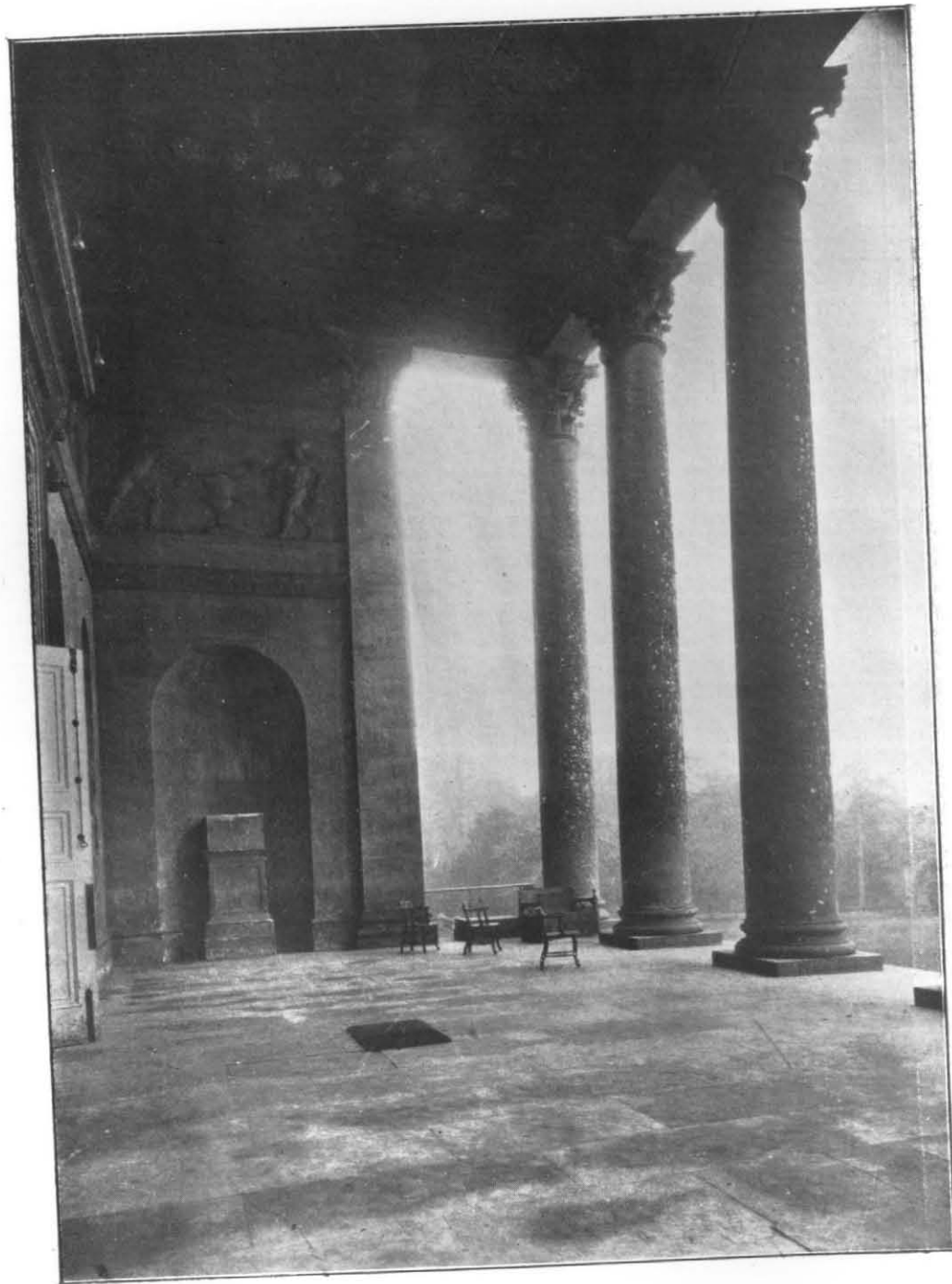


THE STOIC



Number Nine

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SOUTH PORTICO.

THE STOIC

VOL. II

APRIL 1926

No. 2

THE CHAPEL

A COMMITTEE has been formed to consider the best means of raising the money required for the provision of a Chapel at Stowe, and of securing the most satisfactory design for the building. The Committee consists of Lord Gisborough, Sir Charles King-Harman and the Rev. P. E. Warrington (Governors of the School), Mr. W. Morison, Mr. S. D'U. Shearing and Mr. G. Watson (Fathers of Members of the School), and the Headmaster. At the second meeting of this committee, held on February 8th, 1926, a letter was read from a friend of the School (who is also a 'parent') offering a donation of £5,000 to the Chapel Fund on condition (1) that the name of the donor should not be disclosed and (2) that the building should be far enough advanced within three years to be used for services. As a result of this extremely generous gift it was felt that the whole problem of the Chapel had undergone a change and that the need for dealing with it had been transferred from the remote future to the immediate present. The Committee at once took certain steps, as a result of which Sir Reginald Blomfield has agreed to become our Consulting Architect for the occasion, and four other architects have been asked to submit suggestions and designs. Until these suggestions and designs have been considered, further action for the raising of funds will not be taken, but in the meantime it must be realised that the six thousand pounds (nearly) which have so far been secured, represent only a small fraction of the sum which will be required if even the shell of part of the Chapel is to be ready within three years.

In his first report Sir Reginald Blomfield deals at some length with the site of the proposed Chapel, and also makes a reference to the material of which in his opinion it should be constructed. With regard to site, he writes :

'*Site.* The alternatives suggested are :

- (a) A building at right angles to the new West classrooms, projecting southwards.

(b) A site further to the West determined by the erection, at a future date, of a block of buildings continuing the classroom range, but repeating the design of the old building (*i.e.* Laboratory) to east of it. The length of this would give the position of the east side of Chapel range, and the site would extend southward, balancing the old buildings on the opposite side of what would then be a three-sided court, open on the south side.

I have been unable to find any other site suitable for the Chapel. For the following reasons I recommend the second site, Site (b):

(1) A block of buildings at right-angles to the new West classrooms would form an extremely bad architectural composition.

(2) It would not make the best use of the ground and would leave ground to the West which would be of little use for important buildings.

(3) It would not screen off sufficiently the minor buildings to the North-West.

All these objections are avoided by Site (b), which would give opportunity for a fine symmetrical design in character with the main building, would screen the minor buildings and would bring the School buildings into one consecutive scheme. I therefore recommend Site (b).

The site of the new Chapel should on no account project beyond the south face of the old Laundry building on the opposite side of the court. Within this limit architects are free to use their own discretion.'

With regard to materials, Sir Reginald Blomfield writes:

Materials.

'I advise bricks covered with plaster to match the old in colour and texture, with stone dressings, and Westmoreland or other green or grey slates. The old work should be followed as nearly as may be in style and material.'

OLD STOIC NEWS

N. A. C. Croft has represented Christ Church in the Inter-College Relay Races at Oxford (Half-Mile).

H. E. Robinson has represented Magdalene College in the Inter-College Sports at Cambridge (High Jump).

THE HUMPHREY FOSTER PRIZE FOR SCIENCE

THROUGH the generosity of Mr. Cecil Foster, of Crowborough, an Annual Prize has been founded in memory of H. A. Foster, of Chandos House. It is to be called 'The Humphrey Foster Prize for Science,' and it will be awarded annually in the Summer Term under conditions which will be announced each year. The conditions for 1926 are given below.

HUMPHREY FOSTER PRIZE—CONDITIONS OF AWARD, 1926.

Applications are invited from boys in the five highest forms in the School (*i.e.* in L. 5 *Alpha* and above) to compete for the above Prize. A list of candidates will be selected from the applications. The competition will be in the form of an Essay. Each selected competitor must suggest the subject on which he proposes to write, and obtain the approval of Mr. Whitaker for an Essay in Chemistry, of Mr. Heckstall-Smith for an Essay in Physics, or of Mr. Robertson for an Essay in Biology. The Prize will be awarded on the merits of the Essay sent in.

A candidate is allowed the full use of books, journals and works of reference in writing his essay, but he must give all references to indicate precisely what help he has obtained from such sources. He may, if he wishes, fit up apparatus to demonstrate experiments, or arrange slides in microscopy or specimens in Biology to illustrate his Essay.

The Essay will be judged by the evidence it gives of originality, sound thinking, logical argument, ordered presentation of ideas, and style and conciseness in expression.

The List of Candidates will be closed by Friday, the 14th of May, and Essays are to be given in to Mr. Whitaker (Chemistry), or Mr. Heckstall-Smith (Physics), or Mr. Robertson (Biology) by Friday, the 2nd of July. The times for demonstrations will, or may, be fixed later by arrangement.

STOICA

THE Grafton Hounds met at Stowe on Saturday, March 6th, and killed several of our foxes for us. It was a good day from our point of view, though perhaps less satisfactory to the rest of the Field. To the Grafton Hunt, and to its Master in particular, we owe an increasing debt of gratitude. The members of the School who care most for hunting know best how great that debt already is.

On Wednesday, March 10th, the Christ Church Beagles most kindly came over to give us a run. It is hoped that in spite of the distance this may prove to have been the first visit of a long series. We can always provide a Field and generally a hare.

Mr. P. F. Warner's visit and lecture on March 31st will long be remembered by the Cricketers and others who saw and heard him. Mr. Warner knows already how warmly he will be welcomed if he can find time to come to Stowe again next year.

Owing to the training required first for the Football House Matches and then for the Sports, paper-chases have not been held regularly of late, though there were two or three early in the term. These provided some enjoyable running, though in one the going was exceptionally and unpleasantly heavy.

On Tuesday afternoon, March 2nd, Mr. Pierre Tas and Mr. Bernard Shore gave a short recital of music for Violin and Viola.

On Sunday evening, March 21st, Mr. A. N. G. Richards and Mr. J. C. Dykes-Brown gave a recital of songs and pianoforte works.

Mrs. D'Eath has very kindly presented to the Library a copy of the catalogue of the 1848 Stowe Sale, which has the interest of being a copy actually used by a buyer and having some of the prices recorded in pencil in the margin. The book has been skilfully repaired and strengthened, and it is on all grounds a most welcome gift.

Mr. J. Armitage Robertson has been appointed to a University Lectureship and leaves Stowe at the end of this term. He has done a great work for the science of the School on the Biological side, and he will be sorely missed for that and other reasons. Every good wish goes with him from here—but are there any Beagles in Birmingham?

New Lions are expected to appear shortly on the long-vacant pedestals below the South Front Steps. A tentative, two-dimensional animal appeared on the East pedestal for a few hours the other day, but it was hastily removed and is now lurking in the recesses of the Lodge.

The charming and original bell mountings, recently hung on the North Front, are the gift of Sir Edward Nicholl. They were carved from designs by Mr. Williams-Ellis, and before being put into position here they were exhibited for a time at the Paris Exhibition of Decorative Arts.

There is no doubt that the Peacocks are becoming a nuisance. But they are also becoming every day more beautiful. And they have their uses when sermons threaten to be long.

The new Masters' Lodge, designed for members of the Staff under five feet in height, will soon be ready for occupation. But why the eggshells over the windows?

Two very fine Urns, borrowed from the Queen's Temple, have appeared on the wings of Chatham. They balance the large vegetable growths so prominent on the central block, and greatly improve the appearance of the House from the south.

The Photographic Club has remained dormant this term, and membership has not been invited. It is hoped that there will be a good membership next term, when the Club will again be in full working order.

A small proportion of the beeches which were planted in the Avenue last year have died, and these have been replaced.

The oaks planted near the School two years ago by representatives from the Imperial Conference have also received suitable silvicultural attention.

The project for forming shelter belts on the Bourbon field is still hanging fire for want of a fence. This is a heavy item, but we hope to see the trees in the ground next planting season.

Through the generosity of a friend of the School, the interior of the Gym. has been redecorated.

The Bishop of Oxford held a Confirmation at Stowe on Saturday, March 13th.

Much oil is being poured upon the troubled waters of the lakes, from Cobham Pond downwards, with the idea of discouraging mosquitoes and midges.

The interior of the chamber at the top of Cobham Monument has been cleaned and repainted, thanks to the generosity of those members of the School who had kindly written their names on the walls and window frames.

The Medici pictures in the classrooms slowly grow in number. The latest additions are two Vandycks and a Sustermans.

The two lino-cuts published in this number are the work of members of the Arts Club. The 'Head of Dante' and 'Grasse' (Riviera) are by A. Carden; 'The Plough' is by J. M. Reeves.

The two wood-cuts from the *Illustrated London News* of January 15th, 1845, are reproduced by permission of the Editor.

The following is a complete list of First XV and Second XV Colours hitherto awarded:—

FIRST XV—C. B. Jones,* L. Balmford,* E. R. Cox, A. M. Cowell, B. C. Gadney, J. E. McComb ma, S. J. Murdoch, D. A. Dunsford ma, P. M. Falconer, W. S. Hyde, J. N. Feathers, J. K. Edden.

SECOND XV—A. G. Bowie,* E. Richards,* J. C. Sanderson,* N. A. C. Croft,* R. D. W. Sword, T. V. Woods, J. H. Middleton, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, H. W. Gill, B. S. Harriss, H. D. Turrall, D. S. Bramley, A. Dunsford mi.

* Awarded in season 1924-25.

We have received the following communication (from an anomalous author):

DEAR SIR,

I am writing to you in your incapacity of auditor of this magazine, with the detention of asking you to help me to reprehend more exclusively the real idea behind the Stoic religion.

That these Stoics were the invertebrate enemies of the Epicureans, I do withstand, but this is all. The Encyclometer Britannica has given me no infinite desistance with reward to my difficulty, and has in fact caused me no little irrigation by the use of such words as 'Ataraxia,' which, by the way, sounds to me more like the name of an infernal decease, than an amphibian for the detainment of which men have denoted their whole lives.

How, I wonder, does this Stoicism help a person who, when asked the second time for her Golf description, finds that she has lost the deceit for the bill which has already been paid? Oh, these incontinent club sectaries!

It was the desire to be able to depress all eternal and vincible signs of annoyance, under such trying circumflexes as these, which first reduced me to deplore the matter further.

Although up to now there seem to me to be 'More things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in your philanthropy,' I would be glad of any further inflammation on the subject.

Yours respectively,

MRS. MALAPROP.

THE PROGRESS OF A STOIC

When Montgomery Brown first arrived at the School,
The world set him down as a bit of a fool.
He was no good at Latin, and less good at Greek;
Mathematics and French were decidedly weak.
But this didn't daunt him; he centred his thought
On his own native tongue, as at Stowe it is taught.
He imbibed all the lore that was offered or given—
Such lore as fits men for the Kingdom of Heaven.
Thus he learnt to distinguish a bottle when blue
From stockings or Peters of similar hue:
The number of feet crabs and furlongs possess,
And how a Precentor has many feet less:
What century witnessed the murder of Cain
(Such a snare in his path was a snare set in vain):
What a palindrome is—for the matter of that
The palindrome 'level' is equal to 'flat.'
He learnt to distinguish a flail from a grail,
And not to go mixing a kail with a quail:
That a cat has an anagram—soul-stirring fact!
This feline appendage is said to be 'act.'
A four-lettered word he found ending in 'eny'—
A remarkable feat—not as if there are many!
He learnt to discover the names of his friends
When buried in words—an achievement that lends
Acumen to minds and life to a wire;
Thus he found his friend Hyde in 'a worthy desire.'
Equipped with such knowledge, so clever, so wise,
Our Monty from glory to glory must rise;
He'll become, I predict it, in process of time
Archbishop—or Minister (probably Prime-).

A TAILING PARTY AT THE SWISS CAMP

The procession prepared to start in the following order: first, a couple of sinister-looking horses; second, Antoine, or 'The Last Bandit,' or 'Why-cause-a-lot-of-trouble-by-pushing-your-rich-uncle-over-the-cliff, when-you-can-have-him-quietly-stabbed-for-one-franc-fifty'; third, a sleigh full of lunch; and fourth, the cream of the Hotel Valbella on luges, reading from left to right—an Etonian, a Rugbeian, Hartland-Swann, a Reptonian, me, a Cantab, and Reptonian II.

While Antoine put the finishing knots to the luges, we all stood round admiring the Etonian's apricot ski-ing suit. 'Take your seats, please!' from the Rugbeian. We sat down. The Rugbeian took Hartland-Swann's feet on his lap; Reptonian I took mine; Cantab took Reptonian II's; the Etonian, alone in front, nursed a guide book.

'En avant!' cried the Etonian, in his best taught-in-twelve-lessons accent. Antoine muttered an oath to his animals. They pulled bravely. The rope snapped—and they trotted gaily down the hill with Antoine.

We hurried after them with the luges . . .

'It's a good joke,' said the Cantab, when this happened the third time, 'but personally I'm fed up with it.' Antoine, who seemed full of rope, produced a fourth piece and tied a knot that would have made even Major Haworth envious. We settled down again.

Once more Antoine cursed his horses, and once more they pulled bravely . . . And this time we went with them. 'The idea all along,' I explained to Hartland-Swann.

We fell to discussing why we should enjoy the journey more in our present position, than we had done coming up from the station a few days before in a comfortable sleigh, feeling bitterly cold and extremely bored.

'It's the possibility of an accident,' explained the Rugbeian. 'At any moment somebody may fall off.'

'My dear chap,' said the Etonian, turning round to take part in the conversation, 'why anybody should fall off—' We went suddenly round a corner, and quietly the Etonian left his luge and rolled on to the track.

As soon as we had recovered our powers of speech, we called upon Antoine to stop. He indicated with the back of his neck that it was dangerous to stop just then; and it was not until we were at the bottom of the hill, almost a mile from the place where the Etonian had left us, that the procession halted and gave itself up to laughter.

Ten minutes later a brilliant sunset was observed approaching from the North. A little later it was seen to be a large dish of apricots and cream—or shall we say the Etonian? When he had arrived and told us all about our lineage and our future, he lapsed into a gloomy silence.

'Let's get on, then,' said the Rugbeian. We resumed our seats once more. The Etonian clung tight to his seat with both hands.

'Right!' said the Cantab. Antoine swore at the horses. They pulled bravely. The rope snapped, and they trotted gaily up the hill with Antoine.

We hurried after them with the luges . . .

J. D. G. NIVEN.

PARCE, PRECOR, PRECOR

If, when every time you try
To play Fives, a weeping sky
Stops your play:
Do not wish the inundated
Courts might be at once translated
Far away.

Or if your perambulations
Diabolic machinations
Stultify;
If, in other words, whenever
You would walk abroad, you never
Can keep dry:

Do not make bystanders wince
With your epithets; evince
Roman phlegm:
Show no preference for 'd' in
All your words, say only 'i in
Malam rem.'

RUGBY FOOTBALL

THE chief interest in football during the Easter Term lies in the House matches. We had only one School match, namely, that against Eton 2nd XV, while the 2nd XV played the Eton Colts' side on the same day. Both matches were played at Eton, and were won. The First XV scored a very decisive victory, and we hope it will be possible for Eton to give us a First XV fixture next year. Accounts of these matches will be found below.

The House Cup Competition was won by Grenville for the third successive year, and there is no doubt that they were again the best side. The foundation of their success lay—as is almost always the case—in the sound work of the pack. There was nothing particularly brilliant about it, but they did show more idea of team work than any of their opponents, and in the final, where they had their stiffest fight, they shoved against a heavier eight really well and heeled quickly and cleanly.

The backs did most of the actual attacking, and were always dangerous. Kicking to touch—an almost useless method of attack—and kicking forward or across—usually an uncertain one, unless employed very skilfully—were reduced to a minimum, and energies were concentrated on orthodox running and passing. Constant attacks of this nature are always a source of anxiety to opponents, and when a side gets anxious it is on the defensive at once, and the game is half-way towards being lost and won.

Cobham, the runners-up, had a greatly improved side since last year and had a strong pack, which, however, was rather too individual to be wholly effective. Their back division had some weak spots in it, but obviously there are great possibilities about this side, and next year it should be quite formidable.

Bruce scored their first victory, at the expense of Temple, and played better than they ever have done before. Their backs were strong, and in the Temple match the pack played a surprisingly good game.

Temple, except for their tackling, were disappointing, and their attack lacked all sting. They did, however, show a very good standard of tackling, and there is hope for any team that does that.

Chandos had a strong, hard-working lot of forwards, very good in the loose and the line-out, and moderate heelers. Had their back division been half as effective—but perhaps the less said about their back division the better.

There remains Chatham—almost entirely young. It is sufficient to say that they left their mark on the ultimate winners, and that we shall be much surprised if in three or four years they do not take the cup back to the country with them.

Tables showing the full results of the House matches and the Leagues, which were finished at the beginning of the term, are appended.

HOUSE MATCHES.

<i>First Round.</i>	<i>Semi-Final.</i>	<i>Final.</i>	<i>Winner.</i>
Grenville } Chatham }	Grenville } 39—0. }	Grenville } 21—3. }	Grenville
Bruce } Temple }	Bruce } 12—0. }		
Byes {	Chandos } Cobham }	Cobham } 3—0. }	

LEAGUE MATCHES.

The results of 'A' and 'B' matches are combined in this table. Six points were given for an 'A,' four for a 'B' match.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	PTS.
Chandos	10	9	1	0	44
Cobham	10	6	3	1	36
Temple	10	7	3	0	34
Grenville	10	4	6	0	20
Chatham	10	3	6	1	16
Bruce	10	0	10	0	0

I.A.C.

THE SCHOOL v. ETON SECOND XV.

This match was played at Eton on February 20th, the School winning by three goals and six tries (33 points) to nil.

The weather conditions were perfect, and the School soon settled down and showed that they were much better together than their opponents. As there had been no previous School match during the term, there were some changes from the side that played together last term, but the team was probably not any weaker. The pack played excellently and constantly heeled the ball cleanly and well. The strength of the side, however, lay in the halves. Gadney and Sword have never played better together. Both were excellent, and though Sword was perhaps the more spectacular, there is no doubt that his fine play was made possible by Gadney's work at the base of the scrum. The latter's passes were going out just to the right spot again and again, and Sword was getting the ball at top speed and was cutting through repeatedly. Our backs in consequence always looked dangerous, whereas the Eton backs, when they got the ball, seldom made much ground.

The tries in the first half were scored by Cowell, Jones, Sword, Jones, Hyde and Cowell, in that order, and in practically every case the score was the outcome of a breakaway by one of the halves. Jones, on the right wing, ran strongly, while Hyde, who was playing as a wing for the first time, also ran with determination all through. His chief fault at present is a tendency to drop his passes. As Dashwood converted one—the last—of these tries, the School led by 20—0 at half-time.

The second half was rather more even, the Eton forwards having a greater share of the game. Their backs, however, never looked like doing anything effective, and the School easily beat back any attacks. Further tries were scored by Jones, Gadney and Gill, Dashwood converting the last two of these. The School thus won with plenty to spare.

Team: B. S. Harriss; C. B. Jones, D. A. Dunsford ma., H. W. Gill, W. S. Hyde; R. W. D. Sword, B. C. Gadney; A. M. Cowell, J. E. McComb ma., J. N. Feathers, J. K. Edden, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, H. D. Turrall, J. A. Dashwood, D. S. Bramley.

THE SECOND XV v. ETON COLTS.

This match was also played at Eton on February 20th, the School winning by a goal and two tries (11 points) to nil.

The School side was considerably larger and heavier than the Colts' side, but they did not establish that superiority in the scrum which might have been expected. The Eton side, however, though, young, was not at all a bad one, and it did, in fact, contain one regular First XV player.

There was a distinct lack of life—due, it was stated, to the excellence of our hosts' lunch—during the first half, and there was far too much fumbling and kicking to touch when hard, straight running was obviously wanted. In the second half things brightened up a little, but one had the feeling that we should have been doing better than we were. There was a lack of drive and finish about the attack which may be put down in part at least to lack of experience in match-playing. However, there was always sufficient in hand to win, even though we led by only one try at half-time. That try was scored by Dunsford mi., who slipped round and over from a five yard scrum.

In the second half tries were scored by Murray, who ran through well, and by one of the pack. This last try came about by the forwards pushing their opponents over the line and falling on the ball; Keith converted.

Team: F. E. M. Eastwood; S. Freeman, C. J. P. Pearson, J. D. Murray, G. M. Cavendish; J. B. Charles, A. Dunsford mi.; J. F. Marshall; J. G. B. Grimley, D. A. G. Keith, F. H. Drayson, G. A. Rowse, J. R. Watson, A. F. Kerr, T. P. Ward ma.

HOUSE MATCHES.

GRENVILLE v. CHATHAM.

Played on February 5th, Grenville winning by three goals and eight tries (39 points) to nil.

Chatham could not have been expected to do very much in their first year, but they certainly put up a very plucky fight against a strong and—comparatively speaking—experienced side. In the first half the Grenville backs scored much as they liked, and were leading by 30 points at the interval. In the second half the Chatham side played amazingly well, and had only three more tries scored against them, although possibly Grenville were not always fully extended. Tries were scored by Dashwood (5), Gill (2), Feathers, Gadney, Grimley, Harrison. Dashwood, Farmiloe and Gill each converted one try. *Teams*:—

Grenville: C. A. Adams; C. B. Jones, H. W. Gill, J. A. Dashwood, G. G. Harrison; J. B. Charles, B. C. Gadney; J. N. Feathers, J. W. McCaul-Bell, J. D. Farmiloe, W. E. M. Eddy, J. G. B. Grimley, T. H. Howarth, L. H. A. Thompson, M. E. J. Croker.

Chatham: M. A. R. Sutherland; F. J. Walter, D. C. Ellis, R. H. G. Carr, D. F. N. Rowlatt; T. R. Williams, M. Gowing mi.; J. A. Boyd-Carpenter, A. Carden, A. G. M. Maynard, P. H. Heygate, A. C. C. Macpherson, M. J. Salaman, E. H. H. Alington, G. W. Hart.

BRUCE v. TEMPLE.

Played on February 6th, Bruce winning by a penalty goal and three tries (12 points) to nil.

This was a very hard match, with Bruce always the better side. Their three-quarters were very much more dangerous than those of Temple, although the latter defended well. The Bruce forwards, too, exceeded all expectations and more than held their own with their opponents. The first score was a penalty goal kicked by Pearson, and later tries were scored by Hartland-Swann mi., Dunsford ma. and Drayson. *Teams*:—

Bruce: F. E. M. Eastwood; W. W. Dunlop, D. A. Dunsford ma., A. J. P. Ling, J. de P. G. Mayhew; C. J. P. Pearson, A. Dunsford mi.; F. H. Drayson, R. Russell, O. K. Cochrane, C. H. Hartland-Swann, V. G. Stuart, G. D. Watson, M. E. C. Lord, J. A. G. Thwaites.

Temple: B. S. Harriss; J. I. Crookston mi., G. A. Griffin, J. V. Body, J. M. G. Best; T. A. G. Pritchard, J. A. Robinson ma.; J. F. Marshall, D. S. Bramley, T. P. Ward ma., G. A. Rowse, E. R. Avory, G. S. L. Burroughes, J. E. Dawson, G. Corbett.

GRENVILLE v. BRUCE.

Played on February 12th, Grenville winning by seven tries (21 points) to one try (3 points).

Grenville showed very good form in this match and were a very much better-balanced team than Bruce. The latter were beaten forward, although at the beginning of the match it did not appear that they would be, and consequently their backs got comparatively few chances. Grenville, on the other hand, were constantly attacking: the heeling from both the tight and the loose scrums was quite good and the backs brought off some very effective passing movements. Tries were scored by Jones (4), Dashwood, Still and Eddy. Several of the kicks at goal only just missed from difficult positions.

Bruce were undoubtedly handicapped by Ling being barely fit to turn out at all owing to a damaged hand, and by Mayhew also being not wholly fit owing to a bad knee. *Teams*:—

Grenville: C. A. Adams; C. B. Jones, H. W. Gill, J. A. Dashwood, F. J. Still; J. B. Charles, B. C. Gadney; J. N. Feathers, J. W. McCaul-Bell, J. D. Farmiloe, W. E. M. Eddy, J. G. B. Grimley, T. H. Howarth, L. H. A. Thompson, G. H. Meyrick.

Bruce: F. E. M. Eastwood; W. W. Dunlop, D. A. Dunsford ma., A. J. P. Ling, J. de P. G. Mayhew; C. J. P. Pearson, A. Dunsford mi.; F. H. Drayson, R. Russell, O. K. Cochrane, C. H. Hartland-Swann, V. G. Stuart, G. D. Watson, M. E. C. Lord, J. A. G. Thwaites.

COBHAM v. CHANDOS.

Played on February 13th, Cobham winning by a try (3 points) to nil.

This was a desperately hard match between two evenly-matched sides. The standard of play, however, was not high and there were far too many infringements—chiefly in the matter of offside and failing to play the ball. The perhaps-too-much-advertised Cobham pack did not by any means dominate the game; in fact, Chandos more than held their opponents forward, and might well have come out winners if it had not been for the lamentable play of their back division. Brown's passes from the base of the Chandos scrum were terribly wild, and Sword, no doubt largely on account of this, was very ineffective and played with no resolution.

Cobham got enough chances for their backs to be always the more dangerous side, but it was not till late in the second half that they scored, Cavendish just getting over in the right corner after a determined and desperate dash. *Teams*:—

Cobham: J. W. Charters; G. M. Cavendish, G. W. Hird, J. D. Murray, S. Freeman; T. H. T. Gautby, D. F. Crosthwaite; A. M. Cowell, J. E. McComb ma., W. D. McComb mi., R. S. Manners, J. A. Fraser, D. A. G. Keith, J. R. Watson, D. W. Thompson.

Chandos: W. S. Hyde; C. E. Swayne, C. R. Instone, C. M. Luckcock, F. H. Turton; R. W. D. Sword, M. P. Brown; S. D. A. S. Aylmer, J. K. Edden, H. D. Turrall, S. F. H. Pocock, A. R. C. Watson, T. E. R. Pemberton, C. A. C. Bowen, A. F. Kerr.

GRENVILLE v. COBHAM.

This, the final, match was played on February 24th, Grenville winning by five tries (15 points) to nil.

On paper some such result might have been expected, as the two semi-finals had revealed the fact that Cobham, in spite of some desperately hard workers and keen tacklers in the pack, were not more than an ordinary hard-going side, and that Grenville, besides having a fairly solid pack that could heel better and faster than any other House pack in the School, had also some considerable strength in attack behind the scrum.

Things turned out very much on these lines. Grenville had probably about three-fifths of the play forward, and that gave the stronger attack the advantage which was to prove decisive. For the greater part of the game Grenville were attacking with their backs, but there were notable periods when Cobham had the better of matters in the way of heeling and when Crosthwaite was getting the ball away to his threes. These, however, accomplished very little, but it should be mentioned that the line had to be reorganised at the last minute owing to the absence of Freeman through illness. The Grenville backs, on the other hand, although not always dangerous, always looked as if they might be dangerous at any moment, and the policy of eschewing as much as possible the kick to touch is undoubtedly a sound one. The Grenville pack scrummaged really well, especially in the first half, and on occasions were getting the shove on beautifully. In the loose they did good work, too, although the dribbling on both sides was for the most part rather crude. The outstanding individual performances were, on the Cobham side, McComb ma.'s marvellous tackling—in spite of being knocked out just before half-time, and on the Grenville side Gadney's all-round excellence—both at the base of the scrum and in the loose.

The first try was scored by Howarth, from a mêlée on the Cobham line. Dashwood, after no-charge had been given, hit the post with a fine kick from far out. A little later Gadney broke away beautifully from a scrum and made a lot of ground on his own before throwing a pass out to Still on the left wing. Still took his pass a little past the half-way line and went off like a shot out of a gun. He beat McComb mi. by swerving in and scored a really good try. The third Grenville try was a characteristic one by Gadney from a five-yard scrum—a quick look round, a dive round the blind side, and the thing was done.

Cobham reorganised at half-time, and McComb ma. went full-back for a short period, where he could have something of a breather. There were various dangerous attacks by Grenville on the right wing, but both the remaining scores came on the left. The first was from a five yard scrum; the ball came loose and was dribbled over, Grimley falling on it. The second and last was from an orthodox three-quarter movement, the ball going right along the line to Still, who scored far out. Just before this last try Cobham had exerted considerable pressure and were getting the ball with some regularity from the scrums. Their attacks, however, lacked finish and, though they might have scored on more than one occasion, they never really looked like pulling the match round. Teams:—

Grenville: C. A. Adams; C. B. Jones, H. W. Gill, N. A. McLeod, F. J. Still; J. B. Charles, B. C. Gadney; J. N. Feathers, J. W. McCaul-Bell, W. E. M. Eddy, J. A. Dashwood, J. G. B. Grimley, G. H. Meyrick, T. H. Howarth, L. H. A. Thompson.

Cobham: W. D. McComb mi.; J. W. Charters, G. W. Hird, J. D. Murray, G. M. Cavendish; T. H. T. Gautby, D. F. Crosthwaite; A. M. Cowell, J. E. McComb ma., R. S. Manners, J. A. Fraser, D. A. G. Keith, J. R. Watson, D. W. Thompson, R. E. Walrond.



THE LIBRARY

The following books were bought for the Library at the end of last Term:—

W. H. Hudson, 'Naturalist in La Plata'; Huxley, 'Individual in the Animal Kingdom'; Washburn, 'Animal Mind'; Howard, 'Territory in Bird Life'; Poulton, 'Essays in Evolution'; Babcock and Clausen, 'Genetics in relation to Agriculture'; Dendy, 'Evolutionary Biology'; Parker, 'Game Pie'; McTaggart, 'Mount and Man'; Raymond, 'Disraeli'; Fortescue, 'Wellington'; Rose, 'Napoleon'; Quiller-Couch, 'Oxford Book of English Prose'; Anatole France, 'Penguin Island'; Hall, 'Aegean Archæology'; Buschor, 'Greek Vase Painting'; Bossest, 'Altkreta'; Mommsen, 'History of Rome'; Custance, 'War at Sea'; Breasted, 'Ancient Times' (Cambridge Ancient History: Vol. I, Babylon and Egypt); Bury, 'History of Greece'; Pelham, 'Outlines of Roman History'; Oman, 'Seven Roman Statesmen'; Warde Fowler, 'Rome'; Thomson, 'Greeks and Barbarians'; Grundy, 'Great Persian War'; Livingstone, 'Pageant of Greece'; Murray, 'Rise of the Greek Republic'; Glover, 'Virgil'; Cornford, 'Thucydides'; Holmes, 'National Gallery (Netherland and Holland)'; Maitland,

'Constitutional History of England'; Little and Porritt, 'Essays in Medieval History' (Highways and Byeways Series). Evan's 'Oxfordshire and the Cotswolds' and 'Northamptonshire and Rutland,' Lytton Strachey's 'Eminent Victorians,' and Bate's 'Old English Glass.'

Mr. C. E. Tyndale-Biscoe has very kindly presented us with his book on Kashmir, and the Editors and Publishers of *Country Life* have sent us another bound volume of their publication.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

THE Debating Society has held one impromptu and three ordinary meetings this term. It was to have had a fifth meeting, at which the Headmaster and the Bursar had promised to appear, but another engagement compelled the latter to withdraw, and this debate has had to be postponed.

O. H. J. BERTRAM has been Secretary and C. B. JONES Committee-man this term. Both have done their work well, with the loyal co-operation of a House which has shown itself capable both of debating enthusiastically and of acting together when occasion arises. Undoubtedly we find our feet only to realise how far we have to go before we can become experts; but there has been more team-work and a more generous spirit in the House this term than ever before, and the debates, with all their failings, have improved.

A limit has been set to the number of guests who may attend meetings of the Society. Members now vote in an Upper, and guests in a Lower House. So far the two Houses have not disagreed, though the elect have come very near to defeating a popular motion.

During the course of the term, W. S. HYDE, G. A. EVANS, T. R. WILLIAMS, A. G. HOWLAND-JACKSON, S. J. L. TAYLOR and G. E. LOXTON have been elected members of the Society.

The fifteenth meeting of the Society was held on January 30th, the motion being 'That in the opinion of this House Sport in this Country is unnecessarily cruel and selfish.'

In the opinion of those present, this was the best debate we have yet had at Stowe.

M. T. D. PATMORE, in proposing the motion, showed that he has improved considerably as a speaker. He made quite clear that he welcomed English sport so long as it was not unnecessarily cruel, and was at times quite eloquent in defence of his case. Had his summing up approached the standard of his first speech, he might well have been instrumental in carrying his motion.

C. B. JONES gave a very clear and level-headed answer to the last speaker. The House wanted this: it generally does want what it gets from this hon. member.

L. G. STRAUSS produced some choice witticisms from his bag of intellectual tricks. He was humorous, and said kind things about the horse. For once he showed no tendency to throw off his own linguistic bridle.

M. S. MONTAGU SCOTT said that greyhounds had good table manners and whippets delicate constitutions. He seemed unduly affected by the suggestion made by a previous speaker that coursing was cruel. The House suspected that he was surreptitiously reading his speech; this proved to be the case.

There also spoke: *For the motion*, Hon. P. A. S. D. BUTLER, E. R. R. KENT, J. M. REEVES (ex-Secretary), G. A. GRIFFIN and R. H. G. CARR. *Against the motion*, E. R. AVORY, G. M. CROOKSTON, J. de AMODIO, J. A. BOYD-CARPENTER, W. S. HYDE, H. A. W. STORMONT, M. E. J. CROKER, G. A. EVANS and A. G. HOWLAND-JACKSON.

There voted:—*In the Upper House*: For, 13; against, 16; majority against, 3. *In the Lower House*: For, 14; against, 29; majority against, 15.

The sixteenth meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, February 13th, the motion before the House being 'That England owes little to her politicians.'

J. A. BOYD-CARPENTER thinks that politicians do not give us enough for our (or their) money. He expressed himself with considerable vigour and stirred a House which became apathetic when he sat down, announcing that the nation was 'drifting to ruin.'

G. M. CROOKSTON made a very long speech. He quotes fully the authorities on his subject; but we should like to hear more of his own opinion, which would surely be worth while.

O. H. J. BERTRAM (Secretary) was a little involved. Perhaps he was exhausted by his minutes, which have entertained the Society considerably this term.

E. R. AVORY made some useful remarks in a spasmodic manner. He is, however, a much improved debater.

There also spoke: *For the motion*, G. A. GRIFFIN, R. C. H. WALKER and J. F. CRAMPORN. *Against the motion*, D. MORLEY-FLETCHER, G. A. ROWSE, P. H. W. DAVIE, J. E. DAWSON, R. W. BATE, A. G. HOWLAND-JACKSON, J. F. J. F. J. M. F. de AMODIO, T. R. WILLIAMS, H. B. PHILLIPS, S. WARD, R. H. SCOTT, H. A. W. STORMONT and L. G. STRAUSS.

On a division being taken there voted:—*In the Upper House*: For the motion, 5; against, 13; majority against, 8. *In the Lower House*: For the motion, 9; against, 24; majority against, 15.

At the seventeenth meeting of the Society, held on March 6th, the motion for debate was 'That in the opinion of this House war is necessary to civilisation.'

E. R. R. KENT did his best to defend a difficult motion. One of the most capable members of the Society, he invariably speaks to the point, but at times—and this was one of them—he fails to convince.

H. P. CROOM-JOHNSON was too meticulous. He attacked with vigour, and not without success, several minor points in the speech of the hon. proposer, but failed to establish a good case for his own side.

R. H. G. CARR spoke well. He made much of the existence of war in the world of nature, discharged some effective salvos from the artillery of ancient history and fired the House by such remarks as 'The remedy for over-population is war' and 'Our individuality must be preserved.' Actually this stern line sent over some waverers to the other side: the ranks of Tuscany developed their numbers as well as their lungs at the close of this speech. All the same it was worth while.

E. D. O'BRIEN found himself on the winning side and made the most of his chances. This was the best speech he has made in the House, though he tended to be verbose. If the last meeting reproduced the atmosphere of Westminster during an all-night sitting, this was the tail-end of a debate at the Union.

There also spoke: *For the motion*, S. J. L. Taylor, G. E. Loxton and the President. *Against the motion*, J. M. Reeves (ex-Secretary), J. de Amodio, P. H. Lucas, R. MacD. Barbour, D. S. Montagu Scott, D. Morley-Fletcher and J. A. Boyd-Carpenter.

On a division being taken, their voted:—*In the Upper House*: For the motion, 7; against, 14; majority against, 7. *In the Lower House*: For the motion, 18; against, 47; majority against, 29.

MUSIC

THE CHORAL SOCIETY.

The Society has been assiduously practising 'Hiawatha's Wedding Feast' and hopes to have it performed on April 6th, with Mr. Walter Hyde as the soloist.

The School in general and the Society in particular owe a deep debt of gratitude to Miss Carrie Tubb and to Mr. Walter Hyde for finding time to come and sing at our first large-scale concert.

Measles and the various minor ailments incidental to the Easter Term in schools have let us off comparatively lightly, but a good many trebles and altos in particular have been prevented from attending some of the practices by circumstances over which they had no control. In spite of this the Society has made a vast improvement in the course of the term, especially in part-reading, and has found out the truth of the adage that 'the better one can do a thing, the more enjoyable it is to do it.'

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY.

The Society has met twice this term, on February 24th and March 24th, reading 'The Gondoliers' and 'The Sorcerer.' We have to record the loss of Hartland-Swann and of Mr. Wragg, who has resigned upon his marriage.

THE WELKIN CLUB.

After a fallow term the Welkin Club has come into its own again. Very memorable was the first meeting on Wednesday, March 3rd.

The Volga Boat made a record passage down the Danube. The 'Sea Shanty' was 'discovered' by more than one member of the Club. We journeyed to Rio—and Tom went to Hilo. Shenandoah was too difficult, or too good—perhaps both; but we dealt with Reuben Ranzo, and he took his 'five and thirty' like a man.

We sang 'High Barbary,' 'Spanish Ladies' and 'The Keeper,' and then went on to the Oxford Song Book. Widdicombe Fair was a good number: many and varied were the Gurneys and the Whidd'ns that Old Tom Copley shepherded home! Last, and perhaps best—'A Tavern in a Town' to make the Welkin ring.

THE MODERN PLAY READING SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Modern Play Reading Society was held on February 12th.

This Society is limited to twelve members and meets in the Headmaster's rooms; on this occasion 'Captain Brassbound's Conversion,' by Bernard Shaw, was read. The chief parts were: *Captain Brassbound*, the Headmaster; *Lady Cicely Waynfleet*, D. Morley-Fletcher; *Sir Howard Hallam*, J. M. Reeves; *Rankin*, R. MacD. Barbour,

The reading on the whole was good and was certainly full of spirit; Reeves, as the cockney *Drinkwater*, lived his part, and Barbour, as a Scot, showed that nation's kinship with Ulster. C. B. Jones, as *Kearney*, made a satisfying American. Everyone greatly enjoyed Mr. Heckstall-Smith's stage directions, and he himself most of all! The enthusiasm of the members was so great that another meeting was at once arranged to read 'The Importance of Being Earnest.' M.F.A.

THE PHYSICAL SOCIETY

A Physical Society (which has nothing whatever to do with doctors or P.T.) was formed last term. Its generation was partly spontaneous and partly due to the suggestion by the Oxford and Cambridge Examination Board that the School should have a scientific society. Meetings take place about four times a term, on Saturday nights, being held in Mr. Heckstall-Smith's room. The membership is strictly limited to persons able to support an hour and a half of moderately learned discussion without feeling the strain unduly.

The first meeting was held on Saturday, November 28th, 1925, when G. F. Noxon read a paper on 'Rare Gases.' This was followed by a discussion which led from the subject of the paper to Atomic Structure.

Three meetings have been held this term. At the first two, papers were read by R. MacD. Barbour, on 'Radio Activity,' and by G. E. Loxton, on 'Spectra.' Discussions again centred around Atomic Structure. At the third, Mr. J. A. Churchill, F.G.S. (the eminent speleologist), gave the first half of a lecture on 'Caves,' with lantern slides taken on his own expeditions. It is hoped that the lecture will be finished this term. The Society was surprised and delighted to discover how much chemistry there is in the exploring of a cave. S.J.L.T.

THE ARTS CLUB

The prospects of the Arts Club 'continue fine.'

A much-needed cupboard for materials has been purchased, and four extremely attractive armchairs now add to the comfort of the Clubroom.

The magazine, several times on the verge of coming out, has not yet materialised; while the club records, though reputed (by the recorder) to exist, are unfortunately not in any considerable evidence.

A quantity of good or promising work has been done by members, and the exhibition at the end of the term should be a success. Indeed there is a chance that we may dispel for ever the notion that still seems to exist among the more sceptical of the masters and members of the School that the Club was formed for reasons connected with the Grenville Café.

It is hoped to start, next term, a small library of books on subjects connected with Art belonging to the Club. Will any member that has a book that he can spare, and which he thinks will be suitable, bring it back next term?

THE ESSAY MEETING.

A very pleasurable evening was spent on February 21st in listening to papers on subjects connected with Art.

The President read the first essay, which was entitled 'Some Modern Movements in Art.' He touched on Velasquez and El Greco and took us through the

French Classical and Romantic movement. Constable, Crome, Turner and Cotman were given as examples of modern English painters, while the pre-Raphaelites and the modern Dutch school too were described. The President concluded a very interesting paper with some illuminating remarks on the more recent movements—Cubism, Dadaism, Vorticism and Post-Impressionism.

M. S. Montagu-Scott read a light and rather biological paper on 'Animals in Art.'

We were then taken back to the Middle Ages by A. Carden, whose paper was on the Florentine painters. We were told of Mosaccio and Ucello and Botticelli, and of the immortal paintings of Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo.

The last paper, on 'Rembrandt,' was read by P. H. Lucas, who told admirably the story of this truly great master—of his early life, his removal to Amsterdam, his marriage, his success, and finally of his tragic death in 1666.

Questions were then asked, and an interesting controversy on Sargent and Constable had to be cut short soon before 9.0 p.m.

MR. KENNETH CROSS'S LECTURE ON 'GREAT EPOCHS IN ARCHITECTURE.'

The Club has not hitherto taken up a very extensive study of Architecture for two reasons: one is that, although the buildings of Stowe are of great interest, they do not represent any considerable diversity of style; the other is that, until this term, we have had no architect to explain to us mysteries of the 'frozen music' of architecture.

But we could not have wished for a more enjoyable introduction than Mr. Kenneth Cross's admirable lecture on March 7th.

It was, as the President said, extremely kind of Mr. Cross to come down and give us his lecture, and the audience did not fail to appreciate the added interest afforded by the lecturer's personal and professional enthusiasm for his subject.

The ideas of experts as regards the first dwellings of man, we were told, were in the nature of surmises. At any rate they could not have embodied any of the three main essentials of great architecture, namely Commodity, Fitness and Delight.

We were first shown a slide of a model of what an early Egyptian house is thought to have been like. It was followed by several pictures of temples, gateways and other examples of Egyptian architecture, and by one of a wooden statue of a court functionary, interesting as being wonderfully lifelike for a carving of about 5,000 B.C.

From Egypt we were whirled away to Greece—to the Parthenon and the Erechtheum and the Theatre of Dionysus, whose seats, it was pointed out, compared very favourably with those in a modern cinema. In architectural beauty, supposedly: at any rate, we were not told whether Athenian theatregoers took cushions with them to the performances!

Then, after being inaugurated into the mysteries of the fluted column, and the measurements of the Parthenon, and how a pillar was built up, we passed on to the 'grandeur that was Rome.' We were shown Trajan's dock at Ostia, the arch of Constantine, the Colosseum, the Pantheon and various Roman baths—the Baths of Caracalla and the Baths of Diocletian.

Tiberius' villa at Capri and the House of Livia at Pompeii were followed by some very interesting views of the Pont du Gard at Nîmes, with its mighty arches and its six-inch chalk deposit in the water channel.

The transition from the architecture of Rome through the Romanesque period to what is known as Gothic, and particularly English Gothic, was then indicated. And after being shown many pictures of the English cathedrals, we were certainly tempted to feel that 'How amiable are thy dwellings' could quite appropriately be applied to England.

Wells and Selby, Lincoln and Canterbury were shown, together with a specially interesting picture of old St. Paul's, and slides of Hampton Court Palace, King's College Cambridge, and several smaller buildings.

Renascence Architecture was represented by buildings in England and France and Italy, before finally the lecturer touched on a few modern examples. Over these the skyscrapers of New York towered with unquestioned supremacy.

The last slide was of a German War Memorial—wholly unintelligible to the audience, if not to the lecturer as well.

As the lecturer pointed out, the history of architecture is, as far as it goes, a complete story; there is ceaseless development and change, there are no watertight compartments between one period and another. There have been sunsets and dawns in numberless succession in the history of architecture, and the story is not finished yet.

Mr. Earle, the Honorary Vice-President, then moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Kenneth Cross for a thoroughly enjoyable lecture, marred only, as he said, by the omission of any reference to the architectural value of Chatham House and the Banana Block!

J. M. REEVES.



THE WIRELESS CLUB

The Wireless Society is now limited to twenty members, and R. G. J. Nash has become the new (and energetic) Secretary.

Most of the tenants in the new wireless cabins in the railway carriage have become members.

Last year's tools for the workshop having softly and silently vanished away, a start has been made with a new outfit, with (it is hoped) arrangements to keep them up to strength.

The wireless cabins have worked very satisfactorily, in spite of having a number of aeriols close together.

The Society lately has been surprisingly like the French Cabinet, having had three Premiers in rapid succession and a permanent (but very inactive) President. Its finances are, however, sound.

H.-S.

THE TWELVE CLUB

A preliminary meeting was held in the President's rooms on January 24th, when private business was transacted. An honorary member, Mr. R. R. Timberlake, was elected. A new Secretary, G. M. Crookston, was appointed for the term, and three members—E. R. R. Kent, R. H. G. Carr and P. H. Lucas—were admitted to the Club.

The sixth meeting was held in Mr. Cross's rooms on February 6th, when Mr. Simmonds read a paper on Socialism.

The seventh meeting of the Club was held a fortnight later, when J. M. Reeves read an 'Introduction to the Career of Napoleon.'

The eighth meeting was held in Mr. Timberlake's rooms on February 27th, when C. B. Jones read a paper on 'The Evolution of the Argentine Republic.'

G.M.C.

THE GEOLOGICAL CLUB

The number of members has been increased this term to twenty, and would have been increased further but for the present scantiness of accommodation. Accordingly a waiting list has been opened, and applicants will be admitted to membership whenever opportunity occurs.

Some qualitative analysis of various rock specimens has been done, but lack of a few necessary reagents has proved a handicap. It is expected that this defect will be remedied shortly.

A series of papers, illustrated by lantern slides, on certain features of the Lower Carboniferous rocks has been read by the President, and it is hoped that members will produce similar papers from time to time.

J.H.C.

FENCING

Matches against Eton, Westminster and Sandhurst have been won this term, and we were only defeated at Oxford by a small margin. Actually the épéeists remained unbeaten, while the foilists have not yet lost at Stowe.

But the improvement in foil-play among the younger members of the Club is perhaps the most satisfactory result of a satisfactory term. We have never feared to-day, but we have had out of sheer optimism to take no heed of the morrow. Now the future is more assured; we shall be unable to replace exactly the pioneers who are leaving soon, but they will have fit successors.

At last we are to leave the gymnasium for a fencing school of our own. Since the activities of the 'gym.' have become stranger and more varied than those of its classical prototypes, fencing has suffered; we should like here to express our gratitude for the change to those who have allowed it to be made.

Professor Gruvé has been assisted this term by M. Froeschlen, of the Salle Baudat (Paris), and Professor Dickson, from the O.U.F.C. Improvement in swordplay has been noticeable in the foil competitions which are now taking place. In the open event Brooke, Creed, Graves, Howarth, O'Reilly and Patmore have reached the semi-finals. A junior competition, for those who have never fenced for the School, will be won by either Houghton, O'Shea, Ponsonby or Villiers-Stuart; these have defeated their other opponents.

THE SCHOOL v. ETON.

This match took place on January 30th at Stowe. It was the first occasion that the two schools had met at Stowe, and our initial victory over Eton. Mr. Edgar Seligman, captain of the English fencing team at the Olympic Games in 1924, kindly consented to act as President of the Jury. His report on the match, as it appeared in the *Times*, will serve as the fairest criticism.

'The annual fencing match between Stowe and Eton took place at Stowe on Saturday, and resulted, after a close contest, in the narrowest of victories for the home team, who won the Foil by nine to seven and succeeded in tying with the Epée after being led for most of the time.

'For Stowe, de Amodio won all his fights with the foil. He is quick and pushes his attacks *à fond*, nor is he easily disheartened, as he showed in his first fight against Scott, the Eton captain. Scott scored the first two hits by means of well-formed parries and *ripostes*, but succumbed to three rapid direct attacks of the Stowe captain. Howarth, Stowe's second string, is a stylist with a pretty hand, and should develop into a really good fencer. He lost only one fight to Orwin. His best assault was against the Eton captain, a bloodless victory brought about by rapid parries and *ripostes*. Graves' outstanding performance was a quick victory over Orwin, thanks to two good stop hits and one excellent *remise*. O'Reilly, who is still a beginner, failed to win a fight, but showed some promise and never stopped trying.'

The results were:—

FOIL.

Stowe: J. de Amodio, 4 wins; T. H. Howarth, 3 wins; F. B. J. Graves, 2 wins; F. H. B. O'Reilly, 0 win. Total, 9.

Eton: J. S. Orwin, M. A. Spurway and P. G. Evelyn, 2 wins each; C. R. Scott, 1 win. Total, 7.

EPÉE.

Stowe: J. de Amodio, 3 wins; T. H. Howarth and P. A. J. Charlot, 2 wins each; M. S. Montagu Scott, 1 win. Total, 8.

Eton: C. R. Scott, 4 wins; P. G. Evelyn, 2 wins; J. S. Orwin and M. A. Spurway, 1 win each. Total, 8.

THE SCHOOL v. OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

Beaten 16—12 by the University on February 10th at Oxford, *Stowe* had the satisfaction of gaining a victory at épée, so far as we know the first win of this kind gained by any school against a representative Varsity side.

With their match against Cambridge only a few days off, Oxford were in splendid form with the foil. Three times we brought the score against Simey and Bull to two all; but eventually the Oxford men, as well as T. E. Jones, remained unbeaten. The University won the foils 12—4.

Fortunately our team has never done better with the épée than in these times of emergency. Taking the lead at once, the épéeists gained a remarkable victory by eight victories to four. The fighting was marred by an excessive number of *coups doubles*, but reached at times a high standard. Mr. McBain, who did well in this year's Doyne Cup competition, failed to win a single fight, but pleased all by his generosity in acknowledging doubtful hits. Once he announced a 'touche' on the fore-arm which was neither claimed by the jury nor seen by the referee. All the same, it had taken place; the loser's courteous acknowledgement was one of the finest acts in a fine match. Scores:—

FOIL.

O.U.F.C.: C. A. Simey, M. H. P. Bull and T. E. Jones, 4 wins each; H. Brown, 0 win. Total, 12.

Stowe: J. de Amodio, T. H. Howarth, C. S. Creed and F. B. J. Graves, 1 win each. Total, 4.

EPÉE.

Stowe: J. de Amodio, 4 wins; T. H. Howarth, 2 wins, 2 double hits; M. S. Montagu Scott, 1 win, 2 double hits; P. A. J. Charlot, 1 win. Total, 8.

O.U.F.C.: H.R.H. Prince Olay, 2 wins; M. C. M. Athorpe, 1 win, 2 double hits; C. A. Simey, 1 win; R. McBain, 0 win, 2 double hits. Total, 4.

THE SCHOOL v. WESTMINSTER.

Fought at the Salle Gruvé on February 27th, this match resulted in a signal victory for *Stowe*, who won the foils 13—3 and the épée 10—6. An 'under 16' match, which took place at the same time as the senior event, went to us by the satisfactory margin of 8—1.

Finding themselves at once the stronger side, our foilists gave their best display. Holmes, who fights for the Masks, scored three wins for Westminster, but these were their only successes. The épée fights were more equal. At the end of the first series the score was 2—2; and then Charles, with a good-time hit against de Amodio, put his school ahead. A fine series of seven victories, however, gave *Stowe* a lead which decided the match.

In the junior event Villiers-Stuart and Houghton went undefeated; this is a good omen for coming years. Houghton has the more academic style of the two, but Villiers-Stuart has pugnacity and pushes his attacks home in the more decisive manner. Scores:—

FOIL.

Stowe: J. de Amodio, 4 wins; T. H. Howarth, C. S. Creed and F. B. J. Graves, 3 wins each. Total, 13.

Westminster: R. R. Holmes, 3 wins; E. B. Petitpierre, R. H. Charles and J. P. Cole, 0 wins. Total, 3.

EPÉE.

Stowe: J. de Amodio and T. H. Howarth, 3 wins each; M. S. Montagu Scott and F. B. J. Graves, 2 wins each.

Westminster: R. H. Charles and E. W. Lloyd, 2 wins each; R. R. Holmes and E. B. Petitpierre, 1 win each. Total, 6.

JUNIOR FOILS.

Stowe: B. R. S. Houghton and M. F. Villiers-Stuart, 3 wins each; M. T. D. Patmore, 2 wins. Total, 8.

Westminster: W. G. Walter, 1 win; J. P. Cole and E. F. White, 0 wins. Total, 1.

THE SCHOOL v. R.M.C.

The Sandhurst match, which took place at the Salle Gruvé on March 6th, was won by 10 victories to 8.

For the first time out foilists came up against a team of Army swordsmen, robust in method and powerful in physique. It is to be regretted that we did not maintain the style which has seen us through more difficult encounters, and were beaten in making an unsuccessful attempt to imitate the tactics of our opponents. There were good phases in the bouts, and *Stowe* was unlucky to lose the majority of the evenly-contested fights; but no doubt the cadets deserved their victory at foils by 6 events to 3.

With the épée our side was throughout superior. Sandhurst have only recently taken up what is the duelling weapon par excellence. A series of fine attacks on the wrist and sword-arm got home, so that the decisive victory of 7—2 gave us the match by the narrow margin of two wins. Though not notable for its style, this victory was creditable, as it was won against a strong, evenly-balanced military team. Scores:—

FOIL.

Stowe: J. de Amodio, T. H. Howarth and N. G. Wertheim, 1 victory each. Total, 3.

R.M.C.: G/C. Orlebar, G/C. Scott and G/C. Ramsay, 2 victories each. Total, 6.

EPÉE.

Stowe: T. H. Howarth, 3 victories; J. de Amodio and M. S. Montagu Scott, 2 victories each. Total, 7.

R.M.C.: G/C. Orlebar, 2 victories; G/C. Hope-Dunbar and G/C. Ramsay, 0 victories. Total, 2.

BOXING

In the Inter-House Competitions this year, with six Houses competing, a new system of scoring was followed. Where six competitors entered for a weight, three preliminary bouts were fought, the winner of each scoring one point; the three competitors thus left each fought twice in the finals, two points being scored for each win. Where less than six competitors entered for a weight, the winner scored five points, the runner-up three.

The heats were contested on Monday, March 8th, the finals on Wednesday, March 11th, and on both days some close contests were seen, especially in the lighter weights. Sherwood, the winner of the 7 st. 12 lb. class, was quick and used his left with good effect, but was inclined at times to 'flick' rather than punch cleanly. In the next weight Gill boxed well and hit very hard; but Body, the runner-up, was little inferior in point of skill, and in his contest with Cavendish brought off a clever body-punch with the right time and again. In the heavier weights there was much hard hitting, but little science.

Our best thanks are due to Staff-Sergt. Elliott for his many services, so ungrudgingly given.

The results were as follows:—

HEATS.

Under 7 st.—Ryland beat Pearce, Holmes ma. beat H. F. Jackson, Levis beat Silcock.

Under 7 st. 12.—Bussell beat Chambers, Sherwood beat Crosthwaite, Villiers-Stuart beat Heygate.

Under 8 st. 10.—Gill beat N. C. Marshall, Cavendish beat Napier, Body beat Boyd-Carpenter.

Under 9 st. 10.—A. M. Cowell beat Walter, Howarth beat Sword.

Under 11 st.—D. S. Thompson beat Feathers, Hyde beat Drayson.

Open.—McComb ma. beat McCaul-Bell.

FINALS.

Under 7 st.—Holmes ma. beat Ryland, Levis beat Ryland, Holmes ma. beat Levis.

Under 7 st. 12.—Sherwood beat Bussell, Villiers-Stuart beat Bussell, Sherwood beat Villiers-Stuart.

Under 8 st. 10.—Gill beat Cavendish, Body beat Cavendish, Gill beat Body.

Under 9 st. 10.—A. M. Cowell beat Howarth.

Under 11 st.—Hyde beat D. S. Thompson.

Open.—McComb ma. beat Kerr.

HOUSE POINTS.

1.	Cobham	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 points.
2.	Bruce	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 "
3.	Temple	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 "
	Grenville	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 "
	Chandos	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 "
6.	Chatham	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 "

FIVES

There was, at the beginning of the term, no more than a small band of Fives enthusiasts, but the arranging of an Inter-House Competition, for which a cup has been presented, gave a great stimulus to the game. For this competition each House was to enter not more than three pairs, each of them independent. The number of entries actually made was fourteen, consisting of three pairs each from Temple, Chandos and Chatham, two each from Grenville and Cobham and one from Bruce. The standard of play never reached a very high level, but a very fine struggle was seen in the final, in which Cobham 'A,' represented by A. N. Balfour and J. W. Charters, eventually beat Chatham 'A' by the score of 16—14, 5—15, 18—15.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

Occasional games of Association Football have been organised since half-term, on a purely voluntary basis. In addition to ordinary games, a match between the First Fifteen and the Rest, including masters, ended in a win for the latter by four goals to one. The game was, however, completely spoiled by a strong cross-wind. Another match was played more recently between a School side and a Kitchen Staff team. This ended in a win for the Kitchen Staff by three goals to one. The prevalence of winds, which have been particularly strong on the exposed Bourbon Fields, has unfortunately often made conditions for good play very unfavourable.

CRICKET FIXTURES, 1926

The following cricket matches have been arranged for next term:—

Sat.,	May 22—	Lords and Commons (home).
Wed.,	June 2—	Crusaders (home).
Sat.,	,, 5—	Eton Ramblers (home).
Wed.,	,, 9—	R.A.S.C. (home).
Sat.,	,, 12—	Old Wykehamists C.C. (home).
Sat.,	,, 19—	Radley II (home).
Wed.,	,, 23—	I. Zingari (home).
Thurs.,	,, 24—	Charterhouse II (away).
Sat.,	,, 26—	Eton Middle Club (away).
Thurs.,	July 1—	Westminster II (away).
Sat.,	,, 3—	Chiltern Ramblers (home).
Thurs.,	,, 8—	Bradfield II (away).

HUNTING

Members of the School have been allowed to hunt with the Grafton Hounds on several occasions during the term. On Wednesday, February 10th, the meet was at Maids Moreton. A Foscoote Wood fox made his way to Lechampstead, where he was lost. Another from a small spinney near Foscoote took much the same line; but scent was poor throughout the day. A fortnight later was an ideal hunting day, when hounds met at Lillingstone. With one of a brace of foxes from Tile House Gorse, hounds raced past the lakes of Tile House, across Stowe Ridings, into Hatch Woods. From there the fox, perhaps a fresh one, led a devious course round Boycott Manor back into Hatch Woods, where scent eked out. Two other local meets at Westbury and Chackmore were patronised by some members of the School. The latter did not afford any great hunting, but a leash of foxes were accounted for before hounds went home. The most memorable day was Saturday, March 6th, when the School welcomed the Hunt at the North Front in ideal weather conditions. Some dozen boys had secured mounts (one unfortunately did not retain his long), and most of the School joined in on foot or on bicycles. A brace of foxes were found in the grounds, and the hunted one went away in full view of the large field. Making a circle round Akeley Wood, he was killed in a field close to the road, with many of the School up at the finish. Another, from the osier-bed at Dadford, took a complete circle of the Stowe Gardens and was killed in a field below Chatham House. The local foxes seemed loth to leave their familiar haunts and determined to die spectacular deaths in the spirit of Vergil's line, 'moriatur et in media arma ruamus.'

We reproduce the Headmaster's standing orders about Hunting:—

The Master being good enough to allow members of the School to hunt with the Grafton Hounds when they meet within reach of Stowe, permission to do so can be got from me on the following conditions:—

- (1) That not more than five members of the School may hunt on one day.
- (2) That no member of the School may hunt on more than one day in any term.
- (3) That written permission to hunt must be previously got from home and shown to me.

Of these conditions Nos. (1) and (2) do not apply to occasions on which the hounds actually meet at Stowe. No. 3 applies to all occasions without exception.

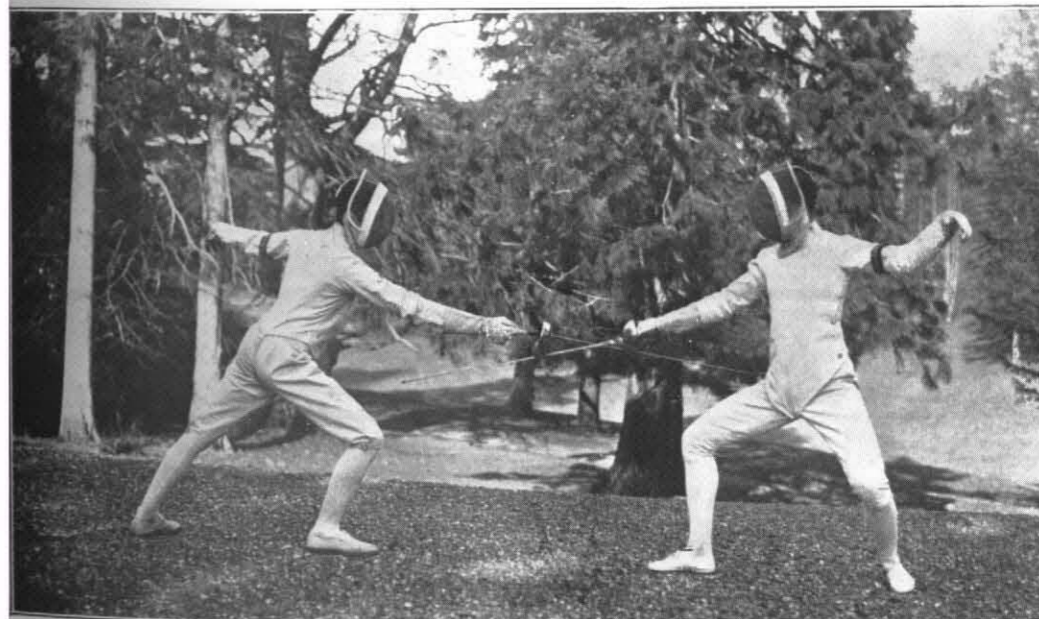
BEAGLING

Beagles have met twice in the neighbourhood of Stowe this term. On Thursday, February 11th, the North Bucks Beagles met at Boycott Manor, and the meet was attended by fifty members of the School at Major Close-Smith's invitation.

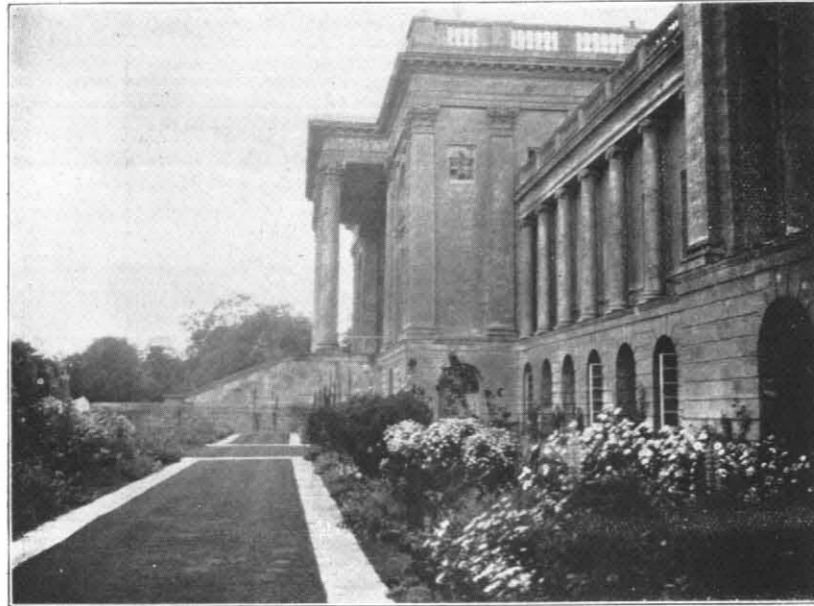
A hare, found on the plough near Sheepshear Farm, ran back towards Boycott Manor, where hounds checked. The pack then hunted slowly across the big plough on the west of the Oxford Avenue, which they eventually crossed, losing their hare a field or two beyond, on a cold scent.



THE H.M. AND THE MASTER OF THE GRAFTON.



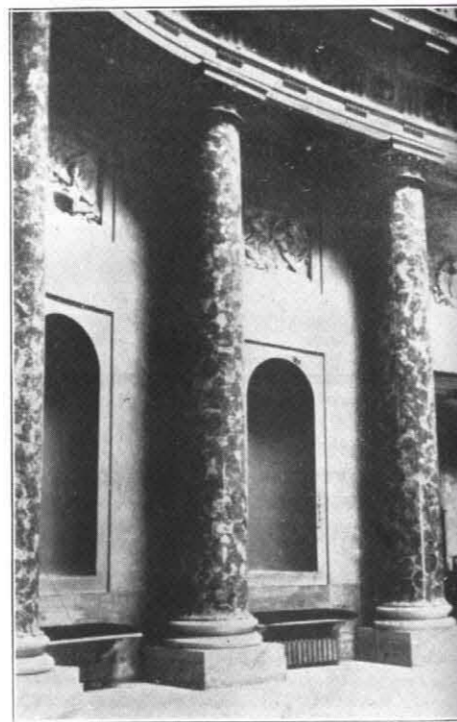
FENCING, 1926. (T.H.H. AND J. DE A.)



THE H.M.'S GARDEN FROM THE EAST.



CONCORD.



ASSEMBLY.

Hounds were then taken beyond Buffer's Holt, and drew towards Woodgreen. Another hare was roused off the plough, but after a short and twisting run beat hounds, who throughout the day found difficulty in owing to the line when the hare was any distance in front of them.

On Wednesday, March 10th, the Christ Church Beagles met at Stowe. The fields round the Obelisk were drawn blank, but a hare was found in a field beyond Hamehanger pond on Mr. Osborne's farm. This hare ran towards Stowe Ridings, turned left-handed across the Dadford Road short of Park Fields Farm and made a point for Three Parks Wood; but, leaving this on her right, she swung back and re-crossed the road just above Dadford, where hounds worked up to her and forced her away on the same line, on the road towards and beyond Park Fields Farm. Here the hare (or her substitute) doubled back through the field, re-crossed the road and ran parallel to Stowe Ridings, at the end of which she was lost in the garden of Woodlands Farm. The run lasted for about an hour, and hounds ran the first circle at a great pace despite the very high wind. The country crossed was admirable and was almost entirely grass.

The School is fortunate in having neighbours who so willingly lend their land, and who, moreover, go to the trouble of 'harbouring' hares for us in a district where they are not plentiful.

THE CROSS-COUNTRY RACE, 1926

THE race was run on March 17th over a different course from that of the two previous years. The new course was slightly shorter than the old one, being just over three miles in length. It involved nine fences, a marsh and a water-jump. It had long been recognised that the honour of being first man home would fall either to J. N. Feathers or to J. K. Edden, the former having been the winner in 1924 and the latter in 1925. Illness had prevented Feathers from running in 1925, but Edden had run so strongly that it was evident that this year's contest between the two would be a close one. So it proved to be. They kept within ten yards of each other until the last fence, about half a mile from the finish, when Edden drew ahead and won by about 25 yards in 19 minutes 17 seconds.

The conditions for the House Challenge Shield Competition were the same as last year, namely, one team of not more than twenty from each house, fifteen counting for points. The result of the competition was as follows:—

	<i>Points.</i>		<i>Points.</i>
Chandos	- 340	Bruce	- 789
Grenville	- 442	Chatham	- 868
Cobham	- 750	Temple	- 1047

The Chandos leaders ran very strongly and finished 1st, 4th, 6th, 7th, 9th and 10th, but the extreme tail was considerably weaker than in pre-

vicious years, the 14th and 15th men of the team finishing 56th and 63rd respectively. Grenville ran well as a team, with some excellent packing about the thirties—rather too low, however, to counteract the lead given by the first half of the Chandos team.

GOLF

Not very much golf was played during the first weeks of the term. The first four holes are in quite good condition and have had fairly heavy use; but very few players have ventured past the pumping station to the rougher ground, where lie the last five holes.

The course is, however, in good enough condition to allow of the House competition being played this term, and of late there has been a golf revival in the School.

In past years golf of any kind has been impossible here in the summer, but it is hoped next term to keep the holes on the South Front cut, so as to give, at the least, a chance for practice.

A BOYS' CLUB AND CHAPEL ACCOUNTS

For some time it has been proposed that the School shall start a Club for Working Boys in one of the poorer districts of N.W. London.

Last autumn we had decided in what part we thought that this Club should be situated; and we found a building which was very suitable for the purpose. This house was offered to us, on what seemed at first to be reasonable terms.

The lawyer and surveyor, however, after they had carefully examined the proposition, strongly advised us not to accept it, for reasons which need not here be stated. This was a great disappointment; but it is our intention to make further search during the spring and summer, in the hopes that we shall obtain exactly what we want.

In the meanwhile we are steadily accumulating a substantial sum of money from the collections at the early services in Chapel; this will be of the greatest value in helping to meet the heavy initial expenses involved in such an undertaking.

The following is a statement of the present position of this fund:—

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance from last term	39 10 4	Flowers	16 0
Offertories at Early Services, Dec. 6		Travelling Expenses for Visiting	
to March 21	18 14 11	Preacher	1 0 0
	<u>£58 5 3</u>	Balance in hand	56 9 3
			<u>£58 5 3</u>

E.F.H.

O.T.C. NOTES

THE following promotions and appointments have been made this term:—

To *Sergeant*—Corporal W. S. Hyde.

To *Corporal*—L/Corporals J. F. Marshall, J. N. Feathers, B. Kelley, S. D. A. S. Aylmer, J. E. McComb, A. F. Kerr, J. K. Edden, A. N. Balfour, C. A. C. Bowen.

Appointed *Lance-Corporal*—W. E. M. Eddy, C. W. Hesketh, B. W. Day, R. W. D. Sword, C. S. Creed, B. S. Harriss, R. E. Walrond, D. S. Bramley, S. C. Swan, T. H. T. Gautby, W. B. A. J. Keppel, A. M. C. Denny, H. P. J. Phillips, J. de P. G. Mayhew, J. A. Fraser.

The first examination ever undertaken by members of the Contingent in Part I (Practical) of Certificate 'A' was held on February 16th. Out of twenty-two candidates, the following passed:—S. D. A. S. Aylmer, O. K. Cochrane, A. M. Cowell, J. K. Edden, W. E. M. Eddy, J. N. Feathers, B. C. Gadney, C. W. Hesketh, W. S. Hyde, C. B. Jones, B. Kelley, F. A. Lowe, W. H. C. Luddington, J. F. Marshall, J. W. McCaul-Bell, E. D. O'Brien, F. J. Still, R. W. D. Sword, R. L. Walker.

These sat for Part II (Written) of the examination on March 9th. The result of this examination has not yet been published.

The Contingent's first attempt at the 'Country Life' Public Schools Competition (miniature rifle shooting) was made on March 18th. The result was disappointing, being considerably below the standard previously obtained in practice. Nervousness is bound to tell on the shooting of a young team in their first competition. With increased confidence they should do well next year.

The following composed the team:—W. S. Hyde (*leader*), C. B. Ponsonby, W. H. C. Luddington, B. Kelley, C. W. Hesketh, E. J. J. Leatham, R. E. Walrond, J. H. Viliesid, and M. S. Montagu Scott (*reserve*).

The Annual Inspection of the Contingent will be carried out on June 22nd by General Sir Alexander J. Godley, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., A.D.C., G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command.

The Contingent has been selected to attend camp at Tidworth Park from July 27th to August 4th.

VISITORS TO STOWE

QUEEN VICTORIA, JANUARY 15, 1845.

Of all the illustrious persons who have visited Stowe in the years past, Victoria, who came here in the eighth year of her reign, is perhaps the most interesting. She certainly has the advantage that she is nearer to our own times than the glories of the Eighteenth Century.

The Duke of Buckingham invited the Queen to pay him a visit on Wednesday, January 15th, and to stay over the week-end. Vast sums were spent for the visit of Royalty, on a scale in keeping with the importance of the occasion and, we will not say the purse, but at all events the position of the Duke.

A tale is told, which be it true or false was the inspiration of a modern novel, that shortly before the arrival of the Queen the Duke's debts became so enormous that the bailiffs were put in possession. In vain, the story runs, did the agitated nobleman try to get rid of them, at least for the period of the Queen's visit; but they had their orders and go they would not.

It was only when a happy inspiration led the Duke to dress them up in his livery as lackeys that this formidable obstacle to the peaceful progress of events was removed.

The Queen and the Prince Consort reached Paddington from Slough at about eleven-thirty on Wednesday morning. They were met by a troop of the Seventeenth Lancers, under the command of a subaltern, with orders to escort the Royal party from that station to Euston. But as the Queen wished to pay a short visit to Cambridge House, the escort was ordered to go to Euston and inform the directors of the Great Western Railway that the Queen would be later than was expected.

By eleven o'clock the State Carriage had been attached to the train, while at twenty to twelve the Queen, the Prince Consort and their suite arrived at the station and were received by the directors in a gorgeously appointed waiting room specially prepared for the event. It is unnecessary to go into the details of this reception, but by one o'clock all the formalities had been completed and the Royal train had started for Wolverton, the nearest station to Buckingham that then existed.

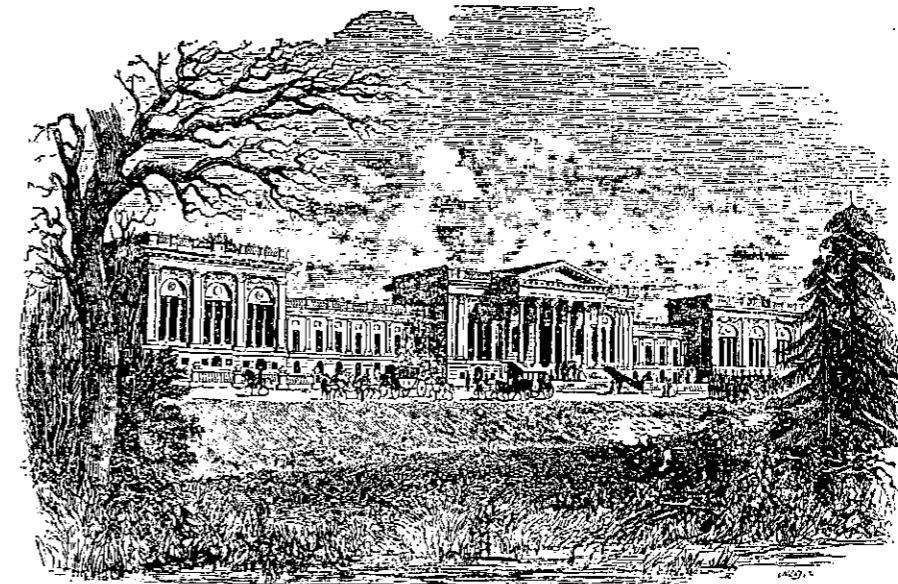
About an hour later the train panted into Wolverton, where another waiting room had been prepared and decorated, and there the Queen was received by a gathering of Buckinghamshire worthies, which included Lord Carrington, the Lord Lieutenant, the Magistrates of the Three Hundreds and the officers of various Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire Yeomanry detachments.

Apparently the formalities, unlike those at Euston, were of brief duration, so that a few minutes later Queen Victoria and Prince Albert had entered the Royal coach in which they were to complete the journey to Stowe.

Through Wolverton, which was bedecked with evergreen and decorated with flags, the Royal cortège, accompanied by yeomanry and preceded by Lord Carrington, took its somewhat tedious way, since the Queen insisted on examining her surroundings. When they reached a bridge which marked the boundaries of Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire, Lord Carrington left the procession and rode back to Wolverton. The rest of the journey to Buckingham, through Stoney Stratford and Leckhampstead, where fresh horses were stationed, is a record of a series of triumphal arches, of decorated and crowded towns and villages, and other



THE GRAND CORINTHIAN ARCH AT STOWE.



STOWE—THE GARDEN FRONT.

examples of loyal enthusiasm. It is interesting to note that the parish of Maids-morton, through which the cortège went on its way to Buckingham, differed from the other towns and villages on the road in that it boasted the inscription 'God save the Queen' on its triumphal arch and lacked the turnpike which apparently graced every other town and hamlet.

At length the Queen approached Buckingham, which had been steadily filling with people from the neighbouring district since an early hour that morning. The whole place was bedecked with evergreen and decorated with the inevitable triumphal arches and banners, while there were stands for the neighbouring gentry and for 1,200 charity children, who were shrill in their excitement at seeing their sovereign.

'The town,' writes a chronicler of the *Pictorial Times*, 'presented a very fair appearance, notwithstanding the almost unavoidable sameness of the arrangements.'

We have noticed the same failing in the town ourselves, but we hardly think it a fair accusation to be levelled at this time, as there appear to have been an almost incredible number of side-shows and decorations. At the boundaries of Buckingham was a triumphal arch and, sheltering behind it, as it were, a large and formidable gathering of townsmen. The Mayor and Aldermen in their robes of officialdom, the band of the Yeomanry, the agricultural gentry of the neighbourhood enrolled as special constables, the peasantry in their peculiar costumes, the representatives of various benevolent institutions and a mob of small boys made up a variegated and somewhat confused procession. However, proceed they did, from the triumphal arch at one end of the town to the triumphal arch at the other. Here, however, they halted, and the Mayor, taking from the Mace-bearer the bauble which he bore, advanced to the Royal carriage and, bowing low, presented it to the Queen with the words:

'May it please your Majesty to accept this mace which I, as Mayor of this loyal and ancient borough, humbly present in dutiful submission to your royal prerogative and authority.' Then the Queen, leaning from the window of the coach and touching it, said: 'Mr. Mayor, I beg you will keep it.'

After this little ceremony the procession moved on to Stowe. At the Lodge was a guard of honour to fire a Royal Salute, while all along the avenue the Duke's woodmen and keepers mounted on 'sturdy steeds,' and wearing green bands round their hats, were stationed. On the bands of their hats was written 'God save the Queen,' and in the buttonhole of each was a red rosette.

On the North Front was a Yeomanry band and a troop of the Bucks Yeomanry Hussars, commanded by Capt. Robarts, enclosed by a hollow square of some five hundred labourers on the Duke's estate, dressed in 'clean smock frocks' and all eager to cheer their Sovereign Lady Queen. At about a quarter to four the sound of the salute at the Lodge was heard, and the Duke and Duchess descended the North Front steps to receive their guests. A few minutes later the outriders appeared, followed by the Yeomanry escort, who joined the Hussars and ranged themselves on either side of the steps. Then, amidst tense excitement, the Royal coach itself appeared; this was the signal for a loud burst of cheering and the playing of the National Anthem by the band. The Duke escorted the Queen, and the Prince Consort took the arm of the Duchess, and in this manner they entered the house and met the rest of the guests in the Marble Saloon.

After this short reception the Queen expressed a wish to show herself to the tenantry outside, and accordingly her host led her out into one of the colonnades, where she came forward between two of the pillars and bowed repeatedly to the cheers of the crowd. The Duchess also appeared and 'conducted' the cheering

with a white handkerchief. When the Queen withdrew, the labourers, after cheering for a few minutes longer, retired to Buckingham, where the Duke provided a dinner of ample proportions and five shillings to each man as a present.

At dinner that evening a large party of distinguished people were entertained, among whom were Sir Robert and Lady Peel, Lord Aberdeen, Lord Nugent, the Marquis of Chandos, Lady Anna Greville, Lord and Lady Southampton and Mr. and Mrs. Robarts.

At the same time, in the Cobham Arms in Buckingham, another dinner was in progress in honour of the Queen's visit, at which the Mayor presided, assisted by Sir Thomas Fremantle, Sir John Chetwode, Sir Harry Verney and other aldermen and notables.

The Queen and the other guests retired to rest in their respective bedrooms at about eleven o'clock. Next morning the Queen and Prince Albert breakfasted in private about eight o'clock, and attended the Duke's private chapel for family prayers about an hour later, after which they walked about in the grounds until the inclemency of the weather drove them indoors. About eleven o'clock, however, Prince Albert and the male guests went out to shoot the Duke's preserves. They were singularly successful, for in two hours two hundred hares and one hundred pheasants were shot, of which the Prince accounted for one hundred and fourteen hares, twenty-nine pheasants and one snipe. The bag was distributed among the Duke's tenants, and the party returned to lunch at half past one. After this, the weather having decided to be fine, the Queen and the other guests were shown the various temples and monuments in the grounds. At dinner that night the band of the First Life Guards played, and illuminated addresses from the township of Buckingham were presented to both of the Royal guests.

On the next day, which was Friday, shortly after three o'clock, Queen Victoria planted an oak sapling on the South side of the Temple of Victory and Concord. The Queen placed the young tree in the prepared cavity and covered the roots with soil, after which the Duke of Buckingham finished the planting while the Queen held the tree in position. A little distance away Prince Albert planted a young cedar, and repeated the performance on the North side of the Temple, the Queen doing the same. When this was done the Duke called out, 'God bless her Majesty the Queen,' a signal for general cheers from the onlookers.

On Saturday the Royal visit came to an end. At nine o'clock the whole regiment of the Bucks Hussars was drawn up on the North Front, and at ten the guests were gathered in Assembly to bid the Queen good-bye.

The Queen took her leave of them, bade an affectionate farewell to the Duchess and Lady Anna Greville, and, entering her carriage, showed her host and hostess how very deeply she felt their loyal and hospitable welcome.

Thus ended a visit which ruined a noble family and was perhaps unnecessarily gorgeous, but which nevertheless must be classed among the greatest of the faded glories of ducal Stowe.

E. D. O'BRIEN.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

LET us leave London and the glare of lights in its music-halls and big hotels. We will have no chorus of ballet-girls or jazz music as the clock strikes midnight.

We will go instead to a little Scottish village called Thrums; and old Craigiebuckle, the carrier, shall drive us from Tilliedrum in his rickety post-cart to Hendry McQumpha's 'wee housie' at the foot of the brae.

As we approach the cottage, with its roof roped on against strong winds, we can see the light at Jess's window and know that the sweet, gentle woman is sitting in her chair, as she has done these twenty years. We arrive at the house, and we know that Leeby is putting finishing touches to the positions of the antimacassars and footstools in the room; then, on our repeated knocking, she opens the door to us, and invites us in as if she had only just made our acquaintance, whereas she has known us really as long as she can remember.

In the warm kitchen are Jess, Hendry, Leeby and the afterwards-worthless Jamie, now the apple of his mother's eye.

Jess has her old black staff by her chair, with the help of which she is still able to get from her seat in the window to her bed, and Leeby, who is never idle, is busy polishing the flagons that stand on the window-sill.

For two or three hours we sit and while away the time with the usual conversation.

Jess talks on her favourite subject—the loss of her beloved Joey, who was designed for the ministry and had promised her that the text for his first sermon should be 'Thou God seest me.' To Jess this was always 'Joey's text.'

Later in the evening Tibby Birse comes in, and when midnight strikes on the clock over the mantel, all for a moment sit quiet—dreaming, no doubt, of the years that have passed since they were young, when Joey was alive and Jess was not yet a cripple.

Then the bells ring out clear from Thrums and we all start up; and while they still peal Hendry's homely voice says, 'We will read i' the fourteenth chapter o' Saint John.' And we listen in silence to 'Hendry's chapter.'

A. R. H. WARD.

DUCK FLIGHTING

SHORTLY before sunset I set out for the river with my gun. It is a clear afternoon, with every prospect of a cloudless sky and a hard frost. The duck ought to come in well to-night. On arriving at the boathouse I take the small punt and ferry across the river to the opposite bank. I then walk for about a quarter of a mile up the river bank to take up my position by a stile, where I await the evening flight.

The sun drops slowly down in the west behind the old quarry on the hill, and the long English twilight descends.

'Now came still evening on, and twilight grey
Had in her sober livery all things clad.'

Now is the time when most wild beasts and night-birds leave their hiding-places and go a-hunting or a-roving. Bats whisk round my head, swooping to touch the water's surface in their erratic flight. A little owl starts its noisy scream, and a barn-owl glides silently into the stump of an old elm. Although I know that there is yet some time before the duck will arrive, I keep on the alert all the time, listening intently to every sound which falls upon my ear.

A train rushes by in the distance, and the red light issuing from its funnel shows up plainly against the darkening sky. In a distant wood a fox is barking, while the harsh squawk of a moorhen near at hand startles me.

Then I think I hear the swish of the wings of approaching duck and clasp my gun tighter, waiting expectantly, '*auribus arrectis.*' But nothing comes. It must have been imagination. A clear whistle sounds from the opposite bank. I recognise the note as that of an otter.

Hark! Was that the quack of a duck? I listen intently: sure enough it is the whistle of wings, each moment becoming louder. At last I can make out the black shapes of four duck against the pale western sky, winging their way swiftly to their feeding grounds, but, alas! they are out of range. More duck follow: some together in wedge-like formation: some singly: but all either out of sight or too high to shoot at.

I begin to think of leaving, as the flight is over, when I hear in the distance the honk-honk of a goose. To my intense delight the sound becomes louder, till I am sure a solitary goose is coming my way. I

strain my eyes to catch sight of it; but although it cannot be more than a hundred yards away, I can see no sign of it. Now it must be fifty: still I cannot see it. Now over me: and as it passes I catch a momentary glimpse of its white under-parts. I hold well forward and pull both triggers, one after the other. I am rewarded with a resounding thud on the hard frozen meadow behind me. Running up, I find the goose to be a fine specimen of the Brent species. I then retrace my steps, well pleased with my prize, in spite of its being so heavy a load. For 'the burden one likes is cheerfully borne.'

G. A. EVANS.

THE BLACK CRAG

REARING its beetling brow three hundred feet above the foaming breakers, friendly to the sea-birds, but enemy to man, battered by the raging tempests of a score of centuries, blackened by the hissing brine of a thousand storms, stands The Black Crag. Three times have I seen it, dark and majestic, and each time more beautiful.

The first was on a summer's dawn—one of those red, angry dawns—when the sun rose behind the crag, silhouetting it black and brooding. The dark green sea crooned around its base, rising slowly and steadily, pouring little rivulets into a thousand nooks and crannies, singing all the while its soft bubbly song. Then quietly sucking back, sucking down, leaving scintillating points of glass-like rock in the ever-increasing sunlight. Again and again the swell rose and fell, singing its drowsy song.

I looked at the towering summit. Old Sol's flaming head, just showing above the rock, glared down at me. Here and there black clouds dotted the angry sky, and the north was darkened threateningly. A soft breeze sprang up, stirring the leaves about me, and driving prancing lines of sea-horses to smash themselves on those impassive sides. All at once, with one accord, the sleeping sea-birds awoke, and, wheeling round the towering summit, shrieked and screamed in awful chorus. A rude awakening. I turned and went.

A tempest had raged all day. So I resolved to see this giant battling with the elements. As I turned the corner at the cliff's edge, I was struck by such a hurricane that I all but fell. But, regaining myself, I turned my face with difficulty towards the crag.

There I beheld such a battle that I hope I may never see again. Again and again Boreas hurled his legions of sea-horses against the fortress, again and again he flung volleys of whistling brine upon those glassy flanks. The sea-horses fell in confusion and rushed in mad disorder back to Mother Ocean. The brine spattered on the steep sides, but dropped back, stoutly repulsed.

All of a sudden a gull darted forth, and wheeled once or thrice round the summit. Then Boreas, seeking vengeance on something—anything to rend to pieces—swept like a graceful panther, caught the screaming bird and dashed her against the Crag.

She fell, a fluttering wreck, and as she fell a spray of brine sprang up to meet her, falling back again to give precedence to the hungry sea-horses. Like a maddened herd they rushed upon her, boiling all about her. A roller swept over her: she had gone. Again I turned and made for home.

I did not see the Crag again for many years. But it so chanced that when I was staying with some friends a few years ago I betook me to the familiar path along the cliff's edge. The trees threw strange shadows across my path, and the moonbeams danced to welcome me. Hardly a blade of grass stirred: all was peace. Then I saw the Crag. The moon hung directly over its summit, casting a weird light on the glinting waves sighing and lapping round its base, sometimes breaking into little groups and creeping into the hollows, sometimes pouring over the ramparts in glassy breakers. Looking at the moonlight, shining through a hole just below the peak, I bethought me of the Crag as a monster guardian, watching over the welfare of the coast with an ever-seeing eye. The whole scene was one of peace and quiet.

For the third and last time I turned and went.

M. S. MONTAGU SCOTT.

HILLS AND THE SEA

I.

WHEN an Australian meets a South American the conversation, at some time or other, is bound to turn towards the old question, 'Has Sydney or Rio the more beautiful harbour?' Each will claim the harbour of his own continent to be the more beautiful; but it is generally admitted by unbiassed critics that Rio 'holds the palm.' It is there especially that you get Hills and the Sea.

The liner on which we have crossed the Atlantic steams slowly into the bay. Although it is only six o'clock, most of the passengers are up, and, as we round the 'Bend,' Rio in all its glory lies before our eyes. High wooded mountains slope down to the water's edge. In places the descent is gentle, and the water laps against the rock with a satisfied gurgling; but sometimes the rock descends straight down, and against these cliffs the waves thunder and rage in vain. The creamy foam hurled into the air by the shock reaches barely half-way up the forbidding stone, and foiled Neptune renews his ceaseless attack.

Soon the steamer is berthed, and armed with cameras we hurry ashore. First, of course, we have a cup of coffee, and the English passengers, probably for the first time in their lives, taste good coffee. Rio itself is dirty and smelly, and it is a relief to reach the hills above the town. There we see Nature unspoiled. Giant clumps of brightly-coloured flowers mingle with the sombre bush of the 'Papamayo.' Tall trees form a canopy over our heads and shade us from the tropical sun. Towards the top of the hills the forest is not so thick; but the top we cannot see, for it is hidden by fleecy clouds.

And as the *Amazon* steams on its journey we look back and see the giant Sugar Loaf standing sentinel, and the Corcovado and Gavea; and between us is the blue, translucent sea.

C. B. JONES.

II.

WHEREVER the hills meet the sea, there is not only beauty, but romance. Places where this happens are stages upon which the drama of history has been played. Names like Thermopylae, San Sebastian, Gibraltar, Elsinore, Berwick, Torres Vedras and Gallipoli show this unmistakably. When one glides over the cold green waters of the Norwegian fiords, one can feel the spirit of deathless forays hovering under the steep precipices that tower above. History lurks where the flanks of Vesuvius fall into the Bay of Naples. The Rock of Gibraltar, which lies like a crouching lion staring across the Straits, is full of the atmosphere of war and struggle, from its deep-hewn galleries to the dizzy height of Signal Hill. The snow-crowned Sierra Nevada when seen from the sea seem to be the incarnate spirit of Spain. And in the words of the poet:

'The hills look down on Marathon,
And Marathon looks on the sea.'

Beauty there is in all of these, but there is more than beauty. There is a glamour in such places, a glamour which appeals more to the spirit than to the eye. There is nothing more wildly magnificent and soul-stirring, for example, than to see a great gale hurling itself upon the embattled coast of Brittany. The vast Atlantic rollers, stung to madness by the wind, fling themselves to destruction on that lofty shore. The white of the driven spray, the grey-black of the sea, the lurid sky, and the green and brown of the coast make a picture which, when coupled with the roar of the storm and the thrill of it all, is unforgettable.

All the joy of nature, all the primitive pleasure of the wild is felt in scenes like these. Humanity, too, feels how small it is, and how petty are its little stirrings, when it finds itself amidst the combined glories of nature. For it is not the two elements themselves, wonderful though they are, but their combination which makes the whole effect so majestic and irresistible. There are hills which are ugly and dreary, and the coast of Holland is dull and uninspiring, but it is hard to imagine, and harder still to find, a place where sea and hills meet which is prosaic or hideous.

Man has always felt the spirit of the sea and hills, and many have felt like the poet who sat

'Beside a pumice isle in Baiæ's bay,
And saw in sleep old palaces and towers
Quivering within the waves intenser day,
All overgrown with azure moss and flowers
So sweet, the sense faints picturing them!'

J. A. BOYD-CARPENTER.

THE ORIGIN OF HISTORY

THE custom at the Club was that all members not sleeping in should leave by twelve o'clock. The doors were then locked, and the night-porter retired to his box—to sleep. When I awoke it was just chiming half-past twelve. 'What a nuisance,' I thought. Still, as my landlady would not be likely to wait up for me, I determined to rouse the night-porter from his slumbers and procure a room.

I was just getting up from my chair—which, by the way, had its back to most of the others—when I heard a voice coming from the far end of the room. 'My dear fellow,' he was saying, 'you must know the hills I mean.' Here he went into a long and, to me, unintelligible description.

'I think I know,' replied a second voice, 'but do get on with the story.'

'Well, by then I was able to pass pretty easily as one of the priests of the Inner Order, so I journeyed up to the ——' (here came an unpronounceable Thibetan name) 'and rang boldly at the great bell which hung by the gate. A noisome fellow answered the toll, and, upon my giving the first two signs, admitted me into the hall. This hall was a huge room, whose vaulted ceiling stretched up high and became lost in the darkness. At one end only was there any light, and that came from a cross-shaped window at some height from the ground.

I waited here in the gloom till my first friend returned, when I was led through many corridors and eventually reached a small, cell-like room. This room was in pitch darkness, but I heard, or rather felt, the presence of other human beings. I was asked to give the eight proofs of the Eternal, which I did, and they seemed perfectly satisfied.

Three days later they seemed as if they would tell me what I wished to know, if I could only extract the information without advertising my ignorance. However, I knew enough to draw the spirit Kóhr into my argument, and soon I was in possession of the facts for which I had risked my life.

History had started, as I thought, about two centuries ago. Kóhr was the master-brain of the whole confederacy of spirits; and it was he who suggested making the world. When the world was finished they placed several of the abstract animals from '—another unpronounceable name—' on it, and combined the good points in each to form man.

Now, thought they, if man was to rule well he must know the mistakes he would be able to make. They therefore concocted a most marvellous chain of history and instilled it into the brain of the first men, who thought that their ancestors had lived many hundreds of years before.'

'But,' said the other voice, 'religion puzzles me. How does it fit in?'

'Ah!' came the answer, 'that is why I wonder whether I'm mad, and whether those three hard years in unknown Thibet were a dream of the devil.'

T. J. FIRBANK.

OUR VILLAGE

I.

(THE STOIC PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION.)

THERE is a hush in the village this morning; not the usual contented quiet that pervades it at all seasons, but a sort of dumbness, a sense of unwonted awe.

The villagers stand about in groups, sometimes talking in undertones, but for the most part silent.

Horses stand idle in the shafts of market-carts; a dog breaks the silence at intervals with short, sharp barks; and a few children play half-heartedly at the side of the road.

All eyes are turned to where two workmen are methodically removing the signboard and the wrought-iron bracket from the front of the 'Ship' Inn.

It is a fine sign—going to America, they say, along with the old Tudor windows of a house a mile or so beyond the hill. Never was there such a ship! And never were there such waves to carry her! She is faded now, but she has swung there on her twisted iron bracket for nearly four hundred years, and through her old, weather-beaten side there are two bullet-holes made by the muskets of Cromwell's Ironsides.

Not that the villagers value their ship because it is a fine ship, or because it was painted in the sixteenth century and has been shot through by Ironsides, but they feel that something is being taken away from their world, something that has been part of the lives of their fathers and their fathers' fathers.

For Cleaving is an old village, and a sleepy one; a few dozen cottages, thatched mostly, two or three shops, and a score of barns and farm buildings, threaded along the white ribbon of a Chiltern road, with the public-house at one end and the church at the other, the outward symbols of all the villagers' conscious vice and virtue respectively.

For, taking their places each Sunday in the little church and drinking their ale regularly at 'The Ship,' with but occasional excess, they learnt from attendance at the one that too frequent patronage of the other was sin; while they had a subconscious knowledge that it was from some notion of pleasing the power that ripened their corn, and gave them sleep, that they went to church.

Their religion, if religion they could be said to have, was their farming and their marketing. Their god was the sun, while blight and rain at the wrong season were the work of the devil.

They were blessed with a most loveable simplicity, which did not result in all the villagers becoming 'characters.' There was no boasted 'oldest inhabitant' or 'village idiot'; there was no schoolmaster, notorious for his stock of sage lore and fearsome birches—only a hard-working little spinster, who taught the villagers' children strange things out of books, which at times she was not sure she herself understood; while the vicar was the typical, rather narrow-minded product of a village which had no use for his learning, and undertsood him as an all-powerful being who married them, and baptised their children, and warned them weekly of the dangers of temptations they had never known.

Indeed, there is little that is Auburnesque about Cleaving. There is a more lasting quality that makes it impossible to grudge America our ship.

Still, they cannot help wondering, these villagers, as they stand below the two silent workmen, how their old sign that has swung and creaked in the wind of the Chilterns so many years, will fare across the Atlantic.

J. M. REEVES.

II.

Few villages, even in the garden of England, can surpass the one of which I write, set as it is amid the country of the Folds—with their wide village greens, red-roofed crooked cottages, their rustic forges, and glowing gardens—so well described as 'at its best and sleepest in high summer, a village of weatherworn red brick and Madonna lilies.' By great good fortune this village green, with its pond and surrounding houses, has left little room for the modern builder, and thus still retains its beauty. Its buildings, so full of tradition and romance, remain as relics of the past. The old Crown Inn, originally a monastery and later the scene of Roundhead tyranny, holds pride of place with its overhung tiles and timbered walls, its massive beams and general air of bygone times. Could these blackened timbers but speak, what tales they could tell us of Enticknaps and Burdocks who for hundreds of years have inhabited the village, some say since the Conquest—what tales of the great achievements of the glass makers, known down all the ages for their skill:

'For glass makers they be scant in the land,
Yet one there is that I doe understand
And he in Surrey hath his habitacion,
At Chiddingfold he works at his occupacion.'

Until, by the proclamation, 'Given at our Palace at Greenwich,' James, 'by Grace of God,' put an end to the industry by prohibiting the use of timber or wood for the furnaces—an industry that is now but 'a memory of high achievement and brave artistry.' Again, what could they tell of the Ironworkers, the remains of whose working we find to-day in our woods, and trace in such names as Furnace Meadow, Mine Head, and the famous Hammer Ponds from which they derived their power. Specimens of their work are still to be found in the houses nearby.

Tradition and romance are written clearly all round our ancient village. Its many legends conjure up such elfin stories 'told in the dusk by Grandam from her chair' as:

'On Hydon's top there is a cup,
And in that cup there is a drop;
Take up the cup and drink the drop
And place the cup on Hydon's top.'

What scenes were enacted in Saxon times in the Field of the Gold Hoard, which still retains its ancient name, and the story of its chief-tan's daughter, Brunna, a Briton born and free, but slave to Togga, the Saxon Franklin of Toggeley: how she finds the gold hoard in the 'Field of the Mighty Dead' and with it gains freedom for herself, her son and her son's son. What stately Roman inhabited the Roman villa, long since replaced by woods of oak, from which the oaken walls of England were fashioned—woods left free from the tithe by a wise government which determined to foster a plentiful supply of ship's timber. And so on down the ages. And we who live here to-day are proud of our village and all its memories of the past—still a village of 'weatherworn red brick and Madonna lilies.'

A. G. HOWLAND-JACKSON.

LATE NEWS

HOUSE MUSIC COMPETITION.

Held on MARCH 27TH, 1926. (Judge, Mr. G. D. H. WARRACK.)

The marks awarded to Houses were:—

		Non-Choral.	Choral.	Total.
1.	Temple	80	70	150
2.	{ Chandos	71	66	137
2.	{ Grenville	74	63	
4.	Cobham	74	60	134
5.	Chatham	70	62	132
6.	Bruce	67	62	129

SPORTS, 1926.

The House Cup was won by Chandos, with a total of 119½ points.

The Prizes were distributed after the Sports by Her Grace the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos.

The results were as follows:—

100 Yards (Junior).—1, Dashwood; 2, Cavendish; 3, Murray, J. D. Time, 11½ secs.

100 Yards (Open).—1, Swayne; 2, Jones; 3, Hyde. Time, 11 secs.

Half-Mile (Junior).—1, Carr; 2, Morison; 3, Patmore. Time, 2 mins. 17¾ secs.

Half-Mile (Open).—1, McComb ma.; 2, Farmiloe; 3, Feathers. Time, 2 mins. 12½ secs.

High Jump (Junior).—1, Watson, A. R. C.; 2, Carr; 3, Dashwood. Height, 4 ft. 9½ ins.

High Jump (Open).—1, Drayson; 2, Swayne and Pearson. Height, 5 ft. 2½ ins.

Hurdles (Junior).—1, Cavendish; 2, Carr; 3, Watson, A. R. C. Time, 18½ secs.

Hurdles (Open).—1, Swayne; 2, McComb ma.; 3, Sword. Time, 16¾ secs.

220 Yards (Junior).—1, Dashwood; 2, Cavendish; 3, Murray, J. D. Time, 25½ secs.

220 Yards (Open).—1, Swayne; 2, Hyde; 3, Jones. Time, 24¾ secs.

Mile (Junior).—1, Carr; 2, Watson, A. R. C.; 3, Blair. Time, 5 mins. 17¾ secs.

Mile (Open).—1, Edden; 2, Bowen; 3, Feathers. Time, 4 mins. 56¾ secs.

Long Jump (Junior).—1, Cavendish; 2, Keith and Charles. Length, 15 ft. 10¼ ins.

Long Jump (Open).—1, Swayne; 2, Brooke, B. P.; 3, Hyde. Length, 19 ft. 4 ins.

Quarter-Mile (Junior).—1, Murray, J. D.; 2, Dashwood; 3, Cavendish. Time, 57½ secs.

Quarter-Mile (Open).—1, Hyde; 2, McComb ma.; 3, Griffin. Time, 55¾ secs.

HOUSE GOLF COMPETITION.

Chatham.	}	Chandos.	}	Chandos.
Chandos.		Cobham.		
		Temple.	}	Grenville.
Grenville.	}	Grenville.		
Bruce.				

The Final Result will be published next Term.

