July, 1909



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CONTENTS.

X

						1	Page
PHOTO OF SIR THOMAS RICH, BARG	ONET	••		• •			5
Editorial				• •			7
NOTES ON THE LIFE AND WORK	OF	SIR	Тно	OMAS	RI	сн,	
BARONET	• •	•••	• •	••	••.	* 5	10
VARIA					• •	• •	15
OUR SPORTS-FOOTBALL, SWIMMING	, RA	MBLI	NG C	LUB	• •		17
AN EXCURSION TO THE SEVEN SPE	RINGS						23
A WALK TO PAINSWICK			•••				25
PRIZE DISTRIBUTION						• •	27
OUR HOBBY-STAMP COLLECTING .						• •	31
Form Notes	,				••		36
A SCHOOLBOY'S ESSAY					• •		40
Answers to Correspondents							40
OLD BOYS' CORNER				1.			41







Sr Thomas Rich, Baronet. Founder of y: Blew Coat Bospitall.









Editor : R. W. CUSHING, B.A., Oxon.

Editorial.

"Great events cast their shadows before them !"

THOUGH this publication may not strictly be included in the category of "great events," it has without a shadow of doubt cast its umbra well before it, and, in fact, at one time seemed totally incapable of ever attaining to more substantial, or less gloomy proportions. However, it now apologises for being late. One of the first questions put to a "new boy" on entering the school precincts is, "Eh! new boy, what's your name ?" Doubtless this same interrogation will be made by many in reference to the title of this magazine; in spite of the fact that it is "writ large" on the cover.

With apologies to those who are in the know. I will venture on a brief explanation. After much discussion it was decided to present our magazine with a name at once mellifluous and classical. An attempt at a pun on the name of our worthy founder immediately presented itself to our mind. The proposed name " Divitian " and some others having been discarded it appeared that the final heat was to be run by " Plutian " and " Plutonian." The former of these is, of course, the more correct, being derived from Plutus, "the god of Riches." However, knowing that we would expose a weak point to the captious critic, entirely "for the sake of euphony" [I borrow this expression from our French Grammar !] we cast our vote for the latter; and not altogether without rhyme or reason; for be it not forgotten that Pluto, god of the nether world, was so called, because the ancients held that it was he who sent up his gift from the lower regions, in the shape of grain, which embodied all that they understood by the term " riches."

In the first instance, we intend publishing twice a year ; that is,

until we feel our feet, when, in the event of our accomplishing such a feat, you will have your magazine every term. It does not require a very advanced French scholar, even without the aid of a Contanseau, to translate the proverb "L'union est la force ; " and this is of the greatest significance and import to us at the present time. The greatest of the uses of a magazine is that it binds together the various parts and interests in the school, it reveals to us our identity, and helps us to realise and appreciate the fact that we are a corporate body, consisting of parents, masters and boys, all working together with one common object in view, to wit, the advancement of our intellectual, moral and physical culture. There is a serious, as well as a lighter side to every department of life. We are not put into the world to do no more than play. It is when we combine these two elements, which I have called the serious and lighter sides, that we can force the world to rise up and confess "He is a man !" To continue, in our magazine we will record the successes in the classroom and playingfields achieved from time to time by our present scholars; and our "Old Boys' Corner" will tell us of the fruit borne by the seed sown in the hearts and minds of those who have departed from our care, and are now fighting the battles of life for themselves. In a word, it will give us a review of the work done by our boys, past and present, and an insight into their character, manners and means.

I will not attempt to wear down the hackneyed saying about his Satanic majesty finding mischief, &c., nevertheless one can but admit that the sentiment contained therein is true—a veritable truism ! No ! you are not going to have another lecture about the abuse of opportunities, or waste of time in slothful pursuits. I will merely remark that one of the leading features of your magazine will be " Our Hobby," which I intend to conduct myself. Next term I hope to be able to tell you something about the fascinating subject of amateur photography.

This is essentially a *School* Magazine, and not altogether a literary production, although we are not unwilling for the intellectual lights of the country to "enquire within" and depart refreshed. Nevertheless, the Magazine is written for the boys in the School, and in view of this fact your editor was disagreeably obliged to refuse many most excellent contributions from the pens of some of our Classical and Philological VIth Form celebrities. If my memory says truly (Oh, that word "if"!), one was entitled "Fragments of Juvenal discovered by Professor W. Seacliff Ford,

while making excavations in a tin of Sardines." A truce to jesting. !

It is our earnest wish that this Magazine will not be the sole product of the "grown-ups," but that every boy in the School may not only feel at liberty, but deem it a privilege to contribute anything which he may consider at all likely to be of interest to his school fellows. If our wish in this respect be not gratified, our arrow, drawn at a venture, will have missed its mark, and our time and labour, though a work of love, will have been spent in vain.

Accordingly, I now appeal to all budding Shakespeares and aspiring Macaulays to cast aside their sloth, or bashfulness, to come forward and astound Gloucester, nay, the whole universe, with their profundity of scholarship, their intensity of cerebral acumen, and their innate aptitude for verbal and intellectual jugglery !

One word of warning, in conclusion. We beg of you not to indulge too freely in red-tapism, party-spirit, or journalistic jingoism—whatever these terms may mean. Also, a word of encouragement to the faint and halting, your editor's sanctum sanctorum is not furnished with a W.P.B. !

"The Plutonian" can be obtained at the school, or by application to either of the Secretaries of the Old Boys' Association; or from—

> MESSRS. DAVIES & SON, Booksellers and Stationers, 6, Northgate Street,

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or-

—— Notes on the —— Life and Work of Sir Thomas Rich, Baronet.

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Sir Thomas Rich was one of many about whose actions during their life-time very little is definitely known. There is, however, one claim which we can with pride make, namely, that the good that he did was not interred with his bones. On perusing old newspapers, Charity Commissioners' Reports, and what not, one is met with two diametrically opposed views as to the origin of our Benefactor. One writer, for instance, asserts that "he rose from the humble walks of life by his industry ;" while others give us a totally different, and indeed much more acceptable account. We can with safety take "Burke's Extinct Baronetcy" as our official guide, and there we read that Sir Thomas had no cause to be ashamed of his ancestry and at any rate was a citizen of no mean city : for was he not a native of Gloucester itself ? We have but to hunt up his ancestors to find that he came of decidedly respectable parentage, was blessed with a fair share of the world's goods. at his outset in life, and was by position a country gentleman. His grandfather was William Rich, of Minety, in the county of Gloucester. He, the grandsire, married a daughter of John Packer, of Cheltenham, and was the father of Thomas Rich, an alderman of the city of Gloucester, anno 1600, who, beside what paternal estate he inherited, was seized of the Manor of Astwood Court, in Worcestershire. He married Anne, daughter of Thomas-Machin, of Gloucester, and by her had two children, a daughter named after her mother, and a son and heir, Thomas Rich, our Founder, who was born in the reign of Oueen Elizabeth in the year 160T.

Shortly after attaining to years of discretion he practised the calling of a trading merchant between this country and Turkey. In this pursuit he was highly successful, amassed a large fortune, and soon attained a high character for benevolence and public spirit. And here I cannot refrain from making a brief digression and letting you into a little joke evidently far from being intended as such, connected with the commercial enterprises of the subject of these "Notes."

An early writer describes our Founder as "a Turkey merchant." Someone else writing a few years later, having evidently seen this trite description and not noticing the capital T, informed his readers that "Sir Thomas Rich made his money by rearing turkeys!!!"

Thomas Rich, Esq., as he was then known, was deeply attached to Charles the First, and supplied that unfortunate monarch with considerable sums of money, and with equal liberality contributed to the support of the oppressed clergy at home. On the Restoration he was, as a mark of esteem for this and other disinterested acts of benevolence, created a baronet by Charles the Second, by patent dated 20th March, 1660-1.

Our Founder not only became one of the titled and wealthy of his day; but, feeling that education was one of the requirements of every age, he bequeathed a large portion of his property for promoting this grand object in the place of his birth. He died on October 15th, 1667, and was buried at Sonning, in the county of Berkshire. In passing, we may note that Gloucester was not the only recipient of his benefactions. He did much to enlarge and improve the Blue-coat School at Reading, providing that there should be always three boys from Sonning parish educated in it. In the space under the Tower in St. Andrew's Church, Sonning stands a magnificent white and black marble monument, erected to the memory of our Founder. It consists of four colossal naked cherubs, shedding tears, and supporting on their wings a vast black marble slab, on which stand two large white marble urns.

The baronetcy became extinct on the decease of Sir Thomas Rich, Vice-Admiral, R.N., who died in 1803, without issue. The father of our Founder lies buried in St. John's Church of this City. It was our Founder who presented that church with its fine communion plate of silver-gilt, dated 1659. The most suitable way to shew what Sir Thomas Rich has done for Gloucester is to copy verbatim extracts from his will, which is dated May 16th, 1666. He wills that "f160 shall for ever go and be employed for the yearly maintenance of twenty poor blue-coat boys, with diet, washing, clothing and other necessaries, in blue coats and caps, according to the laudable usage of Christ Church Hospital in London; and that f_{20} a year shall be for ever paid to an honest able schoolmaster that take any care to live in the said house or hospital, to teach the said poor boys to read and write; and further also that £60 a year more shall, for ever, go for the placing out yearly, and clothing of six poor boy apprentices; wherein my desire is, that three or four of the said boys may be placed apprentices in London to some honest trades there, and with honest masters my express will and meaning is that no boys be admitted under ten years of age, and none of them shall continue therein after sixteen years of age." He also leaves £30 to be annually laid out in blue gowns, shoes, stockings and linen cloth for ten men and women; also £6 13s. 4d. to provide a dinner for the Corporation on the feast day of St. Thomas, the Apostle, and various other emoluments for men and women servants, and for "decayed housekeepers." He bequeaths all to "the Mayor, Aldermen and Council of the City of Gloucester," and the will concludes with the warning that if they " fail in the performance of my said request, then all and every of the said house and lands shall belong to the Governors of Christ Church Hospital for ever." In all he left

£16,000 for charitable purposes, besides a handsome fortune to each of his children, sixteen in number. We notice that the donor orders in his will that the scholars are to be attired in " blue coats and caps, according to the laudable usage of Christ Church Hospital," which was founded by King Edward VI, and was the first of its kind instituted. The dress used was the same as worn by the boy-king, then 16 years old. From the foundation of the School in 1668 right up to the year 1882 one was continually reminded of the past when gazing at these bare-headed youths, attired in long loose blue coats, yellow under-clothes, clerkly band, leather belt with buckle shoes.

The original Hospital, which was Sir Thomas' private house, stood on the site of the Roman Praetorium, but in 1807 was pulled down, and the fine edifice which graces our cover was erected in its place at a cost of £5,000. The building was a handsome monument of its founder's generosity, and formed one of the architectural attractions of the City. We have but to examine our reproduction to see how vastly it differed from the "jerry-built" domiciles of to-day. There is an interesting story about the old Hospital proving how strongly and solidly built were its walls and staircases, and how firmly constructed were its floors and ceilings. These latter were put to a rather severe accidental test when one day a boy carelessly left a tap running, and thus flooded a dormitory. A special evening service was then to be held in the Cathedral, and the boys were just starting for church, so that the occurrence was not noticed till after service, when it was discovered that, notwithstanding the quantity of water in the room, not a drop had penetrated the flooring.

Let us now follow the School through its various changes in administration and scope. In 1836 under the Municipal Act the management passed out of the hands of the Town Council into the control of Charity Trustees. Until the year 1882 changes in the administration of the endowment were few and gradual. In that year, on Wednesday, September the 14th, the Blue-coat boy ceased to exist. After considerable public discussion and much local opposition, Royal sanction was given to the amended scheme of the Charity Commissioners for dealing with the Gloucester charities, and it became law. Under this scheme the foundations and endowments of the Crypt Grammar School and Sir Thomas Rich's School were amalgamated. The Crypt Grammar School remained very much as it was under the old régime ; but the "Blue Coat Hospital" was abolished; and in its place three fresh schools were to be established-a day school for boys, to be called Sir Thomas Rich's School ; and two schools for Girls. All the schools were placed under a representative body of Governors.

Of course, our "Founder's Day" is that of St. Thomas, the Apostle. This was always a great occasion for rejoicing at the school. What old "Blue boy" has not cause to remember

"Tommy day "? The rooms were decorated, and the boys feasted on roast goose, roast beef, plum pudding and mince pies. The Corporation, and afterwards the trustees, dined also on this day, never failing to carry out to the letter the portion of their patron's will relating thereto ! From this circumstance a saying originated. that every year the Corporation " swallowed a blue-boy." It was on this day also that all the business accounts were produced, and the outgoing seniors were awarded apprenticeship premiums of from £20 to £30 in value. A quaint old hymn, known as "Tommy Psalm," was always sung by the boys, all standing, before their dinner. The outgoing boys copied this hymn neatly in MS; and had the privilege of selling copies to the members of the Corporation. On account of the associations of the hymn or "psalm," it may perhaps be considered worth preserving in print at the end of these "Notes." The boys, we are told, had a tradition amongst themselves that at midnight on St. Thomas' day the ghost of Sir Thomas Rich walked through the wards on a tour of inspection : and many were the wakeful vigils kept in half expectation of viewing the shade of the pious founder. The blue-coat boys were always a feature in any public proceedings, and many are the tales told of their pranks and horseplay when " beating the Mayor's bounds." The reverend beadle was more than once accidentally upset into a ditch on the roadside! So now, it is always a pleasure toany one interested in the School to hear of old boys "figuring" in public and private affairs. And, having here read of but a fraction of our pious Founder's benevolence, it behoves everyone of us to show our true appreciation of his munificence, in a practical manner, by endeavouring to lead strenuous, straightforward and stainless lives !



A Psalm of Thanksgiving to be sung by the boys of Sir Thomas Rich's Hospital on St. Thomas' Day.

"Tommy Psalm."

Let us rejoice with cheerful voice, God's goodness magnify; Who freely grants to all our wants

Most plentiful supply.

Naked and poor to clothe and feed, From misery to raise,

How truly great and noble 'tis, How worthy is Thy praise.

Base pleasure 'tis mankind to hurt, Although the only joy

Of ill men who abuse their wealth, The harmless to annoy.

Within this city, thanks to God, Such bounteous works abound

As have embalmed the authors' names, By faith most richly crowned.

And in this rank of pious men, Our founder though the last

In time, yet in munificence

By none has been surpassed; Six thousand pounds of what God gave

He did lend back again; Not having issue of his blood,

Did not poor heirs disdain.

Where'er we come our gratitude Shall there make it appear, Who 'twas that first did nourish us,

And who doth feed us here.

The pious part of this large store In Heaven's treasury lies,

Whilst the earthly stock secured below, In hands of good and wise.

For none he thought so fit to trust With such a mighty care, As those by whom this city's wealth

And conduct managed are. And may this place, and the whole Realm,

In peace protected be;

And happy long Victoria reign Blessed with prosperity.

[The last four lines evidently underwent alterations to suit chronological circumstances.]



This might almost be called "Our Founder's Number." The Frontispiece is from a photograph recently taken of the painting of Sir Thomas Rich, which now hangs in our Headmaster's Office.

The "Notes on the Life and Work of Sir Thomas Rich, Baronet" your editor has culled from various sources; and only he who travels over the same ground can appreciate how scattered, scanty, and untrustworthy these sources are.

In our next issue we hope to have a most interesting letter written by an old Blue-coat boy who was at the Hospital from 1828 to 1831. It describes the mode of life in the Hospital at that time, and is replete with nicknames and reminiscences which will rejuvenate many an old "Blue boy."

How many of our readers have spotted the mistake made by the builders of the 1807 Hospital as perpetuated on our cover ? Sir Thomas Rich was created a Baronet, and not a Knight !

We can now boast of a VIth Form, and of one not merely in name, but actually doing VIth Form work. This is only one of the many proofs of the magnificent work being done under the direction of our respected Headmaster.

We celebrated Empire Day with the singing of the National Anthem and the unveiling of a fine photogravure of his Majesty King Edward VII.

Our Christmas Concert was a complete success. There were many performers, vocal, instrumental and dramatic. In execution and deportment all were quite up to school-boy standard. Mr. Davies took it into his head to honour us with a violin solo; but having commenced, suddenly desisted; perhaps on account of the premature applause from the audience; or perchance he was only "tuning up" another artist's instrument?

Our best thanks are due to Mr. H. A. Barnes for his kindness in so artistically decorating our Cambridge Locals Board, and for presenting to the school two medals for Cricket, which were awarded to D. C. Warner and H. W. Hawkins respectively.

It is with deep regret and heartfelt sympathy for the bereaved that we announce the death of one who has recently been taken

from our midst. We refer to the death of E. H. Palmer, who was at the school but a year ago. He took a chill which turned to typhoid, and died after only a few days' illness. We all remember him as being the strongest of our swimmers, and also for the prominent part he always took in the Shakespearian scenes at our Prize Distribution.

Some of our Vth and VIth Form boys recently made an excursion to Cheltenham to see Shakespeare's "Julius Cæsar," as produced by Mr. Benson's Company. We have heard from more than one source that the staging was superb, while the acting itself in some instances could not compare with that displayed by our own boys at our last Prize Distribution. Can this be true ? or is it only fun ? Yet, many a true word is spoken in jest.

It was with intense pleasure mingled with mild surprise that we received our Headmaster's announcement that we are to have one, if not two new Science Laboratories.

We accord our hearty thanks to the Governors for making the necessary arrangements for us to have such a prolonged and uninterrupted view of the King on the Wednesday in Show Week. It is unnecessary to add that we all strained our utmost, which word includes our necks and throats, to prove our school-boy, yet unvarnished loyalty in the true British fashion. His Majesty graciously showed his appreciation by keeping his head uncovered while passing the three schools.

Next term will herald the advent of still more changes and improvements in the School curriculum and organisation. From that date our boys will have the opportunity of following either a classical, or a "modern" branch of education.

Our hearty thanksare due to Messrs. Bellows and Sons for their kind permission to copy their engraving of Sir Thomas Rich's Hospital from "Engravings of Public Buildings of the City of Gloucester," which is reproduced on our cover.





Football.

The past football season (1907–8) has been one of the mostsuccessful in the history of the School.

This is mainly due to the whole-hearted enthusiasm shown by the players.

Another factor contributing to this success is the fact that we have been able to place in the field practically the same team for every match.

This has accounted for the good combination which has been exhibited by the team.

Ist XI Colours have been awarded to :-Bishop, Crowe, Hall,. Phillips, Speck and Lane.

The following table shows the record for the season :--

Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals for.	Goals Ag'st.
25	16	7	2	100	51

An Inter-Form Competition (six-a-side) was arranged for the Upper Forms. The matches were played in the school playground, and proved useful, in that they unearthed some promising players. The Christmas Term Competition was won by Form. IIIb, that of the Easter Term by Form V.

CHRISTMAS TERM COMPETITION.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals for.	Goals against.	Points.
IIIb	5	3	0	2	7	2	8
V	5	3	I	I	9	2	7
IVb	5	3	2	0	6	5	6
IIIa	5	I	2	2	3	4	4
VI	5	I	3	I	5	7	3
IVa	5	0	3	2	5	12	2

EASTER TERM COMPETITION.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals for.	Goals against.	Points
V	. 5	5	0	0	20	3	IO
VI	. 5	4	I	0	12	IO	8
IIIb	. 5	3	2	0	13	6	6
IVb	. 5	2	3	0	6	8	4
IIIa	. 5	I	4	0	5	13	2
IVa	. 5	0	5	0	2	15	0

SCHOOL V. CHELTENHAM Y.M.C.A. Rich's 13. Y.M.C.A. 0.

SCHOOL V. SHARPNESS JUNIORS. Rich's 6. Sharpness 1.

SCHOOL V. CHELLTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Rich's 8. Cheltenham 2.

A feature of the game was the splendid combination exhibited by Rich's. The whole team played well and thoroughly deserved its great victory.

*SCHOOL V. CIRENCESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Rich's I. Cirencester 7.

Rich's were very much overweighted, but played pluckily. The Cirencester XI gave a very good display.

*SCHOOL V. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Rich's 3. Cheltenham I.

Good combination was shown by Hall and Speck on the right. Phillips played a splendid game and was the best man on the field.

SCHOOL V. CRYPT GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Rich's 3. Crypt 4.

A splendidly contested game. Rich's led 3-1 at half-time, but in the last ten minutes the Crypt scored three goals.

*School v. Wycliffe College 2nd XI.

Rich's 2. Wycliffe 3.

A very even game.

SCHOOL V. CHELTENHAM BOHEMIANS.

Rich's I. Bohemians I.

SCHOOL V. POST OFFICE.

Rich's 4. Post Office 2.

*SCHOOL V. WYCLIFFE COLLEGE 2ND XI.

Rich's 2. Wycliffe 4.

Had the School taken advantage of their opportunities, the result would have been a draw.

SCHOOL V. CRYPT GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Rich's 4. Crypt 3.

A rather poor game. Our forwards were off-colour. The form shown was not up to the standard generally displayed in these matches.

School, v. Cheltenham Grammar School. Rich's 2. Cheltenham o.

Rich's had practically all the game and should have won by a larger margin.

*SCHOOL V. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2ND XI.

Rich's 2. Cheltenham o.

*School v. Marling School.

Rich's 2. Marling 5.

Marling scored 4 goals in the first 10 minutes. In the later stages of the game Rich's showed good form.

School v. Newent. Rich's II. Newent I.

*SCHOOL V. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2ND XI. Rich's 2. Cheltenham o.

Rich's should have won by a larger margin.

SCHOOL V. CHELTENHAM Y.M.C.A. Rich's q. V.M.C.A. 2.

SCHOOL V. CHELTENHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Rich's 4. Cheltenham I.

The game was spoiled by the wind. Rich's had the benefit of the wind in the first half, during which they scored four goals. The combination was not so good as usual.

*School v. Wycliffe College 2nd XI.

Rich's I. Wycliffe 3,

Wycliffe again proved our superiors. The game was well contested all through.

SCHOOL V. CHELTENHAM WEDNESDAY.

Rich's 4. Wednesday I.

*School v. CRYPT GRAMMAR SCHOOL. Rich's 4. Crypt 3.

*School v. Cirencester Grammar School.

Rich's I. Cirencester 2.

Considering the heavy defeat inflicted upon us in the early part of the season on our ground, the above result reflected credit upon the team.

SCHOOL V. CRYPT GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Rich's 2. Crypt 2.

Rain fell throughout the game. The exchanges were very even-

School v. Norton. Rich's 6. Norton 1.

SCHOOL V. CRYPT GRAMMAR SCHOOL. Rich's 3. Crypt 2.

Considering the warm day, the game was exceedingly fast and interesting. At half-time the score was I-I. After changing ends Rich's had rather the better of the exchanges, and scoring twice to once by the Crypt, won an exciting game by the above score. The game was one of the best seen at Sandhurst for some time.

* Boys' XI.

Ø

Football Characters.

- SPECK i—Has played a consistently good game. He feeds his partner with good judgment.
- HALL—Has played excellently during the whole of the season. He centres with judgment and precision.
- BISHOP i—Has shown great improvement, and has played many good games. He is inclined to centre too late.
- CROWE i—Has been the general utility man of the team. He has played well in practically every position. He feeds well and shoots with judgment.

PHILLIPS—At times he has played brilliantly. He is inclined tokeep the ball too long. A clever dribbler.

WHITTINGHAM—Gives promise of becoming a very useful back. He should tackle sooner.

LANE—Has developed into a very good back. A safe kick, but inclined to take things rather too easily.

- PALMER—Has proved a great acquisition to the team. He plays left-half, tackles well, but feeds his wing man somewhat erratically.
- PROBYN—A useful centre. Goes straight for goal, shoots with judgment, but is rather slow. He is apt to neglect his wing men.

Ø

MORGAN i (Capt.)—A fairly safe goal-keeper. Rather uncertain with ground shots.

ADAMS—A very clever forward whose loss to the team at Christmas was felt very much. His play was characterised by its unselfishness.

ROBERTSON—An improved half. Feeds rather erratically.

- BALDWIN—Gives promise of becoming a useful forward or half. He has shown splendid sportsmanship in coming into the team for an away match at the last moment.
- DORCHESTER—Takes matters far too easily. He passes well, and with more dash should become a useful forward.

DEAN-A neat and clever forward. Passes well, but lacks weight.

The following table denotes the players who represented the school and the number of matches in which each played :—

Speck і	23
HALL	21
Візнорі	20
CROWE i	18
PHILLIPS	17
WHITTINGHAM	16
Morgan i	13
LANE	13
PALMER	12
PROBYN	12
Adams	12
ROBERTSON i	6
BALDWIN	6
WELLS	6
HAWKINS	4
Dorchester	3
DEAN	3
STARR	2
PHELPS	I
Нпг	I

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At the commencement of the season one looks around amongst the swimmers, and notices ominous gaps. The stalwarts of last season have departed—and who is to replace them ?

But now come the trial races, and it is comforting to find that, after all, we are no worse off than we have been at the commencement of other seasons. And with the necessary practice, we are bound to improve. So we turn with somewhat easier minds, to face a fixture list that is quite sufficiently formidable.

June	18	v.	Crypt Grammar	School	at	Gloucester.
July	2	v.	Marling School		at	Stroud.
,,	6	v.	Crypt Grammar	School	at	Gloucester.
,,	9	v.	Marling School		at	Gloucester.
,,	13	v.	Wycliffe College		at	Gloucester.
,,	16	v.	Wycliffe College		at	Stonehouse.

The away match with Wycliffe is swum in the open water. Last year the race was held on perhaps the coldest day of the whole summer, and rain fell steadily all day. One needs to be a swimmer of the true sporting type to appreciate this sort of thing.

The race for the Hartland Championship Cup this year promises to be an exciting affair. At the time of writing, our five fastest swimmers—G. L. Clutterbuck (capt.), N. M. Chivers, R. G. Box, C. D. Bingle and J. F. Vance, are so level that in a 55yds. race not one of them is a couple of seconds faster than another. It will be no runaway race for anybody. The distance in the Championship Race is four lengths (110 yards).

Last year our Life-Saving Class was very successful, all the ten entrants gaining their Proficiency Certificate. This season ten boys again enter for that award, and one, G. L. Clutterbuck, for the Bronze Medallion of the Society. The medallion examination is by no means a simple affair, but we are all hoping to see the captain get that bit of bronze !

The Club is very fortunate in having for its Hon. Instructor such a competent man as Mr. Wallace Smith, well-known both as a playing member and an official of the Gloucester City Club. No instructor could be keener than Mr. Smith. Let us hope that the Class will give him his reward.—Passes, II. Failures, o.



Several very enjoyable excursions were made by the members of the Rambling Club, on Saturday afternoons, during the Summer Term of last year. The chief places of interest visited were the Seven Springs, the Roman bath at Witcombe, Birdlip, Horsepools Hill, Painswick Beacon, and May Hill.

Below we insert two essays written by members of the Rambling Club.

An Excursion to Seven Springs.

Early last week the Club decided that on Saturday. May 16th. it should make its first excursion to the Seven Springs, the source of the Thames. With longing eves and fearful hearts did we watch. Wednesday's, Thursday's and Friday's rain come down in torrents, but when Saturday morning came it was evident that a fine day was in store for us. It had been decided that Hucclecote tram terminus should be the meeting place, and thither about 2.30 p.m. the Club repaired to the goodly number of twenty-five. Our party then commenced the walk with the exception of Messrs. Darch and Moody, who were deputed by the Head to wait for the next car, and to bring any late members up with the party. They (bringing with them Bridges), quickly rejoined us, and we started in good earnest. Nothing worthy of note occurred, till, when nearing Brockworth, we heard a shout, and looking behind we saw Mr. Benfield, hatless, his cap hanging from his lamp support, bearing down on us at full speed. He quickly dismounted and joined the party. A little way past the Cross Hands, our Mathematics master signified his intention of remounting and riding as far as the inn at the junction of the Birdlip and Oxford Roads, where he left his bike and again rejoined us. After proceeding a little way up the Oxford road, we struck across the fields, and after traversing many paths and climbing numerous stiles, we reached the road at the foot of Crickley Hill. From this point the real ascent began. On the top of Birdlip we saw a man signalling. and we also perceived many motors and carts ascending and descending the Cheltenham-Birdlip road. A feature of the road on which we were travelling was the abundance of water, and at every opportunity our little pace-making party of seven washed itself and drank some water. The further we ascended the road the more beautiful did the scenery become. On the left hand the heights of Birdlip stood, barrier-like against the sky, and on the right towered above us the great mountain-like mass of Crickley.

23.

the two combining to form a truly grand and Alpine-like scene. There was not one of the party who was not impressed by the beauty and grandeur of the hills which towered up on either side of us. As our pace-making party advanced, a vigilant watch was kept on those behind to see that they did not gain on us, as we were determined to keep the lead. Soon after leaving this grand scenery, the road entered a gorge, and after passing through this we found ourselves at the "Air Balloon," an inn situated at the crossing point of the Oxford and Birdlip roads. At this point we noted on our left a wide expanse of park-land, and close to the road a cricket match was in progress. Pursuing our way, a grove of trees hid the players from us, and at the same time the scenery began to change a little. We had now reached the highest point of the route, and we could now look down on all the beautiful valleys that surrounded us. In the North-East the sandy sides of Leckhampton were easily distinguishable, and we could just see the top of the Devil's Chimney, but we perceived no smoke issuing from it, and therefore we could only arrive at one conclusion. Passing on, the road opened out, and Holywood, the residence of Mr. Bubb, appeared, its turreted tower rising boldly from the main fabric. Attached to this mansion is a vast expanse of park-land, comprising many hundreds of acres. From this point the Springs are three miles distant. We now began to step out sharply, and at 4.45 p.m. we reached the Springs. Around the Springs is a stone wall, overgrown partially with ivy, and on which are cut many hundreds of names. The principal spring can be seen bubbling up from beneath the road, and another is seen in the corner of the wall. Around the Springs are trees, and from under these the water can be seen dripping down into the little stream. Above the stream, and inserted in the wall under which the stream makes its exit, is a block of marble, on which are the following words-" Hic tuus O Tamesine, Pater Septengeminus Fons," which, being translated, is "Here is thy Seven-Springed Fountain, O Father Thames."

Around the Springs we sat down to partake of what we had brought with us, the Headmaster also in the meantime passing round a bottle from which each drank some Thames water. Mr. Benfield kindly produced a bag of muscatels, which he passed round. Some of the boys set up some old insulators, and aimed at them, while others climbed trees, and one a telegraph post. After a few tadpoles had been caught, the party commenced the return journey. As we passed along the road we noticed that each telegraph post was being duplicated, that is, the old posts were being taken down, and two stronger ones fixed together were being substituted for them. The return journey was made much more quickly than the outward, and we soon arrived at the cross roads, where the cricket was still in progress. In descending Crickley Hill a little rivalry was experienced between our advance

party of seven and three others who were following us, but when we reached the bottom of the hill we could not see them, and naturally thought we had distanced them. At this point we turned into the fields, where we watched some men shooting. But one of our number happened to look behind and there were our opponents right upon us. There was only one thing to do, that was to run. But our opponents caught us up and three of the party dropped behind. We now made a bold dash for it, and in the last field we got besmeared with mud on some muddy ground, but still we kept on, and seeing that we were not followed we ran faster and were soon on the main road. When we came to the Cross Hands we saw a G.W.R. Road Motor. Resuming our way we got to the terminus at 7.35 p.m., and from there dispersed after an enjoyable and pleasant outing.

E. GAZE.

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A Walk to Painswick.

Saturday opened with promise of a very favourable day. Towards the afternoon the sky took on a beautiful deep blue, and the clouds which dotted it here and there seemed to be perfectly still. When the members of the Rambling Club met at the Tuffley terminus the sun was shining down on us in a way which bade fair for a very hot day.

The "pacemakers" of last week were repentant, and kept well in the rear, which position gave them as much pleasure as their former "pacemaking."

As we walked along the Stroud road the prospect broadened out into a beautiful valley and the thickly-wooded hills of the Forest of Dean beyond. Right away behind us rose the majestic range of the Malvern Hills, while to the south-west we saw the misty expanse of the Severn.

Passing Whaddon Schools we came to the fine avenue of trees, at the end of which is the Whaddon Church. Near the trees we noticed a portion of ground enclosed by a hedge. This is called a "'pound," that is, an enclosure in which stray cattle may be placed, until they are claimed.

Our party had by this time divided into three smaller parties. About halfway between Whaddon and Brookthorpe, the last party lost sight of the second party, but soon after found them carrying on military manœuvres. From behind a steep bank on the side of the road, this warlike band made a daring attack on the rear division as they passed.

From here onwards we now and again got glimpses of the landscape, and each revealed new beauties to our view.

Passing through Brookthorpe we reached a long and beautifully

shady avenue of chestnut trees, which led up to the top of Horsepool Hill. About half way up we found a gate opening out on to a bank, from which we obtained an extensive view of the surrounding hills. After a little rest on this bank we pursued our way, leaving two of our number to the pleasures of botanising in the hedges at the bottom of the field.

Arrived at the top of Horsepools Hill we found a few of the boys already there. Being concerned about the absence of the two botanists, we were consulting about the matter when their appearance was announced. The village which we had now reached was a very pretty place called Edge. From here we could see our destination, the beautiful village of Painswick, with its church spire towering above the surrounding houses. Passing down a steep narrow lane we arrived in Painswick at the gate of the churchyard. Painswick church is a very old church, but its chief point of interest is its magnificent peal of bells. Some years ago it had the distinction of beating the world's record for bell-ringing.

We then took refreshment, but as there was not enough accommodation for us all at the place where we had tea, some of us went to visit the stocks.

After spending about half an hour in Painswick we started on our return journey. We passed through some woods, and came out on the golf-links, where we sat and admired the scenery.

It was an enjoyable journey which we had across to the Beacon, some climbing up the sides of stone quarries, and running across open spaces, every now and again stopping to admire the country, and to pick flowers.

The Beacon, we found, was an elevated point, around which had been constructed two lines of fortifications, probably of British origin.

Descending the hill we entered the Cranham Woods, where the trees seemed to be bathed in the golden light of the setting sun.

When we reached Portway we kept on the road till we reached the Recreation Grounds, not stopping except at the place familiarly named the "tuck shop," and well known to school boys.

Crossing the grounds we again reached the road, and turned our faces towards home, beguiling the time with pleasant talk until we reached the parting of the ways.

Thus ended a most enjoyable half holiday, in which we not only enjoyed ourselves but we learnt that we need not go out of our own county to find scenery of the grandest and most beautiful kind.

C. JOHNSON.



Cambridge Local Examinations, July, 1908

SUCCESSES.

SENIOR :

Passed : H. W. HAWKINS.

JUNIOR :

Class I, Honours : W. E. DANCE.

Class II, Honours : L. A. H. DAVIS, T. S. VINCENT.

Passed : A. R. Cole, F. W. Cox, E. J. Franklin, E. Gaze, C. M. C. Johnson, W. E. Moody, R. J. Morgan, E. R. Murray, M. C. Perrett, W. G. Phelps.

:: PRIZE LIST ::

SPECIAL PRIZES.

W. E. DANCE ... Given by the Cambridge Local Examination Committee for passing in Class I., Honours.

H. W. HAWKINS .. For Dramatic Art.

FORM PRIZES.

Form V. W. E. DANCE. Special Merit : W. E. MOODY, T. S. VINCENT, L. A. H. DAVIS.

Form IVA. R. F. PHILLIPS. Special Merit: W. PROBVN, F. P. R. COTTON.

Form IVB. W. WALKER. Special Merit: L. N. BRIDGES, E. G. BRUNSDON.

Form IIIA. A. F. KIDDLE. Special Merit: R. F. DANCE.

- Form IIIB. A. E. HILL. Special Merit : W. H. EVANS, H. G. BACHE.
- Form IIA. R. D. MARTIN. Special Merit : C. C. DRAPER.
- Form IIB. H. BROOKING. Special Merit: C. C. GOUGH.
- Form I. R. P. PURNELL. Special Merit : T. L. DEWY.

MATHEMATICS.

- Set V. W. G. PHELPS. Special Merit : W. E. DANCE, W. E. MOODY.
- Set IV. L. N. BRIDGES, W. PROBYN. Special Merit: R. F. PHILLIPS, A. E. PRICE, W. WALKER, W. ROBERTSON.
- Set III. R. F. DANCE, L. T. C. HAYWARD. Special Merit: A. F. KIDDLE, A. E. HILL, H. G. PEGLER,
- Set II. C. C. DRAPER, C. C. GOUGH. Special Merit: A. J. KNOWLES, H. WASLEY, V. U. OLDLAND.
- Set I. F. K. WILSON. Special Merit: C. H. WIMBLETT.

ENGLISH.

- Set V. W. E. MOODY. Special Merit : E. GAZE, T. S. VINCENT, W. E. DANCE.
- Set IV. S. A. BLACKMORE, E. G. BRUNSDON. Special Merit: R. F. PHILLIPS, W. WALKER.
- Set III. W. H. EVANS, N. C. SMITH. Special Merit : A. E. HILL, A. F. KIDDLE, R. F. DANCE.
- Set II. F. B. ASH, V. U. OLDLAND. Special Merit: F. S. SIMPSON, H. BOOKING, L. H. CHIVERS.

LANGUAGES.

L. A. H. DAVIS, A. E. PRICE, T. S. VINCENT, E. W. TROTMAN.

SCIENCE.

F. P. R. COTTON, M. C. PERRETT.

28

ART.

R. J. MORGAN.

WOODWORK.

L. E. GODDARD.

SCRIPTURE.

E. GAZE, R. M. LEWIS, L. M. STARR.

SPORTS.

BATTING :	D. C. WARNER	Prize given by School Sports Club. Medal given by Mr. H. A. Barnes.
BOWLING :	H. W. HAWKINS	Medal given by Mr. H. A. Barnes.
FIELDING :	A. L. CROWE	Medal given by Old Boys' Club.
SWIMMING :	S. P. DARCH	Winner of the Hartland Championship Cup.
		Medal given by School Sports Club.
DIVING :	G. L. CLUTTERBUCK	Medal given by Old Boys' Club.

The following have gained

Certificates granted by The Royal Life Saving Society

for knowledge in the Rescue of Drowning Persons, and in rendering aid in resuscitating the apparently drowned :—

W. R. BISHOP.	C. H. Box.	C. BINGLE.
N. M. CHIVERS.	G. L. CLUTTERBUCK.	F. P. R. COTTON.
A. L. CROWE.	S. P. DARCH.	Н. А. КОАСН.
	J. F. VANCE.	

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The Assembly Room in the Guildhall was, as usual, crowded. Many people had to be satisfied with standing room ; whilst over two hundred others, being less fortunate, had to be turned away. We were very well favoured in having the room so artistically decorated, the decorations for the County Ball being specially left hanging until after the Thursday of our gathering. Alderman E. Sidney Hartland presided. He was supported by the Mayoress of Gloucester, who most graciously consented to distribute the prizes ;

30

many of our Governors, and our Headmaster, who, after a brief introductory speech by the Chairman, read his annual report. He pointed out that we are still in our "probationary" period, and that we must not expect any too striking results for a year or two; although, at the same time, he was able to report of some really first-class work being accomplished by boys in the school. Reference was made to our "Locals" successes, to the report of the examiner appointed by the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board, to some changes and improvements introduced into the school curriculum, to the institution of our VIth Form, to the various branches of sports, and the report concluded with an expression of thanks to the Governors for all that they have done for us. The proceedings were interspersed with musical selections by our boys. The musical programme was as follows :—

SOLO AND CHORUS	" Play Up "	Eaton Faning
PART-SONG	"The Stilly Night"	Irish Air
LULLABY	H.	Walford Davies
Solo and Chorus "	Land of Hope and Glory "	Edward Elgar

Members of our VIth Form gave us a very creditable and realistic production of five scenes from Julius Cæsar. The dramatis personæ was :—

JULIUS CÆSAR				W. E. MOODY
MARK ANTONY, friend		ar		H. W. HAWKINS
CALPURNIA, Wife to	Cæsar			R. J. MORGAN
MARCUS BRUTUS			1	T. S. VINCENT
CASSIUS				E. GAZE
CASCA	Con pi	rators		S. A. BLACKMORE
TREBONIUS	agai		{	R. T. GUEST
DECIUS BRUTUS	Julius	Cæsar		D. J. ROBERTS
METELLUS CIMBER				E. R. MURRAY
CINNA			1	W. G. PHELPS
PUBLIUS, a Senator				C. M. CAMERON
A SOOTHSAYER				C. M. C. JOHNSON
LUCIUS, Servant to I	Brutus			W. E. DANCE
SERVANT to Cæsar				M. C. PERRETT
CITIZENS OF ROME				COX, W. EDWARDS,
CITIZENS OF ROME	L. A. H.	DAVIS	, C. D.	AY, E. J. FRANKLIN
A mmonth A store	(' W.	A. T. 1	PROB	YN, A. H. ROWLES,
ATTENDANTS	1	F. J.	SPR.	ING, L. M. STARR.

The Mayoress thereupon distributed the prizes, and was presented with a choice bouquet of pink carnations by H. W. Hawkins, representing the School. After various votes of thanks were proposed, seconded and passed with loud acclamation, the gathering separated in the usual fashion !



Stamp Collecting.

"Why collect stamps? That is a child's pastime!" How often has this remark been made; and yet, although schoolboys most probably originated the idea of collecting used postagestamps (all the more honour to them) it cannot be strictly called a " child's pastime," when we read that men like our most respected and beloved King, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Baron Alphonse de Rothschild, his Honour Judge Philbrick, and a multitude of other important personages, including many crowned heads, have spent, not only a part of their fortunes, but their lives and powers in the pursuit of this most interesting and instructive hobby. Furthermore, in this particular case, are not our readers schoolboys ? And, be it understood, this article is not written for the wealthy expert Philatelist, but for the average boy, with the average weekly allowance of pocket-money; for we need not be millionaires in order to amass guite a respectable collection of these otherwise useless scraps of paper. Again, those of us who are least favoured in regard to purchasing means need never despair of triumphing over our wealthier rivals, to whom everything instinctively drifts. On many an occasion has the poor amateur dropped on a find in the hands of someone delightfully uninspired and behind the times.

Now! I have used a term which some of us may not understand. I have just referred to the Philatelist. He is the man who studies Philately; and this is neither more nor less than the technical name given to the collection or study of stamps. The word is derived from two Greek words, meaning "fond of exemption from tax," i.e., a lover or collector of objects which indicate freedom from tax. It was first suggested by M. Herpin, of Paris. in 1865, and is now almost universally adopted by stamp-collectors. I will now endeavour to justify my styling stamp-collecting as "a most interesting and instructive hobby." A knowledge of History and Geography may be diffused in an easy and agreeable manner by means of the stamp, and its educating influence is not affected by technical minutiæ. In simpler words, it is the common or garden stamp, the stamp to be picked up for a copper or two, that is of especial interest and educational value. A very large proportion of the most artistic and picturesque examples are not amongst the rarest, which may have been the outcome, in some instances, of accident or caprice. Take as illustrations the stamps

of Costa Rica, San Salvador, Uruguay, the Congo State, North Borneo and Tonga, and the ordinary United States issues with striking realistic portraits of eminent Americans. As a matter of fact, if we were to place two albums before anyone, save an expert the one containing the stamps that fetch the highest prices, and the other, ordinary stamps, not including any of the expensive varieties, he would undoubtedly prefer the latter.

In stamp-collecting we are continually receiving striking lessons. in the recent social and political history of nearly all States in nearly every part of the world. For the fortunes and vicissitudes of these Powers, both great and small, we have to look no further than our Stamp Albums. We behold there Monarchies overthrown by Republics, groups of States consolidated into Monarchies. some Powers parting with territory and others acquiring it, and again, obscure and remote Governments, which in the fifties, had no medium of this kind, in possession of postal representation on a regular scale, and of no mean artistic pretensions. We claim for stamps that they form a sort of royal road to historical and geographical knowledge, not that the mere possession and study of an album will enable anyone to dispense with other methods of learning; but because, in the process of collecting, constant reference to dictionaries, historical, geographical and biographical works is found useful, if not absolutely necessary. In the same way and sense, stamp collecting proves instructive in other directions; for its monuments often display upon them the fauna, the flora, and the physical features of the country of origin. Nor isits value less from the artistic point of view. The person who sees not a particle of interest in postage stamps as such, cannot deny that many of them possess considerable artistic merit, are charming in design, and beautiful in execution. Beauty in design, and excellence in engraving are conspicuous in some of the earliest issues, those of our own country, for instance. Added to this, in days gone by, the postage stamp was, in the majority of instances, the actual product of the region of issue and illustrated the state of Art in that country. Many a father, educated in his day at Eton, Rugby, St. Paul's, or Merchant Taylors', is only now beginning to suspect his geographical or historical knowledge of incompleteness : and that, by being invited, or inviting himself, to sit down and peruse the pages of his son's stamp Album. But there is even more ! In any intelligent boy the habit is likely to be engendered of observing and detecting minute differences in objects which at first sight seem identical. It also teaches the method of arranging in proper order, and according to the best system a more or less extensive assemblage of objects, all of the same class, yet all in a manner various.

So much for the many advantages to be obtained by devoting our time and energy to "Our Hobby."

As to the originator of the use of the postage stamp in Great

Britain very little can here be said. The whole question is much too complicated for us to discuss. Suffice it to say that there are some amongst us who can well remember the introduction of the penny postage. And we know that the birth of the stamp almost synchronised with the institution of the "art" of Philately. A Mr. Stead, of Yarmouth, is generally believed to have been the first to propose the employment of the postage stamp in England as it is at present understood ; and every boy knows that it was in 1837 that Sir Rowland Hill brought the matter under the notice of the House of Commons. The idea was adopted in 1839, but was not even in rough working order till 1840. After a close study of the subject, one has to conclude, however, that no system of prepaying postage by means of stamps emanating from this country during last century can, strictly speaking, be called original.

It is amusing to read what the people thought of the stamp in 1840. On May 25th of that year a lively young brother wrote to his sister as follows :--- "Have you tried the stamps yet ? I think they are very absurd and troublesome. I don't fancy making my mouth a glue-pot, or rather slobbering over Her Majesty's back. This, however, I should say is about the greatest insult the present Ministry could have offered the Oueen." There's gratitude for you ! As mentioned above, we see that the idea of collecting used stamps entered the minds of people soon after the introduction of the stamp itself. As early as 1841 the "Times" printed an advertisement, inserted by a young lady, asking " if any good-natured person" would assist her in her "whimsical project "; to wit, "to cover her dressing room walls with cancelled postage stamps." And in "Punch" of the following year, we read, " a new mania has bitten the industriously idle ladies of England. . . They betray more anxiety to treasure up the Queen's heads than Harry the Eighth did to get rid of them."

Now that the desire of collecting has undoubtedly been implanted in the hearts of some, and the ardour already present in others whetted, how are we to proceed to execute these most noble aspirations ?

The truest and most profitable, as well as the most generally practicable plan of collection, is to study completeness and condition as far as possible, and to leave the niceties and subtleties to such few as can afford luxuries lying a little outside the line. The first important point for a commencing amateur to determine is, whether he will form a general collection, or confine himself to the stamps of some particular country or region. He must also make up his mind whether he intends to devote his attention to adhesive stamps alone, or whether he will include stamped envelopes, wrappers, post and letter cards, i.e., postal stationery. I would advise boys, at the outset, not to invest in any kind of Album, but to place their stamps in envelopes, or a penny exercise-book,

and wait until they possess an assortment of three or four hundred. varieties, and by this time they will find that they have gained a considerable amount of general information and knowledge, which will enable them the better to accurately classify their treasures, and protect them from the possibility of being deceived on advancing to the slippery paths of barter, and their attendant chicanery. I now hasten to add another "tip"! Don't attempt to glue or paste your stamps bodily into your Albums! Use some sort of "mount!" Post Office stamp-paper cut into narrow strips of the required size will perform the duty admirably. The signal advantage of this new method of mounting the stamps with gummed slips of paper obviously lies in the facility with which the specimens may be removed, if required, and indeed, the whole collection may be transferred to another book when ampler space has become indispensable. Again, in removing the portion of the envelope adhering to the stamp, damp the stamp itself as little as possible, since the application of moisture is detrimental, if not fatal, to the colours, as in some of the issues of Russia and Cashmere. Now for a case in point, to illustrate what I have said ! My own album (the first one) was absolutely ruined by neglecting the above pieces of advice. Here is the story ! I purchased a shilling packet of stamps, "all different," expended two more coins of similar value on a Whitfield, King and Co's. album, worried the life out of the domestic to make me a cup of paste, sat down with my booty and completed the task in less than an hour : in the course of which, I, of course, came across several stamps which bore nothing on their surface to, in my then deplorable state of pigheaded ignorance, give me any clue as to their respective nation-The result was that the allocation of the squares was alities. ridiculous and inaccurate in the extreme. Nor was this the only mistake made, for I would fill one complete line of spaces with stamps of different issues and, on various subsequent occasions, would purchase stamps similar in nationality and issue, but of different value to those already pasted in. These latter, I. of course, pasted in any available squares, giving no heed to arrangement or symmetry. Needless to say, the album was a perfect sight! For instance, to take one page, in the top line I would have a 10 cent American of a certain issue, then in the second line would appear a 2 cent, and maybe in the bottom corner a 5 cent. all of the same issue. In attempting to rectify these errors by unsticking the stamps, I soaked, tore, and finally utterly destroyed. the album, as well as the majority of my precious stamps. And, last, but by no means least, I forfeited my next month's pocketmoney for endeavouring, unwittingly, to paste to the breakfast table its handsome and valuable cover-a wedding present! Experentia docet ! This anecdote has run to more than its intended length ; but I hope it has impressed upon the reader's mind the importance of the advice which led to its being related. Again I remark, don't be in a hurry ! Wait a little until you have a
general idea of the appearance of the commonest of the current and recent issues of most countries of the world !

Lastly, how are we to know that the stamps on which we have spent our earnings are genuine, or mere "fudges" ? In the first place, the existence of a legitimate post-mark is almost the sole criterion of genuineness. Therefore, for the absolute novice, it will be safer to restrict his aspirations to used specimens, for it is not too much to say that the market is stocked with beautifullycoloured complete and unused sets of stamps-in especial, of those of San Salvador, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Nicaragua Bolivia and North Borneo. Another test usually employed by the amateur is to see if the colours hold by soaking the stamp in water, or some more stringent liquid. In a word, this is altogether a useless and destructive method and one to be condemned. I would rather advocate a study of the water-marks and gauge of perforation (i.e., the number of perforated holes in the space of 2 centimetres). The wholesale dealer, who is always abreast of the times, is usually willing to furnish his clients and the public with his advice on any point of difficulty. In passing, it will be just as well to know that the advice is candid and disinterested ! One cannot attach much importance to the exact shade of colour or tint observable in stamps, for the processes of cleaning and exposure to the sun have a tendency to fade and modify the original colour. In conclusion, for those who are already struggling collectors, as for those about to take up this fascinating and inexpensive hobby. my advice is to procure a good catalogue and some elementary handbook, and later, to apply for membership to one of the many Societies formed for the facilitation of intercourse and correspondence between amateurs.

The following books I can strongly recommend :--

" BRIGHT'S A B C DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF STAMPS."

Price 2s.

Published by Bright & Son., The Arcade, Bournemouth.

"STAMPS AND STAMP-COLLECTING," By E. B. Evans. Price 2s. 3d.

Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 391, Strand, London, W.C.



Form Notes

Form VI.-Editor, W. E. Dance.

PROBATIONES.

The members of the VIth were pleased to hear that M. Perrett had been successful in his examination and has now entered the Wilts and Dorset Bank at Cheltenham. We all accord him our heartiest congratulations, and wish him every success in the future. Macte Virtute !

We cannot forget—no matter how much we try—that the "Locals" will soon be as a tale that is told; and Titus Annius is still no more than an acquaintance to many, a mere stranger to most! However, "All's well that ends well."

LUDI.

As the Headmaster recently remarked, the VIth is showing up at cricket this season. Six of its fourteen members have already played for School elevens. And this is not the sum of our glory; for, mirabile dictu, Moody made the huge score of one the other day.

INANIA.

The excessive amount of religious knowledge of a certain Sixth Form boy will be shewn by the following incident. This question was put to him by the Form Master :—" How many persons entered the ark with *Abraham*?" After a full consideration of the question, and a pretended raking of his memory, he replied, " Seven, sir."

Who was established on the principles of Communism?

Who said that it was equivalent to asking for the kingdom ? Form V.—Editor, W. A. T. Probyn.

The Fifth Limerick Competition. Latest date of entry Feb. 30th, 2009. First prize 500 pounds, booby prize 50 stamps, assorted :--

There was a Fifth-former called Pimple,¹⁴ Who looked exceedingly simple, But when construing Cæsar, He proved quite a teaser

Editor's suggestions for last line : (I) And his face became one huge round dimple ; or (2) The weather for broth won't knitting-needles.

We notice that C.....k is becoming fairer every day. Is this due to his religious devotion to the water ? This "blonde" has evidently taken up the brick-laying profession. At least, ask B....s if he hasn't !

Shadgett is our cricket pro,

Clutterbuck our swimming,

Probyn is our sub., and so

Our Form is always winning !

[Ed.: What rot! Change the bowler!!]

I am a youth of fig-tree fame. Please try and figure out my name ! On summer's eve my head does bite ; My waist compares, if Nesfield's right ; I'm told that with my tail '' I yell,'' Ain't that a funny tale to tell ?

My surname's good from tip to toe. My first's a bird ; and all men know

My last : it is a puff-puff Co.

My statue stands on holy ground,

My face with common sense is crown'd !

The owner of this wonderful name offers the handsome reward of ten shillings to any reader who can unravel all the puns, hidden meanings and allusions (classical or otherwise) contained in the above riddle-me-ree.

Who said that "Ma-lot" was rotten ?

Form IVa.-Editor, W. H. C. Clifford.

Chivers has been elected Swimming Captain, and Bingle Cricket Captain.

S...h has been known to call himself an Adjective !

Mr. F. Davies has been striving to give our Form some territorial drill !

"Autem" does not come first.

Form IVb.-Editor, A. F. Kiddle.

E. Dorchester and W. R. Bishop were elected captains of the Form in cricket and swimming respectively for the present season.

Who knows what the capital of our Form is ? Why ! Dorchester, of course.

We should all like to know what the Forum was.

[Ed.: That's a poser for 'em !!!] We are told by our French Master and others that there are more brains in our Form than in the rest of the school put together. Tendering our grateful thanks for their intended kindness, we unblushingly ask, " Is this a compliment ? "

The Bishop and the Dean Danced on a Hill with the Printer and the Archer.

In last term's examinations one of our number made a substantial contribution to geographical knowledge by informing us that "Spheres of Influence are revolving bodies caused by hot air rising from the equator." Form IIIa.-Editor H. D. Coe.

Howlers.

Stirling was where all the kings used to be crowned. It is very noted. A Sovereign is still called a pound Sterling.

The Earth revolves 365 times a day, it gets very hot, and perspires, forming dew.

Oliver Cromwell was the Captain of an Ironclad.

Death is an abstract Noun because it has no life.

The Black Death was the dark whole of Calcutta.

Why is Sir Thomas Rich's School like the letter S?

Because it turns " pence " into " sense."

What is the difference between a School Master and an Engine Driver ?

One trains the mind, the other minds the train.

Form IIIb.—Editor, A. E. Miles.

Peagam Baldwin and Speck have had the honour of playing in the 1st XI. against Cirencester I.

Hall, Cook and Morgan played for the 2nd XI. against Cirencester II., making 3 and 1, 3 and 0 not out, and 11 and 3 respectively; Morgan taking 6 wickets for 18 runs in the 1st innings, and 5 for 14 in the 2nd.

Morgan has been elected Captain of the Form, and Speck Sub-Captain.

Speck and Hall have won their colours at football.

One of the boys in the Form (I will not wention his name) said that an angler was one who went fly-catching. He, however, corrected himself to fly-fishing. The same boy said that the sea was about a mile from the land.

When studying "The Armada," T..... read, "Her crew had seen Castile's black feet."

Form IIa.-Editor, S. F. Davies.

The Swimming Captain of IIa challenges any form in the school to a Team Race of three a side.

Does anybody know who Baby Bunting is ?

What was the joke about W—— finding it painful to sit down one morning in class ?

What boy has for his motto the words " I forgot it "?

Form IIb.-Editor, H. Steele.

RUMOURS.-NOT CONFIRMED.

That W.....'s clock has been regulated.

That on one occasion last week M..... did not bring an excuse for his homework.

That P..... and W..... were seen fighting furiously.

That M... plays the organ.

That R intends to swim the Channel.

That B.... has entered for the next Marathon race.

That L..... scored 5 runs.

That S..... intends sailing to the South Seas.

That H..... was not late for a week.

That IIb intends beating IIa at cricket.

The King Steele feels rather ill and Wilso(o)n be feeling a Little Meek and scarcely Sivell when he has tasted the Roach which the Butler caught (H)earl(e)y when the grass was yet Dewy.

Form I.-Editor, W. R. Mackinder.

THE NURSERY.

REMARKS.

The babies have a Library and an Art Gallery, and are in need of a Museum.

Pat says that he did not "Steele " a " Page " from the detention book.

We ex" Speck"t Hart to bring the "eggies," if he does not, then he will "Merrett" punishment.

The ladies are quite well, both Alice and Topsy.

Who is the "Water Baby"?

RUMOURS.

Our upper ten is composed of Lord Roberts, General Gordon, Admiral Dewy, Sir J. Franklin, Archbishop Dunstan, Little John, Robin Hood, Sheriff of Nottingham, and King John.

That our artist believes in " Early to bed and late to rise."

WANTED.

Soap for our artist.

The boy who put the holly on the chair.

A few young crocodiles and snakes for the museum.

The boy who broke the lamp with the football.



🕒 Henry the Eighth 🕤

A SCHOOLBOY'S ESSAY

Henry VIII. was the greatest widower that ever lived. He was born at Anno Domino, in the year 1066. He had 510 wives, besides women and children. The first was beheaded, and afterwards executed : the second was revoked. She never smiled again. The greatest man in this reign was Lord Wolsev. He was called the "Boy Bachelor," being born at the age of 15, unmarried. Had he served his wife as diligently as he served the King she would not have deprived him of his grey hairs. Henry VIII. quarrelled with Lord Wolsey because he courted Anne Boleyn. He also quarrelled with the Pope because he called him Fido the Offensive, Dandy Lion, and other unpleasant appetites. He also quarrelled with the Monasteries. He pulled down barns and built greater, and the last state of that man was worst than the first. He died on the Field of the Cloth of Gold. His horse trod on a hot cinder, and there was weeping and gnashing of teeth. In this reign the Bible was translated into Latin by Titus Oates, who was ordered by the King to be chained up in the church. It was in this reign that the Duke of Wellington discovered America, and invented curfew bell to prevent fires in theatres. There was also a great fire in London called the Black Death, and after the fire came an earthquake, and after the earthquake a still small voice. Henry VIII. was succeeded by his great grandmother, the beautiful and accomplished Mary Queen of Scots, sometimes called " Lady of the Lake," or the " Lay of the Last Minstrel."

Answers to Correspondents.

- ANXIOUS.—By International Law the Equator is fixed in one place, except during Leap Years, when a certain amount of latitude is allowed. This is the origin of the term "Leap Year."
- CONSTANT READER.—The supposed date is 1666; but it must have been much earlier, as there is very strong evidence of Romans having been educated at the School.
- MONITOR.—First warn him, then give him five hours detention, then sit on his head and wait for medical assistance.
- WANTERNO.—These fractions are rightly called vulgar, because they are sometimes mixed and often improper.

H., K.P., TOM (and others).—Latin was invented by doctors, so that people should not understand their prescriptions.



Compiled by Mr. E. W. JORDAN.

Sir Thomas Rich's Old Boys' Association.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1909.

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E. F. PRICE, Esq.

Honorary Treasurer : Mr. George Romans.

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Auditors :

Messrs. F. H. HOLE and W. H. PICKFORD

Our Association is yet in its long clothes, and still extracts its life and spirits from the bottle ! The membership last year reached the total of 143; but, considering that the subscription is only one shilling per year, this number ought to at least be doubled. May I make a suggestion ? At our next social will every present member present present a new member ? There are many old boys in the City who would willingly become members, if only asked.

The date of the Annual Dinner has not yet been fixed; but it will take place in either October or November. Notice of this will be sent to each member.

The "Old Boys" may obtain this Magazine from Messrs. Harris and Sons, Clothiers, Southgate Street, or either of the Honorary

The first annual meeting in connection with our Association was held in the Central Hall at the School on Wednesday, February 3rd. Our President occupied the chair, and a large number of "boys" was present. A most satisfactory report on the past year's work and the balance sheet were presented and passed. The election of officers for the present year also took place. A very interesting paper was read by Mr. C. H. Dancey on the "Life of Sir Thomas Rich," and after a hearty vote of thanks was passed for the same, all joined in the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow." During the interval light refreshments were served under the direction of Mrs. E. F. Price, Mrs. F. Farmer, Mrs. H. G. Sherwood and Mrs. H. Benfield.

Two Social Evenings were held during the year, both being well attended; and altogether most enjoyable evenings were spent. Our best thanks are due to the members who made the musical portion such a success, and to the ladies for their great help in distributing the refreshments.

The first Annual Dinner was held on October 8th, and turned out a pronounced success. Sixty-eight Old Boys were present, and the unanimous opinion was that it was one of the most enjoyable evenings ever spent by them. Our President added yet one more to his innumerable kindnesses by taking the chair. We had some fine speeches and finer music. The dinner closed with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," with crossed hands.

Our hearty congratulations are accorded to Mr. James Crofts and Mr. F. H. Hole on having gained municipal honours. Also to Mr. W. Johns for having represented his country in Rugby Football. We are pleased to have the opportunity of printing his photograph.



42

Mr. Johns learnt his football at Sir Thomas Rich's School, and attributes his knowledge of the game to the early training he had while at school, being at the time one of the best half-backs playing. He has played for England against Wales, Ireland and Scotland, which is of course the ambition of every Rugby player. The season before last he was the only player to represent his county in every match played. He also holds the unique position of having captained the county team when they lost none, won none, and drew none. In fine, he is one of our "idols" of whom we are justly proud, and a great favourite with the boys, young and old.

The Annual Cricket Match (Past v. Present) was played, and resulted in a win for the "Old Boys."

Two medals were given by our Association for competition among the present boys for Cricket and Diving, and were won by A. L. Crowe and G. L. Clutterbuck respectively.

Our heartiest thanks are due to your President for his many acts of kindness and assistance during the year.

G. L. Preedy has, during his first year of office as a member of the Old Boys' Committee, been presented with a son. Feed the brute !

Messrs. E. James and L. Stanley have passed their examinations and are entitled to A.M.I.C.E.

All boys who went to School with "Tommy" Cambridge will be pleased to hear that he is doing splendidly in Canada surveying for a large Railway Company.

Many Old Boys during the time of Frank E. Gobey will note with pleasure that he has obtained an important appointment under the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, at Newton Heath, Manchester.

Another Old Boy, Rowland Harris, has just taken up a very lucrative and "snip" appointment in Shanghai.

The annual subscription for this Magazine is 15. 6d. Subscriptions can be remitted to the Editor, or to either of the two Hon. Secs. The Magazine is the latest of our ventures, and it is earnestly hoped that every member will do his best to increase our circulation which may very well be colossal.











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