

CONTIO

ORATORE HENRICO S. RIX.

Annus ille, Praesides, cuius eventus hodie respicimus, creta an carbone notandus sit, viderit posteritas. Mihi quidem in mentem veniunt permulta—sed βούς ἐπὶ γλώσση μέγας βέβηκε. Hoc certo scio non omnia in malis ponenda esse quae in prasens dolenda videantur; liceat modo illud cupere atque optare, ut, quamvis imminuto corpore,

Duris ut illex tona bipennibus,
Nigrae feraci frondis in Algido,
Per damna, per caedes, ab ipso
Ducit opes animumque ferro,

ita per hostiles ictus schola nostra firmior famaue sua dignior evadat, quibuscumque in arduis sibi constans maneat, nec quicquam detrimenti ex obtreptantium sermone capiat, nisi quod tempore et patientia reconcinnari possit.

Ut ad laetiora festinem: Uni vestrum, Praesides, cui superiore anno praeclaram cernenti hereditatem gratulabamur, nova hodie veriorque facienda est gratulatio, quod filiolo suo matrem, ipse sibi coniugem invenerit; quam quidem summa voluntate nos sciat excepturos esse, quandocumque ad moenia nostra novam nuptam secum adduxerit.

Gaudemus etiam consiliis vestris lepidissimum hominem accessisse, quem, in proscenio magno totius nostrae gentis clamore haud semel approbatum, lenem fortasse nos hodie censorem habebimus.

Quod superest, eorum nomina, instituto ac more nostro, proferamus, qui Almae Matri gloriam, laetitiam, ferias contulerunt: quorum apud Cantabrigienses inter sui anni mathematicos in primam classem relato gratulandum est Henrico Cayley³, eiusdem collegii quantulocumque civi facto Henrico Rix⁴. Ab Iside eximium in historia honorem meritis bis rediit Robertus Duff⁵. Laudetur ob Huisianum beneficium post tot annos reciperat Carolus Phillips⁶. Laudetur ob Gallorum linguam triumphatam Iacobus Gould⁷. Nec omittenda est eorum mentio qui rei militari sub ludi magistris studentes et voti sui compotes sunt facti, nec nostrae non expectationi satis fecerunt; Arturum Carey⁸, dico, Fredericum Hicks⁹, Arturum Jacob¹⁰.

Ne plura, oro vos, Praesides, ut, qua soliti estis indulgentia, eadem nos apud vos declamantes audiat.

1 J. K. D. Wingfield Digby, Esq.

2 Major J. J. L. McAdam.

3 24th Wrangler, Trinity College, Cambridge.

4 Sizar of Trinity College, Cambridge.

5 Exhibitor of Wadham College, Oxford.

Scholar of Lincoln College, Oxford.

6 Huish Exhibitioner 1890.

7 Certificate in the 'Grand Concours des Professeurs de Français en Angleterre.'

8 Passed 14th for R.M.A., Woolwich.

9 Passed 20th for R.M.C., Sandhurst.

10 Passed 54th for R.M.C., Sandhurst.

ADDRESS.

SPOKEN BY H. S. RIX.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Whether the events of the year, which we review to-day, shall be marked with chalk or charcoal, I leave to the impartial judgment of those who shall come after us. Certain is it that many things, which for the time seem grievous, are found in the end to have been blessings in disguise. Much indeed I might say, but—a padlock is upon my lips. Let me rather confine myself to a fervent hope that our School, however for a while impaired in fortune—

As the stout oak by axes shorn,
On Algidus with dark leaves rife,
Laughs carnage, havoc, all to scorn,
And draws new spirit from the knife—

may come forth from conflict with increased strength and a higher sense of dignity than before, may prove true to itself under whatever trying circumstances, and receive no worse hurt from ungenerous tongues than time and patience shall be able to repair.

To pass to brighter topics. Last year we were offering our congratulations to one of your body upon succeeding to his noble inheritance. To-day we have to wish him joy anew, and in a deeper sense, on having found one to be the partner of his own life, and a mother to his youthful son, whom we beg him to believe we shall heartily welcome, whenever he may be disposed to bring his bride to Sherborne School.

We welcome also the accession to our Governing Body of a very genial spirit in one who, as he has so often drawn upon himself the applause of us all by his talented acting, will prove, we trust, no ungentle critic of our performances to-day.

Ere I conclude, let me, in accordance with established custom, mention the names of those who, during the past twelve months, have conferred honour, satisfaction, and—half-holidays upon their Alma Mater. At Cambridge, H. Cayley has obtained a Wranglership in the Mathematical Tripos, and Rix a Classical Sizarship at Trinity. R. Duff has twice come back to us from Oxford with honours gained in the less frequented field of Modern History. C. Phillips is to be applauded for winning the Huish Exhibition once more for Sherborne; J. Gould for his triumph over the French Language. Nor must we omit to notice those who have passed direct for the Army from the School, gratifying thereby not merely their own ambition but our just expectation—A. Carey, F. Hicks, and A. Jacob.

Not to detain you longer, let me pray you, my Lords and Gentlemen, to extend that kindly indulgence to our Speeches, which you have accorded to them in past years.