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# THE STOIC



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TEMPLE OF CONCORD AND VICTORY.

# THE STOIC

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## ONE YEAR

**S**TRICTLY speaking, it is only eleven months. Still, they have been pretty full months, full enough to count as twelve, and for practical purposes we need not wait till the 11th of May to consider ourselves one year old. Having attained to this ripe age we are naturally tempted, like other old people, to look back upon our departed youth and see what we have done with our time. Most of us, however, have probably wasted so much of it that we should find such a scrutiny depressing, and in any case we are still (in spite of our great age) more concerned here with the future than with the past. The future is obscure enough, but (like some other things at Stowe) it much needs looking into. Part of it can be seen by anyone either in Quadrant Court or in Cobham Court, rising promisingly enough between scaffold poles. But for that part we who live in the School cannot take credit, and it is a very small part in any case. Most of our future cannot be as easily inspected as a block of new classrooms without a roof. The really important parts of it depend on things which are going on now, but which cannot be measured or judged until their results have appeared. What the Stoics of the first year will do when they leave Stowe and how well they will do it, are questions which in reality are being answered now, and what the Stoics of the fifth year will find when they come here will be settled long before the fifth year arrives. This is the part of our future which we are creating ourselves, and yet cannot foresee. It is the biggest part of all, and the responsibility of it is not light. The casual do not feel it, but thereby they make it heavier for the rest.

One point in our future seems fairly well assured: we are not going to suffer from a shortage of inhabitants. So many boys now want to come to Stowe that we shall be lucky if we can accept a fifth of the applicants for the next three years. It is needless to enquire what we may have done in the past to create this confidence in us—for

it is perfectly clear that we have done nothing at all. But we shall have to do something, and something very good, if we are to keep and justify it in the future. The thousand or so names on our books are a challenge to us to make the School what such numbers of English people clearly believe that it is going to be. That will not be easily done, but it seems to some of us that it will be more worth doing than anything else in the world.

### THE FABRIC OF STOWE. No. III.

*The Augustan Age: A Digression.*

**I**N England, at any rate, I very much doubt if any private individual will ever again build a Stowe. The surprise that almost everybody feels in first seeing this great and beautiful house is, I think, partly due to the amazing fact that it was intended for the enjoyment of one man and his family. It is curious, but in architecture we are a great deal affected not merely by what we see, but by our knowledge of what a thing is intended for. It would take away the surprise of Stowe if we were told that it had always been a public building, a picture gallery or some sort of great institute, but no, it was a dwelling-house, and we begin at once to try and think how it struck contemporaries and how it compared with other great houses of its day.

In the first place we should perhaps at Stowe be inclined to blame the architect for having made a very inconvenient house, but if we do, we must remember that it was not to build a convenient house that eighteenth century architects were employed. They were quite often obviously employed by their clients to build something grand rather than something reasonable. The average eighteenth century 'person of quality' would clearly not have thought so much of the short, convenient route which his lordship's dinner traversed on its way from kitchen to dining room, or of the convenience of her ladyship's boudoir, as of the open vistas you could get through a suite of state-rooms, or of the width of the gallery round the hall.

Stowe was, of course, immensely praised in its day. It was a piece of committee work rather than the product of a single brain, for the man who built it was, like many people nowadays, too fond of his own way to go straight to a first-class expert, who he was afraid might have bullied and insisted. However, he got what he wanted. It did not worry him that his dinner had to come to him along miles of passage and up awkward stairs, or that you could almost have got lost in the butler's pantry, which before the present alterations was large enough

to take four billiard tables with ease, and where there were only two tiny, wretched sinks. To eighteenth century people the point about the interior of Stowe was the grand proportion of the main rooms, the beautiful diversification of the sizes and shapes, the impressive vista from end to end of the Piano Nobile. If you stand in the entrance hall as you come in from the front door, go through into the oval hall and come out again on to that grand Corinthian portico, you will, if your mind is tuned to it at all, realise what it was that these people were after. The sequence of shapes and proportions gives you a marvellous series of sensations. First there is the simplicity of the square entrance hall, then the sense of enclosure given by the rich, elaborate, oval saloon, and finally the really startling experience of stepping out from that glorious, oval handbox into the openness of a mighty loggia. The park stretches before you and the steps invite you down into the open air. The south loggia itself is a kind of terrace and the whole design gives you a sense of grand, masculine simplicity, and above all of space and amplitude. If you walk through the other rooms in turn you will see that their sequence, and the order in which shape follows shape, though nowhere else so melodramatic or quite so successful, provides a considerable element in your sensations.

Mereworth Castle, near Maidstone, is another house in which very much is made of these special effects. It is a copy by Colin Campbell of the villa which Palladio built outside Vicenza. There are other copies of it in England too, for it was through Palladio, by means of Inigo Jones, that the classical style came into England. There were, of course, plenty of other great designers of the late Renaissance, but to English architects it must have seemed as though Palladio was absolutely pre-eminent, and in England we often find that the classical style is called by his name, and Stowe must be spoken of as Palladian.

Holkham was another house built about the same time as Stowe. Horace Walpole is rather funny about it. The architect was Kent, whom Walpole disliked, and he says bitterly that Holkham is marked by all the peculiarities of his style. 'We are left to conjecture whether the noble host and hostess sleep in a bedroom forty feet high or are relegated like their guests to a garret or an outhouse, or perhaps may have their bedroom windows turned inwards on a lead flat.'

Kedleston, which was built in the early seventeen-sixties, was a good deal more comfortable, and indeed was a fairly reasonable, as well as a splendid house, but Dr. Johnson was very peevish about it. 'It would do excellently for a town hall. The room with the large pillars,' said he, 'would do for the judges to sit in at the assizes: the

circular room for a jury chamber; the room above for the prisoners.' He thought one state-room 'ill-lighted and of no use but for dancing in': and the 'bed-chambers but indifferent rooms; and that the immense sum which it cost was injudiciously laid out.'

Castle Howard, built by Vanbrugh and Hawksmoor in the early seventeen-hundreds, is not so well arranged, though there are no state-rooms that the joint must traverse on its way to table, as was common at this epoch in France.

As to French architecture, Horace Walpole for once was rather severe, complaining that all the houses were alike. 'I never knew whether I was in the house that I was in or in the house that I came out of. There is one single pattern that runs in every hotel in Paris.'

But at any rate one French house impressed him, and he writes characteristically to Lady Suffolk about it.

*December 5th, 1765.*

'Yesterday I dined at La Borde's, the great banker of the court. Lord! Madam, how little and poor all your houses in London will look after his! In the first place, you must have a garden half as long as the Mall, and then you must have fourteen windows, each as long as t'other half, looking into it; and each window must consist of only eight panes of looking glass. You must have a first and second ante-chamber, and they must have nothing in them but dirty servants. Next must be the grand cabinet, hung with red damask, in gold frames, and covered with eight large and very bad pictures, that cost four thousand pounds—I cannot afford them you a farthing cheaper. Under these to give an air of lightness must be bas-reliefs in marble. Then there must be immense *armoires* of tortoise-shells and *or-moulu*, inlaid with medals, and then you may go into the *petit cabinet*, and then into the great *salle*, and the gallery and the billiard-room and the eating-room: and all these must be hung with crystal lustres and porphyry urns, and bronzes, and statues, and vases, and the Lord or the devil knows what—but for fear you should ruin yourself or the nation, the Duchesse de Grammont must give you this, and Madame de Marsan that: and if you have anybody that has any taste to advise you, your eating-room must be hung with huge hunting pieces in frames of all coloured golds, and at the top of one of them you may have a setting-dog, who having sprung a wooden partridge, it may be flying a yard off against the wainscott.'

Certainly the architects of Stowe cared more for show than for comfort, or perhaps it would be truer to say that, though they cared for their own comfort, they cared for nobody else's. The state bedrooms at Stowe were fine enough, but even when the place was not going full blast, when the Comte de Paris lived there and kept only a hundred servants, I have often wondered where they all slept and how a hundred odd people could have kept themselves clean with not a single bathroom—and what they in turn would think of our regenerated Stowe, flowing with hot water, steam and electricity!

CLOUGH WILLIAMS-ELLIS.

## THE BARRIE 'SOMETHING'

**I**N his speech at Wallasey the other day, Sir James Barrie turned his critical but kindly humour for a moment on to the English Public Schools. They 'must be great,' he says, 'but I don't quite see how it comes about.' The *Times* has been good enough to allow us to reproduce a part of the speech from its report published on February 28th:

I noticed that after the war it was a common thing for distinguished generals to re-visit their old schools—nearly always famous public schools—and to say, amid general rejoicings, that they had always sat at the bottom of their forms. Well, if I was like that, at least I shall never boast about it. If I was an idler I am very sorry for it now, as some day you will be if you are in the same case. Even the generals might have been still more wonderful in the war if they had worked at school. Another handy moral—Not to work is to miss the best of the fun.

Your great English Public Schools! I never feel myself a foreigner in England except when trying to understand them. I have a great affection for one at least of them, but they will bewilder me to the end; I am like a dog looking up wistfully at its owner wondering what that noble face means, or if it does have a meaning. To look at, these schools are among the fairest things in England; they draw from their sons a devotion that is deeper, more lasting than almost any other love, and I well know that among their masters are men than whom there are no finer in this country. Those schools must be great—and yet I don't quite see how it comes about. Of course, they send yearly on their way a few good scholars and not so few eminent in the games that we love in this land and are right in loving, but the other four-fifths or so, what do they get from their famous schools? The generals and other illustrious old boys answer that question triumphantly at the school festivities we have been speaking of, but leave the outsider still benighted. It is not scholarship—pooh!—it is not even physical prowess; it is not an awakened soul nor any exclusive manliness nor even a superior way of wearing waist-coats. They describe it briefly and unanswerably as a something, and perhaps wisely leave it at that, putting us in our place for ever, and satisfying the youth still at school who may have been worrying a little on the subject. This mysterious something is got with no effort. You just become enrolled a member of that school, and gradually you acquire the something. So far as I can understand, it oozes out of the historic old walls and penetrates through your clothes. Never, it is said, were there so many applications as now to get sons into those houses, never have parents made mightier sacrifices for this great end. Everybody is after the something; will the old walls that provide it hold out? Let us hope so—but life is becoming more strenuous. Somebody, somewhere, somehow, will some day have to submit a piece of that something for scientific examination. Don't think I am saying one word against those great institutions. Even if I wanted to—and I do not—it would be quite useless. No one could move them. When the last trump sounds and all the other buildings fall, they will not even have noticed the disturbance. All I am arguing for is, that if they are so splendid, a way in should be found

for the boys outside, and that in the meantime slabs of the Something should be procured for other schools.

Stowe has hardly had time yet to fall so soundly asleep that the last trump would not disturb it, but the other things said of the Public Schools are either true of us already or likely to be true of us later on. The question which matters most to us is whether the mysterious 'something' (or all of it that is good) can be imparted to its members by a School as new as we are—whether, that is, it 'oozes out of the historic old walls' even when the walls (however old and historic) have not contained a Public School for more than eleven months. The 'scholarship,' the 'manliness' and the 'superior way of wearing waistcoats' we hope that we can provide; but the 'something' which is to penetrate through the waistcoats will test us more severely. What it is Sir James Barrie does not know, and although an intelligent foreigner might define it, English people probably live too near it ever to see it properly. How it is produced and communicated is, however, not such a difficult question. Most Public School men would say that if they have it at all, they have it because they lived when they were young with numbers of other people who were like themselves, only more so. There are certain qualities which nearly all Englishmen possess, and being common to all the members, these are naturally accepted in an English community as the most desirable. At school, where people are young and live at very close quarters with each other, this is even more the case. Everyone has those qualities, in embryo at least, and everyone unconsciously develops them because he sees them being developed in everyone else. Qualities conflicting with them are discouraged as odd and not quite respectable. So it comes about that all the members of a school tend to grow like each other and to become a kind of caricature of the typical Englishman. Other things enter in, of course. The feeling of belonging to a community brings in loyalty. Certain admirations and aversions peculiar to the adolescent male make a contribution of their own, and almost every school has a number of traditional habits of thought and conduct which give a special character to its product. But the chief constituents of the Public School 'something' are simply the chief constituents of the English character—which, though not easily described by English people, is presumably the same at Stowe as it is elsewhere. We have the English character, then, we have the community-sentiment, we have the admirations and aversions, but the traditional habits of thought and conduct are a somewhat different proposition. At Stowe these are only now being formed, and they will have to be formed a good deal more fully before our 'something' will be up to Sir James Barrie's description. But, after

all, to form them out of nothing is a much more interesting business than it would be merely to take them over and preserve them. And if we can form them in the way we hope, we may find that our people do not after all become so desperately like each other and are able to be true to themselves as well as to the School. This would be a highly desirable result, and it is not perhaps an entirely unattainable one.

## THE LIBRARY

WE have not had any very large addition to the Library this term, though we have had gifts of books of great interest and value. With the remainder of Mr. Llewellyn's generous donation, Bernard Shaw's works and plays; Sir J. M. Barrie's plays; three plays of Oscar Wilde's; Charles Doughty's *Arabia Deserta*; G. M. Trevelyan's *England in the Age of Wycliffe* and Church's *Types of Floral Mechanism* were purchased. Lord Penrhyn has given one of the eighteenth century pamphlets on 'Stowe,' and Mr. R. C. Lawson a curious old book printed in 1522, *Paterculi Historiae Romanae*. Mr. Bryant gave *The Hambledon Cricket Chronicle*, and Mrs. P. W. Campbell the first edition of a rare and interesting book, *Original Portraits and Caricatures*, by John Kay, a collection of etchings from the author's own work. He was a miniature painter of Edinburgh.

Miss Main's gift of *The Times' History of the War* has been voted 'the most interesting thing in the library.' It is in twenty-one volumes, and it is very difficult to keep order amongst the twenty-one, so great is the demand for them.

A pair of wireless enthusiasts have installed themselves in the upper part of the staircase leading to the gallery of the Library. Anyone in search of adventures and secret passages must obtain their permission before penetrating into the gallery itself, even if he has already secured the key. These wireless partners can be found in many a queer little room all over the house, but this little landing place, with its shelves for surplus books, is rather unique. The famous library of Stowe must have been a wonderful thing to require so much room. The latticed cupboards in the room itself have at some time been larger than they appear now, as was discovered recently when the panelling of one of them over the door became detached, and dropping slightly prevented the door from closing properly. It was then seen that the grooves for the shelves ran up to the gallery floor, and the panelling had been added later, cutting off part of the doors

and certainly improving the whole appearance of the room. This is interesting, as it shows how much care was expended in making the room beautiful, and it is the explanation of the rumour that a secret drawer, even possibly a whole series of secret drawers, had been discovered. The joiner is rectifying what was, after all, only glue giving way, and the iron 'lever' is *not* a secret lock, but the end of one of the iron supports of the gallery. Hopes are still entertained that the mysterious iron rod may lead to something, and the door faced with books in the gallery which leads nowhere, is still something of a mystery.

H.W.N.

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

**T**HE main, in fact the only, feature of school football this term has been the Inter-House Competition. It had been hoped to play one or two school matches in addition, but all idea of that had to be given up on account of measles, which also interfered greatly with the House matches.

The competition was on the American tournament system, each House playing the other on two occasions; six points were allowed for a win and three for a draw. Each House thus played six matches, and there were twelve in all in the competition. Cobham did not take part.

All Houses suffered losses in their teams from illness, but Chandos probably was hit harder than any other, and what promised to be a very strong team was whittled away to very meagre proportions. Grenville, which as a House was just as badly hit as the others and was reduced to twenty-one effectives, was lucky in having only a small proportion of the team out of action.

It is not profitable to discuss what might have happened had all the Houses been at full strength. The winners were Grenville, and their record, even allowing for the circumstances, was a very good one. They did not lose a match and had only two tries scored against them during the competition, and these were in the last match after the championship was already decided. Their total score in points was 206 for and 6 against. By far the larger number of tries was scored by the backs, who were throughout well served by their forwards and scrum-half. At times, especially in the first match, the forwards played well, and showed not only dash but skill.

Temple, who finished second, were rather disappointing, and though they lost only to Grenville, they were never as convincing as they should have been. Their first match against Grenville proved

disastrous to the system on which they had trained, and drastic changes had to be made. In their second Grenville match, when they had their only chance of equalling the leaders, they failed again to drive home their attacks. In cases where the forwards play well, as on the whole the Temple pack did, and where there is distinct strength in the three-quarter line, the weakness may be looked for in the gap between. And it was undoubtedly the slowness of the halves in general, and in particular the failure of the outside to be on the move when he took his passes, that were the chief factors in reducing the efficiency of the team.

Chandos, who finished third with two wins, were for most of the matches so reduced that criticism of the team is hardly possible. It can be said, however, that in all their matches they played hard, and they thoroughly deserved the distinction of being the only House to score against the winners.

Bruce did not succeed in gaining any points in the competition, but were very unlucky in not dividing the points in their first match against Chandos, through an easy kick at goal being disallowed for a technical offence. Their team was uneven and was made up of four or five good individual players, who never got the necessary support from the remainder of the side, who, however, if not skilful, at least tried hard.

Taken as a whole, the football has shown some improvement since last term, and the prospects of a presentable School side next season are quite fair. There is still a long way to go, however, before we can think of ourselves as a good Rugger school, and too much emphasis cannot be laid on the two outstanding faults which must be eradicated, else they will grow like pernicious weeds. The first fault, and by far the worst, is the high tackling and scragging which at present takes the place of low, clean tackling. The second is the tendency, especially among forwards, to lie off-side and to take the ball from behind instead of following up behind it by first getting behind it.

By the time the review of next season's play is being written, it is sincerely to be hoped that these two faults will have completely disappeared.

The following table shows the result of the Inter-House Competition:

	P.	W.	L.	D.	FR.	AGST.	PNTS.
Grenville .....	6	6	0	0	206	6	36
Temple .....	6	4	2	0	80	74	24
Chandos .....	6	2	4	0	21	122	12
Bruce .....	6	0	6	0	21	126	0

I.A.C.

## THE HOUSE MATCHES

### TEMPLE v. GRENVILLE I.

The first football House match in the history of the School was played on February 16th and resulted in a win for Grenville by four goals and three tries (29 points) to nil.

Grenville were without C. B. Jones, Riess and Steavenson, and Temple had Middleton and Searle away. The winners exceeded all expectations and played much above any form that they could reasonably have been thought able to produce. Temple on the other hand played just as well as their opponents allowed them, and in point of fact they were never allowed to play very well.

The Grenville forwards took the game in hand from the very start and rushed the ball into the Temple '25.' It stayed there for the first ten minutes and the pace all the time was very hot. Temple had to touch down at least four times in this period, and after defending very fiercely they at last had their line crossed, Wilkinson getting over smartly. The game continued in the Temple half of the field practically the whole of the first half, and Gadney scored another try which Wilkinson converted.

In the second half Grenville kept up the pressure and on the few occasions on which the Temple halves got their threes moving these were promptly collared by the fast breaking Grenville forwards. Five more tries were scored in this half by Murdoch, Wilkinson (2), Cox and Gadney. Harriss failed to stop Murdoch by a neck tackle, Gadney slipped over from a line-out and Wilkinson, taking a pass from Thompson, ran through half the side. The other two tries were scored as the result of good dribbles. Wilkinson kicked three more goals.

The match was a triumph for the Grenville forwards, who easily out-scrummaged the Temple seven and broke so quickly that they completely smothered any attack by the Temple backs, who were man for man much faster than their opponents. Their loose rushes too were not only fast and fierce but well-controlled. Temple's tactics in playing an extra man outside failed because their forwards were overwhelmed and could not give the backs any favourable chances.

The teams were:—

TEMPLE: Harriss; Robinson ma.; Franklin, J. C. Sanderson, Griffin, A. M. Cowell; Day and Robinson mi.; Bowie, Ivory ma., S. E. Webb, Ward, Jackson, J. F. Marshall, Rowse.

GRENVILLE: McComb; McLeod, Gill, Charnock, Wertheim; Kelley and Gadney; E. R. Cox, S. J. Murdoch, Feathers, Wilkinson, Thompson, Farmiloe, Eddy and Mounsey.

### CHANDOS v. BRUCE I.

Played on February 18th, when Chandos beat Bruce, rather luckily, by three tries (9 points) to a dropped goal and a try (7 points). Although the standard of play was not nearly so high as in the first House match, it was a good game with both sides playing really hard.

Chandos had slightly the better of things forward, Richards, Falconer and Edden playing really well in the loose and leading many dangerous rushes; but there was nothing to choose between the two packs in the tight scrums.

The main strength of the Bruce team lay in Ellis, who played a sound game at the base of the scrum, and in Balmford, who got through any amount of work all over the field, though nominally playing right-centre.

The three-quarter lines were ineffective. They bunched badly and crowded much too close on the halves, with the result that they never really got going; while the tackling was very weak.

The play was largely confined to the forwards, though Swayne, favoured by weak tackling, made good use of his pace on the few occasions when he got the ball, and Balmford, though working very hard in defence all through, broke away in fine style several times and was responsible for both the Bruce scores. Soon after half-time he dropped a very pretty goal, after picking up from some loose play just outside the Chandos '25,' and a few minutes later slipped over for a try, which he might easily have converted had he not made the mistake of touching the ball after 'no charge' had been ordered, thus giving the referee no choice but to disallow the kick.

The teams were:—

CHANDOS: Hyde; Swayne, Turton, N. A. C. Croft, Instone; Sword, Tudor-Davies; Richards, Falconer, Aylmer, Edden, Turrall, Pocock, Ross, Heathcote.

BRUCE: Dunsford, mi.; Jessop, Ling, Silcock, Dunlop; Balmford, Ellis; Dunsford ma., Heyworth, Drayson, Copley ma., Copley, mi., Lord, Miller, Boyd-Carpenter.

### BRUCE v. GRENVILLE I.

Played on February 21st and won by Grenville by one goal and ten tries (35 points) to nil.

Tries were scored by Wilkinson (2), Riess, Gadney and Murdoch in the first half, and by Riess, Gadney, Murdoch, Charnock, Kelley and Cox in the second. Wilkinson kicked the only goal. The teams were:—

BRUCE: Dunsford mi.; Dunlop, Balmford, Ling, Jessop; Ellis and Silcock; Dunsford ma., Heyworth, Drayson, Scott, Copley mi., McCallin, Miller and Hartland-Swann mi.

GRENVILLE: McComb; McLeod, Gill, Riess, Charnock; Kelley and Gadney; E. R. Cox, S. J. Murdoch, Feathers, Wilkinson, Steavenson, Thompson, Farmiloe and Eddy.

### TEMPLE v. CHANDOS I.

Played on February 23rd and won by Temple by two goals and three tries (19 points) to one try (3 points).

The teams were:—

TEMPLE: Harriss; Franklin, Robinson ma., Griffin, J. C. Sanderson; Day, Robinson mi.; Bowie, Rowse, J. F. Marshall, Ward, Ivory ma., Searle, Dawson, Creed.

CHANDOS: Bowen; Instone, Turton, N. A. C. Croft, Toms; Sword, Tudor-Davies; Richards, Falconer, Edden, Turrall, Pocock, Ross, Heathcote, Brooke.

### GRENVILLE v. CHANDOS I.

Played on February 27th and won by Grenville by five goals and six tries (43 points) to nil.

Tries were scored in the first half by Jones, Wilkinson (2), Gadney and Riess (2), and in the second by Wilkinson, Gadney (2), Murdoch and Riess.

The teams were :—

**GRENVILLE :** Adams; Riess, Gill, C. B. Jones and Wilkinson; Kelley and Gadney; S. J. Murdoch, Feathers, McComb, Steavenson, Butler, Farmiloe, Mounsey and Croker.

**CHANDOS :** Hyde; Instone, Westby, N. A. C. Croft and Turton; Sword and Tudor-Davies; Falconer, Turrall, Pocock, Bowen, Heathcote, Ross, Toms and O'Reilly.

#### BRUCE v. TEMPLE I.

Played on February 27th and won by Temple by nine tries to one goal and one try (27—11). Tries were scored for Temple in the first half by Franklin (2), Robinson ma. and Bramley; for Bruce, Dunsford ma. scored a try and Balmford kicked a penalty goal. In the second half Franklin (2), Robinson ma., J. C. Sanderson and Bramley scored tries for Temple, while for Bruce, Dunsford ma. scored a try which was converted by Balmford.

The teams were :—

**BRUCE :** Dunsford mi.; Hartland-Swann ma., Maynard, Ling, McCallin; Balmford, Ellis; Dunsford ma., Heyworth, Drayson, Scott, Miller, Copley ma., Andrews and F. H. P. Barber.

**TEMPLE :** Harriss; Franklin, Griffin, Robinson ma., J. C. Sanderson; Day, Robinson mi.; Bowie, Ward, Rowse, Dawson, Oxley, Creed, Ivory ma. and Bramley.

#### TEMPLE v. GRENVILLE II.

Played on March 1st and won by Grenville by two goals and six tries (28 points) to nil.

As Temple had lost only to Grenville in the first round this meeting was important, as, should Temple have succeeded in turning the tables, the two Houses would have been level on points and would in all probability have remained so to the end. Grenville, however, were taking no chances and went all out from the start and built up a winning lead in the first half. Cox was badly missed in this match for his quick breaking on to the Temple backs, which had been so effective in the first round, and this work fell chiefly on Murdoch, who did it well but had too much of it to do, especially as during the second half the Temple forwards got possession in the scrum twice out of three times. The Temple forwards were on the whole much more effective than in the first match and shoved and heeled well. The backs, however, seldom got going as a line, Day being slow to start and usually taking his passes standing. The Grenville backs, although not always too well served by the pack, played very effectively, Wilkinson particularly being always dangerous and scoring the first three tries. Gadney as usual played a very sound game and was responsible for the two tries scored in the second half, one of which was converted by Murdoch. The scorers besides Wilkinson, in the first half were McComb, Riess and Jones; one only of these tries was converted.

The teams were :—

**TEMPLE :** Harriss; Franklin, Day, Robinson ma. and J. C. Sanderson; Cook and Robinson mi.; Bowie, Ward, Oxley, Creed, Dawson, Bramley, Rowse and Ivory ma.

**GRENVILLE :** Adams; Riess, Gill, C. B. Jones and Wilkinson; Kelley and Gadney; S. J. Murdoch, Feathers, McComb, Steavenson, Butler, Farmiloe, Mounsey and Croker.

#### BRUCE v. CHANDOS II.

Played on March 1st and won by Chandos by one try (3 points) to nil.

This was a very exciting, even game in which neither side showed much science, but both plenty of hard shoving, tackling and running.

The only try of the match was scored by Croft in the first quarter of an hour after a strong run, but Bruce had slightly the better of the game during the first half as a whole, Balmford and Ling being always dangerous.

The second half was played almost entirely in the Chandos half of the field and it was only the dauntless work of the Chandos forwards and vigorous tackling by Croft and Hyde that prevented Bruce from scoring.

The teams were :—

**BRUCE :** Dunsford mi.; Bond mi., Balmford, Ling and F. H. P. Barber; Ellis and Scott; Dunsford ma., Heyworth, Drayson, Miller, Andrews, Copley ma., Copley mi. and Maynard.

**CHANDOS :** Hyde; Turton, N. A. C. Croft, Wood and Instone; Sword and Tudor-Davies; Falconer, Turrall, Pocock, Heathcote, Toms, Bowen, Ross and Magnus.

#### BRUCE v. GRENVILLE II.

Played on March 5th and won by Grenville by five goals (one penalty) and six tries (41 points) to nil.

Tries were scored in the first half by Riess, after an excellent round of passing, Wilkinson, Murdoch, Gadney, Jones and McComb, two of which were converted by Murdoch and one each by Farmiloe and Wilkinson; and in the second half by Wilkinson (2), Gadney and Jones.

The teams were :—

**BRUCE :** Dunsford mi.; Bond mi, Balmford, Ling and Scott; Ellis and Silcock; Dunsford ma., Heyworth, Drayson, Copley mi., Andrews, Miller, Franck and F. H. P. Barber.

**GRENVILLE :** Adams; Riess, Gill, C. B. Jones and Wilkinson; Kelley and Gadney; S. J. Murdoch, Feathers, McComb, Steavenson, Butler, Farmiloe, Mounsey and Croker.

#### TEMPLE v. CHANDOS II.

Played on March 5th and won by Temple by one goal and six tries (23 points) to one try (3 points).

The game for the first few minutes was of a very scrambling nature, but the Temple three-quarter line soon settled down and Robinson ma. scored after a strong run. The try was converted from a difficult angle. Temple still had by far the best of the game and three further tries were made by Robinson ma. (2) and Franklin. Just before half-time a good combined effort by Hyde and Instone took the ball to near the Temple goal-line, where from a line-out a try was cleverly scored by Tudor-Davies.

After half-time tries were scored by Franklin and Ivory (2). The kick failed in each case, the ball on two occasions hitting the upright.

The score indicates very fairly the difference between the two sides. Temple were easily superior in all departments except full-back—Hyde, for Chandos, by



his accurate tackling spoiling several strong attacks. Robinson ma., Franklin and Avory ran hard and took a lot of stopping, while Robinson mi. worked the scrum well.

The teams were:—

TEMPLE: Harriss; Franklin, Oxley, Robinson ma. and J. C. Sanderson; Day and Robinson mi.; Bowie, Ward, Searle, Creed, Dawson, Bramley, Rowse and Avory ma.

CHANDOS: Hyde; Turton, N. A. C. Croft, Wood and Instone; Sword and Tudor-Davies; Falconer, Turrall, Mason, Pocock, Niven, Bowen, Heathcote and Toms.

#### GRENVILLE v. CHANDOS II.

Played on March 8th and won by Grenville by three goals and five tries (30 points) to two tries (6 points).

As Grenville had already won the championship, the chief interest in this match centred on the possibility of Chandos' crossing their opponents' line, which so far had been successfully defended. As the score shows, Chandos achieved this on two occasions, a feat which aroused much enthusiasm among Chandosians.

The game was played very hard throughout and with Grenville attacking most of the time, Hyde, as in the previous match between these Houses, was very fully occupied. He got through a tremendous amount of work and saved his side again and again where a score seemed certain. The Grenville centres were inclined to misjudge the correct moment to give their passes, often either running into the thick of the defence and being smothered, or prematurely passing to their wing man, so that Hyde, coming across, could deal with the latter opponent instead of being forced to make his tackle on the centre.

The forwards on the two sides were fairly evenly matched, but the Grenville dribbling was on the whole better controlled than that of the Chandos pack. Gadney was much more than a match for Westby at scrum-half and that alone went a long way to establish Grenville's superiority.

During the first quarter of an hour there was no scoring, but before half-time Grenville had scored four tries, through Riess, Wilkinson (2) and Kelley, one of which was converted by Farmiloe with an excellent kick.

Towards the end of the match Chandos pressed hard. First Sword got over in the corner and just on time Croft ran right through the Grenville side. He started near the touch line on the right of the field about the half-way line and after a very determined run, which included a visit to the proximity of the left touch-line, he scored far out on the side on which he started.

During this half further tries for Grenville had previously been scored by Riess, Gadney (2) and Murdoch, two of which were converted by Farmiloe. Gadney's first try was a very smart one. The Grenville pack shoved their opponents almost over the line and Gadney, getting the ball from the base of the scrum, with two Chandos forwards standing practically on the top of him, dived over the line.

The teams were:—

GRENVILLE: Adams; Riess, Gill, C. B. Jones and Wilkinson; Kelley and Gadney; S. J. Murdoch, Feathers, McComb, Steavenson, Farmiloe, Mounsey, Croker and Wertheim.

CHANDOS: Hyde; Turton, N. A. C. Croft, Heathcote and Instone; Sword and Westby; Falconer, Edden, Turrall, Pocock, Mason, Hayes-Palmer, Bowen and Niven.

#### BRUCE v. TEMPLE II.

Played on March 8th and won by Temple by one goal and two tries to one try (11—3). Tries were scored for Temple in the first half by Day and Franklin, one of these being converted by Body; in the second half Day scored for Temple and Dunsford ma. for Bruce.

The teams were:—

BRUCE: Dunsford mi.; Bond mi., Balmford, Ling, F. H. P. Barber; Silcock, Ellis; Dunsford ma., Heyworth, Drayson, Scott, Miller, Franck, Copley mi. and Andrews.

TEMPLE: Harriss; Franklin, Body, Robinson ma., J. C. Sanderson; Robinson mi., Day; Bowie, Bramley, Ward, Rowse, Avory ma., Searle, Creed and Dawson.

Second XV Colours have been awarded to:—

C. B. Jones (G.), A. G. Bowie (T.), E. R. Cox (G.), L. Balmford (B.),  
B. C. Gadney (G.), W. S. Hyde (Ch.).

House Colours have been awarded to:—

GRENVILLE: C. B. Jones, E. R. Cox, B. C. Gadney, S. J. Murdoch, J. N. Feathers, E. C. Wilkinson, J. E. McComb, B. Kelley, H. W. Gill, J. G. Riess.

TEMPLE: H. E. Robinson, A. G. Bowie, P. J. Franklin, J. C. Sanderson.

BRUCE: D. A. Dunsford, L. Balmford, D. C. Ellis, A. Dunsford, A. J. P. Ling.

CHANDOS: N. A. C. Croft, P. M. Falconer, E. Richards, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, J. K. Edden, W. S. Hyde, C. E. Swayne, R. W. D. Sword.

## PRIZES.

### AWARDS.

#### BERTRAM PRIZES, 1923.

Essay—J. A. Boyd-Carpenter.

Verse—A. J. Tickler.

#### HEADMASTER'S DRAWING PRIZES.

S. E. Webb.

S. C. Swan.

### FOUNDATION.

A Senior and a Junior Prize for Greek, to be called the 'Charles Loudon Prizes,' have been founded through the generosity of Miss K. M. Loudon, of North Berwick. These will be awarded each Summer Term, and for this year, at any rate, on the results of a small special examination. Each prize will consist of books in the School Binding to the value of two pounds.

## STOICA

**W**ORK on the Bourbon Field proceeds apace. Three acres will be turfed and a considerable strip sown before next term begins.

The turfing of the North Front proceeds. That it proceeds apace cannot be said, but that it should proceed at all is a welcome change. The Headmaster's tennis lawn on the South Front has been sown, not turfed, and a comparison between the two methods may become interesting shortly.

What happens to golf balls played into the Headmaster's garden? The peacocks who eat the bulbs there daily are suspected of having some guilty knowledge on this matter. What happens to the player is of course a different question.

A snow-fight took place on March 4th, Bruce and Temple holding 'Concord,' Chandos and Grenville the Gothic Temple. Several immortal combats took place, and on the whole the honours lay with the 'News.'

Mr. Heckstall-Smith's lectures on atoms and electrons have drawn crowds.

The end of the path to the White Horse Block became a slide one frosty morning, and when a late-arriving Master reached it at a run, Form Three had front seats for the spectacle. The identity of the Master has not, however, been revealed by the members of that discreet and distinguished body.

A new comedy, entitled 'The Peacock and the Chair,' is in preparation by a Form in the White Horse Block—producer, Mr. Arnold. 'The Peacock and the Mouth Organ' is an earlier play on a similar theme—produced by Mr. Duchesne.

Mr. Instone has presented to the School a stop-watch of unusual interest and value. It was used by him to time the Gordon Bennett race in 1903, and he has had it thoroughly overhauled and tested for use in this year's Sports.



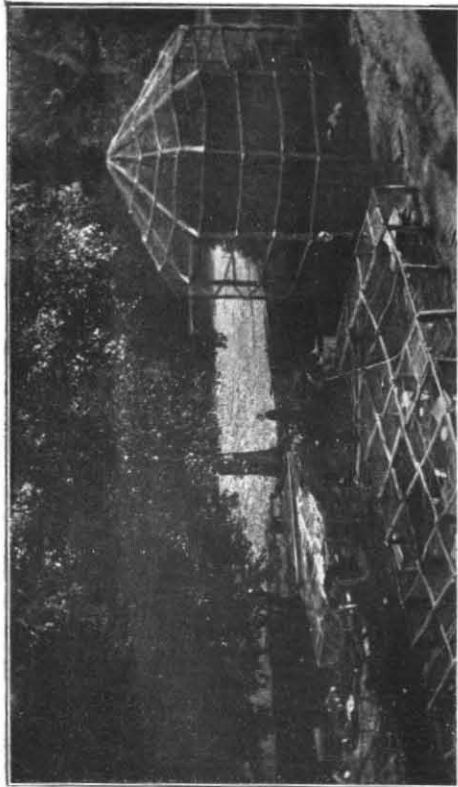
[Photo by E.F.H.]



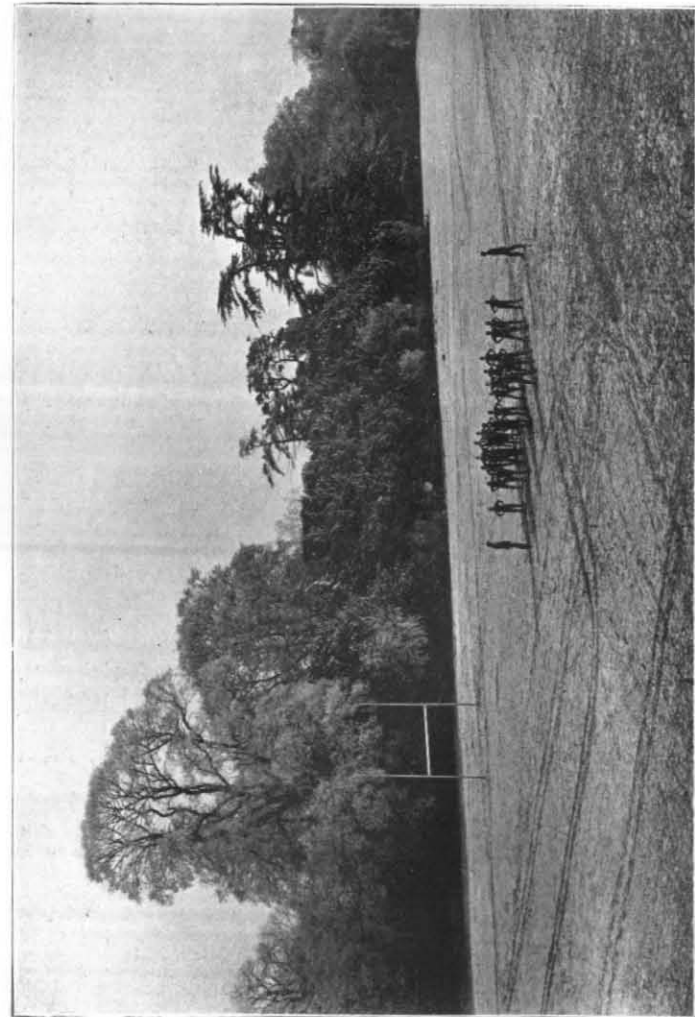
[Photo by J.F.R.]



GRENVILLE HALL, TEMPLE ON THE SOUTH FRONT.  
[Photo by R.F.R.]

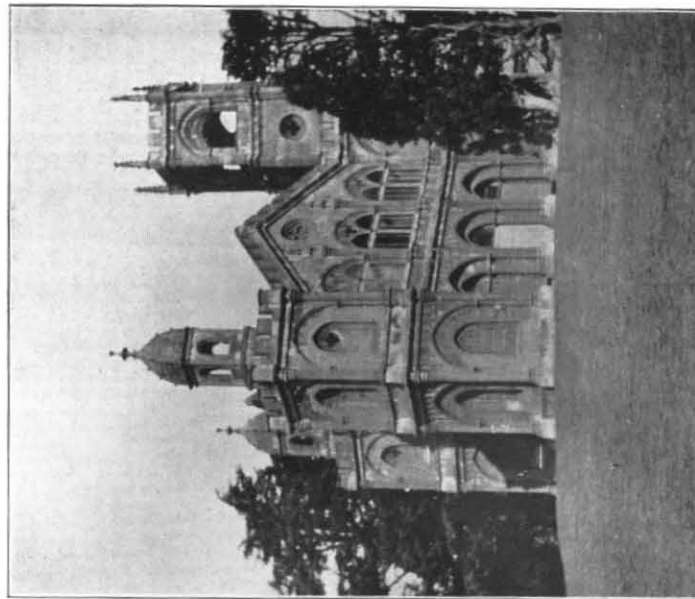


THE CAGES.  
[Photo by E.R.A.]



'P.T.' IN THE SNOW.

[Photo by E.F.H.]



THE GOTHIC TEMPLE.  
[Photo by W.B.A.J.K.]

## THE STOIC

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The Quinzaine Française will not materialise, but on the other hand a reading party in Tibet is expected to do so.

The Golf Trophy presented by Miss Cathcart is unique among cups. (It is rumoured that Captain Weigall has his own ideas about Golf in the Summer Term.)

Daniels now come to judgment on Wednesdays. How the Eighth Green will be judged is not yet known.

When foot and mouth disease was at Silverstone, two Masters were caught red-handed by a local constable walking across a forbidden field. Being unable to defend themselves, they are reported to have answered the officer fluently and vigorously in French. Their identity may perhaps be guessed, but the constable was unable to ascertain it and retired discomfited, thinking less than ever of foreigners.

The first Buckingham Musical Festival, held with very notable success on March 6th, is only connected with Stowe in so far as it was conceived, inspired and in large part organised by Mr. Browne. But that, after all, is a very close connection, and though we cannot take credit for the Festival we can, and do, wish it 'Many Happy Returns.'

If reputations rise and fall with their owners' handle-bars, one or two are higher than they were a month ago. But some remain at axle-level still.

The Chandos Band is no more, but the waiters have taken up orchestral work, writes a correspondent from the North Front.

'New Ponds' will hold water after all. They were noticed to be full at the beginning of the term—and it may be added that they have *not* been lined with copper.

The House Challenge Cup for Individual Sports has been presented by the Masters, that for the Relay Races by the Headmaster.

The wireless craze has held its own well against 'Bones' and 'Ma Jong,' and has clearly become an institution.

The Chandosian has not stood long alone. The Grenville House Magazine has already appeared, and there are rumours afloat of a Templar and a Lion.

As was expected, rabbits have proved fatal to the practice plantings of the Forestry class, the young trees being entirely eaten up. More strength to the Ferret Club!

Clearing has, however, been going on energetically, and there is now a small timber-yard in the Cobham Ride and much useless debris has been got rid of in a series of colossal bonfires.

The Special Preacher on Sunday, March 9th, was the Rev. M. R. Ridley, of Balliol College, Oxford.

The new buildings in Quadrant Court and Cobham Court are taking shape. They will be ready for next term.

The School Choral Society which, like every other School activity, has suffered by the ravages of 'flu and measles, has been practising Charles Wood's 'Full Fathom Five' and three of Stanford's 'Songs of the Sea,' Mr. Cross taking the solo part.

A Gilbert and Sullivan Society has been started.

Two grounds have been available for Hockey since half-term, but only two games have so far been played, many devotees having to train for the Sports. The School has at any rate secured an introduction to the game.

## THE NEW SCIENCE BLOCK

**T**HE New Science Block, which has relieved us from the necessity of doing Physics in the Biological Laboratory, occupies the building which juts out from the end of the Masters' Quarters and looks on to the fountain behind them. To judge by its old name, it once contained orange trees, but it now contains two big laboratories for Physics and Chemistry, a room for lectures and demonstrations (arranged like the lecture-rooms in the Cavendish laboratory, with desks sloping up to the back) and two small laboratories for advanced Physics and Chemistry.

The big laboratories have windows all along one side, and are 54 ft. by 18 ft. Each bench in the Physics laboratory has water, gas and two plugs giving twelve volts on a special circuit. There is plenty of room and air for a class of twenty-five in the Physics, Chemistry, or Lecture rooms, though it is hoped that classes will be smaller than this as a rule.

The Chemical Laboratory has a most imposing array of fume cupboards, and looks both pleasanter and better fitted out for work than the corresponding rooms at Cambridge.

The Physics Laboratory has been in action since the beginning of the term. A good deal of the apparatus has arrived, and some has already been used for demonstration. Unfortunately none of us has yet arrived at the condition of being able to do elementary work with understanding and certainty, so that nothing beyond mensuration has been possible up to now; however, we hope.

Each bench has four real drawers and one dummy, the latter designed presumably to be in keeping with the spirit of the main building; doubtless the architect was inspired by the doors in Hall.

We can look forward to doing good work in this building.

H.S.

## INDIVIDUAL SPORTS, 1924

The Sports will be held on Tuesday, April 8th, beginning at 2.15 p.m.

*Open* Events are for competitors over 14.8, on March 1st.

*Junior* Events are for competitors under 14.8, on March 1st.

The Events for 1924 will be 100 Yards, 220 Yards, Quarter-Mile, Half-Mile, Hurdles, High Jump, Long Jump.

Every member of the School who is physically fit will be expected to compete in not less than two events, at least one being a race.

For the first place in each event a Silver Medal will be awarded, for the second and third places Bronze Medals will be awarded.

The first place in each Open event

	will count	12 points towards the House Sports Cup
The second place	6	" "
The third place	3	" "
The first place in each Junior event	will count	8
The second place	4	" "
The third place	2	" "

There will be a Half-Mile Handicap, in which the entire School will run. This will be the last event of the Sports Day. There will be no preliminary heats for it, and the results will not count towards the House Sports Cup.

## RELAY RACES, 1924

Date of Competition, Friday, April 4th. Teams: Four competitors from each House for each event.

### EVENTS.

Four Hundred Yards (four distances of 100 yards).  
 Half-Mile (four distances of 220 yards).  
 Mile (four distances of 440 yards).  
 Two Miles (four distances of 880 yards).  
 Composite Mile (one distance of 220 yards, one of 440 yards, one of 880 yards, one of 220 yards).

### POINTS.

The winning team in each event will receive four points towards the House Relay Cup; the second team in each event, three points; the third two points and the fourth one point.

If it should happen that two or more Houses score an equal number of points in the competition as a whole, the one which has scored the greatest number in the 'Composite Mile' will be deemed the winner and awarded the Cup.

## CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

The first Cross-Country Race was run on March 22nd over a three-mile course, which included, in addition to other obstacles, a formidable water jump.

The course started at the North Front and finished in the Grecian Valley, forming a large left-hand circle. The race was run by teams of fifteen from each House—the first ten in each team to count.

*Method of Scoring.* First man in, 1 point; second, 2 points; and so on; the team scoring the least number of points to be the winner.

In addition to the team prize—a challenge shield presented by Major Haworth—medals were given to the first three individuals to finish.

### RESULTS.

<i>Teams.</i>	1st, Chandos.	177 points.
	2nd, Bruce.	217 "
	3rd, Grenville.	221 "
	4th, Temple.	232 "
<i>Individuals.</i>	1st, J. N. Feathers.	Silver Medal. Time, 20 mins. 40 secs.
	2nd, H. Heyworth.	Bronze Medal.
	3rd, C. A. C. Bowen.	Bronze Medal.

Feathers ran an extraordinarily good race. Taking the lead at the start he steadily drew further and further ahead and won by over 300 yards.

The Chandos Team came in well together, the points obtained by their first ten being: 3, 6, 9, 12, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27.

## GOLF CLUB

The Golf Club is having a most successful term. The course is still very much in the rough, but there are now visible signs of better things to come. The greens at the first, third and fourth holes have been made up, and should be fit for play next term, while the other greens are beginning to respond to assiduous rolling.

In a series of matches at the beginning of the term the Masters, 'England' and 'Oxford,' each succeeded in defeating their obvious opponents, and now we are in the middle of the House matches.

A meeting of the Club was held soon after the beginning of the term, at which a committee consisting of A. S. M. Anderson, E. Richards and P. J. Franklin, together with the President and Captain, was elected.

### THE SCHOOL v. THE MASTERS.

This, our first match, was played on January 30th, the Masters winning by five matches to four, with one match halved.

In the top match Mr. Clarke played Anderson, and a very interesting match it was. Mr. Clarke started rather erratically and his putts simply refused to go down so that Anderson, playing really sound golf, was four up at the turn, and became dormy six at the twelfth. Then the fun began. Mr. Clarke came right on to his game, and his putts decided to go down. He got three holes back, but could only halve the sixteenth, giving Anderson the match, three up and two.

Mr. Arnold played Franklin, who had only lately returned from the sick-bay—certainly no place for a golfer. Mr. Arnold won by seven and six. Major Haworth had to go to the last green before he could dispose of Cowell, who was one up at the fifteenth, but lost the last three holes. Mr. Cross gained the Masters another much-wanted point by beating Richards five and four. Mr. Wragg and Mr. Browne both won their matches, but Mr. Heckstall-Smith could do no better than halve with G. G. Harrison, while the School won the remaining matches, leaving the Masters victorious by five matches to four.

## THE GRENVILLE FENCING CLUB

Everything started well at the beginning of the term for the G.F.C. The clubroom was overflowing with apparatus, and many applications were made for membership from Houses other than Grenville. Progress was marred at the beginning of term by the unfortunate absence of Mr. Acland, and the Club's activities were curtailed somewhat by the fact that de Amodio, the *maitre d'armes*, went sick and stayed sick. Things are now in full swing again, and the Secretary would point out that the Club is now open to members of all Houses.

## BOXING

Boxing has taken place this term, as last, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and towards the end of the term, on March 13th and 15th, Inter-House Competitions were held. There were five weights, and Houses could send in one representative for each weight. The winner in each weight gained five points for his House, the runner-up two.

The standard of boxing, though not, of course, high, was quite good, and promised well for next year. In the heats on Thursday, the 13th, perhaps the best contest was that between Searle and Gadney, in which after a close first round Searle finally gained the advantage by making good use of his left. A contest which, however, roused more excitement was a hurricane affair between Edden and Riess, when Edden, an obvious fighter, defeated Riess, who is known to be a boxer. In the finals on Saturday, the best boxing was shown by Searle, Robinson ma., Rowse and Gill, though all competitors fought gamely and in excellent spirit. Robinson had little difficulty in beating Edden, as a hard blow received in the first few seconds completely upset the latter's tactics. Searle, again boxing well against a plucky opponent, scored well with left and right. In the bout between Gill and Dunsford mi. there was some hard hitting, but Gill was always the better boxer. In the lightest weight Silcock, who was smaller and lighter than Rowse, made a good fight against a promising boxer.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Seccombe, of Oxford University, and Mr. Betteridge, who very kindly came over to judge the competitions. We are also indebted to Mr. Silcock for a cup which arrived opportunely on the day of the contests, and was carried off by Temple.

The results were as follows:—

*Under 6 st.*—Rowse (Temple) beat Silcock (Bruce).

*Under 7 st.*—Gill (Grenville) beat Dunsford mi. (Bruce).

*Under 8 st.*—Searle (Temple) beat Bond ma. (Bruce).

*Under 9 st.*—Robinson ma. (Temple) beat Edden (Chandos).

*Open.*—Murdoch (Grenville) beat Bowie (Temple).

House points:—1, Temple, 17; 2, Grenville, 10; 3, Bruce, 6; 4, Chandos, 2.

## THE ARTS CLUB

The Arts Club, which was formed last term under the presidency of Mr. Neville, with Mr. Cross as Vice-President, S. E. Webb as Secretary and J. M. Reeves Treasurer, supported by a large committee, has now begun to make a start after the pause, as it were to take breath, which followed on its enthusiastic inception.

Encouraged by one or two tentative attempts at wood-carving and perhaps by the pleasant feel of French *pâte plastique*, resulting in half a dog's head and a lizzard or so, and a few water-colour sketches, the members of the Club are

beginning to take courage, non-members to take notice; and when the Summer Term comes along the Club should be a going concern. Indeed it is so now, and the gathering funds are being carefully husbanded by the Treasurer and will no doubt be carefully expended. The *Studio Magazine* is to be taken in, and the Club hopes to have one or more outings to some place which will appeal to those who wish to sketch or to study architecture. Several members of the Club are interested in sketching from nature, so that they hope to be able to do more work, naturally, next term. The subscription to the Club is not large—half a crown per term. The Headmaster has kindly allowed the Art Room to be used by members, and wood-carving tools can be borrowed, and modelling paste and tools, drawing boards, easels and water-colour boxes. Later on some members may wish to take up sketching, colour-block printing and oil painting. The Club will do what it can to help its members to take up any branch of Art they wish—defining 'Art' in this case as the 'graphic' Arts, with modelling or wood-carving,—and to stimulate interest in things artistic generally.

## THE ZOO

Most of this term has been spent in clearing up. We have dug holes, filled them with rubbish and used the earth for levelling our lawn. There is little to show for this kind of work, but it is really a big undertaking. We have improved the old paths with box borders, and made new ones besides. We have cut, carried and laid no less than 15,000 'turfs,' and still our work is only half finished.

Little actual building has been done, but we have made a block of four rabbit hutches, and more are coming from the carpentering shop. A new flat-topped cage for the golden pheasants is under construction. It will measure ten yards by five, and will have a sleeping hut adjoining.

One half of 'The Fountain Cage' is to be filled up, and the other half used as a pond for the pair of Japanese ducks which have been promised us. Owls, fox-cubs and a beaver are expected, but the much-talked-of tree bear will probably not arrive until the end of the Summer Term.

Pheasants have been given us by Mr. Montagu-Scott, fancy pigeons by Mr. Machin, and two red squirrels and a peacock by the Headmaster. Our golden pheasants came from Temple House.

The animals are all doing well. The pigeons, who had refused to sit until their house had been made rat-proof, have now hatched out families. The pheasants like their new quarters and are becoming quite tame. We hope to be able to rear a few. The fancy pigeons have laid, but did not sit. We have put some of their eggs under the homers, and await the result. The squirrels are doing well, but are very wild. We want to tame them during the holidays if we can. The peacock is growing a new tail now, and both he and the peahen are in the pink of condition.

Our chief bother just now is with the rats, who excavate in the lawn we are laying out, but our campaign against them last term was so effective that there are not many of them left.

H. E. R.

## A REASON FOR FORESTRY

AS a nation we are extraordinarily ignorant of what forestry means. Most people have some idea of what agriculture is, but to the majority of these forestry, in a vague way, is 'cutting down trees.' Another name for forestry is silviculture, and just as agriculture is the art of cultivating the fields to produce crops of grain, grass or roots, so is silviculture the art of cultivating the woods to produce timber. The term forestry is, however, used to embrace rather more than silviculture, that is to say not only the producing of the trees, but their management and their utilization.

In consequence of our general apathy towards the subject, we have lagged far behind other nations, and it is only since the war that a State service has been formed in this country. Germany, France, Sweden could all give us many points in the business, and had it not been for the war and the enormous demands made on home timber, we might be still deep in the same groove of indifference, from which we are in fact just beginning to emerge.

No one in his senses would advocate that extensive forests should be established on land suitable for the production of crops, but there are in Great Britain very large tracts of land, especially in Scotland, Wales and North England which are quite unsuitable for agriculture, but very suitable for silviculture, and our climate is unsurpassed for growing good timber.

That land even of the most complete barrenness may be turned sometimes to good account for this purpose is shown by the case of the 'Landes' of France, the district on the west coast of France extending from the estuary of the Gironde at Bordeaux southwards for over a hundred miles to the coast of Spain. This famous *côte d'argent*, so-called from the wonderful phosphorescence of the sea at night, was formerly nothing but a waste of sand stretching in places as much as twenty miles inland. The sea-winds kept the surface constantly in motion and the dunes, for ever changing in shape, would support no vegetation. If any grass or herbage should manage to establish itself in a period of comparative calm, it was buried many feet deep in sand by the next gale from the sea. So the French Government, working through its department *des Eaux et Forêts*, decided to change all this and to grow forests on these sand wastes—a colossal undertaking, in which the bravery and perseverance of the workers have been amply rewarded.

They went to the root of the matter at home and attacked the wind—the cause of all the trouble—on the line of contact with the land, that is to say, just above high-water mark. They attacked the wind and they broke it. A high palisade was built by driving piles into the sand and interlacing them with pliable branches. The wind came and heaped the sand up against this barricade, filled the crevices and formed the beginning of a long sea-dune. This barrier was raised by successive stages by driving a new palisade on to the top of the new dune, and each time the sand was blown up against it, the whole thing becoming smoothed over by the even drifting. In course of time the dune reached its present height, some thirty or forty feet above the level of the sea, with a steep face towards the wind and a long sloping face to leeward. In the shelter of this wall of sand, with the wind still blowing violently in front, but behind only gently, trickling the fine grains forward, vegetation was established for the all-important purpose of binding and fixing the sand. At first grasses, especially the marram and lyme bent grasses, were planted, and these, with their long running roots, took the first step in holding the surface; then other closer-growing species were introduced until there was a substantial mat over the surface.

This work was all preliminary to the planting of the trees, and took many years of hard and often disheartening labour to accomplish. And now the great work of planting the trees began. The species used by far the most extensively was the Maritime Pine, a tree not unlike the common Scots Pine of this country, but lacking the beautiful reddish tinge of the bark. Little by little the trees were established, and as more shelter was gained by the trees themselves, the work became progressively easier. As the work was carried inland and the trees to seaward grew up, the sand behind settled down into a state of almost complete rest, and trees could be established with little fear of their being drifted up and buried.

In this way a very large part of this enormous stretch of country was put to a most productive and profitable use. The pines grow with extraordinary rapidity—a remarkable fact when it is considered that they are on practically pure sand. But it must be remembered that the fall of the needles does help enormously to thicken up the soil and to improve its fertility. The trees are tapped for resin, the material being collected in cups which are fixed to the tree and into which the resinous sap runs. Just before maturity they are 'tapped to death,' which means that the tapping becomes so severe that the tree dies. They are then felled, and the timber, which is in no way reduced

in value by the process of tapping, is sent in large quantities to the Welsh coal-mines as pit timber.

And so the French—over a hundred years ago—turned a desert into a rich and useful province. In our own country to-day a similar experiment on a very much smaller scale is being carried out at the mouth of the River Findhorn in Morayshire. Some three hundred years ago, it is thought, this rich agricultural district was buried under an immense rush of sand blown in from the sea, with the result that there are now in places sand-dunes a hundred feet high. The district was ruined agriculturally. Part, the less badly drifted area, has been under timber for many years, and now the remaining five or six square miles of these ever-shifting Culbin Sands are being tackled in a way somewhat similar to the French method.

The examples which have been taken must not, however, be looked on as typical of forestry operations. They are rather exceptional, but have been cited to illustrate the adaptability of trees to what are apparently the most unfavourable conditions. Much more typical forestry land is the rough hillside or bare moorland of Northern England, Scotland and Wales. A certain amount of depth of soil is desirable, but it is wonderful how trees will live on only a few inches of soil over practically solid rock.

In early times great tracts, both of England and Scotland, were covered with forests. As population increased and the country developed commercially, many of these forests were swept away. Very often this was right, as the land could be put to more profitable uses, but in many cases our forefathers and we ourselves, have taken the product and left the soil barren and waste. If we cannot put the land to any better use, it is at least our duty to put it again to the same use and to give to our successors, as was given to us, a beautiful and valuable heritage.

I.A.C.

## COLLECTIONS. No. II.

**C**OLLECTING 'Lepidoptera,' commonly known as 'Butterflies and Moths,' is one of the most interesting of hobbies, for the excitement of the chase is crowned, if you are lucky, by your pride in seeing rows of beautiful insects.

A warm, sunny day is best for taking most species of butterflies, although some, notably *Aegeria* ('Speckled Wood') delight in shady woods and may be seen flitting from place to place even when there is

a light rain. Knowing something of their haunts, the would-be collector arms himself with a net, a cyanide of potassium killing bottle, a small box or tin, the inside of which is lined with cork, and a good supply of pins.

At about five o'clock in the evening the butterflies begin to go off. That is the time for the collector to start 'setting' his captures of the day. Driving a pin through the thorax of the insect he places it in the centre of the groove of the setting board; then, taking a setting needle and gently pushing up each wing until it reaches the required point, he secures it with a strip of paper held down with two pins. He adds more strips, and pins out the antennae. Some collectors prefer small triangles of cardboard on the edges of each wing, but the ordinary long strips are generally supposed to keep the wings in position more securely.

For most butterflies a week or ten days on the boards is enough; but moths should be given a fortnight, and large species like the *Sphingidae* should be given a month or more.

When the collector has finished netting his butterflies, he can turn his attention to the *Heterocera* (moths). Taking with him the cyanide bottle, two or three dozen pill boxes, the net, a 'bull's-eye' lantern (hung round his neck by one strap and tied round his waist by another), several strips of cloth, and a tin containing a mixture of flat beer and boiled treacle, he sets off.

Choosing a tree whose base is surrounded by undergrowth, he dips one of the strips in the 'sugar' and pins it on the bark. He repeats the process until all the strips are used. Then, returning to the first, he finds, if he is lucky, a host of moths fluttering round the 'sugar' and feeding on it. Some of the more wary will dart away at his approach, but others will be so intent on the feast that they will allow themselves to be knocked into the cyanide bottle or pill box without any trouble. Pill boxes are useful because the captives can be taken home in them and killed at leisure; there is often no time to pin them into the collecting tin, and if kept in the cyanide bottle they may get spoilt. Some species do indeed spoil themselves by fluttering against the sides of the pill box, but experience will teach the collector which species are likely to behave thus.

Sallow blossom in Spring and ivy blossom in Autumn are attractive to moths, and these should be beaten thoroughly, while collectors in towns should reconnoitre the lamp-posts. Returning home the collector proceeds to stuff the larger of his spoils. Taking a sharp pair of scissors he slits the underside of the abdomen, removes the 'viscera' with a bent pin or a piece of wire, stuffs the body with a wad of cotton wool



soaked in benzine (to prevent 'grease' from spoiling the insect), closes the skin together again and 'sets.'

Breeding is a great source of supply to the collector's cabinet. Having captured a male and female of a certain species, the collector removes them to a cage and will naturally procure numerous ova, from which, in course of time, will emerge the young larvae. Perfect specimens are much more easily secured by breeding than by capture on the wing. If the collector is not able to secure females for breeding purposes, he should search the underside of leaves, grasses, cracks in the bark of trees, walls and palings for ova. Ova should be kept in a warm and dry place, with fresh leaves from the food plant continually supplied in the breeding cage so that the young larvae may have nourishment immediately on emerging. When the larvae hatch they should be given fresh leaves at least once a day (young and juicy leaves should be avoided). The bottom of the cage should be lined with sandy soil, sifted to remove any small pebbles. Larvae should not be touched at all with the fingers, and when it is necessary to move them they should be lifted with a soft camel-hair brush.

The collection of Pupae is a highly entertaining hobby, and the following 'apparatus' is required: a fair-sized piece of white calico, a trowel and a chisel. The chisel is used for digging out such wood-borers as *Pyrina* (The Leopard Moth) and also the Goat Moth. Walls, ledges, palings and other like places have to be searched, and the moss and grass near the bole of the tree removed and shaken into the white calico. When the earth underneath the grass has been dug up, each lump has to be broken over the calico as well. Pupae will seldom be found at a depth greater than four inches, and never in clay soil.

At the time of writing there are, of course, no butterflies abroad, but in the months of April and May the first species make their appearance, notably the *P. Brassicae*, *Napi*, *Rapae*, *Cardamines* and *Rhamni*. Fields with long grass and plenty of flowers are preferred by the *Lycaenidae* (Blues) and by the family which includes the Common 'Brown' and the 'Wall' Butterfly. Clearings in woods are the favourite haunts of the *Hairstreaks*, *Fritillaries*, *Iris* (Purple Emperor) and *L. Sibylla* (White Admiral). *Buddleia* is very attractive to the *Vanessas*, *Pierinae* (Whites) and *Rhamni*.

The entomologist should limit himself to three or four of each kind, setting one male and one female together with an inverted specimen of each, but he should, of course, secure as many varieties as he can.

E. D. O'BRIEN.

## THE RETURN OF THE NATIVE

A 'PARAGRAPH.'

**B**EFORE me a tangled mass of long grass and weeds marked the ancient site of the playing fields, once a wide expanse of short green grass which still gleamed fresh in my memory. Beyond stood the house, charred and mutilated almost beyond recognition, great cracks like open wounds now gaping in its sides. The same hall—yes! but whereas in the old days cheerful life had streamed continuously through it, now the blackened ceiling and broken windows spelt desolation. The marble Assembly Hall, that masterpiece of art that had once seemed destined to eternity, was now but a heap of crumbling bricks, piled around a few gaunt pillars. The painted paneling and gilded splendour of the Music Room that had seemed so magnificent before, had become tawdry and impotent in comparison with all the strength and power that lay behind the sculptured ruins. And so on through a house which the relentless hands of fire and time had crushed so utterly.

Small wonder, then, that it was with a sigh of relief that I passed through the broken door and down the cracked and mossy steps.

But as I hurried on my way an overpowering desire to take one last look overcame me, and I turned round.

There, bathed in the summer sun, lay the mighty ruin, and before it, untouched, stood the equestrian statue of King George, who, bolt upright on his massive steed, ever stared with sightless eyes upon the desolation around him.

E. RICHARDS.

## SUNSET OVER THE SEA

A 'PARAGRAPH.'

**F**AR away beyond the Atlantic, the sun shone, a mellow gold in the later summer evening.

The sea was calm and little waves of gold seemed to ripple everlastingly towards the cliffs which lined the Cornish bay.

A few lonely sheep, now and again uttering long, lazy bleats, roamed the green hillsides, which sloped down towards the sea.

The walls of the little cottage which stood above the slopes were gilded with the sun's long rays, and at the back, in the dusky shadows of the cottages, dark bushes waved in the cool sea breeze.

Sometimes a white seagull, wheeling round with long sweeps of its wings, would soar away with strange, wild cries to where the sun seemed now balanced on the misty haze of the horizon.

The shadows on the cliffs grew longer and longer, the black outlines of a sailing boat glided slowly over the blazing surface of the sea, and at last the sun, almost visibly sinking, was only a spark of fiery gold on the horizon.

Then quite suddenly the spark went out, like the last glow on the wick of an extinguished candle. The golden slopes of the hills changed to purple, and the sea, breaking on the shingle, raised its ceaseless murmur to the one pale star that shone above.

J. M. REEVES.

### STOWE NATURE NOTES. No. III.

The Easter Term may have less to interest nature lovers than the other terms, for the migrants have gone long since, and our immigrants from Northern lands are now quite familiar; it is moreover too soon to expect the return of most of our summer birds. Yet we do know that as end of term draws near there are stirrings in thousands of birds in Southern France, Algeria, Tropical and South Africa—stirrings shortly to become powerful impulses to which the birds will yield as to the authority of a magic wand. With the strength of an instinct divine, they will shortly start upon their long and perilous journey,—five hundred, a thousand or may be even three thousand miles, without compass or chart, guided only by some unerring sense or senses which can hardly be conceived. Few of us have seen, or will ever see, these visitors from afar leaving their foreign home; or see them on their way over impenetrable forest, darkened by the luxuriant growth of the tropics, terrorised by panther and tiger, over the desert wastes of the Sahara or the blue waters of the Mediterranean. We shall, however, see them when they come, and welcome them as friends which we have lost awhile.

One is already with us, the greenfinch—or green linnæus as he is often called—reported by H. E. Robinson on the first of March. Except for yellow stripes on the wings and tail he is somewhat sombre in colour. His song—a 'twee' with long ee's—is tumultuous in May, and to Wordsworth seemed 'A Life, a Presence like the air,' as he listened to it near his home at Grasmere. H. E. Robinson, too, has noted the gold crest returning. It is a quiet unobtrusive return, a series of small flights along the hedgerows, but always going North. He takes his time over it, as if life were a leisurely business. To see him, one must stand still, when he will hop quietly by and show a beautiful yellow stripe on his hat. A party of redwings was seen on the morning of March 4th under the lime and elm trees to the North of the cricket field: they flew off in a northerly direction and we presume they are about to return to their former haunts in Norway and Sweden.

At the beginning of term some changes were noted on the lake; our population of tufted ducks had increased by immigration, four males and two females being seen on Octagon on the third of February. They are beautiful birds, though Mr. Duck is decidedly the handsomer of the two, with a purple bonnet and white side feathers. Both have a golden yellow iris which makes their eyes shine with uncanny intelligence—for a duck—and, strangest of all, and for what purpose one can hardly guess, a long tuft stretching like a pig tail, only stiffer, from the rear of the bonnet to the bend in the back. Mr. Duck has a longer tuft than Mrs. Duck. The whole family dive well, and play 'follow my leader' when not asleep, or diving; the leader swims out, and they all follow, one by one. If the leader turns, the others turn in succession after him, still preserving single file. They do not mind the coots swimming near, but they have no dealings with them—one wonders whether it is sheer indifference, or simple shyness. The same party of six was observed sitting on the water as if resting, when it was joined by two others. Shortly the whole eight flew up, curved round, and wheeled off to Eleven Acre to join another party there. Evidently they like to be together. By February 16th, Mr. Neville reports, the tufted ducks had paired off, and we shall look forward now to a brood of ducklings next term. Seven pochards were seen on Eleven Acre—six male and one female. The frosts between the 13th and 26th of February were keen enough to freeze the lake over twice—there being a short thaw between the two dates—and though the ice was rather disturbing to the ducks, it provided just the circumstances to compel them to reveal some of their secrets. On the 16th of February the lake was completely frozen over except for an oasis of water between the islands on Octagon, and on this small surface all our ducks were represented. The swans patrolled the edge of the ice near the pool, but whether they were too proud to mix with their humble relations, or deliberately made way for them, it is impossible to say. On the 26th of February, however, many of the ducks had ventured on to the ice, driven there presumably by hunger. The coots were seen on many occasions poking about the water-plants which protruded through holes in the ice, and pulling out morsels of food. For once in a while they were comparatively still; on water they rush hither and thither with scarcely any rest, but on ice they cannot, and for a very simple reason. The coot has comparatively long legs ending in large webbed feet, three toes in front and one behind; to walk he must perforce lift up his feet, which, on account of their great size, is a very awkward operation. There is some ground for thinking that some coots enjoyed the ice, for quite a number of them still patrolled and sometimes ran upon the ice on Eleven Acre, although there was a large pool near by among the reeds, where they could have had food and a quiet swim. These adventurous ones, too, walked with that deliberateness of carriage which is a sure sign of conscious ability. H. E. Robinson reports that the mallards have paired. The male is probably the handsomest duck upon the lake. He has a yellow beak, an emerald neck (with a wonderful sheen) with a white ring below it, a copper coloured breast, grey-white back and a black streak on his flanks: a black tail ends in a white tuft, and a pair of red legs completes his livery. In strange contrast Mrs. Mallard is simplicity itself, but Mr. Mallard loves her plain beauty and is very devoted, for, on the 26th of February, a pair was seen asleep on the ice. The female was standing up with her beak tucked into her feathers—presumably to pretend it was dark—whereas the male was close at hand and occasionally woke up and gazed round to see that all was well. They are now nesting upon the island and their devotion will, if all goes happily, be rewarded with a brood of ducklings next term. The lakes are attractive to passing fowl. On the morning of the 3rd of February a skein of ducks was observed flying at a great

height from the direction of Stony Stratford: on they came, getting nearer and nearer, and when they were over the lakes they circled round as if preparing to descend, but they changed their minds and continued their flight, rising higher and higher until they appeared as a wisp of cloud in the high distance, and then vanished. A gaggle of geese was seen on the 22nd of February by Mr. Hart-Dyke, flying towards the lake; they did actually descend, but, alighting on the ice, they slid a few yards before they stopped: this seemed a surprise, for they quickly flew off, evidently deciding that the pond was unsuitable. The swans have been seen this term on the Oxford Water: there are two on the Dadford reservoir, and one cygnet was reported on the 9th of March. The cygnet is usually at a respectful distance from its parents: he is smaller, has a few brown feathers, and a dark grey beak—almost black—and though till recently under tutelage is now independent.

There are spring-like stirrings among our woodland birds. Rooks are building their nests on the tree tops near the Oxford Lodge: they do, however, dislike observation. Four pairs of crows have been seen by H. E. Robinson building nests upon the tall elms between the Corinthian Arch and the Buckingham Lodge. For these, however, there are none of the delights of social life, such as Rookdom enjoys; alone they nest, and bring up crows; alone they feed on carrion, looking round with a haunted look, as if fearing their food would be snatched away. Rooks like living together, and feeding together, and they play games with their near relations the jackdaws, often feeding side by side in the same field. On these occasions the company apparently do not notice a traveller passing near, but should he stop, and particularly should he raise field-glasses to examine them, they fly up, only to settle down again shortly; a movement that may have become instinctive, possibly, in recollection of the keeper's gun. If this is true, then we know that rooks and jackdaws have learnt a new habit this last few hundred years, but of this there is, of course, no certainty. Rooks and crows are partial to trees for nesting, but Jacky will nest almost anywhere, in hollows of trees, old buildings, and even in rabbit holes; and either in communities or not. Those about the School are, according to Robinson, now 'entering their old holes.' Rooks, crows and jackdaws are often confused, but there is usually no difficulty in distinguishing them from each other. The crow is the largest and the jackdaw the smallest of the three birds. Jacky has a greyish pate and nape, otherwise he looks black: the rook is a larger bird and, like the jackdaw, is sociable; he is distinguished from the crow in having a whitish base to his grey beak, and in his call which is a caw rather than a croak. These birds are hardly handsome, but under sunlight their black coats shine with a deep and lustrous blue of a shade which nature rarely equals.

Nuthatches have returned to their nesting sites, and a tree near the Zoo has a hole in it at the top, which is approved as a home by one pair. Woodpeckers, Robinson reports, are now hammering at trees. It is an astounding sight to see them—their heads in a blurred outline—patiently working away with their beaks. The woodpeckers' homes are really *de luxe* for birds, and so their disused residences are admired and used by other birds, often starlings and nuthatches. Chaffinches, which have gone about in flocks in the winter, are now pairing off, and the parties breaking up; the colours of the male birds have improved, and their winter call, 'pink, pink,' is tuning up to a joyous song which in a month's time will ring from morning till evening in our woods; tiffs between males have already been seen, one on the morning of March 10th, but the fighting pair thought better of their quarrel and separated. Bullfinches have been seen, Mr. and Mrs. Bullfinch always together, as they pair for life. They are handsome birds and are seen best in the winter time, often frequenting fruit trees; in summer

time they hide only too well. A cousin of the bullfinch, the hawfinch, has been seen by Miller; this is a rare bird, with a rufous breast like a bullfinch, but he is larger. Wagtails, delicate in their black and white suits, dainty and fairy-like in their movements, are now pairing off. Yellow hammers still move about in small parties and have frequently been noticed along the hedgerows flying in short flights to keep ahead of the traveller. Wagtails and yellow hammers are increasing in numbers now by immigration.

For some weeks past on bright mornings a thrush has sung loudly from his perch on an upper bough of a beech tree on the West side of the cricket field. On dull mornings he is hesitant, but a sunny dawn or evening glow stirs him to a glad and tumultuous song. His tune, though similar to, is more varied than that of the missel thrush; he is smaller and arranges the dark spots on his waistcoat differently. The common thrush, too, has a repertoire of music, whereas the missel thrush has only one piece. Robin has been singing all winter, but when the thrush starts, he is often silent as if in deference to a finer melody.

Starlings still hop and play on the buildings, and one has a great affection for the top of Mr. Wragg's chimney. He found the perch last term and came at half-past seven every morning, staying until about eight o'clock, craning his neck and stretching his beak with a gurgling sound. This term he did not appear for some time: he has now returned to his favourite haunt, but can only be seen by early risers. Possibly the smell of the chimney is delightful to him, or maybe he comes for warmth. A blue-tit has been seen making periodical visits to a tiny hole high up in the brick wall opposite the entrance to the Engine House; it is a convenient housing site, and is to let unfurnished.<sup>1</sup>

Of flowers there are few which have yet appeared. Aconites have been found here and there, and snowdrops appeared in clusters near the Temple of Concord and Victory, and about Whitehead's cottage; but as to why they hang their heads and show their beauty to the ground, no one knows. They were, however, a beautiful sight, a lonely beauty, it is true, but with a promise of the flowery profusion of spring.

The sheep which graze the cricket field now have families. On Saturday, the 16th of February, the sheep were all alone, but on Sunday, the 17th, two early morning visitors coming from the Grecian Valley found several lambs as well as sheep. By Wednesday they had learnt how to gambol and jump over their mothers' backs, and on Saturday, the 23rd, at about five o'clock in the evening, a company of three, two white all over and one white with black spots, were playing a regular game round the boles of the beech trees. We suspect that the spotted one started it.

\* \* \* \* \*

Since these notes were written, Rivers-Moore has reported an adventure with a water-rat; he chased it down Dadford stream, when it dived under an ice-bridge (the stream was frozen), knocked a hole in the ice further down, and came out. He and Yorke have also seen grebes upon the lake.

<sup>1</sup> It is now definitely taken, March 15th, and the tenants have moved in.

## A FANTASY

[In which there are eighteen errors to be discovered by the careful reader.]

Mr. Wrarnakle stood with his hands in his pockets on the steps of the South Front and reviewed the situation. He was a stout, clean-shaven, middle-aged man with an appearance of kindly geniality. He had promised to take Mr. Crearke's form first hour that afternoon—in five minutes' time in fact—and he had only that moment begun to consider what he was to teach them. He unfolded his arms and abstractedly pulled at his moustache as he gazed for inspiration over Eleven Acre to the Corinthian Arch.

Although he was primarily the Architecture Master, his mind had received a fair all-round training in the Greats School at Cambridge, and there were several subjects which he would have been quite ready to undertake; but Mr. Crearke had been quite firm—'Geography, please.' Geography it would have to be. Yet his knowledge of that subject was so lamentably deficient. He could remember nothing about it save the useless fact that Edinburgh was west of Bristol. He had not time to go to the Library and read the article on Geography in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*: he could hardly tell the form to go on with what they were doing; that would infallibly lead to awkward questions and an embarrassing exposure.

He looked at his watch. The hands pointed to 3.12; for in obedience to the custom of the country Mr. Wrarnakle had altered his watch at the beginning of the summer, but when the time came to change it back, he had mislaid the key, so that his watch was always an hour wrong. His attention was distracted by the shouts of the spectators at an 'A' House match which was taking place on No. 1 ground. 'Another goal for Gremple,' he murmured to himself, as he saw the oval neatly netted. 'That's forty-six two' volunteered a small boy, as he passed Mr. Wrarnakle's chair. 'Almost a cricket score,' thought Mr. Wrarnakle, and his mind wandered off to the splendid days of the past summer, when he had shown once or twice that he could still bat a little. He remembered the glorious hit to leg that had disturbed a cuckoo in her nest in one of the great elm trees to the west of the cricket field. A momentary bitterness seized him as he thought of a terrible occasion when he had called his partner for a fourth run to complete his own century: the partner had sent him back; he had slipped and fallen, and only recovered in time to have the mortification of seeing the wicket-keeper whip off the bails. But on the whole his recollections were of a pleasanter nature. There were those delightful early morning swims in the lake: he recalled one in particular when he had seen a heron rise from its nest in the rushes and fly majestically across the noble sheet of water. Wordsworth's lines rose unaccountably to his lips:

'Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive,  
But to be young was very heaven.'

True, it had been nearer half-past seven, but what matter—after all, he was not yet forty-eight. But his mind was wandering: with a jerk he brought it back to the consideration of the matter in hand. What about imports and exports? Surely that was an important part of geography as he understood it? Ah, that reminded him: out of the depths of his consciousness he dragged a once well-known tag:

'The staple food product of France is flax'; a bad blank verse line, but a valuable mnemonic. Once he had known it with several others of the same family, as readily as that other:

'Dies in the singular  
Common we decline,  
But its plural cases are  
Always feminine.'

But could he make his two geographical facts last out for three-quarters of an hour without an almost tedious reiteration?

At that moment the bell rang for first hour. Mr. Wrarnakle turned in despair and entered Assembly. Suddenly from his left a hail reached his ears: 'Ah, there you are, Wrarnakle.' It was Mr. Crearke's voice coming from the Music Room door. 'I am back after all, so I needn't bother you to-day. I am sorry to have given you the trouble of preparing a lesson.'

G.M.O'N.

## LATE NEWS

The Cathcart Golf Bowl was won by Grenville.

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