

THE  
DENSTONIAN

VOLUME XXXVII

*Edited by R. A. E. BARTON & G. B. FYLDES*

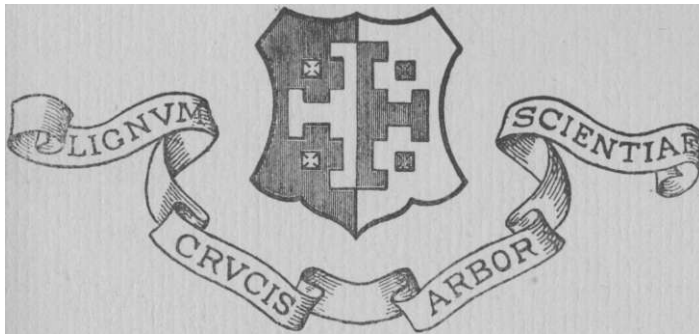
DENSTONE COLLEGE

1913.

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# Denstonian.

MARCH, 1913.

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## EDITORIAL.

**A**T the time of writing, the Football Season is all but over. In the main we have been successful, this fact being perhaps due to the unceasing efforts of Mr. Gaussen, and this season's Captain. One event of great importance however remains to us—the Sports. This year it seems as though there will be much more competition for the coveted places than formerly, and so the events will present a spectacle of far greater interest than usual.

lacking: we cannot but heartily congratulate L. G. Harris and K. R. Evans on their successes at Cambridge. We hope that the March candidates may be as fortunate.

The Drill Hall, last term a very dirty and tangled skein, has now assumed palatial dimensions; we hope to migrate to the Changing Rooms soon.

In Certificate A we have had three successes, and judging by the amount of time expended on this subject the next results ought to register even a greater number. The absence of field days this term is disappointing since we all looked forward to the usual exciting and well contested fight with neighbouring schools. We commiserate with them in their misfortune, and congratulate ourselves that **In work, too, distinction has not been**

so far we have escaped the ravages of any "plague."

This year, 1913, is an interesting one for all Denstonians, for it brings to us our 40th birthday. We hear of various schemes for fittingly celebrating such an occasion, some of which are grave and some gay. Certainly there should be something "big" and striking. At present all projects lie on the lap of the gods. We trust that in our next issue we shall be able to make a definite announcement. Meanwhile we of these later days sincerely repeat the hope which inspired the pioneers of forty years ago—'Floreat jDenstona.'

1873—1913—

*Stout hearts were yours who dared the steep ascent,*

*To climb with faces set toward the day ;  
Nor reck'd of hardships that beset the way,—  
The foeman fain to work all detriment  
With naked sword or hidden ambushment,  
Or stark rock-barrier barring smooth advance,  
Or all the happening of rude mischance :  
Naught could avail to daunt your hardiment.*

*O doughty band of noble pioneers  
Soothing the path for all who after press,  
Still the sweet fragrance of your memory cheers  
Hearts that go out to you in gratefulness ;  
Yours was the hope to work for growing years,  
Be ours the joy of unforgetfulness.*

#### ROMANTIC ROCESTER.

The title which appears at\* the head of this account of my remarkable experiences last evening will raise a smile, I know. Is it possible that any flavour of romance can cling to the dull village with the long mean street and the church which has been 'restored' in the most approved style, and which has for its one important building a gloomy cotton mill? I agreed with general opinion that such a thing was out of the

question; and indeed it was after enlarging, on the dismal unattractiveness of Rocester that I set to work to master the "spot" passage of *Theophrastus* which was the "Unseen" of the day, and which my conversation with Binks had delayed till Prep, was well advanced.

It was an uninteresting piece and I had not got far into it when I was surprised to find a visitor sitting in the chair opposite me. He looked as though he had strayed (fit)m some belated performance of *Julius Caesar*, and I thought for a moment it was Binks, who was stage-struck after his remarkable rendering of "34th soldier" in *Hamlet* last term. My visitor was a sort of classical Sam Weller and he began to enlarge on the importance of Rocester, of all places under the moon. He told me he was ostler there at the posting station where horses were changed on the stage between Chesterton and Little Chester, which I remembered was near Derby. He was also general factotum to the officer in charge of the guard which was stationed there to keep an eye on the ever-mutinous Britons in the valleys of the Churnet and the Dove, and to collect their tribute. He told me they had a sturdy place at Bunbury near Alton, which they still hung about in some force, and which had an outpost at Windy Arbour, for "Arbour as you call it in the 20th Century" he said "is really the Gaelic word *arrhber* which means a fortress, just as Creighton or Cratton on the way to Uttoxeter (another posting station on the other road which branches off towards Burton and the great military station at Leicester) is from Crott, a stronghold. I was going to ask him whether *Lavobrinth* the one hopeless name in the Ravens Geographer's list of Roman towns in this part of the world, was the old name of Rocester, when in some inexplicable way he changed into a mediaeval ecclesiastic. He was now dressed in a cassoc

f black, a full surplice, and an almuce and cloak. "I've just dropped in to look you up" he said. "You see, Richard Bacon, the Earl of Chester's nephew who owns Rocester, feels that something ought to be done for these wretched folk. They had'nt much to boast of before the Conquest but since then they've had nothing. They'll be heathens again if we don't look out. There is no religious house for miles, and they're too poor to maintain a priest even if they could get a man willing to bury himself in such a hole. Our plan is for a few of us to live in a sort of community, and look after the people of the neighbourhood. The Hermitage at Calwich is being run on the same lines. The senior Canon after the Abbot will be Vicar, and we shall be a kind of monastery without walls and gates. Anyone who wants help will be welcome to come inside. At Easter we shall have a general feast of frumenty cakes and on All Saints' Day a village dinner in true English style, of good meat and beer. We shall have a Church for the villagers as well as our own, and one set of bells will serve for both. I think we shall do a good deal to restore parochial organization in wild parts like these of yours, for in the confusion which has reigned since the Conquest a good deal of that sort of thing has vanished."

As he talked thus of the aims of the Austin Canons and their work in the 12th Century he grew older. His fervour and enthusiasm died down, and he became despondent and sad. When I remarked on it with some surprise he said "What can you expect? We've grown rich, and you know the difficulty which awaits the rich man. We're land-grabbers and money-grubbers. You remember how we got hold of Sir Hugh Okeover's lands when his loyalty to Henry III. brought him to bankruptcy. When the great Hubert fell we shared in the scramble and obtained the Manor of

Rocester. We are actually shop-keepers—we sell wool to the Flemings and the Florentines. We are so bent on pleasure that some of us are not above going out begging, to get the wherewithal for keeping a pack of hounds. I don't grumble at the exactions which the government makes on us: we deserve them and we can afford to pay—when Edward II. took that mis-managed expedition to Scotland, to disaster at Bannockburn, we easily gave abundance of wheat and oats, oxen and sheep. We are so busy that we have no time for God: that's the truth of it. We can't even keep ourselves solvent. The Bishop tries to pull us up, but he can easily be evaded. The household is hopelessly mis-managed—one of our servants lately got into trouble and in the quarrel which ensued with a neighbour on Rocester Bridge he actually killed him—a fine thing for a religious community to have one of its servants outlawed for murder. To keep order at our Fair and Market we have to maintain police—where is our religious character? We are "men of the world," in the worst sense of the phrase."

It was a pathetic figure which sat before me, but it became more, pathetic still. The cassock dropped to rags. Hunger and want showed themselves in the cadaverous eyes which looked up at me. The words were no longer eager and eloquent, albeit despondent and disappointed. I heard now only disjointed mumblings and broken lamentations, about pensions illpaid and unpaid, the impossibility of finding work, the unconcealed malignity with which new owners looked on the old possessors whom they had robbed. The old man, for he said his name was William Grafton and he had been the last Abbot of Rocester, had hung around the spot where he had lived so many years, witnessing the destruction of his house and the desecration of the

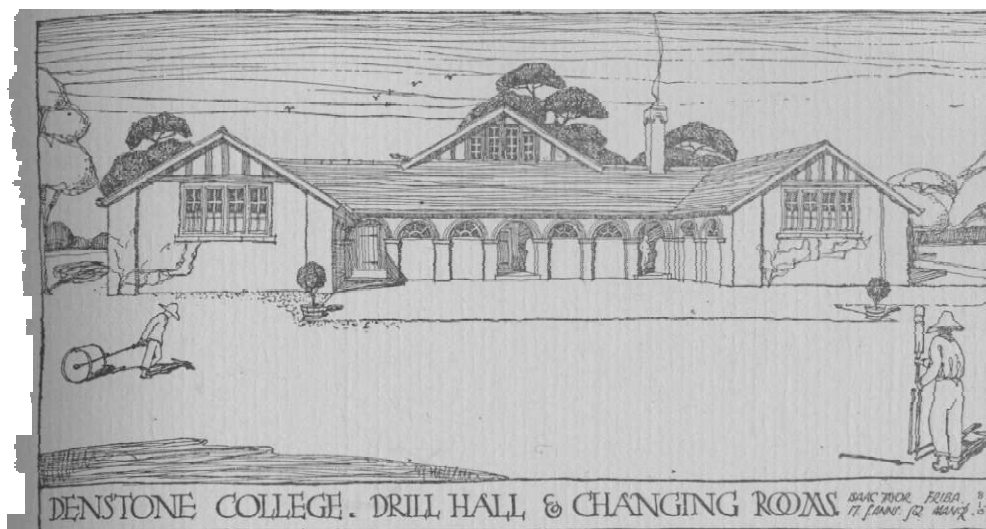
sanctuary. I caught bitter words about Archbishop Cranmer who had been the prime mover in the breaking up of his community, and of Dr. Legh who, with the help of the Bassetts and Sir John Fitzherbert, had received the surrender. I heard the tale of the sale by Scudamore, when S. Michael's Chapel, the Canons' Church, was put up to auction, and of the scenes of destruction, pillage and waste which accompanied it. "Thank God, the bells were spared," the broken old man muttered, for the parishioners managed to save them from the spoilers; "I hear them ring still, and sometimes when their sounds reach my dull ears I forget for the moment that I am no longer allowed to say Mass for the simple folk who, good souls, bear me no grudge, and give me hospitality not seldom. Then I hasten forth until the broken churchyard cross recalls to me the truth, and tells me that my work is done, and that the world writes it down a failure, if not worse. Failure indeed it has been, even in foresight. I ought to have seen that the seizure of Calwich long ago was but the prelude to the coming storm, and have opposed instead of sharing in the work. I should have known that the year's income my eight brethren and I were persuaded to pay to escape the Act of Parliament was but money thrown away. Once the parishioners were so zealous for their duties that they had sought the Bishop's advice about the proper altar at which their Easter Communion should be made: now they have to be constrained by Acts of Uniformity—with sorry success." More I might have heard but just then the raucous voice of Binks broke in with "'good night sweet Prince,' for you are the prince of slackers, It's ten o'clock and you've actually fallen asleep over your 'Unseen.'"

OUR BIRTHDAY PRESENTS.

As though in preparation for our 40th Birthday we have just completed an extensive scheme of additions and alterations for increased efficiency and comfort. During the last few months the British workmen has had us in his toils: a word which in such a connection is more appropriate in the plural than in the singular as our own experience has shown, for the slowness of the last stages of the work has been aggravatingly marked. However we shall, very soon now, have the pleasure of saying good-bye.

Ip Chapel two more windows have been filled with coloured glass and each such addition adds very greatly to the beauty of the building. Over the Bishop's Stall a new window commemorates the appointment of S. Chad as Bishop of Lichfield. It forms one of the series representing incidents in the life of S. Chad and has been given by boys who have been confirmed at the College. The other window is in the south side of the Sanctuary, and completes the three behind the Altar: the improvement 'is very marked,—indeed it has been described as being the greatest improvement which has been made in the Chapel since its opening. The Provost and Fellows gave this window in memory of our first Provost, Canon Lowe, D.D. who died last Holy Week.

Inside the College the South Wing has seen the complete transformation of its ground floor. The small class-rooms and prefects' studies, opening off the **dark** corridor, famous, or infamous, as "**Probs** Row," have been swept away and a fine cloister with five excellent **class-rooms** substituted. New Prefects' Studies have been made under the Dining Hall and have proved a most acceptable exchange'



Improved fire appliances have been placed throughout the College.

Outside, very great additions have been made. The continued success of the Officers' Training Corps made an enlarged Armoury and Drill Hall necessary. The steady development of our Music rendered increased accommodation for its teaching imperative. Our Science side demanded better accommodation. Better Changing Rooms for Games were badly wanted.

The London Old Denstonians at their Annual Dinner at the Hotel Cecil, were reminded by the Headmaster of the success of the O.T.C. in winning the Public schools Rapid Firing Trophy at Bisley, and thereupon resolved to start a Subscription

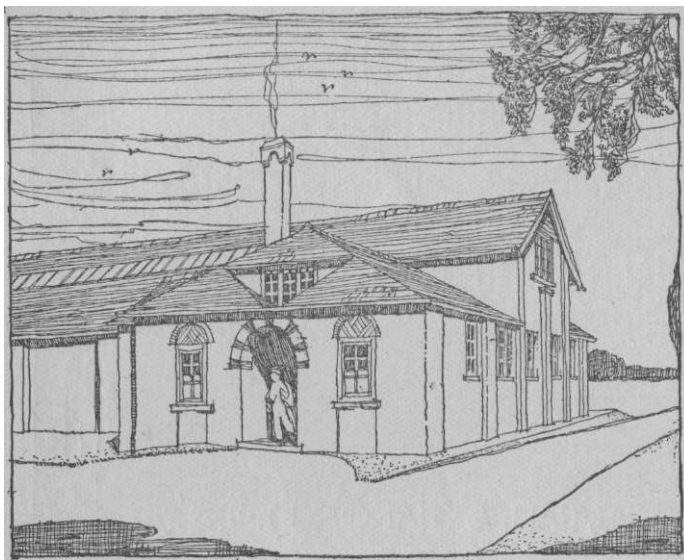
List for providing a New Armoury. The Provost and Fellows appreciated the importance of the project and decided to erect a really first-class building. The

Midlands has been built. It is 100ft.

long and 50ft. wide, and is divided into 8 bays with elliptical steel roof-principals in one span from wall to wall. It is lighted both from the top and the sides, and the roof runs up to a height of 26ft at the ridge; it has purposely been kept low so as not to hide the trees which stand behind it. It is placed in front of the Fives Courts at right angles to them, facing the Playing Fields. There are three entrances, and on either side project wings forming a small Fore-court. These wings are the Changing Rooms for Games, each 47ft. long and 21ft. wide, divided into bays fitted with lockers, one for each boy, with hot pipes underneath to dry damp clothes. Hot and cold water is laid on to washing basins and baths.

On each side of the main entrance are rooms for the Sergeant Instructor, and inside the Drill Hall, which is floored with pitch-pine, there is at the further end a commodious Spectators' Gallery.





The Music School is behind the Drill Hall. Opening from a Corridor 70ft. long are 10 Practising Rooms, two built rather larger than the rest so as to be convenient also for teaching purposes. The partitions are all made as sound-proof as possible by double plaster slabs with an intervening space, and good supervision is secured by a continuous glass screen extending the whole length of the corridor. At the entrance is the Music Master's Study.

The outside of the Drill Hall and Music School is faced with Rustic Ravenhead Bricks with Hollington Stone facings. The framing in the gables is of red deal left with a sawn face and covered with creosote. The roofs are covered with Westmoreland Slates. The whole is heated throughout. The Architect is Isaac Taylor, Esq., of Manchester.

The Science School has been enlarged and refitted. It now consists of (a) Chemical Lecture room with seats in tiers; (b) Chemical Laboratory, with benches for

twenty-four boys and a separate room for the Balances; (c) Store and Preparation Room; (d) Physical Lecture Room, with tables so arranged that they may be used for elementary practical work if desired; (e) a large Physical Laboratory. All the rooms are lofty and well ventilated. Acetylene Gas is installed throughout for Bunsen burners and lighting, and all the appliances are up to modern requirements.

#### FOOTBALL.

##### UNIVERSITY OLD DENSTONIANS.

The Old Boys team was drawn from the Universities, and besides those in residence it included several who had gone down some years. There had been some heavy rain the night before, so the game resolved itself into a battle between the forwards. Both sides came very near to scoring on several occasions, but the forwards usually succeeded in relieving the pressure. At length near the beginning of the second half, J. L. Smith forced his way over the line and scored, Greenwood converted with a fine kick. Nothing further was scored, and the Old Boys won a well contested game by a goal to nil. Teams:

*Old Denstonians.*—W. M. N. **Pollard** (back), A. K. Zorian, G. R. Ball, E. A-Gaussen, E. T. Greenwood (*three-quarters*)> H. S. Barber, C. R. Watson (*half-backs*), C. J. J. T. Barton, J. W. Greenstreet, J. Smith, G. O. Pauer, R. H. F. **Coleman**,

Q A. Howe, A. S. Mason, B. Webb (for-

*College.*—H. G. Williams, L. B. Helder, A. E. Barlow, R. B. Mitchell, C. G. Salmon, c" o'R- Surridge, H. A. Carlisle, V. Sullivan R. A. E. Barton, E. P. Cross, G. L. Tomkins, J. W. Knight, B. Hall, S. A. Clark, W. Hall.

BURTON.

This match was played at Burton, on December 18th, and resulted in an easy win for Burton by 39 points to 6; Soon after the start Barber made a good run and just failed to score. Tomkins by a good break away relieved the pressure. T. Salmon after a good run gave a well-timed pass to Barber who scored Burton's first try. Knight and Tomkins gained ground but Burton soon pressed again, and a forward dribbled over and scored. Soon after, Tomkins intercepted a pass and scored after a good run from half-way. Salmon failed with the kick. Weak tackling by Knight let Burton in again, but the try was not converted, but soon afterwards T. Salmon dropped a beautiful goal for Burton. Several good rushes by our forwards, led by Williams and Helder relieved the pressure, but Barton let the Burton half get away, and from a scrum on the line Burton scored again, Newbold converting. The second half was a repetition of the first. Burton scored five tries and T. Salmon kicked a good penalty goal. Just before time C. G. Salmon kicked a penalty goal for us. Our forwards were good in the loose, but did not get possession in the scrum, and never let the ball out to their three-quarters. The halves were good on the whole, but let Burton get away on one or two occasions. As the three-quarters never received a pass from the scrum, their work was almost entirely defensive and they have never been seen to less advantage this season, Knight and Hall being the worst offenders. Instead of going for the

man with the ball, they either waited for him to pass or trusted to "intercepting." W. Hall at back was disappointing.

Team—H. G. Williams, L. B. Helder, A. E. Barlow, R. B. Mitchell, C. G. Salmon, S. O'R. Surridge, M. H. Spicer, E. S. Rerrie, R. A. E. Barton, E. P. Cross, G. L. Tomkins, J. W. Knight, B. Hall, S. H. Clark, W. Hall.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE.

We played Liverpool College for the first time on February 6th. The match, which was played at Liverpool, was closely contested and very interesting to watch, and ended in a win for Liverpool by 13 points to 11. We opened strongly, but the gathering and passing of the outsides was weak at times and so we failed to take advantage of opportunities, but Knight made an excellent opening for Tomkins who scored after a good run from "half-way." Liverpool then pressed: a forward dribbled over, but failed to touch down; and a three-quarter all but scored from an intercepted pass. Soon after this their efforts were successful. Denstone in turn pressed strongly, but Liverpool scored.

In the second half we had to play against the wind. For a time the ball travelled rapidly up and down the field; at length from a scrum in our 25 the Liverpool half got smartly away and scored. After the "dropout" our forwards took the game to half-way, where B. Hall getting possession made a good opening for Clark who scored. From this time we had quite the best of the game, Tomkins scored in the corner and Salmon kicked a fine goal. We continued to press, and Clark was almost over the line on two occasions, but we failed to get equal. Our forwards played well, especially in the second half. Williams was easily best, his collaring being particularly useful, while Barlow and Helder were prominent in the rushes. Cross and Barton started poorly, but played

well later on. B. Hall was weak in defence, but improved in the second half and made two good openings for Clark. Tomkins, Knight and Clark were all good, while W. Hall was quite sound at back.

Team—H. G. Williams, L. B. Helder, A. E. Barlow, R. B. Mitchell, C. G. Salmon, S. O'R. Surridge, H. A. Carlisle, V. Sullivan, R. A. E. Barton, E. P. Cross, G. L. Tomkins, J. W. Knight, B. Hall, S. H. Clark, W. Hall.

#### 2ND XV. V. UTTOXETER 2ND.

This match was played at Uttoxeter on February 1st, resulted in a "win" by the narrow margin of a point.

We scored first, Clark being put in as the result of good combination among the outsides. The try was not converted, and soon afterwards Uttoxeter also scored a good try.

Early in the second half, Clark got away and scored a second try by a fine individual effort, Evans converted. About five minutes from time, Hawthorn dropped a useful goal for Uttoxeter, bringing the score to 8-7. Uttoxeter continued to press, but did not score again.

The forwards, well led by Spicer who captained the team, played much better than in their previous match here, being well together and on-side in the loose. Of the outsides, Clark was most conspicuous, but Menzies at centre three-quarter and Larkam at half were quite useful, and Wilson was safe at back. Bladen played a good game at stand off half for Uttoxeter.

Team : Wilson; Clark, Menzies, Ball, Wilson, Baker, Larkam; Spicer, Rerrie, Jameson, Harris, Kasbarian, Anderson, Evans, Mitchell.

#### FINAL DORMITORY MATCH.

##### HEAD'S I. v. HEAD'S III.

Head's i. went off with a rush and B. Hall cut through the defence three

times and scored, the kick failing in each case. Head's i. were dangerous all the time, and again Hall was only held up in the nick of time. Rerrie then dribbled over and scored. Every kick failed. Barton then ran round on the 'blind' side of a scrum and scored. On resuming after half time, Head's rushed the ball down the field and the pressure was relieved by good dribbling by Rerrie. Head's i. were now pressed, and W. Hall ran in. Head's iii. then gained a penalty for off-side, but only lost ground, eventually letting B. Hall in again. W. Hall then outpaced Wilson and soon after the drop out Surridge picked up and ran through—thus leaving the final score at 27-0 pts. Head's iii. never looked dangerous and the only feature of the match was the shocking place-kicking.

#### O.D. NEWS.

The Benefit Fund was founded with the opening of Denstone in 1873. Its early records have not been preserved and its history up to 1879 is very obscure. The first meeting of the Benefit Fund was held at the Provost's Lodge (now the Headmaster's House) when there were present Provost Lowe, Sir Percival Heywood, the Headmaster (Rev. D. Edwardes) the Chaplain (Rev. C. B. Tyrwhitt) and A. D. Edwards, J. H. Hannay, T. J. Holt, W. T. Hodge, C. Heaton, S. Jones, S. Keeling, F. H. Masfen, A. Moseley, and W. W. Watts. The Fund then amounted to about £100. It is interesting to note that the Provost said "that although he was not a member of their Association, nor, for the future, an administrator in any way of the Funds, as it was better that the Club should be as far as possible self governed, yet he would always take a keen interest in its welfare and at any time be ready to give to any of the members the

benefit of his advice gathered from a long Southern schools." From that date Minutes and other interesting data have been preserved by the Secretaries of the Club and Benefit Fund, W. W. Watts 1879-1893, W. F. Bennett 1893-1907, J. Edwards 1908-9, W. O. Wilding, 1909.—

As the Fund grew, mainly by the contributions of Denstone, it came to be felt that it was anomalous that O.D.s should have so little share in its distribution. In 1893 a request was made for separate administration, by each School, of its own funds, but the Chapter was unable to agree to this, and in 1895 the subscribers accepted the Rules which had been drafted by the joint efforts of the Chapter and a Committee appointed by the Denstone contributors. But at the same meeting, when it was urged by F. A. Hibbert that an Old Denstonian Club should be founded, which should include others besides the subscribers to the Benefit Fund, the proposition found no favour. The old difficulty thus remained: an O.D. Club,—with no funds, as it had no subscriptions,—consisting of those who belonged to a totally distinct organisation, viz. The Benefit Fund, whose income it had distinctly allocated to definite objects, which did not include the essential ones of the Club.

In due course the Trust Deed was drawn up and the Committees and Trustees, prescribed by the Rules, were appointed for each School. The arrangements thus made have now been revised and were finally adopted at the Manchester Meeting on December 20th, 1912.

The original Trustee for Denstone still continues in office, viz.: W. W. Watts, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., Professor of Geology in the Royal College of Science, who had, as Secretary for the first 15 years, practically carried on the work of the Club single handed.

the School Committee have been twofold. Firstly, as the committee of the O.D. Club they organise meetings of Old Boys and otherwise endeavour to promote social intercourse and to keep up a connection between past scholars and the Old School. Secondly, they have investigated and reported upon all applications made by O.D.s for assistance from the Benefit Club and, whenever necessary, have acted as the intermediary between the Trustees of the Fund and the School.

As regards the O.D. Club it has become clear that other and more potent influences have grown into being whereby old boys are kept in touch with the School. Among them may be mentioned the Old Denstonians' Chronicle, hitherto compiled at and issued from the College, and the card, issued terminally, giving the dates of the most interesting events to take place during that period, and again such reunions as have been arranged by the School itself, notably the great gathering at Denstone in August 1911.

As to the work of the Benefit Fund the Committee has not been idle. During 1900-11 is. od. has been expended in grants.

In order to be in a position to deal promptly with cases of pressing distress, through the kind offices of the Provost the Committee have been able during 1910 to get a clause added to the Trust Deed—

"The Trustees shall place in the hands of the Secretary of each School Committee on the first day of January of each year or as soon after as possible a sum of £10 or a sum being half the amount of interest on the Capital sum contributed by such School whichever is the greater which sum shall be used by the School Committee in making grants in cases of distress and if and so far as undistributed within two years shall be added to the Capital.

Other grants shall be made by the

Trustees only in cases which have been previously investigated and reported on by a School Committee."

The Denstone Committee of the Benefit Fund may make grants in the coming year of about £100 or £150 which total will increase year by year. Independent action on their part will not prevent the Committee from recommending the Trustees to make grants should their own special fund prove insufficient in a particular year to meet all the cases of need. The Committee hope, however, that the Capital may be increased out of the income year by year in order that a scheme may be started as soon as possible for granting Leaving Exhibitions to the Universities or some other institution of equal rank.

The Old Denstonian Club, the London Old Denstonian Club and the Manchester Old Denstonian Club held a joint Dinner at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, on December 20th, 1912. The Dinner was preceded by a meeting of the Old Denstonian Club and the Chair was taken by S. Keeling.

The New Rules of the Old Denstonian Club, drafted by the Committee appointed August, 1911, were proposed by J. F. T. Howard, seconded by E. Fearenside and adopted, and the Officers and Committee were elected.

Between 40 and 50 sat down to dinner, of whom all but two or three were Old Denstonians.

Before commencing, a flashlight Photograph was taken. The Toast List was as follows:— The President (Dr. J. P. Williams) proposed the Toast of " Church and State " and the Rev. G. R. Bell " the School," and he gave us visions of the School in its infancy and its unfinished state, and a comparison with its present state. S. Keeling responded for the School. The Toast of the O.D. Club was proposed by H. C. Crews and W. O.

Wilding responded. J. F. Bentley proposed the London O.D. Club and J. W. Orr, the Secretary, gave us a very able response in his best Bar manner. E. Fearenside proposed the Toast of the Manchester O.D. Club, and the Rev. M. R. Smith, the Secretary, responded. The concluding Toast of the evening " Our Guests " was proposed by Fraser Sutton, and the Rev. H. Stephens responded.

The Manchester O.D. Club during the course of the evening did their annual business, and re-elected their President, Dr. J. P. Williams. The Secretary, The Rev. M. E. Smith resigned and Fraser Sutton was elected to fill the vacancy. The Committee was elected also and consists of Vice-President, Capt. C. V. Godfrey; Committee: J. C. Abbott, J. F. Baynes, J. F. Bentley, C. C. Jones, C. L. Roberts, W. S. Roberts, M. R. Smith, R. P. Holland, N. B. Broadbent and R. C. Harrison.

A new set of Rules drafted by J. F. Bentley was proposed and carried.

Although the time was somewhat short, several enjoyable songs were given by Dr. J. P. Williams, J. W. Orr, J. F. Bentley, C. L. Roberts, J. Sutton, the Rev. H. Stephens, the Rev. A. Winfield, and H. M. Granger, and an excellent recitation was given by H. C. Crews.

The evening closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, Dr. J. P. Williams, and in every respect the gathering together of the various Clubs was a great success.

A match was played on New Year's Day, 1913, by a team of Manchester O.D.s. captained by F. Sutton (of the Kersal Club) against the Kersal Club but was defeated 17 points to 8 points. The team was: J. Laithwaite, H. Sutton, F. Sutton (capt.), J. Widdows, W. B. Croxford, N. H. Radford, L. Walton, J. L. Smith, J. H. Holland, Barlow, P. C. Clayton, H. Rudgard, Sub R. S. Gilmore. They were entertained at Dinner by F. Sutton after the match.

The Old Denstonian Club and Benefit Fund.—In presenting their report for the year 1912, the Committee call particular attention to the fact that the title is used for the last time. The close association of the Old Boys Club with the Benefit Fund has ceased to exist.

After several meetings and a searching inquiry into the methods adopted by other Old Boys' Clubs a set of rules were drawn up and duly presented to the General Meeting held on December 20th, at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, by which with several alterations they were formally accepted.

Members are asked to note that one of the methods of joining the Club in future will be through one of the local Clubs—such Clubs existing already at London, Manchester and the North of England.

Suggestions for making the O.D. Club serve its purpose fully will be welcomed by the Secretary, especially suggestions as to the kind of information about the school which members would like to receive.

As for the Benefit Fund there is nothing to record since no claims have been brought before the Committee for consideration during the year.

From this statement members will see that the scheme of devolution indicated last year has been carried into effect.

At the Conference of the English Association at University College on Jan. nth, on the teaching of English Literature, P. Simpson read a paper on "The Value of the Plain Text in the Literature Lesson." He said that after 20 years' experience he had, with the single exception of work with the sixth form, discarded the annotated text. Of all the difficulties which combined to check effective progress with the average boy, he believed the first and most formidable to be his lack of a proper vocabulary. — A powerful factor in producing this ignorance was the number of

boys' magazines carefully written down to the level of boys, and often full of slang, to be read without the slightest call upon intelligence or judgment. When he quitted these shallows he was hopelessly out of his depth. The time which could be devoted to preparing any one subject was limited, and attention was quickly tired; they should not inflict the double burden of dictionary and notes. It was much better that they should concentrate on the actual text, keep in close relation with the author, and obtain from the teacher any further elucidation. Careful use of the dictionary he considered all-important. Did we realize how ignorant the mass of our countrymen were even educated people who would keenly resent any suggestion that they were ignorant? He consulted three doctors about certain points in *King Lear*, and they all replied that they had never read the play! The gross neglect of English literature which formerly prevailed in our schools was no doubt responsible for much. The subject was not neglected now, but did they teach it on sound lines?"

R. Gray (Sept 1885) has left Highgate School and is now co-principal of Homefield School, Sutton.

E. J. Toase (Sept. 1900) is curate at the Parish Church, Dewsbury.

E. Cartwright writes from Salt Spring, British Columbia, "I am chicken farming here. Basil became engaged last Spring so has left me to strike out on his own account. This of course left me without help and though occasionally I have had help yet most of the time the work has had to be done single handed and therefore progress has been slow. I wondered therefore if any boy now at Denstone, or possibly one who has just left, is anxious to start life in British Columbia? where as you know a good many Old Denstonians are at present doing very well. If so I should be very pleased, not through entirely

disinterested motives, to take any boy with plenty of "grit" and teach him for at least a year. The first three months I could pay him nothing but as he learnt and became useful I should pay accordingly. To the right kind of fellow the openings are good, to the wrong kind, that is the "slacker," this is a very bad country.

Two of the Humphreys have done very well out here and Basil has also. Basil at present is making \$85 00 a month on a fruit farm.

The ideal fellow for this country is the fellow with the determination to work. If he has a little capital at the back of him as well as sense he may do wonders.

I have 160 acres about 15 acres cleared, 320 hens and some stock; a very small place but capable of much improvement. You know perhaps I am married and have two little girls. At present I am looking after a most up-to-date chicken farm of 1,000 hens belonging to Major Green-Wilkinson (formerly Aide to the Duke of Connaught) who is at present in England."

A. Berry (May 1900) of Wadham College, Oxford, and Gray's Inn, has been called to the Bar.

B. S. Cockin, (Jan. 1892) has been appointed to be Vicar of S. Luke's, Beeston Hill, Leeds.

H. R. C. Vernon has been appointed Vicar of Rothersthorpe, Northamptonshire.

H. H. Pitts, (Feb. 1888) has been appointed to be Vicar of S. Thomas' with S. Andrew's, Hyde, Cheshire.

H. S. Short is in Paris in the Service of the Societ6 Francaise Graigola Merthyr.

The *Times* says of B. B. Holloway, (Sept. 1894) i<sup>n</sup> Mr. Benson's revival of *King Henry V.* at the Coronet Theatre. "Mr. Baliol Holloway's 'Pistol' is another of the successes of the play. He avoids the pitfall of caricature and makes the braggart soldier really human."

F. V. Harris has passed the Trust Accounts and Book Keeping portion of the

Intermediate Examination of the Law Society.

Lieut. Col. C. Averill, V.D., M.D. D.P.H., (Sept. 1875) has published *Field Sanitation for Territorial Officers* (Gale and Poldon, is.)- •

We much regret to hear of the death of Charles Elliott Radley, who came in January, 1898, (Blue and White Dormitory) and left in 1901 to go to the Rhymney Railway Engineering Shops. He afterwards went to the firm of W. H. Allan and Sons, Bath, and then obtained a good appointment in Buenos Ayres in the firm of Sir John Jackson. Our readers will remember a very interesting letter from him which we printed in June, 1910, from which it appeared that a successful career was before him. R.I.P.

The *Western Mail* gives the following account of his death: "Some three years ago he heard that Sir John Jackson contemplated building a new line from the Andes to La Paz, and secured an appointment in connection with the undertaking. He superintended the construction of two pumping stations, and also of the laying of the pipe running alongside the railway to La Paz, a distance of about 130 miles.

On the completion of this work Mr. Radley undertook the charge of the fatal expedition from Chili, through Bolivia, the southern part of Brazil, into the Argentine, in all about 3,500 miles. According to information published on November 19th, 1912, the expedition had reached the upper reaches of the Paraguay River, a distance of about 1,000 miles from Chili, mostly on foot and on mules, and were preparing to travel north into the unknown interior of Brazil, subsisting on their guns.

The only other white man in the expedition was Mr. Brown, and they were accompanied in the object of their pursuit by four native carriers. After experiencing great privations, the party, who were li<sup>}}l<sup>ea</sup></sup> with great enthusiasm in their **enterprising**,

of dangerous work, got round through Bolivia into the upper reaches of the Paraguay River. From thence their <sup>ssa</sup>°ge lay through treacherous and **oractically** unexplored country, in which they encountered not only savage beasts and **reptiles**, but hostile native tribes. The **district** which the intrepid young Englishmen were desirous of exploring was San **Matias**. They had gone prepared for a rough journey, and took guns in order to **def**'nd themselves against possible attacks by **beasts** or aborigines, with which the **district** is known to abound.

According to the information obtained by the Charge d'Affaires, and communicated to this country, it would appear that a party of six persons, including Messrs. Radley and Brown, were murdered by filibusters. The British Minister also stated that the Bolivian Government were doing everything possible by sending out a punitive expedition to obtain full particulars as to how the young Englishmen met their death and to punish the criminals."

J. Booth is farming with his two brothers in Saskatchewan. He writes:—"I am becoming quite a good cook, but I shall be glad when we get a woman; for when a fellow works all day and then has to get his own meals, it comes hard on him."

R. H. Merryweather is also farming in Canada: his address is Rabbit Hills, athrathcona, Alberta, Canada.

L. F. E. Wright has shot into yachting **tame** by carrying off the Oxford University bailing Club Challenge Cup.

We congratulate C. P. Tebbit on playing for the E. Midlands. He also plays regularly for Northampton R.F.C.

#### NOTES.

This year we reach our 40th Birthday, the School having been dedicated by Bishop Selwyn on July 29th, 1873 and opened on October 9th following. The *Denstonian* was started in 1877.

It has been suggested that a collection of reprints from the *Denstonian* would be a suitable way of marking this date in our history: it would give a view of the internal growth and development of the School which would be likely to be of great interest.

The Reprints would include articles, etc., of direct bearing on our history, some papers (scientific, historical, etc.) on the locality, a few perhaps which are of literary interest, etc. Some of the verse would bear reprinting. Every care would be taken to make the Volume one of real personal interest to Denstonians.

Names of any who wish for copies of *Forty Years of Denstone*, (price about 5/-, should be sent to F. A. Hibbert at the College.

We have lost one of our earliest supporters since the issue of the last *Denstonian*. On January 16th, the Very Rev. the Dean of Rochester passed away. From his nomination by the Founder, on Dec. 15th, 1873, as one of our earliest Fellows, until his removal from the Midlands on his appointment to Rochester in 1904, Ernald Lane worked unceasingly on our behalf, and that his interest was not lessened by distance was shown by frequent letters and by the Prize for Church History which he continued to give. In our earliest days he filled the position of Senior Chaplain, and before a resident Chaplain was appointed he did much of the work such as preparing candidates for Confirmation. As an athlete and rowing Blue (twice) he delighted in bringing Cricket teams to play the



College, and thought nothing of walking from Leigh and back. Later he became Archdeacon of Stoke-on-Trent and our own Vice-Provost. He was son-in-law to Mr. J. W. Philips who is still happily spared to us, and among his ancestors he numbered Colonel Lane who helped Charles II. after the battle of Worcester. Former generations of Denstonians will readily recall his handsome and dignified presence, his courtly manner, and his un-failing kindness. The Vice-Provost, the Headmaster, Sir Arthur Heywood, Bt., the Rev. Orlando Bridgeman, and Mr. F. Lindley Meynell, represented Denstone at the funeral. R.I.P.

Mr. J. H. Lloyd, whom the older Denstonians will remember as Music Master in 1878-9, has been spending some time in England, but returns almost immediately to South Australia. R. W. Goodall recently met him and his wife at Paignton.

To the kindness of Mrs. Greenwood we are indebted for a very handsome Dormitory trophy for annual Competition in Music. It is additionally interesting as having been designed by Mr. Rigby. It is made of gun metal and silver, and is quite original and unconventional. On steps which are faced with silver, stands a gun-metal column which supports S. Chad's Cross, laid horizontally; and the whole is surmounted by a gilt Roman trumpet. A suitable inscription records the gift and its purpose.

In the *Manchester Courier* (Jan. 14th) appeared an exceedingly well-informed and appreciative article on the Woodard Schools. It mentions different features as characterising each School, for instance Lancing's magnificent Chapel, Hurst's possession of the oldest School Magazine

in England, Ardingly's cricket renown, etc. Of ourselves it says "In Denstone College we again see all that should characterise a great public school. Here we enjoy the great Sunday Festivals in the beautiful Chapel, and admire the long list of educational successes gained year by year by the School, and pass on feeling thankful that the Rev. F. A. Hibbert is still the Head."

We have been placed on the list of Schools allowed to compete for the Royal Asiatic Society's Gold Medal. The subject for this year is "The East India Company."

The Rev. H. S. Barber, having been appointed Chaplain and House Master at the Imperial Service College, Windsor, left us at the end of last term. We said 'good-bye' with real regret, for Mr. Barber, as was fitting in an Old Denstonian, represented in himself most that we like to think is characteristic of Denstone. He was keen, sympathetic, and versatile. His sermons were as interesting as his acting was amusing; his work in the class room was as effective as his play on the Cricket and Football grounds; he was deeply interested in all that made for manliness and godliness.

The following Anthems have been sung this term:—Septuagesima.—"The Lord is Loving" (Garrett). Sexagesima.—"O Taste and See" (Goss). Purification.—"The Angelus Carol" (Traditional). Lent 1.—"The Lord is my Shepherd" (**Macfarren**). Lent 2.—"O Saviour of the World" Goss.

The following have been admitted to the choir:—Mason, Boyd, Hodges, **Lloyds**, Miller.

The Sunday sermons during Lent are on "Some points of practical **Churchmanship**, as follows: Rev. W.S. Airy on "Worship,

2nd the Headmaster on "Observances, Samuel Thomas  
 Fasts and Festivals," 3rd Rev. W. B. Preparatory School.  
 cith on "Church and Dissent," 4th Rev. Yarnold, Thomas Somers Headmaster's i.

accustomed subject for Mid-lent Sunday),  
 5th the Chaplain on "Alms Giving," 6th  
 the Chaplain on "Fasting Compendium,"  
 On Fridays the Headmaster is giving a  
 course of addresses on "The Life of  
 S Chad." On Good Friday the Rev.  
 g C. Hoskyns, Warden of Stephenson  
 Hall, Sheffield, has promised to give the  
 addresses on the "Seven Words from the  
 Cross."

New Boys, Lent Term:—  
 Ba^shaw, John Lionel Hornby's  
 Bafdwyn, Charles Clive Luyten Gaussen's  
 Bruce, Robert Hornby's  
 Chapman, Herbert Maurice Clark's  
 Coggil, Harvey Mason "  
 Dennis, Gordan Noel Gaussen's  
 Fairbairn, Roland James Hornby's  
 Gahan, Frederick Owen Townsend "  
 Hodges, Wilfrid William "  
 Inman, Noel Clark's  
 Lloyds, Walter Henry Richardson  
 Headmaster's i.  
 Miller i, Norman Henderson Gaussen's  
 Miller ii, Percy "  
 Newton, Herbert George Headmaster's ii.  
 Piatt, Reginald "  
 Rawstorne, Ronald Butler "  
 (From Preparatory School) Smith's  
 Shaw, James Cecil Rodas  
 Headmaster's iii.  
 Shaw, Richard Patric Rodas  
 Preparatory School,  
 Slack, Geoffrey Hector Hornby's  
 Tatton, William Herbert  
 Preparatory School.  
 Thomas, Arthur Robinson  
 Preparatory School.  
 Thompson, John Edward Smith's  
 Turner William Herbert Headmaster's ii.  
 Wnittles, Edward Duck Hornby's

The visits of H. M. Butler and G. F.  
 B. Jones to us this term were a surprise  
 greatly appreciated. We were also glad to  
 see H. Jacks.

On behalf of the School we wish to  
 tender a hearty welcome to Mr. Righton  
 the new Music Master in succession to  
 Mr. Bell, who was obliged to relinquish  
 his post through ill-health.

At a meeting of the Sports Committee.  
 Mr. Cadman was elected a member of the  
 Cricket Selection Committee, and Mr.  
 Merrick a member of the Football Selection  
 Committee, places vacated by the departure  
 of the Rev. H. S. Barber.

S. O'R. Surridge was elected Captain of  
 Tennis; J. W. Knight was elected  
 Secretary of the Sports. L. B. Helder was  
 elected Secretary of Cricket. It was  
 further decided that 5 marks should be  
 allotted to the fourth places in the Open  
 Steeplechase and Open Mile.

A considerable innovation has come  
 about with regard to Certificate "A"  
 Classes, which have now been made com-  
 pulsory. We hope this improvement will  
 have the desired effect.

We note with considerable interest that  
 the somewhat dormant School Debating  
 Society has been aroused with great fervour  
 from its lethargic state. A Committee of  
 nine has already been appointed under  
 which endeavours are being made to set  
 the Society on a sound basis. We look  
 forward to the time when a course of  
 interesting debates will be in progress

W. B. Smith on "Duty to I

The following have gained their Football Colours : 1st XV. R. A. E. Barton ; 2nd XV. Knight, Carlisle, B. Hall, W. Hall, Cross, Clark.

Boys left Christmas Term.

- Smith, Ernest Stanley, O.T.C.  
(Green and White)
- White, William Willott, O.T.C.  
(Green and White)
- Blair, Harold Arthur (Preparatory School)
- Marchant, Eric Alfred „
- Knight, John Norman, O.T.C.  
Headmaster's i.
- Gooden, Norman Burrows, O.T.C.  
Headmaster's ii.
- Ball, Thomas Leslie „
- Winkler, Albert Owen Fred, O.T.C.  
Headmaster's ii.
- Bowker, Richard Ryther Stansen, O.T.C.  
Headmaster's iii.
- King, George Edward, O.T.C. „
- Booth, Sydney (Blue and White)
- Catterall, Rishton Collinson „
- Caughey, Frederick William Higginbottom,  
O.T.C. (Blue and White)
- Copland, Dudley Charles James, O.T.C.  
Shooting Colours. 1912. (Blue & White)
- Gibson, Francis Alfred „
- Jacks, Frederick Townsend, O.T.C.  
(Blue and White)
- Longbottom, Arthur William, O.T.C.  
(Blue and White)
- Swallow, John Kinder, Lce.-Corpl., O.T.C.  
(Blue and White)
- Lund, Guy Sefton, O.T.C.  
(Chocolate and White)
- Northcott, John Frazer, O.T.C.  
(Chocolate and White)
- Orsman, Reginald, O.T.C.  
(Chocolate and White)
- Seddon, Arthur Leslie, O.T.C.  
(Violet and White)
- Parker, Jack, O.T.C. (Green and White)

The Editor begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following, apologising for any unintentional omissions :

*Federal Magazine, Aluredian, East-bournian, Berkhamstedian, Armidalian, S.S.M. Quarterly, Merchistonian, Felstedian, Elstonian, Framlinghamian, Cadet, Cottonian, Lancing College Magazine, Olavian, S. Edward's School Magazine, Stonyhurst Magazine, K.E.S. Birmingham, Lancastrian, Old Begbian, Cuthbertifcn, Ardingly Annals, Arena.*

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