



Mount House Record, Plymouth.

VOL. VI.

SUMMER 1915.

No. 2.

Editorial.

This term has been a successful and happy one scholastically in various ways. Really good work has been put in by most of us, and in more than one instance during the last three months we have had the pleasure of seeing virtue rewarded as the result of open competition with other preparatory schools in examinations. We have always expected much of T. E. E. Cocks since he entered the School seven years ago, and he has not disappointed us. Full particulars of his achievements will be found elsewhere in this number, and we will only offer him here our sincere congratulations on his Scholarship and good wishes for the future. Congratulations must be offered also to G. O. Jones and H. M. Elliott, both of whom have done very well indeed, the former entering Osborne next term (for which he is thoroughly well qualified), and the latter Bromsgrove School with an Entrance Scholarship. We have many Candidates for Osborne in the future (on taking a Census it was found that about half the school are destined for a Naval career) and we hope that all will work up to as good a standard as Jones has reached.

Owing to the magnificent way in which assistant masters as a whole have responded to their Country's call, it is for the time being impossible to obtain efficient and suitable men for preparatory schoolwork. The teaching staff at Mount House will therefore consist next term of the Headmaster and Mr W. M. Rhodes and two highly qualified ladies who have patriotically undertaken to supply the place of men for the duration of the war. We have every reason to expect excellent results from this arrangement, whilst Mr. Machell Cox has made himself personally

responsible for the Games, and Mr. Rhodes for the Scouting and drill in the same way as last term.

As regards weather this term we cannot complain, although for the first time we were unlucky on Sports Day; except for that day and the next we have not had a single wet half-holiday, and much cricket has been played.

The Scouts are going strong, and thanks to Mr. Rhodes, and to their own keenness there is no fear of any decrease either in their efficiency or in their numbers. The only difficulty indeed is to accommodate all the probationers who are so anxious to join, but we think that some of these will be rewarded for their patience next term, and will be eligible for uniform.

Empire Day

We trust we may not fall under the ban of the somewhat censorious critic, who a few terms ago took exception in our paper to the accumulation of jottings in respect of the boys and their doings, if we record the effort made to do honour in a simple but wholehearted manner to what is now generally known as Empire Day. The occasion came round, this year of years, with the fullest claim for recognition, and doubtless stirred the heart of every Briton throughout the world: for it is impossible to conceive a time when love of native land, and pride in its position of responsible power, could be stronger in the heart of man, woman, or child.

The flag flew at the mast-head on the South front of the House, and the little programme which had been arranged in the early morning was duly carried out at mid-day. The whole School, including the Red House juniors, was paraded in the field, and then marched to the playground, where it was drawn up in the form of three sides of a hollow square, the Scouts in full uniform at the base, opposite to the flag, with patrol leaders and seconds in accustomed places. The boys on the flanks stood at the right and left incline respectively. The Masters were in front of, and at some distance from, the Scouts, the Headmaster being in the centre.

The Salute was then solemnly and reverently given, and

the National Anthem sung by all present, led by Mrs. Cox and the other ladies of the School, who were in position on the terrace.

After this formal tribute to the emblem of national honour and all that it means at the present day, Mr. Cox ascended the terrace and addressed the boys. He reminded them that they were living at a time such as the world had never known before, when the strength of this great Empire of which they were members was being put to a supreme test—a time when every Briton was called upon to do his bit, and ever to keep in mind his kinsmen, who, with their gallant Allies, were fighting for righteousness and honour. The safety of the country depended on the issue of this war. They had saluted the flag which flew for freedom and justice all the world over; and he trusted that they, who were for the most part sons of officers in one or other of the Services, would be ever ready to do their own part well and truly, wherever Duty called them. He felt sure that this little ceremony meant much to all who were present, and was one which they would never forget.

Three hearty cheers were then given for King and Empire, and the "troops" were dismissed.

The tribute offered was simple, but there was a good deal in it to thrill the heart. There is much that is moving on any occasion when the National Anthem is solemnly sung; but, at a time when it was felt that the same spirit of fervent love of Country was animating our brothers on all sides to the remotest corners of the earth, there was nothing wanting to rouse in the hearts of all the emotion of true patriotism. Of those who did honour to that day throughout the Empire there can have been none truer nor stouterhearted than the little company drawn up beneath our 'Quarter Deck' on May 24th.

Scouting.

2ND PLYMOUTH SCOUTS.

Apart from the general burden which the war has placed upon the shoulders of the nation, and which all are proud to bear, many inconveniences have fallen upon Schools, who have been called upon to make the best of

them in the right spirit. During the whole term we have had reason to lament the absence of Mr. Clay, and in no way more keenly than from the fact that, by his departure for military duty, the 2nd Plymouth Troop was left without a Scoutmaster. He had carried out his duties in this capacity so efficiently that it was difficult in any sense to fill his place, and our Scouts have had to call all their energies into play in order to keep going, and do credit to his past instruction. However, they were not found wanting and pluck has had its reward. The patrol leaders have manfully kept their patrols up to the mark, and at the end of the term after his three months' probation, the new Scoutmaster has received his warrant. He is keen to win his spurs during the coming term.

Some record of the principal doings of the troop will interest our readers. Fine weather favoured the first fortnight of the term, which was much occupied with the beginning of cricket &c., and then a too plentiful supply of rain made Scouting operations difficult, so it was not until Empire Day that the Scouts assumed their uniforms. An account of our observance of that day will be found on another page.

On May 27th a march was made to Plym Bridge, where an afternoon both useful and enjoyable was spent in the field between the river and the railway. Staves and equipment being piled, independent patrol in different parts of the extensive ground occupied part of the time, followed by games, which created a healthy appetite for rations. There was then a competition in the all important matter of observation. The Scouts dispersed and took cover. The Scoutmaster-elect took his stand in a prominent position, and went through various contortions which would have impressed any chance observer with the idea that he was an escaped lunatic; for his real observers were all effectually concealed, and only on two occasions did he catch a momentary sight of any. A record of the points observed was sent in by each Scout in the evening. The return was made by train to Mutley.

On June 16th we took part in the Recruiting Demonstration on the Hoe. The weather was fine, and the popular attendance remarkable. There was a large muster

of Scouts, the various troops assembling at the Guild-hall, and then marching together to the Hoe. The two Services were largely represented, and everything was so well organised that the whole proceedings, up to and including the march past, which our troop took part in, went off without any kind of hitch. On the return journey it was no easy matter to thread our way through the crowd.

The following day, at the kind invitation of Capt. and Mrs. Nnowling, we made an expedition to Cornwood. On arriving at the station we made a detour to some rough hilly country which offered grand facilities for manoeuvres. Half the party ascended a height, and after an interval the other half went up with turf artillery to dislodge them, taking such cover as was available on the way. We then proceeded to the country house for which we were bound, and which we reached through pretty roads and beautiful gardens. After doing justice to a strawberry tea which was hospitably provided for us, and enjoying the neighbourhood for an hour or more, we returned home by train.

July 5th was a red-letter day for us, for the troop was drawn up in the Mount House field, and our chief patrol leader received Colours from the hands of Brigadier-General Edwards, a gift from himself and Mrs. Edwards. It was a moving incident, and one which makes an era in our history. We feel sure that the encouraging words of the General were taken to heart, and that the troop will endeavour to live up to the new dignity bestowed upon it.

About this time seven war service "badges arrived, which had been earned in the holidays, and they were distributed to those who had won them.

On July 13th the Scoutmaster-elect presented himself for examination at local headquarters, and had the satisfaction of passing the test.

On the 15th after a wet morning, we marched out to take our chance of weather, with rolled rain-coats added to ordinary accoutrements. As it turned out, however, we had quite a fine afternoon. We went to Egguckland, and on to Fort Austin, where the patrols had something of a field-day in the old trenches on the ground

adjourning. The Scouts had been instructed to keep their eyes specially open, and after their return sent in papers recording particular points observed en route.

At 3 p.m. on July 25th we were prepared to be inspected by the local organising Secretary, Captain Crowley; but unfortunately no Inspector appeared, and it afterwards transpired that there had been a misunderstanding as to the date that was fixed. The occasion may be regarded as only postponed; and it is perhaps well that the mistake should have occurred, for in the coming term our numbers will be increased by the six new Scouts whose investiture has since taken place, as well as others who may then be ready to pass their Tenderfoot tests.

Yet we must not forget that we shall be without several whose turn to move on has now come. The hearty cheers that were given for them meant much, and we shall think of them with real regret; but they may rest assured that, whenever they can come and see us, they will find us tenaciously carrying on the traditions which they themselves so well upheld.

W. M. RHODES, S.M.

The Sports.

It was arranged for the Sports to take place on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 7th. The outlook as regards weather was not very hopeful all day, but the proceedings opened punctually at 3 o'clock; a large gathering of parents and friends had assembled, and all went well until about 4-30, when the visitors were having tea in the Gymnasium. Alas, it was no passing shower; the rain came down in torrents and it soon became apparent that the proceedings would have to be abandoned for that day at least. This was a very great disappointment to all concerned, for we have always been so fortunate hitherto as regards weather that I am afraid we had almost begun to look upon a fine day for this occasion as our just right. However this year luck was certainly against us, as when the Sports were resumed the following afternoon they were constantly interrupted by heavy showers. A few keen parents turned up nevertheless in spite of the weather, which was very encouraging to those taking part, and the

boys certainly enjoyed their afternoon with spirits entirely unaffected by climatic conditions !

Mrs Chilcott very kindly and gracefully distributed the prizes at the end of the proceedings.

The Events which concerned the Red House were run off a few days later as the boys there were in quarantine for whooping cough -- and by running on a different day to Mount House all could take part

Event I. *Throwing Cricket Ball.* The first event on the programme was somewhat easily won by Elliott, with a throw of 60 yds 2 ft 2 in, each of his three throws beating the rest of the competitors. Payn secured 2nd place with his first throw, but unfortunately strained himself slightly in the effort, thereby not being able to do himself justice in the later events.

Events II and V. *The Heats of 100 yds (open)* produced very close races in 1st two heats, but an experienced eye predicted the first three places in the final would be secured by the winner of the 3rd heat and the two winners of the 4th. This was borne out in the result, as Elliott, running excellently and easily, secured the 1st place, whilst Jones i, making a great effort, just beat Lillingston for the 2nd position.

Events III and VI. *The Heats of 100 yds (under 11)* were rather misleading, except in the case of Marshall, who ran well, and somewhat easily won both his heat and the final. Pellow ii very narrowly secured a right to partake in the final, but ran much better at his 2nd attempt and came in a good 2nd.

Event VIII. *The Transport Race* was very popular, in which six teams of four took part. Each team had to transport a dozen tennis balls, one at a time, a distance of 80 yds, and place them in baskets. Each competitor raced backwards and forwards within his own area of 20 yds, each in turn passing the balls on to the next member of his team. These teams had been carefully arranged according to the boys' respective handicaps, and the result fully justified the selection, as a most strenuous and exhausting race was only just won by Team F., consisting of Marshall, Pode, Picken ii and Fjnlaion, whilst all the others were exceedingly close.

Event IX. *The High Jump (open)* was practically confined

to two competitors, as Payn was obliged to retire after his first attempt. Pellew i stuck gamely to his guns and jumped in good style but was finally beaten by Jones i who jumped well and cleared 3 ft 10 in, and might easily have done a little more if he had not slipped in the attempt, shaking himself up rather badly.

Event X. Another fresh event, which was most amusing, was the *Jockey Race*, in which the bigger boys, blindfolded, had some of the lighter ones as their jockeys, who steered their mounts on their way by hand and voice. The course was a zig zag one, with four small goals, formed with scout-poles, through which the horses were guided by their eager riders. Collisions and bumps were of small account, Elliott being knocked off his legs by another sturdy mount. Jones i plodded steadily on his way, being quietly guided by Lake, and somewhat easily won. The majority of the other pairs took very erratic courses, but after a close finish Wallace and Jones ii secured the 2nd place.

Event XI. Scratched.

Event XII. *The Long Jump (open)* produced some good jumping, and was won by Pellew i, who jumped in good style, and who reached a distance of 12ft 6in. Elliott jumped 12ft 1in, being only $\frac{1}{2}$ inch behind last year's winner, whilst Jones i did well with a jump of 11ft 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Macpherson i also just reached the standard of 11ft 6in, and looks a likely winner in the future.

Event XIII. *High Jump (under 12)*. (Handicap). This event again was keenly contested, several of the competitors jumping very well. Norman i cleared 3ft 7in, which was quite good for his height, and, like Jones i in the senior event, fell in his effort to improve upon his winning jump, and was really plucky in the way he took the awkward bump when the back of his head met the ground in his fall. Gibson and Wallace i also from scratch, reached the height of 3ft 5in.

Event XIV. *The Quarter Mile (open)* proved to be the last event to be decided on the official Sports Day, as the rain, which had been threatening for the last half hour, then fell in torrents, and effectually prevented any further competition. This final race fortunately provided another keen struggle, when Lillingston, who ran in very good

style was beaten by Jones i who ran gamely to the end, whilst Elliott just secured the 3rd place.

The Ashby Challenge Cup, held by the winner of the greatest number of points in certain open events, produced a very close contest, and was finally won by Jones i with a total of 10 points out of a possible 15, whilst Elliott was 'runner-up' with a good total of 9. Pellew i secured 5 points and Lillingston 4.

SPORTS RESUMED WEDNESDAY, July 8th, 3 p.m.

(between showers).

Event XVI & XVIII. The heats of the 220 Yds (handicap) produced some very close racing, and the back men showed up more prominently this year than usual. The best finish was in heat 5, when Lillingston, from scratch, came with a magnificent burst and just beat Rimington (7 yds) on the tape.

The final produced an even closer race, Jones i, from scratch, succeeded in forcing his way through the other competitors, Aikman (20 yds) being a good second, and Elliott (2 yds) third. Lillingston again ran well, but seemed to reserve his effort until too late, and did not succeed in being placed, although at the finish he was rapidly gaining on the leaders.

Event XIX and XXII. The most popular event on the programme, as usual, was the *Obstacle Race*, which was run in 2 heats. The Monkey Puzzle under the tree was a great success, with a bewildering amount of hanging ropes and trapezes hovering over the forbidden ground, but many of the boys very quickly found the best way of negotiating the difficulties. The final task of dribbling a tennis ball up and down the planks of a seesaw frequently completely altered the order of the competitors.

The final of this race produced even greater excitement, as an extra obstacle had been added, just before the Monkey Puzzle, consisting of a close network or entanglement of binding twine between two stout posts about six feet high, through which the runners had to force their way. This constituted a great problem to most, especially the first comers, who were entirely baffled until Macpherson iii got his head through a weak spot and then wriggled

through like an eel. Jones i again came in first, with Elliott second, closely followed by Payn and Yonge. Picken i was first in his heat, but only succeeded in gaining the 5th position.

Event XX. The "*Give and Take*" competition for the Seniors was quite a success, and perhaps naturally produced a much closer finish than with the smaller boys. Jones i and Bailey ii just finished before Pode and Picken ii, whilst Pellew i and Edwards were close on their heels.

Event XXI. *The Senior Relay Race* was won by the "Red" Team, consisting of Lillingston, Curtis, Wimbush i and Wallace, the next being the "Yellow," made up of Pellew i, Macpherson i and iii and Burnard i.

The Tug of War between 12 members of the 6th Form v. 12 of the Rest of the School will long be remembered as the occasion on which the teams twice succeeded in breaking the rope, causing much excitement and amusement. Both the Referee and Starter were accused of connivance at this result, but after a fresh rope had been procured, a good struggle resulted in a victory for the 6th. This was followed by a final contest, in which 5 of the Fathers were opposed by 8 of the boys. Although the former were successful in the first pull, the boys were the final victors.

Cricket Season of 1915.

Though very little has been done in the way of matches, we have had nothing to complain of in the weather and actually have not had a single game interfered with by rain. There has been a great deal of keenness over the games, and many exciting finishes have been fought out. Outside the actual 'colours' a very large number of 'possibles' have been kept in view, and there is really very little to choose between a score or so of these. It should always be borne in mind by those who have any ambition to gain a place in the XI that, as little is expected of the 'tail' in the way of run getting, preference will always be given to a keen and capable fielder who can *save* runs and hold catches. The fielding in the games improved greatly as the season advanced, but there are still far too many chances of running out missed

through failing to throw a catch or a long hop ; the backing up is better, but nearly all can improve in trying to anticipate the batsman's stroke and in keeping exactly to their place. It has been found too that the 'big game' can be wonderfully improved by weeding out the confirmed talkers, though some of the XI themselves are rather bad offenders. The bowling certainly reached a much higher level than last year, but on the whole the batting has been the weak spot. Not only have some of the better players failed to profit by a great deal of coaching in the nets, but the rank and file do not make any apparent effort to overcome their fondness for drawing away with one foot or both, and seem to prefer to have the ball in the air. But the chief failing all through, with barely half a dozen exceptions, is the half-hearted way in which a good ball is faced ; more often than not, the opposition is simply removed ! Grit goes a long way to make a cricketer.

Elliott and Pode, as Captain and 'Vice,' have kept things going well and taken their duties seriously.

v. ST. GABRIEL'S CHOIR.

Played on July 24th. Won by 50 runs.

It is to be regretted that a fixture was not arranged with these opponents earlier in the season. As it was, the match, which was played on the last available half-holiday, narrowly escaped being cancelled owing to the weather. Fortunately the heavy showers, which fell at frequent intervals in the morning, had exhausted themselves by one o'clock. St. Gabriel's were a good sporting side, and gave us a much better game than the result might suggest. On the day's form L. Thorne was at least as good as any Mount House bowler, and it may be said at once that several of the old colours on whom we most depended failed to do themselves justice in either the batting or the bowling line. From our point of view the best features of the match were the good recovery made by our later batsmen, the excellent judgment shown throughout in running—this alone represented a difference of about 20 runs between the teams—and the smart fielding. The most serious criticism to be made is that the great majority of

our batsmen showed a marked tendency to draw away from the faster balls, and this weakness must be resolutely overcome another season. The early batting on our side, after winning the toss, gave us some anxious moments. Yonge, who had been making heaps of runs in the games, threw away his wicket to a very short ball which got up. Payn had a certain amount of luck in knocking up ten before being caught and bowled. Pode very deliberately steered a ball into slip's hands in the same over. Elliott never seemed quite at home and at last was bowled by a good ball which he did not stand up to. Jones joined Norman who before long was bowled by a long hop which he appeared to try to cut off his wicket. With five wickets down for 39 things looked none too well, but Jones hit out in good style. As a rule he neglects the off side as much as Smith does the on. Now however a good proportion of his runs came from hard drives in front of cover point, while Smith—not to be outdone—brought off a fine stroke to the on boundary. Presently the latter, after his wicket had been "shaved" more than once, was narrowly run out when he would have been in if he had grounded his bat. Cocks put together seven, in the course of which a fairly simple chance came in contact with a fielder's head instead of his hands; he too fell to the inevitable long hop. Jones was beaten by a good ball from L. Thorne at this stage. His hits were all hard and clean, and for the most part along the ground. Curtis and Macpherson each compiled a useful half-dozen, but were alike in drawing away from fast balls and both succumbed in this way. Burnard might perhaps have gone in earlier. The innings closed for 95 scored in five minutes over the hour. Thorne who bowled throughout, took 6 wickets for 23 runs without having the best of luck.

St. Gabriel's set about their task light-heartedly, and aided by some very loose bowling twenty runs were knocked up very rapidly. Pode, who seemed to go rather 'stale' at the end of the season, was quite out of form and served up slow pitches to leg with uncomfortable (for his side) regularity. Elliott followed suit, varied by some wide long hops. A double change brought about the separation, Norman in his first over getting Rickard lbw. He

was promptly taken off and Elliott for some reason resumed, but at the other end Payn dismissed Hill and Vosper in one over. (3 for 21). After a short stand Perks put another of Payn's into Cocks' safe hands at point, and in Elliott's next over L. Thorne's useful innings came to an end; he let out at a half volley and was well held by Payn. In the same over Cocks took a third victim at point, Norman and Elliott finished off the innings quickly for 45. Norman held two good catches, as well as making what the batsman at any rate took to be a catch during the first-wicket stand.

With not much more than an hour left for play, there was little prospect of altering the result. As it turned out each side scored exactly 50 runs in an unfinished second innings, which cost Mount House 4 wickets and their opponents 6. The lustier hitting was perhaps seen from the visitors, the school again making a large number of daring but justifiable short runs. Yonge showed his usual 'slimness' in this respect, and both he and Payn had plenty of confidence. Payn was strongest in his back play. Elliott who was not out gave a chance at point from which he was given 4 by an overthrow. St. Gabriel's opened disastrously, L. Thorne being very well taken by Cocks at point. Hill and Rickard, who scored boundaries from over-pitched balls with some frequency, were both well caught by Elliott. Payn was perhaps the steadiest bowler, taking 6 wickets for 19 runs in the two innings; Norman's figures were 6 wickets for 20 and Elliott's 4 for 34. Yonge was good at the wicket.

Full score :—

MOUNT HOUSE SCHOOL.

Yonge, b L. Thorne	2	b Rickard	15
Payn, c & b L. Thorne	10	c Hill, b Rickard	19
Elliott, b L. Thorne	9	not out	8
Pode, c Rickard, b L. Thorne	0	c Ham, b Rickard	1
Norman i, b Hill	7		
Jones i, b L. Thorne	22		
Smith, run out	6		
Cocks i, b Rickard	7		
Curtis, b L. Thorne	6		
Macpherson, b Hill	6		
Burnard, not out	7	c Vosper, b L. Thorne	0
Extras	13	Extras	7

95 (Innings declared for 4 wks) 50

ST. GABRIEL'S CHOIR.

F. Rickard, lbw Norman	7	c Elliott, b Norman	15
L. Thorne, c Payn, b Elliott	19	c Cocks, b Payn	0
Vosper, c Cocks i, b Payn	1	b Norman	7
Hill, b Payn	0	c Elliott, b Payn	16
Perks, c Cocks i, b Payn	4	b Norman	0
B. Thorne, b Norman	8	not out	3
Triscott, c Cocks i, b Elliott	0	not out	4
Curtis, not out	3	b Payn	3
Ham, c & b Norman	0		
Pethick, c Norman, b Elliott	0		
Hoskins, b Elliott	0		
Extras	3	Extras	2
	45	(6 wkts)	50

M. H. S. v. MR. COX'S XI.

Played July 9th, lost by 67 runs.

MR. COX'S XI.

Mr. W. M. Rhodes, b Pode	4
Mr. A. H. M. Cox, retired	50
Rev. E. E. M. Cox, b Elliott	29
Mr. P. Lampard, c Burke ii, b Payn	19
Rev. Sewell, not out	14
C. Bullen, c Jones i, b Pode	1
Paymaster H. O. Jones, b Pode	1
Knowling, run out	3
T. Dymond, c & b Elliott	3
Pellew i, b Elliott	0
Extras	4
	128

M. H. S.

Payn, c & b E. E. M. Cox	6
Yonge, b Bullen	5
Pode, b W. M. Rhodes	1
Elliott, c E. E. M. Cox, b A. H. M. Cox	12
Jones i, b E. E. M. Cox	3
Smith, b Bullen	1
Macpherson, b E. E. M. Cox	3
Cocks i, not out	14
Chilcott, b A. H. M. Cox	3
Burke ii, b E. E. M. Cox	0
Burnard, lbw, b Bullen	1
Extras	12
	61

RED HOUSE v. MOUNT HOUSE ('Little Game')

Played June 17th. Mount House won by 51 runs.

The annual match was contested this time on a wicket of cocoa-nut matting, to which neither side was accustomed. The difference in age and size is always considerable in these encounters, and consequently a good deal depends on whether the best players come off in the batting line. As it turned out, Picken iii, of whom a good deal was expected, was out of luck and in his two innings earned a pair of spectacles. There were lustier hitters on the Mount House side, and in this respect the juniors were outclassed, but the latter did not compare at all unfavourably in the field; they were keen and alert, and their bowling was steadier.

Mount House won the toss and took first innings. Price was bowled off his foot in the first over, and then Jones ii and Baily i made a stand which perhaps decided the match. With the score at 43 Petty throwing in well nearly ran out Jones ii, and immediately afterwards Baily i was bowled by Burnard for a well hit 17. As often happens, Jones ii went in the same over for a good innings of 19.

Most of the succeeding batsmen were not lacking in confidence, Duhan i in particular hitting his first four balls to the boundary; he then missed a ball, and was bowled by the sixth. Burnard ii took six wickets, and Picken at times bowled very well. The innings closed for 79, which had been scored pretty quickly.

The Red House innings opened with a sensational collapse. In the first over Kelly, hesitating too long over a bye, was run out, Picken i was well caught by Price, and Crebbin by Duhan. Three wickets for 0. Worse was to follow. Three more wickets fell nearly as fast as it takes to write. Then with the total at 1 run for 6 wickets Knowling ii was joined by Petty, who might have gone in higher up. These two played very steadily and put on 21 runs before they were separated. When they were separated there was little more opposition, and all were out for 28—a total certainly larger than at one time looked likely.

Less than an hour remained for play, so that there was little chance of altering the result. Mount House scored 51, but they had lost half their wickets for only 12 runs before Radford ii and Duhan i made a short stand, hitting merrily till Duhan i ran himself out. Lampard carried out his bat for 15, but was not very enterprising when the bowling showed signs of being tired out. There were too many overthrows given away about now. Picken iii was best bowler in this innings. It may be noticed that most of the catches that went to hand were accepted on each side, the majority being taken at 'silly point' by Crebbin for the Red House and Duhan i for the others. Crebbin himself must learn to keep the ball down, when it comes to batting; it always seemed in the air whilst he was in. Macpherson ii grabbed his second catch very well in spite of a violent collision. Baily i, Lillingston and Radford ii were the most effective Mount House bowlers, though the first named did not meet with much success after the opening over. Full score :—

MOUNT HOUSE ("Little Game.")

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Jones ii, b Burnard ii	19	b Picken iii	4
Price, b Picken iii	0	b Picken iii	0
Baily i, b Burnard ii	17	run out	5
Wall, c Crebbin, b Picken iii	4	b Picken iii	0
Radford ii, b Burnard ii	4	b Picken iii	10
Duhan i, b Burnard ii	12	run out	8
Baily ii, c Crebbin, b Picken iii	1	b Picken iii	2
Lampard, run out	3	not out	15
Macpherson ii, not out	5	c Crebbin, b Burnard ii	0
Freeman, b Burnard ii	0	b Burnard ii	0
Spooner-Lillingston, b Burnard ii	1	b Burnard ii	3
Extras	13	Extras	4
	<hr/> 79		<hr/> 51

1st innings.	Red House.	2nd inning.	
Burnard ii, b Wall	0	not out	6
Kelly, run out	0	b Radford ii	1
Picken iii, c Lillingston, b Baily i	0	c Macpherson ii, b Radford ii	0
Crebbin, c Duhan i, b Baily i	0	c Macpherson ii, b Jones ii	7
Andrew, b Lillingston	1	not out	1
Knowling ii, b Radford ii	6		
Duhan ii, c Duhan i, b Lillingston	0		
Petty, c Duhan i, b Radford ii	10		
Hodge, st Jones ii, b Lillingston	0		
Perowne, not out	0		
Bolt, c Duhan i, b Lillingston	4		
Extras	7	Extras	1

Characters of Cricket XI.

* COLOURS.

ELLIOTT.* A fine free bat with plenty of hitting power in front of the wicket. Possessing a long reach and quick on his feet he makes nearly all his runs by drives. He has however a great weakness for the 'long handle,' and sacrifices everything to it. His back play is very uncertain and he has not much notion of cutting. His wicket has often been obtained cheaply because he is not at sufficient pains to play himself in. As a bowler he has a good easy action, with a high delivery. At his best he keeps a good length, and makes the ball break sharply from the off; he is however rather unsteady, and sends down many loose balls. A safe field. A keen but not quite ideal captain.

NORMAN.* The most consistent all round cricketer in the team. He is one of the few who always tries to learn something at the nets. As a bat he is gaining the confidence that comes with success. He hits well all round the wicket, and considering his size he gets a lot of power into his strokes. He is rather too fond of stepping back to cut off his wicket. His bowling has improved so much that it is questionable whether he should not have been regarded as one of the first pair. Earlier in the season he generally slightly over pitched the ball and his half volleys were expensive, but latterly he has bowled a capital length. He has a dangerous off break which he does not over do, but keeps as a 'head ball.' He can do a lot of work, too, without losing his steadiness. An alert and safe field.

YONGE.* At the beginning of the term his batting was disappointing; he did not pay enough attention to the important matter of balance, and cultivated a reckless sort of fling instead of a proper hit. By degrees however he was induced to moderate his 'Jack-in-the-box' style and he soon became one of the hardest wickets to obtain and finished the season in great form. He watches the ball carefully and is always thinking. A capital judge of a short run. At his best when things are going badly for his side. A useful wicket-keeper, but he has not yet learnt how to put the wicket down smartly.

PODE.* On this season's form the most promising bowler we have had for a long time. He has a good—rather alarming action, which he sometimes varies with almost a round arm; this is all very well once in a way, but is not worth cultivating. With plenty of pace he comes off the pitch quickly and turns both ways, especially from leg. He varies his pace with judgment, and remembers that he has a field. He takes a lot of watching, and bowls very few loose balls. His batting can hardly be taken seriously; it is more like elaborate fooling, and unprofitable at that. The sooner he tries to study other methods the better. Certainly he watches the ball very closely on to his bat, but as the said bat never meets the ball and is seldom anything like straight, and as his feet are invariably in the wrong position, he is as ineffective as he is unenterprising. Fairly safe field.

PAYN.* A very safe catch, and our best fielder. As a bat he has a great deal to learn, chiefly in the management of his feet and the distribution of his weight at the moment of making his stroke. He can however put plenty of power behind his bat, and with greater keenness to improve his game he might make a lot of runs. A discovery of this year as a very useful change bowler; he sometimes sends down a very awkward ball to play, but his pitch is generally too erratic. Perhaps the best wicket-keeper, when not required elsewhere.

SMITH.* At present he is a batsman with one stroke, which in itself might well be studied by other members of the team. This is a hard, crisp, drive all along the ground between cover-point and mid off; it is beautifully timed, with plenty of wrist, and with the left leg thrown well across. Unfortunately he is generally at fault with any ball which should be hit to the on, being inclined to shuffle his right foot about and not watching the ball closely enough. A yorker is almost always fatal to him. As a change bowler he sends down a very innocent slow ball, but is quite capable of taking a wicket or two if the batsmen take him too lightly; he has not come on in this department this year. In the field he does not look very alert and does not anticipate the batsman's stroke, but he has a pretty safe pair of hands. Can keep wicket.

JONES I.* Rather an ungainly bat with plenty of hitting power. He seldom makes a correct stroke, and the ball is too often in the air, but he plays with determination and can generally be depended on to knock up a few. Like our other exponent of wicket-keeping he is not exactly a 'stumper,' but takes awkward bowling pretty well.

BURNARD I. If he had only let himself go, as exhorted, he might by this time have developed into a good bat. As it is, we have far too often had the spectacle of this stalwart person scraping and scratching about on his crease, barely moving either foot or bat, and apparently suffering from a nervous breakdown. Every now and then he has shown himself possessed of fine hitting power, and he keeps a straight bat. A sound field.

CURTIS. He shapes like a batsman at the wicket, standing in an easy, correct position and watching the ball well; somehow, however, he has not yet acquired the knack of making many runs, probably because (like many others) he succumbs to a difficult ball without making any special effort to play it. Businesslike in the field, and a useful change bowler for a few overs.

MACPHERSON I. In the field he picks up cleanly and throws in hard and straight—longstop being his favourite position. A little too excitable as a batsman, he has no particular defence but opens his shoulders well at a half-volley.

PICKEN II. There is plenty of life in his batting and he is always doing something while he is in, and on the look out for short runs. He may be expected to improve greatly when he learns to take a correct grip of the handle. He might make a bowler one of these days. Not quite smart enough in the field.

D'ARCY a painstaking and improving bat, but no real use in the team till he can learn to throw in properly when fielding.

CHILCOTT. Plenty of promise. Hits very hard for his size and keeps the ball down pretty well, but he does not play at all straight; he should use a small and light bat. Fair field.

BURKE II. Bats in a rustic style, making little use of his wrists or of his left arm. Rather uncertain in the field.

EDWARDS. Has hitting power, which is quite wasted because he invariably draws away to make his stroke and thus throws away his wicket to anything like a good length ball. Too sleepy in the field.

COCKS i. A safe field, and capable of taking his turn as a change bowler. As a batsman he is becoming more enterprising and he watches the ball well, but he is still very stiff and, as he does not use his wrists for a preliminary swing back, his stroke has no beginning to it. A straight bat is his chief asset.

Red House News.

Owing to the fact that many of the boys were in quarantine on Sports Day, and also that the unfortunate weather brought the proceedings to an abrupt conclusion, the juniors this year held a sports day "on their own." An eager, anxious watch was kept for a fine half-holiday and although the clerk of the weather did not see fit to hurry himself to humour us in this little matter, in the end patience was rewarded and July 21st proved to be gloriously fine and sunny. By this time the whooping-cough germ had wrought more havoc among its victims so that only fifteen boys were able to take part in the sports, but those fifteen appeared to enjoy themselves just as much as if they had been present at the real Sports Day. The excitement was intense, the competition most keen and every boy ran his best. The 100 yds under 9 was easily won by Perowne.

The 100 yds over 9 was won by Andrew, and the most important and certainly the most exciting race of the day the 220 yds handicap was very well run in the final heat by Lewis ii. Other races run were the "Give and Take, Transport and the Relay.

Miss Segar acted as judge and Mrs. Cox distributed the prizes at the end of the proceedings. Cheers were then given for Mrs Cox, the Red House Staff and the boys and we all dispersed feeling that a most enjoyable and satisfactory afternoon had been spent.

The Red House Gardens have been most admirably tended this term, and the gardeners, under Miss Newman's able supervision, deserve much praise for the excellent

results achieved. Much gratitude is felt towards Mrs. Knowling who distributed the contents of a large basket of bulbs and plants to the boys in the Spring Term and it is largely due to this kind present that the gardens have been so gay and pretty this term. Mrs. Duke Yonge kindly judged the Gardening Competition at the Sports and awarded the prize (a set of gardening tools) to Andrew, whilst highly commending all the gardens.

London to Bombay per R. M. S. Nellore.

February 1915.

The Royal Albert Docks on a cold rainy morning in February do not form cheerful surroundings, to which may be ascribed the fact that the gallant Nellore left London with a very miserable looking lot of passengers about noon on 13—2—15. The first night we anchored off the Nore and did not commence our actual trip down the Channel till the next morning at 6 a.m. All that day we kept meeting Cruisers, Destroyers, Mine-sweepers, Torpedo Boats and Submarines both British and French. We were piloted through the mine area and escorted by Cruisers, and lay off Dover for some hours waiting for the other units of the convoy to assemble. Sunday night we spent lying off Portsmouth and on Monday morning we received permission from the Admiralty to proceed, which we did keeping touch with our escort by means of wireless and sighting Ushant the same night, the next land we saw was Spain which we sighted shortly before reaching Gibraltar on the 20th. We anchored three miles out, but those of us who had passports were allowed to land. I and my two friends spent a delightful couple of hours seeing such parts of the famous "Rock" as were open to visitors; of course the fortifications were very much forbidden ground, but we managed to see a good deal of the quaint old semi-Spanish town in the course of an hours' drive. The harbour is very strongly guarded by mines and booms, it was very pleasing to learn that the guns guarding the "Key of the Mediterranean" as Gibraltar is called, are the most powerful in the world. Two things reminded us vividly of the war, French men of war in the harbour coaling; and — most

pleasing sight — several fine ships lately the property of Germany but now British prizes. We reached Malta at dawn on Tuesday and were treated to a dazzling display of searchlights, for of course no ship is allowed to approach without the closest scrutiny. We were allowed ashore for three hours into which we managed to crowd the principal sights of the place ; the two most famous are the granaries in which are stored enough grain to supply the whole Mediterranean Fleet for seven years, and the Chapel of the Knights of Saint John. Here are displayed the banners of the old knights of this ancient order and the famous silver gates beside which are hung the keys of Rhodes. The streets in Malta are so steep that the pavements are cut out in steps to make walking about easier. On the following Friday we reached Port Said where we took in coal ; this is done here by hand, barges come alongside and very black looking Arabs rush up and down planks carrying baskets of coal. Imagine a couple of hundred big black men in clouds of coal dust rushing up and down narrow planks all of them shouting for all they are worth, and you will have some faint idea of what coaling at Port Said means. Here we got our first glimpse of Eastern life. We spent a very amusing time shopping and were regaled in the middle by cups of Turkish coffee ; as we had a collection of parcels we left them to be called for and went and had tea, sitting outside an hotel on the pavement. Directly we had settled ourselves various Arabs came trying to persuade us to buy their wares offering them at enormous prices, which directly we refused to pay they reduced by at least half ; we bought roses, violets and Turkish delight from them and then went off for a drive round the place. In the Arab quarter we were much struck by the amount of flies on everything, hordes of them, the Arab men were chiefly engaged in smoking-water pipes—the women walking about swathed in black which completely covered their faces leaving only a slit for their big brown eyes. We got back to the ship in time for dinner. All agreed that an afternoon spent at Port Said was well worth while. Rumours had been going round that we should not be allowed through the canal at night, but to our delight we heard it was considered quite safe and that we should start at 9-30 p.m. As it was full

moon we stayed on deck till eleven ; the canal is very narrow, and ships are only allowed to go at the rate of 5 or 6 knots an hour, otherwise the wash would ruin the banks which are all sand. We were on deck early next morning and we saw through our portholes various trenches and camps. We passed several entrenched camps along the canal banks in which we recognised Sikhs, Goorkas, Pathans and Dogras: further along we passed British and Colonial camps where we were able to give an emphatic " NO " to the ever fresh query " Are we downhearted " ? We saw many signs of the recent fighting, such as damaged trenches, burst sand-bags and smashed boats ; a reassuring sight was a British Battleship looking very business-like with her decks cleared for action. At Suez we took on more passengers ; these had left home for India two days before us but their ship had been commandeered as a transport, rumour said for the Dardenelles ; our ship only escaped a like fate owing to the fact that we were carrying mails. From Suez to Bombay the heat and the Southern Cross were our only excitements, the former fulfilled all expectations but the latter is most disappointing, for if you were given three guesses as to what it was you would never waste one by trying " cross." We reached Bombay on the 9th, five days late, all agreeing that our voyage from London had been a very interesting and not unpleasant experience.

A Civilian Passenger on a Transport.

August 1914.

Waterloo departure platforms are generally connected with bustle and confusion. Add to the ordinary every day crowd 1100 officers, plus those seeing them off ; dress three fourths in uniform and you have some idea of the scene at Waterloo, on the morning of the 11th August 1914. "How do you do-s" were hopelessly mixed with " Good byes " and to make confusion worse confounded, the " specials " proceeded to glide away, without any pretence of warning. In many cases, sorrowing relations' last impressions of their dear ones, must have been that of flying figures chasing a train down the over-crowded platform.

At Southampton dock, hot and tired " embarkation officers " were checking lists and allotting berths at an

astonishing rate. The instructions were to find your berth and then get your luggage taken to it. My ticket bore in addition to a number, the letters L.M.Q. On presenting this to the Head Steward, I was directed down a hatchway, to a row of cabins, each containing four berths ; two lower, two upper with a three foot space between and nothing else. Further investigation showed that L.M.Q. meant "Lower Married Quarters, i.e, those usually allotted to the wives of privates. The ablutionary arrangements consisted of two baths and a row of basins six inches apart. In short everything was on the same primitive scale.

The Mess-room naturally could not hold everyone and the overflow went to the Sergeant's Mess, it unfortunately over-flowed that, and if one was not over punctual to meals, it meant standing aside till the luckier ones had finished : a state of affairs which led to this mess being known as "the cormarants' feeding ground."

These were the conditions on the good ship H.M.T. Somali. On the second transport, the Dongolo, some Majors, all Captains and subalterns, lived on the troop deck, where they also fed. At night they fell in and drew hammocks, which they had to swing themselves. Sudden descents resulting in more or less painful bruises were the order of the day. On the Somali our troop deck was occupied by Sergeants who were detailed for various fatigues ; those engaged in scrubbing decks and the like, being designated the "Staff Housemaids," these performed their various and unaccustomed duties while the residents of the Lower Married Quarters were struggling for vacant baths and basins. A wet and soapy deck forms as slippery a place as any of the ungodly need fear and the "Officers' slide" soon became a feature of the day. The bi-weekly opening of the baggage-room afforded some opportunity of tracing missing trunks ; and more for exhibition of strength and initiative ; Fire drill and collision stations formed a pleasant break in the monotony of the day. During the lecture on the Fire drill the civil element was referred to as "Civilian gentlemen" a designation which perchance, as a reward for the intelligence displayed, was altered in the latter to "Civilian officers" !!! This supplied subject matter for

considerable forensic argument as to whether the altered nomenclature implied promotion or the reverse !!!

In addition to our daily marconigrams the topic of all absorbing interest was our chance of reaching Bombay as opposed to Berlin. The third day out we sighted a battleship on the horizon coming our way; the excitement was intense and every glass was turned on her to see her colours; the absorbing interest reached a climax when our engines stopped and we hove to. However, shortly after, the Tricolour became visible and we welcomed the French cruiser "Alsace" with a cheer which was doubtless due to the Entente Cordial but which sounded uncommonly like one of relief. Shortly afterwards we were hailed by a destroyer carrying the same flag and we had the pleasure of seeing her follow and stop a big liner.

We made Gibraltar in the early hours of the morning. It was weird and uncanny to see a destroyer glide past close to us in the darkness and then to be illuminated by a searchlight.

As darkness gave place to dawn the frowning Rock showed through the gloom. A boom stretched across the harbour and was supported by the forts above and torpedoed boats behind it. The whole scene could not fail to impress the most ignorant with the tremendous strength of the place.

Going into Malta, (the next port of call) at night one moment in darkness, the next blinded by the rays of searchlights was an even stranger experience. The picture of a night attack on such a place with its attendant dangers and difficulties was involuntarily conjured up by the imagination.

On going into the inner harbour the inevitable touch of bathos required to relieve the feeling of awe inspired by these real war conditions was supplied by a loud voiced Tommy shouting from an adjacent fort "about turn." It was a terse criticism on the Government of India policy of sending so many officers away from England at this time.

At Port Said many officers found orders awaiting them to disembark and proceed to Cairo. This was not the giddy irresponsible Port Said of old, it was chiefly a khaki clad busy Port Said.

Even the most aggressive types of the genus guide were contented to stand aside and look on.

Both at Port Said and Suez were a number of German ships not daring to move from the safety of a neutral port. Such is still the power of international law that a British destroyer lay only a few hundred yards from five large ships flying the German flag.

From Suez H.M.S. Chatham took charge of us, another weird experience. We with all our lights lit receiving orders by helio from the outer darkness. This state of affairs makes the rumour that we are playing the role of stalking liners to hasten the down fall of certain German commerce destroyers, sound highly probable.

Aden was reached in the early morning under the, (to us) accustomed conditions. Some war news was received and also an intimation that the Admiral was away in the flag ship and that we could not leave until his orders arrived.

Thirty hours at Aden duly impressed us all with the fact that we had arrived "East of Suez" at last, and that August is not the month to chose for the voyage for purely climatic reasons.

On leaving Aden the long roll of the Indian Ocean assured the most doubting that there had been monsoon winds. To war news and personal discomfort was added a third subject of discussion, the virtues of Mothersell or neat brandy as a preventative to sea sickness were fully gone into.

The second day out from Aden H.M.S. Chatam signalled "good bye" and "good luck" and turned about shaping her course West again.

Our only other excitement before the bustle and confusion of arriving at and departing up country from Bombay was a sight of seven transports and their guardian cruiser taking troops from India to — who can say where?

Our own time of inactivity is over and our sense of responsibility in this crisis must surely have been strengthened by being brought face to face under unique conditions with the realities of the task now confronting the Empire.

School Notes.

T. E. E. Cocks, for the last two years head of the School, has fittingly closed his career at Mount House by winning an open King's Scholarship at Westminster worth £87 a year. He was 2nd on the Election roll of 17 scholars and we confidently expect that he will maintain this high standard, judging by his past record here. He joined Mr. Cox at Garfield House, Devonport when he was seven years old, and his success now is largely due to the fact that his steady application has never failed, and he has from the outset made full use of his abilities and opportunities. Previous to going up for the Westminster Examination he tried for a House Scholarship at Marlborough, and was top of the list of Junior Scholars but just missed the House Scholarship by one place, most probably owing to the fact that he was very unwell at the time. We offer him our hearty congratulations on his fine performance at Westminster later in the term, and hope to hear of him in the Record again at no distant date.

G. O. Jones enters Osborne College next term, having passed in at the end of July, and we do not hesitate to prophesy a successful career in the Navy for him. He was second in the School class-lists this term, holding in addition the School Cups for Sports, Gymnasium, and Boxing. This constitutes a record, as no one has held three Cups together before, and we hope that it augurs well for his chances of becoming a "Cadet Captain" at Osborne in due course.

H. M. Elliott, (third in the class-lists) had a very bad piece of luck in being unable to pass 'the Medical' for Osborne this term, as he was in every way admirably fitted for a Naval career. However it was some consolation to him, and to us all, that he won a £30 per annum Entrance Scholarship at Bromsgrove School at the end of the term, which gave a very pleasant finish to his career (of six years duration) at Mount House

We shall miss many familiar faces in the Upper School next term, the Burkes are leaving for Castleknock College, Ireland, the Pellews for the Imperial Service College, Windsor, Burnard for Haileybury, and Marshall for Dunheved College, Launceston, whilst the Wrays and Forrest have also left the latter having had the bad luck (?) to be ordered a long holiday by the doctor after influenza. It is always sad when boys become 'Old Boys,' but we refuse to say goodbye to any of them, and hope that all will look us up from time to time and not forget to let us have news of their doings for the Record.

We offer our congratulations and thanks to Mr. Rhodes for the energy and zeal he has shown in all that concerns the Scouts since Mr. Clay left. Mr. Rhodes has now obtained his Scoutmaster's Warrant, and there seems every prospect of our troop going stronger than ever next term; certainly the younger Scouts will now have a chance to show what they are made of.

July 5th was an important day in our Scouts annals. The troop was drawn up in the field at 12-30 and Brigadier-General Edwards, D.S.O. personally presented the Colours to the Chief Patrol-Leader G. O. Jones who received them on behalf of the troop. The Brigadier then addressed the Scouts on the nature of their calling, alluding to his own Scouting experiences on active service, and emphasizing the necessity for keen observation and the exercise of common sense in all scouting operations. "Put yourself in the other fellow's place if you wish to stop his game, and in nine cases out of ten you will succeed" is a maxim worth remembering.

On June 24th the Rev. E. G. F. Macpherson, C.M.G., Senior Chaplain to the Expeditionary Force, gave us a most interesting lecture in the Gymnasium on the war. Mr. Macpherson was well qualified to speak having been ten months at the Front, three times mentioned in dispatches and that very day the honour of being made a Commander of the Order of St. Michael & St. George had been conferred upon him. Mr. Macpherson held us spell-bound as he described the retreat from Mons, and the almost miraculous endurance and heroism of our soldiers at that terrible time. Mr. Macpherson went out to France early in August last year with four regiments from Plymouth: the Gordon Highlanders, the 4th Middlesex, the Royal Scots and Royal Irish,—5000 men and 300 officers in all, and three months later only 150 men and 3 officers answered the roll call at the Front. Such facts bring home to us the terrible nature of the Great War, and Mr. Macpherson made us realize afresh that though victory would be ours eventually it would not be until each one of us has made many sacrifices, and each done their little bit to help. We felt very grateful to Mr. Macpherson for his kindness in coming whilst on sick leave, to talk to us and tell us at first hand of so much that was thrilling, which he had seen and taken part in.

The Rev. E. G. Machell Cox again came for the Sports this year, and as usual was most helpful and energetic. We are indebted to him for the photographs reproduced in the frontispiece of Brigadier-General Edwards presenting the Scouts Colours and the Scouts cheering him at the end of the ceremony.

We were proud to see the name of an "old boy" mentioned by Sir Ian Hamilton for "gallantry in action" during the early landings at the Dardanelles. Midshipman Sir J. S. Page-Wood was in the School for more than seven years and entered Osborne at Xmas, 1910. He went out to the Dardanelles on board H.M.S. Vengeance in the Spring.

H. W. Woolcombe has now gone to France with his regiment, the Plymouth Fortress Engineers T. F. It has been a great pleasure to us all to see so much of him lately, and we shall miss him at football next term.

Another old boy is now stationed in Plymouth, 2nd Lieut. R. Dawe, Devonshire Regt. and we hope he will join the game sometimes next term.

Lieut. Arthur Clarke visited his old school when back from the trenches this term bringing his wife with him. He is now with his Indian regiment in France. His brother Geoffrey is with his regiment in India, and we have to congratulate Frank on the prospect of being head of Kelly College next term. V. Ager also paid us a surprise visit, he is now 2nd Lieut. in the Royal Horse Artillery.

Lieut. J. C. Maclean, R.N. paid a flying visit this term. He had just been commissioned to one of the new Monitors and we hope when we see him again to hear more of this new type of ship.

L. Fox has won his 1st XI colours at Sherbourne, and G. Geake continues to do great things in the athletic line there. He beat three records in the Sports viz : Long jump (15ft. 7½ inches beating his own record of last year), 100 yards (time 13 seconds), 220 yards (time 27¾ seconds). This is a great achievement for a boy of fourteen, and we are very glad to hear too that his athletic success in no way interfere with his work in school.

G. B. Yonge continues to show progress in the field at Berkhamsted, especially at cricket and in the Corps. He was promoted (on the field) to the rank of Sergeant this term.

Our hearty congratulations to 2nd Lieut. T. E. Bowers and Miss Segar on their engagement. Lieut. Bowers is still in the north of England but hopes to go to the Front very shortly.

We publish an interesting letter from 2nd Lieut. Brodie in this number. In a note received a few days ago he says that he is hoping for a commission in the Indian Army (regulars) and does not expect to return to England. We think the Indian Army is much to be congratulated, but are sorry that the scholastic profession is losing so able a member.

2nd Lient. V. Clay expects to go to the Front with his regiment in September, and we are hoping to hear his first impressions next term.

It was a great pleasure to hear again from the Rev. C. E. De la Bere, now a stretcher bearer at the Front. His letter will be found in this number.

We understand that Mr. Stewart is returning from S. Africa with a Contingent having joined the R.A.M.C.

There will be several changes on the Staff next term. We are very sorry to say goodbye to Miss Reed, Miss Coward and Miss Segar. Miss Reed has been music mistress for fourteen years and many boys, past and present, owe much to her excellent teaching. Miss Coward has been at the Red House for two years and will be greatly missed, we feel that her special abilities as a teacher are being sadly thrown away in a bank, however, as circumstances necessitated her living at home for the present we wish her every success in her new calling as a bank-clerk during the war.

Materials for making sandbags were bought last term out of tuckshop profits and over sixty were made by the boys for Miss Tyler to send out to the Front.

The terms collections amount to for the French Flag Day £1 11 2¼ Church of England Waifs and Strays 7/10, and Universities Mission to South Africa 10/3½

We have to thank Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes very much for a beautiful present of books for the School Library. These will we know be very greatly appreciated and we gratefully acknowledge this kind gift.

Letters from Old Boys.

BERKHAMSTED SCHOOL,
HERTS.

June 18th. 1915.

My dear Mr. Cox,

I am afraid I have not written to you for a long time now. When I arrived back this term I found that I was head of Lower, rather a surprise. Since then I have been made a school prefect, I now can go up into the town whenever I want, and get teas and fruit. Yesterday the masters played the Inns of Courts, I was very much surprised when I was asked to play for them because they were a man short, I went in one from last and the last man and myself made a stand for 50 between us, I made 29 not out and he made 16 the rest were byes, we won 155 to 86.

On Thursday evening next there is a big recruiting meeting in the town here, the corps is parading with the band at 6-30. it ought to be rather interesting I think. I have been promoted to corporal this term. Every Monday we have field operations during the afternoon, last Monday, we had picket duty and your brother took the scouts and tried to find out our positions, he himself was captured. I had command of a reconnoitring patrol and had a very hot time on the whole, as it was about the hottest day we have had this term. We are having our annual Corps inspection on the 29th of June.

Last holidays I went in with one of the wounded soldiers to the military hospital. I saw several Mount House Scouts there including Morris. he was at Mount House when I was there, he did not recognise me as I was in uniform.

Yours sincerely,

GEOFFREY B. YONGE.

3rd WILTS, HUT ENCAMPMENT,
LITTLEMORE, BROADWAY.

DORCHESTER.

Dear Mr. Cox,

16-5-15.

I hope you are all well and are having a successful term. I have been here nearly a month now, and I like the life very much. We have got a very good place for our Camp, and we number 2,000 men and 100 officers, but we have several officers from the 7th and 8th battalions attached to us. Yesterday we sent out three Capts and three Lieuts and we have been sending about 300 men per week. I have heard from several of the boys, and I hear that you have 95 boys on the list. We have to furnish a guard of 30 N.C.Os. and men on the waterworks near here and I have been in charge twice. The senior Major here was a Scoutmaster and so were one or two of the other officers. Please remember me to the "staff." I will write again later on. I must close with the kindest regards to you and Mrs. Cox.

Yours sincerely

VIVIAN H. CLAY.

ARMY POST OFFICE S13

BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

Dear Mr. Cox,

July 16th, 1915.

Having settled down and had time to look round I think it is about time to send you a line of some sort, so here goes. The censoring here is very unrestricted. I am allowed to tell you where I am and that kind of thing, but of course I cannot tell you, in detail, what work we are doing or anything about the movements of troops (even if I knew them which I don't). As you know we left Friary at 7 o'clock on the Wednesday morning. We arrived at Southamton at 2-30 and embarked straight away, arriving at Dieppe next morning early. To our great disappointment, we were told that we had to stop at Dieppe so we were put into quarters there. After spending a week there the Company was split up into two and I and my half Company were sent to Le Tréport, a big base Hospital on the coast, about 20 miles North of Dieppe, where we are now. There are three hospitals here altogether, two under canvas one British and one Canadian and one (British) in a hotel. We are employed on odd repairs that want doing round the place. The men are living in tents and are as happy as sandboys. I have a room in a villa and live like a fighting cock. Up to now, we certainly seem to have picked out some soft billits, what with 'Gib' Plymouth and this place but no doubt we shall get our share of the hardships and I think we are all ready and waiting for them. The German South West Africa business is a good omen isn't it?

I am hoping to polish up my French out here as there is plenty of opportunity and necessity for speaking it, so look out for the

frenchy bits in my next letter to you. Many congratulations to you on your two scholarships, please congratulate Elliot and Cocks for me.

Yours very sincerely,
HUMPHREY W. WOOLLCOMBE.

TRURO COLLEGE,

TRURO.

Dear Mr Cox,

Monday, February 8th, 1915.

I did not write before because I wanted to get a good idea of the place first

On ordinary days we get up at 7-15, and go down at 8, when we go into breakfast and have prayers. We have assembly in the school-room at 9, and then go into our respective class rooms. I am in the fourth we have quarter of an hour's break from 10-45—11 and stop school at 12-30, dinner at 1, and school again from 2.15 to 4, tea at 5-30 and prep, usually known here as study, from 7-15 till 8-45 bread and butter is handed round after prep, and we toast it on the fire at the end of the room. We go to bed at 9 o'clock and lights out at 9-30. I joined the Debating Society We meet every Thursday evening. We played the Royal Fusiliers on Saturday and beat them 4-1. We play soccer here.

We also have a chess and draughts club which I have joined.

There are about 140 boys in the school now, 60 of whom are boarders. On Thursdays we can get permission to go down town on condition that our marks are all right, in referring to marks I mean conduct marks. We have 20 at the beginning of the week, if we lose more than 4 we get an hour's detention and each additional mark an extra half hour, Well Sir, I must close as it is nearly time for study.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT BOLTON.

24th FIELD AMBULANCE.

Dear Mr. Cox,

May 24th.

You will probably be rather suprised when you see the above address, and it will help to explain to you why your letter remained unanswered so long. As a matter of fact, I only recieved your letter the day before yesterday, as before being sent on to me it was travelling about England and went to one of my brothers who has exactly the same initials as myself. I received it a little more than a month after it had been written, so don't be furious with me for not having replied before.

I believe I last wrote to you last August, and very soon after, this ghastly war broke out; after some consideration, I decided, that as I had no actual parochial duties to do, which could not be dispensed with, as I was really just a supernumary, and working for an exam; that I would enlist. After a certain amount of waiting and delaying about, I was strictly forbidden by the Bishop to join any combatent force, so without waiting for any permission I joined the R.A.M.C., I have since heard that he has written appreciatively of my action.

I joined the Territorial R.A.M.C. (1st Wessex) as I thought that would be getting to the Front first and later transferred to

Kitchener's and then back again to the 1st Wessex, which has been renamed the 24th Ambulance

After messing about for some weeks at Salisbury Plain, we went to Winchester, where we were attached to the 8th Division. We finally left England on the 5th of November and were landed at Havre, where we stopped for a few days, and then were sent in large horse vans to the front, to a little town in Flanders just behind the firing lines. We had a fairly rotten time here all the winter, I can tell you, sleeping in remarkably dirty barns, and being half frozen the greater part of the time; but as we got more used to it, we made ourselves a bit more comfortable and now that the weather is so fine, it's not half so bad as it was. But still we are pretty well sick of it out here: the military duties are quite bearable, but the society (and there is no escaping from it in billets) gets fearfully boring and is far and away the worst thing to put up with.

We have had several pretty bad battles out here, especially Neuve Chapelle and Aubers Ridge and contrary to the usual ideas I think that our Ambulance work is almost as dangerous as any, as the stretcher-bearers have to go right into the first line of trenches and the Germans, as you'd expect, shoot at everyone indiscriminately. Out of our stretcher-bearers, we have had so far, three or four killed and about 15 wounded, I have figured in the latter list myself.

My brother is also out here, he is a Lieut. in the Connaught Rangers and he was wounded in two places at Ypres. After looking for each other for months we found one another just the day before he was wounded and sent back to England. Rather curious, wasn't it? I've been meaning to write to you for months, but one hasn't very great opportunities for scribbling out here and one has to keep up a steady supply of home letters; otherwise they think you're "blessé!"

I saw Brodie at the beginning of last summer, didn't he join one of the Territorial Regiments?

Will you remember me to Mrs. Cox, Miss Wimbush and Christopher? I hope all at Mount House are well, and shall always be glad to hear from you.

My address is:—Private C. E. De la Bere, No. 2110, 24th Field Ambulance, 8th Division Expeditionary Force, or through my home address.

With best wishes,

from, yours very sincerely,

C. E. DE LA BERE.

5th DEVONS,

MULTAN, PUNJAB.

8/4/15.

Dear Mrs. Cox,

Very many thanks for the copy of the Record which came in by the last mail. It was good to see all the M.H.S news again—and I was greatly impressed by the list of old boys serving—one didn't realise how old the School is until seeing Major — as an old boy. I see there is one Pte Eldred in the 5th Devons, I must find out whether he is out here or at home with the 2nd/5th—if he is out here I will find him out.

I have had quite a good time since I have been out here really, but it is rather dull in a small station. We have been disappointed

time again and now one takes absolutely no notice of rumours to the effect that we are leaving for France or Persia to morrow or next week or whatever the case may be. It is almost certain though that we should have gone by now but for certain happenings of which I mustn't speak, quite harmless I suppose in ordinary times, and quite normal, — but such is the censor.

Most of the battalion is staying down in the Plains for the hot weather but I have the luck to be going up to Dalhousie with the signallers. I have taken over the signalling job, and did a six weeks course at Meerut, where I had a very good but very strenuous time.

I can picture Mr. Cox having a perfect time with the birds out here — they are very numerous, very beautiful and very noisy. The parrot (green) is one of the commonest, he looks a very handsome fellow when flying with his long tail straight out behind he flies very fast and straight, but makes the day hideous with his screech. One can recognise quite a lot of English birds in foreign kit as it were — there is one bird for instance, very much like the jay, but out here he is much more brightly coloured.

I wonder if you saw that Col. Brooking is now a Brigadier General. He has the Poona brigade.

The wounded Indians who are back are extraordinary fellows they can tell you very little about the war. Their attitude towards everything is immediate and personal. There is one man for example who was shot through the neck, a marvellous escape from death, and is now paralysed on one side. He was asked a little while ago (about four months after he was wounded) if he was better. "Oh yes, sahib much better. Why, when I was hit I was unconscious for half an hour."

I went a week or two ago to a Sikh religious service of intercession on behalf of British arms. We took off our shoes and entered the temple where a hundred or so white clad Sikhs were squatting in the usual posture of the East. At a table one man, the gurn or priest was reading from their holy book, while two other men were engaged in fanning flies, one off the priest, the other off the book. He read on for nearly an hour, and whenever he came to a text that his audience knew they all chanted it. After this he prayed for a bit or preached a sermon. I didn't understand a word and don't know which it was meant to be. Anyway it touched one of the congregation, for one man got up and then squatted beside the priest and drew a handkerchief from his tunic. This he untied and from it took about ten rupees which he offered to the priest, who refused them. Thereupon a long argument ensued in which the priest allowed himself to be beaten. He then wrapped the rupees up, put them away in his tunic and went on with his praying or preaching. This ended a man got up and preached a sermon in English wherein he explained why it was that a Sikh was about thirty times as brave, as good looking, as loyal and as warlike as any other nation—especially Pathans. At the end of this we left. I was jolly stiff after an hour and a half squatting on the ground, and it was fearfully hot. We were fanned most of the time and every now and then we

were sprinkled with cold water. At times too they handed round a tray full of a queer kind of nut for us to eat. We had some fruit and things to eat with the native officers before leaving. One Jemadar of the Sikhs here is about the finest man I have ever seen—a fierce looking fellow but as gentle and courteous as can be.

Nobody of course has the foggiest notion of when we shall go home—that simply resolves itself into an argument as to how long the war is going to last.

With very kind regards to yourself and Mr. Cox, and every good wish, from yours sincerely,

W. H. BRODIE.

AGRA,
U.P.

31st May, /15.

Dear Mr. Cox,

I got a copy of the Mount House Record about a month ago, which you had sent to Mother and which she sent on to me. I was very pleased to get it and see what so many old Garfield Boys are doing. I am writing just to give you a little idea of what we are doing in this rather unpleasant country. We landed on the 9th Nov. in Bombay and went straight across India to Dum Dum which is a small place near Calcutta. We were there until the 15th of December when we were relieved by the 9th Middlesex ('T') and came up here to Agra. Which is quite a big station and we found the change of climate rather trying, having to wear overcoats and have fires in the evening during the cold weather though it is one of the hottest places in the world during the summer. There are a great many historical buildings scattered round, the Taj Mahal of course being far and away the finest though not nearly so interesting as the Fort. The Fort is built of red sandstone. The ramparts are 110 feet high in places. It contains some of the most beautiful palaces in India—built of white marble and inlaid with all kinds of coloured stones. The Pearl Mosque is built of absolutely plain white marble and is perfectly proportioned. The Fort is garrisoned by a company of R. G. A. and one company of B 1 which is changed every month. As far as work and training is concerned we don't get much chance. It is almost impossible to realize what an enormous proportion of men are employed in the various establishments and offices of the station. Just a few of the various employments which take men away from company parades are—police, guards, butchers, billiard markers, clerks, storemen, markers (on the range), pariah dog shooters, hospital orderlies and many others. One very seldom gets more than 50 men on parade. However we had one fortnight field training by companies when all employed were relieved. We spent a very energetic fortnight digging trenches etc. One peculiar thing out here is that we have to go armed to Church Parade. The men carry rifles, bayonets and 20 rounds of ball ammunition. Racks are provided for the rifles in the pews. This has been done ever since the Mutiny. During March we were put through Kitchener's Test a very strenuous proceeding as it was getting fairly warm even then (92 degrees in the shade). We started out at 4 one morning and marched 17 miles.

We then had an attack over ground seamed with nullahs 30 or 40ft deep with sheer sides. This was done with ball cartridge firing at targets which had to be discovered by scouts before the attack started. This brought us to about 12-30 when we marched back to the road and trenched. We rested till 3 and then put the camp in a state of defence, lining the defences from 5-30 till 11-30 and being attacked by the Agra Volunteers and the 26th Punjab's. We then put in a little sleep till 5-30 when we hit the road for home, my company being rear guard. Before we knew where we were we were attacked by the 26th Punjab's again and had to fight a rear guard action all the way home. It was a fairly warm and tiring 36 hours, however we only had 3 casualties all due to the sun. The men's pay is very insufficient, and the only word for the rations is beastly. The reason is that no regular is allowed out here under two year service when he is entitled to 6d. a day proficiency pay, very few of our men have more than 6 months service so of course they don't get it. As far as games are concerned, hockey is the principal one. It is played all the year round, even now, when the temperature gets up to 117 degrees in the shade and dust storms come along every four hours or so. Football (soccer) and cricket are also played but not nearly so much as hockey. There are 7 hockey teams in Agra alone so there is no difficulty in arranging matches. It is an exceedingly fast game out here as the ground, of course, is just like cement. The arrangements for keeping cool are just the oppoite to what they are at home. One shuts every window and blocks up every crevice to keep the heat out, about 9 in the morning and don't venture outside until 5 in the evening. Then there are things called cus cus tatties which are made of a certain sort of grass which soaks up water like a sponge. These fit into doors and windows and are kept continually wet by coolies throwing water on them. The breeze blows through them and is cooled by them. They are, of course, useless unless there is a wind. Parades in the hot weather are practically nil. They are from 5-45 to 6-45 and from 8 to 8-30. After that everyone goes home and shuts himself up for the day. I have been in Hospital for the last five weeks with fever, but have been alright for a fortnight now though kept in hospital waiting for a Board to give me sick leave. I hope to get 2 months so am going for a trip through the native state up behind Simla, (Kulu and Mandi). I might have got away at least ten days ago except for sheer red tape. I sha'nt get up to the hills now until the rains break I am afraid. I wonder if the 1st number of the Garfield Record is still extant, I remember distinctly being one of the staff of clerks who were employed to copy it out. I think Aplin, Blight and Sandercock were the others. I am very much hoping to come down and stay at Wembery again if we ever get home again and would like to come over and see the Mount House. I am afraid it will be a bit of a job to find anything to do after the War as it has messed up everybody's arrangements so hopelessly.

Please give my love to Mrs. Cox and to Miss Wimbush if she is still in Devonport.

Yours sincerely,

Roy. M. JERRAM