



The Denstonian.

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EDITORIAL.

ONCE more we draw to the close of a Term, and one which has been clouded with a great sorrow. The death of Thomas Butler-Smith on Sunday, December 4th, who entered the Preparatory School in May, 1909, has cast a shadow on the Term. All who knew him liked him, and the whole school join in sincere sympathy with Mrs. Butler-Smith in their loss.

The Play was a great success, owing to the untiring energy of the Play Committee. We will not, however, dwell on the Play itself here at length, as it will be more fully dealt with in the succeeding pages of this number.

The promising weather which greeted us at the beginning of the term, unfortunately soon deserted us, and in consequence football has been very much interfered with. However, the season so far has not been so disastrous as was to be expected from the bad start made by the 1st Eleven, though two wins in eight matches is not all that could be wished for.

The General Election is causing much excitement in the school, and many very youthful and hitherto unknown politicians are discovered in our midst. Most of them seem at present very bigoted in their ideas, which seem very mixed and undefined, but we must not expect too much from their first dip into politics.

The holidays begin on Tuesday, 20th December, and we take this opportunity of wishing all and sundry the compliments of the coming festive season.

THE PLAY.

I.—DESCRIPTIVE.

It has often been our custom to give a descriptive account of our performance of the Play, showing how we attempted to present it, or what were our ideas and aims. This year, as it was our first representation of *Love's Labour's Lost*, it may be especially fitting that we should enter into some detail.

The Play, then, was arranged in three Acts. The first stated the problem:—could the artificial restrictions of the idealists, the king and the lords, stand the strain of a practical test? The second Act showed how they broke down when they came into contact with the actualities of life. The third Act showed the punishment which the ladies meted out to the aesthetic ascetics for the selfishness which had been the basis of their folly.

Act I. was played in a very pretty setting. Steps on either side of a fountain led down from a terrace along which ran an arcade of clambering red and yellow roses, and flowers and palms stood profusely about the garden. To this characteristically luxurious spot came the pretending students. Pages brought books and wine, and the lords quickly dozed over the studies they professed to follow. The king's approach awoke them, and they each signed his rules with more or less good grace, though the hollowness of their professions was shown by the eagerness with which they welcomed the mention of Armado's name, and the glee with which they looked forward to laughing at his eccentricities, though these were in truth not less ridiculous than their own. Dull brought the guilty Costard, with the letter from Armado telling of his breach of the rules, and Costard having been given into

Biron's charge to deliver to Armado, the students departed. Armado himself then appeared to prosecute his own studies in the same comfortable spot, preceded by Moth bearing an armful of books. Moth's verses, "If she be made of white and red," were sung to the old tune, "Heigh-ho!" and soon Dull returned, having found Armado, to place Costard in his charge. Armado sent him off in Moth's custody, and, sitting down to write a sonnet to Jaquenetta, came across a flower which she had dropped. This changed his mind, and he went off adoring it.

The approach of the Princess and her train was now heard. She arrived in a litter, attended by Boyet and her guards, and with her three ladies. When the lords came to welcome them, it was made evident that the students had quite broken down, and that Biron's prophecy that they would all be forsworn would soon be fulfilled. The ladies, too, were as Boyet said, "infected," and, the Princess having gone to her Pavilion, attacked Boyet for his "love-mongering," until at length he broke from them, and they scampered after him laughing and chattering.

Act II. showed a glade in the park, near it appeared later the place where the deer were hunted, and not far from the village. Poor Costard was in the stocks, Armado sitting near, intent on Jaquenetta's flower, which he presently stuck in his hat, and listening to Moth warbling "Heart's Ease." Costard was released to carry a letter from Armado to Jaquenetta, and had hardly started before Biron also employed him to carry another to Rosaline. The ladies returning from the hunt with bows and arrows, as Jaquenetta crossed with the milk-pails (to explain her appointment as "day-woman"), Costard quickly performed one part of his task, but in doing so characteristically bungled. He delivered the letter written by Armado for Jaquen-

etta to the Princess, under the impression that it was that written by Biron for Rosaline, and Boyet read it aloud much to the amusement of the ladies and the indignation of Rosaline, so that when Costard approached her for a recompense for his trouble, she gave him a sounding smack, instead of the "remuneration" he expected.

The foresters, etc., followed from the hunt, singing, "The Hunt's Up," last of all coming Holofernes, the fat, pompous, self-opinionated schoolmaster; Sir Nathaniel, who was represented as a wizened, deaf, be-spectacled old "pantaloon," and Dull; and Jaquenetta brought to the parson the letter which Costard had delivered to her, instead of to Rosaline, to be read. Nathaniel read it with many blunders, and Holofernes it was who saw from its address and signature that it had miscarried, and who sent it post haste to the king as dangerous "treason." Then, while the trio went off to dinner, the king and his lords, all alike forsworn, came to read over the verses they had composed as love letters, and to be each rebuked finally by Biron with well simulated indignation. At this moment Costard and Jaquenetta brought to the king Biron's own letter, which showed that he, as well as the others, was also forsworn. The complete breakdown of their scheme was the reverse of unwelcome, and Biron readily exposed the folly of their vows, and justified their common apostacy. Arranging them in line as "affection's men-at-arms," he haranged them like a drill sergeant to such good effect, that they quickly determined to woo their lady loves without delay, and to atone for the lack of entertainment they had hitherto shown them by arranging something for their amusement. Hurrying off on this errand they met Armado, and quickly commissioned him to provide a performance that very evening. Armado presently consulted with Holofernes and

Sir Nathaniel, who had finished their dinner, and had returned to the stage wiping their lips with their dinner napkins, accompanied by Dull who had brought with him a tankard of, presumably, ale, and who sat quietly quaffing it and smoking a long pipe at the back. The village boys accompanied Moth, and some of them played pranks on Dull, and even stole his tankard while he dozed, and gave Costard a drink, and much amusing and unobtrusive bye-play was thus provided. When Armado spoke of the schoolmaster's educational work "at the charge-house," the boys broke in with their Latin Grammar rhymes, and at the end of the Act, when Dull mentioned the old English Dance, the boys buckled bells below their knees, and with sticks in their hands danced the "the Hay." It was a very effective "Curtain," and being well done, received well-deserved applause.

The Third Act showed the Princess and her ladies in their pavilion, a large tent hung with heliotrope and yellow draperies, the curtained opening being at the back. Roses hung on the sides, plants were placed in the corners, and candle-brackets helped to make up a scene which was universally admired. The scenery for Act i. was very largely our own work, and that for Act III. was entirely so. Guards were posted, and page boys, one playing a guitar and the rest singing, sat upon the steps which led down from the entrance of the tent. The ladies were sitting on the right, looking at the gifts which the lords had sent them, and as the song ended, further presents arrived. Anon came the four lovers, grotesquely disguised as "Russians" and masked, preceded by Moth as their herald. The ladies rapidly changed jewels and donned their masks, and having snubbed the "Russians," the latter retired ignominiously, only to put their heads through the curtains, and to beg for re-admittance

Again, however, they were dismissed, and returning in their own proper habits, were again mocked by the ladies' raillery. Then came the Pageant of the nine worthies. Each worthy entered to the strains of tabor and pipe, appropriately decked in grotesque armour, and accompanied by attendants bearing lights, the meek little curate with an enormous false nose, which gave him sad trouble, and Moth with a huge and ferocious snake, with which he made good play until it got entangled with his legs, and tripped him up so that Holofernes had to bundle him out. Armado made an imposing entrance as Hector of Troy, with a long train borne by boys, and evoked the mock admiration of the gentlefolk. Being again and again interrupted and growing angry, he was only too ready to take Costard's well meant encouragement as an insult, and the lords and villagers eagerly egged them on to fight. Costard stripped to his shirt, but Armado refused to do so, and ran away because he had no shirt on, amid the laughter and derision of the whole company. At that moment Mercadet brought the news of the death of the Princess's father, and she had to leave, first imposing with the ladies a real penance on the king and the lords, and setting them a real test of their professions of love. At the request of Armado, who returned in a smock as a rustic who had sworn to hold the plough three years for love of Jaquenetta, she graciously delayed her departure to witness the villagers' "Masque of Spring and Winter," which was represented very prettily, and with the homely "properties" such as country-folk would naturally provide. The attendants of Spring entered, some bearing lanterns on poles gaily decked with coloured ribbons, and some with rude Cuckoos' heads and wands of flowers. These grouped round Jaquenetta who was dressed for "Spring," and they

sang the beautiful Cuckoo song to Arne's dainty setting, with a distant echo. Then they opened to admit Holofernes, dressed for "Winter," and accompanied by more boys with Owls' heads and wands of greenery, and these sang the Owl song; at the conclusion, the Spring company and the Winter folk ranged on either side round Jaquenetta, with Winter and Armado on either side, and sang a "finale" before being dismissed by Armado. The picture of all these quaintly-attired actors with their pretty properties grouped on the steps of the tent, was exceedingly dainty and effective. Their dismissal left the stage quiet and comparatively empty. The pages brought the ladies their travelling cloaks; these were donned as the ladies took leave of their lovers. Lastly, the Princess's litter was brought to the tent door. She entered it, and was borne away waving a farewell to the king. The lovers watched the departure of the ladies, waved their adieus, and then realising that love's labour for the time had been lost, sat down ruefully, betaking themselves again to their books, not, as at the opening of the Play, grudgingly and feigningly, but seriously and genuinely determined to work out the penance they had received. The curtain fell in silence, except for the soft incidental music which was identical with that which had accompanied the opening of the Play.

II.—CRITICAL.

We have the following notes from an outside correspondent: "It has been said that the lot of a play critic is a hard one, and no doubt this is generally true, but it is trebly so when everything is done so well that there is really nothing to criticise. This is the position of the present writer, who essays to give his impressions of the acting of *Love's Labour Lost* at Denstone this year. He can honestly say little more than that the acting and elocu-

tion throughout was of the first order, and that the whole performance was given with such a smoothness and perfection that it was evident that much time and labour had been expended. The representation was full of exceedingly happy touches, and there were no weak places. The idea of opening and closing the Play quietly with the lords sighing over their books was an exceedingly happy one, and though in many respects the first act provided fewer popular incidents than the others, it showed us one of the finest bits of acting—we have in mind the signing of the egregious rules which the King of Navarre had drawn up. That incident, trivial enough in itself, was worked up so well that it became most effective, and as further instances of similar things, we may mention the remarkably effective way in which the numberless letters, poems, etc., were invariably read. The introduction of the "Hay" made a very pretty and spirited ending to Act II.

H. W. Beck as the King of Navarre acted well, but his voice seemed a little too young for the part. Nevertheless his actions were quite kingly and he was possessed of plenty of confidence. He should come on well for next year. And, of course, it was by no means improbable that a king who framed such foolish vows should be youthful.

Of course everybody expected an original and clever impersonation of Biron by Mr. Whitmore, and they could not have been in the least measure disappointed, for from start to finish his actions, his words, and his by-play were excellent. He was splendid alike as the sighing lover and the witty courtier, and he seemed truly to enter into the spirit of the part. In the first scene where he signed the oath he showed the audience how complete a mastery he has over his tone of voice.

A. Menzies was quite good as Longaville, but he seemed, perhaps, a little too con-

scious of the fact that he was on a stage. On the other hand H. G. Williams made a perfect Dumain. He has a very good voice and will be worthy of a big part in the next play. He was graceful, easy, natural, and altogether pleasing.

C. G. Piggford was good on the whole and at times very good, but he spoke a little too fast and so it was difficult to follow his words. His acting was very creditable and his laugh was invaluable,

The part of Armado was particularly suited to Mr. Coleman, and the way in which he portrayed the arrogant manners and overbearing swagger of the fantastical Monarcho was really delightful. He played the part in a way worthy of an old actor, and his loverlike melancholy, caused by Jaquenetta, was shown as excellently in his looks and mannerisms as in his inflexions of voice. His carriage throughout was typical of the haughty, self-conscious, and affected Spaniard, and his impersonation was really great.

S. O. Surridge made a *debut* which came as a great surprise to many. He is indeed a discovery. The imitation of the cracked voice of a simple old man was perfect; every word was distinct and clear, and his acting was of a quality to match his elocution.

Mr. Gaussen gave us a capital impression of the Elizabethan schoolmaster. His self-confident manner contrasted well with the easily persuaded Nathaniel, and his indignation at the obstinate ignorance of Dull was skilfully assumed.

The part of Dull is small as regards the number of lines to be said, and therefore, it is one of the most difficult to play. Mr. Dudley showed that he is a true actor by his clever by-play and actions during those long intervals when he was before the audience, with but few words to say. It was a clever representation, in the true Elizabethan spirit.

Costard is another part similar to that

of Dull, and Mr. Barber must also be congratulated on his acting. Perhaps he was at his best in the scene when Don Armado gives him the "remuneration" for the bearing of his missive.

J. B. Winkler ("Moth") may be described as quite a prodigy. Although a "tender juvenal" small of stature and of little experience, he seemed possessed of the confidence of an actor of long standing. He had evidently acquired ease and facility by abundance of rehearsals, and should be useful in the future.

The ladies were the best that have been seen on the Denstone stage for some time. It must have been no easy task to find five boys who could well impersonate female parts, and we must congratulate those who made the choice. The ladies were, without exception, fair to look upon, excellently dressed, graceful and easy in bearing; and this is in no small measure due to Mrs. Edwardes' kind help. She is to be congratulated on their make-up. G. G. Pemberton, by clear and decisive manner of speaking the greater part of her lines, quite impressed the audience with the high dignified position of the Princess, and yet every now and then they had a glimpse of the womanly side of her Royal nature; as for instance in the scene where the lords make their visit in the guise of "Muscovites." The character of Rosaline was portrayed in a delightful manner by O. F. Forrest, who quite lived in his part, enjoying it himself as much as the audience did. He never seemed at a loss and his every action was graceful and admirably fitted to the particular moment. It was a skilful impersonation, showing a thorough understanding of every line.

F. C. White and R. A. Briggs as the Ladies Maria and Katherine were both good. Both spoke their parts clearly, and their actions were quite graceful and easy.

In Jaquenetta, H. Holland had a part

which was admirably adapted to him. He gave a thoroughly good representation of the ignorant country wench so dear to Shakespeare.

Of the rest, pages, foresters, men-at-arms, village boys, all were good, and showed signs of great care having been expended on their training. They were invariably in the picture, and always intelligent and right. The dance, "The Hay," by the village boys was exceedingly pretty and fascinating, as was also the concluding song by the cuckoos and owls, "The Masque of Spring and Winter."

The impression given by the whole performance was that of a very welcome, bright and pretty tale. The interest never flagged, and we are left with a feeling of wonderment that Love's *Labour's Lost* has not been earlier discovered."

The music was made a feature of the performance and it may be safely said that, improving at every representation, it reached by Play-night a very high pitch of perfection. Mr. Wood merits our warm thanks for the endless trouble he took with the music and the Dance, and the result of his work certainly contributed very largely to the success of the representation.

The Play being so largely a picture of contemporary life an attempt was made to carry out the same idea with regard to the music. Much of it was strictly of Shakespeare's own time and all the incidental music was old. The ancient tune "Heigh-ho!" which is found in the MS. commonplace Book of John Gamble (ob. 1657) was utilised for Moth's song in Act i., and at the opening of Act ii. he sang "Heart's Ease," which is mentioned in *Romeo and Juliet*, and also in an earlier play called *Misogones* by Thomas Rychardes (1577). The tune is given in a MS. volume of lute music of XVI. Century now in Cambridge University Library. The incidental music was mainly from Henry Purcell (1658—

1695): in Act i. his "Aire" and "Canaries," and in Act ii. his "Preludio." In Act i. came also "Green Sleeves," a tune composed in Henry VIII.'s reign and apparently a favourite with Queen Elizabeth, if we may judge from the two mentions of it in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. It occurs in W. Ballet's *Lute Book*. The Foresters' Song in Act ii. was the old English Chorus "The Hunt's Up," and "The Hay" which the boys danced at the end of the Act is an old folk-dance of the morris-dance type, ancient both as regards movements and melody. At the opening of Act iii. the Princess's Pages sang Shakespeare's song "It was a lover and his lass" (from *As You Like It*) to the setting by Thomas Morley (1557—1604) given in his first book of *Aires or Little Short Songs* published in 1600. The music for the "Pageant of the Nine Worthies" consisted of characteristic tunes played on the Tabor and the Pipe, the instruments of the common people in Shakespeare's days. Thomas Arne (1710—1778) composed settings of the two songs in the "Masque of Spring and Winter," and these were sung in their place at the conclusion of the play.

The Book of the Play followed the same lines as last year's. It had a green cover with gold lettering, and contained as a frontispiece a portrait of Mr. J. L. Philipps. The contents included Introduction, Programme, and text of the Acting Version. The Introduction included a notice of our previous Plays, a critical "note" on *Love's Labour's Lost*, the story of the Play, and a section on the music.

The Programme we reprint here:—

The Persons of the Play—
 Ferdinand, King of Navarre *H. W. Beck*
 The Lord Biron *P. J. S. Whitmore*
 The Lord Longaville *A. Menzies*
 The Lord Dumain *H. G. Williams*
 Boyet, in attendance on the Princess *C. G. Piggford*
 Don Adriano de Armado, a fantastical Spaniard *R. H. F. Coleman*

Sir Nathaniel, a Curate *S. O'R. Surridge*
 Holofernes, a Schoolmaster *E. A. Gaussen*
 Dull, a Constable *A. E. Dudley*
 Costard *H. S. Barber*
 Moth, Don Armado's Page *J. B. Winkler*
 The Princess's Pages: *C. J. Brayne, F. J. Cowlishaw, and W. F. P. Thomas.*
 Foresters: *A. S. Mason, R. H. Merryweather, and C. F. Smith.*
 Men-at-Arms: *H. L. Chadwick, L. Eardley-Wilmot, B. Girling, and J. W. Knight.*
 Village Boys: *P. C. Atkins, C. Kestin, S. H. M. Larkam, L. A. Loup, G. F. Mason, F. G. Mellor, C. Powel Smith, G. W. Reed, F. D. Rowan, and A. O. F. Winkler.*
 The Princess of France *G. G. Pemberton*
 The Lady Rosaline *O. P. Forrest*
 The Lady Maria *P. C. White*
 The Lady Katharine *R. A. Briggs*
 Jaquenetta, a country wench *H. Holland*

The Pageant of the Nine Worthies

Hercules: *Moth*
 Judas Maccabaeus: *Holofernes*
 Alexander the Great: *Sir Nathaniel*
 Pompey the Great: *Costard*
 Hector of Troy: *Don Adriano de Armado*
 Attendants, Tabor and Pipe, etc.

The Masque of Spring and Winter

Spring: *Jaquenetta*
 Winter: *Holofernes*
 Cuckoos, Owls, and other attendants.

The Scenes—

Act i.—Navarre; in the Garden near the Palace
 Act ii.—In the Park
 Act iii.—The Princess's Pavilion

The Music—

Act i.
 Overture: Old French Gavotte and Musette (composer unknown).
 Moth's Song: "If she be made of white and red," set to an adaptation of "Heigh-ho," (XVI Century) in John Gamble's MS. *Commonplace Book*.

The Incidental Music is mainly selected from Purcell, and also includes "Green Sleeves," temp. Henry VIII., from W. Ballet's *Lute Book*.

Act ii.

Overture: Danse des Papillons (Jadassohn).
 Marcia fantastica (Bargiel).
 Coronation March (Meyerbeer).
 Moth's Song: "Heart's Ease," (old melody).
 Old French Hunting Fanfare.
 Foresters' Chorus: "The Hunt's Up" (circa 1530)
 Dance: "The Hay," an old Morris Dance.
 The rest of the Incidental Music is selected from Purcell.

Act iii.

Overture : "Nell Gwyn " Dances (Edward German).
Country Dance.
Pastoral Dance.
Merrymakers' Dance.

Pages' Song: "It was a lover and his lass"
(Morley).

Fantastic " Russian " March (adapted).

Pageant Music for Tabor and Pipe: " The Nine
Worthies." adapted from old music.

Music for "The Masque of Spring and Winter"
(Arne).

" When daisies pied, and violets blue,"
" When icicles hang by the wall."

The Orchestra was under the direction of Mr. A. Rawlinson Wood, and included the Rev. W. S. Airy, Mr. B. G. Meyrick, G. A. Anderson, E. R. Wood, O. G. Misquith, A. B. Jameson, L. G. Harris, C. G. Salmon G. O. Whitfield, R. E. Perrin, F. H. Belton, H. E. James, R. V. Kirby, and H. G. Fowler.

The Stewards : Rev. W. S. Airy, Messrs. Tisdall, Cadman, Merrick, Denny, and G. A. Howe, H. S. Bates, and F. H. Wooliscroft.

Programmes : H. E. Pengelley, C. T. Hutchison.

Prompters, etc. : A. E. Barlow, H. E. L. Fisher, and H. C. S. Walker.

The Play Committee : The Rev. the Headmaster (President), Mr. Gaussen, Mr. Hornby (Treasurer), Mr. Rawlinson Wood (Musical Director), Mr. Whitmore, Mr. Coleman, and G. A. Howe.

The labour entailed in arranging for three large audiences is very great, and to Mr. Hornby our gratitude must be expressed. At the performance he was efficiently helped by the stewards. The matron managed the refreshments very well. " Behind the Scenes " there were many helpers, both at the preliminary preparations and during the performances. Mrs. Hibbert made " properties " without number, and Mrs. Edwardes dressed the boys who took the female parts so that they showed no trace of awkwardness. The chaplain, Mr. Whitmore, and Mr. Meyrick excelled themselves in " making up " the actors—some of their effects were masterpieces, especially perhaps

Armado, Sir Nathaniel, Holofemes, Dull and Costard. The lighting was admirably managed by the engineers, under Mr. Smith's supervision and direction. It was admirably distributed, and by throwing a half light on the back cloths we obtained a most effective appearance of depth and distance.

During the performance the following members of the Fire Brigade were on duty under the supervision of Mr. Smith:—Wright, Bowman, R. L. Goldsmith, Bickley, Lawler, Sewell, McClelland, Gee, Maister and Spicer. We are much indebted to them for the trouble they took, and for the excellent arrangements they made.

In conclusion, we feel we cannot be dissatisfied with the venture we made in deciding to attempt *Love's Labour's Lost*. Chosen because of its novelty, it proved to be exceedingly effective, and it provided a whole series of good character-studies, of each of which advantage was taken. It gave us opportunities for some charming scenery, many situations which were amusing, and some which were delicately picturesque. None of us had ever seen it acted, so we were thrown entirely upon our own resources, and this was good in developing our inventiveness. The members of the audience likewise could estimate our efforts without being influenced by pre-conceived ideas, and although the complete novelty of the play prevented it, perhaps, from being entirely appreciated at a single performance, still we believe it was generally approved, and those who were able to see it more [than once, were kind enough to say they liked it better each time they witnessed it.

There was no hitch of any kind. From start to finish everything went with the utmost smoothness, and this of itself was a convincing testimony to the hard work which had been done at rehearsals, and to

the *cameraderie* which prevailed among all concerned. Everyone worked hard and did his best: small boys and "grave and reverend signors" alike contributed their portions, and with such unanimity on the part of so large a number, the result could not fail to be good. The Annual Play, if it has no other good results, has at any rate this—it binds us together in a common cause, and it shows what can be done when all work together.

FOOTBALL.

NORTH STAFFORD R.U.F.C.

Played on 5th November at Stoke. For a time the game was fairly even, and then Johnson scored for Stafford by a run from close on the half-way line, both Anderson and Carson failing in their attempts to collar him. Jones converted. After the kick off, the School forwards by a series of good dribbles, took the ball right up to the Stafford goal line, but Goldsmith spoilt the opportunity by kicking too hard and so enabling Stafford to touch down.

The School continued to make a lot of ground by dribbling, but poor tackling by the School halves allowed Stafford to recover the ground thus lost; and from a pass in the School "25" Maclean scored another try for Stafford which was not converted. Just before half-time Stafford added another goal to their score, the try being obtained by Johnson.

In the second half the School played up well, but the weight of their opponents began to tell, and from a scrum near the Denstone goal line a forward scrambled over and scored another try for Stafford which was not converted. Shortly after this Bates intercepted a pass and made a lot of ground, but was collared by the Stafford back. Anderson also put in some

good work, and Zorian missed a lovely chance of scoring, after the opposing back had had his kick charged down, by dribbling into touch by the corner flag.

Stafford now took the game to the other end of the field, and were only prevented from scoring on several occasions by good work on the part of Carson. They kept up the pressure till the end of the game and scored two more tries; one from a line out, and one from some loose play in the School "25." Only one of these was converted, leaving the final score, 24 points to nil in Stafford's favour.

The School forwards were good in the loose, but failed to get the ball in scrum. The fact that their opponents were heavier was not alone sufficient to account for this. If they improve in this respect they will make a very good pack. As the forwards never got the ball the halves had very little opportunity of doing combined work. They allowed the scrum half to get away on occasions, otherwise their defensive work was very fair; but they should kick more. The three-quarters were very fair. Anderson let his man through rather badly at the start, but after that he collared well, and was the quickest of the three-quarters in getting on his man. He also kicked and followed up well. But for a weak attempt to collar Johnson at the start, Carson played a good game.

Team :—C. G. Carson (full-back); C. K. Zorian, C. G. Piggford, G. A. Anderson, H. S. Bates (three-quarters); C. S. Beattie, C. L. Watson (halves); F. H. Wooliscroft, G. A. Howe, M. H. Sewell, E. L. Morris, R. L. Goldsmith, C. R. Goldsmith, A. Menzies, S. O. Surridge (forwards).

CHEADLE HULME.

Played on 12th November, on our ground. The game started in a slow drizzle of rain with the School playing

down the hill. In the first few minutes the Cheadle backs got away and scored an unconverted try. This was closely followed by another. Then for a short time the School made an effort to score and reached our opponents' "25." To this our opponents replied by getting the ball out to their three-quarters who again scored. At this point the School completely went to pieces and for the remainder of the game our opponents scored continually at short intervals.

The School play throughout was wretched; the forwards hardly ever managed to get the ball out of the scrum, and even when they did manage to do so the three-quarters seemed incapable of action.

Team :—R. C. Wain (full-back) • C. K. Zorian, C. G. Piggford, G. A. Anderson, H. S. Bates (three-quarters); C. S. Beattie, C. R. Watson (halves); F. H. Wooliscroft, G. A. Howe, T. L. Morris, C. R. Goldsmith, A. S. Mason, S. O. Surridge, R. L. Goldsmith, C. Salmon (forwards).

TETTENHALL COLLEGE.

This match was played on our ground on 19th November. The ground was a little hard in places owing to a recent frost, and our three-quarters should have shown good form with the help of the forwards. But never have the forwards shown to worse advantage. Time after time the ball came out to the last row of our scrum, only to be immediately kicked back to our opponents. On almost every occasion this was due to a habit of Menzies of trying to break away with the ball immediately it had passed the second row. Until he learns to trust his backs to some extent Menzies will never be a good forward. As it was the three-quarters only had the ball sent out from the scrum about three times during the game.

Our opponents opened the score by a try

near the touch line, in the first five minutes of the game, which was not converted. Soon after the "25" kick, Smith got away and scored a fine try for us between the posts, also converting it. Soon after Beattie also got away and scored a try which was not converted. Then our opponents rushed our forwards from the "25" and succeeded in scoring their second unconverted try. Smith scored one more try for us in the first half, which he also converted. The second half was much the same as the first except that about ten minutes before time our forwards completely went to pieces, allowing our opponents to score two more unconverted tries. Thus we obtained our first win by the narrow margin of 13 points—12.

Team—G. A. Anderson (full-back); C. U. Zorian, C. F. Smith, C. G. Piggford, H. S. Bates (three-quarters); C. S. Beattie, C. R. Watson (halves); F. H. Wooliscroft, G. A. Howe, M. H. Sewell, C. R. Goldsmith, A. S. Mason, S. O. Surridge, R. L. Goldsmith, A. Menzies (forwards).

BURTON 2ND XV.

This match was played on our ground on 10th December. The School played down the hill against the wind in the first half, thus both sides were equally favoured at the start. The game settled down chiefly in the middle of the field, varied by occasional rushes by each side in turn. Once or twice our opponents very nearly scored, but Wain time after time averted the danger by his splendid kicking. The School also on one or two occasions were very near to scoring, but at half-time both sides were pointless. On the resumption the School pressed vigorously and on several occasions very nearly scored. But our opponents nearly always managed to clear a few yards from their line, until Beattie giving the ball to Williams the

latter was enabled to run round and score near the posts. Smith converted the try and as there was no further score during the game we obtained our second win of the season by 5 points—0.

The three-quarters played much better than usual, the passing being exceptionally good. The halves were both very good and got the ball out much better than usual. Wain played very well indeed and he got us out of many perilous positions by his timely kicks. All the forwards played well on the loose, but did not get the ball out of the scrum well enough. Howe and Sewell were the best of the pack.

Team : R. C. Wain (full-back) ; H. S. Bates, C. F. Smith, G. A. Anderson, H. G. Williams (three-quarters); C. S. Beattie, C. R. Watson (halves); F. H. Wooliscroft, G. A. Howe, M. H. Sewell, E. L. Morris, A. S. Mason, S. O. Surridge, R. L. Goldsmith, L. G. Robertshaw (forwards).

2ND XV. v. NORTH STAFFORD 2ND XV.

This match was played on our ground on 3rd December. Owing to rain the ground was in a very muddy condition, and play was almost entirely restricted to the forwards. For the first quarter of an hour the game was very even, North Staffs pressing a little, and eventually scoring a try after a hard struggle. The try was not converted. For the rest of the first half our opponents continued to press, but failed to score owing to some good play by White and Williams. The score at half time was therefore 3 points—nil in favour of the visitors. On resumption of play the School pressed considerably and almost scored. Towards the end of the game North Staffs broke away and again scored, but failed to convert. Soon after time was called thus leaving the score at 6 points to nil for North Staffs.

Team: R. C. Wain (full-back); H. G. Williams, G. A. Anderson, F. C. White, L. E. Wilmot (three-quarters); A. D.

Crossland, E. T. Lathbury (halves); R. L. Goldsmith, A. E. Barlow, C. Salmon, A. R. Overman, Mitchell, O. G. Misquith, Smith, L. G. Robertshaw (forwards).

2ND XV. v. UTTOXETER.

Played at Uttoxeter, 19th November. Uttoxeter kicked off down the hill and through the brilliant efforts of White and Mr. Merrick, Denstone at once attacked. The Denstone forwards at this period of the game were playing excellently, and the game for the first quarter of an hour was in the Uttoxeter half. Near the interval Westhorpe broke away and scored a fine try for Uttoxeter. The kick though easy failed. On resuming Uttoxeter at once attacked and Meredith scored, Murray converting with a fine kick. Uttoxeter added one more try. Just on time Mr. Merrick broke away and ran the whole length of the field, but being inadequately supported his effort failed. Of the forwards, Mr. Coleman, Barlow, and Overman were the pick. Mr. Merrick and White were the essence of the attack, while Williams was the mainstay of the defence. Score, 11—0 for Uttoxeter.

Team: Rhodes (back); Wilmot, White, Mr. Merrick, Williams (three-quarters); Crossland, Lathbury (halves); Mr. Coleman, Barlow, Overman, Misquith, Wright, Mitchell, Abbotts, Salmon (forwards),

SENIOR DORMITORY MATCHES.

In the first round, Hornby's v. Smith's, this match resulted, as was expected, in a win for Hornby's by 29 points to 3. Neither side, however, showed to advantage, the play—such as there was—being almost entirely individual. Gausson's v. Head's iii. resulted in an easy win for Gausson's by 23 points to nil. The game was very uninteresting from a spectator's point of view, as Head's were completely outclassed.

In Airy's v. Clark's, Airy's were

successful in this match, in spite of the very good fight shown by Clark's. There were, however, some very good runs by Watson for Airy's, while Beattie was very conspicuous on the losing side.

Head's i. v. Head's ii. was the most interesting game in the first round, and resulted in a win for Head's i. after a well fought game. Chadwick showed to advantage on the winning, and Powell-Smith played very well for the losing team.

In the semi-finals Gausson's were severely handicapped against Airy's, by the absence of Wain owing to a sprained ankle, but managed to win by 16 points to nil, after a very good game. Watson again played very well for Airy's, Wooliscroft also being conspicuous.

Head's i. were successful against Hornby's owing to the fine combination of their forwards, who completely ran over their opponents' pack. The score was 26 points to 3, the latter being due to a fine run by Carson, and was the only good attempt made by Hornby's. The Final was between Gausson's v. Head's i. Gausson's were again successful mainly owing to the brilliant play of Smith and Wain, who both scored some very fine tries. The Head's i. forwards were much superior to their opponents, who packed very badly in the scrum; the worst offender in this respect being Menzies. Gausson's backs, however, were far better than those of Head's i., and the former won by 26—0.

O.D. NEWS.

Through the energy and public spirit of H. Jacks, the first annual dinner and meeting of the North of England Old Denstonians' Club was held on Monday last in Messrs. Tilleys, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The Rev. F. A. E. Leake was in the chair. After the usual loyal toast had been honoured, the Rev. C. E. Burgess proposed "Denstone College." He pointed out that it was a pleasure to see so many of his old school chums round the table. He was the last of those present to visit the College, and he proceeded to give the members all the latest news.

Harold Jacks proposed "The North of England Old Denstonian Club." The club, the object of which was to form a bond of union between past and present members of Denstone College, was now, he said, what might be termed a going concern. He pointed out the advantage of having an Old Boys' Club up in the North. People were likely, he said, to forget their school chums and interests when they had "put aside childish things" and left school. It was a proof that the club was flourishing when there was those present that night who had travelled 100 miles to attend the dinner. It was perhaps a regrettable fact that some present members of the College were not present, but he explained that he had replies from several at the school who would have come had it been in the holidays. In conclusion, he asked all members to bring other Old Boys, and get them to join the club.

W. Sedcole, in replying, suggested that each member might sign one of the *menu* cards, and together with an appropriate greeting, send it to the College as a memorial of that successful dinner.

This suggestion was adopted. The *menu* reads as follows:—"Old Denstonians assembled send greetings to their old School, which they will ever regard with gratitude and affection. F. A. E. Leake (chairman), J. W. Greenstreet, W. D. Graham, E. Graham, H. C. Fenwick, W. J. Sedcole, H. Jacks (Hon. Secretary), R. H. Simpson, C. E. Burgess, A. Bowcock, E. S. Fenwick, A. Burgess."

After dinner the first general meeting was held.

H. Jacks' address is 3, Law Court Chambers, West Keppel Street, South Shields, and we earnestly hope all O.D.s who live in the North of England will communicate with him, and, by joining the Club, help to keep so interesting an organization in a flourishing condition.

There used to be a most flourishing Old Denstonians' Club at Manchester. Will not some of our many representatives in the district take steps to revive it?

The London O.D. dinner, which is always most enjoyable, is fixed for January nth. All who can attend should communicate with J. W. Orr, 3, Temple Gardens, E.C.

The following is an extract from *Ceylon Sportsman*, Nov. 5th, 1910;—

"It is worthy of note that L. C. Davies is the only European batsman to score over 500 runs in first-class matches this season. He has been showing most consistent form, and has exceeded fifty on no less than four occasions. He is undoubtedly the best batsman in the Sports Club ranks just now, and the Galle Face Club would be a poor side without him. To show how consistently he has scored for the Sports Club this year, I might mention that Davies has only twice failed to get into double figures. In nine innings (first-class matches) he has scored 439 runs, with an average of 48.7. His scores have been as follows:—

"Sports Club v. Colts, 96; v. Non-descripts, 95; v. Malays, 60; v. Singalese S.C., 56; v. Police, 47; v. Blomfield, 47; v. C.A.V., 24; v. Tamils, 8; v. Singalese S.C., 6; total, 439."

The following interesting letter has been received:—

"MAQUINCHOA, RIO NEGRO TERRITORY,
" ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.*

" October \th, 1910.

" DEAR SIR,—I have just finished reading a couple of *Denstonian* magazines

sent out to me by a great friend of mine who is still at Denstone. I always look back with joy to the days spent at the old School amongst good comrades and pretty scenery.

"For the last six years I have been down in Patagonia doing a bit of everything—cow-punching, boundary riding, working mule transports, fencing, etc., and am now overseer with a large ranching company, who own 493,000 acres in this territory, 80,000 sheep and 12,000 cattle, besides thousands of horses and mules. We are situated close up to the Andes, and 360 miles from the coast. All our stores, fencing material, etc., come up by mule transports from Port Madyr in Chubut Territory, an average journey being from four to five weeks' duration. We are 120 miles from the nearest telegraph office, and on the north side 240 miles from the railway, so we are pretty well cut off from civilization.

"I used to communicate with J. W. Sharpies, who was in Buenos Aires; he used to meet one or two Denstonians up there, but as yet I have never met an O.D. down in Patagonia, though I still have hopes of doing so. Indians are in swarms round here. They live in wigwams, and feed on fat flesh and drink mat6. They are very good at working blankets and ponchos, the latter being made out of guanaco wool; also the quillayos made by them are splendid for winter. These consist of eight, ten, or twelve skins, as the case may be, of very young guanacos; these pelts are well softened, then sewn together, forming a large rug with dried ostrich veins; for sleeping out in winter in these altitudes there is nothing to equal them. The Indians for hard navvy work are useless, as they are born and bred on horseback, and are in their element for rounding cattle or mule chasings, but beyond that are good for nothing else, as they are lazy to a degree. I have great difficulty in making myself

understood although speaking Spanish fluently, as most of the Indians can only talk in their tongue. There are a great many Chilians employed round here, and for the most part are a false and treacherous lot, not to be trusted in the least. There is plenty of hunting, guanacos in thousands, pumas, foxes, wild cats, and for the gun any amount of wild geese, duck, plovers, etc. The country is pretty arid here, except in winter, when it gets a good soaking with the snow; as regards trees or vegetation of any kind there is none at all. The forests are about 120 miles from here, on the slopes of the Cordilleras. Life is pretty rough here, and your best friend is a Colt's revolver with no hindrance on the holster, as all the people in these parts are never short of their long knives; some carry them in their belts behind and others between the blankets of the veadó. The Argentine saddle is the one most commonly used here, although lots of white people ride on Mexican. A band of North American outlaws quite recently "held up" a store in Auzo Pescado, not far distant from here, and shot dead the storekeeper. I miss greatly the sport I used to enjoy so much at Denstone, and would give a month's wage for a good game of football again. I was in Lucas' dormitory when we won the football shield, and then Mr. Shoebridge took over the dormitory.

" Our shearing commences in the middle of next month, and lasts for two solid months. We have steam shears, and pretty up-to-date arrangements. Some flocks have to trail down sixty miles to the sheds. I live 21 miles from the head station, Maquinibas, and some of my flocks have to go down 52 miles. If at any time you would care for some news from this part of the world, I would be most pleased to write to you again.

" With best wishes for the *Denstonian*,

and three cheers for the dear old Coll., I remain, yours sincerely,

" JAMES V. HADDOCK."

We have heard with regret of the accidental death by drowning of Edmund John Jones, who was one of the first members of the School. He left in December, 1877, and went to India in business. His interest in the School was unceasing, and only a few days before his death, which took place on April 29th last, the Headmaster heard from him with reference to a boy whom he was desirous of seeing entered at Denstone.—R.I.P.

Edwin George Weston Orange has also recently died, and under very sad circumstances. He entered the School in September, 1898, in the Blue and White Dormitory, and on leaving in July, 1901, went to study French at Ostend, with the object of entering the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank. This he did in due course, and was first sent to Lyons. In February last he went out to the East, to Sovrabaya in Java. From the time of his arrival he was never really well, but he was very keen on his work, and was appointed Sub-Accountant. A promising career was cut short by his untimely death on August 12. He was in his twenty-fourth year.—R.I.P.

A. E. B. Dixon has been acting in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, at Bolton, and the local press gave him warm commendation.

G. D. Clark (Sept. 1908) is at the Ecole Centrale Technique at Brussels.

We offer our congratulations to R. H. Whiteley (Jan., 1894) on his marriage, which took place at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on Nov. 8.

C. J. J. T. Barton has obtained his Rugby Football Colours at Downing, and has played for Northamptonshire.

At the Autumn Conference of the Junior Clergy Missionary Association the following O.D.s were delegates:—P. Houghton,

representing Huddersfield ; J. W. Greenstreet, Sunderland; G. A. Till, South Staffs; H. White, Secretary for S.P.G. in Newcastle Deanery.

G. A. Green (Sept. 1893) has been appointed Vicar of Tipwood and Great Raveley on the Lord Chancellor's nomination.

At the Advent Ordinations H. C. B. Jones was ordained priest to Wellington College Mission, Walworth.

NOTES.

It is with sincere sorrow we record the death of Thomas Butler Smith, one of the Preparatory School boys, who passed away on Sunday, December 4th, of heart failure following pneumonia. During his short life, his honest, open disposition and his bright merry ways had won for him hosts of friends, especially among his school-fellows, in whose hearts his memory will long be cherished. Those who watched his last hours on earth will never forget the beautiful example he gave of the "faith of a little child," as his pure spirit went so fearlessly on and up to the gates of the "Home where the Saviour is," which he told us he saw; truly he realized that "perfect love which casteth out fear." R.I.P.

A beautiful service was held in our Chapel, where the little body was borne by loving hands for the last time on Monday, and he was laid to rest on Thursday in the cemetery near his home at Cropwell Butler amid every token of love and sorrow. Mr. J. Edwardes attended, and flowers were sent by several from the College and the Preparatory School.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Mr.

and Mrs. Butler-Smith in the sorrow they are bearing so bravely. By their wish, spontaneously expressed, no alterations were made in the arrangements for the later part of the Term, except that a Service of Holy Communion was held—and was voluntarily attended by nearly everybody—on each day until the funeral.

The following Anthems have been rendered by the Choir this half-term :—

- Nov. 13—"O love the Lord" (*Sullivan*.)
- „ 20—"How lovely are the Messengers" (*Mendelssohn*).
- „ 27—"Sleepers, awake" — (*Mendelssohn*.)
- Dec. 4—"Blessed Lord" (*Wesley*).
- „ 11—"O Dayspring" (*Stainer*).
- „ 18—Carol, "In the fields with their flocks abiding" (*Farmer*).

Nov. 20th, Stir-up Sunday, was observed again as the Day of Intercession for Foreign Missions.

The Lord Bishop of Stafford has arranged to hold the annual Confirmation on March 28th, at 2.30 p.m.

It is hoped that the preliminary rounds for the Dormitory Competition in Music will be held on S. Chad's Day, when Dr. Merrick, of Bristol, has kindly consented to act as judge. The Final Competition will be held towards the end of next term, when a music master from one of the public schools will adjudicate.

Each Dormitory will send in (a) a choir to sing the part song and also a reserve part song; (b) senior and junior piano soloists and reserves; (c) organ, violin, 'cello soloist, and reserve. The reserves will be called upon in case of ties.

J. W. Musker has passed the Examination for Pitman's "Elementary" Certificate for Shorthand.

O.T.C. Examinations for Certificate A were held on November 21st—22nd and November 29th.

On December 2nd the Headmaster lectured at Burton-on-Trent, before the Archaeological Society, on Croxden Abbey.

Some time before the Play the Headmaster gave a lecture on *Love's Labour Lost* in the School-room.

On November 17th the Rev. G. H. Harris, M.A., Vicar of S. Paul's, Moseley, gave us a most interesting lecture on Iceland, with a large number of lantern slides. We are much indebted to him for his kindness in coming.

On the evening of November 13th Mr. Wood gave an organ recital in Chapel, which was very much appreciated. The programme included three anthems sung by the Choir.

Last year's Play account (*Macbeth*) is as follows :—

Receipts.—Balance from last year, /30 us 6d.; Masters' subscriptions, £& 15s.; Boys' subscriptions, ^23; other subscriptions, ^70 13s. 8d.; advertisements in souvenir, £22 8s.; Sales of souvenir, £1 4s. 6d.; Bank interest, 5s. 6d.. Total, 2*156 18s. 2d.

Expenditure.—Scenery (Mr. Lowndes), £5; Band expenses, £22 is.; Scenery (Messrs William), £10 7s. 9d.; Messrs. Orme & Son, £6 15s. 3|d.; Stamps, £3 13s.; Messrs. C. H. Fox & Sons, 14s. 5d.; Gratuities, £3 2s. 6d.; Messrs. Derry & Toms, £3 2s. 6d.; Printing, 12s. 6d.; Flowers, etc., £1 10s. ; Mr. L. Wilding

(printing, etc.), £2\ 2s. 4d.; Bank charges, 5s.; Office for scenery, men's time, etc., ^24 6s. id.; Messrs. L. & H. Nathan (dresses), £20 13s.; Miscellaneous, £\ os. 7d.; Balance in hand, £26 12s. 2^d. Total, ^156 18s. 2d.

The Librarian acknowledges with thanks the receipt of:—

Acton, *History of Freedom*, from G. E. Jackson, O.D.

Brett, *Charles II. and his Court*, from the Author, A. C. Brett, O.D.

Wylde's *Natural History*, from R. H. F. Coleman, O.D.; and also *The Boys' Own Annual*, 3 vols.

The Editor acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following:—*Lancing College Magazine, Elstonian, Bloxhamist, Olavian, Federal Magazine, Birkonian, S. Andrew's College Magazine, Blue, Ellesmerian, Hurst Johnian, Firefly.*

The yearly subscription, 3s. 4d, (or 10s. for three years), which includes postage, should be forwarded to the Rev. F. A. Hibbert, Denstone College, Staffordshire. Any change in the subscriber's address should be notified at once. Back numbers are kept, and every help in the way of supplying missing numbers, will be gladly given to subscribers wishing to complete their sets.

All MS. intended for insertion should be written on one side of the paper only, and sent to the Editor, H. S. Bates, Denstone College, Staffordshire.

*Charles Cull dr> Son, Houghton Street, Aldwych ;
and at Chiswick.*