

TRANSLATION OF THE LATIN ADDRESS

1886.

Although it is impossible, my Lords and Gentlemen, to scan the distinguished seats you occupy without regret for the loss of two venerable members of your body; one of whom had made himself not merely the friend of the County of which he was Lord Lieutenant, but, if I may say so, of the whole human race; while the other, in the exercise of his episcopal functions, used to give us an annual proof of his gentle wisdom and of the fatherly feeling with which he regarded us; I have nevertheless to congratulate you upon the accession to office in their ~~stead~~ of two Governors, still in the prime of life, and likely, as they have already shown, to prove vigorous promoters of our interests.

I have also to congratulate our Vicar and fellow-townsmen, not to say any of my own comrades whose ears may happen to be lined with iron, that the Abbey Bells have once more begun to speak in familiar tones from yonder renovated tower. Nor is it only to the restoration of the Abbey Church that the masons of Sherborne have devoted their energies; since, in close proximity to our playing field, our ancient stock has put forth a vigorous young sucker, which we believe will ere long be a full grown tree. At some distance further off, but not inconveniently far, another Boarding House has reared its gables to the sky—be so kind as to lend me your ears, all fathers and mothers of budding boys—to serve as a nursery for those who are putting forth their tender shoots with a view to becoming members of the great School.

But, that we may not be neglectful of old and crumbling buildings, while we sing the praises of those which are new or have been recently restored, care is needed, my Lords and Gentlemen, to prevent mischief befalling that august image of King Edward which up to the present time has survived the vicissitudes of time and

chance. The old room is actually crumbling to its fall—I cannot speak of it without a shudder—in which that image has been so long preserved, and it is pretty certain that, but for the timbers with which the ruin has been propped, the royal head of our Founder would have been smashed to atoms. Therefore, my Lords and Gentlemen, we pray you to do what is possible, during the coming holidays, to save the majesty of the Founder, and to secure the safety of our comrades, at their meals.

And now, if any one should ask what first class honours have been obtained by the School during the past twelve months, let me say that Arthur Aldous and Alfred Littlewood have returned from Oxford invested with the Scholar's gown, while Exhibitions have been gained at the same University by Richard Maunsell, William Boyd, and Edward Nelson. Praise is also due to Herbert Gee and Johnston Penney who gained the 10th and 14th places respectively in the competition for the Indian Civil Service. Herbert Mongan is to be commended for having won a Scholarship at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and last, not least, Lester Vallis Lester, must be congratulated upon his recent election to a Fellowship at St. John's College, Oxford.

It only remains for me, my Lords and Gentlemen, now that I have fulfilled my duty to the best of my ability, to thank you for your patience, and to pray that you will listen to our performances with the same kind indulgence you are in the habit of extending to them.