



Photo

Norval, Dunfermline

MR WILLIAM MUNGALL, J.P.

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Mr William Mungall, J.P.

AMID the crowd of successful men who, after the lapse of years, have retained their love of, and loyalty to, their old School, no one has been more constant and consistent in his attachment than Mr William Mungall, whose portrait we have now the privilege of presenting to our readers. He is the elder son of the late Mr James Mungall, proprietor of the beautiful estate of Transy, which lies on a nicely-wooded acclivity on the outskirts of the town of Dunfermline. He was born at Lumphinnans in the year 1865, and was educated at Dollar Academy, of which he was a pupil in the early eighties. The natural bias of his mind inclined him to the Science and Art departments of the School, which at that time were not so fully developed and equipped as they are now. At the same time, his standing with his teachers in all his classes and his popularity with his class-fellows were well on the right side. He took an active, if not a very prominent, part in the sports, the robust manly exercises of the School, of which he remains a patron to this day.

His school days completed, Mr Mungall entered the Technical College, Glasgow, where he followed the usual course, and among other distinctions gained the first prizes in the classes of practical and theoretical chemistry. His college career fitted him well for the work he was now to take in hand in the well-known firm of Steel & Company, linen manufacturers, where in time he became a partner, manager of the works department, and ultimately chairman.

On the death of his much respected father in 1897, he succeeded to the family estate, on which he now resides, and which, by the judicious planting of trees and other means, he has greatly improved and enhanced in value. Naturally since he became laird he has manifested a very warm interest in matters pertaining to agriculture; and he has won for himself a very high place as a judge and a breeder of Shetland ponies. His stud, which numbers about one hundred pretty creatures, has been particularly successful in the show yard. Representatives have won the championships of the Royal in

1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, and 1914; of the Highland in 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, and 1914, and at many other important shows. During the past ten years many championships have been gained, more than twenty special prizes, and well over one hundred first prizes. It is safe to say there is not another Shetland pony stud in this country embracing so many champions, male and female. A writer in *Farm Life* has the following:—"Why does a boy keep rabbits? was Mr Mungall's very Scotch reply, when I asked him why he kept Shetland ponies, since he so evidently disregarded the question of financial results. And so I learned at the very outset that Mr Mungall's stud of beautiful ponies represents his hobby, and later, while walking round the fields and hearing him talk of his pretty pets, I learned that over his 'rabbits' he is a very enthusiastic 'boy' indeed."

Mr Mungall may be said to devote his time impartially between private interests and public duties. He is one of the Directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society, and in this war time he has, on invitation, joined the District Executive Committee, and has done good work among farmers in his native county to encourage increased production of food. He is a Justice of Peace for the County, is Convener of the Abbey Grounds Committee, Vice-President of the Savings Bank, Income Tax Commissioner, a principal Heritor, and, until very recently, President of the Naturalists' Society, and we know that meetings of these bodies make great demands on one's time. In 1896 Mr Mungall married Miss Morrison, only daughter of the late Mr J. M. Morrison, St Andrews. One daughter, an only child, graces their beautiful home. It is finely situated on an eminence commanding many and varied extensive views, with the surrounding grounds finely laid out and beautifully kept.

In private life Mr Mungall is much esteemed. The one term that describes him best is *practicality*. Anything dreamy or visionary is alien to his nature. His mind has been from his boyhood full of mechanics, and many of his hours are spent, as a pastime, in his well-equipped workshop. He possesses much mechanical ingenuity, and wields the workman's tools in a manner that would do credit to a hand trained to the craft. He knows something of every branch of mechanics, a great deal about most branches, and is able to put his hand to whatever work is to be done.

Not the least of Mr Mungall's claims on our gratitude is the encouragement and aid which he has from the beginning given to the *Magazine*, and, we may add, the liberality with which he has responded to appeals made to our "old boys."

The Blackbird's Song.

I HEARD a blackbird singing
Clear at the birth of day,
New worlds of sweetness winging
Across the shadowed way.

I heard a blackbird calling
Alone in the early dawn,
No note of discord falling,
To stir the charmed lawn.

O Blackbird, singing so clearly !
O Blackbird, calling so long !
What is it you hold so dearly,
'The burden of all your song ?

Do you tell of a world re-born,
When this strife and pain shall cease ?
And the souls that conquered fighting
Shall have earned a deathless Peace ?

Whether here, or hence, no matter !
Flowers bloom in their path again ;
And a nobler chord has wakened
The sons and daughters of men.

O Blackbird, out of the shadows
'This vigil of dawn you keep,
What symbol to those who, listening,
Shall learn there's a song to reap !

I hear a blackbird calling,
Now faint though sweet the song,
'Till through my dreams soft falling
In sleep it steals along.

O Blackbird, or angel singing !
You say, " It will all come right."
The voice of a bird is ringing,
" There's gladness after the night."

ELISABETH SUTHERLAND.

Shakespeare's "Good Woman."

IN his "Primer of English Literature" (edition of 1882, p. 101) the late Rev. Mr Stopford Brooke writes as follows :—"The most personal thing in all his [Shakespeare's] writings is one that has scarcely been noticed. It is the epilogue to the 'Tempest,' and if it be, as is most probable, one of the last things he ever wrote, then its cry for forgiveness, its tale of inward sorrow only to be relieved by prayer, give us some dim insight into how the silence of those three years [the last of his life] were passed."

From an impersonal point of view there is much food for thought in this remark, and the fact that the paragraph has been removed from later editions does not lessen its value.

May not a personal touch be also detected in both the Prologue and the Epilogue to "King Henry the Eighth"? They are well worth studying. In the Prologue the reference to his "chosen truth," which he will not rank with a foolish, noisy play, his desire for "an understanding friend," his appeal to the audience to think they "see the very persons of our noble story as they were living," first great and followed by a thousand friends, then in a moment plunged into misery, contain the pathos of personal emotion.

The whole play is a pageant of such reverses. First we see the haughty and ambitious yet noble Buckingham criticising and defying the all-powerful Cardinal; then, in the twinkling of an eye, bowing his head upon the block. The second victim is the queenly Katherine, loved, honoured, occupying regal state; anon banished from her high position, lonely, deserted, dying. The third is the great prelate, Wolsey himself, browbeating the most haughty nobles, vieing in authority with the King, bending home and foreign policy to his will; one turn of the wheel and he is stripped of all his glory, and humbly begging for a refuge in which to die. Lastly we see Cranmer, threatened with disgrace and ruin, slighted and insulted by his fellow-churchmen and nobles, but defended by his royal master, and reinstated more highly than before in favour.

These serious scenes are relieved, though in a subordinate manner, by the gorgeous entertainment in Wolsey's palace, the vivid description of Anne Boleyn's coronation, and the christening of the infant Elizabeth. It is a play likely to appeal to women, and it is on their mercy that the author throws himself in the Epilogue :—

"All the expected good we're like to hear,
For this play at this time, is only in
The merciful construction of good women."

Then he adds—

“For such a one we showed them.”

The “good woman” shown in this drama to the theatrical audience, and to the larger theatre of the world, is Queen Katherine of Arragon, the daughter of two sovereigns in their own right, and wife of a third. Hers is a character of which little is said in history, but Shakespeare has invested it with great charm. It is interesting to inquire how much of imagination or of reality there is in the portraiture.

The Queen is introduced, in Act I., Scene ii., as entering the Council Chamber, where the King and Council are gathered to hear the accusations against the Duke of Buckingham. Before the arrival of the accusers Katherine takes the opportunity to inform the King of the imposition by Wolsey of a crushing tax upon certain of his subjects, which had aroused indignation and even rebellion. She speaks with mingled boldness and humility, with hot indignation tempered by restraints, and wins from Henry a free pardon for all who have withstood the commission. She also makes a brave effort, though in vain, to win justice and mercy for the unhappy duke.

Her noble conduct at Blackfriars during the divorce trial, her touching interview with Wolsey and Campeius, in which, after a natural outburst of queenly indignation, she patiently and meekly leaves her fate in the King's hands, her sympathetic and forgiving reception of Griffith's tale of Wolsey's repentance and death, her own beautiful vision and dying message to her faithless husband, are known to all.

But it is not so well known that until fifty years ago no authority had been discovered for this interpretation of Katherine's character, and the authority, when at last given to the world, was so unlikely to have been accessible to Shakespeare of Stratford-on-Avon that it has been ignored in all orthodox Shakespearean literature.

Queen Katherine resided during the latter part of her life at Kimbolton Castle, Huntingdonshire, the property of Sir Edward Montague, whose descendants became first Earls, and later Dukes, of Manchester.

In 1864 the Duke of Manchester, to whom (or to his son) the place now belongs, published a valuable collection of documents, found partly in the castle of Kimbolton and partly in Simancas in Spain, which show that of all the numerous and gifted persons who have written of that unfortunate princess, two, and two only, have correctly adjudged her character. These two are Francis Bacon and Shakespeare.

Such at least is the testimony of the Duke of Manchester, who over fifty years ago wrote in "Court and Society," i. 5, as follows :—

"So far as concerns all popular ideas of her, Katherine is a creature of the mist. Shakespeare and Bacon, the highest judges and firmest painters of character, have, it is true, described her, if only lightly and by the way, as a woman of flesh and blood : the flesh rather stubborn, the blood somewhat hot ; as a lady who could curse her enemies and caress her friends ; a princess full of natural graces, virtues, and infirmities. Had the portraits by Shakespeare and Bacon been full, they would have been all that we could hope or wish. But they are only fragments of the whole ; and the work of all minor hands is nothing, or worse than nothing. In these inferior pencillings, the woman is concealed beneath the veil of a nun. In place of a girl full of sun and life, eager to love or to be loved, enamoured of state and pomp, who liked a good dinner, a new gown, above all a young husband : one who had her quarrels, her debts, her feminine fibs and her little deceptions, even with those who were most near and dear to her, a creature to be kissed and petted, to be adored, and chidden, and ill-used—all of which Katherine was in the flesh : we find a cold, grim Lady-Abbess, a creature too pious for the world in which her lot was cast, too pure for the husband who had been given to her. Such a conception is vague in outline and false in spirit. Katherine was every inch a woman before she became every inch a queen."

Three years later, 16th January 1867, the *Athenæum* confirmed the above verdict :—

"The whole story of the Queen (Katherine of Arragon), as now told from the ample Simancas text, is in perfect harmony with what Shakespeare and Bacon say of her."

I do not reproduce these quotations with any wish to advocate the Baconian authorship of the plays, nor have I as yet identified the passages in which Bacon describes the character of Katherine of Arragon. The interesting discovery and its corroboration of the unique view taken by Shakespeare, and apparently by Bacon also, of the personality of Henry the Eighth's first queen is offered to the readers of the *Magazine* simply as one of the facts that should be known to, and taken into consideration by, all sincere students of Shakespeare.

H. H. STEWART.

The Crimson-Tipped Flower.

REST thee, rest thee, little maiden ;
Come and sit upon my knee ;
While I sing to you the story
Of a valiant humble bee.

How, when he was home returning,
Laden from the distant hill,
With the sweets he had been culling
From the fragrant heather bell,

He espied a wasp so cunning,
Yellow as the daffodil,
Creeping through the moss and grasses
Toward his honey-laden cell.

Wroth he was, nay wild with fury,
When he thought upon his home,
Threatened by a lazy dandy
Who ne'er filled a honeycomb.

He thought not of the well-known prowess
Of the gaudy insect king ;
Heeded not the wound so deadly
Of his sharp and poisoned sting.

But, with fury fiercely buzzing,
Whizzing through the air he flew,
Pounced upon the bold intruder,
Well, my dear, it was not you !

For his sharp sting, fury pointed,
Darts like lightning from its sheath.
Soon the yellow wasp is writhing
In the agonies of death.

But, though dying, still not conquered,
Fiercely fights the insect king.
All his poison store he planted
Right beneath the avenger's wing.

Short the fight was, short but tragic ;
The wasp lies dead upon the ground,
And the bee, despite his valour,
Sinks beneath a mortal wound.

Scarce his failing strength can bear him
Slowly from his prostrate foe ;
And his voice so weak and wailing
Plaintive tells his tale of woe.

But, though weak and low his wailing,
Those are near who know its tone,
They through life had shared his labours,
Will not let him die alone.

All his loved and cherished comrades
Crowd around the scene of death.
Those who honoured him while living
Now receive his latest breath.

Now a gentle mournful humming
Rises on the summer air ;
Swelling now, now softly dying
To a murmur of despair.

Now again the note is rising—
Rising loud and louder still ;
Swelling to a song of triumph
As they bear him to the hill.

There upon a bed of violets
Peacefully the hero sleeps,
And a white and gentle daisy
O'er the grave her vigil keeps.

O'er the grave, in adoration,
Every violet bends his head ;
Thus, with flowers he loved while living,
Sheltering the honoured dead.

Then the white and gentle daisy,
Seeing where the hero bled,
Seized the drop, and every petal
Instantly was tipped with red.

Now all descendants of that daisy
Bear this badge of deadly fray ;
And thus commemorate the hero
Who gave his life that fatal day.

Now then, pretty little maiden,
Pay respect where such is due
And bow, in fancy, to the daisy
Who bears this message down to you—

“ Ever tread the path of duty ;
Little heeding what may come ;
Ever striving, still contending
For the weal of hearth and home.”



Photo

THE ENTRANCE TO THE GLEN

Drysdale

The Ministers of Dollar Parish Subsequent to the Reformation.

BY REV. W. B. R. WILSON.

(Continued.)

BUT to proceed to a more detailed examination of Mr Archibald Moncreiff's history. I find that he graduated at St Andrews in 1614, that four years later he was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Presbytery of Perth. This is established by the following minute in the Presbytery records:—"July 1st 1618.—On quilk day comperit M^r Arch. Moncreif, younger, . . . and desyrit earnestlie to be admittit to exercise his gift w^t the brith'ine. Qlk desire as reasonabill is grantit, and appoyntis him to exercise privatlie this day aught days."

After exercise, "the brith'ine finding gude giftis in him ordanes him to ad publictlie in the next exercise." At a subsequent meeting he exercises and "is allowit."

He was next, about a year later, ordained minister of Dollar by the Bishop of Dunkeld in 1619, as is evidenced by the following record:—"23rd June 1619.—Olke day comperit Gavine Merchall and Johnne Pattocen, parochineris of the parochin of Dolor for themselves, and in name of the rest of the parochiners of the said parochin, and declairit that they have heard M^r Arch. Moncreif, younger, divers times teiching in thair Kirk and findis thaimselfis edified be his doctrine and eirnestlie desyris him to be ordained thair minister. And Alex^r B. of Dunkeld being pn^t promissis to proceed to his ordination."

Mr Moncreiff laboured at Dollar until 1630, when he was admitted to Abernethy as conjunct minister with his father. This ordination has some points about it of considerable importance. For it appears that having been brought about by a private arrangement between the Bishop and the two Moncreiffs, without the knowledge and approval of the Presbytery, that body took exception to the appointment, and as a consequence young Mr Archibald Moncreiff found it necessary to continue his ministry in Dollar till 1634, when the obstacle to his translation was finally removed. The case is a representative one, and I give a full sketch of its course.

"28 April 1630.—Whilke day productit an edict servit at Aberneathy Kirke the twentie-tyfe day of April instant derict from my lord B. of Dunblane in favours of M^r Archibald Moncreif younger, minister at dollore, presented be the patrons David Viscount of Storemonth with consent of M^r Andrew Murray of Balvaird to

the said Kirke of Abberneathie and execut by M^r Archibald Douglas the day and dait foresaid. Whereupon the parochiners being callit conforme to the tenor of the Edict none compeired to object any thing in the said M^r Archibald's contrair. But the brethrein of the presbyterie of Perth alleged against the Edict that my Lord of Storemonth and M^r Andrew Murray of balvaird were not patrons to which my Lord Dunkeld and M^r Archibald Moncreif, elder, answerit that undoubtedlie they wer and that the said M^r Archibald wold take his hazert upon their presentation. Secondly the brethrein of the presbyterie objected against the forme of their proceeding In that the said M^r Archibald had no recommendation from his presbyterie and Bischope unto them according to the order to get their consent and allowance thereto. To the which my Lord Dunkeld replyd that they wold not seeke their consent nor allowance."

Again we hear the presbytery protesting against the bishop :—
 "26 May, 1630.—Whilke day the brethrein haveing intelligence that my Lord Dunkeld had admittit M^r Archibald Moncreeff, younger, to the Kirke of Abberneathie within their bounds without their acknowledgement and allowance, as also the said M^r Archibald as yet remaining minister at Dollor Kirke. Wherefore the brethrein all in ane voice disallows and ordenis the same not to be acknowledged be them and to seeke redresse thereof in tyme and place."

The fact that after this finding Mr Moncreiff continued to retain the church of Dollar seems to indicate that he had some doubt of the validity of his induction in his mind. The next Presbytery minute throws an interesting sidelight on the temporising type of Mr Moncreiff's character. Thus we read :—"23 June 1630.—Whilke day M^r Archibald Moncreeff, younger, being present was askit be the moderator if he were admited minister at Abberneathie Kirke not having demitted the Kirke of dolor. Answerit he was but it come not of himself but was urget theirtho be his father ex Improviso. Notwithstanding he was willing according to his possibilitie to give contentment to the brethrein and submitt himself to them for any offence he has done. The moderator and brethrein declarit their Dissent to his admission and forme of proceeding and that they wold complein to the Judge ordinarie for remeid."

The case was referred to the Assembly, and on 30th October 1630 we find the following in the Presbytery records :—

"As also anent M^r Archibald Moncreef younger the said Assemblie has declarit that they thinke the presbyterie of Perth has bien hardly used in not seeking their consent to his alledged admission to the Kirke of Abberneathie within their diocie, therefore

the Assemblie had desyred the brethrein of the presbyterie to see to it that all things be orderly proceedit before his acceptation."

"We have no means" (says Dr Butler in his learned volume, entitled "Abernethy Ancient Church and Parish") "of learning how the matter was settled, but on 28th October 1635, Mr Archibald Moncreiff, junior, was certainly minister of Abernethy, and was appointed to ordain his brother George to the neighbouring parish of Arngask," a fact established by the following minute of that date :—

"Whilke day is productit a letter from my Lord Archbishop off S^t Andrews, showing the admission of M^r George Moncreeff to the ministrie off Arnegoske, whereupon the brethren ordenis his brother M^r Archibald Moncreef to give him institution at the paroch Kirke and enter him to his ministrie."

On the other hand, Dr Hew Scott in his "Fasti," when dealing with Mr Moncreiff's incumbency in Dollar, says expressly that though he was presented to Abernethy in 1630, he continued in Dollar till 1634. It seems probable, therefore, that the Perth Presbytery, to show their animus against the action of the two Moncreiffs, did not withdraw their opposition to the family arrangement which had been made for the continuance of a Moncreiff in the parish church of Abernethy for several years after the presentation to the parish had been made. Moreover, as no notice exists in the Presbytery records of any official action on the part of the Presbytery to arrange a more "orderly proceeding" in the matter of his induction to the Abernethy cure, it seems likely that the Presbytery tacitly condoned the irregularity of which they had complained, and quietly acquiesced in Mr Archibald resuming his ministry there without any public act on their part sanctioning that step after his father's death in 1634.

I have thus outlined all that I have learned regarding Mr Moncreiff's ministry at Dollar; for as no session minutes exist recording the acts of the minister and elders of the Dollar church during that period, I am unable from local sources to indicate what were the features of his ministerial administration of the discipline of the Church. Dr Butler, on the other hand, has a considerable number of extracts from the session records of Abernethy parish, showing that during the period in which Mr Archibald Moncreiff was minister of that parish, the usual vigilant oversight of Sabbath breakers and other offenders against good morals, which then prevailed in Scotland, was rigorously observed. I shall not specify any of the cases he enumerates, as anyone interested in the matter, by consulting Dr Butler's admirable "History of Abernethy Parish," may learn everything for himself at first hand.

There is, however, one incident in Mr Moncreiff's career recorded by Dr Butler, which perhaps should not be left unrecorded here. I refer to the fact that for some reason not stated by Dr Butler, the Presbytery of Perth "suspended Mr Moncreiff from his ministry at the Kirk of Abernethy on 21 January 1657." Dr Butler adds that on several occasions the parishioners petitioned for his restoration, but the Presbytery refused to grant it, and ordered the heritors and elders to proceed with the election of an assistant and successor.

The parish must have been in an unsettled condition for very long: we find the pulpit supplied by the Presbytery; expectants being heard and rejected; both the people and Mr Moncreiff petitioning and craving the Presbytery "to open his mouth," and all this continued from 1657 to 19th June 1660, when after a most humiliating confession by the suspended minister, and a bond subscribed for salary to a helper, he was reponed.

Mr Moncreiff's ministry, as Dr Butler points out, was in troublous times, and he seems to have had his share of trials, whether occasioned by his own folly or not. The fact, however, to which I have already alluded, that he was able to pass, seemingly without qualms of conscience, from the moderate Episcopacy that ruled in Scotland in 1618 to the triumphant and extreme Presbyterianism that prevailed, generally speaking, all over Scotland from 1638 to 1661, and then quite as meekly to have acquiesced in the more aggressive and persecuting Episcopacy of the reign of Charles II., seems to suggest that he was of an easy going disposition, and not much burdened with conscientious scruples. Possibly the fact that the saintly Leighton was during the later years of Mr Moncreiff's ministry the bishop of the diocese in which Abernethy is situated, may have made Mr Moncreiff all the readier to conform to the new regime. All we know is that during the ten years in which Mr Moncreiff officiated as the Episcopal minister of Abernethy, he seems to have lived in amity alike with his diocesan superior and with his own people. At his death in 1671, Mr Moncreiff was some seventy-seven years of age, and left behind him a family of two sons and four daughters, from one of whom named Nicolas, who married her cousin William Moncreiff, minister of Moonzie, the late Mr Paul of Dollar was lineally descended. Mr Moncreiff's executor declared "he had neither cornes, cattel, horses, nolt, sheep, insight plenishing nor other moveable goods or geir, exceptt j^m ij^c xxxli. vjs. viiid. of money (£1,230. 6s. 8d.)." He sold the estate of Balgony to William Oliphant in 1644.

In preparing my sketch of the career of the next Dollar minister, the Rev. Thomas Strachan, I was naturally anxious, if possible, to find

some means of connecting him with the man who for so many years has been known and honoured by the readers of this *Magazine* as one of its editors, viz., Dr John Strachan. With that end in view I asked the doctor if he thought he could claim to be descended from a well-known Mearnsshire county family, the Strachans of Thornton, as seeing that my next Dollar parson was a scion of that worthy stock, I would be only too proud to associate the two names in the essay that treats of the career of the earlier representative of the name. Unfortunately Dr Strachan hardly thinks he can definitely say, but he believes his family origin was Mearnsshire. His father's forbears belonged to Leith, and whether or no they had an original connection with the East Coast shire in which the family name seems to have originated, all recollection of that had vanished from such family relatives as he knew or had spoken to on the subject. But though Dr Strachan in his modesty may disclaim any connection with any of the county magnates either in Kincardineshire or Aberdeenshire who bear the name he so worthily wears, the fact remains that, by virtue of bearing that name, he must necessarily have some connection, however remote, with the Kincardineshire house with whom the name originated. For Dr Anderson, in "The Scottish Nation," tells us expressly that "the name Strachan" is "a surname derived from the lands of Strathæan or Strathachan in Kincardineshire." He further adds that "the family of Strachan of Strachan is of great antiquity." In 1100 we find Walderus de Strachane, or Strathethyne, "cum consensu Rudolphi de Strachane heredis sui," conveying lands to the canons of St Andrews; and John, the son of Rudolphus, makes over to the abbot and convent of Dunfermline the lands of Belheldie, *pro salute sua*, the deed being confirmed by Alexander III. in 1278. About 1316, however, the barony of Strachan, Fetteresso, and Dalpersay, &c., merged by marriage into the family of Keith; but in the reign of David II. (Robert Bruce's son and heir) Sir James Strachan of Monboddò in the same county obtained the lands of Thornton by marriage with Agneta de Thornton. He had two sons, and of these Duncan, the elder, had the lands of Monboddò, his father's patrimony, while the younger, Sir John Strachan, got the lands of Thornton. Sir John had received his knighthood from Robert II. in 1375, and to him the previous charters were, in the following year, confirmed by the same monarch. Now, of course, during the 800 and odd years in which the family name of Strachan has existed in this Scotland of ours, it is certain that it must have succeeded in originating many subordinate families of the same name, and indeed there can be little or no doubt that practically all the members of the Strachan clan, wherever found, must trace their origin to this

Walderus de Strachan of 1100. Moreover, I have seen an ingenious speculation by a skilled calculator who assures us that when we examine the sources from which any existing family has sprung, and go back as far as the year 1200, reckoning the number of ancestors each must have had, it is found that every existing man or woman in Scotland can claim two million ancestors, a number of individual ancestors probably not then resident in that country. Without then directly claiming for Dr Strachan that the family of Thornton which obtained a baronetcy in 1625, was the fontal source from which his own family has sprung, I think I am warranted in asserting for him and his as valid a relation to the original Strachan of Strachan as any member of this Thornton family could reasonably claim.

It is, of course, true that as compared with county families boasting the more common names of Gordon, Douglas, Campbell, Bruce, Stewart, &c., the Scottish family of Strachan has contributed relatively few persons of much distinction to the long and honourable roll of Scotland's notable sons. Thus, among some 12,710 names of notable Scots whose lives I have more or less adequately sketched, I have as yet biographed only some 52 Strachans. Of these some 25 were clergymen of more or less distinction, three of them being bishops, several professors and principals of universities, and almost all of them authors. On the other hand, I have only four notable doctors of the name, among whom, of course, Dr Strachan himself and his father are conspicuous. I have six notable scholars and professors, five prominent public men and statesmen, one of whom, Sir George Cumine Strahan, was a great colonial governor, whose wise administration of New Guinea did much to make that great Pacific island loyal to the British Empire. Naval and military representatives of the name, on the other hand, only total three, perhaps the most conspicuous of which was the British admiral, one of Nelson's captains, who distinguished himself after Trafalgar, but who is chiefly remembered now because of a caustic quatrain written upon an unhappy misunderstanding between him, as the head of the naval department in a joint expedition in Flanders, and the then Earl of Chatham, who was in command of the military troops. The quatrain was to the following effect :—

“The Earl of Chatham with his sword drawn,
 Stood waiting for Sir Richard Strachan ;
 Sir Richard longing to be at 'em,
 Stood waiting for the Earl of Chatham.”

And alas ! as might have been expected, the enterprise failed, and the enemy escaped.

Then of travellers I have two respectable names ; of publishers

no fewer than five names all more or less noteworthy ; of artists two names, one of whom was a famous violinist ; of lawyers I have also two names, one of whom, Dr William Strachan, was Advocate-General of the Admiralty in the eighteenth century, and was known as a distinguished civilian and translator of " Domat's Civil Law."

But to return to the special theme of this paper, viz., the connection with Dollar of the Rev. Thomas Strachan, who was, as far as I know, the very first person of that surname to attain prominence in the social life of the Dollar community, I remark concerning this clergyman that he too, like his predecessor, the Rev. Archibald Moncreiff, belonged to a Levitical family, who had been clergymen from the Reformation and before it, and who continued their services to the Church for generations afterwards. Thus it is interesting to notice that the grandfather of the Dollar divine, who was, I may add, a scion of the house of Thornton in the Mearns, became at the Reformation the first Protestant minister of St Martin's parish, near Scone. In this charge, moreover, he was succeeded in 1600 by his son, Rev. Archibald Strachan, who was father of the Dollar minister, and who again, on his own death in 1643, was followed in the same parish by his son Thomas, the Dollar divine whose career is outlined here. Thomas Strachan, being the eldest son of the St Martin's parish minister, was probably born in 1602 or 1603 in St Martin's manse. His clerical education, we are informed, was carried through at St Andrews University, where he graduated in 1623. After graduation he travelled abroad for three years as tutor and guardian of a young nobleman—a fact this which probably explains why he was not ordained earlier than 1634, when he was probably more than thirty years old. Dollar was his first charge, and the period during which he was incumbent of the parish, synchronising as it did with the Presbyterian revival which for a time overthrew the Episcopal system that had been fostered and established by the Stuart dynasty, must have subjected a divine with Episcopal leanings, as was undoubtedly the case with Mr Strachan, to very considerable anxiety and temptation. Apparently, however, like many representatives of Levitical families, he had acquired the art of tactfully adjusting himself to all changes in Church and State, as we find him without any serious interruption and disturbance, serving quietly and seemingly acceptably first in Dollar from 1634 to 1643, and afterwards at St Martin's from 1643-1671, during the first period in which the Puritan revolution triumphed, with as much comfort as he no doubt experienced on the triumph of Episcopacy in 1660. It is a further interesting fact that Mr Strachan, at his death in 1671, left two sons who were ministers, and who successively occupied the

St Martin's manse and served the cure there, so that from the Reformation to the eighteenth century that Perthshire parish was under the charge of one ministerial family alone.

As I have already hinted, the family to which Mr Strachan belonged has been closely identified with the history of Episcopacy in Scotland. Few families indeed, if we except those of Douglas and Forbes, have shown greater attachment to the Church of their fathers than this family of Thornton in Kincardineshire. Bishops (two of the diocese of Brechin), canons, and presbyters in unusual numbers have sprung from this ancient family. Nor were the lay members less devout. Even in the cold age of the Restoration their affectionate piety was displayed in the erection of a magnificent monument of beautiful freestone, coloured with vermilion and gold, covered with emblematic and heraldic devices, in their church of Marykirk, and their devotion was further shown in the fact that during the triumph of Episcopacy under Charles II., one took his place in the ranks of the active ministry by becoming the parson of Keith.

John Strachan, the first Protestant minister of St Martin's, had been a monk of Holyrood Abbey, and after the Abbey was overthrown at the Reformation, became presbyter of the parish church in 1560, serving also the neighbour church of Crossmichael. He had as his residence an old grange house belonging to Holyrood called Inchmurray. He is found to have acted as a member of the Court of High Commission, and was therefore a supporter of the prelatie party. He is also said to have been famous for his skill in physic.

Amateur Speculations on Great Subjects.

BY DR STRACHAN.

THE nativity of our sun and of the mighty family of planets by which he is surrounded must, in the absence of any authentic record of the period, and of any certain data upon which to found an authoritative account of the event, be a matter of pure speculation, affording a tempting field for the exercise of imagination. Here the adventurous mind may wander at large with little help or hindrance from the hard facts of science. Such ascertained truths as bear upon the subject serve but as guides leading only to the portals of the great mystery which lies beyond the known order of things. Once through these portals, we may let loose the reins

of fancy and allow the madcap to carry us whither he will over the untrodden plains of WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN.

The *Whence?* *What?* and *How?* of our solar system may well excite within us the deepest spirit of wonder with its legitimate offspring, thought and speculation. That all was created by God merely throws us back upon the question of the order, the method, and the result of such creation. Every plant and animal may be said to be created by the power and will of God, but none the less may we, with all reverence and full acknowledgment of that power, examine into the process, while the resulting knowledge greatly enhances our conception of divine wisdom and beneficence. The birth of worlds may appear an infinitely greater work, but we may question whether it is more wonderful or bespeaks a higher power than does the growth and development of a simple minute cell into the towering elephant, intellectual man, or even the most tiny fly.

Whence came that glorious orb, the giver of all light and life, of all heat, and power, and motion? and whence those mighty rolling globes which circle round the sun in endless revolution? basking in the life-giving rays which, with continuous and undiminishing profusion, pour forth in all directions into space? Well might the mind shrink back aghast at such a question as seeming to carry us so utterly above and beyond the realm of human thought; were it not for the genius of the great French astronomer, Laplace, in pointing to those mysterious heavenly bodies, known as *nebulae*, as possible genesis of solar systems. The great Herschel also had given a hint in the same direction, by speaking of a nebula as "shining fluid," which seemed "more fit to produce a star by its condensation than to depend on a star for its existence." Without adopting in detail the Laplace theory of planet formation, let us, as answer to our first question, take the nebula, "a cloudy star in appearance, like a candle shining through horn," "without form and void," as the source and substance from which came our whole solar system; and proceed to the great question, of *what* is the sun? and what is the nature of the vast planetary sphere revolving round that sun as a centre?

The telescope and spectroscope have, during periods of solar eclipse, brought within comparatively near view, and subjected to approximately accurate examination, the photosphere and chromosphere of the sun with the wonderful and awe-inspiring spectacle there presented. These are found to consist of metals, minerals, &c., such as go to the composition of this world, in a state of incandescent vapour along with intensely heated hydrogen gas. The facts as ascertained, however, deeply interesting and astounding as they are, tend to increase rather than to solve the mystery as to what must

lie beyond producing the state of things found to exist. The matter composing the photosphere, which sets a limit to the most powerful means of investigation, is not the sun, and possesses in itself no heat and light-giving property. Unless as acted upon by an extraneous force they would soon part with their heat, and remain as dull and dead as are the rocks and metals of this earth. The actual sun, the source of heat, the fountain of light, and the home of terrific forces, is within this fiery envelope, for ever hidden from the ken of man and to be judged of only by its effects. Of *what* is this central sun composed, and *what* is the nature of the action which produces the heat and light and life of the entire solar system? These are questions of the deepest interest and importance, but which have, so far, baffled all the resources of science. They may, therefore, be considered as, for the present, outside the special sphere of the scientific, and as affording a tempting field for irresponsible speculation. The non-scientific may here hazard a guess, although, perhaps, thus courting the charge of "rushing in where angels fear to tread." Not but that the angels or physicists have themselves ventured within this mystic region; but, in doing so, they leave behind them their robe of light or knowledge and grope their way like ordinary mortals.

In seeking after a cause of the solar heat we are met with the fact that, at a distance of 250,000 miles from the apparent surface of the sun, temperature is equal to the greatest which can be produced by artificial means (4,000° F.), sufficient to break up all organic and chemical compounds and reduce all matter to a state of elemental vapour. The temperature at the photosphere is calculated to be nearly five times as great. This puts combustion or chemical action of any kind out of the question, and compels us to look to such other heat sources as are known to us.

Concussion or the sudden arrest of momentum as a means of raising temperature well known to physicists has been made the basis of a theory to account for the sun's heat. No doubt such a cause as is suggested—the impact of meteoric masses—would be adequate if existent at the sun. This, however, has not been proved, and it is difficult to reconcile its possibility with the fact referred to that no solid or other than vaporous matter can exist within 250,000 miles of the sun. One would think that no meteor, as such, could approach near enough to produce the required effect. This, however, is a question of physics which I shall not attempt to discuss further. It is enough that the presence of meteors has not been proved. Neither shall I presume to dispute the gaseous theory of the sun's core with shrinkage as a cause of solar heat, contenting myself with the fact that it does not rest on any basis of proof. It is put

forward as a possible cause, if existent, which there is admittedly nothing in the facts as known to establish. All I claim is that the theories propounded are not conclusive, and that the field may be held still open for the suggestion of one more within the range of probability. It would not be altogether contrary to experience if such were to come from an onlooker who proverbially sometimes sees points in the game which escape the notice of those deeply engaged in the study of it.

(To be continued.)

The Rocks of Elken-Kaja.

A LEGEND OF CRIMEA.

SOME distance out at sea near Pontikapy two curiously shaped rocks rise abruptly out of the deep, and the old fishermen tell this tale about their origin.

Many, many years ago a rich merchant had his abode in Pontikapy. It was long since he steered his ships with the merchandise of the West to trade for the wares of the East, spending his declining years in peace, thinking not that out of the many storms he braved, the worst one was yet to be braved. His stone warehouses on the quay were bursting, owing to the amount of merchandise stored within; and the marble palace of Ergy Psaras was one of the gems of Pontikapy, whilst his son made women sigh and dream. It was time that a worthy wife was found to keep the house and the family name, and the father chose one. By his desire, the youth often went to see her, but always returned pensive and melancholy. The old man chided him, but added :—

“Love comes slow sometimes, but when it does come it makes a slave of you; that is what will happen to you, my son.”

But the son remained silent, and thought only of the one he loved. She lived in a distant village which he often visited when buying wheat. Wrinkles began to trace lines on her face, and the voice was no more maidenly, but her eyes still sparkled with laughter, and each movement called for joy. So when the young man met her he felt his eyes dimmed as by a drunken mist, and chains seemed to wind themselves round him, stronger and more secure than those by which a prisoner is held. And she found tears from joy, and sorrow from love, and understood that even a late call of life can be stronger than death.

"Who should grieve but myself? who can drain the cup of misery to the dregs but myself? The nightingales sing at every window, but spring missed my door." She thought of her son who was taken away from her, and the cruel treatment of her jealous spouse, who was also called Ergy, but of this she said nothing to her lover, afraid of dimming the bright minute of their meetings. He was often sad already, and tears rolled down his cheek by times, and then the woman pressed his lips, trembling, and caressingly chanted an old ditty to him :—

"Love without tears, love without griefs,
Is like the sea without storms or reefs."

Meanwhile the father hurried, and the ship to Kaffa was ready wherein to bring the bride home. They only delayed for a fair wind to fill the sails, and when the wind came rushing from Kamish-buran, Ergy called to his son: "It is time we went forth." The son was going to say something, but the austere face of his father chilled the words before they left his lips. Just before the ship sailed a servant handed a scroll to the old man. Had the storm which arose in his breast broken forth it would have levelled all the earth between Pontikapy and Kaffa; and the leaden clouds overhanging Mitridat would not have been as heavy as the truth which fell and weighed on the old man when he read the note. "Let thrice the name of that woman be damned. Better to kill the son with my own hands than he should become the husband of his mother! Hey the old ship! Unfurl your sails once more and serve the last stout service!" And Ergy Psaras shouted to make haste and get the ship away. "The old man has gone mad," muttered the crew. "A storm such as never blew and the ship like a sieve." But the anchor weighed nevertheless, and the ship surged forward. As of old Ergy himself steered, and both seemed to forget that one was even more decrepit than the other. The hurricane howled around, whilst the uprising waves broke overboard, and the framework cracked and shivered from the resounding blows. Suddenly the boatswain shouted out: "The holds have sprung a leak!" A shudder ran through Ergy, but at that moment he noticed a mast-light shining from a ship ahead, and ordered to hoist more sails. Like a swan the ship rose out of the seething mass, and at a bound cut through several billows; together with a mad cataract of an overtoppling wave, it fell into an abyss, nigh touching the bottom sand, then leaped upon a crest. And from the top of this hill-like elevation Ergy saw quite close the ship of his son. Another wave surged boiling forward, and there was a moment when the two boats touched sides. A white sheet of lightning cleft the blackness



Photo by

THE BURNSIDE

R. K. Holmes

of the sky, parting the clouds. With a mighty blow it struck the towering cliff, shivered the head of Opuch-Kaja, and sent the rock in a thousand fragments rushing into the bay. The waters bubbled in a mass of foam, and a beam of moonshine broke through, silvering the sea. By its light Ergy saw his son and a woman with golden hair; by the sheen of her hair he knew her, and overbearing the howling storm he shouted to his son: "She is your mother; be damned both of you!"

Another burst lashed over and beyond them, heaving heavenwards a mighty roller; beneath it yawned a gulf, and they were flung into the depths of it, disappearing for ever in the womb of the sea.

And on that spot people saw later two rocks, and mistook them for ships chasing one another. Steamers and various craft run past them, people see and still mistake them for two ships one behind another, but on a nearer approach smile at the illusion, knowing not that in it there is truth.

T. A. ABBEY (F.P.)

Nature Notes.

FIGHT BETWEEN AN OWL AND A WEASEL.

ONE day recently Ernest Johnston, a member of the D.F.N.C., when taking a walk by Muckhart Mill and Holburn, had his attention directed to the foot of a large tree on the old coaching road at Holburn by a great fluttering and commotion among the herbage. He was then for a few moments witness to a very interesting and somewhat exciting fight between a brown owl and a weasel or stoat, the object in dispute being very evident in a little fledgling owl which lay cowering in the grass, but snapping sharply with its beak as if wishful to join in the fray. The weasel quickly made off on the appearance of a human on the scene, swimming across the burn, and disappearing in the bank opposite, but the owl, probably from exhaustion, or, perhaps, instinctively recognising in the human a natural friend and protector of birds, remained till Ernest had lifted the owlet and placed it under his coat, when it flew weakly off to a neighbouring tree. Beside the little one was part of a rat, on which it had evidently been fed. Ernest then climbed the tree, and found the nest in a decayed and partly hollowed out part of the tree, but no sign of the other owlet. Probably both had fallen out

of the nest, and the weasel had already disposed of the one with a litter of its own young, and had returned for the other when the mother owl came to the rescue, and did battle with wing, beak, and claw. The lithe and nimble weasel, while avoiding as much as possible these formidable weapons, would, like a skilful wrestler, watch and manœuvre for a favourable hold under the wing, when her long and sharp incisors and blood-sucking mouth would soon turn the scale in her favour. Thus were the two mothers at it, the one, with much flap, flutter, and screeching, in defence of, the other, with quiet and skilful dodging, seeking to provide for, her offspring, when providence, in the form of a boy, stepped in and saved the intended victim. He brought it home, and, on the advice of his mother, handed it over to a lady whose love and tender and successful care of young owls are well known; and where, we understand, it is thriving, and becoming quite tame and friendly.

Letter to the Editor.

AUSCAMP, S.W. AFRICA,
4th July 1916.

DEAR MR MALCOLM,—It is not often that a person passes through the vicissitudes of life I have done! You will remember "Jingo" when at Dollar Academy? I wonder if you will recognise him in the enclosed photo? Since I left the Academy I have been a common sub-overseer in the Public Works Department of the Colony (now Province) of Natal, South African Union, in charge of a gang of fifty natives—for the better part of a year—repairing the main road through the colony towards Pretoria and Harrismith from Port Natal (*i.e.*, Durban). Thereafter I passed into the Native Affairs Department, and went into Zululand, where I worked myself up to the proud position of magistrate, and was commissioned Justice of Peace for the Colony of Natal (which position I still hold) on the annexation of Zululand thereto. On union taking place I sought and obtained retirement on pension, which I got. Meantime my family had all but grown up. The Kaiser then setting the world pretty well upside down, my two sons, along with many other colonial-born youngsters, plus Dutch farmers (Boers), had to turn out and fight in this province—then known as German West Africa. My youngest boy not having turned seventeen was, to his chagrin, not able to accompany them. By or about the time the campaign in this territory was ended he had passed his seventeenth year, and

the three of them were all for proceeding to England to get to the trenches on the western front in Europe. To this resolution I demurred, telling them they must continue to fight for Africa in the East, and also in Egypt, before going to Europe, and that I myself would still try to obtain enlistment to enable someone younger to proceed to East Africa along with them and their regiments under Generals Smuts and Brits. Result—they are all three on active service in East Africa, and, after thirteen applications to serve king and empire, the age limit of fifty years has been waived in my favour, and I am enlisted in the South African Veterans' Regiment as a humble private *pro tem.* at the age of fifty-two and a half years. Our regiment is at present in charge of prisoners of war—between 1,400 and 1,500.

I hope I may yet get to England, if not Europe, in one way or another before I get my discharge; for the past four years of existence on pension, on the *dolce far niente* system, does not agree with my restless spirit for travel.

Now with best salaams to you and yours, and all good wishes to you all (every Dollarite included), I am, my dear sir, yours faithfully, and sincerely thankful to you for that part of my education which it fell to your lot to inculcate into me.

"JINGO," *alias* A. R. R. TURNBULL,
No. 1,920, "B" Coy., S.A.V. Regiment.

Notes from Near and Far.

SPRING is with us at last after a prolonged struggle against east winds that have pierced as knives, and have made applicable to the season Goldsmith's verse:—

"Winter lingering chills the lap of May."

A few blinks of sunshine ushered in the month, but they were fleeting, like an old acquaintance in a hurry, who grasps your hand and speeds on his way. Now, towards the end of the month, we are in the loveliest season of the year. Wonderful is the burst of bloom that comes in May, making the world around us one great garden. The sky takes a deeper blue, the young leaves begin to unfold, and the gean trees stand out white against the tender green of the beeches that clothe the banks beyond. Beauty is poured down upon us in showers; and the blood of the dullest is

stirred. The ear too is charmed, for every wood and thicket, nay, every bush and tree, is musical with the notes of birds, while, to crown all, comes the cooo-cooo of the "Messenger of Spring," which makes the chords of the heart vibrate like Memnon's harp—

"The same whom in my schoolboy days
I listened to ; that cry
That made me look a thousand ways
In bush, and tree, and sky.

To seek thee did I often rove
Through woods and on the green,
And thou wert still a hope, a love,
Still longed for, never seen.

And I can listen to thee yet ;
Can lie upon the plain
And listen, till I do beget
That golden time again."

That golden time! Thrice happy Wordsworth! For many of us, alas!

"That time is past,
And all its aching joys are now no more,
And all its dizzy raptures."

In nature there is a religion, if one can only hearken to its voice ; and in a scene like the one we are surveying from the Academy grounds on a spring morning, it seems to be the type and echo of the divine sermon on the mount, teaching men to love, forgive, and to be merciful one towards another ; a far different faith and lesson from that which is being taught to-day by the Huns on land and sea.

* * * * *

ALL our reflections seem to bring our thoughts back to the murderous war and the gallant fellows who are battling in the cause of righteousness. We are proud of them all. Some extracts from letters received may interest our readers.

Mr J. BARNETT GOW writes :—

"S.C.A. HUT, A.P.O.,
S. 24, B.E.F.

"I received the *Dollar Magazine* a few days ago, and this brought you to my thoughts. From the enclosed sheet of paper you will see I am working with the Soldiers' Christian Association. The other huts, such as the Y.M.C.A.'s, do much social work ; we simply do religious work. The Rev. Mr Last, a Baptist minister, is

with me, and we are having good times and much work. Since we came we have by simple talks been most successful with our mission. Preaching induces a few to make decision, but almost invariably it is done by personal conversation. One who left early this morning for the firing line came to say good-bye, and to thank me for the great joy he now has in his life. His is by no means a solitary case; but I mention it because his conduct at an earlier time had brought him into disgrace."

Here, while we congratulate Mr Gow on his good work, we must return him the most cordial thanks of the Magazine Committee for his liberal gift of five pounds to their funds. In our last number he was spoken of as an "ever-up-to-mischief" boy. We should speak of him—and we know him well—as a Christian friend ever doing good.

Lieutenant HARRY BURTON FORSTER writes:—

"FRANCE, 27th April 1917.

"As I have a little time to spare to-day, I thought you might like a word or two from out here. I have been out for some time, and do not for one moment regret the impulse that compelled me to join in Canada. I suppose you know that I transferred back to the Canadians, dropping my temporary rank of Captain. I am now a plain Lieutenant in Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), and that address, with 'B.E.F. France,' is sufficient to find me, so wonderful are our postal arrangements. It was very nice, was it not, for me to be posted as an officer to the regiment in which I had previously served as a private. This regiment is, beyond a doubt, the finest Canada has turned out, and the men live for their regiment in all things. The Canadian cavalry have been in action, and distinguished themselves by taking several villages with very few casualties. Unfortunately, from my point of view, I was not with them at the time, being left behind with dismounted reinforcements. I understand, however, that I shall get my chance in the next action. My experiences have been varied, to say the least. I have slept in chateaux, in the best bedroom of the poorest villager, in cellars, and under the blue sky. The most interesting place at which we sojourned had been the headquarters of a German division. I took possession of the General's dug-out, of which a short description might interest you. The earth had been excavated to a depth of about twenty feet, then the building had been erected, and the earth filled in over the top and

in front to form a rampart. The exterior, where sheltered, was covered with wood carving, and several inscriptions in colour were placed on the outer beams. The interior was panelled in some expensive wood—rose-wood pilfered from some chateau was what we deemed it—and scrolls ran along the top border. Several benches of good workmanship, velvet covered old French arm-chairs, a table which appeared to be a very valuable antique, and two or three full-length mirrors comprised the furnishings. There had been a carpet, but that had been removed. In the officers' mess was a piano of French make, in pretty fair condition, and as we numbered a pianist in our midst, we lost no time in singing (that is, some sang, the rest of us made a noise like a buzz saw) a few old Scottish student songs, which are as popular in Canada as they are in their native country. At present I am in a little hut in a beautiful wood, miles behind the line, waiting for further orders. The country shows very little signs of awakening to its summer beauties, but the ground is carpeted with a primrose which has four or five blossoms on a stalk, anemones, and thousands of violets. The birds are much the same as inhabit Great Britain, and sing just as sweetly. One bird flourishes here in much larger numbers than in England, and that is the magpie. One visits us daily, and has evidently been accustomed to human society. He looks so wise, and will come to within six feet of one, and pick up any food thrown him. One would think that I am having a very easy time, but this is one of those rare interludes which occasionally come the way of a few soldiers. At any hour I may find myself cast rudely forth with orders to proceed to some spot placed vaguely in a certain district. I arrived here at 3 A.M. one morning after a long and weary journey, incidentally being taken astray on various occasions. It looked very dismal at that hour, but, lo and behold, next morning there appeared on the scene at 9 A.M. a lorry containing plentiful rations. Next day mail arrived, and now comes daily. It is things like these that bring one to realise the wonderful organisation that feeds men and guns, and will eventually beat down the ruthless enemy we are engaging. I have seen with my own eyes the havoc wrought by the German in his retreat, and much of it is wanton. There is a day of reckoning coming though, and he will pay to the uttermost farthing, if only our statesmen show the proper firmness. Please excuse this pencilled scrawl, but writing materials are difficult to obtain, and the men are making such a cheerful noise that one's thoughts go astray with very little persuasion. Willie is now a major, and doing very well indeed. I suppose you know he has been mentioned in dispatches. Kivie is out here again, and ready to take his part

in the fray once more. This letter will probably reach you about the anniversary of my dear mother's death. Will you please pay a visit for me to her grave? Her memory travels always with me, and has helped me since I grew to years of understanding through many trials. I hope, if I am spared, to pay Dollar another visit before I return to Canada. Please accept, both of you, my sincerest wishes for your welfare."

Quartermaster-Sergeant DUNCAN M'INTYRE writes :—

"IN THE FIELD,
3rd May 1917.

"Herewith the long deferred letter. Still, since coming back I have had very little time to write, the sword (*alias* artillery) being mightier than the pen at present. Ere this reaches you another advance will have taken place; it is proceeding to-day, and will go on to-morrow. Fritz may as well try and stay the incoming tide or the sun from rising, as stop this advance. Truly, he exacts a toll, but, nevertheless, he pays a hundredfold. His dead to-day lie everywhere, and have been lying for days. Our fatigue parties bury them, for which I am sure their relatives in Germany are very glad, as they escape the ultimate end of dead Fritzes in Germany. Lately we had 1,100 dead in front of our guns. They were literally blown off the face of the earth. Undoubtedly the longest life is short in these parts. The weather at present is beautiful, the grass is coming up, and the horses in the last ten days have put on a good deal of condition; no doubt they require it. The cold weather told on them much more than the enemy's shells. The bombardment which preceded this battle will long live in the memory of the Fritzes who came out of it alive. The opening started at a given hour, and just like the conductor of an orchestra striking his baton on the stand in front of him to get the players ready before the final crash, so starts a bombardment, only the conductor in this case is General Haig, and Fritz pays the piper. Amongst his prisoners lately are a great number of young boys, which is a sign of the times in Germany, and if he keeps going much longer I am afraid he will not even have them. His casualties lately have been awful, and his man power must be getting scarce, although there seems to be a good number still left alive in the Fatherland. Food for the guns has a double meaning, which the majority of people outside the profession (soldiering) don't know. Shells are, of course, one sort of food, but the dead and wounded Fritzes on the other side testify to the other sort."

Major WM. BURTON FORSTER writes :—

"IN THE FIELD,
18th April 1917.

"Just a line to let you know that both Kivie and I came through the last big battle all right. Kivie arrived just at the end of it. It was a splendid success, and I would not have missed it for anything. I never saw the Germans so frightened and cowed before. Our men went into it quite confident and exceeded all expectations. At the present moment I am sitting in a dug-out which has been lately vacated by the Bosche. He doesn't seem to realise what cleanliness is, as it is in an awful state. The men have been busy all day trying to clean it up. Many brave acts were done, but one in our battalion was outstanding. One of the men drew a piccolo from his pocket and played the battalion right into the Bosche trenches. Harry is doing very well, and is, I believe, adjutant of his battalion now. It is nice to have Kivie near me again. He looks very fit. I forgot to tell you I was promoted major some time ago."

Corporal DON. CULBARD writes :—

"C COY., 52ND BATTALION,
A.I.F., FRANCE.

"I am sending you a 4s. 6d. postal order for the *Dollar Magazine*. When does the next number come out? How I long to get news of the old School and the boys! Well, what do you think of the war now? I think we have got them beaten, and this year will see it over—I hope so anyway. We made two charges in the Somme battle, Pozières and Mouquet Farm, and we got what we wanted both times; but, my word, it was like hell let loose the second charge. Our artillery is one too good for them, and you would not credit that anything could live through some of the bombardments we give them. I hope to go to a good appointment in India *après la guerre*."

Second-Lieutenant J. GORDON HILL MURRAY writes :—

"5TH BATT. CAMERON HIGHLANDERS,
B.E.F., FRANCE, 23rd April 1917.

"I was sorry to see that the School team allowed themselves to be beaten by Glasgow High School in the seven-a-sides, an unprecedented mistake. As you will gather I have come through this advance without hurt, and enjoyed parts of it. The Hun was absolutely demoralised, and we had little trouble. It was a glorious day for Scotland, although at present you have to look between

the lines to see a Scottish regiment mentioned, except in the casualty list. The weather has been unkind to us; we spent the best part of a week in the open, with rain, snow, sleet, and cold doing their best to do what German shells, bullets, and gas had just failed to do. We are back resting now, and having some glorious sunshine. A Hun aeroplane has just been over us, but got turned pretty quickly and made for home."

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MELODY AND RHYTHM.—In a former issue of the *Magazine*, Vol. XIII., No. 49, we were able to give a very favourable notice of "A Guide to the Chassevant Method of Musical Education," by Miss Marian P. Gibb (F.P.), and we have now much pleasure in introducing to our readers Miss Gibb's "Melody and Rhythm," a work that has been most highly spoken of and welcomed by eminent professors and teachers.

Dr Walter Carroll, Lecturer in the University of Manchester, Professor of Harmony and of the Art and Practice of Teaching in the Royal Manchester College of Music, writes:—

"At once let me heartily and sincerely congratulate you. As I opened it out the very cover seemed promising, and on going through it page by page there came along the rare message, 'a task well and thoroughly done.'

"This 'thoroughness' is the hall-mark of personality—wherever you find it. . . . I shall show the book very widely to young teachers in this city and district. When the Teachers' Class reopens in October I will place some copies in the room for their perusal, and do all I can, then and now, to make it familiar to those who teach the young. . . . You have my warmest good wishes for the success of your great work as a teacher, and I greet your new rôle, as a writer on education, with a fellow-writer's welcome."

Many similar testimonies might be given.

Miss Gibb is an able and enthusiastic exponent of the Chassevant method, and is, consequently, invited to give lectures in important centres—the chief cities. Recently, she spoke in Aberdeen, and the *Free Press* of that city commented as follows:—

"Considerable efforts have been exercised of recent years by teachers of music to present to young pupils the rudiments of music, both theoretical and practical, in a manner which would be at once educative and interesting. It is with the prime object of winning the interest of the child mind in what has always been the dry bones of the study that the Chassevant method has been evolved. One could not have listened to the lecture demonstration upon this system of musical education, given yesterday by Miss Marian P. Gibb, of Edinburgh, in the Ball Room, without being convinced of

its success as a practical theory. The handling of concrete models is always more attractive than the assimilating of abstract symbols. Herein lies the secret of the success which has consistently attended the adoption of this system. A commendable feature of the Chassevant method is the pains it takes towards a training of the ear as well as a training of the intellect. The lecture was admirably demonstrated by children, some of whom were pupils of Mrs Rosetti, who has taken up the teaching in Aberdeen of the Chassevant method with the very happiest results."

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HONOUR TO THE SECRETARY OF THE DOLLAR ACADEMY.—On Friday evening, 9th March, in the Public Hall, Coalsnaughton, the members of the Coalsnaughton and Devonside Water and Lighting Committee, along with a few friends, presented ex-Provost Young with a pair of beautiful vases, made of brass and filled in with enamel, in recognition of his perseverance and pertinacity in getting the Government to reopen the Coalsnaughton Post Office.

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FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.—The Club had their first outing for the season on Saturday, 5th May, to Cowden Castle, the turn-out of members being the largest that the President, Dr Strachan, had yet had with him in these interesting and instructive excursions. The Patroness, Miss Christie, welcomed the visitors, showed them through the conservatories, and, thereafter, entertained the company by describing in a most interesting manner some of her art treasures in her drawing-room. She also kindly accompanied the visitors to the Japanese garden with its wealth of rare shrubs and trees. Before leaving the President thanked Miss Christie for the privileges of the afternoon.

The second ramble of the season was to Muckhart Mill, on the 19th of May. The younger members of the party found several nests, while the plants noted by the way included the golden saxifrage, wood sorrel, and anemones.

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DOLLAR YEARLY PROVIDENT SOCIETY.—As term time comes round and rents become due the annual meeting of this excellent Society takes place, when the funds gathered during the year are divided. It fell this year on the 9th of May, and was presided over by Mr Stanhouse, whose efforts in support of the Society are most praiseworthy. The sum of £1,260 was distributed among the members, a truly remarkable amount, especially when we take into consideration the fact that, in the same period, War Savings Certificates to the value of £1,300 odds have been given out by

Mr Alexander, the treasurer of the Parish Church War Savings Committee.

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SOCIETY FOR NURSING SICK POOR.—The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held in the Masonic Hall on Thursday evening, 15th March, ex-Provost Malcolm presiding. There was a large attendance, principally ladies. The Chairman read Nurse Bell's annual report, which was adopted. The members of Committee expressed their satisfaction with the way in which the nurse had performed her work during the year, she having paid over 3,000 visits to the sick poor. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that an effort be made to secure the services of a *fully qualified* nurse for the parish and district, as the demands of the Local Government Board were becoming more and more stringent. At this stage the Committee tendered their resignation, which was accepted, and a new Committee was formed. Miss Haig was re-appointed President, and Mrs Steele was elected Secretary in room of Miss MacLavery who had resigned. It was further agreed that the ministers of the parish, the Provost, the Chairman, and the Medical Officer of the Parish Council should be *ex-officio* members of the Committee.

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FLAG DAY.—Under the auspices of the Town Council, Saturday, 19th May, was observed in Dollar as a Flag Day on behalf of the hospital for limbless soldiers and sailors. The arrangements were carried out under the direction of Councillor Annand; the sum of £25 was realised.

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DISSOLUTION OF BELGIAN RELIEF COMMITTEE.—A meeting of the Belgian Relief Committee was held on Wednesday evening, 23rd May. Provost Mrs Malcolm, the Convener, presided; and there were also present Mrs Steele, Mrs de Jongh, Miss MacLavery, Mr J. T. Munro, Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr de Jongh, and Mr Graham, Town Clerk. The Provost explained that as all the refugees had now left Dollar, and that no more were to come to the parish, she thought that the affairs of the Committee should be wound up. The Town Clerk, as Treasurer of the Fund, explained that one or two small items of expenditure had still to be paid; but he anticipated that after all their financial obligations had been met, there would be a balance at the credit of the Committee of about £8. It was agreed that the balance should be apportioned between the Baudot family and the Maes family, now resident in London and Birtley respectively, and that the Committee be dissolved.

EMPIRE DAY AT PUBLIC SCHOOL.—Empire Day was celebrated at the Public School on the forenoon of the 24th of May. The pupils assembled round the flagstaff in the playground, and opened the proceedings by singing the 100th Psalm. The flag was then unfurled and saluted by the children, who joined most heartily in singing the National Anthem. The day was showery, so it became necessary to file into one of the class-rooms, where the Rev. A. Easton Spence delivered an appropriate address. He said :—

“When your esteemed headmaster, Mr Begg, did me the honour of asking me to address a few words to you in connection with the interesting ceremony of to-day, I was greatly relieved to learn that it would not be necessary for me to give you any account of the origin and history of the flag you have just so gracefully saluted, as that formed the subject of an interesting and instructive address from our worthy friend, the Rev. Mr Wilson, whom we are so sorry to miss here to-day, and was also referred to in an interesting way by Provost Mrs Malcolm in her speech to you last year.

“May I, however, just remind you in a single sentence of what that flag stands for—for justice, liberty, good government, equal dealing between man and man ; and further, that for that flag and all that it stands for thousands and thousands of brave men are to-day counting it worth while to suffer and to die.

“Now, although the boys here to-day may never, please God, be called upon to fight for their country, yet you have all—boys and girls alike—your part to play, your duty to do in our present national crisis. A great American writer—we are all proud of America to-day, and of all that she is doing and will yet do to help us—tells that he once fell asleep by the side of a tiny stream in one of the mountains of America. In his sleep he dreamt that he asked the tiny silver stream—the purling sound of which had lulled him to sleep—where it was going. ‘To New Orleans,’ was the reply. ‘I hear the people there want a vast canal 1,000 feet wide, and I am going to help them.’ ‘And pray what can you do?’ asked Emerson. ‘I don’t know what I can do,’ murmured the little stream, ‘but I shall be there.’ The help given by the tiny rills of the great river of our national life is thus : and this terrible war will be over some day—the sooner the better if so be that a lasting and righteous peace can be secured—and you will be glad to be able to say that you did your little bit to help your country in the time of her need. For after all, there is but little meaning in your saluting and honouring the flag unless you turn your loyalty into action. You all know something of the story of Joan of Arc. You have read or heard how she lived a simple village maiden in Domremy ; how she thought of her suffering country, and dreamed dreams, and saw

visions of its deliverance ; how she went to France's unworthy king—for we were enemies then—and led his troops and put new heart into them ; how she drove the English back ; and how at last the English captured her and gave her up to her French enemies, who had her burned to death at Rouen. But I fancy not many of you have read the account of her trial. She was plied with many cunning questions artfully set to trap and entangle her, but she met them all with noble answers—and it is to one of the noblest answers I refer you to-day. Joan carried no sword, but only a banner, and it was looked upon as a magic banner, for it had always led to victory. Her judges thought they might get her to say something like that, and they asked her : ‘How is it that your banner brings victory?’ This was her answer : ‘I send it into battle and I follow it myself.’ Let us take the brave words of Joan of Arc, and follow up our loyalty by service such as we can give at this time.” Mr Spence then proceeded, by the use of an interesting parable, to enforce upon the young people the necessity of remembering the cost at which they enjoyed so many of their present blessings, and concluded by expressing the hope that they would prove themselves in the coming days worthy citizens of this great Empire.

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REVIEW.

“AFRICA.”—A HAUSA BOTANICAL VOCABULARY. By John M. Dalziel, M.D., B.Sc., D.T.M. (F.P.). London : Fisher Unwin, 1916. Price 6s. 6d. net.

This book gives the Hausa names of a number of the commoner plants of Northern Nigeria, with the scientific where this is known, and adds notes on the use made by natives of the various plants. It will thus serve as a useful book of reference for those interested in this part of Africa, and should also be of interest to students of Hausa.

The geographer and anthropologist may in addition glean many interesting items of information from its pages. For example, the common bottle-gourd, whose shape can be controlled during growth by pressure applied to the expanding fruit, has over twenty names applied to it, each name indicating some particular shape used for a special purpose. So generally plants which yield important products have a rich vocabulary connected with them. Thus, in the case of the African locust bean tree, six successive stages in the process of development from bud to pod are recognised and named, this being associated with the uses to which the different stages can be put.

There are numerous indications also of native superstitions, which recall the mediæval theory of plant “signatures” in Europe. Thus the mahogany bean is named in Hausa from its use as a

charm in battle—it will put the enemy to flight as the pod expels its seeds, that is, with explosive violence. Another plant again is called by a native name signifying “rupture of friendship,” because the leaflets tear in a forked manner when pulled, suggesting a parting of ways. Naturally this plant also can be used as a charm. The book contains a number of other examples of magical or medicinal uses of plants or part of plants, based not upon the characteristics or behaviour of the plant.

From the “Scottish Geographical Magazine.”

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“DAVID GILL, MAN AND ASTRONOMER.”—This biography of a distinguished man of science and a former pupil will be read with interest. It has, we are glad to say, been added to the School library, and is likely to be in great demand. It is as a man rather than as an astronomer that we think of Sir David, who a few years ago visited his old School and delighted the audience on Exhibition Day by a racy rehearsal of reminiscences of his schooldays in Dollar. Professor Forbes presents him to us as a man endowed with a high honesty and single-mindedness of purpose, an overflowing joy of living, and a catholicity of interests. As regards his religious belief, it was in keeping alike with those lofty views of the infinite power of the Creator and those profound lessons of a Christ-like humility with which the subject of his life-work had inspired him.

“When I look up unto the heav’ns
Which Thine own fingers framed,
Unto the moon, and to the stars,
Which were by Thee ordained ;

Then say I, What is man, that he
Remembered is by Thee?
Or what the son of man, that Thou
So kind to him shouldst be?”

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MILITARY SERVICE.—As our Secretary, Mr Alexander M. Cowan, R.A.M.C., is now with his regiment “somewhere in France,” letters on business matters should be addressed to Mr Muckersie.

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A HELPING HAND.—The Committee returns thanks to Mr William M. Carment for kindly trebling his annual subscription at this time of dear paper and printing; and we desire to add our thanks for his kindness in furnishing us from time to time with items of news likely to be interesting to our readers.

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ALLOTMENTS.—Dollar ladies have not been slow in responding to the call for the increased production of food by the cultivation of every inch of soil. Allotments are the order of the day, and the spade, the hoe, and the rake are being deftly wielded by Eve’s daughters. The ground is prepared; the plants are put in, and the gardener’s word, “If you grow, you grow; if you drow, you drow,” is duly pronounced; but this is not all, for, at eventide, some of the owners may be seen daily surveying their plants with anxious

eyes. Every cauliflower and cabbage is commented on, and soon, it is said, each will be known by name.

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DOLLAR WAR WORK PARTY.—The Committee of the above wish to take this opportunity of thanking all those friends who have so kindly and generously helped by contributing in money or work. They are deeply grateful for all the encouraging aid they have received.

Since September 1916 the work party have made and dispatched over 2,000 articles, comprising all kinds of woollen and cotton comforts for the troops, and all kinds of necessary garments for hospitals at home and abroad. In addition, quantities of old linen have been contributed and dispatched to the Red Cross, while thanks to the generous contribution from the Lord Lieutenant's Fund, a considerable number of Dollar men have received a parcel of comforts.

The Committee venture to appeal for a continuance of the help so freely given in the past, as the needs of the hospitals are especially clamant.

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UNIVERSAL sympathy has been felt for the Reverend Joseph Conn and Mrs Conn, Tillicoultry, in the death of their only son. Lieutenant James Fullarton Caldwell Conn was educated at Cargilfield, Fettes, and Oxford. On the outbreak of war he got a commission in the A. & S.H., and, on proceeding to the front, he was wounded and gassed in May 1915. He returned to France about five months ago, was seriously wounded on 23rd April, and died on 1st May. His parents were present at his death and burial. The Rev. Mr Conn has fulfilled several terms as a Governor of the School, and has always taken an active interest in its affairs. His son was a young man of much promise, and he is sincerely mourned by all who knew him.

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AMONG those who have fallen in action is Private Archie Stirling Douglas, youngest son of the late Dr Douglas and Mrs Douglas, San Domingo. While his elder brothers and sisters were at the Academy, Archie boarded with Miss Marshall, Islay Cottage, and attended Parkfield Preparatory School. He joined the H.L.I. in November 1915, and was sent to France in the following March. He fell in action on 1st July 1916. He was then only eighteen years of age.

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HONOUR TO A DISTINGUISHED F.P.—The King has been pleased, on the recommendation of the Secretary for Scotland, to approve of the appointment of Mr A. H. B. Constable, K.C., to be Sheriff of the Sheriffdom of Caithness, Orkney and Shetland.

Pro Patria.

1. JOHN MACDONALD.—Captain, the Royal Scots, elder son of Mr and Mrs A. W. Macdonald, 8 Sandford Gardens, Portobello; boarded with the Headmaster; left School 1907; died of wounds, 11th April 1917.

2. SAMUEL FARISH.—Lieutenant, King's Own Scottish Borderers, only son of Mr and Mrs S. T. Farish, of Todhillmuir, Lochmaben, and Bank House, Maxwelltown; boarded with Mrs Heyworth; left School 1912; killed in action, 24th April 1917.

3. JOHN L. C. WATSON.—Lieutenant, Gordon Highlanders, second son of the late Mr William Watson and Mrs Watson, Kirk Knowe House, Wishaw, and Rainneshill, Aberdeenshire; boarded with Mr Cruickshank; left School 1915; killed in action, 9th April 1917.

4. THOMAS B. FORSTER.—2nd Lieutenant, Royal Irish Regiment, second son of Major-General John Burton Forster; boarded with Mr Malcolm; left School 1903; killed in action, 10th June 1916.

5. ALEXANDER C. BAXTER.—Lieutenant, Cameronians, attached Machine Gun Company, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Baxter, Wemyss Park, Coatbridge; boarded with Mr Malcolm; left School 1906; killed in action, 17th April 1917.

6. JAMES MELVIN MORGAN.—2nd Lieutenant, Royal Engineers, son of Mrs Morgan, Abbeyview, Causewayhead, Stirling; left School 1904; killed in action, 4th March 1917.

7. JOHN M'CULLOCH.—Captain, Gordon Highlanders, Classical Master from September 1913; killed in action, 9th April 1917.

8. MARSHALL LEE.—Private, the Royal Scots, youngest son of the late Mr John Lee, of Dollarbank, and of Mrs Lee, 16 St Alban's Road, Edinburgh; left School 1891; died of sunstroke in Palestine, 27th April 1917.

9. WILLIAM J. PURVES.—Corporal, Motor Machine Gun Section, only surviving son of Mr and Mrs Purves, Toronto Villa, Woodside, Coupar-Angus; boarded with Mr Craig; left School 1913; died of wounds at Gaza, 26th March 1917.

10. WILLIAM EWING.—Private, Household Cavalry, son of Mr and Mrs Ewing, Woodlands, Tullibody; left School 1913; reported wounded and missing on 17th October 1915, and later officially presumed killed.

11. EDWARD J. JOHNSTONE.—Private, the Royal Scots, son of Dr J. J. Johnstone, Tillicoultry; left School 1914; killed in action, 1st July 1916.

12. WILLIAM E. G. KILGOUR.—Private, Royal Fusiliers, son of the late Mr James Kilgour, Aberdeen; captain of 1st XV. 1902-03; left School 1903; killed in action in 1916.



"PRO PATRIA"

Marriage.

COWLEY—SCANDRETT.—At Charlemont, Cathcart, Glasgow, on 2nd June, by the Rev. J. A. C. Mackellar, B.D., Victor Travers Cowley (F.P.), Lieutenant, K.O.S.B., son of the late Captain Cowley and of Mrs Cowley, Bagdad, to Marie, second daughter of Mr and Mrs George Scandrett.

Obituary.

BATTENBERG.—At Vancouver, B.C., on 4th July 1916, Harriet van Battenberg (Mrs Horne Stevenson), eldest daughter of the late 1st Class Staff-Surgeon R. H. A. Hunter (H.M. Forces), 2nd Queen's Royals and 57th Regiment, formerly of "Sobraon," Dollar, and "Birlie Brae," Moffat.

HUNTER.—At Sydney, N.S.W., on 20th February 1917, George, sixth son of the late 1st Class Staff-Surgeon R. H. A. Hunter (H.M. Forces), 2nd Queen's Royals and Middlesex Regiment, and formerly of "Sobraon," Dollar, and "Birlie Brae," Moffat.

DENNEY.—At 10 St Helen's Place, London, on 11th March, Peter A. Denney (F.P.).

CONDIE.—At Argyle Street, Dollar, on 22nd March, George Condie, in his 77th year.

BROWN.—At Burnside, Dollar, suddenly, on the 22nd April, James Brown, bootmaker, in his 61st year.

MASSEY.—At Montreal, on 26th April, William Morton Massey (F.P.), at the age of 49 years.

The news of the death of Mr Massey at a comparatively early age, which came to hand on the 1st of June, gave rise to many expressions of deep regret among his former teachers and friends. The pupils of his old School, too, joined in lamenting the loss of one who had most generously, by his annual gifts, encouraged them in their manly sports. Our sympathy is with his widow and son.

The *Montreal Press* says:—The death occurred at Montreal yesterday of Mr W. Morton Massey, formerly of Ottawa, but for many years past a well-known and highly-esteemed Quebec business man. The late Mr Massey was born at Ottawa forty-nine years ago. He left Canada for Scotland, where he attended the Dollar Academy, after leaving which he entered the employ of the British Linen Co.'s Bank at Stirling, and after two years in this connection returned to his native city, finally locating in the ancient capital. From 1902 to 1905 he was a trusted member of the staff of the Bank of British North America in this city, and in the latter year resigned his

position to take up fire insurance business, representing a number of the most prominent companies.

Besides being a thorough business man, deceased was also an all-round athlete, having in former years been an active member of the Quebec Cricket Club and also a football player. Besides having been a past president of St Andrew's Society, he was up to the time of his death an elder of St Andrew's Church. He is survived by his wife and one son, Mr Gerald Massey, of this city, to whom the sympathy of the community will be extended in their time of bereavement.—(See *Dollar Magazine*, Vol. VI., No. 20.)

STEINITZ.—At 186 Braid Road, Edinburgh, on 6th June, Marie Clara (F.P.), younger daughter of the late Rev. J. J. Steinitz, Boxmoor, Herts., and granddaughter of the late Rev. John Macgregor, Stranraer.

STRACHAN.—At Netherley, Dollar, on 9th June, Mary Stuart Ranken, wife of John Strachan, M.D.

School Notes.

OUR School Notes must be almost entirely restricted to records of the losses sustained by the School at the front, and distinctions gained by former pupils. No one who knows our peaceful, beautiful Dollar, with its comparatively small, although greatly distinguished School, could possibly have anticipated that, in one short period of three months, twenty-one heroes who had been taught to know the way of duty within the walls of John M'Nabb's School should have followed their quest to the noblest end. Our grief for their loss is transitory; our pride for their gallant young manhood will be eternal.

ALEXANDER CARNEGIE BAXTER, Lieutenant, Cameronians, attached M.G.C., was the youngest son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Baxter, Wemyss Park, Coatbridge. He boarded with Mr Malcolm, and left School in 1906, afterwards going to Canada. He was home on holiday when war broke out, and immediately joined the H.L.I., attaining the rank of sergeant. He was gazetted to the Cameronians in May 1915, and served with his battalion in France. In January 1916 he was seconded to the M.G.C., and was killed in action on 17th April. His Commanding Officer wrote of him:—"No greater loss could have happened to us as a

company. Apart from being my most reliable and experienced Section Officer, he was also, by far, the most popular man in the company,—and, indeed, I think in the whole brigade. . . . Only last week I recommended him for the Military Cross, and I am only too sorry that he did not live to receive it. In the recent battle he did exceptionally well, but this was so much his usual conduct that one did not expect anything else of him. He lies buried amongst others who have died for their country, at St Nicholas, a little suburb of Arras."

DAVID CHRISTIE BLACK, Captain, Canadian Expeditionary Force, second son of Mrs Black, Alva, was reported missing on 27th April, and has since been officially presumed killed on that date. Captain Black, who was an M.A., LL.B., of Edinburgh University, was an attorney in Alberta when war broke out. He at once joined the 1st Canadian Contingent as a private, and was in France with the transport section by the end of 1914. He was wounded before taking his commission in 1915. At the time of his death he was acting Major, preparatory to obtaining his majority. He has been mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's latest dispatches. It will be recollected that his youngest brother, Harry, lost his right arm through wounds over a year ago.

DAVID BUCHAN, Lieutenant, Gordon Highlanders, was the eldest son of Mr David Buchan, of the *Alloa Advertiser*, and left School in 1903. He was an M.A. of St Andrews University, and at the outbreak of war was in the U.F. Theological Hall, Glasgow. He obtained his commission in 1914, and, about two years ago, while acting as Assistant Adjutant, was promoted to Lieutenant. He had been at the front for nine months when he was killed in action on 9th April. His Commanding Officer said that he was one of his best officers, and that he was killed while leading his men forward into demolished German trenches.

ARTHUR HAMILTON COLLYER, Second-Lieutenant, Gordon Highlanders, was the younger son of the late Mr A. Hamilton Collyer, who was for twenty-four years music master in the School. He left School in 1909. On the outbreak of war he joined the Gordon Highlanders as a private, and was over a year in France before coming home for his commission. During that time of active service he gained the admiration of his officers for his cool-headed courage. He returned to France in October 1916, and was wounded, though not dangerously, on 23rd April 1917. As he was being conveyed to the rear on a stretcher he was killed by a shell.

PETER DUDGEON, Private, Seaforth Highlanders, was the eldest son of Mr and Mrs George Dudgeon, Upper Mains, Dollar. He was a railway clerk, first at Dollar, and then at Alloa, and had been only four months in the army when he was killed in action on 23rd April 1917.

SAMUEL FARISH, Lieutenant, K.O.S.B., was the only son of Mr and Mrs S. T. Farish, of Todhillmuir, Lochmaben, and Bank House, Maxwelltown. He boarded with Mrs Heyworth, and left School in 1912. He played forward in the 1911-12 First XV. He obtained his commission in October 1914, and was posted to the 9th K.O.S.B. He went to Gallipoli in August 1915, and was there attached to the Inniskillings, with whom he proceeded to Serbia on the evacuation of the Peninsula. He was wounded in the severe fighting while his battalion covered the withdrawal of the Serbian army. In August he again went to the Front, this time joining a regular battalion of his own regiment in France. He was again wounded, but in February he rejoined his battalion. He was soon invalided to the base, but with characteristic courage and unselfishness refused the offer of employment there. He wrote home just ten days before his death:—"They were going to make me a Town Major. I didn't think it was the sort of work for me. It is a soft sort of job, a thing for an older man than I." He was killed in action on 24th April. His Commanding Officer wrote:—"His loss will be deeply felt by all ranks of this battalion. . . . A keen soldier, a straight man, and a charming companion, his loss will be greatly felt by all."

CARREL W. FIDLER, Second-Lieutenant, A. & S.H., attached R.F.C., was the only son of Mrs Fidler, Westray House, Alloa, formerly of Freshfield, Dollar. He left School in 1903, and after serving his apprenticeship as an engineer in Alloa, he went to Canada, where he was rapidly rising to a position of distinction. When war broke out he came home, and got a commission in the A. & S.H. Subsequently he was transferred to the R.F.C., and became a balloon officer. He was killed by a shell, while engaged in consultation with the officer of the battery to which he was attached, behind our own lines.

ROBERT DORNIN FORSYTH, Lance-Corporal, H.L.I., was the elder son of Mr and Mrs R. W. Forsyth, Corrie Hotel, Arran. He boarded with the Headmaster, and left School in 1914. He died on 22nd May 1917 of wounds received in action in France the previous day.

JAMES LOW FRASER, Corporal, A. & S.H., was the only son

of the late Mr and Mrs Robert M. Fraser, Dollar. He left School in 1913, and was serving his time as a mining engineer when war broke out. He saw much active service before he fell in action on 15th May 1917.

DAVID FRASER, Private, A. & S.H., of the Old Town, Dollar, has been killed in action, but there are no particulars yet available of the manner or date of his death.

WILLIAM ROBERTSON GRIEVE, Lieutenant, H.L.I., was managing director of Messrs W. N. Grieve Ltd., 450 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. He was a member of the Glasgow University O.T.C., and subsequently obtained his commission in the H.L.I. He was killed in action in France on 28th April. He had previously been wounded.

MARSHALL LEE, Private, the Royal Scots, was the youngest son of the late Mr John Lee, of Dollarbank, and Mrs Lee, 16 St Alban's Road, Edinburgh, and brother of Mrs John A. Gibson, Burnbank, Dollar. He left School in 1891, and when war broke out occupied an important position in Edinburgh. He joined the Royal Scots as a private, and was sent to the East. On 27th April 1917 he died from the effects of a heat-stroke.

THOMAS THOMSON LEITCH, Acting Quartermaster, Canadian Expeditionary Force, was the fourth son of the late Mr Andrew Leitch, Newport, Fife. He came to Dollar in 1880, and boarded first in Argyll House, and afterwards with Mr Malcolm. He was twice wounded in France, and died at Resthaven, Sidney, British Columbia, on 21st May 1917.

JOHN M'CULLOCH, Captain, Gordon Highlanders, was killed in action on 9th April. Many of us remember the brave words he wrote on the outbreak of war, when he intimated that the call of duty was too strong for him to dare to disregard it. He was for only one year Classical Master with us, but in that short time his fine personality impressed itself so much, both upon his fellow-teachers and his pupils, that in looking back it seems as if we had had him with us for years. In writing of his death, his Colonel says:—"His conduct throughout the day had been splendid, and his courage and devotion to duty was largely responsible for the success of the operation. His N.C.O.'s have already forwarded to me a signed testimony to his valour, and I am submitting his name to higher authority for a posthumous D.S.O. I cannot say whether this will be granted, but I can assure you it was well earned, and all ranks of the battalion will be very well pleased if a tribute to his memory

is signalised by the award of the coveted decoration." His Chaplain also wrote:—"It saddens me to think of a gifted man cut off so soon, and yet if anything can make your sorrow less it must be the right to be proud of your son's gallant end. He died leading his men to victory, and he did not suffer. His grave is in front of Rolincourt, and by and by a cross bearing full particulars will be erected to his memory. But his real memorial is in the hearts of his comrades, who mourn the loss of a gallant soldier and a fine manly man."

JOHN MACDONALD, Captain, the Royal Scots, was the elder son of Mr and Mrs A. W. Macdonald, 8 Sandford Gardens, Portobello. He boarded with the Headmaster, and left School in 1907, entering Edinburgh University, where he qualified as a solicitor in 1913. He served the full period with the Territorials, and immediately re-enlisted on the declaration of war. He received his commission in Kitchener's Army in October 1914, and attained the rank of Captain in May 1916. He died of wounds on 11th April.

ROBERT SPEEDEN MACFARLANE, Second-Lieutenant, 15th H.L.I., was the third son of Mr William Macfarlane, Edina Lodge, Rutherglen, and Clyde Paper Co. Ltd., Rutherglen. He boarded with the late Mr Levack, Devon Lodge, and left School in 1902. Mr Macfarlane was reported wounded and missing on 3rd July 1916, and is now officially concluded killed.

ROBERT GOLDIE MILLER, Second-Lieutenant, A. & S.H., attached R.F.C., was the second son of Mr William Miller, 100 Bath Street, Glasgow. He boarded with the Headmaster, and left School in 1905. He joined the Stock Exchange London Battalion, and got his commission in the A. & S.H. in June 1915, afterwards transferring to the R.F.C. as an Observer. He was killed in France on 17th March 1917. He was a prominent Rugby footballer, and was at one time Captain of Hillhead High School F.P. team.

WILLIAM JAMES PURVES, Corporal, Motor Machine Gun Section, was the only surviving son of Mr and Mrs Purves, Toronto Villa, Woodside, Coupar-Angus. He boarded with Mr Craig, and left School in 1913. He was well known at School as a cricketer, being in the elevens of 1912 and 1913. He enlisted early in the war, and was in Egypt for many months before he died of wounds received in action at Gaza on 26th March 1917.

ALAN REID, Private, A. & S.H., son of Mrs Robertson, Lower Mains, Dollar, was killed in action on 23rd April.

JAMES PEDRAZA STEPHEN, Second-Lieutenant, R.F.C., was the younger son of Mr Alexander Stephen, Manager, Hong-Kong and

Shanghai Bank, Shanghai, China. He received his early education at Dollar, being a boarder in Argyll House, but afterwards he transferred to Glenalmond, where he won high distinction as a sportsman. He was Captain of the Rugby XV., 1915-16, Victor Ludorum in 1916, and he was Pipe-Major of the O.T.C. He died of wounds on 23rd May.

JOHN LAWRENCE CRAIG WATSON, Lieutenant, Gordon Highlanders, was the second son of the late Mr William Watson and Mrs Watson, Kirk Knowe, Wishaw, and Rainneshill, Aberdeenshire. As lately as 1914-15 he was a very popular and capable Captain of the Athletic Club. Few boys have been so much beloved, both by their teachers and class-mates, and consequently the news of his death brought a sorrow to the School that is not yet, and for many a day will not be, dispelled. "Johnnie," as we all affectionately called him, was much attached to Dollar, and Dollar was as much attached to him. He was a sportsman in the noblest sense of the word, and no one who knew him was surprised to hear that he was recommended by his Commanding Officer for the Military Cross. It was characteristic of him that he met his death in going forward to try and silence a machine gun which was making havoc among his men. His death took place on 9th April, a day that will henceforth be one of the most memorable in the calendar of the Gordon Highlanders.

CHARLES ROBERT DOUGALL, Lieutenant, A. & S.H., attached R.F.C., son of the Rector, is wounded and a prisoner in Germany. On 21st March news reached Dollar that he had not returned from a flight which he made on the preceding Sunday. For over seven weeks nothing was heard of him, but on 8th May his father received a post card with his name, rank, and unit, and the statement that he was wounded. A second post card has since been received from him conveying the gratifying information that he is rapidly getting well, and is now in a Reserve Hospital in Munster, Westphalia.

WILLIAM M. SNADDEN, Lieutenant, A. & S.H., son of Mrs Snadden, 2 Crompton Avenue, Cathcart, Glasgow, and formerly of Dollar, has been reported missing, and is believed to be a prisoner of war. He left School in 1912, and was in business with Messrs Walter Duncan & Co., East India merchants, West George Street, Glasgow, before obtaining his commission.

Private D. M. RITCHIE, A. & S.H., son of Mr and Mrs Ritchie, Cairnpark Street, Dollar, was reported missing at Salonika, on 8th-9th May. No further official information has been received, but his brother, Sapper A. Ritchie, R.E., has written home saying that he was seen to be wounded on 8th May, and is now in hospital.

The following Former Pupils are also amongst the wounded :—

Second-Lieut. IAN C. FALCONER, the Royal Scots.

Second-Lieut. GERALD O. HALLIFAX, A. & S.H.

Second-Lieut. EVAN D. HENDRY, A. & S.H.

Second-Lieut. NORMAN J. MACDONALD, the Royal Scots.

Second-Lieut. FRED J. MUNRO, R.G.A.

Second-Lieut. J. GORDON HILL MURRAY, Cameron Highlanders.

Lieut. W. R. OVENS, K.O.S.B.

Lieut. A. D. RITCHIE, Canadian Infantry (shell shock).

Captain A. J. SIMPSON, the Royal Scots.

Second-Lieut. J. FORBES SUTHERLAND, M.C., A. & S.H.

Second-Lieut. G. HOPE WILSON, R.G.A.

Private HENRY CARMICHAEL, the Royal Scots.

Lance-Corporal IAN B. CLARK, A. & S.H.

Private J. FRAME, Northumberland Fusiliers.

Regimental Signaller ANGUS RITCHIE, K.O.S.B.

Gunner J. A. S. ROUSSAC, Canadian Field Artillery.

Private R. G. SYME, Scots Guards.

Captain JOHN BRUCE, R.S.F., wounded in Palestine, 19th April.

The following distinctions have been gained by Former Pupils of Dollar since our last number appeared :—

CAPTAIN (now LIEUT.-COLONEL) LAWRENCE D. SHAW, R.A.M.C., has been admitted Companion of the Distinguished Service Order.

MAJOR PAT HENDERSON, R.A.M.C., whose name appears on our Roll for the first time, was admitted Companion of the Distinguished Service Order in April 1915, and has been twice mentioned in dispatches.

The following have been awarded the Military Cross :—

CAPTAIN JOHN FERGUSON, R.A.M.C., son of Mr Ferguson, Claremont, Alloa.

MAJOR WILLIAM BURTON FORSTER, C. of Winnipeg Battalion, Canadian Expeditionary Force, who boarded with Mr Malcolm, and

left School in 1904. He was mentioned in dispatches in January last.

SECOND-LIEUT. NORMAN JAMES MACDONALD, the Royal Scots, who boarded with the Headmaster, and left School in 1911, for "conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Although the trenches were knee-deep in mud, he gained his objective, and succeeded in accounting for many of the enemy. He set a fine example to his men." He has since received wounds resulting in the loss of his left foot.

CAPTAIN ARTHUR G. M. MIDDLETON, R.A.M.C., who boarded with Mr Cruickshank, and left School in 1898. He was recently wounded and gassed, but has now returned to duty.

There have been mentioned in dispatches :—

CAPTAIN ANDREW R. BAIN, A. & S.H.

SECOND-LIEUTENANT ALEXANDER C. BAXTER, Cameronians, attached M.G.C., since killed in action.

CAPTAIN DAVID CHRISTIE BLACK, Canadian Infantry, since killed in action.

CAPTAIN ALEXANDER I. WALKER, R.E.

CAPTAIN PERCY WALTON, Gordon Highlanders.

JACK DUNCAN, Sergeant, Gordon Highlanders, second son of the late Mr A. F. Duncan, and Mrs Craig, Ardgour, Port-Glasgow, has been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in recognition of his gallantry in recent fighting.

DAVID ANDERSON, Corporal, the Royal Scots, son of Mrs Anderson, Bowton Road, Kinross, who left School in 1912, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry on the field on 9th April. He was wounded in the same action, but is now recovering, and was recently home on leave.

WILLIAM KERSLEY HOLMES is now Acting Captain of his Battery.

ADDITIONS TO ROLL OF HONOUR.

OFFICERS.

Name.	Rank.	Unit.
DUNN, CUTHBERT L. - - -	Major	I.M.S.
HENDERSON, JOHN - - -	Commander	—th Divisional Base.
HENDERSON, PATRICK, D.S.O. -	Major	R.A.M.C.
JAMIESON, W. J. - - -	2nd Lieutenant	Gordon Highlanders, attd. N.F.
LINDSAY, ALEXANDER - - -	Lieutenant	Inland Water Transport, R.E.
RITCHIE, A. D. - - -	Lieutenant	Canadian Infantry.

MEN.		
Name.	Rank.	Unit.
CUMMING, F. G. - - -	Private	R.S.F.
DUNCAN, JACK, D.C.M. - - -	Sergeant	Gordon Highlanders.
DUNCAN, ROBERT - - -	Private	H.L.I.
LEACH, JAMES, R.C. - - -	Cadet	No. 1 O.C.B.
MATTHEWSON, WILLIAM - - -	Private	Cameron Highlanders.
MILLER, DAVID - - -	„	Inns of Court O.T.C.
MORRISON, WM. McL. - - -	Cadet	No. 2 O.C.B.
MACDONALD, A. - - -	Gunner	A.A.R.B.
PAUL, ROBERT C. - - -	Private	Black Watch.
SOGA, R. ROSS - - -	Cadet	No. 5 O.C.B.
QUARTON, W. - - -	Gunner	R.G.A.
TURNBULL, ROBERTSON - - -	Private	Protectorate Garrison Regiment, German S.W. Africa.

PROMOTIONS.

ARMISHAW, CHARLES S. - - -	Cadet	No. 11 O.C.B.
BUTCHART, S. F., M.C. - - -	Capt., A. & S.H.	Commandant, No. 5 Prisoners' Camp, France.
BWYE, A. ROLFE - - -	2nd Lieutenant	Gordon Highlanders.
CAMERON, D. R. - - -	„	R.F.C.
CRUICKSHANK, IAN W. - - -	Cadet	No. 12 O.C.B.
DAVIDSON, EDWARD W. - - -	2nd Lieutenant	A. & S. Highlanders.
DOUGALL, CHARLES R. - - -	Lieutenant	A. & S. Highlanders, attd. R.F.C.
HUNTER, TOM - - -	2nd Lieutenant	South Midland R.E.
GARDNER, HARRY, D.S.O. - - -	Lieutenant-Colonel	Herefordshire Regiment.
KINGHORN, A. F. - - -	Lieutenant	R.N.V.R.
LAMBERTON, N. C. - - -	2nd Lieutenant	Scottish Rifles.
McLAREN, T. - - -	Major	R.G.A.
MILLER, JAMES - - -	2nd Lieutenant	Cameron Highlanders.
MILLINGEN, R. E. C. VAN - - -	„	London Scottish.
MOODIE, P. T. - - -	Major	A. & S. Highlanders.
PENDER, IAN McA. M. - - -	Captain	Seaforth Highlanders.
PENMAN, ALEXANDER - - -	2nd Lieutenant	H.L.I.
POLLOCK, ARCHIBALD - - -	Lieutenant	Air Board.
SHAW, L. D. - - -	Lieutenant-Colonel	R.A.M.C., attd. Field Ambulance.
SNADDON, A. - - -	2nd Lieutenant	Cameron Highlanders.
THOM, GEORGE St C., C.M.G. - - -	Colonel (A.D.M.S. Div.)	R.A.M.C.
TUCKWELL, JOHN H. G. - - -	2nd Lieutenant	A. & S. Highlanders.
WALKER, ALEXANDER I. - - -	Captain	Royal Engineers.
WILSON, G. HOPE - - -	2nd Lieutenant	R.G.A.

The Annual Sports were successfully carried out on 28th April. There was a fair attendance of spectators, and the weather was in every way quite suitable for such a gathering.

Everything worked extremely smoothly, and does credit to Mr Donald and his committee for the excellence of their arrangements.

Owing to the limited "rugger" season, it was difficult to say



A Drydale

A GAME OF RUGBY

who would prove the winner of the "Edina," but R. Gordon made no mistake, and left his rivals well behind. Gordon's win was an excellent all-round one. His best effort was in the long jump; his distance was 19 ft. $4\frac{1}{2}$ in., thereby beating the best jump for twelve years back at least. Foston came away as a great surprise, and took first place in the 100 yds. and 220 yds. open, whilst McInnes ran in first in what was easily the best mile race for over ten years. His final sprint was a masterpiece, and left Bruce far behind for a second place.

Among the others Shaw was prominent, but never reached last year's form. The usual events for juniors were as keenly contested as in previous years, and the Watts, A. Macdonald, and D. Cruickshank kept up their former reputations as coming men.

The tug-of-war proved the tit-bit of the day. "The finest contest ever seen at the sports," was the unanimous verdict of all the older spectators. It was a Homeric struggle, and only through sheer doggedness did the Britishers pull out victors. During the afternoon the pipe band of the 42nd T. R. Batt., under Pipe-Major Findlater, V.C., played selections.

The prizes were presented by Mrs W. Leckie Ewing, who performed her duty most gracefully.

The following is the full prize-list:—

Drop Kick—1, J. R. Leach; 2, R. Gordon. Distance, 49 yds. 9 in.

Place Kick—1, J. C. Shaw; 2, R. Gordon. 63 points.

Cricket Ball—1, J. H. Bennie, 92 yds. 1 ft.

100 Yards (School)—1, H. W. Foston; 2, A. Watt. Time, 11 seconds.

100 Yards (for other Schools, under 11)—1, A. Bradley; 2, T. Fraser. Time, $15\frac{1}{2}$ seconds.

100 Yards (under 12)—1, J. Parsons; 2, G. Fraser. Time, $13\frac{4}{5}$ seconds.

220 Yards Handicap (School)—1, H. W. Foston (scr.); 2, A. H. Watt (scr.). Time, 26 seconds.

100 Yards (under 16)—D. Cruickshank. Time, 12 seconds.

High Jump (School)—1, A. H. Watt; 2, D. Watt. Height, 4 ft. $10\frac{1}{2}$ in.

High Jump (under 13)—1, A. Campbell; 2, D. Parsons.

Sack Race—1, R. Drummond; 2, R. M'Intyre; 3, J. Begg.

Quarter Mile (School)—1, R. Gordon; 2, H. W. Foston. Time, $60\frac{3}{5}$ seconds.

Half Mile (under 16)—1, A. MacDonald; 2, D. Cruickshank.

100 Yards (under 13)—A. Campbell and D. Parsons, tie.

Long Jump (under 14)—1, M. Johnson; 2, E. Johnstone. Distance, 14 ft. 7 in.

Hurdle Race (School)—1, R. Gordon ; 2, J. C. Shaw.

Obstacle Race—1, M. Stewart ; 2, W. Neil ; 3, L. Rolleston.

Long Jump (School)—1, R. Gordon ; 2, J. C. Shaw. Distance, 19 ft. 4½ in.

High Jump (under 16)—1, D. Cruickshank ; 2, J. Hayter. Height, 4 ft. 8½ in.

300 Yards Handicap (under 13)—1, A. Campbell (3 yds.) ; 2, W. Neil (4 yds.).

Mile Race (School)—1, J. M'Innes ; 2, L. Bruce ; 3, H. M'Luskie. Time, 5 mins. 14½ seconds.

220 Yards (under 15)—1, A. MacDonald ; 2, C. Watt. Time, 30 seconds.

Putting the Weight—1, R. Gordon ; 2, J. C. Shaw. Distance, 28 ft. 6½ in.

Tug-of-War—"Britishers" (J. R. Leach, capt.) beat "Foreigners" (J. H. Bennie, capt.) by 2 pulls to 1.

100 Yards Consolation Race (under 14)—A. Wilson.

Consolation Race (School)—R. Bennet.

Edina Challenge Cup won by R. Gordon, 29 points ; Runner-up, J. C. Shaw, 14 points.

The Greater Dollar Directory.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

GARDINER, MARGARET BALBERNIE, 11th Stationary Hospital (Scottish Section), B.E.F., France.

AIKMAN, E. H., 37 Norland Square, London, W. 11.

BENET, Judge W. C., Grimshawes, North Carolina, U.S.A.

TAYLOR, HUGH A., Lo-done, Tyndale Park, Herne Bay, Kent.

ANDERSON, Mrs (MARGARET PATERSON), Springfield, Napier Road, Edinburgh.