

# TRANSLATION OF THE LATIN SPEECH, 1885.

---

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I am really in doubt whether to congratulate you upon the translation of your Right Rev. Chairman from the Exe to the Thames, or whether to express my fear lest, amidst the onerous duties of his new see, one who for fourteen years has contributed so much lustre and strength to your government of the School should be compelled, however reluctantly, to resign his honorary office. While, however, it is not possible to dwell with unmixed satisfaction upon this appointment, there is unmistakeable ground for satisfaction in the fact that you have lately coopted into your body, as one of our Governors, a young man, who, if we may judge from the name he bears, should be animated by the most friendly sentiments towards us. Nor ought we in this connexion to forget the excellent man lately taken from us, himself in former times a pupil of the School, who was long associated with you in its government, and who laboured earnestly, as a friend, to maintain its interests, and as a medical man, to promote its health.

We have lost three members of the staff, one of whom had done the School excellent service during nine years as Natural Science Master, and another during four years as our teacher in German, his own native tongue. Three new masters have taken their places whom in their presence I forbear to flatter.

And now, to congratulate those of my fellow Shirburnians, whether past or present, who have been successful in winning first-class honours, let me once more sound the praises of Alfred Whitehead, unless he is tired of being so often commended, who had scarcely blossomed into a Bachelor of Arts when he was elected to a Fellowship at Trinity College, Cambridge. Among Oxonians, Francis Lys is to be congratulated not merely upon his First Class in Moderations, but upon winning the Chancellor's Prize for Latin Verse.

My predecessor, Norman Hankey, has gained an Exhibition at the same University. Nor has the present generation been unmindful of what we owe to our mother school, William Southcomb, Francis Bennett, and Ernest Hill having come back to us from Oxford invested with the scholar's gown ; and Arthur Jacob from Burlington House in the uniform of a Cadet.

To pass on, if I am asked what remarkable events have occurred in our midst, what new or valuable additions have been made to our resources during the past year, I must remind you in the first place of that distinguished Conference of Head Masters which was held last December in this room, and upon these very benches ; and, in the second place, of the additions made to our Library in the shape of book cases, chandeliers, busts, an oak floor, and, last not least, the charter granted to the School by King Edward the Sixth, which we have at last rescued from its obscurity to be the palladium, if I may so say, of our ancient foundation.

A spacious Gymnasium has likewise been added to the appliances of our life, replete with all those instruments of torture, whether ladders or vaulting horses, which are calculated to impart an ideal grace to the arms and legs of the awkward.

It only remains for me, my Lords and Gentlemen, to thank you on two accounts—in the first place, for having listened with so much patience to my address, and secondly, for having decided to add an extra week to our last Easter holidays. The result of this has been that, after our temporary sufferings from measles and mumps, we are able to play our parts before you to-day in a thoroughly vigorous and healthy condition of body.