



Sydney Wood,]

[Darlington.

KENNETH JAMES BACKHOUSE,
1885—1912.

The Leightonian.

VOL. VIII.

APRIL, 1912.

[No. 52.]

EDITORIAL.

It is not often that the Editor of a school magazine has to refuse contributions through lack of space. Such, however, has been our experience this term. We desire to thank cordially all those who have sent in articles and so lightened our labours. The first and second papers appearing in this number have been selected by the Headmaster from a set of essays written in the December examinations; those which follow are in a lighter vein. Whilst it is a source of congratulation that all have been written by boys now in the school, we hope we shall continue to be favoured with articles by Old Leightonians and Members of the Staff.

We regret to have to chronicle the fact that Mr. Ledger is leaving us at the end of the term, with the intention of entering the Consular Service. Though his stay with us has been short, we are sure that every boy will regret his departure, and that he will carry with him the best wishes of us all in his future career. Mr. R. Whittaker, B.A., who takes the place of Mr. Ledger as Modern Language Master, will come to us from Dollar with a reputation as teacher, cricketer, and footballer. Dollar Institution is a great Scotch school in the county of Clackmannan. Mr. Whittaker has been teaching there for three years; he has kept wicket for the county; in football he has had more practice in Rugby than Association. In the latter game, however, he plays centre forward, which we are glad to hear, as help and coaching among the forwards are much wanted with us.

It has been an open secret for some time that as the physics side of the staff was overweighted Mr. Kaye would be leaving us at the end of the summer term, and now, just as we go to press, we hear that Messrs. Edminson and Rowntree will be leaving us at the

same time. Of their resignation and their long period of devoted service to the School we hope to speak in our next number. Mr. Kaye has been with us five years, and has taken a very real interest in all departments of our life; his help in cricket and football has been great, whilst the Camera Club always will owe a debt of gratitude to him for his energy in helping to promote the scheme for the new dark room; the development of carpentry, too, as a hobby, in recent years owes much to his untiring enthusiasm.

We would call the attention of all Old Leightonians to the announcements concerning the gathering in July. We hope they will respond to the wish of their President, J. E. Hodgkin, and come down to us in large numbers.

NEW BOY.

Form IV.—D. Gilford. Reading.

NEW OLD BOYS.

R. B. Crewdson, Southside, St. Leonards-on-Sea.
 LL. H. Fox, Robin's Close, Wellington, Somerset.
 J. F. O. King, Elleray, Windermere.

PREFECTS.

D. S. H. Keep (senior prefect) appointed January, 1911.
 F. S. Brain, appointed September, 1911.
 R. LL. Lloyd, appointed September, 1911.
 J. G. Goodbody, appointed September, 1911.
 W. J. C. Taylor, appointed September, 1911.
 E. P. Southall, appointed January 1912.

ENGLISH ESSAYISTS.

Style in essays depends on the character of the writer; when he begins to write an essay, no matter what the subject is, his nature is reproduced involuntarily in his work. Consequently, out of the works of

the numerous English writers who are now regarded as great essayists, we may select such a variety as will please us whatever mood we happen to be in. If we desire deep thought, to the point, Francis Bacon will supply our want. If we want simplicity, Joseph Addison will not be found wanting and Charles Lamb will satisfy us at any time.

Bacon, one of the greatest writers that England has had, usually contented himself with short essays, which require very careful reading in order that their full value may be seen. His openings are unique; they act on the brain like a douche of cold water on a sleeper; the mind springs to attention; all thought is held concentrated until the close. He does not hide his meaning behind a smooth flow of words, but speaks out plainly. "No vice doth so degrade a man as to be found false and treacherous," he says in his essay "On Truth."

To read the "Essays of Elia," no one would think that the writer lived under such sad conditions as he did. His sister Bridget, to whom he refers in some of his writings, lived with him, and was subject to fits of insanity. Charles Lamb was obliged to support her during the times when she was under restraint, in spite of the fact that he himself was by no means wealthy. Nevertheless, in his works we have a richness of thought and expression, mingled with a subtle humour, which places him in his proud position of the most popular English essayist of all time.

The personal history of Oliver Goldsmith should be investigated before his essays are perused. He had a restless nature, which led him into constant poverty, and in certain essays, he has faithfully depicted parts of his own character. His character is set forth at some length by Lord Macaulay.

One of the essayists whose writings it gives one most pleasure to read is Addison. There one finds a wonderfully simple style, very easy and interesting to read, and his thoughts expressed in a way that compels one's admiration. His essays dealing with that fine old country gentleman Sir Roger de Coverley will bear being read fifty times. Richard Steele has somewhat of the same style, but does not possess quite the same fascination.

A great contrast is revealed between this style and that of William

Hazlitt. I cannot say that it gives me the slightest pleasure to read his essays, though their quality is undoubted. He appears at times hopelessly to lose himself in a flood of words, so that his meaning remains hidden; then suddenly the fog is dispelled, and everything is plain—until, the breeze dying away, the obscuring mist again blots out the light of understanding.

Robert Louis Stevenson, whose novels appeal to all, is, or was, a great admirer of Hazlitt, and whether from some desire to emulate his style or not, Stevenson's essays do not fascinate to such a degree as is expected from a man of his power. The only essays from his pen which appeal to me are his "Walking Tours" and "British Admirals." In the former, he paints, in an irresistible way, the pleasure of a day's march with no companion but nature; of the mid-day halt for dinner, with the ensuing pipe; and of the supreme content which pervades the mind and body when, after a tiring day, rest comes with the evening at some country inn.

These essayists all differ in style; many more there are, whose writings, equally or more fascinating still, have procured for them the name of great writers, supporting Hazlitt's statement: "No man is great who is great only in his lifetime; the test of greatness is the page of history."

S. F. LENNARD.

SQUIBS AND CRACKERS.

Oh! those jolly days of November! when the evenings are drawing in, and a thick fog, damp and chill, rolls over the meadows, stifling the last rays of light. And that day of days, the fifth of November, which is the only Saint's day that many of us remember to celebrate! Saint Guy Fawkes is never neglected, and in his shrine burn countless candles—Roman, but no matter.

But no! This is no Saint's day, but the anniversary of the only smart piece of English detective work before the advent of Sherlock Holmes. It is very surprising that such a poor joke has not perished long ago, drowned in "murky Stygian wave," but it seems doubtful

whether the children realize the sarcasm. Indeed, it is more probable that Guy Fawkes has become a second Father Christmas to them.

What an offending sight it is to see that life-like image burnt so relentlessly! The faces of the children surrounding the funeral pyre could be scarcely less savage than those of the Romans in the Coliseum, and the unfortunate victim obtains no more mercy in Christian England than he did from the wild beasts.

Fortunately, the joy of the children far exceeds their seeming cruelty. Perhaps this pleasure comes from the knowledge that it is forbidden; indeed, to some it is a supreme joy to let off squibs in places where they are banned—as in school or church. With others it may arise from the desire to destroy, the excitement, or the risk of slight burns.

But, after all, a halfpenny cracker is somewhat homely. Not so with the nobler species of the great cracker family! Who has not seen a crowd thrill at the sight of a great bomb, hurtling up and up into the air, until it bursts, resolving into showers of coloured fire? Who has not held his breath to see rockets piercing the heavens, like "bearded meteors, trailing light," or gaped with wonder at the fiery stars which fall and fall, but never seem to reach the ground?

This feeling of the supreme beauty of fireworks always penetrates one's heart, and it seems such a waste to send off more than one at once. The one desire at such times is to have the pleasure protracted through eternity.

In the minds of many people these displays call up a tinge of philosophy. They seem symbols of man's life—its swiftness, and how it burns itself out in useless and fierce emotion.

This adds another, half sad, pleasure; but the greatest joy is that it recalls the golden days of childhood. Their beauty is enhanced by distance and the glamour of the evening light, so that they seem an innocent paradise, where there came no haunting cares or spectres of dread calamities.

On account of this fascination which fireworks have for all, even the most common-place, there is no fear that the days will come when there are no November festivities—when parents see the happy faces of their children lit up by the lurid glare, and the aged behold their youth in a lightning flash.

Thinking of this, the halfpenny cracker loses none of its magic, and one cannot despise the children for taking such immense joy in fireworks—even though only in squibs and crackers.

ERIC P. SOUTHALL.

A MODERN PHEIDIPPIDES.

(Suggested by a cycle ride from the Station to the School
on January 17, 1912).

I.

I arrived at Reading station,
'Mid fog and desolation,
 With mud at least a foot upon the ground;
It was snowing, it was raining,
Every hour the storm was gaining,
 And so I quite expected to be drowned.

II.

Now I pass the meeting house,
Where the Quakers sit and grouse*
 My weary way I wend up Kendrick hill,
In haste I pass the "green,"
Famous refuge for the lean,
 And shudder as I think of last term's bill.

III.

Then I turn down Pepper lane,
Much the worse for mud and rain;
 Soon am welcomed at the dear old Norman arch,
From old Davis' smiling face,
And the Matron's kindly grace,
 I understand my collar's lost its starch.

* To Grouse. Army slang—to grumble (see Murray's Dictionary). The poet must have a keen sense of humour in applying this to Friends. [Ed.]

IV.

My race, at last, is run,
 The high tea I've begun,
 And ponder on the joys of this last vac:
 On the morrow's dreary morn,
 When another term is born,
 I once again am running—to unpack.

PERHAPS.

 A DAY DOWN THE STUDY PASSAGE.

(With apologies to the Author of "A Dog's Day.")

- 8.50 a.m.—H.R.B., E.P.S., W. J. C. T., and D.J.M., having study periods, saunter down the passage and hold a conversazione concerning the day's news in general.
- 9.0 a.m.—A step being heard, the above-mentioned retire to their respective hutches. Silence for the space of quarter of an hour.
- 9.15 a.m.—E.P.S. "How much Greek are you doing, Tommy?" Chorus of epithets ensues from W.J.C.T.'S hutch. Muffled rumblings are also heard from the other two doing the same work.
- 9.30 a.m.—Bell goes.
- 9.35 a.m.—Various other individuals arrive, including, L.C.P.B., A.E.M., J.G.G. Another conference is held, and a debate ensues as to whether Reading will win on Saturday. Wagers being laid, work commences.
- 10.15 a.m.—Bell goes.
- 10.25 a.m.—Prep. begins in the hutches.
- 10.30 a.m.—A.E.M. goes to do H.R.B.'s Latin prose. E.P.S. is absent, taking prep.
- 10.35 a.m.—Sound of many kettles boiling.
 D.J.M. : "I'm having cocoa!"
 J.M.B. : "Yes, so am I. Simply can't do without it!"

L.P.C.B. : " Why, that's very funny ; I'm having it, too ! "

W.J.C.T. : " You're like a lot of old maids having tea ! "

10.50 a.m.—Bell. General exodus to see the subsidence.

11.20 a.m.—Only one boy having hutch period, so comparative silence, except for the mumblings proceeding from his hutch.

12.10 p.m.—Usual conference—this time about the probable state of the weather during the afternoon.

J.G.G. : " Old — was a fool to set so much — " Sudden sound of junior singing set, and general chorus of boos from those who happen to be in their hutches.

12.35 p.m.—Sounds still continue to proceed from the music room. Curses have now given way to a strong silence, which lasts till dinner time.

It being a half holiday, the inmates do not appear again until 4.30 or 5.0 p.m.

5.0 p.m.—Many porringers are heard boiling, and sounds of unusual mirth come from the third hutch on the right. It is H.R.B. entertaining N.H., and their merriment is shared by W.J.C.T.

6.0 p.m.—Prep. starts in prep. room.

6.10 p.m.—Prep. starts in passage.

6.10—6.40 p.m.—" And there was silence in the hutches for the space of half an hour. "

6.40 p.m.—H.R.B. goes to practice since E.V.B. is on duty.

All are agreed that Algebra is a farce—in fact, all work is utterly useless ; therefore, the best remedy is to read the magazine.

6.50 p.m.—Sudden sound of feet up the passage, and general silence. I.P.T. appears, and is greeted with chorus of " Sho-offe, sho-offe ; why can't you sho-offe ? "

6.53 p.m.—He departs, heavy with maledictions.

7.15 p.m.—Terrible and heartrending sound of wailing and gnashing of teeth ; then books flying in all directions. All turn out to see what has happened, and find that H.R.B. is fed up with Greek.

7.30 a.m.—Bell goes, and hobbies follow till 8.45 p.m.

8.45 p.m.—Bell for supper.

8.46 p.m.—Rush from hutches to dining room.

9.30 p.m.—“Time, please,” and so ends a day in the annals of hutchland.

P.S. — With all apologies to those whose initials have been mentioned.

P.P.S.—This only applies to School House. The author does not know anything about Grove.

A WARNING.

The Prefect came down like a wolf on the fold,
His blue eyes were gleaming with anger untold;
And the look on his face was like that which we see,
On a lioness, while crunching a missionaræe.

Like a lovely Apollo, so strong and irate,
The Prefect strode forth in a terrible bate;
Like a broken-down scarecrow, thrown out in the field,
The Prefect, next minute, for mercy appeal'd.

For a number of Third and Fourth Formers had cast,
Heavy maps, books and stones at the Lad as he passed;
Like the rush of a tidal wave, gath'ring in force,
They hurled themselves on him with cries loud and hoarse.

Ah! then came the moment for vengeance so dear!
Their foe was beneath them—no master was near!
The occasion was theirs—they were on it like sharks,
And paid the Lad out for their undeserved marks.

And there lay the Prefect, distorted and dead,
With ink on his brow and a pen through his head.
The victors had vanished on hearing a sound,
And the Prefect was left lying stiff on the ground.

Then the Prefects of Leighton were loud in their groans,
 For each one remembered some unpaid loans ;
 But they realised just why the deed had been done,
 And, taking the hint, they reformed, every one. C. B.

EXHIBITION OF HOBBY WORK.

The exhibition was this year considered by the judges to be encouraging and satisfactory. Natural History was distinctly well represented, both by diaries and collections. Photography, wood and metal work, and handicrafts were strongly in evidence, and some of the exhibits were of distinct merit. The productions under the head of Art, though few in number, were varied in character, and one exhibit judged in a different category was held to be of high artistic value. This was a series of flower paintings from nature by A. P. D. Penrose ; awarded a special prize. Another special prize was awarded to J. F. O. King for a fine piece of wood-carving. First prizes were awarded to L. B. Cole for Natural History diary and for butterfly and moth collection ; to N. Harricks for birds' eggs ; to J. F. O. King for fowl keeping, and (with his brother) for carpentry ; to A. P. D. Penrose for archæology, and for photography ; to T. W. Hopkins for lantern slides ; to D. J. Malcomson for photographic enlargements ; to A. Gilford for carpentry, for metal turning, and for machine construction ; to R. T. V. Clarke for physical apparatus ; to W. J. C. Taylor for chip carving, and for piano solo ; to E. Wallis for wood turning ; to C. R. Day for leather work ; to J. T. Wotherspoon for poker work ; to J. P. Fox for repoussé work and for an unprepared speech ; to D. S. H. Keep for prose essay ; to E. P. Southall for poem, for recitation, for prepared speech, and for violin ; to J. G. Goodbody for fretwork ; to R. L. Lloyd for reading, and for singing ; to C. S. Richmond for singing (junior).

Twenty-three boys in School House and sixteen in Grove House obtained points in the competition. School regained the Hobbies Cup with an average of 7.5 points against 5.4 points for Grove House. R. L. Lloyd obtained the distinction of having his name inscribed upon the Stansfield Honours Board, by scoring the highest total of points.

W. S. ROWNTREE.

THE PREFECTS' EXCURSION.

On Thursday, February 15th, a company of five went from Leighton Park to Portsmouth. What need to describe a South-Eastern railway carriage, or to name each station between Guildford and Portsmouth? Let it suffice to say that they arrived—in fact, what else could they have done with such a capable leader?

Upon arrival a boat was taken, one of those tubby affairs which are built for safety rather than speed, and the party set out to explore the Victory. The vessel stands high out of the water, and must have proved very formidable with her four tiers of guns. These had to be pulled inside to be loaded and are surprisingly small. There are only four cannon that were used at Trafalgar.

The memories of Nelson are numerous. There is the place where he fell on the deck, and a room containing many portraits and documents, but by far the most striking is the place where he died. The cockpit, or bottom deck, is just as it was. In the middle stand the operating tables, and round the sides of the ship are curious compartments, rather resembling horse boxes or dog kennels. These were the rooms of the junior officers! The spot where he died is in the middle of one of the sides. Here, as all over the ship, the lighting was very bad, the only means of illumination being lanterns with horn sides and a rushlight inside. After Trafalgar it must, indeed, have been an impressive sight—the great admiral dying in the midst of his friends, the wounded lying round, all the figures looking ghostly in the feeble glimmer of a horn lantern.

From there the visitors went to a battleship, the "Revenge." She is one of the oldest ships still in use, serving as a gunnery training ship, and in the winter time she usually goes once a fortnight to practice beyond the Isle of Wight. They were told that they should have one of the "boys" for a guide; however, he had a moustache, was the bugler, and also discontented with his post. He conducted them through the men's quarters, where there seemed but little room. Some were sleeping, others reading, and many doing nothing, as it was the dinner hour. They inspected

the rooms where the smaller guns are managed, the great guns on deck, and the conning towers, and then returned to land for dinner.

Upon the front there stands a restaurant with a fair outside, by name "Driver's." They approached, but only to find it a whitened sepulchre, full of bones. Dinner was accomplished safely—but elsewhere.

The programme of the afternoon was the inspection of the docks. Each one said several times that he was a British subject, and admission was easily gained. A colossal policeman was guide, and took them round a considerable area of the dockyards. Several of the party were good German scholars, but it was very noticeable that they refrained from showing their conversational powers. Neither must it be imagined that they indulged in swear-words, having no knowledge of such wicked things. Two submarines were seen, and many torpedo boat destroyers, small, elegant vessels built for speed, the most modern of which could go 45 miles per hour. Further on there was a Dreadnought, the "Superb," conspicuous because of her large guns and tripod masts, and also the hull of the "King George V." A piece of her armour-plating was seen, which was a foot thick, and weighed 25 tons. Amongst other things were the "Medina," and the boat which collided with the A3 and had her propellers broken.

The beach at Southsea proved the next attraction, which was followed by tea. Finally they returned to Leighton Park, weary, but having spent a day full of interest and pleasure.

REPORTS OF SOCIETIES.

DEBATING SOCIETY.—Two meetings have already been held this term and a third will probably take place. The first meeting was devoted to sharp practice, in which "Elizabethan Dress," "Live-stock in Studies," "Present-Day Manners," and "The Resolution of the Orangemen in Belfast," were all discussed. The last mentioned subject provided the best debate of the evening and was decidedly the most interesting.

At the second meeting the question of the advisability of a

ensorship of the Press was under consideration. E. S. Harris and D. J. Malcomson advocated a censorship, while J. P. Fox and S. F. Lennard constituted a strong opposition. The motion was eventually carried. The debate would have been a more successful one if more members had prepared speeches and had not trusted merely to the inspiration of the moment. It is impossible to secure a good debate unless members will realise their personal responsibility towards the Society, and will not only make a point of attending every meeting, but will also be prepared to address the House.

F. S. BRAIN.

SENIOR ESSAY SOCIETY.—Only one meeting has, as yet, been held this term. At this meeting a revised set of Rules was accepted, and the Society is now thoroughly up-to-date. The Chronicle for last winter term was read by D. S. H. Keep. The subject for the evening was "Dickens," and E. S. Harris and A. N. Pearson contributed papers on "The Life of Dickens" and "Dickens as an Author." Little time was left for discussion. At our next meeting, J. P. Fox and S. F. Lennard will read essays on "Social Unrest" and "The Rise of Republicanism." A. E. Mitchell has joined the Society, which still maintains its proud position as the most select in the school. R. LL. LLOYD.

CAMERA CLUB.—We have held two meetings this term, at the second of which J. D. Barlow was elected a member.

The first meeting was entirely taken up with the question of a new dark room, which, owing to the generous subscriptions of friends, we are able to build.

The second meeting was occupied with general business. It was decided to re-introduce the showing up of photographs every year.

We should like to take this opportunity of thanking those who kindly helped us towards building a dark room. T.W.H.

NATIONAL HISTORY SOCIETY.—There have been two meetings of the Society this term and, in both, papers were read by members on account of the scarcity of reports.

In the first meeting L. Biggar was elected secretary and W. J. C. Taylor, assistant secretary. C. Smee read an interesting paper on "Leopterous Garden Enemies and Friends," in which he described some of our common useful and noxious beetles. Papers were also read by W. J. C. Taylor on "The Geese that visit the British Isles," and by J. M. Bickerton on "Pigeons and Owls." Reports were made on Botany; that a male catkin had been found on January 2nd, and snowdrops on January 19th.

In the second meeting V. Clarke was elected a member of the society. L. Cole read a paper on "Our Blue Butterflies," which he illustrated with three diagrams. W. J. C. Taylor described the causes and effects of cyclones, and explained difficulties by blackboard drawings.

Mr. Evans showed the meeting some cotton bolls, which had been sent to him by Selfridge's, and distributed cotton seeds for planting.

I. BIGGAR.

L.H.A.—There have been two meetings this term. The first took place on February 3rd, the subject of the evening being a lecture by Mr. C. E. Stansfield on a visit he paid to the remains at Troy and Gnosus in Crete. He brought before us in a very interesting way the nine cities at Troy and the ruins of the vast palace at Gnosus, which is so intricate that it is thought to be the maze built by King Minos. The second meeting was held on March 2nd, and was devoted to great naval or military commanders. A. N. Pearson read a paper on Alfred the Great, showing why he deserved the title. J. P. Fox then gave an interesting account of Nelson, illustrating his character by extracts from Southey. E. P. Southall brought the evening to a close, taking as his subject the life and campaigns of Alexander the Great. P. S. Cadbury has been elected a new member, and R. LL. Lloyd has joined the Committee.

E. P. SOUTHALL.

MUSICAL SOCIETY. — We have met regularly each week and practised the "Surprise" symphony of Haydn, and a selection of Sullivan's Gondoliers.

W. A. W. BELL.

 THE LIBRARY.

SINCE Mr. Hale made a catalogue of the library a year ago there have been many more demands for books. The result is that what is styled the "Fiction Cupboard," is somewhat insufficient for the wants of the school. I, therefore, suggest that members of the school, and others who have been members of the school, or who read the *Leightonian*, should not be afraid to present books to the Library. I also suggest that a committee should be elected by the Union to receive any books given, and decide whether to put them in the Library or not. I suggest this because we do not want too many books by Henty and the like. We want books of fiction, but we also want books of reference, as these always are a valuable asset to a library. The Union, or some kind reader, will then, perhaps, supply another cupboard to receive these books.

W. J. C. T.

 GYMNASTIC CONTEST.

OPEN EVENTS.

Boom.—J. F. O. King, P. Cadbury, J. M. Bickerton.

Stall Bars.—J. F. O. King, H. R. Bickerton and S. F. Lennard.

Horizontal Bar.—J. F. O. King, P. Cadbury and J. M. Bickerton.

Parallel Bars.—R. LL. Lloyd, J. F. O. King and J. M. Bickerton.

Ropes.—J. F. O. King, H. R. Bickerton and J. G. Goodbody.

Horse.—H. R. Bickerton, R. LL. Lloyd, T. W. Hopkins.

JUNIOR EVENTS.

Boom.—A. F. Grierson, P. F. King and A. P. D. Penrose.

Stall Bars.—A. P. D. Penrose, P. F. King and A. F. Grierson.

Horizontal Bar. — A. P. D. Penrose, P. F. King, and J. D. Barlow.

Parallel Bars.—P. F. King and A. P. D. Penrose, A. F. Grierson and L. B. Cole.

Ropes.—F. S. Harricks and A. F. Grierson, A. P. D. Penrose.

Horse.—P. F. King, A. P. D. Penrose, and H. L. Edmonds.

Joseph Storrs Fry Shield (open championship).—J. F. O. King.

Peckover Cup (Junior Champion).—P. F. King.

School House, 100 points. *Grove House*, 26 points.

E.V.B.

THE FOOTBALL SEASON

NOT much success has attended the first XI. this term, but for the season the results are fairly satisfactory. The boys' XI. has only been defeated once—and then playing with a much weakened team—but the first XI. has met with scanty success. The victories that were gained were however in matches that have been lost the last few years, so perhaps that is some consolation for the other results. The forwards have had some off days, but have combined well on most occasions, while the defence has been fairly sure all through. Goodbody has only played in one match this term and his loss has been severely felt.

The second XI. have won their only match this term, but their results for the season are disappointing. A match arranged between our junior XI. and a Preparatory School in the town aroused much keenness. It is hoped to make these matches a regular feature of the football season.

The team this term has been as follows:—T. W. Hopkins, J. P. Fox, J. G. Goodbody or R. L. Lloyd, D. S. H. Keep, Mr. Ledger, R. L. Lloyd or E. Cadbury, F. S. Brain, H. R. Bickerton, C. Smee, J. M. Bickerton, D. J. Malcomson.

The above have received their colours.

REPORTS OF PLAYERS.

F. S. Brain, outside right. Plays hard, but is not very sure. Makes good pace up the wing but is apt to centre behind. Is better at outside right than inside.

- T. W. Hopkins, goal. Has been rather off form for the most part this season, but yet has played very well on occasions. Requires more judgment in running out, but is good at high shots.
- D. J. Malcomson, outside left. Has improved greatly as the season has advanced. Makes fair pace up the wing, but is apt to keep the ball too long. His centres could be taken advantage of more frequently if they were not always along the ground.
- C. Smee, centre-forward. Clever with the ball and quick on his feet. Showed great promise at beginning of the season, but has fallen off slightly in the last few matches. A poor shot.
- E. Cadbury, left-half. Has played several good games this season, but is apt to tire towards the end of a game. Should practice increased quickness in running and turning. Not slow to take advantage of a chance shot.

MATCH LIST, 1912.

Date.	Opponents.	Ground.	Result.	L.P.S.	Oppo- nents.
Sat., Jan. 27	Y.M.C.A.	Away.	Drawn.	2	2
Sat., Feb. 10	University College ...	Away.	Lost.	0	10
Wed., ,, 14	House Match	L.P.S.	Grove.	1	0
Sat., ,, 17	Foxes	L.P.S.	Lost.	0	4
Tues., ,, 27	Mansfield College ...	Away.	Lost.	2	3

D.S.H.K.

REPORTS OF MATCHES.

Saturday, January 27th. L.P.S. v. Y.M.C.A., at Reading. This was a very even game all through and a draw just about reflects the run of the play. L.P.S. had established a lead of two goals shortly after half-time, but the Y.M.C.A. drew level in the closing minutes of the game. Brain scored a beautiful goal from a free kick well outside the penalty area, and he was also instrumental in scoring the first goal. For L.P.S., all played fairly well, though no one was brilliant. If we had been at full strength—H. R. Bickerton and T. W. Hopkins were absent—we should almost certainly have won.

Wednesday, February 14th. House Match. At one time the house-match this term promised to be almost an exact return to that played last term, but owing to various causes the School house team was greatly weakened and the great interest that there would have been in the match somewhat died out. The game was very even all through, Grove if anything doing slightly the more pressing but several chances were thrown away by both sides. At half-time there was no scoring but mid-way in the second half Fox scored for Grove with a penalty. This was the only goal scored, though Grove missed several chances towards the close of the game. The School backs played a very strong game, and backed up by very keen half-back play, kept the Grove forwards in check. For Grove, Lloyd and Fox were strong in defence, and in fact the defence on both sides proved too good for the opposing attack. Goodbody would have made a great difference to the School house defence.

Teams:—School: Edmonds, Harricks, N., Taylor, Cadbury, J. M. Bickerton, Mitchell, King, H. R. Bickerton, Smee, Malcomson, F. S. Harricks. Grove: T. W. Hopkins, Fox, Keep, Bilbrough, Lloyd, E. Cadbury, Pearson, Grierson, Brain, Lennard, Wotherspoon.

Saturday, February 17th. L.P.S. v. Foxes, at L.P.S. During the first half L.P.S. fully held their own and might have scored once or twice. In the second half the Foxes were allowed to score rather freely and they eventually won by four goals to nothing. L.P.S. were for the most part somewhat off form, though Lloyd played well for his first time at back. The forwards were rather disjointed, Malcomson being about the best.

Tuesday, February 27th. L.P.S. v. Mansfield College. As in the game with the same team last term L.P.S. should have made the game safe in the first half. We pressed considerably in the first half and Mansfield had luck in keeping their goal intact until just before half-time. L.P.S. scored almost immediately on resuming, but towards the close of the game Mansfield equalised and drew ahead through Griffiths. It is noticeable that in this, as in all the games this term, our opponents scored their goals late in the second half.

SECOND XI.

We have experienced very bad luck this term, in having all our matches scratched but one. We were able to turn out at full strength against Collegiate, the team being as follows:—A. Gilford, Bilbrough and Grierson; Pearson, E. Cadbury, P. Cadbury; Taylor, Wother- spoon, Edmonds, Lennard, King. After an uncertain start, L.P.S. began pressing in irresistible fashion, and after Edmonds had opened the scoring, practically monopolised the play. The visitors' defence offered strong opposition, however, and our forwards found it a difficult matter to put the finishing touch to numerous efforts. Time was called with the score at 5—0. Taylor, E. Cadbury and Grierson were the shining lights of the side, though all played well.

S. F. LENNARD.

 OLD LEIGHTONIAN NOTES.

ON the 28th of September, to Leonard and Dora Priestman Doncaster, a daughter, who was named Dora Winifred.

At Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 9th of February, Harold Metford Warner was married to Marjorie Barrett Sowerby.

On January 9th, at the Friends' Meeting House, Nottingham, E. Horace Walpole to A. Dorothy Scanlan, of the Manor Park, Ruddington.

Congratulations to Basil Doncaster on his engagement to Miss Mary Tovey; also to T. W. Harris and Miss Gwen Angus, on their engagement.

On December 21st, at the City Temple, Holborn, by the Rev. W. E. Orchard, D.D., Paul Bernard Roth to Emile Harding Lauder, of Dublin.

On January 10th, at the Friends' Meeting House, Greyfriars, Gloucester, Henry Tylor Cadbury to Lucy Bellows. L. J. Cadbury acted as best man. Among the other guests we notice the names of the following Leightonians:—Phillip Bellows, George

Cadbury, junr., G. N. Cadbury, E. Cadbury, B. F. Crossfield, and G. R. Harris.

T. H. Fox is engaged in telephone work in Philadelphia.

There was quite a miniature Old Leightonian gathering at the Cannon Street Hotel, on January 12th. The occasion was a dance. T. D. Heald, R. Smee, J. B. and A. L. Braithwaite, R. V. Ridges, and A. Warner might have been seen tripping it merrily.

A. Warner has been representing Surrey County on the football field, and S. A. Serpell has kept goal for Berkshire at hockey.

L. M. Angus has passed his A.R.I.B.A. examination, and is now gaining experience with a firm of architects in London.

B. Thistlethwaite has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and has received a letter of congratulation from that body on the publication of the family history of "Thistlethwaite of Thistlethwaite." We understand that the completeness of the Quaker records greatly facilitated the compiling of the work, in which some 4,000 persons are mentioned. Already an eminent authority on eugenics has found the work most helpful. Thistlethwaite is at present working in the firm of Price, Waterhouse & Co.

Cyril Knott and his wife have had a busy time doing Red Cross work in China. On their return to their own house, some five miles from Hankow, they found that a few shells had passed through the roof, but had fortunately done a minimum amount of damage.

A. H. Richardson has just arrived in Melbourne.

A. J. S. Inglis is working in a chartered accountant's office in Glasgow. J. M. Robertson is in an East India merchant's office in the same city. J. Farmer is a homesteader at Viking, Alberta. J. M. Grierson has begun his engineering course at Glasgow University.

Philip Harvey has recently taken his M.A. degree at Cambridge.

D. W. Collier, H. L. Harris and E. I. Lloyd all took part in

the Lent races this term, Collier, rowing for Hall II., getting within one bump of his oar. J. S. Stephens has read a paper before the Classical Society. O. S. Hopkins has spent a considerable amount of time training at Fenners.

J. M. Downie has successfully negotiated one part of his first M.B., and so is getting within measurable distance of that goal of all medicals, the "Meat Shop."

H. L. Harris is a man to avoid on Saturday evenings, as he is then busily engaged in putting in hours of work that belonged rightly to other days in the week. Remembering those periods of work after supper at school, when Harris's eyes were generally closed in Algebraic meditation, we cannot but fear, with Macbeth, that after all

"Sleep that knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care
To Henry Harris is a deadly snare."

E. I. Lloyd has succeeded J. Rickman as secretary of the "Portfolio."

A. B. W. Baynes has done some good work in photography of late, winning the challenge cup of the Bromley Camera Club with his picture entitled "The Wayfarers." It was exhibited at the Festival of Empire exhibition.

J. H. Jennings is back again at the Downs School, Colwall, taking *locum* work until July. He is very keen on camping.

L. J. Cadbury is blossoming forth as a lecturer. He takes a class of thirty-five every week on Economic History.

W. G. Wilkins has been on a visit to England for a few months and has now returned to his ranch in British Columbia.

Algie Pease is reported to have the largest incubating plant in North America. It is fitted with electric light, bells and telephones. An alarm wakes him at night if the temperature is too high. His next step is to teach the chickens to use the telephone.

Gerald Lloyd is anxious to arrange an O.L. Alpine holiday next winter. There were at least a dozen old boys out there this year, including B. Binyon, Phil Harvey, H. G. Baynes, J. H.

Cadbury, and T. W. Harris. He suggests that those who intend to go out should write to him in the early autumn, stating whether they want skiing or skating. The prospect of meeting O.L.'s and their sisters should make Switzerland doubly attractive.

The arrangements for the Annual Gathering are as follows:—
Friday, July 26th, tennis match. Saturday, 27th, cricket match. Monday, 29th, excursion. Those wishing to take part in the cricket tour are requested to write to B. W. Doncaster as soon as possible.

G. C. Alexander has just sailed for Norwich, Ontario, where he intends to take up mixed farming.

R. B. Crewdson passed his entrance at King's College before leaving in December, and is going up to Cambridge in October.

L. H. Fox is working in the firm of Cudworth, Impey and Lakin in Birmingham.

J. F. O. King intended to commence work at Heidelberg this term, but an attack of pneumonia has prevented him. He is now recuperating in the Mediterranean.

E. A. Crossley has been doing a lot of useful work as Secretary of the "First Conference Estate Company." He is a director, and has had practically the sole management of the concern from its commencement, finding the site, doing much of the work in raising the capital, and attending to the details of the building and equipment of the establishment. Many of our readers will remember that a conference of 300 younger friends was held there last summer, when the Headmaster and Mrs. Evans were present as wardens.

R. V. Ridges is working in the West of Ireland at the Clifden station of the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company.

An O. L. team visited Bootham late in December and played them at football, winning by four goals to one. The team consisted of B. W. Doncaster, K. J. Brooks, G. B. Lloyd, E. I. Lloyd, F. W. Woods, B. Jefferys, E. Jefferys, O. S. Hopkins, B. Darby, H. C. Barlow, and R. Smee.

D. W. Collier has been rowing for Trinity Hall in the Clinker Fours.

In *Motor Cycling* of 12th March we note that E. Jefferys, on a 5 h.p. Indian, geared 6 to 1, made several splendid attempts to conquer Honister Pass. The paper reports that his riding was very daring, but the ascent was just beyond the power of his mount. However, by running alongside for about 40 yards, he reached the summit.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Kenneth James Backhouse, at the early age of 26. He was at L.P.S. from 1896 to 1903. As prefect and captain of the football and cricket teams he occupied a prominent position in our school life. On leaving he entered Balliol College, Oxford, and at the completion of his University career was articled to the firm of Price, Waterhouse & Co., chartered accountants, becoming a partner only last year. He frequently visited the school with the Foxes or O.L. teams, and only once missed taking part in the Q.L. Cricket tour, so that he must have been known to a very large number of Leightonians. We are sure that all will join us in sympathy with his family, and in particular with his widow, in their time of sorrow. We shall miss his presence at our annual gatherings, but ever cherish the memory of his manly character.

SCHOOL NOTES.

SCHOOL re-assembled on January 17th, and a term, somewhat shorter than usual, was soon well under weigh. The first fortnight was noticeable for the wet weather that prevailed, and the floods in the district rose considerably, providing an unusual spectacle, which was witnessed by Leightonians on several occasions. Then a frost set in, and good skating was possible for about a week. The School Pond bore skaters and provided good ice, but most boys preferred to patronise wider areas, and Leightonians were much in evidence at Coley, Caversham and elsewhere. Just as the novices were beginning to fancy themselves on the ice,

and the experts to devise even more daring feats than before, a thaw took place and warmer weather prevailed for the rest of the term. We were sorry to learn that K. H. Brooks (O.L.) met with an accident whilst skating at Caversham, and were much relieved to hear that he was not so seriously hurt as was first feared.

On February 17th the mid-term social was held. At this some of the Foxes XI., which had beaten the School in the afternoon, were able to be present, and a very successful evening was attained. The first part of the programme consisted of musical items, which were all well rendered. The band gave the Adagio and Allegro from Haydn's Symphony, No. 6, and also the Andante from the same symphony. W. J. C. Taylor played a piano solo by Rheinberger with his accustomed skill, and a quartette of violins, 'cello, and piano rendered Purcell's Golden Sonata. A. F. Grierson and J. T. Wotherspoon made a great success with their Highland Fling, so much so that the audience demanded an encore. Songs by J. A. Brain (O.L.) and one of the Foxes completed the musical portion, and the dramatic part was at once commenced. The well-known farce, "Ici on parle Français" was the piece chosen for performance, and the way in which it was carried through shows that the school has no lack of histrionic talent. All the actors were good, quite entering into their respective characters, and the only fault that could be found was that some, probably owing to lack of time, were a little uncertain of their parts. H. R. Bickerton, as the irate Major Regulus Ralton, was excellent, and worked himself up to a furious pitch of anger, while W. A. W. Bell, as his wife, played the part with daintiness and grace. C. F. G. Bilbrough and C. Smee, as Mr. and Mrs. Spriggins, who let lodgings, did very well in two difficult parts. E. P. Southall as Victor Dubois excelled himself, and J. M. Bickerton, the object of his affections, impersonated Miss Angelina Spriggins, with coyness and reality. Last, but not least, was P. S. Cadbury, who took the part of Anna Maria, an over-worked domestic. He caused great laughter and thoroughly pleased the audience. Everyone voted the social one of the greatest successes of recent years, and great credit is due to the committee, over which Mr. Scarborough presided.

Congratulations to E. P. Southall on obtaining a certificate in the Friends' Temperance Union Essay Competition.

We congratulate A. N. Pearson on successfully negotiating Responsions. Also E. Cadbury, who has passed part I. of the Previous examination.

There has been less football than usual this term, several compulsory games being prevented owing to the state of the weather, and no less than four matches being scratched by our opponents, chiefly owing to illness. The House match proved a keen game, despite the fact that School House lacked the services of J. G. Goodbody, and Grove House was distinctly fortunate to win by a penalty goal. The first XI. finished up the season by suffering defeat at the hands of Mansfield College, but would have won easily but for the lack of finish displayed by their forwards.

On January 31st all who wished had the opportunity of attending a concert, given by the Reading Orpheus Society, in the Town Hall. The programme was chiefly of a vocal nature, and several glees and part songs were rendered by the male choir. All were good, but in some the alto parts were somewhat loud. Miss Miriam Timothy, the King's harpist, gave several solos which were much appreciated, and her duet with Dr. F. J. Read, who played the organ, was one of the best items of the evening. Mr. George Macklin, the tenor, was inclined to get out of tune, but two of his pieces were very much enjoyed, namely, "The Drowsy Woods," by Storch, which he sang with an accompaniment of men's voices, and "I'll sing thee songs of Araby," which was accompanied by Miss Timothy on the harp. Altogether a very pleasant evening was spent.

We desire to offer our hearty thanks, on behalf of the School, to Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hodgkin, who kindly entertained the whole School to tea and games on March 2nd.

On Thursday, February 27th, Mr. Terrell paid us a visit and told us about his missionary work in Brittany. Up to that time very few of us had realised that missionary work was at all needed in that part of the world, but after Mr. Terrell's address we saw how

necessary it was. He told us that the women of the district were completely under the thumb of the priests, and related some amusing stories which, however, showed how superstitious and ignorant the people were. The men, he said, had practically broken away from any kind of religion. He described to us his method of working and how he was making progress amongst the men engaged in the Iceland fisheries.

We desire to express our sympathy with J. G. Goodbody on the death of his father, and to assure him that the thoughts of all have been with him during his sad bereavement.

One night, early in the term, a mighty rumbling was heard by certain inmates of School House, and the explanation was not forthcoming until the morning. Then a small hole in the ground was discovered by the back entrance of School House, and round this hole the earth for some feet was only an inch or two thick. Soon this earth was knocked down by those who came to investigate, and the result was a large hole of considerable depth and breadth. Since then the operations for filling up the cavity have been watched with interest. The hole has been deepened three or four feet and a bed of reinforced concrete two or three feet thick has been laid down. On the top of this three brick structures have been raised and a fourth will shortly appear. One of these supports the School House lavatories, and the cracks which appeared in the walls have been closed. We fear the collapse of this portion, for one of our number, when laying one of the bricks, placed an half-penny beneath it instead of the regulation two shillings. Of late the playground has been less crowded than usual in long recess, the subsidence offering a greater attraction. The proceedings have been very interesting to watch, and all that is lacking is a satisfactory reason for the whole affair.

On another page of this issue we print an appeal from the Librarian for new books for the fiction cupboard of the Library. We cordially endorse this appeal, and hope that it may soon become the custom with us, as it is in many schools, for boys to present a volume on leaving. We have to thank Mr. J. B. Hodgkin for the gift of "Jungle Trails and Jungle People" (Whitney), "Quaint Subjects of a King" (Foster Fraser), "Life

of Master John Hus" (Count Lütjnów), and "Sir Robert Hart" (Bredon).

On Monday, March 4th, the National History Society enjoyed seeing some fifty lantern slides, kindly lent by Mr. King for the occasion. They depicted a very interesting selection of British birds' nests and eggs. The majority of the photographs were taken in the neighbourhood of Reading. The members all enjoyed the slides very much, and wish to convey their sincere thanks to Mr. King for his kindness, which was much appreciated.

At the close of the orthodox football season a tournament of "sixes" was arranged on league lines. The teams were chosen by Keep, Lloyd, Fox, and H. R. Bickerton. An accident to the last-named robbed the competition of interest in its final stages. R. Ll. Lloyd's team, which consisted of Malcomson, Edmonds, Wotherspoon, N. Harricks, and Pearson finished at the top.

The March number of *Man*, a periodical devoted to Anthropological Science, contains an interesting review of a book on the disorders of post-natal growth and development. The review is signed by A. Keith, M.D., LL.D. The writer says "this is indeed a great book, wide in its scope, great in its aim and excellent in its execution," and later "the importance of the book lies in the author's discovery that one may, through the study of our diseases, gain an insight into those laws which regulate the growth, the maturation, the decay of our bodies, and thus establish those broad principles which must form the foundation of a rational anthropology." The book is the result of some twenty years' research on the part of Mr. Hastings Gilford, F.R.C.S., our medical officer.

The Steeplechase was run on Saturday, March 16th. The afternoon proved fine, and a slight breeze from the south-west helped the runners, but the recent heavy rains made the "going" rather heavy. Twelve boys, a record number, faced the starter. Lloyd at once took the lead followed closely by J. M. Bickerton, Malcomson and Pearson. At Whitley Wood farm F. S. Harricks came up to the fourth place, and a quarter of a mile further on passed Malcomson. At the Gnarled Oak Bickerton was leading, but Lloyd gained in ascending the hill, and

again took the lead at the spinney. In the meantime Wotherspoon had come up to fourth place. No further change took place among the leaders, and R. L. Lloyd won an excellent race, his time being 21 min. 26 3-5 secs. J M Bickerton was only 7 seconds behind, and so provided the closest finish that we can call to mind Harricks and Wotherspoon are to be congratulated on their performances. Seeing that they are both of them quite young they should do great things in future years. Of the remaining eight starters only one failed to pass the winning post.

NOTICES.

The Editor will be glad to receive articles for the next number up to July 1st, and requests all old Leightonian correspondents to send in their notes by the same date. He begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *By Kent and Skerne, School Echoes, Abingdonian, Stramongatian, Plymouthian, Chigwellian, The Lily, The Wyvern, Reading School Magazine, Penn Charter, King-woodian, Alfredian, Beckside*, and offers his apologies for any omission from this list.

LEIGHTONIAN BALANCE SHEET, 1911.

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Audited and found correct,

March 6th, 1912,

E. V. BALLARD (Editor).

C. K. LEDGER,
E. S. HARRIS.



THE STEEPLECHASE—PREPARING TO START. [T. W. Hopkins.