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DENSTONENSE
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PREFACE

The following pages do not profess to tell the history of Denstone. Their more modest aim is to put into the hands of those who meet together in this Coronation Year a few reminiscences and details of the origin and growth of Denstone. Here also will be found many pictures which will certainly be interesting.

Most, or all, is familiar enough to the majority of us, and that is why it is given. The history is our own, the buildings are dear with memories and associations, the portraits are of some of those who have made the School. A collection such as this will be, it is hoped, not only an acceptable memorial of a pleasant Reunion, but will also do something to strengthen old ties and to revive old memories.

F.A.H.

*Denstone College,
August, 1911.*

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Plan of College and Grounds



THE FOUNDING.

November 1st, 1866, All Saints' Day, is a date which we should remember. The possibility of founding a Woodard School had long occupied the thoughts of Sir Percival Heywood, Bart., the Rev. Henry Meynell (then Curate in Charge of Denstone) and the Rev. George R. Mackarness (then Vicar of Ilam and afterwards Bishop of Argyll and the Isles). The services at the Festival we have mentioned brought so vividly to Sir Percival Heywood's mind thoughts of the fellowship of those on earth with those at rest, that on that day he resolved that, God helping him, there should be a Woodard School at Denstone. He had lost a son not long before, and as a memorial to him he determined to devote his portion, and his own energies and interest, to the building of a school in union with the Corporation which Nathaniel Woodard had founded.

With three such men as inspirers progress was rapid. The Founder came to see the site which Sir Percival offered. It was the most dismal day that could be imagined. A bitter wind blew from the Weaver Hills; the ground was all cut up with open drains; the fine views were hidden by fog. To add to the discomfort, no road existed. But details like this did not daunt the Founder, and he realised the splendid possibilities of the place.

Many Meetings were held and subscriptions began to flow in. Of course there were adversaries. It would be amazing, were it not amusing, to read the extraordinary virulence of the attacks which were made on men of undoubted good faith and transparent honesty. Scurrilous advertisements and fierce pamphlets with highly flavoured warnings against a "great Jesuit Plot to contaminate the Backbone of England," showed that Titus Oates had a numerous progeny.

Bishop Lonsdale actually received a petition signed by a thousand inhabitants of a single town in Staffordshire praying him to withdraw his support from us.

His answer was given at a crowded meeting at Stafford. The Earl of Shrewsbury, Mr. Beresford Hope, Dr. Lowe, the Bishop of Illinois, the Bishop of Labuan, Sir Percival Heywood, Mr. A. A. Flint and others spoke, and there was a breeze raised by some excited fanatics who had been busily engaged in distributing defamatory handbills at the doors. A newspaper report of the meeting says "These circulars and handbills had one effect, that of rousing the people of Stafford from their normal lethargy, and the Crown Court was almost as full as when a murder trial has been on" (!) Bishop Lonsdale having already spoken warmly in support of Denstone, opposition only made him speak more warmly still. He made it quite clear that he had satisfied himself that the religious attitude, shall we say, of the School, was precisely that of himself, and that he was

Plate ii.



THE DINING HALL.



CANON WOODARD,
Founder of the "Woodard Schools."

prepared to stand by us through evil report and good ; and, as the newspaper records, " when, one by one, the accusations were declared to be baseless, the little excitement subsided and the friends of the movement were left to talk about their scheme in peace."

The meeting was held on Saturday, Oct. 19th, 1867. The date is historic, for after the meeting the Bishop returned home, wrote some letters, and was late for dinner. He had hardly begun when he retired from the table, feeling unwell, and sat down. Before a doctor could arrive he had died.

His active support had been a constant encouragement to those who were labouring to found the College ; and the pathetic circumstances of his death, with words of championship of us almost on his lips, made them determine that the portion of the College then being built should bear the name of the Lonsdale Quadrangle and should have the good Bishop's statue over its gate.

The new Bishop was George Augustus Selwyn, to whom Mr. Gladstone, his life-long friend, years afterwards applied the epithet " noble " ; and those who tried to force him into an attitude of antagonism to Denstone showed that they little knew the nature of the man. All his instinct was in support of " the under dog." Even at Eton we are told he purposely took the bad oar in his boat himself ; in New Zealand he championed the cause of the despised Maories in a way which almost endangered his popularity. He quickly gave his

answer to those who " begged to be allowed to say that a strong feeling of opposition would be excited against his lordship if it were known he was a supporter of Denstone." He publicly described Mr. Woodard (as he then was) as " one of the most candid and straightforward men I have ever met." He at once became " Provisional Visitor " till the Statutes were put into shape, and when they were being drawn up he himself assisted in revising them. On the Foundation Stone, which was laid on October 22nd, 1868, (not by the Marquis of Salisbury as was intended, for illness kept him away), there is inscribed " Georgio Augusto Selwyn S.T.P. Episcopo Lichfieldiensi Visitore." He became one of our staunchest supporters.

He subscribed £100 to the Building Fund. At the luncheon which commemorated the completion of the Schoolroom in 1872 he, with a brilliant collection of other leaders in Church and State, such as Lord Salisbury, Earl Nelson, Bishops Wilberforce, Wordsworth, Durnford, etc., came and spoke. " I am here " he said " to express in a formal manner on this public occasion exactly the same confidence in Canon Woodard and his plans as I have always felt myself and as was always felt by my predecessor." It was on this occasion that Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge visited the College, and others who were present on that memorable day, either at the College or at the Garden Party which followed at Alton Towers, were the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, Lord John Manners, Lord Hopetoun, Lord

Richard Cavendish, Earl Nelson, Lord and Lady Wrottesley, Lord Scarsdale, the Dean (Duncombe) of York, Dean Champneys, Rev. Sir Lovelace and Lady Stamer, Mr. Beresford Hope, etc., besides the founders of the College and Lord Shrewsbury who organised the whole.

On July 29th, 1873, Bishop Selwyn solemnly dedicated the buildings, which comprised the Lonsdale Quadrangle and the servants' quarters. Dr. Lowe was installed as Provost, and the Bishop preached in the Quadrangle from 1 Samuel i., 29, the latter part of which appears in the window in Chapel which Old Denstonians gave last year.

It was a magnificent Sermon which deserves to be printed in full for its eloquent championship of all that Denstone holds dear. After describing how "the neglect of religious education caused the downfall of the people of God" in the time of the Judges and solemnly giving his warning that England was "travelling in the same direction," he raised his battle-cry for definite religion. "We have conscience clauses excluding all distinctive teaching. We have a powerful league clamouring for the banishment of religion from our Schools. We have the Endowed Schools Commission dissecting out of Church Schools every statute which recognises the Church of Christ. Are we to sit still and see all Church teaching and even Christianity itself banished from our Schools?" His hope was, that "slighted in the Senate, banished from the School, religion will be cherished still in the home. Our work to-day

rests on the belief that nothing will ever cut off our sources of supply—we are sure that Hannah is but the type of thousands of mothers who will desire to give back to God the children whom God has given to them in answer to their prayers that in spite of the decay of religion and the growth of secular education, many a Lois and Eunice will teach their children to know the holy Scriptures, as the only knowledge which is able to make them wise unto Salvation through the faith which is in Christ Jesus. This is the spring which will feed our reservoirs : we trust to the blessing of God upon mothers' prayers, and natural affection and spiritual love will lead the mother to place her child under the guidance of the man of God. She will take her child to the School where true religion is taught, and will say " This is the child for which I have prayed, and the Lord hath given me my petition that I asked' of Him ; therefore also I have lent him unto the Lord ; as long as he liveth *he shall be lent unto the Lord.*" It is no imaginary picture, but a sober reality, that a School like this, if it be carried on in accordance with the principles on which it is founded, will gather within its walls hundreds of those children upon whom parental prayers have brought down the first-fruits of the Spirit. There is no such attraction in a School of secular knowledge. The thought of the worldly parent will be an immediate return for the cost of education. But the system to be pursued here will attract those parents who desire that their children may be taught of the Lord and trained up for immor-

talities and heaven. There is no other system of preventive discipline which can pierce the shades of night and the secrets of the heart. But the revelation from God to Samuel was completed by the ministry of man. So all children need some Eli near to interpret to them the mysterious Voice from heaven and to teach them how to answer. But if that Voice should come to them in a school of merely secular learning, while they are sitting under a master intent only on secular results, what hope is there that the message from heaven will be interpreted aright? That precious moment in the child's life will be lost. The thrice-repeated Voice of God will be heard in vain, and perhaps heard no more: or never again until half a life may have been wasted in worldliness and sin. This then is the highest duty of the Chaplain here, to watch for the season when the youthful heart will be stirred by the breath of the Spirit of God. God only knows how many thousands of our children have fallen away from God for want of some spiritual teacher at their side, when God first revealed Himself to them, by His Spirit speaking to their hearts. It is no visionary hope that many who are trained here will grow up to be prophets of the Lord. Where can a better seed-plot of the ministry be found than such a College? And will not others go forth from this place to carry far and wide the practice of domestic holiness, setting up, like Abraham, their altar everywhere, founding everywhere the Church in the house? Is not this an object worthy of our aims, our efforts, and our prayers? The fate of our

nation seems to be trembling in the balance. It will not be saved by false philosophy, or secular education, or commercial prosperity ; for none of these things can avert the downfall of a nation in which God is lightly esteemed. May the Spirit of the holy Mother be here : " Talk no more so exceeding proudly." May the spirit of the Virgin Mother be here, of whom Hannah was the type : " Behold the handmaid of the Lord." Above all may the spirit of the Virgin-born be here : " Father, not My will, but Thine, be done." Here will be taught the true foundations of a nation's strength—to fear God and honour the King. No visions of unattainable equality ; no assertions of imaginary rights ; no covetousness, nor self-seeking, nor worldly-wisdom ; no desire to do what seems best in their own eyes ; but all our children will be " taught of the Lord," taught to look to the Cross of Christ, and then to learn to be subject one to another and to be clothed with humility."

GROWTH.

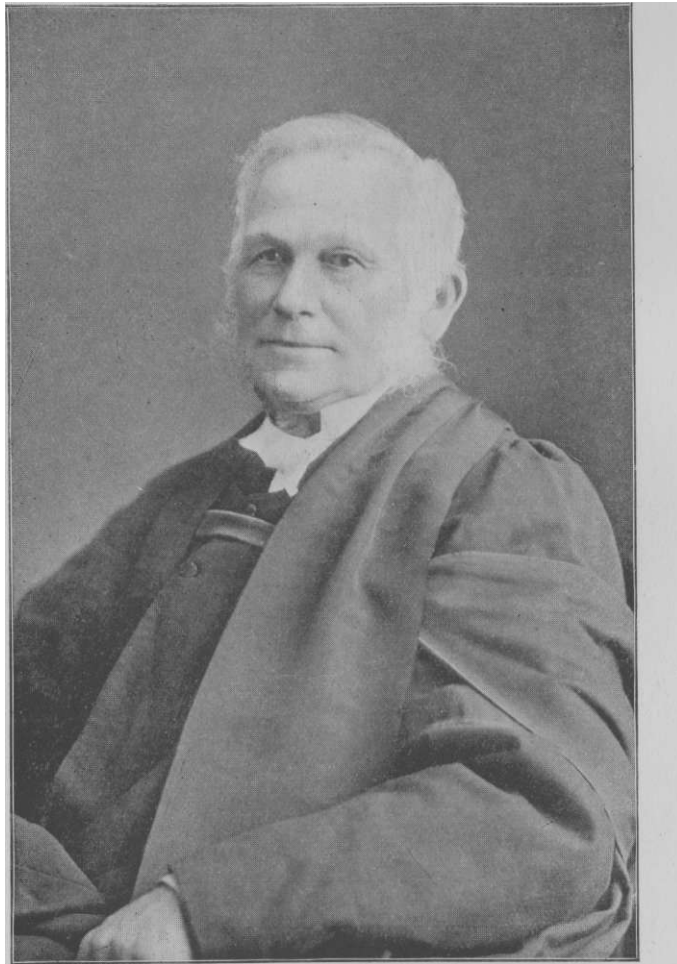
The first new boys arrived on October 9th. They lived in the north wing of the Lonsdale Quadrangle, the only part of the College which was anything like finished. Even the classrooms were not ready till Christmas. The lower dormitory which looks into the Quadrangle was used as a schoolroom ; they dined in what is now the laundry. Afterwards the Great Schoolroom was used for meals till the Dining Hall was built in 1891.

The following comprised the first staff of masters : Rev. T. A. A. Chirol, Rev. D. Edwardes, Mr. A. R. Street, and Mr. A. A. Maister, with Mr. R. Berkeley as College Secretary. It was not till May, 1875, that the first Headmaster, the Rev. W. B. Stanford, M.A., Balliol College, Oxford, was appointed. He gave the School a high tone and keen public spirit, and filled the post till July, 1878. In 1879 the Rev. D. Edwardes, M.A., Jesus College, Cambridge, succeeded him, and threw into the office all the kindness and zeal which had characterised his work hitherto, and which carried the School on to its present position. He resigned in July, 1903, and was succeeded by the Rev. J. LI. Dove, M.A., Christ's College, Cambridge. A portrait of Mr. Edwardes, subscribed for by his many friends, hangs in the Dining Hall as a memorial of his great work.

The Schoolroom is 130 feet long and is altogether a fine room. Its roof is especially handsome. In it hang the Honpur Boards, and a collection of Classical photographs given by Mr. Street. There are, also, photographs of the Founder and of Provosts Lowe and Meynell, and a flag and sledge given by F. G. Jackson (1873—78) who took out the Jackson-Harmsworth Polar Expedition to Franz-Josef Land in 1894-7. On the map of his discoveries will be seen "S. Chad's Head."

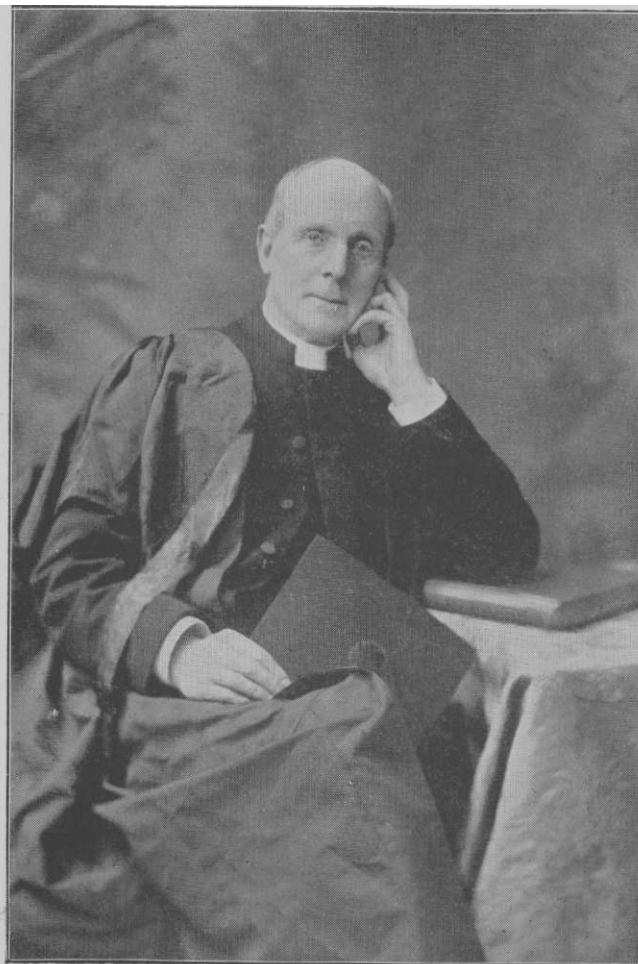
The foundation stone of the Chapel was laid in 1879, and the finished building was dedicated in 1887, in the presence of an immense congregation, by the Lord Bishop (Maclagan) of Lichfield, who showed himself as strong a friend to the School as his predecessors. On this occasion the Archbishop of Canterbury (Benson) preached a notable sermon. The length of the body of the Chapel is 115ft., and the whole seating is of oak ; some of the carving, as for instance that in the Visitor's Stall, is especially good. The Bronze Lectern was given by Mr. Moorsom's sister, in memory of her brother, master from 1879 to 1882. The best chalice of silver gilt, set with jewels, and the white frontal, were given by Mr. and Mrs. Meynell. Provost Lowe gave the famous Abyssinian Cross which is carried before the Provost on state occasions, and also the handsome bronze Altar Cross and Candlesticks. The bronze standard lights were gifts from Abbots Bromley, and the large brass candlesticks of Eastern work were given by the father of O. and D. Victor. The window over

Plate iv.



PROVOST LOWE. *Photo Fradelle & Young.*

Plate ».



PROVOST MEYNELL.

the High Altar was given by the Heywood family as a thankoffering for the recovery, from a dangerous accident, of Sir Percival Heywood : that on the north side of the Sanctuary is a memorial to Provost Meynell. The two lancets are Obit windows, and the S. Benedict window was the gift of Provost Lowe. The windows in the body of the Chapel are to illustrate the life of S. Chad. The first of the series, showing S. Chad at School, was given by Old Boys last year : on the opposite side is the memorial window to J. L. Philipps, given " by his mother and many friends." The Organ was rebuilt and enlarged, and the Screen built across the arches of the Organ Loft, in 1908. S. Benedict's Chapel was fitted by Provost Lowe, and contains memorial tablets to the Founder and Sir Percival Heywood.

In 1888 the foundation stone of the Dming-Hall was laid, and the room was opened in 1891. The latter ceremony was to have been performed by the Viscount Cranbrook, but he was prevented from coming, and the Archbishop of York kindly took his place, and also unveiled the fine portrait of Sir Percival Heywood, which Professor Herkomer had painted. The Hall is 100 feet long, and is reached by a wide flight of stone steps leading off the Great Staircase. It is well proportioned and gives a fine effect of spaciousness. The oaken chairs and high table were the generous gift of Mrs. Skinner, in memory of her husband, and the eight large oil-paintings, copies of Da Vinci and Raphael, and originals by Caravaggio, the Caracci, and

others, were given by Mr. Foljambe in 1882-3. With the opening of the Dining Hall the fabric may be said to have been finished, though of course much remained to be done in the way of completion, fittings and embellishment.

The foundation of the Boys' Library, so far as the books are concerned, was coeval with the opening of the college, but a real Boys' Library, room as well as books, is not heard of till 1879. The actual opening took place on February 5th, 1881. In 1899 a long-talked-of scheme of oak cases was started by A. A. Armstrong, who was at the time Librarian. He himself supplied and drew the designs, which are handsome and appropriate. The Football, Cricket, and Fives Records are interesting : the earlier lists were also the work of A. A. Armstrong. The Fellows' Library is in an adjoining room. Its great treasure is a very fine illuminated MS. Bible of late thirteenth century work. Mr. F. Darwin Swift is the present Librarian.

From the Library we naturally pass to the Museum. Its history begins in 1876, when the collection which had accumulated was placed in a small room opening off the Great Schoolroom. In 1892 great improvements were carried out, and the room was enlarged and re-arranged by A. A. Armstrong, who was curator for many years. To the Rev. W. B. Smith, the present Curator, we owe the present excellent arrangement.

All sorts of interesting objects have flowed in from Denstonians in various parts of the world. There is a particularly fine collection of

Brass-rubbings. The "S. John the Baptist's Head," a curious alabaster votive tablet presented by Provost Lowe, is one of the small total of twenty-nine, which are all that have been discovered in England up to the present time. The Daltry collection of British Lepidoptera is one of the finest private collections in existence.

An annual performance of a Shakespearean Play was contemplated from the beginning, as is seen in the fact that Provost Lowe had the two doors at the stage end of the Schoolroom inserted expressly for the convenience of plays—a provision which experience has taught us to appreciate. But it was not till 1875—we have it on the authority of the first "Retrospect" published in the *Denstonian*—that "the customary procession with the Boar's Head and the singing of the Christmas Carols were superseded by our first dramatic performance and concert, held on Thursday, December 16th." Three years later again the Boar's Head festivities were revived, and without detriment to the then "customary dramatic performance." The Boar's Head Supper having lapsed it was revived in 1898 as the Play Supper.

Since 1875 the Play has been an annual event, and we have represented no fewer than twenty-one of Shakespeare's works, as follows:

The Tempest, 1893
Two Gentlemen of Verona, 1889 and 1903
Love's Labour's Lost, 1910.
The Merry Wives of Windsor, 1896
The Comedy of Errors, 1876

Much Ado About Nothing, 1886 and 1902
 A Midsummer Night's Dream, 1894
 The Merchant of Venice, 1878 (Feb.), 1883
 and 1906
 As You Like It, 1887 and 1900
 The Taming of the Shrew, 1890
 Twelfth Night, 1884, 1897, and 1905
 The Winter's Tale, 1895
 King John, 1888 and 1901
 King Richard II., 1907
 The First Part of King Henry IV., 1875
 (Acts i. and ii. only), 1880 and 1909
 (Feb.)
 The Second Part of King Henry IV. (except
 Act iv.) 1898 and 1904
 King Henry V., 1899
 Julius Caesar, 1886 and 1891
 Macbeth, 1879, 1892, 1909
 Hamlet, 1885
 King Lear, 1879 (Feb.)

In the Christmas Term of 1876 appeared the
 first number of a weekly manuscript magazine
 called *The Fifth Form Gazette*. The enterprise
 was worked by a triumvirate—E. Humphreys
 who started it, F.W.Sherlock, and J. M. Hannay.
 This precious document is now in the Boys'
 Library. At first the circulation was limited,
 till an onslaught on a master for the sin of
 humour in the Debating Society took the paper
 outside the walls of the class-room and caused a
 collision with the authorities. The editing then
 toned down, and the real names of the contri-
 butors had to be entered in a book as a safeguard.
 The merit of this pioneer venture is that it

evoked sufficient interest to start the *Denstonian*. A meeting, with the Headmaster in the chair, was called on the last day of the Christmas term, 1876 ; a magazine was decided upon, to be named the *Denstonian*, and February, 1877, saw the first number launched. Since then the magazine has given a regular view of the life of the school, and, especially in later years, of the doings of Old Boys, together with a varied range of subjects, literary, artistic, scientific. In 1890 the outward form and style of the magazine was improved, and in February, 1897, the *Denstonian* celebrated the year of its majority by issuing a supplement of 52 pages, entitled *Chapters in Denstone History*. It contained articles contributed by especially competent authorities on the foundation and later history of the School, the history of the *Denstonian*, the Boys' Library, Museum, and Play; Cricket and Football records ; lists of Honours and School Officers, and finally a complete School List from the opening of the College.

Outdoor Sports have always flourished. No record of Athletics would be complete without mention of Charles Bill, Esq., who has been a constant friend, especially to the Cricket. It was he, too, who gave the valuable Challenge Cup which is annually competed for at the Sports. The Cricket Pavilion was built in 1897. The Cadet Corps, now a Contingent of the Officers' Training Corps, was started in 1900. Its numbers now exceed 200, and it regularly competes at Bisley and attends the Public Schools Camp at the beginning of August. This

year it has won the Rapid Firing Trophy at Bisley and was sixth for the Ashburton Shield. It sent a contingent to King George V.'s Coronation, and a company went to Windsor for the King's Review on July 4th last.

The Old Boys' Club owed its origin to the fostering care of Provost Lowe and the energy of W. W. Watts, who was its first secretary. The first meeting was held in 1879, and the Club is now in a flourishing condition. A biennial dinner is held at the College, and meetings arranged locally are held frequently at different centres. There are also Old Denstonian Clubs in London and in the North of England.

The present Provost, elected in 1897, is the Rev. Arthur H. Talbot, M.A. Soon after his election came the death, on October 26th, 1897, of Sir Percival Heywood. It was a distinct break with the past, for no one can ever again be to Denstone what Sir Percival Heywood was. He was virtually our Founder, and the history of our growth is a continuous record of his work and liberality. As Provost Talbot said, "the Church of England has had no more loyal son, and Denstone has had no truer friend, than Sir Percival Heywood."

One of the greatest events in our history was the fire which occurred in 1894, on May 25th. This did a great deal of damage, though it caused surprisingly little inconvenience. It originated in a defective chimney at the furthest end of the North wing. It was observed at about five o'clock in the afternoon, and though every effort was made to check the flames very

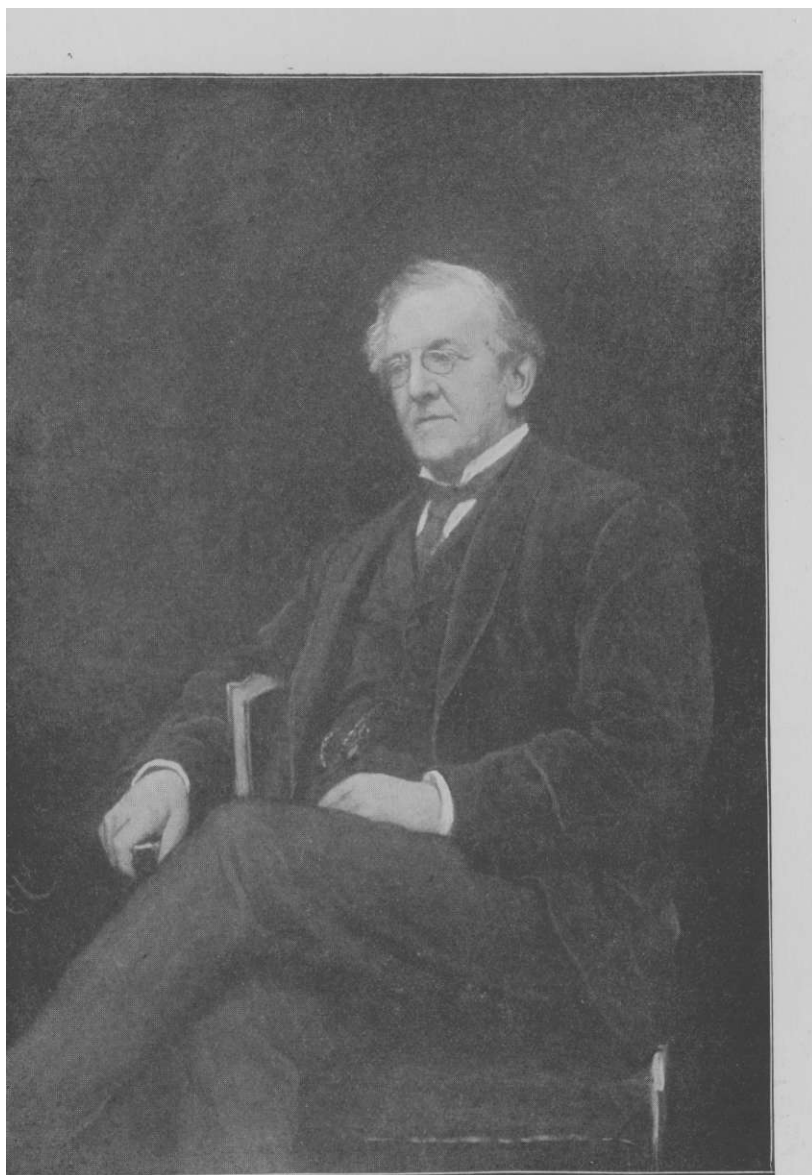
little progress was made till the large steam engine from Longton arrived. Three smaller local engines stationed themselves at the Bathing place and supplied the steamer, which soon played havoc with the fire. About three o'clock in the morning all was over and we surveyed the ruins with much relief. Everyone worked his hardest, and the boys looked on the whole incident as great fun. School work progressed without a hitch, and the work of repair and rebuilding began at once.

The death of Lord Salisbury, our senior Trustee, in 1903 was followed in the same year by that of Provost Meynell, whose life had been one of strenuous work in the service of Denstone and the Woodard Schools. Shortly before, on September 16th, passed away Alfred Rowland Street. Denstone was his first, and practically his sole appointment, for, with the exception of one year, he remained on the staff till 1891, when growing deafness forced him to abandon oral work. During most of this period he was the senior classical master, and his fine taste and scholarship told with profound effect upon his chief pupils. Apart from his success in gaining scholarships at Oxford and Cambridge, he was a literary power and a centre and source of higher culture, in the earlier life of Denstone. Every Old Boy of his time will recall too the touch of playfulness that lifted the Senior Greek Form into a "Denstone Hellenic Society," with emblematic trappings of Athena's owl and a high-toned motto from Plato, in which a sober meaning underlay the mock-heroic. The collec-

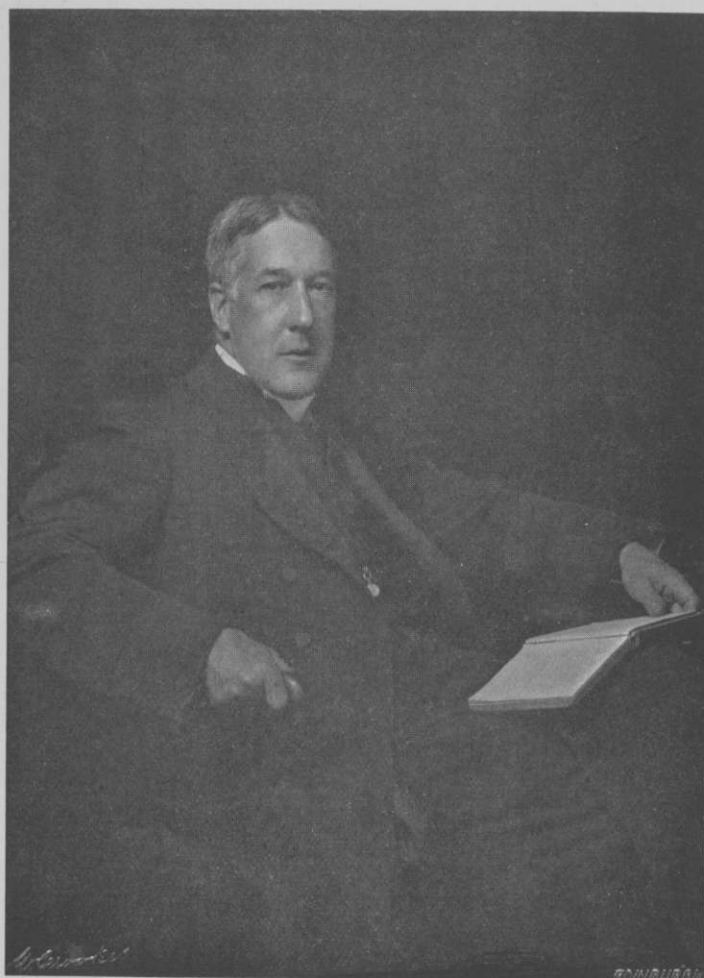
tion of classical photographs on the walls of the Schoolroom was his gift.

Developments of later days must only be glanced at. A very completely-equipped Infirmary has been built, with all modern appliances ; and in the old " Farm " a most successful Preparatory School has been established. The Playground has been enlarged by taking in the fields on either side, and the Swimming Bath is now improved beyond recognition. New Fives Courts have been built alongside the Pavilion, and behind are the Tennis Courts. The Laboratory and Gymnasium are still only "temporary," but they are very serviceable. A fund has been started for building an Armoury and Drill Hall.

In 1905 F. A. Hibbert (1879—85) was summoned from S. Cuthbert's College, Worksop, where he had been Headmaster since 1900, to take over the Headmastership of the School. He was succeeded at Worksop by R. M. Grier (1887—95), and our other School, S. Oswald's College, Ellesmere, also has an Old Denstonian, T. Hedworth (1889—94), for Headmaster.



SIR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Bt.
from Professor Herkomer's picture in the Dining Hall.



PROVOST TALBOT.

THE BEGINNING OF
"THE DENSTONIAN."

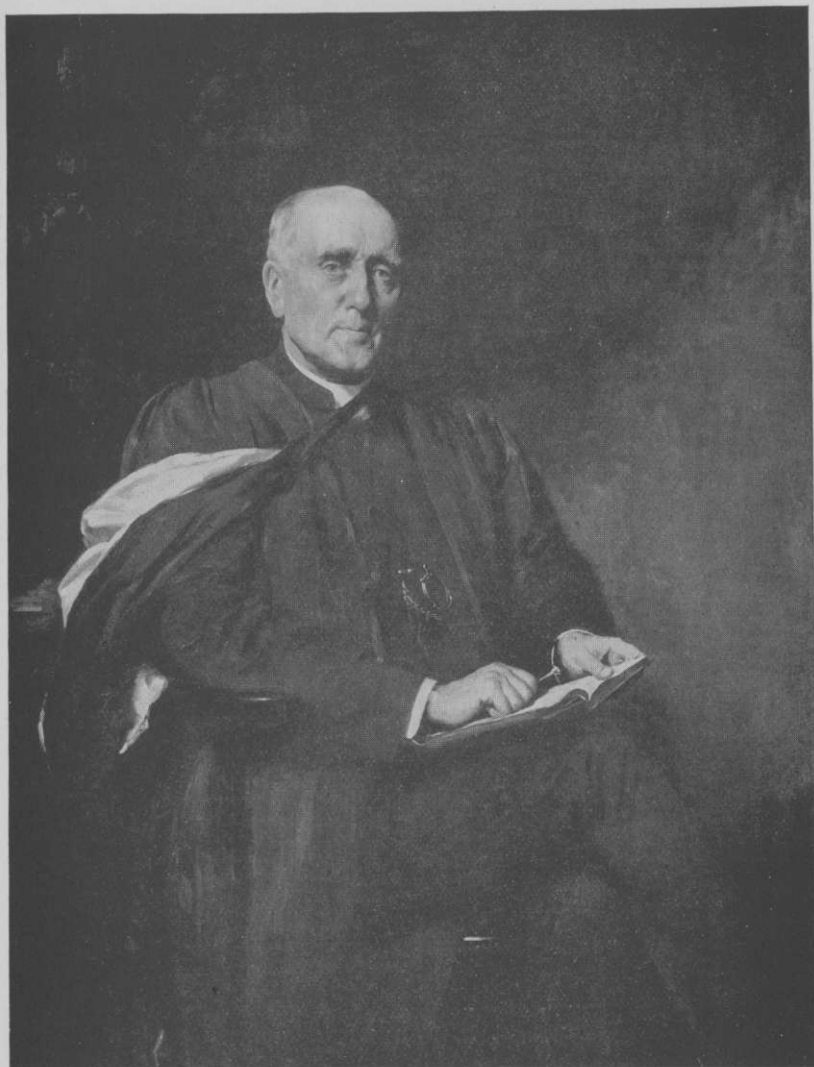
In the last Term of 1876 *the Fifth Form Gazette* had a short life and a merry one, but it gave the necessary impetus which launched the *Denstonian*. On the last day of Term a meeting was called and it was decided to start a School Magazine. F. B. Drew Bickerstaffe was appointed editor, with E. Humphreys, who had been one of the triumvirate which had produced *The Fifth Form Gazette*, as sub-editor. The latter's name disappears after the second number ; the restraint of print was evidently too much for the freelance.

Five-and-thirty years ago, in February, 1877, the first number of the *Denstonian* appeared. No doubt to what we may call the Early Victorian mind the title page was impressive ; indeed it is not a whit worse than a good deal of the decoration of that period ; but although it lasted until 1890 it must have become a thing of dissatisfaction long before that. With its sprawling disproportioned Cross, its impossible scroll, and its bastard " Early English " type, it was a veritable nightmare.

The contents are better, and are not over-marked by the pomposity which one might expect. " The first number of the " *Denstonian* " will be, of course, as much criticised

as it has been looked forward to, of that we may be sure ; but in your remarks upon this number" says the Editor, breaking away into the direct style of personal address, " we trust that you will not forget that many circumstances are against us." He then apologises, as has always been common to editors, for the scarcity of interesting news. He proceeds forthwith, as is also not uncommon with editors, to show that as a matter of fact he had plenty of news to record. He mentions as " the first of our festivities," the Fourth Form Concert, then a Fifth Form Concert " which was even a greater hit than the other," for " the conductor had contrived to obtain a piano for the occasion ! " There was apparently an epidemic of Form Concerts, for the First and Second Forms had also planned one, though it " hung fire." " The Christmas Play and Concert " are next alluded to, and lastly the *Gazette*, its life and consequence, is chronicled.

Following the editorial comes a notice of the Debating Society, mainly dry records of balloting and business. Mention follows of the leaving of five prefects and the coming of new masters and boys. An *In Memoriam* notice of R. R. Williams succeeds, and then a section headed " General "—the ordination of Mr. Berkeley ; brief notices about the Library, the opening of the Carpenter's Shop, and a statement that " the Refectory Committee has decided on supplying string, knives, balls, etc." Old boys who revisit us enlarge on modern luxuries, but the earliest boys appear to have been endowed



The REV. D. EDWARDES, M.A., Headmaster 1879-1903
from the picture by T. B. Kennington in the Dining Hall.



MR. A. R. STREET, M.A.

with the digestions of ostriches. There is then a section "To Correspondents." We shrewdly suspect it was an outlet for editorial wit, as thus—"A *Lover of Truth*, to judge by the specimen before us, would not seem to have made much progress in the cultivation of his favourite virtue." "Football Notes" come next, three columns, from which we extract the following : "In previous years at the beginning of the spring term football used to be extremely popular, and there was no difficulty in getting two strong and evenly matched teams in the field, but this year this is changed, and the order of the day is entreaty rather than invitation when we wish to get up a side. There surely seems to be some reason for this, and we cannot help thinking that when big fellows make perpetual excuses and frequently shirk play, there must be something wrong. Perhaps the boys think it is no use playing while the Captain's post is vacant. . . . The plea that the ground is too bad for Rugby play is absurd on the face of it, as what is clean enough for Association play ought, one would think, to be fit for Rugby. The football on Saturday, February 10th, was all but a failure, there being only ii a side, and most of those little side." What a charming picture of the *laissez faire* which characterised those early days.

A Natural History section follows, in which "trustworthy records" are assured of a welcome, and a long list of wild flowers which had already appeared is given, with the remark that such a list, "owing to the extraordinary mild-

ness of the season," was probably " unprecedented in the annals of the Midland Counties." " New cases in the course of construction " for the Museum are recorded.

Then come new books in the Library, nine classical and eleven novels, six of these being by Lytton. Finally there is a page of Debating Society Rules.

For a first number it cannot be said this was at all bad, and misprints are not conspicuous, though there is a tradition that one of " our contemporaries" in reviewing the issue was unkind enough to suggest that the editor would do well to have a proof of succeeding numbers. The next number would have deserved such a remark much more decidedly, for, in the four columns of " Correspondence" which it contained, occurred the following lines, apropos of the Bath room :—

" Besides which if the taps
does not get on one moment too soon, the water
be turned warm for a much longer time.

The real meaning may be seen if the words we have printed in italics are placed in different lines.

If the Football was in a precarious condition in those days (though the second number was able to record a " decided improvement, both as to the number of players and also the amount of pluck displayed"), the intellectual interests were vigorous. In the third number there are two columns of " reviews of Books " (*padding*) and much debating news, with a note apologising for the reporter's inability to reproduce the

"eloquence of the speakers." Then came the Rules of the "Essay Club" (they were great on Societies and Rules), and much Natural History and Correspondence. Prizes were offered for essays, but none appear to have been awarded. In No. 4 more Rules of the Essay Club are given bringing the total up to 22, which were surely enough to cramp any budding literary genius. J. M. Hannay read the first essay—subject not stated—and F. B. Drew Bickerstaffe was then called upon to bring to light his views on "novels and novel reading."

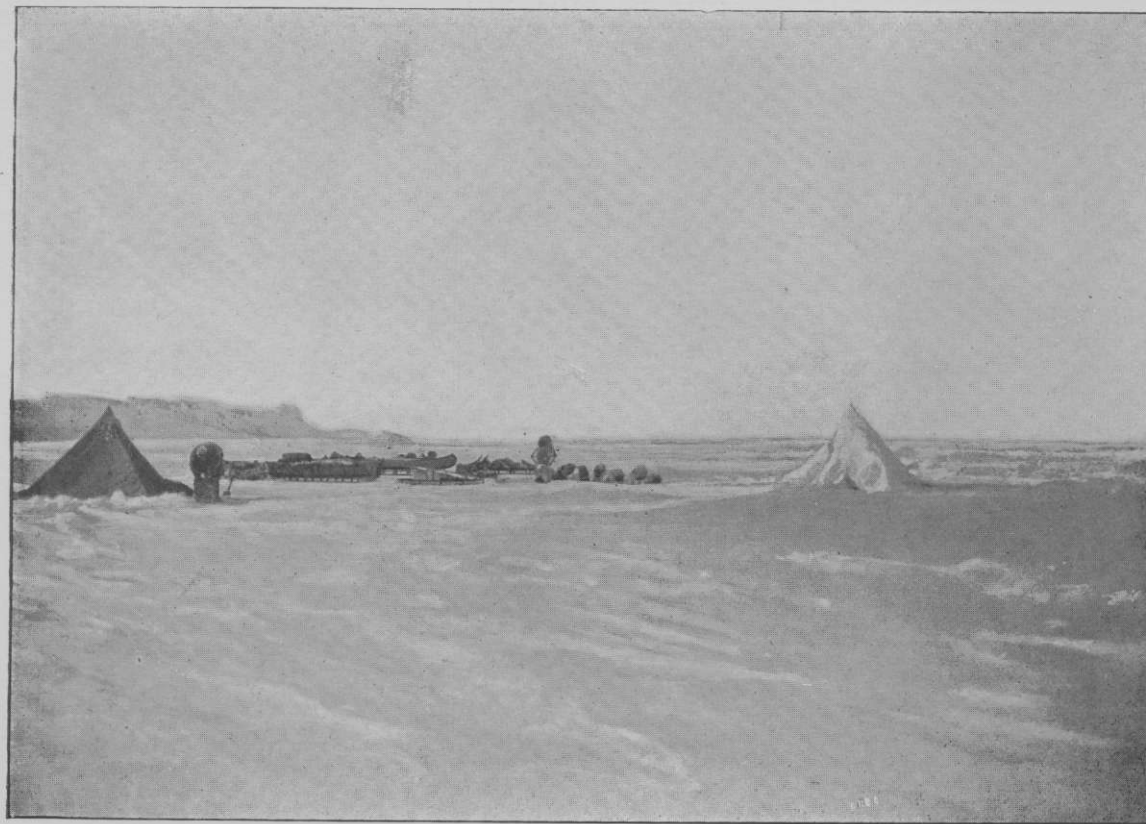
The future author of *Maroiz* and *Dromina*, we find, did this "to the extent of three foolscap pages and a half: by the time he had come to an end several members were enjoying the calm sleep of the just, while the author of the Essay himself must have felt as dry as it was; we will do it justice to remark that, from a polysyllabic point of view it was all that could be wished, although we could not help wishing some of the very imposing words had left their tales behind them. The snores of some of the members having by this time awakened the Chairman, he hastened to dismiss the House."

But we have already passed out of the first Term of the *Denstonian*. The venture had been launched, and the magazine had been placed on a firm basis: the metaphor is rather mixed but the meaning is obvious, and from those early days, now thirty-four years ago, the *Denstonian* has regularly appeared, though the three small numbers a term were changed, after a year's experience, to two larger ones.

FORM MAGAZINES.

The history of Magazines which have been issued by individual Forms from time to time, would be an interesting study if a complete collection were known to us. If we had a complete collection of the various Form Magazines we might hope to obtain from them numberless details of the more interior and intimate life of Denstonians at varying epochs. Unfortunately however a study of the documents which survive tends to show that such a hope would not altogether be fulfilled. A few glimpses are given of what we have desiderated, but too often the juvenile aspirants to Editorship in later years have contented themselves with recording much which was being better done in the *Denstonian*. One longs for more independence and originality.

Such glimpses at the past as are vouchsafed are decidedly interesting. The original *Fifth Form Gazette* bears ample evidence of the sporting proclivities of the denizens of Classrooms in the early years of the School's history. Racing news, "Latest betting," announcements concerning *Lilly white's Annual*, and instructions as to where "Football costumes may be procured" abound. No wonder that the "United Fifth Form" was strong enough to beat the rest of the School, with Masters, at Football. Under the circumstances one ought not to be surprised perhaps to find that their artistic taste was not



S. CHAD'S HEAD, latitude $80^{\circ} 44' N.$
with Jackson's Camp, March 26th, 1897.

Photo by F. G. Jackson.

Plate x.



THE BOYS' LIBRARY.

equally developed. In No. 4 a bitter letter throws an intentionally lurid light on the pictures which adorned their walls. The Royal Arms stood over the doorway "in a frame of mourning." "Wellington's Funeral Car," a "Shipwreck/' a "Military Barracks," a "Lame Dog," "Wild Indians on the Trail," "Liverpool embarking Stage," and "The Irish Reel" also appear in the catalogue of their Art Gallery, as well as "the remains of a View of Edinburgh," concerning which the writer, "Aristarchus," pleads "Why should we be deprived of part of that fine country ? "

Another detail which emerges from the contents of the paper is the important part Classics played in the curriculum. Classical allusions abound, and favourite aliases are, besides the one we have mentioned, Alcibiades, Junius, Hylas, Demosthenes, and Cicero. "Pericles " was the moving spirit of the whole, and was really J. M. Hannay, whose son we had with us not very long ago. A debate on the Expedition to Syracuse enabled Dunkerley to speak "with a fluency which has not been displayed before by any of the boys," and led to "our esteemed friend and Master Mr. Hickie " congratulating the Society on the high level attained by all.

They were politicians too. News is given of "the Crisis in the East " ; debaters discussed such subjects as the Bulgarian Atrocities, and the proposal to make the Duke of Edinburgh Sultan of Turkey ; and the election of the Lord Mayor of London is duly announced. F. G.

Jackson was Captain of the Form in FoDtbball, and it may have been through his early interest in Arctic exploration that the success of the *Alert* and *Discovery* in Arctic regions is recorded. A similar foreshadowing of the future may be discerned in the debate upon Electricity led by W. W. Watts, which is described as " one of the best if not *the* best of the season."

Favourite amusements in Class Room were fretwork and French-polishing, which were not viewed with favour by all on account of the offence occasioned to olfactory nerves by the varnish and oil; and that natural history was a subject of interest is shown by the news that " a thrush's nest with three eggs on which the parent bird was sitting " had been found in November. Hockey was " very popular " in the School, we read, and a proposal was made that it should " be made a regular School game." It is interesting to note the venerable antiquity of some College " institutions." Even in those early days the College clock had attained fame by its eccentricities, and the lamps were already a byword.

A glimpse is given of the management of the Play. We are not told that the stage consisted of the dais propped on barrels, though such was the case, but we learn that boys had to write home for their subscriptions; and the Committee announce that they " will be happy to undertake the office of securing beds, as near the College as possible, for any friends who will let them know that they wish to come from a distance." A full account of a rehearsal of *The Comedy of*

Errors is given, with very, outspoken advice to many of the performers. "The Duke's acting is tame and he has not sufficient dignity"; Aegeon "cuts short small words"; Dromio of Ephesus "could well spare some of his boisterous nature"; while the other Dromio is "rather too funny." "The Officer is all very well in his way but he must not on Thursday arrest the wrong person." This may be here supplemented by two bits of tradition about the performance. It is said that on account of the propensity of the Officer to arrest the combatants before the fight had begun the stage manager was finally driven to tie him up by a cord, which could be slipped at the proper moment. We are told also that a fresh "error" was added at the Denstone performance, to those provided by Shakespeare. The same "cue" came twice within some fifty lines and when it occurred the second time the *first* reply was given, and to the general consternation the dialogue which had just been finished was plunged into again. Fortunately someone had the presence of mind to execute a gigantic and daring jump sufficiently far ahead into the scene to extricate the acting from a predicament which might have kept them on the stage for ever.

The *Fifth Form Gazette* was first published on Oct. 14th, 1876. It consisted of four pages of foolscap size, with two pages of supplement. There was a great deal of vigorous correspondence, and much debating news. Football is hardly as prominent as one would expect. The three people concerned were E. Humphreys,

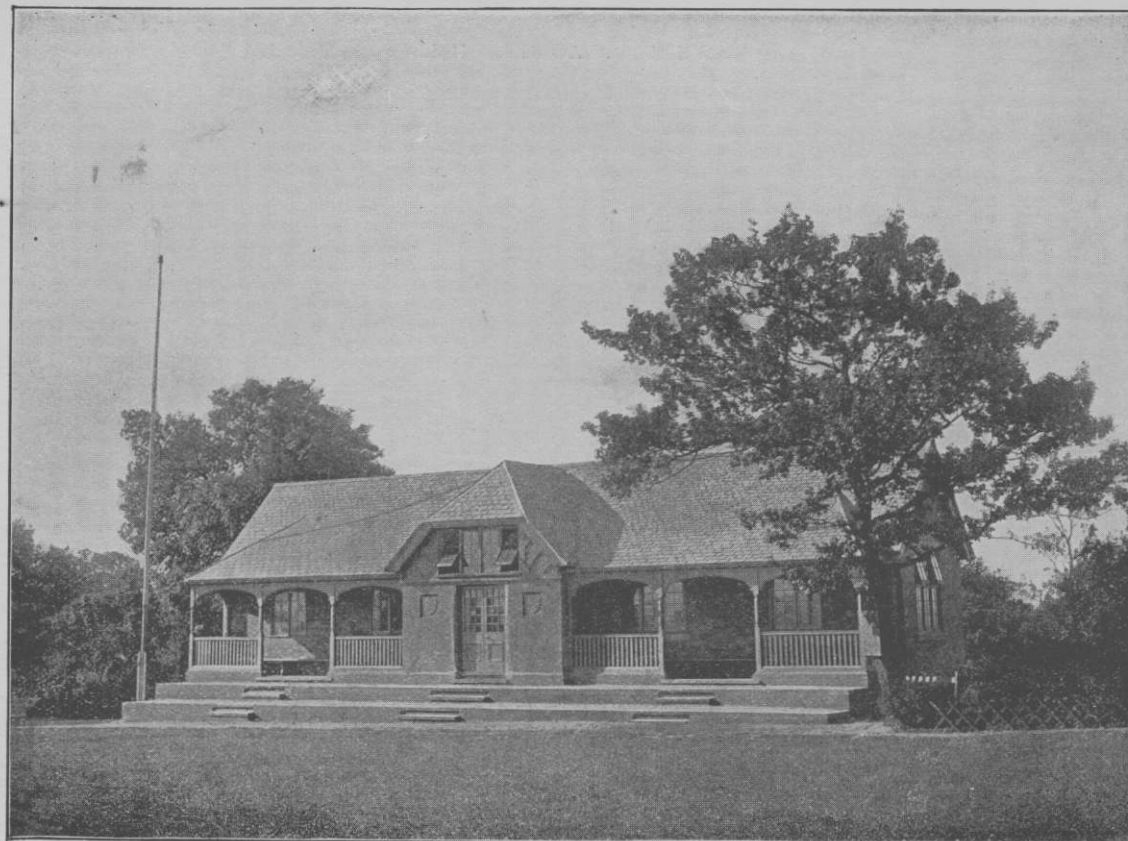
F. W. Sherlock, and J. H. Hannay. Copies of numbers i to g, with the exception of numbers 2 and 6 are preserved in the Boys' Library. No. 9 is dated Dec. 9th, and it is believed a tenth number appeared. All were written, and two copies were made, the duplicate copy remaining in the possession of a private individual who cannot, however, now be traced.

In 1882 began a revival of Form Magazines. The Fifth Form in the Summer Term were a particularly enterprising set, and they started a Magazine which had a really long life. The first number of this *Fifth Form Gazette* was issued in July 1882, and when the boys were promoted next Term to the Division they continued their Magazine as the *Division Gazette*. Two numbers appeared in the Michaelmas Term, two in the Lent Term and one in the Summer Term. Their successors after the Summer Holidays made an attempt to continue the magazine, but with short-lived success.

They were nothing if not ambitious. Their paper was cyclostyled in large quarto size, and sometimes ran to nine or ten pages. In their opening words they looked forward to having their paper printed, and in their "swan song" they again harped on the same note of enterprise. The moving spirit and Editor was F. J. C. Warter, and the "Committee" consisted of C. T. Neale, T. W. Moore, A. W. F. Norton, G. Turner, C. Bruce, C. B. Livingstone and P. Wilding. The first Editor left in May 1883, and received a gracefully worded Obituary Notice from his unnamed successor.



THE FELLOWS' LIBRARY.



THE CRICKET PAVILION.

The first number contained an account of an excursion given to the Fifth by Mr. Moorsom ; it appears to have been very enjoyable, and included a dinner at the Wheat Sheaf Hotel, Cheadle, and a descent of one of the coal mines. A cricket match against the Division follows : the senior Form won in a single innings, making 97 to 25 and 49. Then came a story of Italian Brigands, in two Chapters, some Correspondence, and School News.

"A romantic tale of Spain " was given in No. 2 : four pages of it, with a concluding threat that it was "to be continued," and the first instalment of " Paddy Mallowney's Travels in France," which were not exhausted in over two pages. The former was never finished and the latter took no less than five pages to come to an end in the next number. These were obviously not original, so they could have no possible merit; indeed the outstanding defect of the *Gazette* was its lack of originality. Its Football and Cricket accounts were as often as not concerned with matches which were being reported in the *Denstonian*, and the scribe actually went to the labour of copying out from the School Magazine the whole of the Batting and Bowling Averages. From the Correspondence columns we find that Fives was beginning to take a serious part in our athletic interests and there is a request for an occasional fire in the Library.

The March number " respectfully begs to remind the Members of the Sports Committee of the desirability of having the Course measured and marked out as early as possible," and then

proceeds to copy out an " In Memoriam " notice of Mr. Moorsom which had just appeared in the *Denstonian*. A belated account of the Glee Club Concert which had been given the previous Term follows, and some Debating news. A suggestion is made that all should subscribe to pay the expenses of the School Teams, and then much more news from the *Denstonian*. Finally comes a page of Riddles and Acrostics. The April number has a much more suitable, because independent, tribute to Mr. Moorsom : his death " is deplored by none more than the Division, and we shall never fail to remember his kind deeds and words amongst us which were ever those of a true Christian gentleman ; and we trust that when the Chapel begins to approach completion a suitable and distinct memorial of him will be there raised." It will be remembered that our massive bronze Lectern was eventually given in Mr. Moorsom's memory by his sister. There is then a vigorous onslaught on the Debating Societies. Next comes an account of Sports at Doveleys, provided, in accordance with his custom, by Sir Percival Heywood, who also allowed the boys to use his miniature railway. There were races to Doveleys for Seniors (won by W. F. Richardson) and Juniors (won by J. S. Bomford), Steeplechases (won by the same), Hundred Yards, won by G. L. Bomford and C.H. P. Wetherell, a " Horse Race " won by Mather with Huxley as jockey, and a Servitors' Race. A Dirge on the Decease of the Debating Society occurs, containing such piteous laments as the following :

*At five o'clock I asked the Vice
" Is the Meeting nearly done ? "
He shrugged his shoulders as he said
" It is not yet begun."*

*In haste I turned to try and find
The usher of the Rod :
I said " old man, whatever's up ? "
He muttered " Ichabod."*

Some " Howlers " are given, but they are hardly worth transcribing here, though if the writer had looked nearer home he could probably have contributed an amusing article. Again a page of dreary wit concludes the number. The solitary issue which appeared in the Summer Term opens with an Editorial which takes a remarkably rosy view of things in general " save perhaps the *Denstonian* which seems to be more stiff and staid than ever "—a criticism which the Editor of the Magazine condescended to notice. Full reports are given of various School and Dormitory matches, and then a poem poking fun at the pretentious way in which the N. H. S. had been revived and had promptly collapsed. A short episode entitled " White Trash " follows, which the Editor explains " was written by Mr. Moor-som four years ago for the *Denstonian* but never inserted " There are letters complaining of the misuse of the Library and of the singing of Anglican Chants at Compline. " The effect is appalling. The trebles make a shot at the air, the tenors and basses make a shot at the harmony,—probably not two of them are singing the

same harmony. I remember one evening we had what in the opinion of certain musicians (?) was a very fine chant. It nearly sent me to an untimely grave. It was one of those atrocious inventions, double chants. The first half of each verse was in unison and went very low down ; only the basses and the harmonium could be heard : then came the harmony : the tenors and trebles let out with a yell, the basses continued growling, Oh ! it was beautiful! Let's have good old music to good old words, not new wine in old bottles. I don't mean to cast a slur on our compline Organist. I've no doubt he is a gentleman of the highest musical talent, but I do wish he'd restrain himself a little. If he drives me into a lunatic asylum with his chants my blood be on his head! " If anything had really been necessary to banish such things from our services surely such an impassioned harangue would have done it, though the next number again jibes at the " operatic Chants with which our sub-organist was in the habit of serenading us at Compline."

The single issue by the new Division, in October, 1883, reported two football matches played by the Division against the Fourth Form, the former being a draw and the latter a victory for the junior form, and then a good deal of ist XV. news—A. B. Pattison and F. A. Hibbert being among those commended. A translation is given from Aeschylus *Prometheus Vincetus*, and a complaint is uttered that the Dining Hall is lighted so badly that reading at tea is impossible. A suggestion that " a photograph "



THE GREAT SCHOOL-ROOM.



THE SCHOOLROOM AND STAGE.

of the Actors in the Play should be taken bore fruit, and has since blossomed as the rose, but fortunately another, that the Football caps should be changed to tinsel things of "velvet with silver tassels" met with the neglect it deserved.

The first issue of a *Fourth Form Chronicle* appeared on Nov. 16th, 1883. It was "jelly-graphed" on ordinary note paper. The cover is obviously modelled on the *Denstonian*, but the type is better, and so are the Shield and scroll : E. LI. Armstrong was, we believe, the artist. The opening "Editorial" run thus : "We, the members of the IVth Form, wishing to emulate our senior form the Division, have decided to produce a periodical which we hope will meet with general approbation. We purpose to bring this paper out bi-monthly, devoting its pages to passing events in the School with other interesting matters, that will be not uninteresting to Seniors and which we believe will especially interest Juniors. Under this impression we publish our first number of "The Fourth Form Chronicle." Such was the delightful pronouncement, *urbi et orbi*, with which the venture was launched. The next three pages gave a description of a Big School Game "Clergymen's Sons v. Rest," and at the conclusion we read "For the Clergy's Sons Pattison (Capt.) Rev. Norton, Farmer max., Hunter, Boldero max., Ward mi., played especially well, and for the Rest, Sylvester (Capt.), Bomford max., Norton, Towle max., Hibbert and Forster." Next the Final Dormitory Match is mentioned, relating how

" Mr. Harrison's beat Mr. Fisher's by i try,* and promising a full account next time : over two pages were given in due course. Three pages were devoted to the Newcastle match—" this time-honoured match"—which was drawn, and at the end we are told " the moral of this match for Denstone is—study the Newcastle ground, practice especially for it and you must win." A Little side Dormitory Match " Mr. Harrison's v. Head Master's " then receives its three pages—Hignett, Hanks, Ward min., Crews, Roberts, Fearnley, Marsden, Marshall, and Bailey max. are commended—and " Choir v. School," with a note on " Rev. Fisher's v. Rev. Norton's." Then follows a letter suggesting that the place-kicking of the School might be improved. Some " School News " is given, such as " we are glad to see the Fives Courts repaired ; let us hope the boys will repair to them frequently." Mention is made of a Fifth Form Debating Society.

The Second number, on Dec. 12th, contains a brief notice of the *Merchant of Venice*. The charming *naivete* of the statement " we can safely say that this play far surpassed our former plays" is typical of the thoroughly healthy frame of mind which is firmly convinced that its own School and generation is the best of all imaginable ones—welcome enough in the Fourth Form, offensive though it becomes in, say, the Sixth. " A Gymnastic " writes about the Gymnasium and " A Reformer " about the Museum ; the Boar's Head Supper (when " Mr. Bland proposed three cheers for the Chaplain which was followed by many others") is

described, and among the School News we are gravely told that "A. R. Street, Esq., has passed his M.A." Then comes "Wit and Humor" (sic), fortunately interrupted half way down the page by a "Latest Telegram" announcing the victory over the School by the Old Boys.

No. 3 appeared on March 8th next year, though the date is still given as 1883. The Editorial announces the arrival of the "Solemn Season of Lent," and states sententiously that "we can report well of the Senior Debating Society, which is in a flourishing condition, but we are sorry to say the Junior is rather reverse. Let us strive to *ammend* this." A correspondent further on discusses the enormities of the Junior Society, choosing the *Chronicle*, he says, because he is "unwilling to expose" the culprit in the *Denstonian*. The Secretary is attacked, apparently because he posts up notices which no one regards. "And the President too! Is there any truth in the statement that he went out on a holiday excursion without providing for the Society whose interests he more than any other should study and regard?" But he metes out his justice with an even hand. "I am told that the Senior Society intend to pass a vote of censure on their younger brother. Now, Mr. Editor this is somewhat cool when even that august assembly has no slight difficulty in collecting a quorum." But the only recommendation for improvement which he can suggest is a wholesale resignation of officers. The Gymnasium is again attacked and a suggestion is

made that subscription lists should be opened to provide waste-paper baskets for class-rooms. Two Scholarships are announced, and the favourable progress of the Cinder Tennis Court (which used to be in front of the present Pavilion) is recorded. " The V. Form Deb. Soc. is closed for the summer months." " Wit and Humour " again appear (has anyone ever been known to wade through paragraphs thus dismally announced ?) and finally another Football Telegram, timed 8-15 p.m., announcing a victory over Nottingham by 4 goals and a try to one try. It must have been surprising to the members of the XV. to find on their arrival their victory thus already " in print." The explanation is that the enterprising editors persuaded two members of the team to hurry up from Rocester as quickly as possible with the news, and waited for them in the Class Room with pen dipped and jelly ready, so as to write down the news and print it off immediately. It is instructive to remember that this was during the time which was supposed to be devoted to " Preparation " !

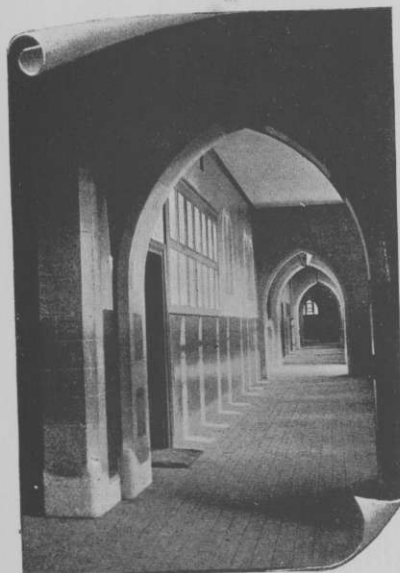
This was the last number of the *Fourth Form Chronicle*. In June the *Fifth Form Chronicle* appeared, announcing that " the conductors of the " IVth Form Chronicle " have now advanced to the Vth Form, where, however, they intend to continue their paper." We have not been able to obtain access to any copies of it, but the venture had been praiseworthy. It betokened at any rate a spirit of enterprise and originality which, in such young boys as those of the Fourth Form, is really creditable. It is



The Sanatorium.



The Lonsdale Quadrangle.



The Provost's Stall
The Great Staircase,
The Cloisters.

nothing to their discredit that their magazine contained little besides Football news : better than smart personalities and quips at personal peculiarities or, sometimes, physical defects, which often make up the staple of manuscript magazines. The so-called "wit" was mercifully small in amount: it was at any rate at nobody's expense, and was never vulgar. Considering that the *Chronicle* knew no Censor this alone speaks volumes for the underlying basis of real public spirit which the small boys who issued it possessed.

In the Lent Term of 1884 appeared The '*Headmaster's House Chronicle*', but we know not how many numbers were issued : we think not many. It was distinctly inferior, the handwriting being "various" and mostly scrawly, and cheap jokes were freely interlarded. Among the "School News" we read that "———has had his 2nd XV. colours forfeited for systematically refusing to play" ; and "We are glad to hear that W. A. Leedam an Old Denstonian was married a fortnight ago." The Editors were Dolphin and C. E. Hughes.

The Lent Term of 1887 saw another *Fifth Form Gazette*, which had some novel features. It gave a "Review" of the Form Football Team which of course could be more freely expressed than is possible in a "public" magazine. The Captain we find was "rather fickle and wanting in energy" ; one of the forwards "has rather too much to say considering he is not Captain," another "should not be so timid with his shins. A player who is

described as " really a poor half," had, perhaps fortunately for the Editor, " left " when the criticism appeared. Then followed

Essay

Composed by E. R. James on

Lord Burleigh.

" Lord Burleigh," we are told, " woo'd and won a very fair peasant lass, and married her. She was under the impression that her consort was a man of low degree, and lived in a cottage under the hill. But before he took her home he bade her walk with him and see all the nobles' castles between her home and their cottage. They strolled through massive archways, with pleasant courts, and gardens, but the more grandeur she saw, the image of the pretty little home, hovered more pleasantly in her mind." And so on to the end. " After she had made him father to three children, she died. Her Lord with swollen eyes and saddened look, paced the chambers through and through, then he called his servants and bade them dress his wife in her wedding dress, and she was borne to her last home in it."

The Form Debating Society had H. J. Enraght for President, F. H. P. Rogers for Vice-President, E. G. Cunningham and G. L. Greaves for Secretaries, and A. Ware for Usher. The Chapel was nearing completion and there is a good account of it in the February number, and " An ode of the Captain of our XV." by a youthful poet follows, which is more distinguished by vigour than by either rhythm or rhyme. It enumerates in eight stanzas the

Captain's enormities thus :—

*He captained us so well in Thursday's match
That it was chiefly he who lost it
For by his clumsiness he let them snatch
The ball from him each time he got it.*

A long account is given of an entertainment, from which we gather that " the first part of the programme delighted its audience by reason of the marvellous transformation of intelligent Englishmen into undoubted niggers, by the hailstorm of excruciating jokes, as well as by the ingenious rendering of a number of popular songs." In the Farce H. J. Enraght showed " great skill and abandon " and the writer was amazed by the actor's " coolness and knowledge of the words of his part." " He certainly, par excellence, merited the hearty applause which was frequently given." H. W. T. Smith and A. Bowcock " were responsible for the music of the piano and violin." The literary style of the Fifth in those days was certainly remarkable.

Among the notes we read " Fellows seem to have got tired of pan-cakes, and there is no wonder they have, as the number consumed during a space of three days would almost have met the wants of a beleaguered garrison for a space of three weeks." A sarcastic note on the lateness of the preparations for the Sports appears, and the information that "Mr. A. Ware still keeps us alive with his charming tin whistle." Two prizes of 6d. and 3d. respectively are offered in a competition but this financial venture appears to have brought the Magazine into premature bankruptcy.

THE CORONATION.

The Coronation gave, at the College, unmitigated joy to all without exception. The few who were selected to represent the O.T.C. in London and the one who sang in the Choir at Westminster Abbey, were the objects of undisguised envy, but when the day itself came and unrolled its varied "items" we quite forgot the absent ones for the time and gave ourselves up to sheer delight. Firstly came a fine Service in Chapel for which the military paraded in uniform and which was excellently sung. Then the O.T.C. held a ceremonial parade and fired a *feu de joie*, and made themselves effective generally. The band played in the Selwyn Quadrangle, flags waved, soldiers marched about, civilians admired, and we all felt in Bank Holiday humour. The day was a whole holiday and some of us visited neighbouring festivities, but all returned for Dinner in the evening, for which the Matron provided a wealth of luxuries. When at the conclusion of the repast, "we issued, gorged," (see Tennyson's *Princess*) the rain was falling fast. Dreadful thoughts filled every mind. The Bonfire which had been built so scientifically and carefully for days past, and upon which we had gazed with such charmed anticipation: would it burn, or would it fizzle only? The Fireworks: would they go off? The illuminations: would they light? We were panic-stricken for the



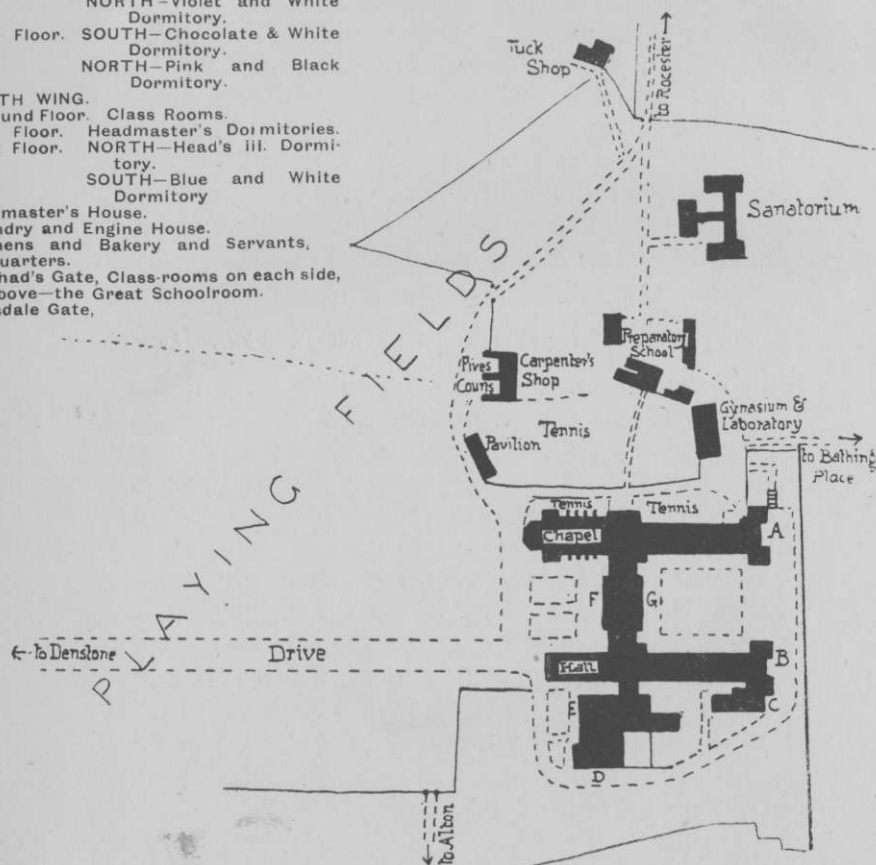
" Boys Scouts " encamped in the College grounds. *Photo, by Lowndes.*



At the Public Schools Camp, Aldershot—the Denstone Contingent. *Photo, by Soame*

DENSTONE COLLEGE.

- A. SOUTH WING.**
 Ground Floor. Class Rooms and Prefects' Rooms, and Libraries.
 1st Floor. SOUTH—Green and White Dormitory.
 NORTH—Violet and White Dormitory.
 2nd Floor. SOUTH—Chocolate & White Dormitory.
 NORTH—Pink and Black Dormitory.
- B. NORTH WING.**
 Ground Floor. Class Rooms.
 1st Floor. Headmaster's Dormitories.
 2nd Floor. NORTH—Head's ill. Dormitory.
 SOUTH—Blue and White Dormitory.
- C. Headmaster's House.**
D. Laundry and Engine House.
E. Kitchens and Bakery and Servants' Quarters.
F. S. Chad's Gate, Class-rooms on each side, above—the Great Schoolroom.
G. Lonsdale Gate,



moment. But then we slapped our manly chests, put on our overcoats and reflected that we were at any rate allowed out till midnight, and, fine or rain, that in itself was a treat for schoolboys. Besides, the combustibles *must* burn : Mr. Airy and Dawson and Dick could be trusted to manage it somehow or other. And with bolder spirits came clearer skies. The rain ceased. We emptied the fairy lamps, wiped the wicks, took the tarpaulin off the Bonfire and brought out the Rockets. In the result we found that never had Bonfire been better built or arrangements better made. Our neighbours from the village marched up in procession, headed by the Village Band, which suddenly revived for the day and played excellently, and all together we watched the application of the torch. We cannot deny that for a few moments some hearts stood still as the rain appeared to have had effect. But then Dawson and Dick were seen armed with a ladder. Was Mrs. Wood going to climb it ? Dawson boldly took her place, mounted to the top, and in an instant the pile was well alight : there was never afterwards a moment's doubt. It was a splendid success. It burned fiercely and steadily right to the end. The fireworks were equally good. The appreciation of the great crowd of neighbours was not less satisfactory. All too soon the end came. But even Coronation Days must end sometime, and we went to bed tired and satisfied.

When our Contingent returned from London, where they had been on duty for the two days outside Buckingham Palace, they only

added to our satisfaction. For in enjoying themselves we felt they had honoured Denstone. They had an experience which none of them will ever forget. They were stationed in splendid places on both days, right in the thick of everything. The Chaplain, Lieut. A. E. Dudley, who was with them though not actually on duty, found that his uniform gave him the *entree* everywhere. Barriers were nothing. Military and police alike passed him anywhere. Buckingham Palace grounds and gardens, as everywhere else, seemed at his service. The arrangements were excellent, from arrival on Wednesday till departure on Saturday ; all were splendidly treated, and the whole thing was perfect.

A week later came our four days *Exeat*. All who liked went home from Saturday till Tuesday. Eighty of the O.T.C. went to the King's Review at Windsor. Again the arrangements were perfection and the treat unique. Certainly no generation of Denstonians has had quite such an experience as has befallen the favoured members of the Corps this year. And to return to the College at 1 a.m. ! Fortunately next day was a holiday, the last of the *Exeat*—for a couple of dozen of our Scouts were at Windsor,—so there was time to recover. And none of us, certainly, will ever forget the Coronation of King George V.

ORGANISATIONS.

THE OLD DENSTONIANS' CLUB.—The object of the O.D. Club is to provide a bond of union between Old Schoolfellows. The subscription is 2/- a year (or life subscription of 30/-) to the Benefit Fund. A Dinner is held periodically, at the College or elsewhere. Secretary, W. O. Wilding, Castle St., Shrewsbury.

THE LONDON OLD DENSTONIANS' CLUB.—For O.Ds. resident in and near London. A Dinner is usually held in January, and other meetings take place at various times. President, Rev. G. R. Bell, S. Peter's Vicarage, Clapham Junction, Battersea, London, S.W.; Secretary, J. W. Orr, 3, Temple Gardens, London, E.C.

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND OLD DENSTONIANS' CLUB.—Secretary, H. Jacks, 3, Law Court Chambers, West Keppel Street, South Shields.

PUBLICATIONS, ETC.

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The Old Denstonians Chronicle, published annually in January, 1/6.

Chapters in Denstone History, edited by F. A. Hibbert (published in 1897). Out of print.

- A History and Description of Denstone College*, by F. A. Hibbert (2nd Edition, 1900).
Out of print.
- A History of the Denstone Play, 1875—1903*,
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