

THE OLDEN NULMEIAN



Fide sed
cui vide.

Credum
in Deo.

The Oldham Hulmeian.

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No. 8.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The current term has been very uneventful except for an unprecedented amount of illness amongst the Staff, and the success of the Play.

Mr. Regan, Mr. Mayers and Mr. Taylor are the only Masters who have not been away, at one time or another, through illness.

We are very glad to have Dr. Potter back after his serious illness, and hope he will enjoy better health than he has done in the past.

The Play was an unqualified success, and reflects the greatest credit on all concerned—from Mr. Albery down to the smallest seller of Programmes or Chocolates.

It is no disparagement of Anthony, Cæsar, and many another, if we say that Underwood, as Brutus, and Greenwood, as Cassius, gave performances of quite exceptional ability.

Ainley played his small part well; the crowd was excellent, Gregg, Potter, Haughton, catching the eye.

The Headmaster has asked us to find space for the expression of his thanks to one and all of those who helped so willingly and so efficiently in various ways towards this success. That which is nearest to hand is sometimes overlooked—so may we, Sir, thank Mrs. Pickford?

As one result, a sum of about £100 will be added to the Building Fund. The results both to actors and audience cannot but be, in our opinion, of very great educational value.

The Final of the House Matches was played on Monday, 20th. After a blank first half, Assheton, with the wind, proved far too strong for Lees. Dale, who scored four of the six goals, shot with amazing accuracy and power. Cartwright kept goal well in spite of the score against him.

We welcome Mr. N. Taylor, who has joined the Staff. Another old Boy, G. T. Lees, has been deputising for Mr. Bulter and Mr. Edwards. A third, viz., J. L. Bradbury, is also Schoolmastering at Worksop College.

We are able definitely to state that Architects are actually engaged on the plans for the extension, and that it is possible that work may begin before the end of next term.

This reminds us that the Headmaster was recently observed on the Lower Field with a band of ready-made surveyors and an ingenious home-made theodolite.

Extract from Manchester Guardian, June 6th, 1921.

Mr. Donald Hargreaves, who, under Mr. R. J. Forbes, continues to make remarkable progress as a Pianist, gave the last of Beethoven's Sonatas with as sure execution and control. This work we consider the hardest of all classical pieces, because it demands every fine quality of execution in a superlative degree. Mr. Hargreaves has still to break through a certain dourness which possibly helps his execution but limits his powers of expression. While every note of the Sonata was heard, and there was the clearest musical understanding throughout, the tone hardly took on the beauty or the fine-spun quality of an ideal interpretation. But we may wait confidently for such things, and meanwhile congratulate Mr. Hargreaves on his great progress and Oldham on its scholar at the College.

Mr. A. L. Hardie played a prominent part at a Concert held at the Town Hall on February 28th.

FROM "OLDHAM CHRONICLE."

"Julius Cæsar."

Grammar School Boys' Successful Effort for Extension Fund.

The Dramatic Society of the Hulme Grammar School, Oldham, undertook a very onerous task in their attempt to give a representation of Shakespeare's "Julius Cæsar" on Friday of last week in the great hall of the School. Fears were entertained as regards the attractiveness of the Play, but judging from the numbers of the audience, amounting in this case to almost 500, and their appreciation of the efforts of the Boys, the latter have every reason to feel proud of their work.

Much of the success of this Play depends on the ability of the Principals not only to bring out the salient points of the Characters they represent, and to see that the Shakespearian line loses nothing

in the utterance, but also to take care that the various incidents, such as the murder of Cæsar and the suicide of Brutus and Cassius, should be marked by restrained and natural acting. The behaviour of the crowd, swayed this way and that by the oratorical efforts of Brutus and Anthony, is also a very important factor in an adequate representation.

To an impartial critic sitting at the back of the Hall, it was a matter of great surprise that members of a Schoolboy caste should have conveyed so good an impression of clearness of utterance, and of something of the actual pleasure it gave the actor in bringing out the rhythm and beauty of the lines allotted to him. This was especially notable in the case of the Principals, Brutus, Cassius, Cæsar and Anthony. The portrayal of the two first-named Characters was undertaken by C. Underwood and M. Greenwood. We need only say that the disinterested idealism of Brutus and the impetuosity of Cassius were well sustained throughout, and especially so in the scene which portrays their quarrel. The acting here attained a very high level and was much above the standard expected of a Schoolboy production. The weaknesses of Cæsar, which are supposed to have been unduly emphasised by the great Dramatist in order to furnish a motive for the action of the conspirators, were very ably brought out by T. Kirkman in his interpretation of the part. The rather exacting part of Anthony in the hands of E. Partington was quite adequate. In this connection we would like to give a word of praise to those who took the very subordinate part of Members of the Roman crowd. In every case their demeanour gave the Principals who had any dealings with them splendid opportunities of rendering their oratorical efforts more impressive and natural. The acting of the crowd was neither too boisterous nor too wooden. With regard to the Female Characters, always a difficult problem to solve in Schoolboy Productions, both G. Lees and F. J. Cooke set about their task with ability, and in neither case gave us any opportunity for amusement at awkward behaviour. It would have been difficult to find a part which would have suited G. Lees better. One of the most remarkable things about the production was the care which was manifested in the preparation of the conspirators' parts by the Boys to whom these were entrusted. Without ability in the portrayal of these Characters many of the scenes lose their significance. In this case the efforts made met with their reward from the point of view of the audience, in that they never allowed the dialogues to lapse or its meaning to escape one's notice.

A special word of praise is due to the Members of the Staff in the persons of Mr. Mayers, Mr. Cape, Mr. Somers Jones and Mr. Taylor, for their assistance in rendering the Play as a spectacle so attractive. The lighting and scenic effects were all that could be desired. The School Orchestra, which by this time has made quite a name for itself, supplied musical interludes which were very much appreciated. Mr. R. H. Albery, as Conductor, has every reason to feel well satisfied with the result, not only from a musical point of view, but also that the untiring energy displayed by Mrs. Albery and himself in the matter of the dressing and staging of the Play met with the due reward of a very enthusiastic approval on the part of the audience. Mr. Smart also gave very valuable assistance in the matter of make-up. We might add that none worked more for the success of the undertaking than Mrs. Pickford and the Headmaster. The latter was mainly responsible for general supervision of stage arrangements and for the success of the lighting effects.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Julius Cæsar		T. KIRKMAN	
Marcus Antonius (one of Triumvirs after the death of Julius Cæsar)		E. PARTINGTON	
Marcus Brutus C. UNDERWOOD	
Cassius	} Conspirators against Julius Cæsar	{ ... M. GREENWOOD	
Casca J. WILLIAMSON
Cinna J. H. HOLT	
Trebonius M. HALLIWELL	
Decius Brutus... }	} Julius Cæsar	{ ... C. SMITH	
Metellus Cimber }			... H. SUTCLIFFE
Popilius Lena		F. MORRIS	
Soothsayer		J. THEWLIS	
Lepidus		G. RAMSDEN	
Titinius		A. D. AINLEY	
Varro ... }	} Servants to Brutus	{ ... R. WALL	
Strato . }			... S. WILLIAMSON
Lucius... }			... V. C. GREGG
Octavius		G. RAMSDEN	
Pindarus (Servant to Cassius)		E. CAMPBELL	
Flavius (Servant to Julius Cæsar).....		W. R. P. LEES	
Calpurnia (Wife to Julius Cæsar)		G. LEES	
Portia (Wife to Brutus)		F. J. COOKE	

Citizens, Guards, Lictors and Standard Bearers.

DALE, BAKER, SHEPHERD, HULME, EARNSHAW, A. J., HADFIELD, HINCHLIFFE, GARNETT, J. H., WALTON, HODSON, POTIER, H., HILTON, J. S., WATTS, WRIGHT, E. F., GARNETT, A. J., WILLIAMSON, K., HARDMAN, F., SWANN, HOUGHTON, KIRKHAM.

O.H.G.S.A.B.C.

A is a Scientist, Lawyer as well,
To disclose his identity this much I'll tell :—
That he for convention does not care a rap,
But plays out-side right in an old brown cloth cap.

B is an Irishman, generally sane,
But his sympathies clearly incline to Sinn Fein.
B is an Ex-Sergeant-Major ; a third
A Mathematician—A tartar I've heard.

C is the man whose benevolent rule
Wins over all hearts in the Junior School
Form V. find another C rather contrary,
But he's awfully fond of S. Baxter's canary.

D is the danger, the risk, that we run
In poking this ribald and libellous fun
At men quite defenceless who cannot hit back,
We ask their kind pardon, It's "Copy" we lack.

With **E** as a Golfer, but few can compete,
His knowledge of Bridge, too, is pretty complete.
If he misses a putt, what a store he has got
Of good Anglo-Saxon ! of French, pas un mot.

F is the friendship that ne'er seems to cloy,
That always exists between Master and Boy.
Some love us so dearly, prepare for a shock,
They stay in our Classrooms till past 5 o'clock.

G's the Caretaker, in charge of a crew
Of "umpteem" Char-ladies, the boiler-house too.
He gets us our dinner, and sees that they lay
All our fires, except on a really cold day.

H are Headmasters. In talking of such
Like Agag tread lightly, and do not say much ;
You'll find, as you live, that they hold all the cards,*
And that they will win, not by inches but yards.

I is for Ireland, whence we have got
A wit and raconteur ; he knows quite a lot
Of Scripture and Latin, but—my Sainted Aunt !
Do not stand too near when he's leading a chant.

The **J**'s bear the sobriquets, Sommers and Spring,
 To Lab. and Gymnasium daily they bring
 So great a devotion, unrivalled in others,
 That, had you not seen them, you'd think they were **Brothers**.

K is the Kitchen—dark chamber below—
 Where they cook the School dinner, a wonderful show,
 A feast for the Gods, of which you all may
 Take your fill—for the sum of One Shilling a day.

L is the man who looks after the ground,
 His knowledge of things horticultural's sound,
 And tho' he's not seen on an ordinary day,
 He'll be there on Saturdays, drawing his pay.

M came from Devonport some years ago
 "A very old hand at the game, don't you know."
 Who, tho' he's conversant with hundreds of topics,
 Is heard at his best when discussing the Tropics.

N is the nonsense that I've written down,
 It's a nightmare to think of the Headmasters' frown,
 As he reads it, askance at the terrible Rhymes,
 Grammatical errors, and metrical crimes.

O is for 'orrible, " orful," and 'ot,
 Describing your fate and your terrible lot,
 For shirking your work or cutting deten',
 Or dropping an "h", or losing your pen.

P's had an illness—a bad one forsooth,
 For I fear he's returned to us minus a tooth!
P. 2. (tell it not) knows more than he ought
 Of monsoons and earthquakes, pancakes and port.

Q or **Q.T.** he should e'er bear in mind,
 Who would from detention immunity find,
 On every occasion. A word to the wise—
 To 9 a.m. Monday this chiefly applies.

R is our midget. He's sylph-like. His face,
 And delicate contours of exquisite grace
 Take up so much room (between me and you)
 That there is no space left for **R No. 2.**

S for the smells that are bad and malodorous
 Coming out from the Lab., and descending all over us,
 I went to see **P**, but a stench so revolting
 Hit me in the face, I thought something was moulting.

T's now on the Staff, from Ashton-u-Lyne,
 He said when a Boy "This is all very fine,
 These men are the limit—They won't let me slack.
 Later on, as a Master, I'll get my own back."

For **U** and for **V** I've two very bad verses,
 So bad that I cannot decide which the worse is.
 I'm sure you would never know what they're about,
 So I think in the 'circs' I'll leave them both out.

In the Army Hut, **W** trains up our Choir,
 He can play on the Psaltry, and Sackbut and Lyre ;
 But I think you'll agree that a noise very rum
 Can be heard, when he tackles the Harmonium.

X is a twister, I'm sure you'll admit,
 I can't think of one single thing that will fit.
 To make up for this (Rush of brains to the head) !
 I'll give you two couplets beginning with Z.

Y are the young of this Establishment,
 Their looks and intelligence all heaven-sent,
 So say all their Parents ; they really should know,
 Who then shall gainsay them, or let out an 'oh !'

To **Z**, which is Zero, our spirits descend
 When sent to the Study our manners to mend ;
 But should we by chance when we get to the door,
 Find it locked, Z is Zenith, and Zero no more.

* This mixture of metaphor is hardly up to our usual literary standard. But we consider that youthful contributors deserve every encouragement. Editor.

Cricket Season, 1921.

The Cricket Captain, who left the School last July, promised to write out the accounts and the scores of the matches, but so far we have not received them.

The batting of the 1st XI. was distinctly weak, although Turner made some useful scores and succeeded in winning the Bat presented by W. W. Brierley, Esq. (an Old Boy), for the best average. Williamson, J., was very useful both with the bat and the ball.

Halliwell bowled very well, and should develop into a really first-class bowler if he does not try and bowl too fast. He has a very easy action, keeps an excellent length, and can make the ball turn on most wickets.

Underwood has a good defence and should try and hit the ball a little harder.

Greenwood was disappointing as regards his batting.

Williamson, A., was the best batsman on the side, but was not very lucky.

Williamson, S., bowled well at times and also made some runs, but not many.

Letham gave promise some time ago of becoming a very good cricketer, but last season he failed rather dismally.

Kirkman ought to be very useful as a slow left-arm bowler.

With the exception of Turner and Williamson A., all the above players will be with us next term, and we hope they will have a very successful season.

Football Season, 1921-22.

ASSHETON HOUSE.

We have not had a very successful season.

Our wins have been conspicuous by their absence, but this is not solely due to the House's play. Certain members, some of whom ought to know better, have a habit of getting in detention whenever there is a House Match; for instance, when we played "Platt" there were only five regular members of the 1st XI. available and we were beaten.

We put up our best fight against "Platt" in the memorable muddy match at the end of the Christmas Term. We managed to draw, although Dale had to retire with displaced muscles.

Strange though it may seem, we have never fielded a full team this season. In some of our defeats, we were distinctly unlucky. Yet we look forward to the future, and trust that we shall make a better show at cricket than we have done at football.

J.W.

LEES HOUSE.

The position of Captain in a Senior House may sometimes be an enviable one, but that is hardly the case this season.

It is scarcely to the credit of the House when, a few minutes after posting up the House Teams, the Captain is surrounded by a crowd of Boys shouting "I can't play; I'm in detention." If Boys would think more of the honour of their House, there would be fewer vacancies in the team. It would be encouraging if "Lees" Boys, who do not play football, would show their interest by coming to watch the games in which their House is engaged. Enthusiasm is very catching; perhaps they could pick up a few ideas themselves. It is a pleasure, however, to be able to say that the team, taken generally, is quite satisfactory. One or two players have the bad habit of keeping possession of the ball too long, and that fault is not excused by its generality. Our forward line is very light, but so also are those of the other two Houses. Hartley and Thwaites left School at Christmas, so our defence had to be re-organised. F. Hardman is our mainstay in the defence, and he generally made a good impression on our opponents. Up to February 15th we scored fourteen goals in four matches (including Halliwell eight, Bullivant four) which is a good "bag." Again, if Boys will think more of "Lees" and beware of detentions, we see a good time ahead for our House. M.H.

PLATT HOUSE.

Although our only claim to distinction at the beginning of the season lay in the unenviable position of the lightest elevens, yet our record is one of which we have every reason to be proud. Our 1st XI. have only lost one match in six; our 2nd have a similar record; whilst on Fixture Matches we have established a lead of 23 points.

As we have been very largely dependent upon our younger players, detention has been an important factor in the games. On October 26th, the only occasion upon which our 1st XI. suffered defeat, of our twenty-eight eligible players eighteen were in detention. I firmly believe, however, that every member has done his best for the House, and if our cricket enthusiasm is no less keen, our prospects are rosy. I must thank the Vice-Captain and the Senior Members of the team for the valuable assistance which they have always given, and which has made my task so much lighter. M.G.

Junior Houses.

BOOTH HOUSE.

We have not been at all successful this Season, and hold the doubtful honour of occupying the bottom position in the Table. We are short of a good Goal-keeper, although Hetherington has filled the post very fairly. The Full-backs, Potter, H., and Wyatt, H., are very resolute defenders, but the Half-backs and Forwards need more speed, and should make a little more use of the passing movement. Halliday, Wrigley, A., and Roberts, are our most promising players. In our first game with "Emmott", who won 7-4, no one played up to the mark. The match with "Gill" was postponed, the next being with "Travis" who were defeated 4-0, probably owing to a weak team with four reserves. "Booth" showed their best form in the last match with "Gill" on a sodder ground; everyone "played up," but luck was against us and "Gill" won by 5 goals to 3.

EMMOTT HOUSE.

EMMOTT v. BOOTH, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th:—This, our first match of the Season, was played on a hard ground with a stiff breeze blowing. Wolstencroft, Fletcher, Hague and Hodson, set the game going in our favour. Score 5-3.

"EMMOTT v. TRAVIS," OCTOBER 4th:—A good game with a fast ball on a wet field. Warner and Royle with two goals each equalised in second half. Score 4-4.

"EMMOTT v. GILL," TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1st:—A very fast game and wearied both teams. Goals scored by Thwaites, Royle and Marner. Match ended in favour of "Emmott." Score 3-2.

"EMMOTT v. BOOTH," TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8th:—The game from the beginning was wholly in our favour. Royle opened the scoring with 3 in close succession. "'Twas a famous victory." Score 7-1.

"EMMOTT v. TRAVIS," TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29th:—"Travis" proved an easy matter. Goals from Royle, Fletcher and Aspin, all gave us a total score of 7-0.

"EMMOTT v. GILL," TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13th:—With our team at its weakest we lost to "Gill." On a field miserably wet, our Forwards were, for once, hopelessly feeble. Score—"Gill" won 5-2. Captain, Wolstencroft. Housemaster, Mr. J. Blake.

GILL HOUSE.

"Gill" has worked strenuously for the championship and would have won it, but for the slackness of its Captain, Watts, who allowed "Emmott" to walk off with two valuable points, because he failed to put up a team sheet on February 21st. Townsley, who was elected Captain in his place, has worked like a Trojan in all the House Matches, and has scored no less than fifteen times.

The Season opened inauspiciously for "Gill," for in the first two matches we suffered defeat at the hands of both "Travis" and "Emmott" (3-6, 2-3). However, the verdict was reversed in the next encounter with these Houses, "Gill" winning easily 6-2, 5-1.

"Booth" was trounced by "Gill" at their first meeting, 11-2; and in the return match we also won 5-2.

The goal scorers for "Gill" in the House Matches were:— Townsley 15, Cheetham 7, Hilton 6, Watts 2, Wright, E. H. 1, Walker 1.

Played	Won	Lost	Goals for	Goals against	Points
6	4	2	32	16	8

TRAVIS HOUSE, 1921-22.

Captain: Denton. During the first half of the Football Season the team was not a strong one, and, I am sorry to say, we occupied the third of the four positions in the Table. However, in the second half of the season we improved considerably, but, as the weather was not very favourable, many matches had to be cancelled on account of frost and rain. Dobson was the best player, and when he was promoted into the Upper School "Travis" lost a very good man. This loss was, however, remedied by the appearance of Cliff and Walton. Wild is generally safe in goal. Hall and Denton work well together and both possess strong kicks. Broadbent, L. is a splendid Centre-half with great promise. Our Forwards are fast, Houghton being a good dribbler.

Denton scored two goals, Bowers and Houghton one each in a match with "Emmott," which "Travis" won 4-1.

Our other victories were the result of individual merit of one or two players rather than the general good play of the team.

"Travis" v. "Gill," won 7-4. "Travis" v. "Emmott," lost 0-9. "Travis" v. "Booth," lost 0-4. Travis v. "Emmott," draw 4-4.

Masters' XI. v. School 1st XI.

December 17th, 1921.

In the absence of Greenwood, Williamson J., was Captain. He won the toss and Mr. Taylor started for the Masters against the wind. The Boys did not show a very bloodthirsty spirit of revenge, but they did not hesitate to use their weight. Mr. Blake scored the first goal of the match with an unexpected shot. Mr. Taylor was showing great affection for the ground, lumps of which obviously increased his weight as he ploughed through the School defence. Two goals now came in quick succession. The first was from Spencer, whose shot bounced from Mr. Jones and ran very slowly into the net. The second came from Halliwell. Mr. Somers Jones made a valiant effort to save, but was just too late with a daring dive. Half-time came with the score—School, 2 : Masters, 1.

The second half was full of thrills. Masters were accidentally tripped up and Boys seemed to slip without reason. Ramsden, the School goal-keeper, was knocked through the goal but he managed to fling away the ball in the nick of time. Kirkman, with a ballooning shot scored a third goal for School. This evidently put the Masters on their mettle. For some unknown reason Mr. Cockell was allowed to outwit several of the School defence and score a goal. Shortly afterwards, Mr. Blake scored another of his unexpected goals.

Play was very keen until the whistle sounded with the score :—School, 3 : Masters, 3.

Note.—At this match 3 6½ was collected for the War Orphans' breakfasts.

J.T. (VI. A).

The Swimming Sports.

The Swimming Sports took place on Monday, October 10th, at the Central Baths, and although the number of spectators was less than that of the previous year, those present showed their interest in the programme by their loud applause, which burst forth from time to time. Perhaps the most exciting race of the day was the Squadron Race, the result being doubtful until Thwaites (Lees House) managed to get ahead, just overcoming Ramsden (Platt House) by a small margin. The victory was thus secured by Lees House.

Thwaites won the Long Dive with 35 feet. He also was the one chosen as the most graceful competitor in the Neat Dive.

Partington was the winner in the Life Saving Competition.

The ever-popular Balloon Race was enjoyed by the Spectators. Singleton, J. was the winner. Partington making a good second.

The putting on of night shirts half-way through the Lighted Candle Race added to the interest of this event. Ramsden was the winner of this event.

It would take up too much space to write down all the Events of the day; so it will suffice to append the List of Winners.

Senior Handicap.—1, Thwaites; 2, Chapman; 3, Ramsden.

Middle Handicap (Final).—1, Swann; 2, Hargreaves; 3, Palmer.

Junior Handicap.—1, Fielden; 2, Spencer.

Long Dive.—1, Thwaites (35 feet); 2, Partington.

Neat Dive.—1, Thwaites; 2, Partington.

Life Saving.—1, Partington; 2, Thwaites.

Balloon Race.—1, Singleton; 2, Partington.

Breast Stroke (Four Lengths).—1, Thwaites; 2, Ramsden.

Lighted Candle Race.—1, Ramsden; 2, Gregg, V. C.

Squadron Race.—1, Lees; 2, Platt; 3, Assheton.

F.W.C. & F.M.

The Library.

The work of the Library has been rather irregular this term owing to the calls made upon the Librarians by other spheres of School life, e.g., the Dramatic Society and the Orchestral Society. However, we have had a fair amount of business, and the Reference Department has certainly not been neglected. We would appeal for more tidiness on the part of the Reference Borrowers. At the beginning of the term, the books were arranged in alphabetical order in various sections (History, Chemistry, Classics, etc.). It would give greater convenience to other borrowers, would give a better appearance to the Library, and would certainly lessen the labours of the already overtaxed Librarians, if the books were returned to their proper places after being used, instead of being thrown about the cupboards at random as is usually the case.

There are again vague rumours in the air that bricks are to be laid in the grounds before Whitsuntide, and perhaps we may hope that soon there will be better facilities in the Library for the issue of books.

We are indebted to N. Taylor for "Modern Chemistry and Its Wonders," T. E. Ashton for "Young England," G. P. Griffiths for "Nada the Lily," "Montezuma's Daughter" by Rider Haggard.

C.V., H.S.

Debating Society.

The departure of Mr. Ridout in July, 1921, left us for the time without the motive power necessary for the continuance of this Society; however, we soon found a worthy successor in Mr. R. A. H. Mayers who joined the Staff in September last, and we are pleased to report that this has been a most successful season. One very popular "re-incarnation" was the Annual (we hope) Tea and Social Evening—of which more later. A membership fee of 1/6 per annum was instituted, and a Syllabus and Rules were issued (the latter are strongly recommended by one who has tried them, as certain cure for mathematics and other such ailments common to Schoolboys).

REPORT OF THE MEETINGS.

The first debate of the session was held on Tuesday, November 29th, 1921, when S. Williamson and Ainley attempted, with but moderate success, to convince the House that "Britain is not now the greatest Country in the World." Halliwell, who opposed, succeeded rather better on account, either of his eloquence or the patriotic sentiments of the members. Sutcliffe, H. seconded the opposition and, after the Chairman (Mr. Mayers) had ably summed up, the motion was rejected by 25 votes to 5.

At the next Meeting on December 6th, Underwood was either brave enough or foolish enough actually to propose that "Dancing for Men is Effeminate." His speech was a satirical out-burst at the expense of members of the male sex who indulge in that excellent sport (we really did not think he was capable of such insulting remarks to his fellow-creatures). Needless to say, the rhetorical powers of the opposers, Singleton and Williamson, S. were not put to any great strain, and the motion, fortunately for the reputation of the majority of Oldham Hulmeians, was easily thrown out by 19 votes to 9. The discomfited proposer retiring with a mind chastened and, we hope, reformed by the timely remarks of the Chairman.

On Tuesday, 13th December, Mr. Mayers presided over a discussion as to the effect, harmful or otherwise, of a vivid imagination on a person's life. Sutcliffe, H., the proposer, must consider himself one of those unfortunate people who suffer from vivid imaginations, seeing that he referred to his own personal experience of the ill-effects of such a faculty in connection with Rugby Football Matches. Coop ably opposed the motion. Thewlis and Partington respectively seconded the mover and opposer. Speakers were few at this meeting and, after the Chairman's summing up, the motion was defeated by 23 votes to 2.

At the Meeting held on Tuesday, January 17th, 1922, we had the pleasure of the company of Mr. W. J. W. Rolt, who had come to fill the vacancy created by the unfortunate illness of Dr. Potter. On the motion of Wall, Mr. Mayers vacated the Chair to give place to Mr. Rolt. Cooke then proposed the motion that "The Happiness of the Human Race decreases with the spread of Civilization." He gave a good lecture on the mentality of Savages, and scored a great point by his mention of income tax as one of the worries of the Modern Man, unknown to Prehistoric Savages (had he forgotten "jumpers"? but, pardon Mr. Editor, of course he would not know anything about such things). The opposer, J. H. Holt, gave us a beautiful and touching sermon on "Missionaries and Things." A number of members spoke in the discussion which followed; the Chairman ably summed up and the vote resulted in the rejection of the motion by 18 votes to 5.

On the 24th January, Morris proposed that the "Disarmament of Navies is a necessary step towards the establishment of a World Peace." Wall ably opposed. Williamson, S., famed for the brevity of his orations, upheld his reputation. Smith, C. murmured agreement with the opposition, but rather failed to impress the House with the validity of his arguments. Amongst the speeches that followed, that of Mr. Rolt is especially worthy of note. The motion was adopted by 18 votes to 4.

There was a small attendance at the next meeting on January 31st, when Thewlis, J. proposed that "Anonymous Journalism should be prohibited by Law." He was seconded by Smith. The combined efforts of the opposer and his seconder, viz., Partington and Halliwell, which consisted in a collection of high-sounding and grandiloquent phrases, rivalling, as the Chairman remarked, the thunder of a Greek epic, completely overwhelmed the proposers and the motion was voted out by 17 to 4.

A large number of members were present at a discussion on "Vivisection" on February 7th, opened by Lees, G., and presided over by Mr. Rolt. The motion was that "Steps should be taken to prevent the Practice of Vivisection." Cooke opposed. Joslin and Gilbert were the seconders. The motion was defeated by 21 votes to 6. Great consternation was caused throughout the House (it is rumoured that the Secretary fainted) when R— audaciously proposed that, in consideration of the nature of the subject for next week's debate, a deputation from the Girls' School should be invited to come and participate in the same. Cooke saw the danger of an uproar and tactfully interposed by proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Rolt which was seconded by Swallow.

The closing debate of the Session was presided over on February 14th, by Mr. Rolt, when Partington brought forward the motion that "The Present Day lack of chivalry on the part of men is entirely the outcome of the independent attitude of women towards the male sex." The proposer evidently believes in "going to the root of things," for he opened with a reference to Adam and Eve; the rest of his speech, however, was rather uninteresting. Kirkman attempted to oppose. Wall, with the help of a voluminous dictionary, seconded the proposer, whilst S. Baxter sighed his approval of Kirkman's remarks. The speeches of this debate were rather tame, Mr. Mayers being the only person who seemed to know anything about the subject. We are inclined to think that the Committee might have selected a subject with which members were a little better acquainted—how **can** they, with their limited experience, their modesty and bashfulness.....'hem!.....be expected to commit themselves in such a discussion. The penalty for breach of Rule 12 would have been inflicted upon one slumberous member but for his earnest and repeated protestations of innocence.

The Tea and Social Evening.

On Friday, February 24th, 1922, the Debating Society held its "Social Evening" for the first time for five years. About fifty Boys and ten Masters partook, in the Girls' Recreation Room, of a very pleasant tea kindly prepared by Mrs. Pickford, Mrs. Mayers and Mrs. Albery, to whom a vote of thanks, proposed by Thewlis and seconded by Halliwell, was heartily carried. In replying, Mrs. Pickford said that she hoped that this function would be an annual one and that, with Speech Days, Sports and

other such events, we should soon return to the pre-war state of affairs. Immediately after tea, no invitation was needed to the Hall where some games, kindly supplied by Mr. and Mrs. Pickford, were enjoyed by all and sundry. A strenuous game of Table Hockey took its toll, though no serious casualties were reported; in another part of the room the calmer people indulged with varying success, in attempts at Table Bowls. Some took "Pot-luck" and won, whilst others did the same and lost; the game of "Sherlock Holmes" does not seem conducive to that quiet state of mind in which those world-famous deductions were evolved, and, whilst everyone present admired the elegant waltzing of Mr. Rolt and Halliwell, the state of the Hall did not seem to coincide with one's ideas of a Ballroom. The more musical people were then charmed by a Concert in which the following Artistes took part: Mr. Mayers, Mr. Albery, Underwood, Thewlis, Halliwell and Campbell, and one could have wished for further experiences of the "New Waiter" in a short dialogue by Sutcliffe and Morris.

There had been ominous disturbances, explosions of a varied character, peculiar smells and other sinister signs in the region of the Physics Lab. during the whole of the afternoon; however, Mr. Mayers put an end to our fears by announcing a series of interesting experiments to be shown in the Physics Lab. by Mr. Albery. There was a rush for places and Mr. Albery entered accompanied by a member of the VI. Form who proceeded to roll up his sleeves to obviate possibility of deceit. His chief office appeared to be to impress the audience with the seriousness of things; at last however, he rose to the occasion and, mounting upon the Lecturer's stool, succeeded, probably by careful mathematical calculation, in stabbing several ascending bubbles of coal gas with a lighted taper, to the obvious delight of the onlookers. The Lecturer gave us a most interesting demonstration upon soap-bubbles of various kinds, monster bubbles larger than footballs being produced after several patient attempts; the entertainment ended by a deafening explosion of some bubbles of Hydrogen and Oxygen produced by Electrolysis. Once more we returned to the Hall where songs were given by Mr. and Mrs. Albery. A most touching rendering of "I'm for Ever Blowing Bubbles," followed by "God Save the King" closed a most enjoyable evening, after Kirkman had proposed a cheer, which was heartily accorded, to all who had contributed to the undoubted success of the occasion.

M.H., C.U.

The Complete Schoolmaster.

We are accustomed, nowadays, to the fashion of indiscreet and startling revelations in high places. Teaching is too monotonous to ask anything startling of a Schoolmaster. He can only give a record of the Eternal Schoolboy.

The first term at a Public School is full of sensations, new and old. Old because the memories of eight years are not easily obliterated in an interval of three. New, because everything is slightly different: how often did I call "Prep." homework in my first month. That one should make mistakes is inevitable: but being only one of several new Masters, I was not alone. The nicknames, the bywords, the School jokes, have all got to be learnt.

Firstly, what's in a name?—At School only an opportunity for a nickname. My first overheard snatch of conversation in the cloister was: "A chap called B——." Later it was (and still remains, I believe,) turned into a shorter and slangier equivalent for the piece of paper issued as legal tender.

If the first task of the Schoolmaster is to lay the paving stones that the way of the transgressor may be hard, it behoves him also like Agag to walk delicately. Assistant Masters have usually a fellow-feeling; Dormitory Masters, though fully convinced that no Boy in their own Dorm. can do wrong, can sometimes be cajoled; even Headmasters are known to be at times amenable to reason. If, however, at a Boarding School we are relieved of the interfering parent, to his young hopeful's delight as well as our own, there are others whose wishes must be heard, such as the Matron and the Infirmary Sister.

I have referred to the Eternal Schoolboy, and of him much might be written. The old gags never die, nor do the experiments to find out how little "Prep" I can be persuaded to set, or how much done will pacify me, or what amusement can be got out of the terrified "oo-ers" when it lightens. For a week it is amusing, but the spell soon wears off. The fountain of howlers is always throwing out some new sparkle, and this brings occasional relief to the tedious marking of papers. A famous waterway was described as the Sewage Canal. What is worth a guinea a box? A Theatre; and crowning work of genius: St. Columba sailed to America, discovered the Cape of Good Hope, and founded tobacco.

Perhaps Masters' Meetings have been the greatest disillusionment. How important the phrase sounded. How I used to long to be present. How I sighed to know what was going on. Little did I think that in reality nothing was going on. Our little parliament is like the real one at Westminster. Either everyone is talking at once, or lengthy speeches are made on matters of no importance. What is useful is passed without discussion for everyone agrees to it.

Nevertheless, with memories of School so recent, seeing the other side of School politics in the smoky atmosphere of the Common Room has not yet lost its charm. Schoolmastering is not light work, despite the Boys' usual belief to the contrary, for it calls at all waking hours; also it is often disappointing, for a Schoolboy is not a machine that turns out a regular unvarying product, but is subject to all the vagaries of the flesh and the spirit. Clearly a Schoolmaster can never be a pessimist, for a pessimist would wither away in a year.

But the longest term comes to an end; the last batch of papers gets marked; the dullest Boy gets packed off home. One can say good-bye to the well-known Classrooms, and the well-worn test books, to Chapel and to Playing Field, and for a month or so be free from that preface to almost everything the Schoolmaster hears, the continual and haunting "Please Sir."

Old Boys' Notes.

Although there has been no outward show of activity on the part of the Old Boys Association, it must not be assumed that it is moribund, but rather that it is passing through its chrysalis stage. The few activities since the war period were merely the caterpillarian crawlings, the winged glory is yet to be.

It has been impossible, for various reasons, to hold any extensive function during the Winter. The subject has been carefully discussed by the Social Sub-Committee, and it was unanimously decided that it would be better to concentrate upon a good programme for next year, rather than to vitiate the Association's resources by promoting an unsatisfactory or unwanted entertainment.

One difficulty which has presented itself to the Officials, is the lack of knowledge on their part of Old Boys who can entertain in any way. There must be many members of the Association

who "Jibe and Joke" or have "A Song to Sing O'" but the point is that they do not do us yeoman service, because we know not their talents. The Secretary of the Social Sub-Committee will be very glad to receive any information on this subject.

The Social Sub-Committee have also been considering an excursion into the country during the Summer. The place, the time and mode of transit have been discussed, and a working scheme is more or less ready, although it is obviously too early to come to any definite arrangements. The Sports Sub-Committee is due to meet in the near future, and it is hoped that at least one Old Boys' Match will be arranged for the Cricket Season. There has long been a feeling that the Old Boys' Association should run a team either for Football or Lacrosse. The whole subject however bristles with difficulties, and the Council feel that only when a concrete and definite demand is made by a section of the Old Boys, sufficiently numerically strong to insure success, will they be justified in undertaking the task. The Sports Sub-Committee will be glad to receive correspondence on this subject, which should be addressed to the Secretary of the Sports Sub-Committee, Hulme Grammar School.

Two members of the Council (Messrs. C. Garfitt and A. M. Cleverley) have resigned owing to their appointment to positions outside Oldham. To both, the Association wishes the best of fortune, and extends its thanks for the many services rendered. Messrs. H. Clough and J. H. Kershaw have been co-opted to the Council to fill the vacancies. The Secretary has received a letter from an Old Boy in New Zealand, Mr. S. F. Colley, who left the School in Mr. Colley is very interested in the growth of the School, and in the activities of the Association. And lastly, this sordid detail:—The Subscriptions have not been coming in quite as quickly as the Treasurer would wish. Don't disappoint him.

Any information about the Old Boys' Association may be obtained from W. K. Slater, Esq., 7, Grendon Avenue.

The Dying Lion.

Defectus annis et desertus viribus
 Leo quum jaceret spiritum extremum trahens.
 Aper fulmineis ad eum venit dentibus
 Et vindicavit ictu veterem injuriam :
 Infestus taurus mox confodit cornibus
 Hostile corpus. Asinus, ut vidit ferum
 Impune lædi, calcibus frontem extudit
 At ille expirans 'Fortes indigne tuli
 Mihi insultare ; te naturæ dedecus
 Quod ferre cogor, certe bis videor mori.

Phædr. Fab. i 21

Idem, anglice redditum.

Worn with age, bereft of strength
 A lion lay down to die at length.
 With flashing tusks there came a boar
 And with a blow paid off his score.
 Soon came a bull with angry horns
 Who with a prod the lion scorns.
 An ass, next, when he saw his foe
 Unpunished let his mockers go,
 Upon his forehead fiercely deals
 A rain of blows with lashing heels.
 " I've borne the insults of the brave
 But you, whom nature made a knave,"
 (The lion thus with dying breath)
 " To bear with you is double death."

W.R.J. (Va.)

To the Editor of the "Oldham Hulmeian."

Dear Sir,

The news that you are about to issue another number of the "Oldham Hulmeian" reaches us at a busy time. The Terminals loom large at our eight-days' perspective; yet we hasten to send you a little reminder from Manchester.

There are still twenty or so Old Boys up at Owen's and, as might be expected, we frequently see each other at various times throughout the day.

We have this year welcomed J. M. Turner and C. T. Mills (Medical), T. Boardman (Engineering), and A. Horrocks (Chemistry). We have, regretfully, lost most of those Old Boys who "got through" last July.

Old Hulmeians may be found in every branch of activity at the University. The Arts' people uphold our flag at Social Functions and at Debate Meetings. If I remember rightly, one of our Old Boys led the opposition at the last General Meeting of the Union.

A few of us are still energetic enough to give a hand at Sport. None of us, however, has succeeded in "catching" a team, with the exception of R. L. Holt, who has played regularly for the 1st XI. at Cricket, 1920-21.

Others expend their energy in rousing up Manchester once a year, when they create scenes and impressions which provide topical conversation for many a tongue-tied traveller and, let us hope, will remain as lively memories.

And now you know a little of what we are doing up at Owen's. If at some later date you will allow us, we might go into some detail concerning the various faculties of the University. However that may be, we hope to welcome more "sparks" of genius next year to keep up the worthy representation that the Old School has lately built up.

Yours sincerely,

L. V. Lecomber.

University Union,
Manchester,
15/3/22.

Answers to Correspondents.

QUERIST.—The book you refer to, viz., "The Tiger's Revenge" is by Claude Legge.

CLASSIC.—There is no evidence of the use of the Petrol Engine by the Romans. Your rendering of the passage is faulty. It should not read "Caesar crossed the river in a ford," but "Caesar crossed the river by a ford."

LOWER V.—It is still uncertain how the Wrist Watch came to be found in the bushes. The theory that it left the Changing Room of its own accord to watch (ugh!) its owner play Football has been disproved. In fact, it is doubtful whether it entered the Changing Room at all.

CHORISTER.—No, you are not within your rights in leaving your Classroom at 3-58; and not attending Choir Practice at all.

SCHOOL DINNER.—The knife should not be used as a means of transport. Peas, in particular, are apt to roll off.

HUSTLER.—We are not in a position to give a definite answer; but we cannot disprove the rumour that builders, surveyors and contractors have been seen inside the School Grounds this year.

BEAU BRUMMEL.—Dirty Luggage Labels are not considered a sufficient guarantee of ownership of Topcoats.

AVIARIST.—We have consulted the School Authority on these charming pets, who is most emphatic on the points: (a) that chestnuts are not the best diet for canaries; (b) that when infuriated they are apt to peck one sharply on the tip of the nose.

LINGUIST.—No, you have not lost your bet. "J'en ai quatorze" is not pronounced "Johnny Carthorse."

Golf.

CLASSICAL V. MODERN.

This Match should have been decided by foursome play over the Werneth Course on Wednesday, February 23rd, 1922. Mr. Cockell and Mr. Mayers were to represent the Classical against Mr. Edwards partnered by Mr. Rolt.

The Classical took the honour (it wasn't theirs) and drove straight down the course. The only quality lacking in this shot was length—the ball finishing close against the face of the tee and giving Mr. Mayers a very awkward second. This was neutralised later by Mr. Rolt's excessive strength, in a short approach, which resulted in his putting the ball "out of bounds." It was unfortunate that he should have happened to hit one in the middle of his club at this critical juncture. The second was halved in a steady 10, and the excitement of the crowd became intense when Mr. Cockell put his tee shot to the 3rd in the gully. However, Mr. Mayers descended into the depths, and setting his teeth, took a shillelah from his bag and, amid the applause of the spectators, played a magnificent shot to within a foot of the pin—only to find on reaching the green himself that Mr. Rolt, walking across the green to play his putt, had inadvertently trodden on his ball. The Professional and Groundsmen were hastily summoned, and excavations were begun immediately. The operations proceeded steadily till nightfall, but the ball had not even then been reached. Classical then claimed the hole and match on a foul but, not being as well versed in the Rules as Mr. Edwards, failed to press home their advantage. After an acrimonious discussion, much mutual recrimination, and much damage to the Club furniture as one of the players became more and more emphatic, it was decided that this match should be declared null and void, and that in future all Classical and Modern Matches be played to a finish—three or, if necessary, five days to be allotted thereto.

From an Old Boy in Singapore.

First of all about my present occupations. I am at the Supreme Court, and have been rather fortunate in getting a technical job (apart from purely administrative work) so early: for, being a Colonial Civil Servant primarily, I am subject to the Secretariat and not to the judicial authorities at the Colonial Office. Never-

theless, as long as I am in the Legal Department, I shall be either in Singapore, Penang or Malacca (all three big towns), Singapore being a sort of Tropical Liverpool. This suits me well as the jungle has no attraction for me.

The Law here is in the form of codes. Everthing is codified, so that it is rather simpler to administer than the law at home. All charges and claims bear "chapter and verse" either of the Criminal, or the Civil Procedure Code, or of the Penal Code or Bankruptcy Ordinance.

The majority of Supreme Court cases at Singapore deal with Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes, Breach of Contract, etc. Quite a lot of Admiralty work is done, also just now a lot of Bankruptcy owing to the rubber slump.

I am working for the Malay Examination at present. It is not a difficult language; the trouble is the script which is Arabic. Also the fact that I have to do it in the mornings. In fact, I do all my private study in the mornings. It's beautifully cool and pleasant between 6 and 9 a.m.

After 4 o'clock, when work ceases, I play golf or tennis. If it is wet I sometimes dance. The 'dansants' are quite the rage here. The necessity for daily exercise is very great in an enervating climate like this. So dancing is the only alternative on a wet night; and we get quite a lot of rain here.

The climate is really astonishing. For the tropics it's quite a "wash-out." I expected something terrible; but while I've been here the thermometer has never been above 86° in the shade. At night its never above 75°. The nights are glorious—so cool and refreshing. 10° less is a great deal when every day, without change, is 86° in the shade.

My own way of spending a night, after dinner, is in motoring, especially if it is moonlight. The moonlight here is twice as powerful as it is in the North; in fact, the moon seems a size larger. The roads are good, and wind in and out of the plantations in a most charming manner. Functions at Government House are rather interesting. There are quite a number of Balls, Dances, Dinner Parties. They are quite spectacular; lanterns on the lawn, band playing, and quite an array of sentries (from white to black) to guard the august assembly.

I have been appointed Visiting Magistrate for April, and shall be engaged in visiting gaols and holding little informal Courts on food, diet, conduct, etc. There is quite a good Library here,

and every Mail brings me the latest novels. I have a Decca Gramophone (like a suit-case) which I make do duty as "Queen's Hall" for me. I'm getting a Piano in the near future—Rome was'n't built in a day—being my motto in connection with domestic arrangements. On the whole it's a good life, altho' there's a danger of burning the caudle at both ends.

George Cruikshank.

George Cruikshank, one of the greatest English Caricaturists, was born in 1792, and died in 1878.

About the year 1820, George was the most able and accomplished caricaturist of his day, but he was always willing to help an artist, inferior to himself. He did not care much for politics, as he was ready to execute woodcuts for any book or any party. Cruikshank's peculiar style and manner soon enable one to recognise his work which falls into three classes, those designed and etched by himself, those designed after suggestions of friends, and those merely etched from the designs of other artists.

After 1848 we see this man of genius at the height of his power, deliberately throw away his opportunities. The cause is not far to seek. He disagreed with his employer, Dickens, a very exacting man where artistic labour was concerned. Cruikshank managed, in a very short space of time, to pick quarrels with the very class of men whom it was his business to conciliate.

One of his first caricatures was entitled "Little Boney gone to Pot." Here the satirist has seated the Emperor (a lean, ragged, forlorn, miserable object) on a huge article of furniture labelled "Imperial Throne." He is in a forlorn condition and is all alone on his island prison (Elba). He is tempted by a fiend who tenders him a pistol—"If you have one spark of courage left" he says, "take this." "Perhaps I may," replies Napoleon, "if you'll take the flint out." By his side we find a pot of brimstone, and numerous medicine bottles. One of the imperial boots mounted on a tiny carriage forms a dummy cannon. It was a sorry libel on the Emperor, whose courage was undoubted.

Another of his caricatures in the book called Greenwich Hospital, is entitled—"Paying off a Jew Pedlar." The unhappy man (who had cheated the sailors), innocent of danger, is seated on a grating with his combs, spy glasses, necklaces, ribbons and the rest of his trumpery before him. The men, who have slyly hitched a rope to the grating, suddenly jerked it and away slides Moses with all his wares into the chasm.

Theatrical Fun Dinner (1841), represents the close of a banquet. Hamlet is already too far gone to know what he is doing ; Shylock and Antonio fraternise ; Othello belabours Iago with a bottle ; whilst a reconciliation is established between Macbeth and Macduff, who chink glasses by way of cementing the friendship ; Sir John Falstaff lights his pipe at Bandolph's nose ; whilst Romeo hands up a glass of something short and strong to his Juliet in the balcony.

In the "Comic Almanack" can be found many examples of his tendency to graphic alliterations. The "Fall of the Leaf" affords a capital specimen of this kind of design. The leaf of the dinner-table has been so insecurely fastened that it falls, burying with it the mistress of the house, the fish, the champagne, a sherry decanter, a vase of flowers, and everything for which it formed a treacherous and unreliable support ; Gibbon's "Decline and Fall" lies in one corner, and the walls are covered with appropriate subjects, such as the "Fall of Foyers", "Falls of Niagara," "Falls of the Clyde," and so on.

The preceding form some of the works of one of the greatest of England's caricaturists, a man who etched and designed for such notable writers as Charles Dickens and Sir Walter Scott.