman (*b*), C. G. Bond (*a*), A. M. Wilson (*a*), H. J. Buckmaster (*f*), J. H. Bowman (*d*).

2nd XV., R. Browning (*b*), J. H. Bowman (*d*), H. J. Buckmaster (*f*), J. P. Woodhams (*b*), H. G. Waterall (*d*), G. R. Birks (*a*), P. H. Wilson (*a*).

On Thursday, November 23rd. Captain Boisragon gave us a most interesting lecture on the Benin Expedition. He was one of the two European survivors of that unfortunate party and after his escape, badly wounded in the arm, met with thrilling adventures before reaching a friendly village.

The Games Committee has been constituted as follows:—
C. A. Radford (*b*), Captain of Football; J. C. Johnston (*a*), Head of the School; P. Eglington, (*c*) Captain of Cricket; S. F. Hawley-Edwards (*a*); W. F. Pothecary (*a*); J. H. Bowman (*d*); R. B. Rickman (*f*) I. T. A. MacDonald.

The Match against St. Paul's School ended in a draw, two tries all.

Tonbridge inflicted a severe defeat upon us, scoring 38 points to nil.

The following inscription, on a tablet of beautiful workmanship, has been put up in chapel to the memory of Mr. Aston-Binns, who was killed in the Alps in September, 1898:—

IN PACE
FRANCISCUS ASTON BINNS
SCHOLAE ISTIUS
PER ANNOS SEPTEM
E MAGISTRIS ADIUTORIBUS
QUI QUEM MONTIUM AMOREM JAM PUER
CONCEPERAT
PER EUNDEM IMMATURAE
EST MORTI DEDITUS
DOCTRINAE INCUBUIT
ARTES COLUIT
SUOS OMNES AMAVIT
PROSEQUUNTUR DESIDERUS
AMICI COLLEGAE DISCIPULI
VIXIT A XXXIX M. IV OBDORMIVIT IN DOMINO
A.D. XVI KAL. OCT. A.S MDCCCXCVIII
HANC TABULAM P.C. LABORUM CONSORTES

A "Penny Reading" was held on December 9th, in the Big Schoolroom. There was a large attendance and most of the items were encored. The programme was as follows:—

Duet (piano), "The Dance of the Bacchantes," Carey and Ley.			
Song	...	"Venetian Boat Song,"	... Chapman.
Song	...	"The Old Soldier."	... Buckmaster.
(Encore: "Tommy Atkins.")			
Song	...	"Tit Willow,"	... Birks.
Song	...	"Rataplan,"	... Mr. Hodgson.
(Encore: "Lullaby.")			
Song	....	"The Admiral's Broom,"	... Wilson i.
Duet	...	"The Buttercup,"	Mr. Hodgson and Carey.
Song	...	"The Soldiers in the Park,"	... Bond.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

The Treasurer of the Games Fund begs to acknowledge with thanks the following Subscriptions.

			£	s.	d.
T. Ffooks, Esq.	...	...	0	10	0
H. R. Dean, Esq.	...	...	1	0	0

O.S. NEWS.

The following O.S.S. have been playing football:—

For Somerset	...	...	G. M. Carey (<i>f</i>), L. C. Powys (<i>d</i>).
For Blackheath	...	...	C. Dixon (<i>a</i>).
For Devonshire	...	...	A. Chichester (<i>b</i>).
For St. Thomas' Hospital and United Hospitals—			
			J. F. Cunningham (<i>f</i>).
For St. George's Hospital			H. F. Devitt (<i>a</i>).

For King's College, Cambridge	H. V. Temperley	(<i>d</i>).
For Queen's ,, ,,	M. S. Douglas, K. J. Douglas.	
For Pembroke ,, ,,	H. F. Metcalfe	(<i>f</i>).
For Worcester College, Oxford	C. Ransford	(<i>a</i>).
For New ,, ,,	H. R. Dean	(<i>a</i>), G. R. Cooper (<i>f</i>).
For University ,, ,,	L. G. Sunderland	(<i>a</i>).
For Merton ,, ,,	I. G. Winch	(<i>f</i>).
For Redhill and Reigate ...	H. C. Pinckney, (f), H. V. Fletcher	(f), H. Partridge (<i>d</i>).

G. R. Garnier (*a*) won the Hurdles in the Freshmen's Sports in $17\frac{4}{5}$ secs., a fairly good time, seeing that he was not pressed at all.

G. M. Carey (*f*) is Captain of Somerset this year.

Perhaps the first casualty among the O.S.S. in South Africa was Trooper H. M. Luttmann-Johnson, who left in 1892, reported Nov. 22nd slightly wounded on the Orange River. He had enlisted in the Diamond Fields Irregular Horse.

Major C. C. Monro, Royal West Surrey Regiment, has gone to South Africa as Deputy Assist.-Adjut.-General, Sixth Division.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Mr. Editor,

It has always struck me that there is a great want of system among the Bird and Egg Collections in the School Museum, for the most part placed irrespective of order and class. Could they not both be

arranged from the Raptores—Natatores ? a system which is used by Yarrell and other great Naturalists. I also noticed that damp and moth (more especially among the butterflies) has made its appearance in some of the cases, which if not quickly stopped will destroy any mounted specimen.

Yours truly,

NATURALIST.

The Editor acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following Magazines:—*Blundellian, Bramptonian, Carthusian (2), Cliftonian, Doverian (2), Elizabethan, Felstedian, Haileyburian (2), Lorettonian, Marlburian (2), St. Michael's Chronicle, Ousel, Pauline, Reptonian, Tonbridgian, Wellingtonian, Wycombe Abbey Gazette.*

(a.) Schoolhouse, (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.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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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.