

Translation of the Latin Address.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

While I congratulate myself that it has fallen to my lot to bid you welcome upon this anniversary, and do not doubt that you are ready to extend the same indulgence to our efforts as on previous occasions, I own to some apprehension lest we should hardly be able this year to satisfy your expectation, owing to the absence of some of our number who should have appeared before you to day, but who are unfortunately being examined elsewhere. But though we are not all born actors, at least it is in the power of each of us to do his best to maintain the reputation of former years.

To advert for a few moments to the events of the past twelve months, I am sorrowfully reminded at the outset of my speech of the beloved name of a Schoolfellow, whose appointment to the Captaincy of our Games we had hailed with delight, and whose untimely death we mourned as a common calamity, within the space of one short year.

We have to regret too the departure of one of our Masters, himself a Shirburnian,⁴ who, having devoted seven years to the service of his Alma Mater, had inspired the members of our Army Class with unbounded confidence in his capacity to ensure their one day becoming soldiers. Still there are many subjects for congratulation. The staff of Masters has been recruited by the accession of one who bears a name familiar to Sherborne ears, and in whom we recognise not merely an able teacher of French, but a genuine Englishman.

In the next place, let me briefly enumerate according to custom the principal honours which have been gained by Shirburnians during the year. Among those who have won high distinction at Cambridge it is a pleasure to mention once more the name of Henry Henn, elected to a Fellowship at Trinity Hall, of Edward Hensley, First Bell University Scholar, and of Francis Rawlings who has gained a Scholar-

ship at Pembroke. Among Oxonians we have to congratulate William Lowndes upon his First Class in Theology, and Lester Lester upon his First Class in Classical Moderations. Nor must we forget to notice the success of William Partridge, who has lately obtained the First Place in the Second Examination of Candidates for the Civil Service of India. Lastly, the credit of present members of the School has been maintained by William Dixon and Harry House who have returned from the banks of Isis dignified with the Scholar's gown.

Nor is it in distinctions of this nature only that the School has sustained its reputation. Arthur Hammond, an old Shirkburnian, who served in the late Afghan War has been decorated with the Victoria Cross for gallantly defending a beleaguered hill at the point of the sword, and rescuing a wounded companion from the thick of the enemy at the imminent risk of his own life.

It remains for me to call attention to the additions lately made to our chapel, in the prolongation of the Aisle, at our own expense, to suit the growth of our numbers, and in the decoration of the reredos, the sculptures of which have been picked out with colour and at last made visible.

In conclusion, I have only to beg, my Lords and Gentlemen, that you will listen to our Speeches with the same kind attention that you have accorded to my address.