

# TRANSLATION OF THE LATIN SPEECH,

1884.

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It is now five years, my Lords and Gentlemen, since my brother addressed you in the first Latin Speech that was made to your assembled body. You remember, doubtless, what was the arrangement of this room on previous occasions. To-day you can hardly fail to admire the altered garniture of the walls, the substantial gallery, the improved entrance. Let me call your special attention to yonder new tablet, put up to the worthy memory of those who, fifty years ago, testified by their University successes to the efficiency of their School-training. Observe too that wondrous arrangement of pipes, Mr. Parker's pride and delight, which I find it easier to indicate with the finger than to describe in Latin, but which, thanks in large measure to his own strenuous energy, has lately been added by way of finishing stroke to the resources of our concert-room. Nor is it the interior of the room only that has had additions made to it. The class-rooms, which, when we last welcomed you here, were in a rude and unfinished state, may be seen to-day complete in every respect and adapted to school purposes.

But while congratulating ourselves upon growth and progress, we are sadly reminded of change and decay by the absence from your body of one, whose death in a ripe age we have had to deplore during the past year. For 38 years he had occupied a place at your council-board, nor had any one a stronger claim upon our gratitude. An old Shirburnian himself, he took the warmest interest in the School as its Governor, and in his medical capacity was its assiduous friend.

Two new Masters have joined the staff, one of whom is a mathematician, while both are modern linguists of the highest reputation : nor does the accession in the present instance imply that we have any counterbalancing loss to regret.

Next let us offer our congratulations, according to established custom, to those of our brethren at the Universities who, by their successes during the past year, have brought us satisfaction, rejoicing, and extra half holidays. It gives me no ordinary pleasure to mention L. V. Lester, my own brother, who has obtained a final first class in classics at Oxford. With his name must be coupled that of A. J. Galpin, who, after having been bracketed with him for the Sherborne Exhibition, has no less worthily fulfilled the hopes of his Alma Mater. W. C. Penney, H. H. House, and W. H. Dixon have obtained their first class in Moderations, while H. H. House has just won the Gaisford Prize for Greek Verse at Oxford—a success which the iambics he recited before you here might have led us to expect. Among our Cantabs A. N. Whitehead must be congratulated once more upon attaining to the highest grade of mathematical distinction. His example has been well followed by E. H. Hensley who has telegraphed the news of his Wranglership just in time to be mentioned. Nor is our own immediate record a blank; my companion, E. A. Nepean, having been elected in the early part of the year to a Scholarship at University College, Oxford.

Such, my Lords and Gentlemen, have been the most important incidents and achievements of the past year. It remains for us, no longer now in name only but in fact, children of the Clear Spring, to thank you, as we are in duty bound, for the unremitting care you bestow upon our interests, and to beg that you will extend the same indulgence to our Speeches upon the present occasion as you have extended to them in previous years.