

Mount House Record, Plymouth.

VOL. VII.

EASTER 1916.

No. 1.

Editorial.

War and Weather have greatly exercised our minds during the past term. With all other Britons, we deplore the terrible price demanded by warfare, but we are proud of the righteous cause for which our Nation and Allies are fighting, and thankful that there is but one fresh name from our list of Old Boys to be recorded under the Scouting sign "Gone Home." It is a time when both teachers and taught should bear in mind that there is nothing more important to the Country than the way in which the rising generation develops its powers. We confidently hope for a new order of things, and a lasting peace, as the result of the mighty struggle; but it is the young of the present day to whom the reorganisation of the world will fall.

Neither War nor Weather has stood in the way of good work in the School, but the latter has sadly interfered with Football and Scouting. Music has flourished, and Chess has recently established its influence over all. The microbe of Mumps, which showed signs of aggressive intentions, eventually failed in its purpose; while that of 'Continental' Measles established a footing at Examination time, only to be driven out by our counter-attack, which was gallantly led by the Matron.

On the whole, we have the comfortable feeling that the term has been a successful one.

A Sub-Editor has been appointed and is herewith permitted to make his bow. This imaginary motion of the head has as much meaning in it as that of Lord Burleigh in Sheridan's "Critic"; for the reader will please understand it is to express devoted readiness to do all that is possible to lighten the burden so nobly borne by Mrs. Cox, upon whom the main responsibility has fallen for no

inconsiderable time. It also implies a determination (so far as lies in a Sub-Ed.) that honour shall be bestowed where honour is due, and the mirror held up to shortcomings, so that offenders may see, and mend their ways; it means a hope that those in authority will continue to do their duty without fear or favour, that Scouts will be true to their promise, that the character the boys acquire will be worthy of their country and the glory of their parents. It carries with it the best of wishes to all connected with the School. With this explanation the Sub-Editor retires gracefully into the unknown.

Football.

v. ST. GABRIEL'S CHOIR.

Played Jan. 29th. Won 5—3.

The ground was in a far better state than is usual for these matches, when the School winning the toss started uphill with the sun behind them. Mr. Sewell refereed. The visitors had all the best of the opening exchanges and Picken, who was very safe in goal, had some difficulty in clearing three times in as many minutes. A hard shot was only inches wide of the right post after Macpherson i had failed to stop a rush. Two corners against us followed and Picken saved well. Then we began to do our share of pressing. Pode struggled through but shot wide at close quarters. Most of the attacking came from the other wing, and presently after the defence had been drawn on that side the ball came across to Pode who was unmarked and scored easily with an open goal. Three minutes later Yonge gave a good pass to Smith who put in a fine centre, and Baily shooting without hesitation beat the goalkeeper (2—0). The school continued to press, and at last Yonge forced his way through in good style and scored. Soon after he again ran through the opposition, but his shot went straight at the goalkeeper who cleared well, and then St. Gabriel's with a determined dash down the left wing were too fast for the defence and scored (3--1). Pode missed a chance of increasing the lead before half-time. As usual St. Gabriel's were better together in the second half and quite held their own. Both goals were attacked before Yonge sent in a long dropping shot which the goalkeeper failed to get to. Pode

was putting in some hard work but he suffered from being very indifferently fed by Curtis at half, while Rimington was hardly doing his share at inside left. Yonge was nearly through again, when the goalkeeper ran out and saved well. Edwards was far too slow for the opposing left wing, and Picken had no chance with a hot shot (4-2). Another strong attack from the visitors looked threatening. Payn charged down a warm shot and a moment later Picken made a fine clearance. Yonge was again to the fore, and put through a cross shot from a difficult position. Not to be denied, St. Gabriel's scored again from a corner, a hard drive from a half back passing through a host of players; Picken appeared to be unsighted. Though ten minutes remained this proved to be the last goal of a very keenly fought game. Individually several of the visitors showed greater dash and speed than any of our players except perhaps Yonge, but the home side as a whole were slightly superior in combination though this was far from perfect still. Bailly and Rimington were experiments as insides - positions which seem very difficult to fill this year. Bailly certainly did well enough to deserve further trial, but neither could be described as hustlers, often not being properly on the move when the other forwards were attacking. Curtis was only moderately successful, being too deliberate and generally inclined to part with the ball without any definite idea as to its destination. Edwards does not put nearly so much vim into his play as in the games, and at times seemed almost bored. Macpherson was good, but sometimes at fault with his kick. Payn as usual was the mainstay of the defence and Norman was generally dependable. Pode had more than his share of work and generally seemed too hard pressed to centre. On the other wing, to which Yonge rightly paid more attention Smith took his passes excellently and his centres were well judged and very accurate. Yonge throughout played a very fine game, and not only scored three goals himself but was the pivot of all the attacks.

The School XI were :

Goal : Picken II,

Backs : Edwards Macpherson I

Half-backs : Norman I, Payn, Curtis

Forwards : Smith, Rimington Yonge(*capt*), Bailly I Pode

v ST. GABRIEL'S CHOIR,

Played March 18th, Won 4—2

For this match we were at full strength for the first time, though short of practice owing to the continued bad weather. Fortunately after a brief shower the day turned out ideal and the field was in good condition. Mount House elected to play up hill first. Both teams settled down to a very keen game and it was clear that our opponents had improved considerably since the last match. Each goal in turn was attacked, but St. Gabriel's generally looked rather more dangerous especially on the left wing. Picken cleared twice at very close quarters when a goal looked certain. Pode was working very hard, and Yonge and Smith put in some pretty combination but we did not seem very effective in front of goal. Yonge and Pode followed up a big kick of Payn's and nearly hustled the goalkeeper through with the ball. The St. Gabriel's Captain at full back was a tower of defence and kicked very strongly. In fact it was from him that the first goal came with a very long drive almost from half-way at the end of half an hour's play. Not long afterwards Curtis centred and Baily succeeded in rushing the ball through. A bad mistake of Macpherson's next let through the centre and Picken had no chance. A corner taken by Smith was fisted out, and half-time came with the score (2—1) against us. On resuming we did the larger share of the attacking. Pode put a left foot drive just outside and a shot from Curtis was caught and cleared. Then the ball went out to Curtis who returned well and Yonge fastened on to it and scored (2—2). Pode then shot hard and straight at the goalkeeper who cleared. Soon after our goal had more than one narrow escape. Edwards let through his man badly and Picken rushing out to cover his mistake missed the ball, which slowly rolled on towards the open goal, only to strike a post! After an attack at the other end, Picken again ran out and smothered a shot in the nick of time. Yonge was nearly through by himself but was pulled up before he could shoot. At last a hard shot from Baily gave us the lead (3—2); he obtained from a corner and steadying himself shot without hesitation, the ball striking the upright. Picken was slow and nearly charged through with the ball directly after, and a very

good shot was unlucky in not scoring; it rebounded from the post at a great pace. Yonge next headed a rush and the ball came out to Pode who made no mistake with his shot at close quarters (4 — 2). This proved to be the the last goal. Payn as usual was the mainstay of our defence, Norman being rather slow and Radford quite off colour. Macpherson i and Edwards put in some hard tackling, but their kicking compared badly with that of the opposing back. Picken's goal-keeping probably made the difference between winning and losing the match, which was excellently fought out. All our forwards worked hard, without any of them being quite at their best.

The following represented the School:—

Goal: Picken ii

Backs: Edwards Macpherson i

Half-backs: Norman i Payn Radford

Forwards: Smith Baily i Yonge (*Capt*) Pode, Curtis

Characters of the Eleven.

YONGE*—A good captain, setting an invariable example of keenness without being fussy. As a centre he has many excellent qualities. He passes out to his wings with judgment, but perhaps hardly keeps the inside men so well together. He is a good shot with either foot, and does not hesitate when he gets an opening. He makes good use of his pace and has an extra spurt which often disconcerts an opponent. He can dribble, but does not overdo it.

PAYN* (Vice-captain).—Always gets through a prodigious amount of work, not only in defence but in attack. He is much the safest tackler in the team and gets his kick in in any position. He feeds his forwards well as a rule, and uses his head. Perhaps a little too apt to get in the way of the full backs instead of passing back to them and keeping the man off.

SMITH*—At outside right he has played with much more dash this season, and has learnt to time his centres very well and places them with judgment. He combines

* Denotes 'Colours.'

better with his centre than with his inside right. His corner kicks are generally well taken.

PODE*—Played outside left most of the season, latterly inside. Always puts in a lot of hard work and has been most useful. Rather clumsy, but he often ploughs his way through the opposition without resorting to dribbling. He generally succeeds in scoring, but he has certainly missed more chances than his share, and needs much practice in shooting.

MACPHERSON i*—A very useful full back, watching his opponent well he often robs him of the ball by an opportune dash, but is not quite robust enough in his methods and his kick is not a very strong one for a back. In games he shows coolness in dodging the rush of a forward before parting with the ball, but in a match he seldom steadies the ball or takes it along a yard or two when no one is near. Ought to improve greatly next year with added confidence and strength.

EDWARDS*—A sturdy partner to Macpherson, playing well with him. Like him however he is not too strong a kick. He has learnt to recover quickly from a mistake and hustle a forward off his shot. He does not always use his weight so well in matches as in games.

NORMAN*—A sound right half. He puts in some very useful work, but a little too slow and not enough of a hustler. He should practise heading. He can take a corner well.

CURTIS*—Our original goalkeeper he eventually proved much more valuable as outside left. Not quite fond enough of taking the ball on himself he is apt to part with it too soon, but he centres strongly. His corner-kicking is remarkably accurate.

PICKEN ii*—An immediate success as a goalkeeper when as a last resort he was taken out of the forward line. He keeps very cool and has the invaluable knack of anticipating the direction of a shot at close quarters, and he runs out with judgment and pluck when necessary. Rather slow to get in his punt, and no good at present for kicking off from behind.

BAILY i*—Only discovered late in the season. He promises to be rather a dashing forward; he moves quickly and never 'messes about' when within shooting distance. He

has a nice clean kick, and when he learns to control the ball better and to combine he will be really good.

RADFORD i—At left half he is useful on his day, but rather unenterprising and decidedly slow.

LEWES—Had a good trial as an inside forward, but he did not quite earn a place in the team. Always a hard and plucky worker, but clumsy. He cannot shoot and rarely makes a clean kick.

CHILCOTT—Should be very good when he grows a bit. He moves quickly and controls the ball well, and is learning to pass.

MACPHERSON iii—At present he does not fit into the team because he cannot keep his place and is too fond of sticking to the ball, but he is a glutton for work and individually a clever player.

The Eggbuckland Runs.

On Tuesday, Feb. 22, we had a novel experience in a dreary month, for it was *fine*; and the day was made further memorable by the special event of the afternoon.

The recent rains, with a frost at night, followed by a hot sun in the morning, had made the field quite unfit for football, so that some other kind of recreation was needed. This took the form of a run of about three miles, to Eggbuckland and back, the road to be taken on the outward journey, and the return to be made by the paths across the fields. The runners were divided into senior and junior sets, the dividing line being fixed by the known or supposed powers of the boys. The juniors started off at 2-30, and the seniors five minutes later. The latter were put upon their mettle to overtake the former, the ultimate victory of either party to be decided by the aggregate of points gained individually on their successive arrivals home.

The result showed that too liberal a start had been allowed; for many of the juniors proved themselves to be possessed of unsuspected speed and staying power, while several on the other side from whom much had been expected were found to be unequal to the occasion.

For purposes of a report we went out in advance,

and selected two points of observation, the first being some two hundred yards beyond the "Rising Sun," at a position where we could see the runners emerge from a bend of the road from home. The juniors came along in fine style, making the most of the downhill start, and, when they passed us in the early stage, the leading batch included Pedrick, Lewes, Wimbush ii, Andrew, Finlaison, and Macpherson ii, while D'Arcy and Wall brought up the rear.

Very little of the five minutes interval had been made good when the seniors reached the same spot, headed by Macpherson iii, and Rimington, and tailed (so to speak) by Payn and Pode. Indeed to the looker-on it seemed clear that the majority were taking things too easily, and leaving too much to the later stages for overhauling their agile opponents.

The second point of observation commanded an open view of Eggbuckland and the intervening valley, across which the well-fenced paths led the runners on their return. We had traversed the last section of path and stood at the base of the high stone steps, where we had to face the wild North Easter that was blowing. It was something of a relief to us to find that the juniors were well on their way home, and it was not long before the first man, Pedrick, had accomplished the greater part of the climb and reached us. He was leading easily, but Finlaison was going strong in second place. Just after these two had passed, we noticed the first appearance of 'Colours' (seniors) in the distance, at the village end of the path, amongst the tail of 'Plain,' so that the chances of an even finish seemed at the moment good.

It was a stiff hill to breast, and naturally a matter of walking for most. The next eight that came up were Wimbush ii, Macpherson ii, Lewes, Knowling i, Burnard, Crebbin, Petty, and Andrew—all Plain; 15th in order came the first of the Colours. Macpherson iii, who at that point had overtaken four of his opponents, Hodgess, Brownlow, Wall and D'Arcy. The next two Colours were Marescaux and Rimington, and the last two Wimbush i and Edwards.

Mr. Cox, who had come out half a mile or so to see how things were going, sighted the leading man

uncomfortably near home, and had to beat a hurried retreat, in order to record the times of arrival at the finish.

Pedrick came in first, a minute and a half ahead of Wimbush ii, who himself beat Finlaison by a minute. The next seven were Lewes, Macpherson ii, Knowling i, Macpherson iii, Crebbin, Petty and Andrew. The last-named, it was afterwards found, had been selected as a senior, but, had failed to listen to instructions, and ran with the wrong set. Next came Carroll, Macpherson iii was the only one of the Seniors whose determination proved equal to a place in the first ten, and the Juniors won the competition with plenty to spare.

There is no need to give a complete list of the arrivals, but it was reasonably expected that some of the bigger fellows would have done better than they did. Some were temporarily out of condition, but many seemed too complacently to accept the fact that there was a tough job before them, and refrained from extending themselves.

The three best times on each side, given in minutes were—Juniors, Pedrick 29, Wimbush ii $30\frac{1}{2}$, Finlaison $31\frac{1}{2}$, Seniors, Macpherson iii 29, Marescaux 31, Rimington $31\frac{1}{4}$. Considering the nature of the run, many performances were distinctly good.

Bad weather made another run expedient on Tuesday, Feb 29, and it was duly carried out, over the same course. but the ground was very heavy, and there was not that nip in the air which brings a natural desire to extend one's limbs, so that it seemed hardly likely that the pace would be as good as on the former occasion. There proved however, to be something more potent at work, as the recorded times will show; and Class A (corresponding to the "Seniors" in the last account) redeemed their reputation by winning the Competition. A few changes were made in the composition of the classes, and the start given to B was reduced from five minutes to four. As it turned out, the scores of the two sides would have been more level if the latter change had not been made.

The first point of observation was near the tall chimney on the Eggbuckland Road, and the second at the

end of the path, where it comes out on to the road, about half a mile from home.

The following lists of order will show how the runners fared on the way :—

	At 1st point	At 2nd point	Home
Class B	Carroll	Pode	* Rimington
	Duhan i	Carroll	Pode
	Pode	Crebbin	Crebbin
	Radford ii	Duhan i	* Macpherson iii
	Andrew	Andrew	Carroll
	Crebbin	Rimington	Andrews
	Clark i	Macpherson iii	* Macpherson ii
	Brownlow	Macpherson ii	* Pedrick
	Wimbush i	Baily ii	* Macpherson i
	Croft	Pedrick	* Yonge
	Hodgess	Yonge	Duhan i
	Gittings	Macpherson i	Baily ii
	Leest	Price	* Chilcott
	Aikman	Finlaison	* Finlaison
	Freeman	Radford ii	* Baily i
	Knowling ii	Lillingston	* Wallace
	Price	Chilcott	Radford ii
	Baily ii	Baily i	Price
	Edwards	Smith	* Smith
	Wall	Wallace	* Lillingston
	D'Arcy	Wimbush i	* Marescaux
	Lillingston	Gittings	* Curtis
	Pedrick	Knowling ii	* Lewes
	Rimington	Leest	Wimbush i
	Macpherson ii	Freeman	* Lake
	Macpherson iii	Hodgess	* Wimbush ii
	Curtis	Croft	Gittings
	Yonge	Marescaux	* Knowling i
	Smith	Curtis	Knowling ii
	Macpherson i	Lewes	Leest
Class A	Marescaux	Wimbush ii	Hodgess
	Chilcott	Knowling i	Croft
	Wallace	Lake	Freeman
	Finlaison	Edwards	Edwards
	Baily i	Wall	* Payn
	Wimbush ii	Brownlow	* Burnard
	Knowling i	Clark i	* Radford i
	Lewes	Aikman	Clark i
	D'Arcy	Radford i	Brownlow
	Payn	Payn	Wall
	Radford i	Burnard	Aikman
	Burnard	D'Arcy	D'Arcy

* Class A

Rimington must be particularly commended for his most creditable performance, while many others may be well satisfied with their places. The best times were—Rimington 27 minutes, Macpherson iii $27\frac{3}{4}$, Macpherson ii $28\frac{1}{2}$, Pedrick 29, Macpherson i $29\frac{1}{2}$, Yonge 30.

Ursina.

(II)

The Bear, pursuing his wonted habits, has watched the man-cubs with mingled feelings, often indulging in a dance upon his hind-legs for joy, and occasionally regretting that he has no tail to gnaw, in his vexation and disappointment. But this is ever the way with those who look with longing eyes to see their efforts bearing fruit. On the whole he has reason to rejoice over the many, and still has hopes that the few may be reclaimed. All must walk warily in the jungle of life, and the old must be patient in their training of the young. Let the cubs not only learn the law of the jungle, but keep it—in other words let the Scouts (and thankful we are for so many among us) ever remember the law they have promised to steer by—and the way of life will be a perpetual joy to them. And by so doing they will give old Bruin the glad feeling that he has not lived in vain.

The Easter term, as a rule, provides least to record ; and it is well on this occasion that it is so, for our magazine is well provided with "copy," and Ursina notes must be short.

There has been many a grumble over the weather ; but it must be remembered that in Old England you can never be sure of a bad day, Summer or Winter—and that cannot be said of all countries. And it is Spring ! Think of that. " In the Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to " —poetry, amongst other things. Strange that the Bear, in his wanderings among the trees, should chance upon an envelope, dropped apparently by some pensive poet ! The contents are now published in the hope that the writer may thereby recover his property. But it must be explained that one corner of the said envelope had been

carried off or swallowed by some creature. We have heard men-folk make mention of a mariner and his mate who "liked ends," but we feel sure that the worthy son of Neptune who dwells nearby is above suspicion in the matter. No, it must have been one of the ubiquitous fowls, or possibly a rat, or maybe one of the H.M.'s. singing-bird friends who wanted material for a nest. Anyhow the loss of a corner is unfortunate, for the result is that, since eight papers were placed inside, and each contained a verse, the last word in each case is missing; and this last word appears unhappily to be the key-note of the whole. But it may chance that some readers will be clever enough to supply the lost words, which seem to be names. We give the verses as discovered :—

A boy of many parts as well as magnitude we know,
Who might, if but he *would*, in work make such a
splendid show ;

But wasting time, with prattling wit the sacred muse
cajoling,

He may, alas, too late awake ! His name, can it be——?

"Beware", we say in caution, but in quite a friendly way,
To those who would excel in work, (and take their share
of play):

Yet again, " Unless you think it right to gaze into the air,
And suck your pen, and flop about, be *anything* but ——

Form iv contains so many that a poet might describe
In numbers glad or mournful—they're a most perplexing
tribe ;

But the most incomprehensible, most up-and-downish
person

Of all that gallant lot we think to be the third ——

We have spoken above of a Poet, and the writer of these lines appears to regard himself as one. Well, well, we must not expect too much, and we wish him good luck. But whoever may be the subjects of these verses (lost to the world through the carelessness of the bard himself) it may perhaps strike some that his remarks have a touch of unkind ridicule about them. But no, Bruin knows by instinct that it is, on the other hand, a benevolent desire to

rectify some little failings which stand in the way of the progress of certain boys, and hence of their true happiness. There are more ways than one of doing a good turn.

The remaining four verses are headed "A Fragment," and so must not be regarded as a finished work. They are of a different order, but have suffered in the same way as the others. They read as follows :—

Who, under cloak of pleasantry,
Midst problems of Geometry,
Conceals a taste for roguery ?

Miss ———

Who often takes the 6th Form book,
And leaves it in some hidden nook,
Then eyes us all with injured look ?

Miss ———

Who loves to fashion Booby-traps,
With cushions, or with books perhaps,
Which on the heads of friends collapse ?

Miss ———

Who seeks to earn resentful odes,
Creating daily episodes
Of pain and grief to Mr ———

Miss ———

We wish we knew the name of the lady, who seems to be rather a desperate character ; for then the Ancient would endeavour to soften her treatment of the poor innocents around her. We feel that no "resentful odes" would be admitted by the Editor, and we trust that the grievances will be removed.

And now for a special word to our noble Scout patrols whose names are welcome to ursine ears. Kangaroos, you have the power of prodigious leaps, and we look to you to lead the way over the course which all are treading. Otters, we trust to you to show us the way breastforward through all the streams of difficulty that may beset us. Owls, kindly guardians of the night, yours it is to keep eyes ever open, that we may be free from creeping things that might enter to our hurt. Jackals, what shall we say to you ? for we like not altogether the sound of you. But we remember having heard a tune, "They *all* love Jack,"

giving a meaning to your name. There is good in everything, even in a bad pun ; and we hope you may deserve the sentiment expressed, by your chivalrous demeanour to your neighbours.

The Old Bear disappears again for a space ; but remember he is ever on the watch.

BALOO.

In Memoriam.

Second Lieut. Walter Brooking. Royal Field Artillery, attached Royal Flying Corps, killed in action whilst Flying over the enemy's lines near Tourcoing, France, on January 19th 1916, Aged 18 years.

We deeply regret to announce the death of 2nd Lieut. Walter Brooking, only son of Brigadier General H. T. Brooking, C. B. and Mrs. Brooking, who was, for eight years, a boy at Mount House. He entered the school under Miss Tubbs, when he was six years old, and left Mr. Cox at thirteen and a half, on entering Wellington College— He passed into Woolwich from Wellington in Dec : 1914, and passed out 3rd from the top of the list in Oct. 1915. being given a Commission in the R. F. A. He did not, however, join the Artillery, as five of the Wolwich cadets were recommended by the Commandant of Wolwich as observers for the Royal Flying Corps, and. he was the first to be selected. He went to France on Dec. 20th last, and his own letter, written to Mr. Cox only the day before he was killed, gives a vivid picture of what his experiences were during that one short month, which he spent at the Front. He met his death in an air battle when out as an Observer on an Army Reconnaissance. Four British Machines were together, when, over Mayscon, north of Roubaine they were met by a number of German machines, and had to fight their way through them— The machine in which Brooking was, was hit, and was seen to glide down by one of our observers.

For a fortnight Brooking was reported as missing, then the following message was dropped in our lines by a German airman — "Bristol byplane, shot down near Tourcoing 19/1- observer. Lieut Brooking, killed." At first his place of burial was unknown, but since then official news has been received, through the American Embassy, that he was buried at the cemetery of Neuville-en-Ferrain, near Tourcoing, not far from Lille. His commanding officer writes of him :—"I was very sorry to lose the boy, as he was a very keen officer and was going to do well, he was also very popular in the Squadron, owing to his charming manners and high spirits." It is no surprise, to those who knew him at school, that even after one month only in the Air Service, Brooking should be spoken of in this way. He had abilities very decidedly above the average of which he made the fullest use, and, had he been spared he was bound to have made his mark in the Army. In spite of being an only son he was singularly unselfish and thoughtful for others, and very affectionate. His influence could not fail to be for the good (unconsciously to himself) of those around him, and of his courage there is no need for us to speak. Few boys of eighteen, even in this war, have had more opportunities of showing what they were made of, in four weeks of service at the front, than he, and, "when he was weighed, he was not found wanting"—We should like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the School, of expressing our deep sympathy with his parents and other relatives in their great sorrow. Below is given an extract from a letter from Brooking to Mr. Cox written on Jan. 18th, 1916, the day before he was killed.

"I had rather bad luck at Woolwich, as I smashed my arm rather badly, I had to drop a term, however I managed to pass into the R. H. A. in October, but the War Office asked the Commandant to recommend 5 cadets for observers in the R.F.C. and I was lucky enough to be one of the five. So here I am in France and am feeling quite a hardened warrior by now. It is awfully good sport and I love it. We find it rather a strain, and I suppose it is natural, as we are always heavily shelled all the time we are up—I always wonder why more machines aren't brought down, as the Germans are awfully good shots and pour a continuous hail of shells all round us. They seem to burst awfully close

without hitting us. Our closest shave was one on top of our wing tip, five yards from our heads, but, as it burst upwards, it didn't touch us, but just made us rock a good bit. Much the best fun is an air-fight— The Huns very rarely come up to fight unless they can have a superior number, but, a good air-fight, is top hole. In most cases the Hun clears off after a bit, after having a cheery little dust up. One of their monoplanes — a fokker — is rather a beast. He is very fast, and often brings down English machines. However two of theirs were crashed yesterday, and we lost some too I'm sorry to say ”

School Notes.

We were very glad to be able to give a good deal of news about Old Boys in last terms RECORD. We hope that boys, past, present and future, will bear in mind the great pleasure it is to us to keep in touch by means of our School Magazine with old friends in this way. We all lead busy lives in these days, and it is difficult to find time for correspondence perhaps, but those who have not the pen of a ready writer may note that much interesting information can be communicated on a post card.

We wish to apologise for an error in the “ List of Old Boys and Masters Serving ” in our last number. R. H. Dawe, 2nd Lieut., 5th Devons, should read R. H. Dawe 2nd Lient., Devonshire Regiment.

R. B. Picken has again distinguished himself in the School boxing at Clifton College, being winner of the Bantam Weight event this term. It is interesting to note that in the final he came up against Godfrey Clarke another old Mount House boy, who is also at Clifton. R. B. Picken had had luck over the Long Penpole (the Clifton College cross-country race). He came in 9th last year, and this year there was every prospect of his being very near the winner. He actually led for the first three miles and then was laid low by a violent attack of cramp for many minutes. In spite of this he pulled himself together, and finished 19th. T. Lakeman came in 27th.

R. Bolton writes cheerfully from Truro College, where a contingent of the O.T.C. has been formed.

Mr. J. R. E. Howard writes from Forrest School where he is still a master, having been rejected as medically unfit for the army.

Ronald Fox (Garfield) is Captain of his house team at football at Sherborne and has also got his xxx blazer, his house cap for Cricket and his 2nd xi School cap for Cricket last summer.

K McMillan writes from Clayesmore, where he is a prefect. He has just tried for a commission in the R.F.C. but is obliged to wait until he has turned eighteen.

C. P. Wakeham has just got an Indian Army Cadet ship (Quetta) from Dover College, being 12th in a list of 74 successful candidates. He was at Mount House for many years first under Miss Tubbs then under Mr. Cox, and took a Scholarship at Dover four years ago. Many congratulations to him from us all on taking so high a place, as he was very young to take the examination. We hope to hear more of his doings when he gets out to the Military College Quetta

R. E. S. Ferguson has done well in the Sports at Kelly College. He won the Senior Steeplechase ($5\frac{1}{2}$ miles), the Open Mile (time $5\frac{1}{2}$ minutes) and the Half Mile. Hitchens another old M. H. boy won the Quarter Mile.

W. P. Bennett passed out of Dartmouth 3rd in the final Exam. at Xmas we have not heard what ship he has joined, but live in hopes that she may put in at Plymouth one of these days and give us a glimpse of him.

Lawes Wittewronge is still at Blundell's, he ran 3rd in the "Russell," the Open School Steeplechase there, this Spring.

We publish elsewhere a letter from Jim Clarke who gives an interesting description of his voyage out to India

last autumn to join the Military Cadet College at Wellington, Madras.

Lieut. C. R. Pawsey, Royal Wocester Regt., an old boy of Garfield days has been awarded the Military Cross.

R. Rolston (Garfield) who joined the Public School Corps at the outbreak of war and has served some months as corporal in the trenches, has come home to join the Officers Cadet Corps with a view to a commission in a few months time. His brother L. Rolston after a course of training with the O.T.C. has now got a Commission in the R.G.A. being one of the eight to be accepted out of fifty applicants.

We have received news of the following old boys who were here with Miss Tubbs at Mount House. R. B. Munday is now an officer in the Royal Flying Corps.

Surgeon M. H. Langford D.S.O. has been decorated for conspicuous courage in saving life on board the "Inflexible" when that ship was struck by a mine in the Dardenelles. Lieut. Eustace Grenfell has won the Military Cross for bringing down three enemy aeroplanes. Lieut. Kendrick Hamilton-Jones has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous courage in the field in France.

It is a great pleasure to offer once more congratulations to two of our Navy candidates; news having just been received that T. W. Curtis and P. G. Smith have passed the entrance exam and will join G. Marescaux, M. Norman, G. O. Jones, and K. J. D'Arcy at Osborne, next term.

We had another welcome visit from the Rev. E. E. Machell Cox at the beginning of the term when he came down to bring his boy to the Red House for the first time. His visit was celebrated by a three-ball football match, in which some old boys also took part. M. and J. Moggridge, C. W. M. Cox, and H. M. Elliot. The game was full of energy and excitement, although not always orthodox perhaps from the ordinary football point of view, and the number of goals scored was prodigious. The sides were

A—K and L—Z which resulted in decisive victory for the first half of the alphabet, Mr. Cox and his brother, and our last years 'footer' Captain, H. M. Elliot, proving rather too strong a combination, though the other side put up a very good fight.

The Rev. E. E. J. M. Cox had a very trying experience soon after his return home, when a Zeppelin raid took place in his parish. Twenty-three bombs were dropped in a very small area, and Mr Edmund Cox himself had a very narrow escape indeed and the east window of his church was completely destroyed.

We have had a colder spring term this year than for many years past, and more than once snow has lain on the ground. On February 25th we had a snow fight. A snow fort was built in the field, and some fine battles took place between boarders and day boys, resulting in victory for the boarders 3 games to 1. In the first game boarders drove day boys from the field, in the second and third games Lewis I and Knowling I respectively captured the enemy's flag.

On the 28th of February, Plymouth indulged in a Zeppelin scare about 8-30 p.m. As a matter of fact the Zeppelins never left their native hangers, and the mistake arose from an Exeter telegram announcing "Zeppelin test" being reported as "Zeppelin west" However for an hour or more all Plymouth including the military authorities believed the alarm to be genuine— The boys from both houses were got up and assembled in the Mount House kitchen without delay, as being the safest place under the circumstances, where stories read aloud from the "Jungle Book" whiled away the time— About 10 p.m. news was received that it had been a false alarm, and we sought our beds once more after quite an enjoyable evening.

We are very sorry to say goodbye this term to Pode, Smith, Edwards, Curtis and Gittings. We hope, however, that the RECORD will not be forgotten by any of them, and that we shall have the pleasure of hearing from them before long. Pode is joining the "Conway," Smith and

Curtis are going to Osborne, and Edwards to Haileybury. Gittings, who has the misfortune to be a very bad traveller, is going to school close to his home in Essex.

Owing to an outbreak of German—or shall we say “alien”? measles at the end of term, there were no exams, and the term was inclined to rather “fizzle out” in consequence. The complaint was exceeding mild, but that made it none the less trying for those unfortunates who were not allowed to return home on the right day. However all got off eventually, only Radford ii being kept over the first week, with Matron, who nobly bore him company.

THE great event of the term was, of course, the Chess Tournament, but that is so fully reported on elsewhere, —(even a book on the subject has been added to the School library)—that I will not enlarge on it further here. The keenest interest was shown by the competitors throughout, and it is hoped that this is but the first of many such contests. Many congratulations to Smith and Pode who were bracketted together for 1st Prize in Class A, and to Yonge who won 1st Prize in Class B.

Since August 2nd, 1914 we have unhappily missed the services of Bullen, who, being in the Royal Naval Reserve, was called up on that date. After trying one or two “ineffectuals” he was replaced for the time by “Long Tom,” (who helped to build the masters’ wing). Now “Long Tom” who has been called up under the “Derby Scheme,” has joined the R.G.A. and is at present stationed at the Citadel. It was quite a shock to see him in military uniform,—in his big khaki overcoat he looked quite 8ft high! He cannot fail to strike terror to the hearts of the Germans we feel sure. The problem of securing a useful man becomes more and more difficult of solution when every able-bodied man is needed, and our energetic Scoutmaster suggests “why not do without one during the war?” After some discussion it has been decided to give this scheme a trial. There is a wide-spread feeling in these days that boys should be trained to be practical as well as learned (?) and athletic at school, and in some cases parents have asked that their sons should learn at school

how to make themselves generally useful when they return home for the holidays. The boys themselves have welcomed the idea with enthusiasm, and next term, led and organized by Mr. Cox and Mr. Rhodes we think our large troop of Scouts will quickly prove that "many hands make light work," and we fully expect that we shall really find ourselves more spick and span on the premises than usual in consequence.

At the end of the term the Singing Class entertained the Staff to a short concert in the Fifth Form room. The progress made this winter is most remarkable and does both teacher and taught the greatest credit. The boys have shown real keenness and worked hard, with the result that they have gained confidence in themselves and learnt how to use their voices, which have grown rounder and fuller in the process. A start too has been made on part-songs this term. The altos are promising and will improve very much as they grow more sure of themselves. The Programme given was varied, and included "Forty Years on," "The Angel," "Old Towler" and one of Scott Gatty's delightful plantation songs. All were sung with taste and expression and it was a great pleasure to listen to such delightful music.

The Red House boys' gardens have, as always, been most excellently tended, and have made a good show with spring flowers.

Curtis and Edwards have been awarded their colours for football this term.

The Editor wishes to apologize for an unintentional omission from the list of prizes given at the Christmas Prize-giving. The Rev. C. W. H. Sewell very kindly presented two prizes for Scripture, won respectively by R. G. K. Knowling and H. G. Brownlow.

On March 25th a wedding took place from Mount House Lodge, when Miss Elsie. J. Bullen, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bullen, was married to Private C.W. Anderson of the New Zealand Contingent. The ceremony took place at St. Gabriel's Church and an address was

given by the Rev. C. W. H. Sewell. The bridegroom, who was wounded some months ago in Gallipoli, has been ordered to return to New Zealand for home defence, and he and his bride sail for New Zealand on April 16th. Our best wishes go with them to their new home. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a white silk dress and hat with a beautiful white bouquet, and, as she left the Lodge, she was speeded on her way by a shower of confetti and a rousing cheer from the boys.

The ladies on the Staff are to be congratulated on having made some beautiful bed jackets for the Plymouth Red Cross Depot on Tuesday evenings this term.

Contributions have been sent to the following from School this term: French Red Cross 5/-; Universities Mission to Central Africa 9/5; C. of E. Waifs and Strays Society 14/-; Children of the Empire Fund, in memory of Lord Roberts £2.

A suggestion was made by an old boy last term, and is seconded by another in a letter which we publish in this number, that some old boys might care to subscribe regularly for the "Mount House Record." It has been our custom to distribute copies amongst old boys as far as possible, but it becomes increasingly difficult to do this to all as time goes on. So, if any wish to avail themselves of this suggestion, a list of subscribers will be kept and the Magazines forwarded, post free, for 1/6 per annum.

Scouting.

Another chapter in the life of the 2nd Plymouth Troop has to be recorded, and it may be said that the Scouts have acquitted themselves well upon the whole. For they have turned out smartly on all occasions, have exhibited the same keenness upon passing 2nd Class tests, and are always ready to undertake any special work for which their help is invited. Yet we must admit a certain degree of disappointment over the feeling that too much of the individual sense of discipline and honour is put off with the uniform. We cannot set our ideal too high in this matter

If the solemn promise that is made by a Scout at his investiture is not to have a real influence on his every-day life, it were better indeed not to make it; and we have had the sad experience during the term of the removal of a name from our list, by a Court of Honour, for unworthy conduct, Everything connected with Scouting is meant to act as a healthy tonic upon a boy's life, and we trust that there will be an honest rivalry for the future among our patrols for the best record in this respect. Let each Scout note this. But let him not for a moment suppose that we are anything but proud of our Troop—we are only anxious lest it should forget some of the things that it stands for.

Two new Tenderfoots, Leest and Crebbin, have been invested, they being the only two available for the moment; but several other boys are anxious to join us next term. Happily there is no need with us of Compulsory Service legislation; with a very few exceptions, it is merely a question of age. Marescaux, Wall, and Radford earned their War Service badges in the Christmas holidays. Pode (our Chief Patrol-leader whom we shall specially miss), Smith, Curtis, Edwards, Gittings, and probably Pedrick, will no longer be with us. To one and all we offer our heartiest good wishes, and thank them for all that they have done in the past for the Troop.

We have taken full advantage of all Thursdays that the weather did not completely spoil. On Jan 20th we trained out to Plympton, 40 strong (including Wolf-Cubs) marched round by Forts Efford and Austin, and home by Eggbuckland. On the 26th a smaller party again trained to Plympton, and marched 6 miles to Cornwood. Thence home by train. On Feb. 10th we set out on a march, but were gradually overtaken by rain. We made a round by Mile House, Weston Mills, and Pennycross, arriving home very damp. On the 17th the morning was wet, but the afternoon fine. Our course was by the paths to Eggbuckland, and on to Fort Austin; then sundry marches on the roads beyond, and flag-raiding on a gorse-covered hillside, which left gory evidence on many legs. On March 2nd, when hopeless rain began just as we were ready to start, we repaired to the Gym, and indulged in marching and

physical drill, to the strains of music discoursed by Mrs. Rhodes. On the 16th, when Mr. Cox accompanied us, we trained to Shaugh Bridge, and proceeded to the Dewerstone, crossing the river by the precarious 'bridge' without mishap. A special game, which had been carefully planned, was entered upon, but was somewhat spoilt by the fact that the signal for beginning was not heard by one side. We reached home at 6-45. The 23rd. was our last opportunity, when the Kangaroos went on in advance, leaving signs and canceled letters to guide the rest in following them up. They went by Linkity Lane and Fort Austin, where we joined forces and returned by Eggbuckland. On the omitted Thursdays our loyalty to No. 8 of the Scout Law was severely put to the test, and now we hope for compensation from the weather. Good luck to our operations next term!

W. M. RHODES, S.M.

Field Day at Berkhamsted. 24/3/16.

BROWN FORCE Eton, Harrow, Berkhamsted, Westminster,
Merchant Taylors O.T.C's.

WHITE FORCE Inns of Court.

Berkhamsted started at 9 a.m. to form a line of outposts, to cover the advance and detrainment of the other schools. We marched off. I was in command of *No 1 Picket of No 1 outpost company* on the extreme right. I had to mark out a trench with paper and mark out wire entanglements on a road on our right front. I had to send out a patrol to go through a wood on our right, they found nobody. At 10-20, I sighted some of the enemy cavalry 5 in number coming out of the wood. They went up into a farm about 500 yds. to our front, only two returning out of the farm to the wood again. So I sent a message to my company commander, reporting having seen the cavalry, and sent out an N.C.O. with 3 men to scout on the cavalry; this they did, and drove them away. From 10-45 to 11-5, Harrow and the other schools passed through our picket line; at 11-15 we formed up again as a battalion in front of the Golf House on the common. Then we moved

off to Grime Ditch and waited for orders. At about 12, o'clock, No 4 platoon of No 2 company was sent off as an advance Guard, Merchant Taylors with our maxim gun formed our left flank guard, the rest of Berkhamsted and Merchant Taylors formed the main body of A column. Eton was not able to reach Berkhamsted until 11-45 so when we had been advancing for about half an hour they caught us up and found themselves on wrong road, when we had passed through Nettelden and got on to the Ridge overlooking Great Gaddeston, I had to extend to the right with No. 1 platoon and No. 2 on my left, No. 3 in support of machine gun on top of ridge to cover the advance. It was here we sighted the enemy for the first time, at the range of 1200 yds. on the far hill on the other side of the river Gade. Now started the real attack. We went on by rushes, until we had got to the bottom of the valley, where there was a fence. Here we were about 500 yds away from the enemy. The river Gade was now our trouble; we were not allowed to cross except by the bridge on our right and we who were lining the hedge on the right had to give covering fire whenever a section crossed. This was not the main attack however. We were just keeping the enemy occupied while Eton 500 strong were making a left flank attack. This they did after about $\frac{3}{4}$ hour wait on our part and outflanked the enemy. The umpires decided that this flank attack was successful. It ought not to have been, because the Inns of Court had about 700 in reserve behind a wood called the Hoo, but they counter-attacked with this force about $\frac{1}{4}$ hour too late and so failed in the attempt. It is one of the most difficult things to time a counter attack properly. Now when Eton had shoved on a bit we had to reform in Great Gaddeston village and take our company across the bridge by platoons, I had to take my platoon first and we started at the double. It was about 150 yards to the other side. I have been told that one of the Inns of Court said "My word! This fellow goes at a different pace to the others. When we got over we lay down behind a wall for about 5 minutes. Then I received the order to take my platoon and extend and join onto the right of the firing line which was about 50 yds up the hill. We at last got into

position and waited till the rest of the re-inforcement came up and then advanced again. Now the enemy began to run; we having once got them going doubled up nearly to the top 100yds. There they made their last stand. Then we charged, and so did they. We went with a crash and drove them in front of us; this was the best charge I have ever been in. Now some ass of an umpire sent us half way down the hill and made the Inns of Court clear off, I thought this was the end of all things, but not so, we again got the order to extend and advance. We did this for about half an hour without doing anything except listening to heavy firing in front. We here met Harrow who had captured the right hand position. Now the bugles went for the Cease fire. The chief umpire Colonel Errington said afterwards that Harrow would never have got across their bridge except for the extraordinary behaviour of a maxim section of the Inns of Court who were guarding this bridge; for some reason or other unsolved as yet, they took to their heels and ran as hard as they could.

An umpire who was behind our company in position A, told our company-commander afterwards, that our fire control and discipline was very good indeed for a school corps, which is good to hear. As a matter of fact I took the fire control of my platoon over from the section commanders and issued orders myself, I happened to get two volleys 2 rounds rapid by each man, when a section either advanced or retired and with good effect, the umpire was just behind me each time. Our machine gun captured a patrol of cavalry and wiped out two platoons. We now began our march back about 5 miles. The column was over 2 mile long, the Inns of Court were over 1500 strong, we went somewhere just over that number. Prince Henry was down here, I did not see him myself but several people did. We got back at 4-30 and the last of the column at 5-45. We had 40 rounds of ammunition per rifle. On the whole it was a splendid day and beautiful weather, the first good day of sunshine we had had for many a week.

G. B. & Y

The Component Parts of The Indian Contingent.

The Indian Troops who are now fighting side by side with those of Great Britain and greater Britain beyond the Seas may be roughly divided into four classes, viz. Muhammadens. Sikhs, Rajputs and Goorkes first three are inhabitants of India proper, and the last come from a country called Nepaul which lies beyond its North Eastern Frontier. India, although known generally as a country is more correctly speaking a continent, it is roughly twenty-five times the size of the British Isles, its people are as different and varied as those who inhabit Europe, and its languages are even more numerous and distinct

In the pre-British times nearly all the races of India were fighting men, but peace and civilization have caused nearly all those in the Southern and Eastern parts to give up all warlike pursuits. Now-a-days the Indian army is recruited almost entirely in the Punjab, on and across the North West Frontier and in that part of the country which lies between Delhi and Lucknow. Each of the four classes mentioned above have separate religions habits and customs. In ancient times the inhabitants of India were mere idol worshippers, later on Buddhism was introduced. Buddha was the founder of this religion and he taught his followers to believe in God, he also taught them that a man's soul would pass from him at his death to another and so on until it gradually became pure, or in other words that a man's soul must go on living in a body until for a whole lifetime that man did nothing but good deeds, when that happened the soul would rest for ever. The Goorkas are Buddhists. The next religion that came to India was Hinduism, the founder was one Brāhmā. He divided his followers into castes or classes, the highest was the priestly class who did no work for their living but attended to the temples, the second was the ruling class akin to our old feudal lords, the third was the fighting class who formed the Army and the fourth was the menial class who did all the dirty work.

None of these would have anything to do with the class below them and if the shadow of a menial fell across

the food of a priest it had to be thrown away, the same castes with many subdivisions exist to-day, the Rajputs are Hindus.

Some 1400 years ago there was born in Arabia a man called Muhammad, when he grew up he announced that he was the prophet of God and had been sent to teach the only true religion. The religion he taught was very like Christianity with one great exception, he taught people to believe in Christ as the spirit of God but not that "He died that our sins might be forgiven." His religion spread through Persia and was brought to India about 900 years ago when the Persians invaded that country.

The Sikh religion was founded by a Hindu. called Nānak, who did not approve of the Caste system. He said we are all equal in God's sight therefore Caste must be wrong. His followers were known as Sikhs, which means disciples, but in later years when through being persecuted by the Muhammedans they were trained to be warriors they were also known as Singhs, which means lions. Sikhs are not baptized until they are grown up and at their baptism, called taking the Pāhūl, they add Singh at the end of their names. The ceremony is a curious one and worth hearing about. Sugar and water are mixed in an iron bowl and stirred with a dagger, the young Sikh then kneels down and promises to worship only God and to rely on Him for everything, he further promises to wear the five Kākās as they are called, that is five things the names of which all begin with K-kā in Punjabi-Kūrāh an iron bangle round his arm to remind him to do nothing wrong with his hands, Kūteh short drawers to remind him never to go about naked. Kūrpān a small dagger worn in the hair to remind him of the nearness of death.

Kēs, a piece of cloth to bind his hair which must never be cut this is to remind him that he must not try and alter any part of himself but be content to live as God made him.

Kūngā, a comb worn in the hair to remind him to keep his mind free from evil thoughts. When he has promised all this and prayed to God for help to keep his promises, some of the sugar and water are sprinkled on his head and face and he drinks the rest.

Each of these classes of men differ in appearance and dress. The Sikh wears a big turban, has his beard twisted up and tied behind his ears, and in mufti usually wears trousers cut very tight below the knee. The Muhammeden wears a pointed cap inside his turban, has his moustache clipped closely across his mouth and in mufti wears very loose trousers gathered in round the ankles.

The Rajput who may be either Hindu or Muhammeden and will or will not wear the pointed cap accordingly, he wears his beard in two points and his whiskers brushed out straight from his face, all these wear their shirts outside their trousers.

The Goorka is usually dressed in more or less European style and looks very like a Jap. The usual way to address a Muhammeden is to call him Khān, a Sikh say Sirdār, a Rajput use Thākūr while the genial Goorka is usually hailed as Johnnie.

A Sikh must not be offered a cigarette as they are not allowed to smoke, but he will eat or drink with you. A Muhammeden will chat with you and smoke but will not drink wine or spirits. A Hindu will do none of these things and a Goorka will do all of them. C.A.M.

Chess Tournament, Easter 1916

FIRST DAY'S PLAY (Feb. 12th).

Payn beat Price	Pode beat Edwards
Lewes beat Smith	Knowling a bye

Payn after a very sketchy opening gained the queen from an oversight. Price put up a very hard fight from this point and had almost retrieved the game, when a neat mate was sprung on him. The winner's mistakes were more numerous than the loser's, but less costly.

Pode gained some early advantage over Edwards who in the manoeuvres arising out of the openings he affects (1; P - Q4, P - Q4, 2; Kt. - QB3 followed by B - KB4) failed to develop any of his King's side pieces during the whole game. Pode after winning the queen with a discovered check missed a mate on the move and prolonged the game unnecessarily.

Lewes beat Smith in a game chiefly remarkable for the pieces given away gratuitously on both sides. A good example of skittles.

SECOND DAY'S PLAY, (Feb. 13th).

Pode beat Lewes	Price drew with Knowling
Edwards beat Payn	Smith a bye

In an irregular Scotch game Pode and Lewes did some wholesale exchanging, till with an even position Lewes moving hastily with his queen left a mate in 2 moves on his base line

Price and Knowling played a draw after a tragedy of errors. At the 19th move Price's position was so strong that he might have forced an immediate mate without taking the queen he had trapped, but success turned his head and he threw away piece after piece in the next few moves. Knowling was not to be outdone in generosity, and a draw of exhaustion was a fitting end.

Edwards won a very slipshod sort of game against Payn, who might have resigned earlier.

THIRD DAY'S PLAY, (Feb. 17th.

Payn beat Lewes	Smith beat Pode
Edwards beat Knowling	

Lewes at the 10th move presented Payn with his queen with the alternative of an immediate mate ! Payn seized upon the former and only postponed the mate for five moves later. The opening exchanges were interesting but were not sufficiently thought out. Smith played a steady opening against Pode, till, at the 13th move he unnecessarily opened the file in front of his castled king and invited trouble. Pode subsequently had the game in his hands when both were left with queen and pawns, (he had previously missed pinning the queen with his rook), but in a moment of over-confidence he left a mate on the move and suffered his first defeat.

Edwards and Knowling started reasonably well for 20 moves ; after that the play deteriorated sadly and, though Edwards won after more than 60 moves, Knowling had many more chances and missed three mates one after another.

FOURTH DAY'S PLAY, (Feb. 19th).

Payn beat Smith Knowling beat Lewes
Price beat Edwards Pode a bye

Payn in a Vienna opening failed to take advantage of some weak play by Smith who presently gained several pieces, but when he had a clear win ahead of him left a simple mate on the move. A poor game and another piece of luck for Payn who now was leading. The game between Knowling and Lewes was lively and interesting; Knowling (white) in an irregular opening obtained a very promising position, but, making a premature though tempting attack he captured a knight which was possibly left as a bait. At any rate Lewes had a mate on in 2 moves directly after, but, missing, it he lost his queen and the game. Knowling showed considerable ingenuity and adroitness.

Price in a hard-fought game defeated Edwards at the 42nd move. Edwards at the 14th move won the queen, but at a cost which left him the worst of the position and only slight advantage in material. Price stuck to him relentlessly, but missed several short cuts to victory.

FIFTH DAY'S PLAY.

Pode beat Payn Lewes beat Price
Knowling beat Smith Edwards a bye

Payn (white) abandoning his recklessness in the opening held some slight advantage over Pode, till at the 16th move he showed bad judgment in castling when a knight's raid was impending. Pode won a bishop by the offer of an unsound sacrifice, and then forced the exchange, though later he gave Payn a chance of making good the loss. After some rather purposeless moves Payn resigned with a hopeless pawn ending. He had played sounder chess than in the previous games, but his opponent was less indulgent.

Price (white) played rather weakly against Lewes. His troubles began when, in proposing to castle he moved the rook before touching the king and Lewes exacted the penalty. Afterwards Lewes sacrificed his rook to win the queen and finished in businesslike style. The sacrifice was sound but there was no necessity to accept it and Price was far too hasty in assuming an oversight, numerous as these have been.

Smith in a 'Four Knights' game with Knowling missed many chances of winning, and his failure to castle involved him in difficulties. In an interesting middle game Smith when strongly attacked trapped his adversary's queen by a crafty move but actually could have mated at this point without capturing her. Eventually Knowling, who played a steady uphill won a bishop and further errors left him, in 60 moves the winner. The game was full of good positions and wasted opportunities.

SIXTH DAY'S PLAY.

Smith beat Price	Pode beat Knowling
Lewes beat Edwards	Payn a bye.

Smith mated Price in 19 moves. The game was very unsound, both sides endeavouring to attack prematurely and with the fatal move behind! Price allowed an unsupported knight to go begging and paid the penalty by being neatly mated by him.

Knowling, without committing any gross blunders made things rather easy for Pode who mated him on the 37th move after rather a dull game. Knowling might have gained a counter-attack after Pode had rashly opened his file against his castled king, but offered the exchange of queens instead. Lewes was faithful to the Scotch opening in his game with Edwards. The latter at the 8th move offered a bishop as bait, but the trap was unsound as it could safely be taken after exchanging queens. Lewes missed this at first but secured it when the position had changed. Edwards next lost his queen, and though, struggling on, he eventually pinned Lewes' queen he emerged with such depleted forces that his game was gone.

[With the tournament halfway through Pode leads with 5 out of a possible 6, followed by Payn 4, Smith and Lewes 3, Knowling $2\frac{1}{2}$, Edwards 2, and Price $1\frac{1}{2}$].

SEVENTH DAY'S PLAY.

Payn beat Knowling	Pode beat Price
Smith beat Edwards	Lewes a bye

Payn continued in his lucky vein, finding Knowling quite off colour and playing into his hands from the start. He went from bad to worse and at the 15th move Payn should have mated; at the 25th he did.

Pode (black for the sixth time!) took a full two hours to beat Price, who when behind in material gave him many anxious moments. Worried by such a pertinacity Pode got an attack of nerves over what should have been plain sailing in the end game and very nearly mismanaged it.

Smith who was offered the inevitable 'Four Knights' game by Edwards tried an original defence of his own which involved giving up a pawn without any attack as compensation, till Edwards by a curious slip gave back a pawn and opened the way for his bishop. Then the game became very complicated and interesting and the task of analysing the exchanges over the board would have taxed an experienced player. A spirited attack and counter-attack ensued wherein however both sides missed opportunities. Edwards presently neglected the defence at a critical moment and lost his queen. Smith, perhaps exhausted by the strain, could not give the *coup de grace* for another 20 moves.

EIGHTH DAY'S PLAY

Edwards beat Pode.

Smith beat Payn.

Knowling beat Price.

Lewis a bye.

Edwards meeting Pode's enterprising King's Bishop's Gambit was soon in difficulties and the loss of his queen at the 11th move should have easily decided the game. A little later however, Pode suffering 'embarras de richesse' misjudged the situation and attempted an unsound sacrifice when he was in a position to win the exchange at least. Edwards pressed him hard thereafter (though he missed a mate at the 30th move), till Pode in desperation gave up his queen unnecessarily for rook and bishop. Edwards then had the game in hand but was slow in finishing it.

The game between Payn and Smith would have been unworthy of Class B and needs no comment. Smith won—or rather Payn lost!

Price played equally poor chess against Knowling, being altogether off colour; he ought to have been beaten sooner than he was. At his best Price has all the makings of a player, but his oversights are heartrending to anyone but an opponent.

NINTH DAY'S PLAY.

Edwards beat Lewes
 Pode beat Payn
 Smith beat Knowling
 Price a bye.

Edwards defeated Lewes in a poor game in which neither seemed to look more than one move ahead.

Pode played a King's Bishop's Gambit against Payn who managed the defence very well indeed until at the 9th move he missed a chance which would have given him a winning advantage. Some indifferent play directly after weakened his position, and his 17th and 18th moves simply gave Pode a present of the game.

Smith and Knowling again had an interesting encounter. When the two queens were confronted on an open file at an early stage, neither player fathomed the possibilities of the situation; white might have obtained a winning advantage at the 10th move and Black (Knowling) at the 11th. Having drifted into another attacking position, Smith pressed it home and won in 22 moves, but not without some moments of anxiety when he had to make a penalty move.

TENTH DAY'S PLAY.

Pode beat Knowling	Smith beat Price
Lewes beat Payn	Edwards a bye.

Knowling defending a King's Bishop's Gambit with care more than held his own in the opening. Pode at the 16th move made an indiscreet capture of a bishop, which looked like a cunning bait for the undoing of his queen; the guile however was non-existent, for Knowling pursued a lesser gain which proved a very unprofitable venture. He did not recover from the mistake.

Payn, defending a Scotch Opening, cleverly captured a rook which Lewes had earlier heedlessly exposed by P - K Kt 3, but directly afterwards by an ill-timed advance of his Queen's pawn he let his opponent recoup himself with interest. Lewes pursuing his advantage won the queen at the 39th move and Payn resigned.

Smith (white) was favoured with luck against Price. Being outmanoeuvred in the opening he should have lost his queen at the 13th move if Price had

not been extraordinarily blind. The latter continued very weakly at this stage but Smith did not find, by any means, the shortest road to victory, incidentally twice returning the compliment to his adversary's queen!

ELEVENTH DAY'S PLAY (March 12th).

Lewes beat Knowling Edwards beat Payn
 Pode beat Price (but forfeited the win)
 Smith a bye.

Knowling who tried the first 'French Defence' of the tournament obtained some advantage in the opening against Lewes. At the 10th move from an apparent reluctance to exchange queens he missed a chance of winning at least a piece. With the middle game in an even position Knowling made the first slip. Lewes was too tenacious to be shaken off afterwards, and mated in 34 moves.

Pode was unable to return an intelligible score to record his victory over Price and under the rules of the tournament forfeited the point.

TWELFTH DAY'S PLAY.

Lewes drew with Price Pode beat Smith
 Edwards beat Knowling. Payn a bye

Lewes again played the Scotch opening against Price. Each in turn gave away a knight, and Price was eventually left with two pawns to the bad for the end game. Lewes however managed this indifferently and in the end was glad to escape with a draw.

Smith played very weakly against Pode. The latter gave him every chance by leaving his queen for some time in a most hazardous position where she ought to have fallen to a masked battery. Instead of bringing this into action Smith made a disastrous oversight and deservedly lost the game which Pode hardly deserved to win.

Knowling, defending a Scotch, presently moved his king to escape the attentions of a bishop, only seeing next move that the 'turbulent priest' could be removed by his knight. His position thereafter was so much compromised that Edwards keeping up the pressure won the knight and several pawns, and Knowling could not save the end game.

THIRTEENTH DAY'S PLAY

Smith beat Lewes Edwards beat Price

Payn beat Knowling Pode a bye

Smith played a Scotch against Lewes and each gave up a piece gratuitously in the opening. Smith developed some attack and Lewes threw away another piece and resigned; on the run of the play the resignation was premature, for Smith would probably have given back the equivalent without loss of time!

Edwards v Price was a very poor example of chess. Knowling once more beat himself when it looked any odds on his winning. He obtained a great advantage in the opening and had a choice of several excellent lines of attack. Here his infatuation began. At the 13th move he missed a forced mate, and directly after he might have won the queen, but he allowed himself to be distracted by some desperation moves by his opponent which meant nothing and could have been ignored. Finally he queened a pawn only to leave Payn a mate on the move, which could have been prevented with the greatest ease.

FOURTEENTH DAY'S PLAY.

Lewes beat Pode Price beat Payn

Smith beat Edwards Knowling a bye

Pode offering a king's knight's Gambit, soon got into difficulties against Lewes, his 8th and 9th moves being strangely weak. Lewes having a won game with ordinary care gave up his queen even more weakly. Afterwards both settled down to steadier play and Lewes doubled his rooks and won a bishop. Pode gave up his queen for the rooks intentionally, but adjourned with the worst of the end game. On resuming he did not give the position nearly the consideration it called for and Lewes making no mistake speedily reduced him to helplessness.

In a rough and tumble with little science on either side Payn was knocked out by Price in twelve rounds.

The game between Edwards and Smith (the last played in the tournament) was an important one for the score. It soon developed 'a certain liveliness.' Edwards in a counter-attack quite under estimated his own danger and in forcing a pawn through to queen he overlooked a mate on the move which Smith had up his sleeve. A skilfully played game on the part of Smith.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Both Pode and Edwards have shown themselves capable of better chess than either of them played during the Tournament. Edwards played the earlier rounds in half-hearted fashion, and threw away his chances. Pode was more than once guilty of over-confidence, but his opponent often made up for this by treating him with exaggerated respect.

Smith started very weakly but improved surprisingly as he gained in confidence. Lewes became steadier as he went on; he always has a definite idea of what he is doing but is apt not to concern himself overmuch with his adversary's plans. He can play a winning game better than a losing one. Knowling, on the other hand, plays a losing game best, and often fails to press an attack home from being over anxious about the defence. His form was very variable but he took part in some good games.

Payn and Price are alike in paying too little attention to the opening; Payn's first thoughts are sometimes good but good or bad he never rejects them, and is the hastiest player of the Tournament. Price's form at his best is good enough to surprise an opponent who takes his eccentricities too lightly, but he often puts up a very poor fight.

Considering the inexperience of the competitors, the Tournament has provided some promising chess and the interest has been very well maintained up to the last move—which decided the honour of being bracketed first.

Score of Games :—

	Lewes	Smith	Pode	Payn	Knowling i	Price	Edwards	Lewes	Smith	Pode	Payn	Knowling i	Price	Edwards	Total
Lewes	-	1	0	0	0	1	1	-	0	1	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Smith	0	-	1	0	0	1	1	1	-	0	1	1	1	1	8
Pode	1	0	-	1	1	1	1	0	1	-	1	1	0*	0	8
Payn	1	1	0	-	1	1	0	0	0	0	-	1	0	0	5
Knowling i	1	1	0	0	-	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	0	0	0	-	1	0	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Price	0	0	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	-	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	1	0	-	0	3
Edwards	0	0	0	1	1	0	-	1	0	1	1	1	1		7

* 1 point forfeited.

Letters from Old Masters & Old Boys.

2nd Lieut. V. H. Clay writes from France :—

Since I last wrote to you I have been fortunate enough to have ten days leave in England, which I enjoyed very much. I left the battalion the day before my leave started so as to arrive at the port of embarkation on the day my leave started. We travelled by a very slow train which passed along the streets of the towns we passed through, and as we could only travel very slowly through the towns we were accosted by the little children in the streets, who called out for biscuits and souvenirs. We went over in a very good boat, and we set foot in Southampton at 8-15 a.m., so I was able to arrive home by mid-day. The crossing coming back was very rough, and our boat was quite a small one, so I had to be one of the many who lined the rails. We were about 14 hours on the boat, and then we had a train journey of 13 hours in most beautifully sunny weather. I arrived at the rail head (about 6 miles from our billets) late at night, so I slept in the railway carriage and left the morning in a Postal Lorry, which landed me at our billets about mid-day. When I arrived home I found the RECORD awaiting me, so I eagerly read it from cover to cover, and I must congratulate you on the success at the School. I have been made bombing officer of the Company, but so far have had no opportunity of doing much practical work in this line. We had a rather warm time in the trenches the last day or two, and I had some narrow escapes. I had just gone to my dug out to get some supper at 10-30 when a shell blew the place down on me, but I managed to crawl out, being none the worse for my experience. The same day I had my tunic tattered and pierced by shrapnel, but I was only bruised a little. We are now having fairly mild weather, in fact so mild that there is a Blackbird which we can hear singing most mornings at "Stand To." We have a regular plague of rats in the trenches, and I have heard a Fox barking at nights in front of our trenches; I have also seen a *White Stoat* running about in front of our barbed wire; it is the first time that I have seen a Stoat with its white winter coat on.

I hope you and Mrs. Cox and the Staff have been keeping well and that you are again having a successful term. We are all very well and most merry and bright out here, and I am very interested in the work out here. Please remember me kindly to Mrs. Cox and Mr. Rhodes. Every success to you, and all at Mount House.

G. B. Yonge writes from Berkhamsted School.

Thank you very much indeed for the Mount House Record, I second most heartily what Rees says in his letter about Old Boys sending a yearly subscription and having the magazine sent to them. We are having more snow here, and in consequence all training for the sports on April 8th have to be stopped, last night we had a very heavy fall at 2-45 a.m. I was woken up by one of the boys in my dormitory, he came to tell me that he was flooded out of bed, this was owing to the snow having slipped down onto the

flat on top of the house from the sides of the roof. and had shifted the leads and was melting so quickly that most of it was coming into the House. I then wondered how Uppers were faring who were above us, as the water must have come down through them to us. I went up and woke up Mr. Cox, and at the same time one of the Uppers came out to do the same thing, we found that it was coming into all four dormitories. We spent the time from 2-45 until 5-15 moving beds and getting fresh clothes, it was no joke and horribly cold. Mr. Cox then went and got the bootman, and between them they shoveled away the snow, but it was not a nice job on the whole. We had a field day with Eton, Harrow, Westminster and Merchant Taylors against the Inns of Court, I expect you saw some photographs in the Daily Sketch, it was a very good day on the whole. I enclose an account which may interest you. There is a howling blizzard going on at the present time, I expect we shall be snowed up to-morrow.

J. L. C. Clarke writes from Cadet College, Wellington, India.

I am afraid you will think I have forgotten you and the School. There are 80 of us at the college here of which 40 came out in the City of Glasgow and the rest in the Mongolia. I was in the former and we had a most exciting voyage. Leaving Birkenhead on 22nd Sept. We were chased once by a submarine and had it pretty rough all the way through the Bay. It was rather an unlucky voyage as one cadet and the ship's doctor died on board and something was always going wrong, a boat broke away and we were held up for 3 or 4 hours because the engines broke down. We only had one hour ashore at Port Said—called nowhere else, which was rather rotten. Coming through the Canal there was'nt as much to see as I had heard. Only a few Indian troops on the banks--a few barbed wire obstacles etc. We stopped in Suez Bay for an hour or two, but too far out to see anything. It was really quite cool in the Red Sea so we were lucky. At Bombay where we arrived on the 16th October we only had a few hours, just time to drive round in a gharry. I don't know that I was much impressed with it myself, one felt rather like being in a dream the noise was the chief notable thing I think. The Mountain Railway up here from the plains is very fine. It is 24 miles up here (8500ft)—32 to Ooty-cammud which is 8600ft. Everything is tropical of course further down the line but it is exactly like England here in climate and everything; indeed it is often colder than an average winter day. The course is nearly over now. We do a week's camp and then will probably be gazetted early in April. We have a ripping time here. I am always thanking my stars I got through as it was quite a sudden decision on my part. We share a large room, a bedroom between two, not a bungalow as they have at Quetta the other college. We do riding every day which I like much the best, chiefly jumping now about 4 ft. I had never been on a horse before, so found it rather difficult at first, but am getting along now.

Lately we have been doing a course of explosives blowing up houses, and making mines, which is ripping work.

I must apologize for writing such an awfully long letter. Please remember me to Miss Wimbush and Christopher wherever he is now.

J. B. Burke writes from Castleknock.

How is Mount House progressing? I hear that the team won one out of two matches. I suppose Pode, Yonge and Payn are the back-bone of the team. Please give my best congratulations to Mr. Rhodes and Scouts, in having managed things so well. I suppose most of the Scouts will be trying for the new war badge. I think I told you that I was in the first division of Junior Grade. I am the youngest in Junior Grade. I don't know where I should have been if it was not for your Latin and Mr. Rhodes' French. Somehow or other they make you work here. If you miss a lesson you get eight 'skinners' on your hands. Eight is considered a little, sixteen is the usual amount. I must stop now as I have no more time.

R. Fox writes from Sherborne.

I hope Mount House is being successful both in work and football matches this term. The house I am in is the smallest one, it has thirty chaps in it, but it is by no means the worst; this term all the house matches take place, I am captain of our House team, and play in the scrum; we have played one match and won 11 pts to 0. I got my House cap for football last Easter term, and last term I got my xxx blazer; Last summer term I got my House cap for cricket, and also my 2nd xi cap: and next term I hope to play for the first; in the Corps I am a corporal. I have at last decided to go into the Army, and I have been in the Army Class for three terms now, and go in for my exam next June. In the House I am a prefect; there are six altogether. The weather this term has been quite good on the whole, with a little snow about a week ago, I hope you are having good weather at Plymouth.

G. O. Jones writes from Osborne.

We have been having quite a lot of snow here. About a week and a half ago it was six inches deep in the playing fields and so the Commander let us have a snow fight. The Starboard had to attack the Port Watch which defended the Racquet courts for the first half. Then the Starboard had to defend the courts and the Port attack. It was ripping but very cold and the snow turned as hard as ice if you kept it in your hand for long. I hit one Cader in the face with a piece of snow and he fell on the ground and put his hands up to his face and didn't get up for some time. Then one of the masters who was fighting for the Port Watch came up behind me and rammed a great lump of snow down my neck. I turned round, threw a snowball into his face and made his nose bleed violently. He was a rugger player too and had a pretty hardened nose. Oswald told me of the snow fight by Red House. It must have been awfully exciting. My 'Beta' week was the

fourth week of the term. We only went out steaming one day in the week, the rest of the time we had to take notes about the engines and boiler etc. It was ripping steaming. We went out into the Solent around the transports anchored there. There were five other Cadets besides myself and we were divided into three watches of two Cadets each. One watch was on deck steering and looking after engine telephone, the other two watches were below, one working the engines and the other being asked questions about the various things by the Engineer Lieutenant in charge. The watches would change places so that everybody got a turn at everything. I was awfully hot down below and when I and the other Cadet with me were being asked questions in the boiler room, the Cadet on deck who was steering ran the old tub into a swell broadside on and made her rock frightfully. I was jolly nearly sick, in fact I am sure I should have been if I had not been allowed to go on deck and get some decent air. It was very nice on the whole and I was sorry when the cruise came to an end. There are 2nd Beta weeks during the 2nd half of the term and I hope I shant miss mine through sickness. During the term I have played two games of Rugger and enjoyed them very much indeed and I have been wondering whether I shall give up Soccer and take up Rugger. I have been playing quite a lot of hockey, my place in the field being the same as in Soccer, outside left. When I played Rugger I played forward and three-quarter. The St. Vincent team is competing against the Drakes (1st term) at the end of the term and I am in the Special Vaulting Class of the St. Vincents. The gym here is ripping. We do the same sort of exercises as at Mount House here instead of that horse exercise when you put up your head on the horse and go over which I did in the 1st Gym competition with you, at the college you put your head right over the horse and sort of bear the weight of your body on your chest. Then you swing your legs over and press strongly off with your hands. It is called a backlift.

