

"WHITE & BLUE,"

The Alice Ottley School Magazine

No. 86.

JULY.

1920.

* * *We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of contributors, but reserve a right of veto, should we ever think it necessary to exercise it.*

EDITORIAL.

A correspondence column will be introduced into "White and Blue" if any correspondence is received.

KALENDAR.

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| May | 4.—School opened. |
| " | 8.—Fancy Dress Dance. |
| " | 11.—Lecture on "Books for the Blind." |
| " | 13.—Ascension Day Holiday. |
| " | 29.—School Sports. |
| June | 2, 3, 4.—R.D.S. Examinations. |
| " | 5.—Tennis Match—Malvern Girls' College. |
| " | 8.—Drill Competition. |
| " | 9.—Waifs and Strays Pageant at the Theatre. |
| " | 11-14.—Half-term Holiday. |
| " | 17.—Gymnastic Display. |
| " | 18-19.—Old Girls' Gathering at the School. |
| " | 19.—Tennis Match. Old Girls. |
| " | 21.—School Birthday kept. General Knowledge Paper. |
| " | 25.—Oral French Examination. |

- July 6.—Music Examination.
 „ 13.—Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board and
 Oxford Senior Local Examinations begin.
 „ 19.—Examination for the Victoria Scholarship.
 „ 26.—School Concert.
 „ 27.—School breaks up.
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GIRLS LEFT. EASTER, 1920.

Margaret Luckham, Kitty Foulds, Freda Rogers, Joyce Hooke, Hilda Pope, Jeanette Webster, Averil Pearson, Lilian Robinson, May Clift, Nelly Lynn.

NEW GIRLS AND BOYS. MAY, 1920.

Winifred Moule (IVA.) ; Geraldine Penley, Mary Morgan (IIIA.) ; Ida Pratt, Marcia Chell (IIIB.) ; Pauline Floyde-Radcliffe (II.) ; Gwyneth Samuel, Rosie Garrood (I.) ; at half-term : Nancy Dew (I.).

Preparatory and K.G. :—Marcella Lloyd, Margaret Rees, Mary Wilcox, Betty Dorrell, Rita Dorrell, Peggy Gillespy, Betty Pratt, Gerald Clifton ; at half-term : Jacqueline Clarke, Daphne March.

THE CONFIRMATION.

In the Cathedral, on Friday, March 26th, the following girls were confirmed :—Mary Burnett, Betty Harvey, Sheila Cavenagh, Joan Watson, Mary Willis, Vera Shrub-sall, Marjorie Shaw, Kathleen Shaw, Adeline Gregory, Winifred Buckney, Marjorie Morris, Patience Nott, Brenda Jerram, Nora Castley, Peggy Whitaker, Dora Yarnold, Marjorie Yarnold, Marjorie Parmee, Marian Powell, Phyllis Roberts, Philippa Blackall, Nesta Morgan, Mary Gascoigne, Mabel Smith, Jessie Garrood, May Clift, Eileen Moody, Lilian Robinson.

EXAMINATION RESULTS.

Oxford University : P. Davies has passed Respon-
sions.

Music—R.A.M. and R.C.M. Centre :

W. Gilbanks. Advanced Grade.

J. Webster. Intermediate ; Rudiments of Music.

Royal Drawing Society—Annual Exhibition.

Bronze Star :

C. Robinson.

E. Garnett.

Highly Commended :

F. Pitcher (2 sheets).

E. Garnett (2 sheets).

1st Class Commended :

P. Mann (2 sheets).

E. Moody.

M. Taylor (VIB.)

P. Tilt.

M. Willis (2 sheets).

3rd Class Commended : 4 sheets.

4th „ „ 14 sheets.

SOCIÉTÉ NATIONALE DES PROFESSEURS DE
FRANCAIS EN ANGLETERRE.

CONCOURS DE MARS, AVRIL, MAI, JUIN.

Prix	C. Watson.
			G. Evans.
			M. Watson.

Mention	C. Mackenzie.
			B. Pollard.
			P. Hansen-Bay.
			C. Watson.
			R. Hansen-Bay (2).
			R. Longland (2).
			I. Herbert-Stepney.
			J. Lace.
			M. Willis.
			I. Smith (2).
			M. Boyd.
			R. Evans.

THE GENERAL KNOWLEDGE PAPER.

The results of this Examination revealed some surprising facts about the distribution of general information through the School. The paper covered a wide field, and in some cases more enterprise might have been shown in answering.

The following girls have gained prizes :—

VIA.	C. Watson.
VIB.	R. Longland.
VA.	E. Mumford.
IVA.	E. Watson.
IVB.	M. Watson.
IIIA.	M. Morgan.

In IIIB., J. Nicholls did a very creditable paper.

In Forms II. and I. an Observation Paper was set ; M. Philips gained the highest marks.

THE DRILL COMPETITION.

This took place on June 8th. It was very fortunate that Miss Rose, who acted as Judge last year, was able to come once more and compare the results of the two

competitions. She gave a very good report on the actual work done, but commented unfavourably on the carriage and general position of the School as a whole, and urged every girl to try to remedy this by constant personal effort.

In the Senior Competition the Shield was won by VB. The other forms were placed in the following order : IVB., VIB., IIIA., Remove, VA., IVA.

In the Junior Competition the Cup was again won by IIIB. ; Form I. and Form II. followed.

MISSION WORK:

The Lent savings for the Waifs and Strays amounted to £2. During Lent a great deal of extra needlework was done in the different forms, and parcels of clothing &c. were sent to the Reverend Richard Wilson, the Worcester Infant Welfare Society, and later on to the " Save the Children " Depot in London. We have received a good report of our Delhi Scholar, Esther Isa Dass ; she has evidently improved very much since we last had news of her. We are grateful to two old girls, Violet Surman and Phyllis Donkin, who have sent us donations towards the Mission Funds of the School.

Flowers have been brought each week by the Forms in turn. They have been sent chiefly to Sister Audrey, C.S.P., for the Charterhouse Mission in Tabard Street, Southwark. Some have also been sent to the Birmingham General Hospital and to the Worcester Infirmary.

" Save the Children."—An excellent and prompt response was made to the appeal for outgrown clothing ; a large trunk and three large parcels were forwarded to the Depot.

BIRTHS.

MURRAY.—On March 10th, the wife (née D. Fox) of Saville Burdett-Murray, of a daughter (Sheila Burdett).

TUPPER.—On April 24th, the wife (née D. Chappel) of the Reverend E. H. Tupper, of a son (Michael Heathfield).

KNIGHT.—On May 13th (Ascension Day), the wife (née S. Naylor) of R. C. Knight, of a daughter (Barbara Mary).

DRUMMOND.—On May 22nd, the wife (née M. Ottley) of Cyril Drummond, of a daughter.

KAY.—On May 29th, the wife (née D. Southall) of T. Kay, of a son.

MORRIS.—On June 23rd, the wife (née Marjorie Quartermann) of Vaughan Morris, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

AUSTIN—MOORE.—On January 20th, at All Saints' Church, Stamford, the Reverend Harold Austin (S.P.G. Missionary in South India) to Marion Frances Moore.

VEEGER—CONSTANCE.—On March 23rd, at St. George's Church, Worcester, Hendrikus Jacobus Veeger to Mabel Beatrice Constance.

NEWS OF OLD GIRLS.

Jessica Grove has gained the B.Sc. Degree of Birmingham University.

GIFTS.

From Miss Moore : Several beautiful specimens from a¹ West Indian seashore.

From Miss Graham (for the Butler Library) : Essays by Francis Thompson.

From the Rev. G. F. Hooper (for the Butler Library):
History of Worcester. Green.

From Miss Gillespy : A " House " Lacrosse Challenge
Cup.

Prizes for the School Sports were given by :—

Mrs. Downes.

Mrs. Radcliffe.

Mrs. Pollard.

Dr. Pollard.

Colonel Walker.

Mr. Griffiths.

OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION MEETING.

The first of the gatherings which it is hoped to have every other summer, took place at the week-end of the School's Birthday. About one hundred Old Girls were able to come for all or part of the time, and found hospitality with old friends or at the Boarding Houses. We were very glad to have also several old Mistresses, among them Miss Bagnall, Miss Moore (just home from Nassau), Miss Bertha Woodhouse (just home from India), and Miss Laybourne.

After School Prayers on the Saturday morning, Canon Chappel gave us a delightful talk about the School and Miss Ottley in the old days, and what her ideals and influence meant.

Then at a Business Meeting, the Constitution for the new Old Girls' Association was thoroughly discussed and some small alterations made, and the provisional Committee who had been carrying on was formally elected, and other plans were discussed, such as the O.G.A. Leaflet which is to appear in the autumn and be an annual publication for the present at least. It is very much hoped that members will send their news to the

Secretary for the Leaflet or they will not find very much of other people's in it! As far as possible, changes of address will be notified there. Some copies of the Register made last year can still be had.

Those who stayed at School for lunch that Saturday found a most sumptuous repast prepared by the Domestic Economy girls under Miss Collyns, and we are sure that no one will wish to miss that item next time! The Tennis Match was won by the Old Girls, who were a strong team, and in the middle of the afternoon a group was taken, of which copies are for sale at 2/- each. In the evening, the VI. acted one of their French plays, and the gathering fell to dancing.

There must still be a great number of Old Girls other than Guild members who would wish to keep in touch with the School but who are not yet members of the O.G.A. The Secretary will gladly send the Rules to any enquirers, or girls leaving School can have them from Miss Spurling. Will people please make this known as widely as they can? The subscription is 2/6, or two guineas for life membership, and it should be noted that these meetings are now for members only; not like the previous General Gatherings, for all Old Girls. The Badge can now be had, price 2/3 in plate, or 4/- silver.

M.W.

“CHANGE IS THE NURSERY OF MUSIC, JOY,
LIFE AND ETERNITY.”

The Old Girls' Gathering has come and gone, and the feelings with which those who were there look back upon it must be mingled indeed, and hard to express in writing. But clear and without mixture, is the deep thankfulness for the prosperity of the well-loved School, and the promise for her future. It was not possible for most of us, especially the “very old girls,” to see much of

the present Mistresses, and VI. Form girls; but the memory of them and their part in making the way smooth for us all, is one of the best we carry away with us. For the life of a School is continuous as the flow of a river, and to see ours as she is *now*, full of the old spirit, but moving in new ways to fresh achievement, was a great happiness. The feeling and presence of our Head, Miss Ottley, went with us through those days, and so we heard many say.

It is hard to express our gratitude to Miss Spurling. We have been given by her the chance of renewing our allegiance to the old School, and we feel assured that in taking our grateful acknowledgment of her welcome and her kindness, she will accept with it the loyalty to her as Head which is the bond that unites the past generations with those who are still there.

The Gathering began on Friday evening, June 18th, with a *Conversazione*, which was a happy meeting of friends, with a certain accompaniment of noise, as we all began to compare notes, and to scrape off the mosses of years, to get to the old remembered traits.

There were many of the mistresses whose names bring back the happiness of our School years, and bind the different School generations together: Miss Bagnall, Melle. Grun, Miss Mackworth, Miss Moore, Miss Bowles, Miss Laybourne, Miss Belcher, Miss Badham, Melle. de Sabatier-Plantier, and last, but not least, Miss Beale, known to every one of all the generations, one of the 'First Eleven' girls, and a present Mistress on the Staff. There were also Mr. Hooper and Mrs. Claughton, old friends and lovers of the School; and I should like with the names to put two more: Kathleen Abell, one of the 'First Eleven,' and Margery Wight, the invaluable Secretary of the Old Girls' Association, known to us all by her name, if not personally.

On Saturday morning all of us who could, met at S. Oswald's for the Eucharist Service, when the hymn

“ And now 'O Father ” was played by Peggy Ottley. She played the organ too at School Prayers, taken for us at 10.30 by Miss Spurling, and followed by a very beautiful address from Canon Chappel, who gathered the teaching of Miss Ottley's life into two main thoughts for us—her clear vision, and her constant service of others.

Miss Agnes Ottley was with us at prayers and heard the address with us, and Miss James came from Malvern, so we felt our chain complete. And the hymn “Through the night of doubt and sorrow ” lifted us to the thought of our dear Head, and those of her mistresses and children who have also passed into the greater life, and whom we never forget. After prayers came the business meeting, with Miss Spurling in the chair, and then a most delectable lunch prepared by Miss Collyn's domestic girls, and referred to with rapture by those who partook of it, at intervals throughout the day.

After lunch there was a Tennis match between past and present girls, and the School garden was filled with people of every generation watching the play and talking with unfailing zest to the old companions.

Then the photograph was taken, and we had tea in the Gymnasium, which was made lovely with flowers, and where the VIA and B and Domestic Class again looked after us.

Those who, like myself, belong to the first three years of the School, felt at times as if they moved in a dream ; for time does not wait or stay for anything, and the present is for ever reaching over the shoulders of the past to grasp at the future. But here this movement seemed stayed for a breathing space—and those who had gone far on paused, while those who still were pressing forward lingered to serve them.

Such times cannot last, but the memory of them endures and becomes inheritance. Of such memories we have many, and we gather them all in gratitude for the

three good days, giving thanks for the achievements of the past, and the promise of the future. I wish I could remember the exact words with which Dorothy Hodge, now herself a Head Mistress, voiced our thanks to our Head, Miss Spurling, but there is not one of us who does not echo their feeling ; and " What poor duty cannot do, noble respect takes it in might, not merit."

Nothing can sum up our wishes better than Miss Ottley's words in her last letter to the Guild : " Floreat in æternum Schola puellarum Vigorniensis."

THE OLD GIRLS' GATHERING.

JUNE 18TH-21ST, 1920.

This year the Old Girls met at School for the first time since the War, and present mistresses and the sixth forms were invited to meet them there on Friday and Saturday. We met many old friends, either mistresses or girls, but some of them belonged to the " First Broods," and although they wore their names in prominent positions, they were not very great helps : if we knew the name, we generally knew the girl. Most of them were strangers, although perhaps they had the greater right to the School, and conversation on Friday did not flow smoothly in every direction ! The concert paved the way.

Saturday turned out to be one of the best of days, not too blazingly hot for the Tennis match ; nevertheless, the cool gymnasium, with its apparatus hidden beneath festoons of ivy, its platform smothered with white and blue flowers, hot-house plants, and a few geraniums, and last, but not least, the interesting photographs of bygone generations of blue pinafores, was delightfully refreshing. Here lunch and tea were laid.

After the match, which was won by the Old Girls, we all made our way to the Hockey field, and were there

arranged in a large group, finally to the photographer's satisfaction. The presence of the sixth forms in the pavilion proved too "distracting," and they were sent away, only to take furtive peeps round the archway to see that nobody was going to spoil the effect by ducking out of sight !

After tea, we went home for a short rest before the rather trying ordeal of acting in—or watching—a French play ! The actors were back again by 6 o'clock, which gave them just an hour and a half in which to get dressed, powdered, and painted. The play itself took far less time : it seemed quickly over. Then came a hurried clearing up before and behind the scenes, an immediate change of dress for those who were not gentlemen, and the return to the Big Hall to raise the stage curtains out of the dancers' way. The greater part of the gathering apparently preferred to talk rather than to dance.

Several had to leave early, perhaps to catch a train ; perhaps to start on a long ride home, to scramble into bed and fall into a confused sleep, broken by dreams of flying balls and pattering feet which, in the morning, turned into the rain pattering on the window-sill.

Those Old Girls who found it possible came to School on Monday morning, when—to quote a local newspaper—each form "embarked on a General Knowledge Paper."

All these old faces about the School seemed to put us back into the dim ages of IIIA. and two pigtails ; they also reminded us that, by the next gathering, we shall be Old Girls' ourselves !

M.A. I A.

GAMES' REPORT.

We have been a little unlucky in our games this Term. It has always been difficult to fix up cricket matches ; this year we managed to arrange two, both of

which had to be scratched because of the fear of measles. It is very disappointing for those for whom this is their last cricket season and for those who should have won their 1st XI. colours. On the play in form matches six girls have been given their colours: E. Watson, G. Evans, I. Stroyan, E. Phillips, A. Beaven, B. Griffiths. N. Castley, who has been both keen and useful as captain. N. Andrews and V. Dingle are the only members of the XI. who won their colours last year. We are glad to say that there is no lack of keenness and enthusiasm amongst the cricketers, but a great number of girls when fielding would do well to remember that they are there for the purpose of stopping the ball when it comes their way, and not as an ornament to the cricket field!

The tennis has fared a little better than the cricket. Two matches out of six only have been played, against Malvern Girls' College and the Old Girls. We were beaten in both cases, but by no means hopelessly. Both teams were much better than our own, a superiority due, possibly, to more practice than we can get, but it was good to see that grit and determination were not lacking in our team. Our 3rd couple earn special praise for their play against the Old Girls. Both the Form and the House matches are in full swing, and it is probable that both will be very keenly contested. It is very gratifying to see that every form that has anyone playing tennis has sent in a pair for the Lawn Tennis Competition, even to Remove, who have only three players.

Matches were also arranged with St. James', the Abbey School, Lawnside, Oxford High School, and the Staff, but had to be scratched.

The following girls played for the School and have been given their colours:—

C. Mackenzie (Capt.)

B. Kirkham.

B. Pollard.

P. Henery.

I. Humphries.

G. Richardson.

C. Mackenzie. Rather slow, but has improved very much lately. In matches she takes too long in settling down to her usual form. Sometimes she gets very good serves in.

B. Kirkham. Usually very good. Must persevere with her back-hand strokes, and should also practice playing at the net.

B. Pollard. A steady player, who should now learn to "place" the ball, and to practice a swifter stroke. Service rather weak.

P. Henery. Rather disappointing and not very dependable. She can play quite a good game, but she seldom does herself justice.

I. Humphries. A steady player who has played a very good "back line" game and has done well in the matches. She should now practice a swifter stroke.

G. Richardson. Should in time make a very useful player. Has persevered at the net, with good results. Service is at present weak, but it will be good with more more practice.

THE SPORTS.

The Sports were held on Saturday, May 29th. Great excitement prevailed amongst the athletic members of the School.

The first items on the programme were the heats of the Obstacle Race, during which there was a great deal of squeezing ! The rest of the races, except the Mistresses' Race, were finals, and therefore most exciting ; the heats had been run off beforehand. The High jumping was very good indeed, especially among the smaller girls ; so was the Long jumping.

During the Potato Races all held their breath ; everyone watched the champions intently, silently, afraid to hurry them or to distract their attention.

The Hundred Yards and Quarter Mile Race were run with great energy, and the results were very close.

The race that produced the most excitement was the Mistresses', and it certainly was a thrilling and difficult race. To make a daisy chain and to throw balls into a basket are hopeless things to do in a hurry.

After all the individual races, came the House Relay Race and Tug-of-War. The former was very short and sharp ; the latter lasted a long time. How the teams tugged ! How they refused to be pulled an inch ! How they flopped when they had won or lost ! Everyone was so much in earnest, and the war raged long and fiercely.

Then the great moment came when Miss Spurling gave away the prizes, many of which were kindly given by parents. The same people seemed to come up again and again, and several lucky people went off with three.

Afterwards everyone, weary but happy, went home.

B.G.G. (VIB.)

A FOOLISH BALLAD.

Summer Term,
29th May,
Sports at School
A Saturday.

Morning dawned
Cloud did burst,
Spirits damped
Just at first.

Clouds dispersed,
Extr'ordinary thing,
Sun in sky !
Birds did sing.

Parents came
To applaud
Children's doings
On the sward.

Heats were run
Of all races,
Then the finals
Settled places.

Items numbered
Eight in all :
" Throwing of
The Cricket ball."

" Potato Race,"
 " Quarter Mile,"
 And " Hundred Yards,"
 The time did while.

Jumping high,
 Likewise far,
 Further efforts
 Did debar !

Athletes, sitting
 In the shade,
 Quickly quaffed
 Their lemonade.

Bell proclaimed
 " Three-legged race,"
 Then " Obstacle,"
 Devoid of grace !

Miss Margoliouth
 Race did win,
 Next Miss Spink
 Panting in.

Miss Spurling did
 Prizes hand
 To winners, who
 Around did stand.

Then Miss Knott,
 Miss Stewart too,
 We did cheer
 With much ado.

But—next morn !
 Stiff, and sore.
 Proof, if needed,
 Sports were o'er.

TWO SPORTING SPIRITS.

THE FANCY DRESS DANCE.

On May 8th, the first Saturday of the Term, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., a Fancy Dress Dance was held at School. The proceeds went to help to pay the Magazine debt. All forms above IIIB. were invited. Although fancy dress was optional nearly everyone wore it. All the dresses were splendid, but the most picturesque were some early Victorian ladies in real poke-bonnets. There was also a golliwog who looked exactly his part. Among the other dresses were several pierrots and gipsies. At the beginning of the dance the most distinguished character was a Brontosaurus, who pranced about in a very wild fashion and caused much amusement. Unfortunately, directly after the March Past, he vanished, never to return ! Viewed from the Old Girls' Gallery the scene was gay and

interesting and it was difficult to recognise anyone. All the guests seemed to be enjoying themselves immensely, although some people must have found it difficult to dance in their dresses. The last dance on the programme was Sir Roger, which went on for a long time. Soon after 9 p.m. everyone left, having spent a very happy evening.

S.L. (VI.B.)

WRITTEN IN JULY WHILE WATCHING A TENNIS
MATCH.

(With deepest apologies to Wordsworth).

The ball is flying,
The scorer is sighing,
The juniors twitter,
Their elders feel bitter,
The trees give a shade from the sun ;
The oldest and youngest
Wish luck to the strongest ;
The couples are playing,
No word they are saying ;
There are forty points to our one !

Like an army defeated
Their girls have retreated ;
But fare not so ill
As they feast on the sill ;
The cheering is over—hurrah, hurrah :
There's joy everywhere ;
There's hope for next year ;
Now all is plain sailing,
Bright future prevailing ;
Our defeats are over and gone !

TO HOPLEY.

Oh Hopley, we have called upon thy name
 In wild despair, when on a Monday we
 Were fronted by the question dread to see :
 " Who are or were . . . Hopley, of glorious fame ? "
 Some called thee a Mayor's Minister (O shame,
 That what this is should be unknown to me !)
 Some thought that thou wert, in a high degree,
 A poet, hither came to fan thy flame.
 Some even, by a monstrous insult, dared
 To name thee common pugilist, alack !
 And thought that thou to fly the Atlantic cared,
 Or loved wine-bottles in a crate to pack,
 Live on, O man, in peace the courts to mow,
 And pay no heed to calumnies so low.

R.

(Editor's Note : General Knowledge Paper).

A BURIED TREASURE.

Hidden in the depths of a wood in the heart of Warwickshire is a wonderful old Roman bath of considerable size, intact as when it was built seventeen hundred years ago. There are now no traces of a Roman camp or dwelling-houses in its vicinity as there must once have been, but suddenly in a small clearing in this dense wood there appears this wonderfully preserved piece of Roman architecture, surrounded on all sides by ancient yews. The bath appears to be about six feet deep and twelve feet long and is kept constantly filled by a hidden spring of icy cold water. Over the bath is a circular room supported on stone columns, with a ceiling covered in shells. This upper-storey may be a later addition, but the bath itself and the doorway are certainly Roman. Round the sides of the bath between the stone pillars

are deep recesses filled with wide stone seats, and a very narrow stone spiral staircase leads to the room above. Perhaps the most strange feature of the building is the roof of the lower compartment, which is made of rough pointed slabs of rock, which hang downwards, something like large icicles. There is no light in the lower room except what comes through the doorway. On a hot summer afternoon there is no cooler place than a seat on the wide stone slabs in the shadow, within sound of the ceaseless trickle of the water from the spring as it falls into the bath. Though probably in Nero's time this public bath was a favourite resort of many wealthy Romans, to-day its existence is only known to the natives of the neighbouring villages, as it is buried in the depths of private woods.

M.G.

EDITHA THE BEAUTIFUL.

CHAPTER I.

"The Danes! the Danes! the Danes have come!" The cry burst from a young man, tall and strong, but with a pale, haggard face. He ran through the little village, shouting as he went.

"Is it true, what you say?" said an old man.

"Quite true," returned the other, "the Danes are within three or four hours' march. Pack your luggage, collect your sheep, and be out of this village as quickly as you can!"

And he passed on.

"I shall not go, father," murmured a voice at the old man's side. "I will stay and wait for my husband, Edmund. He will soon be back again."

It was a young girl who spoke, tall and fair, with the sweetest voice anyone could wish to hear. Her name was Editha, and her husband, Edmund, was a scout in King Alfred's army. He was at present out scouting in the Danish camp.

"Yes, my child, it is true that Edmund will be back in a few days, but where will you be all the while?" said the old man.

"I shall take some food and go and live in the woods, father, till Edmund comes back."

"My child, you had better come with us before it is too late," protested the old man again, "you would regret it if you fell into the Danes' hands."

"No, father, I promised him I would wait for him in the woods, and I also know of a place which the Danes don't know. It is down by the ford where the little stream joins the river; if I take some food with me, I shall be able to hide in the thick branches of the old gnarled tree."

"Very well," said the old man at last, "it is a good place to hide, and the Danes would never find you; but you had better take some cakes and honey with you, and a fishing-line, for there are plenty of fish in the stream."

So Editha got her things together and went to her father. "Goodbye, father," she said, "I will follow you directly Edmund comes. He will not be long."

"Goodbye, dearest," the old man said, "follow us as quickly as you can and be careful how you hide yourself."

The old man stood at the door and waved his hand to her as she disappeared in the gloom. He then turned and went into the hut. In about half-an-hour his goods were collected and he walked slowly away, casting many a longing glance back at the old village he loved so well.

After an hour's sharp walk Editha arrived at a pleasant little spot where a stream trickled by. She at once threw her line and before long a couple of fish lay on the bank. After eating her supper Editha lay down among the branches and was soon asleep.

CHAPTER II.

In the middle of the night a great form could have been seen to creep through the forest. As it came near

to the tree in which Editha slept, it howled and whined, getting louder and louder till at last Editha woke. She gave a cry of joy at seeing the animal.

"Why Bevis, Bevis, good dog, where have you come from, eh?" The dog wagged his great tail and began to jump at the tree as if imploring Editha to come down.

"All right, coming, Bevis, good dog," said Editha, "but where is Edmund, Bevis?"

She leapt down, and as if in answer to her question the dog caught her by the skirt of her dress and dragged her along with him until they reached a small ford. Editha crept down the bank and she suddenly became aware of two small boats by the side of the bank. She gave a cry of surprise for there in one of the boats sat King Alfred himself with Edmund by his side.

"There now, Edmund," laughed the King, "didn't I tell you so, she is so surprised she cannot speak to you. Come Editha," he added, kindly, "jump in and we will row up to my camp."

"If it please your majesty," Editha answered timidly, "I promised my father that directly Edmund came, we would go back to him."

"I see," answered Alfred thoughtfully, "I think I will go with you and Edmund in one boat and we will go and visit the old man. And on the way I will tell you how Edmund and I came here. To make a long story short, while I was up the river at our camp, Bevis came with a letter round his neck saying that Edmund was coming here. We went to meet him, and then we heard that you had gone into the forest, so we sent Bevis to find you," ended Alfred.

As they were talking, the boat was passing through the most beautiful country imaginable. The birds sang, the squirrels frisked about, and the air was filled with the sweet fragrance of spring.

"Here we are," said Alfred at last, as the boat grated on the shore, "now half a mile will be the end of

our journey. I have been thinking, Edmund," he said, slowly turning to his scout, "that while the Danes are about, you and Editha, her father, and Bevis, had better come and live with me for a while."

"Thank you, your majesty" replied Edmund "these parts are very unsafe for anyone. I never liked leaving Editha and her father."

"Very well then" said Alfred, "I will tell the old man now, for here we are."

As he spoke they arrived at a dirty little hut. Alfred knocked, and an old man answered the door. For a moment he stood speechless with amazement. Then he gasped "Editha! Editha! is it really you?"

"Yes, dear father," she replied, "and King Alfred and Edmund."

"My good fellow," King Alfred explained, "you, your daughter, Edmund, and the dog are coming to live with me until the Danes' ravages are over. I came to fetch you."

In an hour the party were in the boat, rowing to the camp. The next day all were settled in their new home.

"At last," murmured Editha, "at last we are in a safe place."

"At last," echoed from all sides.

"Bow-wow" barked Bevis contentedly.

M. KNIGHT (IIIA.)