

SHERBORNE SCHOOL.

ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION, 1953.

Latin Prose.

(2 hours).

Write on alternate lines.

Francis was anxious to do something by which he might annoy the enemy ; and having heard that Oudenarde had been left but carelessly guarded he thought it a good opportunity to surprise the place. Accordingly, having selected 400 men in whom he had the greatest confidence, he set out thither at nightfall. It was the month of September, when the nights are tolerably long, and by midnight he and his party had arrived in the meadows before the town. Now it happened, as they were crossing these meadows, that a poor woman was gathering grass for her cows, and having overheard some part of their talk, she judged that they were Ghent men going to surprise the town. She therefore decided to hasten and inform the guard what she had seen and heard. Being well acquainted with the paths she was soon at the city, and told her tale to the first guard she met. He was not quite satisfied with her story, and remained quiet where he was in order if possible to ascertain the truth of it. But before long the woman came to him a second time, begging him to go at once to the Ghent gate and see if his companions were in a proper state ; for she had been listening again, and was certain there was no time to be lost.

To listen, to overhear=auscultare.