



The Denstonian.

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EDITORIAL.

WERE it not that by imitating we should flatter, and that we should be very sorry to lay ourselves open to the charge of flattering some of the periodicals that disgrace our railway bookstalls, we should be sorely tempted to inaugurate a competition in which the aim of each competitor would be the perfecting of a device for the production of Articles and so on with unfailing regularity. Such a course being unfortunately impossible, we comfort ourselves in the same manner as the fox

in the fable, with the thought that even a Modern Side which is capable of making and installing a wireless telegraphy station could not, however great the reward, and taking into consideration its great inventive genius, produce a machine of the above-mentioned capabilities. In a school as large as this however, should not such a suggestion be entirely uncalled for? However sorry we may be for feeling justified in writing the preceding words, we make no apology for them, but only hope that by the time another *Denstonian* has appeared, the repetition of this paragraph might justly be considered an insult.

On Shrove Tuesday we said *au revoir* to frivolities through the medium of certain

accomplished actors who presented to us *The Speckled Band*. Throughout the performance we were able to dispense with our imaginations, so realistic and lifelike was the personification of *Sherlock Holmes*, so truly professional was *Dr. Watson*, so essentially feminine were the *Housekeeper* and *Miss Enid Stonor*; while the concentration of the tempers of generations of evil-tempered men was easily evident in the hooked nose and tropical complexion of *Dr. Grimsby Rylott*. The only mirthful incidents throughout the piece were those in which *Billy* delighted us by allowing his large ideas of his own importance to escape from their small physical cage. Nor must we forget the part so ably played by the Coroner and the Jury, conspicuous among which was *Mr. Armitage*. Altogether it was a most thrilling performance—so thrilling indeed that melodrama has taken so firm a hold on the minds of certain of our number that the Editor was almost too frightened one night to put his head under the bedclothes when he heard the stillness of the night pierced by the awesome warning "Beware, a razor!"

On Friday, March 13th, the Bishop of Lichfield visited us in order to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation: the whole service was conducted in a most impressive and Catholic manner, and the Bishop in cope and mitre, and carrying his pastoral staff, looked like a Bishop. The number of candidates—a list of whom will be found elsewhere in this issue—was by far the largest in the history of the school; and a separate service was held for those members of the household who desired to be confirmed, to which service also came candidates from the village. The Chapel was, as is always the case, decorated with white flowers—the gifts of the parents of the candidates. This was

our first Confirmation Service at which Bishop Dr. Kempthorne has officiated, but we feel that we give expression to the wishes of all when we say that we hope that for many years to come the school may have the benefit, and the education, of his presence.

It would be an impertinence to say much about the success of the football team when that subject is dealt with by a so much abler hand, but we cannot allow to go by without a word of protest the apathy displayed by some of the school during many of the matches. Not so very long ago, when the Editor entered this school, by far the greatest events of the week, to his contemporaries and to himself, were the matches; but now only too many seem to think it beneath their dignity to cheer on those who are striving so hard to maintain the honour of the school.

Two Field Days have been held this term. A small one at Wootton on March 3rd, was unfortunately rather marred by the inclemency of the weather. The second was a much larger one in which Repton and Shrewsbury and several other schools took part with our own two companies. The country over which it took place was not very far from Newcastle-under-Lyme, so that we had to leave here early and thus gained a not unacceptable whole holiday, while the fact that slings have been affixed to the rifles did away with one of the chief objections which those who take part in Field Days have against them.

THRING AND DEN STONE.

It is a commonplace that a man's influence extends far beyond his own immediate and personal surroundings. In the case of a great man his influence may

will be widespread, and may extend to corners where it may act all unrecognised. When we unexpectedly light upon the signs of such unlooked for influence we realise the more fully the power for good which such a man has exercised.

A point hitherto unmarked in our early history is the influence of Edward Thring on the genesis of Denstone. It is worth noticing.

Writing in *Chapters in Denstone History* (published in 1897), Provost Meynell tells how in these parts of the Midlands the hearts of some were stirred in about 1860, to desire a boys' school, and among those he especially mentions is the Rev. G. R. Mackarness, then Vicar of Ilam. Indeed he implies that to Mr. Mackarness was due in no small measure the type of school which eventually was founded. For when Sir Percival Heywood's historic offer of land and money made their aspirations possible it was, Mr. Meynell says, to Mr. Mackarness that they turned, and Mr. Mackarness went to Canon Woodward. The result was that Denstone was built, with two leading characteristics—it was to be a boarding school, definitely on Church principles.

Mr. Mackarness was one of the organizing secretaries, tireless in his zeal and energy, arranging meetings up and down the country, collecting funds, advocating the principles of the new scheme by speech and pen, and doughtily combating critics and opponents in the public press. He was one of our first Fellows, and when he became Bishop of Argyll and the Isles his interest did not wane. He was often to be seen at our festivities, especially Speech Day and the Play.

Now the interesting point to notice is the source of Mr. Mackarness's inspiration and zeal for a school of the type of Den-

stone. He was the brother-in-law of Mr. Meynell and thus we see the source of Mr. Meynell's own zeal; but he was also the younger brother of John Mackarness Bishop of Oxford. Bishop Mackarness of Oxford was Thring's greatest friend at Eton and afterwards. They were both King's Scholars and were kindred spirits in honesty of purpose, muscular strength and high-mindedness. At school they shared private lodgings, and we are told of them that as senior boys they were in the habit of walking to Windsor, when school hours permitted, to the evening service. It is natural therefore to trace the zeal of Mr. Mackarness to the inspiration of Thring, through the close friendship of his brother with the great schoolmaster. Thring's friend, the Bishop of Oxford, was to have preached at our stone-laying.

We have another connection also with Thring. When Bishop Hobhouse came to Lichfield as assistant Bishop in 1868, he became a member of the Denstone Building Committee and a subscriber to the Building Fund. He cordially supported Bishop Selwyn's advocacy of the new school, and was present at our dedication. Bishop Hobhouse was Thring's cousin. Needless to say Thring had much in common with the sturdy manliness of Bishop Selwyn. When he first went to Uppingham, he promised the New Zealand Fund £100 and sent £25, but was unable to give the remainder till twenty years later, when he sent to Bishop Selwyn £90 "to pay," as he says "his old debt to God." That was in 1873, the very year when Bishop Selwyn crowned the work which his predecessor had done for us, and which he himself had whole-heartedly continued, by becoming our Visitor and dedicating the buildings.

There was very much in the aims of the

new school which was similar to the ideals of Thring. As we have said, Denstone was to be a boarding school on definite Church lines. Now these were precisely the principles laid down by Thring. He had very strong opinions on the value of *boarding* schools. He said "there is no point on which my convictions are stronger than in the power of boarding schools in forming national character . . . The learning to be responsible and independent, to bear pain, to play games, to drop rank, and wealth, and home luxury, is a priceless boon. I think myself that it is this which has made the English such an adventurous race; and that with all their faults the public schools are the cause of this manliness." Moreover people seldom realize the strong churchmanship of Thring. Our own Founder never expressed himself on this subject more definitely than did Thring. It was his passionate conviction that education was in a special sense a work of God, "by which I am bigot enough to mean the Church of Christ as now existing in this kingdom." His work, he said again and again, was "entirely on Church lines." In 1871 he wrote "I have founded this great school in her present state, and staked my whole life on it, built my heart into the courses of the walls, for the cause of Christ's Apostolic Church and His truth as represented best at this day by the Church of England. I pray that when God's truth is not living in this place that the place may come to naught." He dreaded the steps which, as he shrewdly perceived, were being taken "to unchurch schools," and took his stand on "the thorough Church of England character of the work here." What he meant by "Churchmanship" we may gather from his Diary. "I believe in apostolic succession in spite of modern sneers, and sacramental grace in spite of

scientific chemistry, and a new life in baptism in spite of materialism." And to the record of a death he adds *Requiescat in pace*.

Like our own founders he insisted on a splendid chapel, and records with scorn the remark which someone passed "What could we want a chapel for 400 for when we only had 200 as yet?" He recalls years afterwards how he had chafed in early days at the absence of a school chapel, especially, as he says, as he was "keenly sensitive to externals and their influence, and basing all the schoolwork to be done on religion"; and in his Diary he rejoices in the "glorious reality" of the completed building, and longs to "get a bit of ornamental work" in it. Above the altar he placed a mosaic of the Adoration of the Magi which his biographer describes as an "exquisite bit of sacred art."

Again and again he records his gratitude at the use made by his boys of the Holy Communion; and how well he understood and appreciated the Sacrament as an expression and bond of unity is shown in his entry for March 21st, 1887—"A great Communion yesterday, solemn and blessed, yet it is curious to know how weak the sense of Christian brotherhood is, and how little the community, the loyalty to one body, is felt. At least thirty of our communicants were absent in spite of the address, and the strong way in which I laid down the need of Communion. Nothing moved them; they did not come." Confirmation, again, was an ordinance which he valued most highly, and he laid his finger on two defects of his time:—"Our religious life suffers greatly by our not having a fixed annual confirmation; . . . the intermittent confirmations tell heavily against the school life; how fatal has been the injury to religion inflicted by the bishops (mammy

through pressure of work and want of time) having promulgated the theory of late confirmations."

On religious example as well as precept he laid the greatest possible stress:—"I consider a master as bound to be in chapel as to be in school," and a striking illustration of the effect of such influence is related. A lecturer on education finished his address by telling a story of a schoolboy travelling in France during the preceding summer who, when desired by his companions to start on an excursion early on Sunday, so as to have a long day, refused. On being pressed, he gave as his reason that "the headmaster wouldn't like him to miss divine service." His companions laughed and observed that his headmaster was five hundred miles away and could never know. But, the speaker said, "the boy stood firm," and then turning to Thring he explained, "the headmaster was you."

S. CHAD'S FAME.

By F. A. Hibbert

It is not easy to exaggerate the greatness of the reputation which S. Chad left behind him. We see this in the enthusiastic way in which Bede speaks of him and of his work, and in the affectionate gratitude which posterity showed towards him. We see it in the number of places and churches named after him. He is the only Bishop of Lichfield who finds a place in the Church's Kalendar; and ancient dedications to S. Chad are found all the way across England, from Lincolnshire to Staffordshire, from Shropshire to Lancashire. Chad's Wells are found as far south as London. A Chadshunt was in Warwickshire, and there is a Chadwick in Worcestershire. It is abundantly evident

that the fame of S. Chad was as great as the area of his influence was wide.

Yet he was Bishop of Lichfield and Mercia for two-and-a-half years only. Bede tells us (1) so in as many words. He was appointed in the autumn of 669, and he died on March 2, 672.

Now that is, when we think of it, an amazingly short time for building up so great a reputation and for exercising such wide influence. At any rate it is certainly too short a period to allow, physically, all the travelling about which is implied. I doubt whether a modern Bishop, helped as he is by easy means of communication, by railway trains and motor-cars, could achieve the feat, merely of locomotion, which is usually tacitly attributed to S. Chad; we may safely say that in the wild times in which he lived, when the country was largely covered with dense forests and trackless swamps, and when lawless brigands were common and roads were few, it was physically impossible to make any real permanent impression on an area so wide as that over which S. Chad's fame is spread, if indeed, he could even visit it at all, in so short a period as two-and-a-half years. Moreover Bede emphasises for us the fact that S. Chad disliked even the means of more rapid communication which did exist: he tells (2) how Archbishop Theodore tried to induce him to ride on horseback, without, apparently, much success. Like his master S. Aidan, and the Apostles, he preferred to walk.

And S. Chad did nothing striking or dramatic in history. His was no powerful or dominating personality. He left no epoch-making treatise. His life and habits were quiet, retiring and almost uneventful. Not a line of his has survived, and hardly a saying. In the one controversy in which

1. *Hist. Eccl.* IV. 3. 2. IV. 3 ; cf. iii. 28.

he became involved he played only a passive part, and his quiet peaceful life was ended by a sweet and quiet death.

It is not unknown, thank God, for such a man and for such work to be appreciated and held in honour—even if it be the case, as it generally is, that such honour is posthumous. But the very nature of such a man and of such work and influence requires time for it to be understood. To a man like S. Chad fame as a rule, if it comes at all, comes tardily. Only gradually and by degrees is he appreciated at his true value. A long life of that nature wins respect for the grey hairs of its later years, but not as a rule earlier.

But Chad's whole life was not long and his Mercian episcopate was very short. Yet his fame in Mercia is made to depend on this short episcopate, and the difficulty which is thus raised does not appear to be realized. Bede described his episcopate as "most glorious," (3) and later writers have followed in the same strain. Such a description is perfectly correct, and the praise is fully merited. But it does not carry us far. Indeed it is not in the least to the point. If S. Chad's memory had really rested only on the two-and-a-half years of his work as Bishop of Lichfield, it would doubtless have been most honourable, but it would hardly have been what in fact it was. It would have been different, not in degree but assuredly in kind. We should hardly, for instance, have had that string of dedications across England, many of which, it cannot be doubted, testify to the planting of missions and churches by his own personal action. (4)

Moreover in the Legends of the Martyrs of Stone we are reminded of what was

3. IV. 3. Hodgkin [*Pol. Hist.* 198] twice calls him an "old man." Cf. *infra*.

4. Hutton, *Eng. Saints* 108.

certainly a very characteristic habit of men like S. Chad. They speak of his fondness for retiring into the recesses of the forests for quiet and meditation, and Bede tells us of the same trait. (5) Obviously such a habit could not have found much scope for indulgence in a period of two-and-a-half years, while if it *were* indulged it would lessen still further the little time available for active work, and so would increase the difficulty in regard to S. Chad's fame.

Unconvincing attempts have been made to explain away the difficulty. No doubt the fact that S. Chad accepted the Roman Customs at the Council of Whitby, and submitted to Archbishop Theodore, helped to commend him to the dominant and victorious party, and made them ready to exalt him above his old, unprogressive, and doubtfully orthodox predecessors. No doubt too, the part he took in the cause of unity, racial and ecclesiastical, was remembered with gratitude by all parties alike.

No doubt, too, some of the Dedications in his name were made at later dates in his honour and to his memory. But many, we may be sure, record the actual foundation by him of new centres of Christianity, and by far the greater number are certainly very old indeed.

The difficulties in the Stone Legends are many, we may readily allow. It is the easiest thing in the world to see them. But such legends always have their value, and if, without attaching too high an importance to them, we can find in them support for historical facts, their value and interest are great.

It will be obvious that the difficulty regard to S. Chad which I wish to discuss, arises from the way in which his fame is made to depend on his brief but *beautif* episcopate. Can we find him working ¹¹¹

in Mercia for a longer period? If we can give him sufficient opportunity, the reputation he obtained will cease to be impossible or surprising.

I think we can.

Bede does not say S. Chad built the first Church at Lichfield. His words are: "he built a house of retirement *not far from the Church.*" (6) This may very well mean "not far from the *existing* Church," and there are other indications that such a Church did in fact exist. Before S. Chad came as Bishop to Lichfield, King Wulfhere asked Wilfrid several times to discharge episcopal functions in Mercia, and even gave him a site at Lichfield where he might establish himself (7); and Thomas of Chesterfield, (8) Canon of Lichfield, who wrote in the 14th Century, says the Cathedral was first built in the reign of Penda. There was evidently a tradition at Lichfield that a Cathedral existed there before the coming of S. Chad as Bishop.

If such was the fact it betokens much Church work already done in the diocese. Who did such work?

For this information we naturally turn first to Bede, and we find in his Preface the statement that the province of Mercia was brought to the faith of Christ by the work of Cedd and Chad. In this passage they are called *sacerdotes*, but as Bede uses the word for bishops as well as priests he may here be referring only, so far as Chad is concerned, to his Lichfield episcopate when Cedd's earlier labours were put on a firm basis; for later, when he writes in more detail of the evangelization of Mercia, (9) he omits to associate Chad with his brother.

On the other hand we must bear in mind that the Preface to Bede's History, as to books in general, was written last, after the

6. IV. 3. 7. Bright 225. Edd. c. 14.

8. In Wharton's *Anglia Sacra* Pt. i.

9. iii. 21.

main work was completed. We know (10) Bede was in the habit of submitting a rough draft of his work to the criticism of others: and one of these critics may well have pointed out to him that he had omitted to mention some earlier work of S. Chad in Mercia, previous to his appointment as Bishop of Lichfield. Although he did not make the necessary alteration in the main body of his book (perhaps the work of re-casting would have been too large) yet it may well be that in this passage in the Preface he placed the fact on record.

If that is really what he means he fills up a period in S. Chad's life which otherwise remains blank. We know (11) that S. Chad was one of Aidan's boys at Lindisfarne—as is shown in our window given by Old Denstonians—and that from there he went for further study in Ireland. The next event of which we are informed is that he succeeded his brother Cedd as head of the monastery of Lastingham. (12) But when he went to Ireland he was still young. Bede (13) describes him as *adulescens*, and he tells us that he returned *postmodum*. Yet we read nothing further of him in the History till we find him placed in charge of Lastingham in the year 664. There must therefore have been a considerable time, some years certainly, between the two events. This interval was, we may be quite sure, occupied with work, and probably mission work; and when Cedd required a deputy during those years at Lastingham, he chose his brother Cynibill, (14) so that he might not interfere with the work Chad was doing.

10. Cf. Dedication to King Ceolwulf, and Preface to Prose life of S. Cuthbert.

11. iii. 23. 12. Ib.

13. vi., 3. His friend Egbert was about 12 years old at the time. [Wilfrid was 14 years old when he entered into Lindisfarne, cf. Edd. c. 2; Bede entered Jarrow at the age of 7.]

14. iii. 23.

We are not told where Chad was working. If it had been in Northumbria it is hardly likely that Bede would not have recorded it, for he was a Northumbrian himself. If it was in Mercia it would also explain, what is otherwise somewhat strange, King Wulfhere's request that S. Chad should come as Bishop Jaruman's successor. Our window over the Bishop's stall shows S. Chad's appointment to Lichfield. If he were already known and honoured in the diocese he would naturally be welcome as the Bishop.

There is a further point of great interest. Bede ⁽¹⁶⁾ tells us that from Ireland Chad returned "to his native country" (*patriam*). Chad is usually described as a Northumbrian, ⁽¹⁶⁾ but Bede says nothing about his origin. If we may conclude from this word *patriam* that he was a Mercian we have additional explanation of his appointment as Bishop under Wulfhere, of the success of his work in Mercia both then and earlier, and of the affection with which he was regarded in the diocese. It also helps to account for the ease with which he was deposed in Northumbria by Wilfrid, and the almost entire absence of any memory of him in the North.

It is even possible that he had not only Mercian but *British* blood in his veins. One of his brothers was called Cynibill, which sounds more like a British than an English name, and it is suggestive that the only one of his priests at Lichfield whose name is recorded was Ovin, (") which again is British. When we think of S. Chad as perhaps British by one of his parents (for there was much inter-marrying), ⁽¹⁸⁾ trained in Aidan's Celtic School and in Ireland,

and consecrated by two British Bishops ⁽¹⁹⁾ we can the better realise how exceptionally he was fitted to become the mediator between Briton and Angle, Teuton and Celt.

Finally we have the Legends of the Martyrs of Stone. The difficulty of reconciling Wulfhere's murder of his sons, when he discovered their conversion to Christianity, with his well-known zeal for the new faith, is great, but it is not unique in early English History. A somewhat similar story is told for instance of Constantine, king of Devon and Cornwall, who slew two Christian youths at the altar, ⁽²⁰⁾ yet afterwards became "Saint Constantine," and of the two sons of Arvald, king of the Isle of Wight, who were slain at Stoneham, ⁽²¹⁾ near Southampton, and have therefore been sometimes ⁽²²⁾ considered to be the real "Martyrs of Stone." It is quite true that for Wulfhere to have apostasised after he had brought Chad as Bishop to Lichfield, and when he had definitely ranged himself on the side of Christianity, would be comparatively improbable, especially as by that time it had become evident that Paganism was the losing side. But there is a tradition ⁽²³⁾ that he had another wife. She may well have been the heathen mother of the boys Wulfade and Rufin shown in another of our windows, just as Oswy of Northumbria was a widower at thirty with two children nearly grown up; ⁽²⁴⁾ and in the earlier days, when it was doubtful whether Christianity was going to make its way, it is quite probable that Wulfhere, son of the stout old champion of heathenism, Penda, took at first the same line as his father.

16. D.C.B. i. 426; Hunt 97. ^{15- >v. 3-} Lightfoot calls him a "Celtic Missionary" (*Leaders* 203).

17. iv. 3.

18. Freeman, N.C. i. 34.

19. iii. 28.

ax. iu. 16.

20. Bright 20 and note.

22. *Lichfield* (Dio. His.) 21 n.

23. D.C.B. iv. 1195.

24. Hodgkin *Pol. Hist.* 165.

The Legends tell us that when Rufin arrived at S. Chad's Cell in the forest, led by the hart he was pursuing, he recognised the Saint because he had heard much of him from "Bishop Germanus." Now Chad's predecessor was Jaruman, and the «Germanus» spoken of in the Legends may well have been really "Jarumanus," while the description of him as Bishop of the East Saxons is easily explained by Taruman's mission there in the year 665. There are many Bishops of the name of Germanus, but none was Bishop of the East Saxons. Of course Jaruman as Bishop of Mercia would have been known, and no doubt extolled, any work done by S. Chad in the Midlands, and nothing is more probable than the retirements during such work, to a forest cell, of which the Legends speak.

The Legends do not require us to place the incidents in the story of the Martyrs of Stone during Chad's episcopate, and indeed the Peterborough couplets⁽²⁵⁾ do not call him anything but "Chad" or "S. Chad." But of course, in the general over-looking of any possible earlier mission in Mercia, they have always been taken to allude to supposed events while he was Bishop. This is to add needlessly to the difficulties in the Legends, while to find a place for them at an earlier period removes at any rate one of the objections to a story which is picturesque and attractive.

I suggest therefore that S. Chad was not only Bishop of Mercia from 669 to 672, but that he also worked there after his return from Ireland until his appointment to Lastingham in 664; and I have given some reasons for thinking that he may even have been a Mercian himself.

How natural therefore, with the manifold qualifications which Bede so eloquently

extols,⁽²⁶⁾ and with the extended opportunity which we have given him, that he should have built himself a memorable name and an abiding affection—aided too, it may be, by a familiarity with the country and the language which came to him by birth, and the natural pride which the people would feel in a Bishop who was one of themselves, the first to be such, and the first to be recognised by the great and imposing Church of Rome, the Mother of all the Churches.

It is quite true that S. Chad's intrinsic worth as Bishop ought to have needed no such extraneous help: he deserved to the full all the fame and all the gratitude he received, and nothing can add to his glory in the sight of God. But worth and appreciation, desert and reward, are not quite the same thing; and the suggestion I have made helps to explain more naturally than is otherwise the case, the fame and honour he won in the estimation of men.

FOOTBALL.

BURTON.

The return match against Burton was played here on January 31st, and the Editor hastens to add that it was through no fault of his that this account did not appear in the last number of the *Denstonian*. We won the toss, and started up the hill with the result that Burton began to press, but we defended resolutely, and for some time play was of a fairly even nature. After two or three promising attacks on our part, Burton again began to press, and P. Robinson scored a fine try through a good opening by Beasley. We, however, replied in spirited fashion, and after W. Hall had nearly scored on

25. They are given in Warner and in Dugdale.

26. iii. 28; iv. 3.

the right, a good combined rush put Hope in on the left and Hutchison converted with a fine kick. Just before half-time Burton scored again through Newlands, but as Robinson failed with the kick, as he had the previous time, Burton led at half-time by 6-5.

At the beginning of the second half we started attacking at once, and Larkam scored after some loose play, and Hutchison again converted. A number of good movements on both sides followed, and Burton scored again through Bemrose, the opening being once more made by Beasley. Newton converted this try, so that Burton led by 11-10; we, however, were not to be denied, and W. Hall gained another try, which thus gave us the victory by 13-11.

Considering the state of the ground, which was very greasy, the game was surprisingly fast and open. On our side the pack gave another excellent display, though the tackling tended to be somewhat too high—Helder, as usual, being the best of the eight. Both halves played well, and the three-quarters gave their best balanced display of the year, each man in turn doing excellent work, both in defence and attack. Though not scoring his usual try, Tomkins played quite up to his best form, while Taylor gave a most creditable performance at full back.

On the whole we may heartily congratulate ourselves on a capital performance, it being many years since we have had the satisfaction of inflicting a defeat on our old enemies, Burton.

LITTLE SIDE DORMITORY MATCHES.

The first match was very easily won by *Head's i.*, but in the next round *Head's i.* were beaten by 23-0 by *Clark's*, who had disposed of *Smith's* in the first round. The other semi-finalists were *Hiiskinson's* and

Whitmore's, and as the latter were victorious the final was between *Whitmore's* and *Clark's*. In the first game no issue was arrived at, the score being at the end of the game 8-8, although *Clark's* had had a lead of five points at half-time and played down the hill during the second half. At the second meeting *Clark's* succeeded in winning the competition, scores being a goal to a try.

REVIEW OF THE SEASON, 1913-14.

The first and most pleasant duty of the reviewer of the season 1913-14 is to offer his heartiest congratulations to Captain Tomkins and his men on a most successful season. Not only do the actual results show a marked improvement upon the records of recent years, not only have the XV. been successful alike in piling up huge scores against weak opponents, and in rising to the occasion against the stronger sides, but the actual standard of play has been really excellent, and the team could fairly challenge comparison with great fifteens of the past.

Analysing the results we find that we beat all our School opponents and—with the exception of a hard-won victory over Birkenhead—by extremely comfortable margins. The K.E.S. match—which promised a great struggle—had unfortunately to be scratched. The Club matches we also won, except the first game against Burton, where we lost in a heavy scoring game. Most of the results against the Clubs were very close, victories being secured against Burton; Burton "A" (twice); Manchester "A"; Uttoxeter (twice); Stafford; and North Stafford. The match against the O.D.s at the beginning of the season was lost by a small margin, but on their subsequent form the School would

have been more than a match for the side which the Old Boys had on that occasion.

The chief causes of this very satisfactory record were: (1) The uniformly excellent all-round play of the forwards; (2) Tomkins' strong running in attack; (3) the steady tackling right through the team.

In emphasizing these three points, the writer does not mean to disparage the attack of the other backs. W. Hall in particular played some brilliant games, and White and Larkam opened up the game most creditably on many occasions. But there was too often a feeling of "give Tomkins the ball and he'll do the rest." This fault, which led to the attack seldom or never developing in the centre or the left wing, was very marked in the first two or three matches, but was gradually eliminated during the season. W. Hall perhaps improved most in the XV., while B. Hall's return greatly strengthened the attack on the left wing.

Two weaknesses were however apparent right up to the end: (i) Kicking: considering our almost unlimited opportunities for "kick-about," we ought to excel day-schools and clubs in all kinds of kicking; but there can be no doubt that we were inferior to several sides in this department of the game—especially to Birkenhead. In punting we very often failed to find touch, and but seldom made much ground, the kick across, though at times used to advantage, was often employed injudiciously and erratically, with the result that it was only too frequently a source of danger. The short lobbing kick over the head of the back was practically not used at all. Place kickers, with the exception of Salmon and Hutchison, we can hardly be said to have had at all. (2) Running: The team not only lacked sprinters, but many of the players did not use the pace

they had. Our backs did not seem to realize how many really good openings were spoiled by slow running, which gave our opponents time to re-form their defence. In the results of the "100 yards," for the last four years our backs have been, with a few exceptions, conspicuous for their lowly position, or by their entire absence.

The writer has dwelt on these weaknesses at perhaps unnecessary length, because the faults, dealt with in last year's review, have been to so large an extent eradicated during this season, that perhaps more attention may be paid to these points next year: in this connection one cannot praise too highly the way in which this year's team learned its weaknesses by experience, and for the most part conquered them.

A review of the season is hardly complete without a word of praise to Tomkins, who has been in every way a splendid Captain of football, and of thanks to the Chaplain and Mr. Pollard, to whose example and instruction the success of the team is in no small measure due.

The dormitory competitions were chiefly conspicuous for really good tackling. Attacking movements throughout were slow and clumsy, but the defence keen and resolute, the closeness of these struggles is shown by the fact that Clark's—the winners in the Senior and Junior—had to re-play a match in both competitions; while Hornby's only won the Middle Side after a hard fight.

H. MERRICK.

Results:—			
Burton "A"	..	Won	16—6
Old Denstonians	...	Lost	9—14
Merchant Taylors' School,			
Crosby	...	Won	62—0
Manchester "A"	...	Won	19—18

Liverpool College	Won	48-
Ellesmere College	Won	70-
Uttoxeter ...	Won	13-
Birkenhead School	Won	11-
Ellesmere College	Won	47-
Uttoxeter ...	Won	14-
North Stafford	Won	18-
Burton	Lost	21-33
Burton	Won	13-11
Stafford ...	Won	38-0
Burton "A"	Won	~ - 3

Points for, 407 points against, 103.
Played 15; Won 13 Lost 2.

The 2nd XV. have also made most satisfactory progress. They began by being badly beaten by Burton 2nd by 40 points, but ended the season by defeating the same team by 16-0; a fact which speaks for itself. The 2nd XV. lost another match to Burton 2nd, but beat Uttoxeter 2nd twice, and avenged a defeat by North Staffs. 2nd in November by a comfortable victory in February.

Results:-

Burton 2nd XV.	Lost	0-40
Stafford 2nd XV.	Lost	0-27
Uttoxeter 2nd XV.	Won	26-0
Burton 2nd XV.	Lost	3-8
Uttoxeter 2nd XV.	Won	3-0
North Staffs. 2nd XV,	Won	*7-3
Burton and XV. ...	Won	16-0

Points for, 65; Points against, 78.
Played 7; Won 4; Lost 3.

CHARACTERS OF THE XV.

(Communicated by the Captain of Football).

fG. L. Tomkins.—Has made considerable improvement as a player this year: without losing dash and vigour in attack, he has shown considerably more judgment, while his defensive work has been greatly strengthened. With a trifle more pace he should become a really first-class three-quarter. As a Captain he has been in

every way excellent; keen himself, he has inspired the whole team with a like spirit and thoroughly deserves the splendid record which will be associated with his name.

tL. B. Helder.—A clean, fast and hard-working forward, who hooked well in the scrum, and who was a great success as the leader of the pack.

tC. G. Salmon.—A gigantic forward, who used his weight to the last ounce, and who was always on the ball, while he also kicked most of the goals.

Hall.—A three-quarter, who improved very much during the season, chiefly through the cultivation of a good swerve.

tW. Hall.—A three-quarter of the "Poulton" type, who frequently made good openings and who used his pace well, besides being a sure tackler,

}V. S. Sullivan.—A keen and clever forward, who knew all about the game, and used his knowledge to good advantage.

tG. J. Mitchell.—A forward who did his full share of hard work, both in the scrum and outside it.

fM. II. Spicer.—Was always on the ball and was therefore of the greatest value.

tE. S. Rerrie.—A forward of the "bustling" type, who did a great deal of useful work, which he could have improved upon if he had used his head more; a useful "winger."

tM. G. Taylor.—A safe back, who tackled well, whose kicking however, although sure, might have been improved.

tH. P. Boyd.—A very useful forward in the "loose"; who, unfortunately, was rather apt to lose control of his temper occasionally.

fS. H. Larkam.—A good stand-off, who benefited greatly by the experience gained in matches.

M- White.—A quick and clever scrum-half, who was, however, rather weak in defence when he came into the team—a fault which he had to a great extent eradicated by the end of the season.

**G. B. Fyldes.*—A good and steady scrum-half, who was unfortunately compelled to stop playing for the great part of the season.

**C. A. Kestin.*—A big but very clumsy wing three-quarter, who played well at first but gradually deteriorated.

**H. Brown.*—An inside three-quarter, who was good in defence but poor in attack; he should however be useful next year.

**O. F. Forrest.*—A forward who worked hard but who was handicapped by his lack of science.

**G. F. Mason.*—A big, clumsy and slow forward, who however always worked hard.

**A. W. Wilson.*—A fast wing three-quarter, of much promise, as he improved greatly during the latter part of the season.

**J. F. Menzies.*—A decidedly erratic back, who was never mediocre, being either good or bad.

**C. K. Hope.*—A forward who worked well, both in the scrum and outside it.

**C. T. Hutchison.*—A bulky forward, who used his weight well, and who should be useful next year; a good place-kick.

**E. C. Dunicliffe.*—A forward who was good with his feet but who was unfortunately rather liable to get "off-side."

tSignifies rst XV. colours.

* „ 2nd XV. „

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

With Mr. Swift as President—actively backed by Mr. Huskinson, Mr. Smith, and a most energetic Secretary in the person

of S. G. Fillingham—the Old Natural History Society has taken a new lease of life under a new name.

The Society comprises some 25 members recruited from the upper forms; and the Captain of School is *ex officio* one of the Vice-Presidents.

The object of the President in helping to revive the Society was not only to encourage members to read papers, but also to interest and instruct non-members by admitting them to the reading of these papers—the Society being thus continued on the lines of its predecessor, with an average attendance of 45.

The following lectures have been delivered between November and March :—

"Ants."—Mr. Huskinson.

"Bacteria."—S. G. Fillingham.

"Wireless Telegraphy."—Rev. W. B. Smith.

"Was King John's Heart Buried at Croxden?"—Rev. the Headmaster.

"Tides."—Mr. Huskinson.

"The Roman Forum."—Mr. Coleman.

«Coal."—G. W. Wood.

"Pasteur."—S. G. Fillingham.

"Colour Photography."—D. G. Smith.

BOXING.

By R. H. F. Coleman.

The annual Boxing Competition took place on March 19, 20 and 21, in the new Drill Hall, fittest scene for such an event, standing as it does on the site of the old Fives Courts, behind which, in former days, took place many a fiercely contested affray without the mitigation of gloves. The general revival of interest in "the noble art of self-defence" was reflected here at Denstone by a number of entries larger than those received for some years, in fact, larger, I think, than those received

in any year since the annual competition was instituted by Mr. Philipps.

Of course among the fifty odd boys who put down their names there were many who had no real scientific acquaintance with the art. But all possessed some vague idea that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line, and that the fastest movement along that line results in the earliest arrival at one's destination. Some, in fact, were so obsessed with the idea that they forgot that like every broad principle, it has exceptions. When therefore two men stood up against each other with this idea topmost in their minds, each oblivious of the possibility of placing obstacles in the straight and speedy course of his opponent and not anticipating any such obstacles in his own course, the result was picturesque to the onlookers but was scarcely boxing.

A vigorous offence is, as our "Infantry Training" tells us, sometimes the best defence. But that is only sometimes. There are guards in boxing, and, even more important, ducks and slips. That is to say, that often the best way of receiving a blow is to get out of its way. This sounds rather Irish, but is good sense for all that. Perhaps the best exponents of this principle were Mechan, Musker and E.J. Brooksbank. The latter should ultimately make a very good boxer if he perseveres. It was a pleasant change from the mere mutual hammering methods of some competitors, to see those few others who tried to box with their heads as well as their hands, *and so fill up the gap where force might fail with skill and finesse.*

The preliminary rounds were fought on Thursday afternoon, March 19, the same evening and the following evening. Particulars of these need not be given. The

semi-finals and finals took place on Saturday afternoon from two o'clock to five. In the Bantam Weights N. Pattison beat Miiller, after a brave fight by the latter and Parker beat Morton; Pattison being finally beaten by Parker. In the Feather Weights Lloyds beat F. J. Keble and E. J. Brooksbank beat J. D. McDonald, Lloyds being victorious in the finals. In the Light Weights S.D. Stott beat Collis in a bout which was distinctly bloody but was hardly boxing; and White having been hurt earlier in the contest, was unable to meet Tobias. The last named was defeated by Stott. In the Middle Weights Musker beat Barrett. J. H. Taylor, having been hurt earlier in the proceedings, could not meet Boyd, who ultimately beat Musker. In the Heavy Weights Mechan beat Mitchell in a hard-fought fight, and F. W. Jones beat Northcox, but being hurt, could not meet Mechan in the finals.

On the whole I was very much pleased with the performance and heartily congratulate the winners, while I thank all the competitors and all who assisted at the ring-side and previously, especially Sergeant Dyke.

A large, interested and enthusiastic audience, consisting of practically the whole school, watched the semi-finals and finals throughout the three hours of their duration. This is encouraging for those of us who arranged the contest, and for the competitors. But I think large as the list of entries was, yet it was not large enough. At least fifty per cent, of the school should enter. Far be it from me to be-little other forms of physical energy, especially those games of which I have no knowledge. Still further be it from me to exalt the lower side of our nature over the higher, the body over the mind. I know that Boxing is open to the charge of being the leas

intellectual of the various forms of physical exercise in vogue amongst us. But as I have said above, even in Boxing there is scope for the use of the head as well as the hands. No nation or school of mere brawny, brainless Philistines has made or ever will make any serious mark in History. But the same is true of a nation or school of weedy intellectuals. The ideal we must keep before us is that of the old Greeks, who have left their footprints impressed so deeply upon the sands of Time, namely the parallel development of brain and body to the utmost capacity of both. The lesson which Boxing teaches is this, that pre-eminence is gained by individuals and nations by physical fitness and capacity for endurance guided and controlled by reason. Brawn alone avails not. Neither does brain. Success can only come by a wise alliance between the two.

Sergt. Dyke and Mr. J. L. Smith acted as judges and Mr. Woods as timekeeper. Tomkins, Spicer, E. S. Rerrie, and J. F. Jones rendered valuable aid as seconds. The two last will represent the School at Aldershdtd next week. They can be trusted to do their best for their own honour and for that of Denstone.

O.D. NEWS.

The *Staffordshire Advertiser*, reviewing our last number, says "Not the least interesting feature of the March number of the *Denstonian* are the letters from Old Boys." It has said the same thing before on more than one occasion, and very many people have expressed the opinion that the section of "O.D. News" is the most attractive part of the magazine.

G. A. Marsden (September, 1882) who has been Town Clerk of Woodstock (S. Africa), has been appointed Deputy Town Clerk of Greater Cape Town.

C. Kestin (Sept. 1907) has passed the London University Matriculation Examination.

R. A. L. N. Bulkeley's address is 38, New Road, Rochester.

H. Cooper (September, 1890) has been in medical charge of the "Medea," a small cruiser in the Mediterranean, and on her saw all there was to be seen, from a ship, of the Balkan War. He was present at the fighting at Samos, arrived at Salonika just before the town fell and stayed there two months. After patrolling the Syrian coast for some months, he was at the blockade of Scutari, and later had three months at Constantinople.

Cecil P. Russ (January, 1902), is with the London and Brazilian Bank, Ltd., Buenos Aires. He has been playing football, but about three months ago broke his leg in two places. When Lord Hawke's cricket team was in the Argentine, Russ made over fifty in each innings against them.

W. O. Wellington (January 1891) writes from Roodepoort as follows :—

"Strikes and such things being over for a while, one feels more inclined to try and write letters.

In July we were here through it all, and it was none too pleasant. In June we were away on a holiday, staying on a Farm near the East Rand. We rather saw the other side of the question, as all the men bar one on the farm were commandeered and we could not get back owing to there being no trains. I got back the day the leaders declared the strike off and so missed all the fun. When I came in the line was still guarded, and bearded and unwashed burghers were everywhere. The Reef line was guarded all the way; every crossing, bridge and culvert had a guard, and the line was patrolled at night. It rather gave one a shock to find Johannesburg Station

in the hands of the Transvaal Scotties and to be held up at intervals by someone with a rifle and fixed bayonet. But we should have had a very bad time without the Defence Force. Of course the great danger is the Kaffir: with 250,000 mine boys on the Reef a rising would be awful. This time they were quiet, but in July it was touch and go. We could also do well without the Dagos, for they are the brutes who use explosives and do other dirty tricks. I am sending you some permits to travel, etc., which were necessary under Martial Law. Besides they might be of sufficient interest for the Museum, if not, they will help the fire along.

The drought this year is worse than ever, and in most districts the crops are a failure. Here we are nearly at the end of the so-called "wet" season and all the dams and rivers are dry, and the mines are on short rations of water. What will happen by the end of the winter I do not care to think.

O. Victor was to have come out here while I was away, but he had to go to Cape Town for an operation instead—throat trouble, I believe. However he is coming home in a month or two so you can get all his news direct from him then."

The Rev. Cecil Chambers, who was Chaplain here from 1891 to 1897, writes as follows, from Bishop's Lodge, Seoul, Corea, via Siberia:—

"You know where Corea is. To some it has been necessary to say it is not in Greek Archipelago! to others that it is not in China, nor India! Probably you know that it has been annexed by Japan, and that it is now (since 1910) part of the *Japanese Empire*. Stamps therefore, are Japanese (Corean stamps have long been out of circulation, and are not easy to get: they can only be bought).

The Mission started in 1890, when Bishop Corfe (an old Lancing boy) came out, soon followed by others, including the present Bishop, Mark Napier Trollope. We are a staff of Bishop and twelve English clergy, with one Japanese priest. Of these twelve all except two are working among Coreans, one is for Japanese throughout Corea, helped by Mr. Shiozaki who lives at Fusan at south end of peninsula, 375 miles from Seoul. We have nearly 5,000 baptized members, of which some 3,000, I believe, are communicants. Of course some are not confirmed. The population of Corea is roughly 15,000,000. We are a small and insignificant body: American Methodists (two ^orts), and Presbyterians and other bodies, are out here in far larger numbers. Roman Catholics (French) have been here much longer than anybody. Our clergy are fixed at certain centres, and work from them. *Seoul*, *Chemulpo*, *Kaugwha* (an island about the size of Isle of Wight), *Suwon*, *Chin Chun*, *Chouan*, and *Paik Chun* are our stations. Travelling is a difficulty, though far easier than it was. Railways have made a lot of difference, and now motor-cars are running in certain places. Seoul is the capital—some 300,000 people. We have three churches, one ("The Advent"), solely for English services, one for Corean, one for Japanese. The Bishop hopes some day to build a large Central Church, or Cathedral, where all can worship under one roof. Land is ours, but money (of course) is wanted. I am Hon. Treasurer for "Bishop Turner Memorial Fund"—now Yen 6156, sens 49 (= £600). Language is the great difficulty. • Chemulpo is one of the chief ports. There there is one church, used for Corean, Japanese and English services in turns. Kaugwha—name of island and of its chief city—is our best church and

most successful work. There the first converts were baptized in 1896. Now there are over 1,600 baptized (all ages) and nearly 1,000 communicants. Now to get to Kaugwha from here you either have to go to Chemulpo by tram (25 miles—1 to 2 hours)—originally they walked, or were carried in 'chairs' on ponies. When there you have a journey by sea, not open sea exactly, but all among countless islands—tides are strong. You either go by steamer, if lucky (it only goes once in twenty-four hours) or by an oil launch, called vulgarly a "tok-tok" from the noise it makes. You sit on top, which seems precarious, or you go inside—which you will find packed with Coreans, and the atmosphere at least suggestive of a "Black Hole" we've read of. A third method is to hire a "sampan" or flat boat, which is propelled by a peculiar oar, worked by two men from the stern. This last takes four hours, the "tok-tok" about two and a quarter hours, the steamer rather less. The alternate way is to cross the river Hau, three miles from here, by a ferry-boat, and then walk some thirty miles, I think, till you get to a place after crossing another river, only separated from the mainland by a very narrow channel, which you cross, if lucky, by a ferry. Or you can cycle instead of walk. I have tried the tok-tok and the sampan, next time I hope to try bicycling. I can't say I care much for either, though I had all in my favour as regards the weather. The tides are very swift, and there are strange eddies and currents. There is an enormous difference between high and low tide, something like thirty feet I believe.

Now Chin-Chun is twenty-five miles from a station (railway), and to go there involves a walk over a very steep pass, also rivers etc. to cross. Not so bad in good weather, but after heavy rain or

snow, not at all nice. Paik-Chun is north, some fourteen miles from railway. A broad river to be crossed. This is dangerous in winter. The river doesn't freeze over because of the tide, but gets full of ice hummocks, and you may spend hours trying to get across and then fail. Sometimes the passengers have to rock the boat to prevent it being frozen in among the ice, perhaps for hours. Then in flood time the rivers are awkward. For about six weeks in summer we have very heavy rains, or are liable to (last year we were singularly free). I remember in 1912 five days rain without a stop, and that's nothing out of the way. "The rains descend and the winds blow," etc.

Corea is very mountainous. Mountains abound all through the country, They are very grand—sometimes, but not always easy to traverse.

Some of the "districts" are large. Chin-Chun for instance embraces nineteen chapels or prayer rooms, where the priest, on his visits, celebrates, interviews his converts, catechumens, enquirers, etc. It is no light job—the Coreans are great talkers, but do not come quickly to the point. They crowd into small compass, need no ventilation, are never in a hurry, do not wash, etc., eat very smelly and disagreeable food!

In summer especially, insects are a torment, especially in country places. Inns are simply shelters, and sometimes priests have to go there. They try, where possible, to provide priests' rooms at each church, where they can cook food, lie down undisturbed by vermin, etc., and have some measure of privacy. In hot weather the insects are very trying—to an extent difficult to realize, unless experienced. (I have only done so to a very small extent, but quite enough). Corean food is not palatable to Europeans—chiefly rice—they can't

understand our having meals *without* rice, and it is to them more than bread to us. They have no bread. Rice, rice, rice, with pickles, dried fish and other tasty additions seems their chief food. Not much meat, occasionally chicken, pheasants, and *dogs* are eaten (last named is considered quite a delicacy, I believe).

This is a rambling letter, but even writing has taken some time. If I can be of any further use let me know.

All best wishes for your work. You are daily remembered in my prayers. It is good of O.Ds. to think of me so kindly: please remember very kindly to any who enquire.

D. E. Donnelly is at Hong-Kong, his brother at Shanghai: I have had some correspondence with both. Whyte is, I understand, associated with D.E.D. in business. "Dr." Coleman, I hear, is at Hong-Kong."

G. L. Marriott has gained the senior "Canon Hall" Greek Testament Prize at Oxford.

R. H. P. Coleman (Sept. 1899) has been appointed Organist of Derry Cathedral.

D. Victor is Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Nyassaland. The Teachers' Training College of S. Michael, at Makulawe, of which he is Principal, was struck by lightning and four of its buildings were burnt out. But, as the *Letter* of the Diocese says, "nothing daunts Mr. Victor or even affects his characteristic cheerfulness, and the buildings are already up again and the work in full progress. We hope to get the chapel up and ready for consecration in June." We note there are sixty-eight students in residence.

Dennis Victor (January 1892) writes with characteristic cheeriness of his progress at S. Michael's College, Likoma. Under his energetic guidance it is evidently doing a

great work. The chapel was used for the first time on January 5. His account is as follows:—

"It has been rather an anxious time lately as we have just started the new scheme of a fourth year's training for teachers. To those immediately concerned the idea of returning to read for another year has been anything but popular, and as one expected, there have been several lapses. However those who have come have settled down, and though at first we had our difficulties, I think now the scheme may be considered to be fairly established. Of course when once the first term is over there should be no further trouble. Meanwhile we are going on peacefully on the whole. We had to make a late start again, this time owing to shortage of food, but now everything is in full swing and we are making up for lost time.

Buildings are getting on and just at present it is a race against time, whether we can get them all done before the heavy rains come. By Christmas we hope to finish all that we have in hand at present, leaving two more buildings, *i.e.* a set of five classrooms and another dormitory till next year.

The Entrance Examination this year produced one hundred and seventy boys and we have found places for thirty of them, starting our new plan of having fifteen new boys each term. The boys from Likoma and Msumba did well, but the Yao boys who tried were very much below the standard of previous years.

There is much to be said against Competitive Examinations and I have no doubt the question will be brought up at the Conference, but for the present it is difficult to know on what other plan to choose. A system of selection by the individual P^eSj~ in-charge would be extraordinarily difficult

and would lend itself to the charge of favouritism."

He writes later as follows:—" We had a great day yesterday, when we used the Chapel for the first time. On Sunday (my birthday) Ayrton and I walked over for lunch and spent the afternoon putting the finishing touches to everything. [Many guests arrived] and in the morning I was up early and saw that all was ready. We began at 7 with High Mass. I celebrated, George was Sub-Deacon, and Deacon Laurence, a native, was Deacon. The procession went from the altar, round the ambulatory, down the south side and up the centre. The service was just the same as we have in the Cathedral every Sunday. Archdeacon Johnson preached. All the boys communicated and about ten others, Deacon Laurence assisting me. It was a really beautiful service, and all went well, without a hitch. I really feel we have begun. Everyone was very nice about it afterwards. We had a big party for breakfast, twelve altogether, after which they all dispersed and I had the rest of the day to myself, to do nothing in. The boys had a holiday, and for the first time for several weeks, I did absolutely nothing except walk about." He adds later on in the same letter the following :—" My family of dogs is now growing up, and one goes off tomorrow. The rest will wait a bit longer and go later to different people about—my boy, the cook, Captao, and one of the steamer boys."

C. J. S. Ward (May, 1882) has been nominated by the Duchy of Lancaster to be Rector of Langham, near Colchester.

E. J. Boyd has an article in the March number of *The British Journal of Children's Diseases*, consisting of a paper read at the Clinical Section of the Royal Society of Medicine.

NOTES.

The Headmaster has been elected a Member of the Council of the North Staffordshire Field Club. He has contributed to this year's Transactions a paper on "The Date of Croxden Abbey."

The Confirmation.—by the Bishop of Lichfield—was on Friday, March 13. The list of candidates was as follows :— D. Abbots, D. Ainger, G. Armson, N. Atkinson, J. Auton, H. Baness, G. Barker, R. Bassett, A. Beith, A. Beresford, J. Boothroyd, G. Boothroyd, A. Bowen, D. Bradley, C. Brewis, R. Bromley, H. Cadman, R. Champney, E. Chapman, H. Davis, E. Dunncliffe, G. Dennis, C. Emmett, R. Evans, E. Evered, D. Fergusson, H. Hadfield, C. Hammond, J. Hardy, R. Hassell, W. Hodges, J. Hughes, B. Jeffries, J. Jones, F. Keble, R. Kimbell, G. Laithwaite, G. Leach, I. Macdonald, R. Macdonald, H. Maister, J. Mason, D. Meakin, J. Newsholme, H. Newton, E. Passmore, H. Pearce, R. Piatt, S. Podmore, J. Roberts, S. Rudder, G. Slack, F. Stott, D. Stott, G. Sturgess, S. Tew, J. Thompson, P. Thompstone, D. Turner, H. Vidler, M. Waghorn, N. Waite, B. Webb, H. Whitehead, N. Whitfield, H. Whittle, R. Williams, H. Wilson, E. Wilson, T. Yarnold, H. Young.

The new buildings at the Preparatory School are being used this term.

The energy of the Science Side has enabled them to instal a Wireless Telegraphy plant.

On S. Chad's Day we enjoyed our whole holiday, and football sixes (Association), arranged by Mr. Merrick, provided a novelty which was much appreciated. The Celebration was well sung. The Chaplain celebrated, and the Headmaster spoke on S. Chad. We reprint the substance of

his address in this number. After Evensong *Te Deum Laudamus* was sung. Then followed the first stage of the Dormitory Musical Competition, when Mr. Bavin, Music Master at Berkhamsted, was kind enough to come and adjudicate.

The Final Competition was held on Lady Day when Mr. Spurling, A.R.C.M., came from Oundle to adjudicate. Perhaps the feature of the evening was his vivid and striking criticism and comment, and we are very much indebted to him. He complimented us on our Chapel and Chapel singing, for which we are specially grateful. The winning Dormitory was Mr. Hornby's, Mr. Smith's being a good second. His Honour Judge Ruegg had most kindly promised to present the Trophy, but at the last moment was summoned to London. However Miss Ruegg took his place, and Helder certainly felt that the Trophy was all the more acceptable as it was received from the hands of a lady.

A handsomely carved oak chair, bearing the arms of Provost Lowe, has been given to the Chapel by a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. We are very grateful to him, and he will be glad to know that his gift has been placed in S. Benedict's Chapel, which contains another specimen of his skill.

Another anonymous gift is a very handsome carpet for the Altar of the Holy Family. For this also we are very grateful.

At a meeting of the Sports' Committee it was decided that an inter-dormitory Tug-of-War should be instituted, to be contested by teams of eight men from each dormitory.

At another meeting of the same body it was decided that in order to improve the kicking of the School, a Senior and Junior Kicking Competition should be inaugurated.

The following have been awarded football colours :—

1st XV.—C. M. White.

2nd XV.—C. T. Hutchison, E. C. Dunnicliffe, C. K. Hope, A. W. Wilson, W. M. North Cox, J. F. Menzies, W. V. Clark, J. H. Taylor, F. W. Jones, A. B. R. Leech.

The Dormitory Cross-Country Run took place on Saturday, March 14th, and resulted in a win for Clark's; the first man home was G. J. Mitchell.

The following were the players in *The Speckled Band*, which is described in the Editorial:—*Dr. Rylott*, H. W. Beck; *Enid Stonor*, R. A. Briggs; *Rodgers*, W. M. N. Pollard; *Mrs. Stanton*, F. J. Mellor; *Sherlock Holmes*, F. J. S. Whitmore; *Br. Watson*, A. W. Huskinson, *Billy*, L. Norbury; *Mr. Wilson*, L. A. Loup; *Coroner*, R. H. F. Coleman; *Mr. Armitage*, G. L. Tomkins; *Jury*, C. Finch, C. T. Hutchison, G. Mason, G. J. Mitchell, E. S. Rerrie, L. Roskams, W. Short, M. H. Spicer, P. H. Sykes, M. Taylor, A. W. Wilson, and Mr. Armitage.

The Editor begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following School Magazines:—

The Reptonian Elstonian, King Edward VI. Grammar School Magazine, Lichfield, Stonyhurst Magazine, Blue, Hurst Johnian, Lancing Chronicle, Worksop Magazine, Felstedian, Eastbournian, Olavian, Birkoniau, Bloxhamist, K.E.S. Birmingham Magazine, Durban High School Magazine.

All M.S. intended for insertion must be written on one side of the paper only, and forwarded to the Editor, G. B. Fyldes, Denstone College, Staffordshire.

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