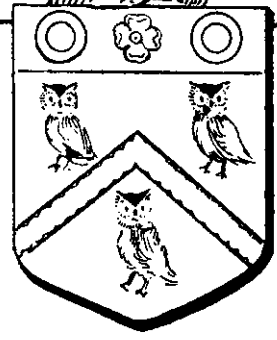


SAPERE AUDE



The
Gulme
Victorian.



FIDE SED. CUI VIDE

E. Elliott
D.R.

The Hulme Victorian.

1905.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Once upon a time there were within seven miles of Oldham real country lands, consisting of wheat fields and oat fields—their borders marked out by luxuriant hawthorn hedges, where the primroses and violets of Spring gave way to the wild roses of Summer, and the last Autumn blackberry spent the Winter beneath a snow-mantle, whose pure whiteness gleamed under a sun which had not yet learned to conceal itself behind a thick veil of smoke. The owner of the lands, William Hulme, observing the then great recent educational developments in the southern part of the kingdom, determined to do his part towards obtaining a share in its benefits for his own kith. Accordingly, in 1691, he bequeathed his lands in trust for four of such Lancashire students as had just taken their Bachelor's Degree at Oxford, in order that they might be enabled to remain at college yet another four years to receive that further education in Classics and Philosophy as was then believed to best train the intelligence of those who, as priests or laymen, were about to undertake the teaching of others. It must be remembered that in the "good old days," a B.A. was a lad of sixteen or seventeen who, in 1905, would be a mere Fifth-Form schoolboy with two or three years of school-life still before him. That it was the Lancashire boys whom William Hulme desired to befriend we may fairly infer from his directions that the four B.A.'s were to be nominated for their scholarships (as we should now express it) by the Rectors of Manchester, Bury, and Prestwich-cum-Oldham.

Years passed on, and the day dawned on which a certain Scottish lad watched the lid of the domestic kettle struggling vainly to suppress the escaping steam. Need we recount how his vigil resulted in the vanishing of the golden harvest fields and the springing up of a vast crop of lofty chimneys and huge mills to which workers flocked in from the Lancashire and Yorkshire dales, while the lands rose in value by leaps and bounds? And where, in 1691, the rental of Hulme's lands produced but thirty pounds a year for the maintenance of those four B.A.'s, now many warehouses, dwelling-houses, and leases of land in the vicinity of the Manchester Royal Infirmary bring in a yearly income of some sixteen thousand pounds—a sum so greatly beyond the necessities of the Lancashire Oxonians, that during the earlier half of the last century the surplus enabled many Church benefices to be bought, and some churches and parsonages to be built. Still the money grew, and in 1852, it came to be remembered that the primary intention of William Hulme had been to benefit Education, more especially the education of the parishioners of Manchester, Bury, and Prestwich-cum-Oldham, the last named being our mother-parish. For the next twenty-five years there was a more or less continuous agitation to get the money applied to its original purpose, and in 1877, a new scheme was drawn up by the Charity Commissioners, and came into force in 1881, by which a Hulme Grammar School for Boys was built in Manchester and endowed with a sum of £1000 a year, while to the existing High School for Girls in Dover Street there was granted an annual income of £500 which was afterwards increased to £1000. There, as far as schools were concerned, the matter rested. But Oldham boys and girls had men among them who, in 1877, in spite of their busy lives, took thought for them, and were ready gladly to sacrifice time and strength that they might gain for their young townsfolk the inestimable boon of such a first-rate education as till then could be obtained by only a very select few, and even by them only at a considerable distance from their homes. All future generations of Oldham Hulmeians will remember with affectionate gratitude the names of Mr. Joseph Travis and Mr. Hesketh Booth, who for their sakes worked strenuously till, in 1887, a scheme was drawn up granting £18000 to the building of two Grammar Schools in Oldham, and endowing the Boys' School with a minimum income of £750 a year, while to the Girls' School was assigned a yearly sum of not less than £500. At the same time a supplementary scheme ordained that all land and money belonging to the extinct Grammar School, founded in 1611 by James Assheton, should be transferred to and vested in the Official Trustees of

Charitable Funds in trust for these new Hulme Grammar Schools of Oldham ; and in memory of the founder of our ancestral school at least six Assheton scholarships are maintained each year in the Girls' School.

No time was lost, a site was chosen, and there rose on the brow of the Coppice the now-familiar long red building, where our bright class-rooms cluster round two sides of our beautiful Hall, while at a safe distance, at the far end of a long corridor, stand the laboratory and lecture-room, wherein our future housewives so learn the manners and customs of the different forms of matter, as to be able to turn their knowledge to account when in the days to come they will be responsible for the health and comfort of their households.

It is just ten years since the school was opened, and the last year of the decade was appropriately celebrated by a severe three-days' inspection, conducted by Mr. W. C. Fletcher, His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Secondary Schools and Mr. W. B. Hards, the Chief Inspector of Secondary Schools in West Lancashire, together with four others of whom one was a lady. No subject was left unexamined, while organisation, curriculum, buildings, and even games were thoroughly scrutinized and approved in such terms as will inspire the girls of the coming decade, both in their work and in their play, with the same earnest and unselfish spirit as gained for the pioneer generation the kind congratulations of the Governors.

* * *

SPEECH DAY.—So greatly did we desire the privilege of hearing an address from Professor Michael Sadler that Speech Day was postponed to a Friday in the Spring Term, during which he is in residence at the Manchester University. Early in the same week we had the pleasure of a visit from him, when he spent the morning in an informal inspection of the two schools. On the evening of Friday, January 27th, it was a very crowded Hall that welcomed his entrance, and he was accompanied on to the platform by Mr. Emmott, our Chairman, Mrs. Emmott, Mrs. Charles E. Lees, Miss Clark, and Mr. Pickford.

The proceedings began as usual with the singing of five verses of the Veni Creator by the girls and boys—the small girls being much aggrieved that on these occasions the Latin version is always used. “We wanted to sing too, and we couldn't, because we don't know Latin,” they are reported to have grumbled! Next Mr. Emmott, after congratulating the two schools on the Report sent in by the Inspectors to the Board of Education, kindly read for Miss Clark her Report on the past year, which was as follows :—

“Ladies and Gentlemen,—Before presenting to you my Report on the work of the past twelve months, I should state that this last year has been signalised by a large increase in our number of girls—an increase due not only to those who have come in during the last two terms, but also to the fact that during that time very few have left us : for the elder girls now realise that those who pass out of the school before the ages of eighteen or nineteen receive only a small share of the benefit to be gained from a secondary school training.

As usual, the School was examined in July by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board—Forms IV. and V., by means of written papers in five subjects ; the younger girls being questioned orally on English, French, and Latin, by Mr. Ferard, of Keble College, Oxford, who prefaces his detailed Report on the work of the various Forms by the following general remarks :—“The examination shewed that this school is a very efficient one. The Staff is highly qualified and in all the Forms it was evident that the teaching had been thorough and good. Latin is not begun below the Upper Third, and but little time can be spared to it even here or in the Lower Fourth. Consequently very little was offered, but a good start has been made, for the girls knew the little they have done very creditably. The French was distinctly good. It is taught in accordance with the modern conversational method, which in this case has produced excellent results : the girls read with a correct accent and could describe the scenes in the pictures set before them, or narrate the story of the book in which they had been reading in a way which shewed that the language had a real meaning for them, and that a good start had been made in the power of speaking it. Moreover, correct answers were given to questions on

the grammar, from which it was clear that the intelligence, and not merely the verbal memory of the pupils, had been stimulated. The History and Geography were well known, and many answered so brightly and intelligently that it was possible to cover more ground than is usually the case. The facts were in general correctly known, and the significance of the facts had been well taught. Very few made wild guesses and though in each Form there were some who answered much better than the rest, yet hardly anyone failed to answer something, and the average was good. The school is one that is fully competent to give advanced education to girls. The work is well organised, the order and discipline are good, and the pupils take an interest in their studies such as is only felt by those who are being trained with insight and sympathy."

In the Sixth Form three girls passed the London Matriculation Examination in English, French, Latin, Mathematics, and in Science or History. Of these, one took in addition the Matriculation Examination of the Manchester University, and is now at Owens College working as a King's Scholar for the Intermediate B.Sc. Examination of London. Of the other two, one is an Assistant Teacher under the Oldham Education Committee, and the third is still at school working for the Intermediate Examination for the London B.A. Degree. Two others have just sat for the London Matriculation Examination, held a fortnight ago, the results of which are not yet known. [Both have succeeded in passing.] All five girls are, or have been, prominent members of the Hockey First Eleven, while two of them were the school champions at the tournament of the Lancashire High Schools' Tennis League, when they held their own so well as to win the badges presented to the two schools playing in the final round—the shield however, being carried off by their opponents of the Bury Grammar School.

In the examinations of the Royal Drawing Society, out of one hundred and eight papers sent in, sixty-eight passed—twenty-two with honours; and prizes were awarded by the Society to the best girls in the various divisions, the examiner again remarking that the results were good.

Twelve entered for the bursaries awarded by the Town Council to those girls who mean to devote themselves to elementary teaching. Of these, eleven gained bursaries, three of them heading the list of successful candidates.

This year, for the first time, the Board of Education in taking up the educational work of the Charity Commissioners, decided that all endowed schools should be subjected to a searching inspection, and consequently we underwent a three-days' examination at the hands of six inspectors. They expressed themselves as well satisfied with the work being done here, and, upon their Report, the Board has accepted this school as eligible to receive the grants now being given to such secondary schools as show themselves to be efficient.

As to such of our Old Girls as have entered the academic world, the paper in your hands will show that we have much reason to be proud of our old head prefect, Nellie Neild, who completed her Oxford course with great distinction, being one of the only two women who obtained a place in the First Class in the Final Examination of the Modern History Schools. Her special paper (on Land Tenure) was pronounced by her examiners to be the best sent in by either man or woman, and they expressed the hope that she would remain on at Oxford and devote herself to research work. Having, however, decided to take up the profession of teaching, she has entered the Datchelor Secondary Training College, where, on account of her brilliant degree, she was awarded a free studentship.

With respect to the more social side of our school-life, there has been much activity—the girls readily responding to the unwearied interest taken by the mistresses in initiating and organising whatever may promote their physical welfare, while drawing out and strengthening such an unselfish public spirit as may help them more perfectly to fulfil their part whether as members of the home or of the community.

Before concluding, I have again much pleasure in expressing the thanks of the School, to those who, by their gifts of prizes, have so kindly encouraged the girls to do with all their might whatever both brain and hands might find to do."

The Head Master of the Boys' School having spoken as to the work of the boys, the prizes were distributed by Professor Sadler, who beginning his address by congratulating the parents on the existence of the two Grammar Schools, referred to the Inspectors' Reports, which, he said, he had carefully read and had found to be of unusual excellence. While heartily welcoming the Board of Education's new Regulation as to placing the intending pupil teacher in a secondary school, Mr. Sadler pointed out that the value of such secondary training was very slight, unless the child entered upon it at the age of twelve, and continued it for at least four years. This four years would, of course, be a great expense to the ratepayers, and only a proportion of the children were worth so great an expenditure. It was better, then, that this proportion should have the more valuable four years' training than that a much larger number should come in at the age of fourteen, with much to unlearn, and so much to learn, that the secondary school could in two years' time do but little towards that development of intelligence and character which we look for as the stamp of true education. Moreover, this little would probably be possible with only that small proportion of brighter children, whose quickness would enable them to assimilate to some degree the knowledge which would necessarily be poured into them with unusual haste. He, therefore, advocated the institution of a large number of bursaries which would take the brighter children into the secondary school at the age of twelve, while the Scottish system of holding what might be termed Higher Elementary Classes in one of several groups of schools, would provide for a large number of the less gifted children till they attained the age at which they could attend the pupil-teacher centre classes. In concluding, Professor Sadler emphasised the fact that the aim of true education is not merely the imparting of knowledge but the building up in the boy (or girl) such a character of truthfulness and unselfishness as will alone fit him to fulfil his part in the service of God and man.

There is one remark which we should like to add, as so much misapprehension about the matter still exists. The age of twelve was mentioned as the maximum age of entrance for children who are sent to the secondary school at the expense of the town. To those who can afford the fees we once more say, "come at eight years old, that is, as soon as the school is open to you, and stay till you are at least eighteen, for only so will you receive the full training which the secondary school is able to give."

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PRIZE LIST.—Form VI.—Gladys Millington and May Kershaw. Form V.—Marjorie Martland, Prizes presented by Mr. Hesketh Booth. Form IV.—Harriet Jackson, First Prize presented by Mr. Emmott. Daisy Millington, Second Prize. Form L. IV.—Edna Lees, First Prize presented by Mr. Emmott. Elsie Stevenson, Second Prize. Bertha Martland, Third Prize. Form III.—Alice Kent, First Prize presented by Mr. Emmott. Doris Warhurst, Second Prize. Gertrude Lumb, Third Prize. Josephine Phillips, Fourth Prize. Florence Hodgson, Fifth Prize. Form L. III.—Gladys Bateman, First Prize presented by Mr. Emmott. Helen Bowes, Second Prize. Mary Stewart, Third Prize. Form II.—May Bodden. Form I.—Dorothy Kempsey, Prizes presented by Mr. Emmott.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. MATRICULATION EXAMINATION.—Ethel Matley, May Kershaw, and Mary Schofield.

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER. MATRICULATION EXAMINATION.—May Kershaw.

CERTIFICATE OF THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE JOINT BOARD.—Alice Dellow, Scripture, Geography, French, *Arithmetic, and Mathematics. Harriet Jackson, Scripture, *Geography, French, *Arithmetic, and Mathematics. Daisy Millington, Scripture, *Geography, French, *Arithmetic, and Mathematics. Mary Simpson, Scripture, Geography, French, Arithmetic, and Mathematics. Mary Hodgson passed in Scripture, Geography, and Mathematics. Fanny Simpson passed in *Geography, French, *Arithmetic, and Mathematics. Florence Thorpe passed in Geography, French, Arithmetic, and Mathematics. Ellen Winterbottom, passed in Scripture, Geography, Arithmetic, and Mathematics. *With distinction.

OXFORD SENIOR LOCAL EXAMINATION.—Helen Haigh, History, Geography, English, French, German, Arithmetic.

CERTIFICATE OF THE INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF MUSICIANS.—Pianoforte, Grade II, and Theoretical Examination, Grade I:—Emily Ashton.

EXAMINATIONS OF THE ROYAL DRAWING SOCIETY.—Honours Certificates: Preparatory Division—Doris Buckley, and Gertrude Wadsworth. Division I. (Flat Objects)—Emily Ashton, Gladys Bateman, Helen Bowes, Dorothy Lansdell, Hildred Partington. Division II. (Fore-shortened Curves)—Priscilla Fletcher, Florence Hodgson, Alice Kent, Gertrude Lumb, Elsie Millington. Division III. (Perspective)—Doris Jackson, Edna Lees, Phyllis Newton, Elsie Stevenson, Sybil Wright. Division IV. (Shading)—Gladys Fell, Margaret Higgs, Mary Hodgson, Ellen Winterbottom.

Pass Certificates: Preparatory—Jessie Varley. Division I.—Phyllis Brothers, Margaret Brierley, Elsie Broome, Beatrice Fletcher, Madge Kempsey, Mary Lees, Dorothy Neild, Kathleen Spencer, Marion Spencer, Edith Walsh, Josephine Wild, Hannah Yates. Division II.—Ida Bardsley, Jessie Blackstock, Enid Caldwell, Agnes Clough, Daisy Cooper, Norah Davidson, May Gartside, Ida Gillespie, Florence Heap, Emma Henthorne, Evelyn Holt, Phyllis Lansdell, Constance Mallalieu, Hilda Marcroft, Madge Mellodew, Gertrude Mellor, Josephine Phillips, Elizabeth Potter, Catherine Riley, Eliza Schofield, Gladys Schofield, Doris Stott, Kate Swailes, Doris Warhurst, Maud Webster, Lilian Williams. Division III.—Florence Chadwick, Emily Jessop, Elsie Kershaw, Bertha Martland, Mary Prosser. Division IV.—Alice Dellow. Division VI. (Design)—Gladys Millington.

PRIZES AWARDED BY THE ROYAL DRAWING SOCIETY—on the result of the Midsummer Examination.—Mary Hodgson, Edna Lees, Ellen Winterbottom, Alice Kent, Gladys Bateman.

TENNIS PRIZES, Presented by Mrs. Emmott and Miss Platt.—Marjorie Martland and Mary Schofield.

GARDEN PRIZES, Presented by Mrs. J. E. Newton.—Seniors: Mary Hodgson and Phyllis Newton. Juniors: Gladys Bateman, Helen Bowes, and Florence Kempsey.

SWIMMING PRIZES, Presented by the Girls' Clubs.—Phyllis Rye and Dorothy Wilde.

TOWN COUNCIL BURSARIES EXAMINATION—1st, Alice Dellow and Edna Lees (equal). 2nd, Josephine Phillips.—7th, Doris Jackson.—8th, Elsie Stevenson.—11th, Florence Chadwick.—13th, Ellen Winterbottom.—14th, Gertrude Browne.—15th, Winifred Broadbent. 16th, Agnes Clough.—21st, Florence Heap.

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CLASSICAL LECTURES.—We have been fortunate this term in obtaining tickets for a course of three lectures given in Manchester on Ancient Sculpture by Professor Gardner, the great Oxford archaeologist, and on Wednesday evenings, a small party of six has found its way to the Whitworth Institute, there to enjoy by means of the lantern a sight of some of those wonderful old masterpieces of Greece and Rome, and to hear what Professor Gardner had to tell us of ancient Art. One day Mrs. Mitchell very kindly asked us to tea before the lecture, and that evening, as we had plenty of time to spare, we were able, by the kind permission of Mr. Bateman, to see the new Turners which have just been given to the gallery.

Some of us went the other evening to the Oldham Free Library to hear a lecture on Socrates by Mr. Paton, High Master of the Manchester Grammar School: we wished, as we listened, that we had more opportunities of hearing him, so interestingly and so vividly did he bring before us the picture of the "Greatest of the Greeks."

The lecture hall was so full that we were quite glad we had started early and so secured good seats.

For a lecture which was given on Rome, Mr. Berry very kindly had seats reserved for a large party of us, and we saw a most beautiful series of views illustrating the very varied aspects of the city, ancient, mediæval and modern alike claiming our attention. S.E.S.R.

CONCERT-LECTURE.

An interesting and edifying concert-lecture on "Characteristic Periods of English Music" was given by Miss Mitchell, A.R.C.M., on May 5 in the Hulme Girls' Grammar School, Oldham. The lecture was illustrated by the school singing classes and music pupils, assisted by the violin pupils of Miss W. Mitchell, L.R.A.M. The following is a synopsis of the subject-matter and the programme in full:—

I. THE AGE OF MINSTRELSY.—Antiquity of music in these islands—Its tunefulness—Influence of Bede—The Northumbrian round—"Sumer is iucumen in"—Contrast presented by the Church music of the period—Church modes—Organum—Song of Agincourt.

II. THE AGE OF THE MADRIGAL.—Decline of minstrelsy—General cultivation of music under the Tudor sovereigns—The great Church composers, Bryd, Tallis, Marbecke, etc.—Instrumental music—Rise of the madrigal—Early madrigals, polyphonic in style—The "new music"—Rise of the solo song—Henry and William Lawes.

III. THE AGE OF PURCELL.—Music in the reign of Charles II.—Pepys' musical household—The boy composers, Humfrey, Wise, and Blow—Henry Purcell—His excellence in all branches of music—Handel's indebtedness to Purcell—Dr. Arne—Characteristics of English music.

IV. THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.—Stagnation in English music in early part of the century—Popularity of the glee—Sterndale Bennett, the most original since Purcell—Sullivan and Smart wrote chiefly for the popular taste—Improvement in later part of the century.

V. THE PRESENT TIME.—The position of English music at the present time—The high ideals of Parry, Stanford and Mackenzie—Edward Elgar, the greatest living composer—Some characteristics of his music.

PROGRAMME OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

I.

Canon in Six Parts, "Sumer is iucumen in"

John of Fornsete (1256)

Solo and Chorus, "Owre Kyng went forth to

PHYLLIS LANSDALE. Normandy" 1415).

II.

Pianoforte Solo (from Queen Elizabeth's Virginal)—

"The King's Hunting Jigg" Dr. John Bull
DOROTHY WILDE. (1563-1578)

Two Madrigals—1 (Old Style) "In going to my
lonely bed"....R. Edwards (1560).

2 (New Style) "Now is the
month of Maying".....T. Morley.

SPECIAL CHORUS. (1586).

Song...."Have you seen a Whyte Lillie grow?"....(1614).

ESTHER HALLIGAN.

Song....."Gather your Rosebuds".....H. Lawes.

BERTHA MARTLAND. (1652).

Part-song....."The Angler's Song".....W. Lawes.

SPECIAL CHORUS. (1663).

III.

Trio for Three Violins, "Minuetto Pastorale"

Dr. John Blow (1648-1708).

MARY LEES, OLIVE WRIGHT, and

FLORENCE HODGSON.

Part-song...."Come if you dare"....H. Purcell (1658-1695).

Song...."Nymphs and Shepherds" .. "

ADA FERGUSON.

Part-song...."Fairest Isle" .. "

Pianoforte Solo—Two Preludes (a) Purcell (b) Handel

GLADYS FELL.

Song...."Where the Bee Sucks" Dr. Arne (1710-1778).

EMILY ASHTON.

Song...."The Lass with the delicate air" .. "

ESTHER STOTT.

Pianoforte Solo—Sonata with Gigue .. "

MARGERY JENNINGS.

Violin Solo.....Gigue".....J. Humphries (1707).

MARY LEES.

IV.

Glee....."Hail to the Chief!"...Sir H. R. Bishop (1786).

Pianoforte Solo....."The Lake"....Sterndale Bennett

MARY HODGSON. (1816-1875).

Song....."May Dew"....Sterndale Bennett.

PHYLLIS LANSDALE.

Pianoforte Solo, Barcarolle from Fourth Concerto

Miss MITCHELL. Sterndale Bennett.

Part-songs...."O hush thee, my babe"....Sir A. Sullivan

(1842-1900)

"O Skylark, for thy wing".....H. Smart

(1813-1879).

V.

Pianoforte Solo...."Petite Barcarolle"....Walter Carroll.

EMILY ASHTON.

Violin Solo....."Benedictus"....Sir A. Mackenzie.

OLIVE WRIGHT.

Part-song...."The Snow"....Edward Elgar

OLD GIRLS' CHORAL SOCIETY.

Song....."Laud of hope and glory"....Edward Elgar.

VEDA SHAW.

--From the "School Music Review."

* * *

THE LEAGUE OF PITY.—During the last few weeks much has been said and written in condemnation of the obtaining of money by means of bazaars, and where the community is grown-up, it may well seem strange that voluntary contributions are slow to come in when any good work is in need of help. But while to the children of happy homes, the cry of their suffering brethren comes with special appeal, the contributions from their very microscopic incomes would only amount to a microscopic sum. Since, then, to them the silver and gold is lacking, they give such as they have—their leisure-time and power of work with which they can earn the money which the grown-up purses contain. Be it observed we say their *leisure* time, for no good object can excuse the neglect of the work which is our duty. So the garment made or the doll dressed, the cantata practised or the play rehearsed, may be a very real offering on the part of the child, who foregoes her game or her story book or her mere love of idling, that she may devote the time to that by which she may help some weary little wail struggling against a very troublous world. When, then, the members of the League of Pity called upon all their school-fellows to do what they could, the school-fellows called their needles to their aid and set to work with such good will that in four short weeks Miss Baguley found that

if she set up her stalls on March 2nd, the wherewithal to deck them would be ready. Meantime, Miss Ellis and Miss Evington with a band of Upper School girls were hard at work over the production of the dramatised version of "The Rose and the Ring" by Thackeray, and Miss Mitchell and the singing classes undertook to contribute songs and music. To many mothers and sisters do the Leaguers owe warm thanks for the kind interest taken in their efforts—an interest actively shown in the fashioning of the garments of the King of Paphlagonia and his court. The elder brothers, too, readily contributed their cherished swords and bayonets for the martial equipment of Hedzoff and the princes, but these looked too business-like for our nerves and we descended by preference to the tin toys of our nursery days.

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The afternoon arrived, and so did the expectant audience, but the singers were so fascinated by the spectacle presented by the stalls that it took some time to impress on them that it was for them the gathering waited, and the three songs of the senior girls suffered greatly from the number of absentees who "did not understand" that they ought to have been on the platform. The juniors, however, were all there and their "Lobsters' Garden Party" went with great spirit, and we also had the pleasure of hearing Ada Ferguson, who had very kindly come up from Failsworth to sing for us. Then the curtain descended and the activities of the scene-shifters were unnoticed as Phyllis Tweedale and Dorothy Wilde went through Schubert's "*Marche Militaire*." "The Rose and the Ring" followed, and for nearly an hour we laughed consumedly, till finally the curtain fell on the Countess Gruffanuff fainting into her long-lost husband's arms, while the courtiers gathered rejoicing round Prince Giglio and his bride. Tea came next, and then serious business began, and the money-bags of the stall-holders increased in weight as the purses of their customers grew light, till, when all was over, Miss Baguley found that she was able to send to the Society a sum of £35 6s.

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The Dumb Animals' Society was not so fortunate as the Hour's Entertainment on its behalf only realised £4, for a December afternoon of snow and slush kept many sympathisers at home, and it was before a comparatively small audience of ladies that we performed our programme. The little girls opened the proceedings by singing the sorrows of two starving robins, and just as we were resolving never again to forget to put our crumbs on the windowsill, they broke into the joyous strains of the "Birdies' Ball." Reinforced by Form Lower IV, they sang Dr. Bridge's cantata of "The Frogs and the Ox," and also two little French nursery songs, very quaint and very pretty, with a plaintive sweetness far removed from the gay cheerfulness of the "Here-We-Go-Round-The-Mulberry-Bush" of our English children. The Upper School contributed a part-song, and pianoforte solos were given by M. Jennings and E. Ashton, and a violin solo by M. Lees. A scene from "Nicholas Nickleby" caused great amusement, and the programme concluded with the beautiful carol "Good King Wenceslas."

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THE LITERARY SOCIETY.—During the winter term of last year we set ourselves to gain some idea of the lives of the Ancient Romans. With this object in view, we selected the "Last Days of Pompeii" by Lord Lytton, as the subject of our first meeting. This is perhaps one of the best of historical novels dealing with Roman times.

The story of Nydia was told us by E. Neild. Then we had a description of the life of a Pompeian aristocrat and of the toilette of a wealthy Pompeian maiden, by B. Martland and E. Stevenson respectively. A vivid account of the terrible gladiatorial fights was given us by M. Martland. The superstitious beliefs of the time were well brought out by D. Millington in her paper on the witch of Vesuvius, and M. Schofield gave us an excellent picture of the hardships of the early Christians, and of the secrecy with which they were obliged to conduct their meetings—making their way through long underground passages to caves and catacombs, where they could meet without fear of detection. The last paper, read by M. Hodgson, contained a description of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and of the burial of the city of Pompeii beneath its ashes. This caused us to look forward with the most intense interest to a later meeting of

the Society at which we were to hear something about the wonderful revelations that have been made consequent on the digging up of Pompeii after so many hundreds of years. Our expectations were more than fulfilled. Miss Richards had collected a wide-ranging and most interesting series of views of the ancient city, and the results of her method of conjuring with them may be expressed in the words of one of her audience:—"The ruined streets of Pompeii seemed to be thronged with life once more, and what appeared but hopeless ruin before, was now transformed into stately temples, beautiful villas, a busy forum, exquisite columns, and statues—Pompeii was once more a pleasant, happy and beautiful town nestling at the foot of Vesuvius, an azure Italian sky overhead, reflecting its beauty in the waters of the sunny bay of Naples."

Early in March we met to discuss Edmund Spenser, and more especially his "Faerie Queene." B. Martland told us the story of the Red Cross Knight, and P. Chadwick described his terrible fight with the dragon, while W. Broadbent gave an account of Sir Artigall and his adventures. D. Jackson, in an excellent paper, explained the allegory that underlies the story of the Faerie Queene and showed how beautifully the allegory runs through every incident of the story, especially in the first book.

Further information as to Spenser's work was given us by D. Higgs, who read us some of the most beautiful verses of Spenser's "Wedding Hymn" and H. Taylor added very much to the pleasure of the meeting by the good account she gave of the "Shepherd's Calendar"—not a very easy poem to describe well. G. Millington told us something of the life of Spenser, and of his acquaintance with many celebrated persons. Nor was music lacking—fit accompaniment to this most musical of poets. Miss Bott sang for us, and Miss Mitchell, and M. Hodgson played us two piano solos. We owe them our warm thanks, for if "music has power to charm the savage breast," how much more then to rouse a genial spirit in a civilized one!

The next two meetings took rather a dramatic turn and a most entertaining scene from "Nicholas Nickleby" was acted, in which M. Schofield—as the lunatic—highly distinguished herself, while the other parts were well represented by A. Haigh, M. Hodgson, and M. Simpson.

There was an interesting discussion as to whether Dickens should be considered a standard author or not—H. Taylor being anxious to prove that his popularity will be short lived, while D. Higgs was equally anxious to show that he will be lastingly and deservedly famous.

D. Jackson read us another of her interesting papers, this time showing how far "David Copperfield" might be considered autobiographical. H. Haigh told the story of "The Tale of Two Cities," and B. Martland read some very amusing extracts from "Pickwick," and very well she read them. M. Hodgson and M. Jennings helped to the success of the meeting by two well-played pianoforte solos.

When the members of the Literary Society next assembled, it was before the platform in the large hall, the greatest excitement being aroused by glimpses caught of various oddlooking costumes. Thackeray's "Rose and the Ring" was to be presented, and a great success it proved.

It went with great spirit all through, and each actress can take great credit to herself for having performed her part to be very best of her ability. The action of the play hastens on through a variety of surprises and unexpected developments, and the audience have not a single dull minute.

D. Jackson, besides playing the part of the Queen, supplied the only paper read on this occasion. She gave us a critical appreciation of Thackeray which I hope has induced many, especially of the elder girls, to read his works for themselves.

We have to record with regret the loss of H. Taylor as our Secretary. She has been succeeded by G. Millington. E.V.E.

The Debating Society has been most active during the year, and there has been no difficulty in securing speakers. As usual, there have been two debates a term, one of them being "sharp practice," while the other is a formal debate on some question previously given out. In the Autumn term the motion before the House was "War versus Arbitration," the discussion was heated and the speakers on both sides numerous, but the vote resulted in a majority declaring that war is still a necessary evil. In the spring the debators took up the ever fascinating problem as to the guilt or innocence of Mary, Queen of Scots. Fortunately no Scotch girls were present or feeling might have run high; as it was, the majority were inclined to think that their own English Queen must have been justified in her treatment of her hapless rival. The "sharp practices" have been most amusing, and afford a wonderful study in expression, as the speaker to whom the lot has fallen has only two minutes in which to collect her thoughts on some question which she has probably never before considered.

* * *

OUR SPORTS were occasioning us great anxiety. Miss Ellis had spent Whitsuntide at Westhulme, and the doctors had sternly decreed that for the rest of the term she must live with the sea-breezes and these, as the First Form know, have their dwelling at the other end of a long journey. "Can we have the Sports this year? what shall we do without Miss Ellis?" was heard on all sides, but anxiety had not yet given way to gloom when Miss Richards kindly stepped into the breach. Such a getting in there was of entrance money! and such a spending of it! A long afternoon in Manchester sent Miss Richards and Miss Clegg back laden with clocks and hockey-pads, paint-boxes and pencil-cases, silver napkin-rings, buttons, fruit-knives, pictures, and ink-stands, scissors, silver thimbles, purses, and fountain pens. To these were to be added Mrs. Martland's four handsome gifts, while to Mrs. J. E. Newton, Mrs. Herbert Wilde, and Miss Leach we also owed warm thanks for the prizes which they had most kindly presented.

The afternoon of July 11th proved perfect, and from the High Jump in the "Wreck" to the Consolation Races round the School, the events followed one another in quick succession. The domestic race as usual looked mysterious to the spectators on the bank as a long line of girls knelt frowning over small pieces of paper which asked them to reckon up the cost of a dinner of which were given the various items. The making of a School badge with given pieces of ribbon and of a button-hole of flowers were quickly accomplished, while the mixing of flour-paste was (comparatively) the work of an instant, but that knotted shoe-lace which refused to untie! How many good resolutions were we registering as to our own laces when we found that the nimble fingers of Gladys Millington and Gladys Stott were at the winning-post and the race was won. As to the flag-race, the excitement was intense, agitated cries of "run, run, O quickly" waking the echoes, as girls sped up the course dashing from out the groups of dancing dervishes, who, with waving arms and excited leaps, urged on their wild career. Breathless we gathered in the great Hall where, accompanied to the platform by Mrs. Charles E. Lees, Miss Clark, and Miss Richards, Mrs. Martland kindly distributed the prizes, and addressed us on the great privileges we girls enjoyed in that we were members of this our School.

The following is the list of winners:—High Jump (Senior) M. Hodgson, (Junior) D. Wilde and G. Bateman (equal). 100 yards (Senior) M. Hodgson, (Junior) P. Fletcher. Sack Race D. Wilde. Domestic Race (Senior and Junior) G. Millington and G. Stott. Tandem Race (Senior) M. Hodgson, A. Haigh, and D. Millington; (Junior) B. Martland, E. Neild, and D. Neild. Flat Race (Senior) H. Jackson, (Junior) P. Fletcher. Potato Race (Senior) P. Newton. (Junior) J. Wild. Hoop Race—E. Millington. Egg and Spoon Race (Senior) E. Brothers, (Junior) M. Kempsey. Flag Race (Senior) E. Brothers, M. Jennings, E. Kempsey, P. Rye, M. Webster, L. Williams; (Junior) E. Neild, W. Broadbent, M. Broadbent, B. Martland, D. Neild, M. Prosser. Walking Race (Senior) H. Jackson, (Junior) D. Wilde. Consolation Races—D. Warhurst and H. Bowes. Umpires—Miss Strange and Miss Clegg. Judges—Miss Evington and Miss Mitchell. Starter—Miss Baguley.

TENNIS—The tenth Annual Tournament of the Lancashire Girls Schools' Lawn Tennis League was held at Aigburth, Liverpool, on Saturday, July 2nd, 1904. The School champions were Mary Schofield, and Marjorie Martland.

Play began soon after 10 o'clock, but was frequently interrupted by heavy showers and thunderstorms, which interfered with the play, especially as a strong wind was blowing.

Our spirits rose after the first round in which we defeated Manchester (6-3 6-3). Bolton, the runners-up of last year, had to be faced next, but after a hard struggle we were again successful (3-6 6-5 6-3) and were actually in the Semi-Finals, a position we had never before occupied. Then followed a match with Whalley Range, who had defeated Liverpool in the second round, and to our surprise we won a comparatively easy victory (6-4 6-1), and were to meet Bury in the Finals.

A long struggle, in which every point was stubbornly contested, gave the much-coveted shield to Bury (5-7 6-4 1-6).

Throughout the day our champions had been playing very steadily. Mary Schofield's placing on the back line was most successful, while Marjorie Martland's volleys and backhanders were uniformly good. In the Finals perhaps both suffered from overcaution, the game was slow and hardly up to the level of play in the Finals of the past few years.

The day ended with the presentation of the shield to the champions of the winning school by Vice-Chancellor Dale, of Liverpool University, and the presentation for the first time of the small enamelled shields to the winners and runners up. H.J.S.

Our Tennis has made great strides since Miss Strange took us in hand. From our annual extinction in the First Round we rose in 1903 to a place in the Semi-Finals, and last year reached the Finals. The shield, however, has still to be gained, and our losing M. Schofield is a great blow to us. Still we have several weeks before us to practise hard for the honour of being chosen to play for the school—may we seize every opportunity of doing so!

* * *

VIGORO.—Last summer Miss Clark provided a new game for the Upper School to take the place of cricket. Vigoro, as it is called, is American and is based upon both tennis and cricket, combining much of the skill of each and requiring a considerable amount of practice. Perhaps the bowling with the tennis racquet is the most difficult feat of all; it is so hard to hit the wicket one aims for, and wides and no-balls are by no means few and far between. Still "practice makes perfect" and Vigoro is a game which gives plenty of scope for individual efforts in both bowling and batting, and catching too. We have developed quite a number of good catchers, some who can even take a ball right out in the field and bring it safely "to racquet," by no means an easy achievement. There are some who must learn to run more quickly; the score might often be considerably increased with a little more effort. As it is, some players think it quite sufficient to stroll along the pitch, when their ball has already taken half its course, quite forgetting that the time to start running is when the ball leaves the racquet.

Unfortunately Vigoro as yet is little taken up in girls' schools,—perhaps owing to the expense it involves,—though several well-known men's cricket clubs play the game. Thus we are not able to arrange for outside matches, as we should like to: those who do play ought to tell all their friends about Vigoro and perhaps in time it may become better known.

Our one outside match was that with the Old Girls, and a very keenly contested one it was. Amid much excitement and cheering both teams worked their hardest, in spite of the heat, to score a victory for their side.

The match was won by 135 runs to 110 by the present girls, who at the end of their innings had still six wickets to fall.

The following played for the School: M. Kershaw (captain), M. Horsfall, H. Jackson, E. Jessop, C. Mallafieu, B. Martland, F. Simpson, K. Swailes, M. Varley, W. Wareham.

Of Form matches there are several to record. Form III, though beaten by Lower IV (39 runs to 43), managed to score a decided victory (94 runs to 49) over Form IV—thanks to M. Varley, who made 66.

Form IV, however, beat Lower IV (73 runs to 61), so it is difficult to say which was the winning team.

Perhaps the most exciting match of all was that between Lancashire and Yorkshire. With some difficulty Yorkshire managed to collect nine players who could claim to belong to that county, one who had not touched a racquet before even being pressed into service. There was the keenest excitement, gardens and florists' shops being ransacked to furnish red and white roses, the badges of the respective teams. Yorkshire succeeded in winning the day, the result being 98 runs to 79, and their solitary supporter, the one small Yorkshire member of Form I, must have gone home with aching hands after her valiant efforts to do her duty by her "side."

The following is a list of the players:—Yorkshire: Miss Clegg, N. Davidson, M. Horsfall,

E. Kershaw, M. Kershaw, C. Mallalieu, K. Swailes, M. Varley, D. Warhurst. Lancashire:—
M. Hodgson, H. Jackson, M. Jennings, E. Jessop, B. Martland, D. Millington, F. Simpson,
H. Taylor, W. Wareham. S.E.S.R.

* * *

HOCKEY.—There has been on the whole very little change in our team during the past year, though we regret to have to record the loss of L. Neild and E. Jessop. M. Varley has taken L. Neild's place as a back, and has been a very useful member of the team, though she would be of still greater use if she would learn to be a little quicker. Our loss in E. Jessop has been great, and we are still trying adequately to replace her. F. Simpson is doing her best in this respect, but it is a somewhat hard task in a very short space of time to change from right half to left forward. I think, however, her efforts will soon meet with success.

This term we shall have to replace H. Taylor, who has been our best back for some years past. On the whole the rest of the team have shown a very satisfactory improvement in their play. Since last February, owing to the weather, only five matches have been played, of which the Oldham team won three—those against Bury (3—2), Eccles (7—0), and Pendleton (13—7). The match against the Manchester High School resulted in a draw (6—6). The Crompton Ladies' Team defeated us by three goals to one.

The second eleven have not been idle. They have played two matches against Stockport during the year, and although they lost both matches (4—2), (2—0), the result is, nevertheless very creditable, considering that it was against the first eleven of the Stockport High School that they were playing. If this year's second eleven does as well we shall have no cause to be dissatisfied with them.

A return match between Form IV. and the Rest of the School took place early in the year—the School being defeated by twelve goals to one—a greater victory than any one Form should be allowed to gain over several Forms combined.

The Lower V. hockey team has shown great spirit in challenging Form IV., a much larger Form than their own. They were defeated, but only by 3 goals to 2. We might reasonably expect Form IV. to be able to produce a very much stronger team than it has at present. There are far too many girls in the Form who are so much lacking in public spirit as not to be willing to take their share in helping the more energetic members in their efforts to maintain their position among the other Forms.

The first eleven is as follows:—Forwards: *F. Simpson, *D. Higgs, *M. Hodgson. Half-backs: *E. Kershaw, *M. Martland (captain), Gertrude Browne. Backs: *M. Varley, *H. Taylor. Goal: *M. Horsfall. The first eleven badge, a silver brooch, has been won this year by M. Varley.

Second eleven: Forwards: M. Kershaw, D. Jackson, D. Millington, M. Mellodew, H. Jackson. Half-backs: A. Haigh, M. Prosser, P. Newton. Backs: M. Varley, K. Swailes. Goal: C. Mallalieu. E.V.E.

STOOL-BALL.—Cricket, both senior and junior, languished last summer and we sought for a game in which the great majority of bowlers would find no difficulty in sending the ball in the direction of the batswoman and with sufficient impetus in it to produce a sensation among her stumps. Another desirable innovation called for was a ball which would not give too great a shock to the nerves of the fielders. Vigoro was suggested and the idea hailed with acclamations. "Cricket with a soft ball and a firescreen!" was the contemptuous comment wafted over to us, but unabashed, we voted that soft ball to be to us one of the great charms of the game.

But the Lower School was still unprovided for, and Miss Strange was seeking in vain for an organised game suitable for small girls, when Miss Baguley came to the rescue with a suggestion which proved a brilliant success, and we were introduced to a game which has all the joys of cricket and none of its sorrows. The bowler stands half-way up the pitch and throws a soft ball at a square board, much like a rather small member of that numerous tribe which threatens trespassers with the rigours of the law. The pole supporting it moves up and down in a socket, so that the board can be adjusted to the heights of the players, while a short light bat shaped like a tadpole replaces the more unwieldy cricket-bat. "What do you call it?" everyone asked when first the wickets were set up and the game began. "Stool-ball! Why stool-ball? where's the stool?" So Miss Baguley explained that the game originated in the olden days among the Sussex milkmaids, who set up their milking-stools on a pole with the three legs facing the bowler, who "took a wicket" when she succeeded in hitting the round disc presented to her. Inter-village matches were held and keenly contested by the maidens, while fathers, mothers, and brothers, sisters, cousins and aunts turned out in their best array to congratulate or condole with the rival teams. Like vigoro, it is much quicker than cricket and the fielders, having plenty to do, can with greater cheerfulness await their turn at the wicket, while the rapid scoring creates a far greater interest than was ever taken in the slow-rising score of the old game—this, with no disrespect to cricket, but only to cricket-as-we-played-it.

* * *

BASKET BALL.—Two of last Season's Basket Ball matches still remain to be recorded. That between the Pendleton High School Second Form and the Lower Third team resulted in a victory for Oldham (13 goals to 0). In the return match with the Lady-Barn Preparatory School the School team won by five goals to three.

Owing to bad weather and other causes no outside matches were played last term. In a Form match between the Lower Fourth and the Third the Lower Fourth was victorious by two goals to one. The first match during the Spring term was also a Form match between the same teams, and on this occasion the Third defeated the Lower Fourth by five goals to three. The former afterwards invited their opponents to tea, which was followed by a small play of their own composition.

We have also played the Manchester, Stockport, and Lady-Barn School this term. In the first of these matches, played in Manchester, the School team won by three goals to nothing.

The Stockport match was between their Second Form and a team chosen from our First Second, and Third Forms, it resulted in a victory for Oldham (12-0). The first match with the Lady-Barn School was drawn (two all). In the return match played at Withington, we were defeated by eleven to nil.

E. Robinson has developed as a good forward, and D. Lansdell is a strong back. Some of the forwards need to be quicker in passing the ball: a goal is often lost because the player in her anxiety to score one, runs the risk of losing the ball by bouncing it, instead of passing it to a forward who is at the time nearer the goal. This slowness in passing is noticeable, though not to so great an extent among some of the other players. D. Wilde has proved herself a good captain, and the success of the team is in great measure due to her efforts.

The badge-holders this season are:—H. Bowes, M. Brierley, P. Brothers, G. Hammersley, D. Lansdell, E. Robinson, J. Simmonite, D. Wilde, (Captain). Besides the badge-holders the following have played for the School—Forwards: C. Ashton, P. Rye, E. Lawton. Centres: L. Ashton, M. Lees, A. Taylor. Backs: G. Cooper, E. Neild, J. Rye, D. Neild.

S.E.S.R.

A MUSICAL LIBRARY.—At the present time the subject of reading music at sight is receiving a considerable share of attention among all classes of musicians, and in all probability a higher standard of attainment will be expected from students in the near future. With a view to helping this much neglected branch of musical education, we are endeavouring to form a Sight Reading Library at School, consisting of a properly graded course of study from the elementary to the most advanced stages. A quantity of music has been bought and contributions have been received from M. Jennings, D. Wilde, H. Smethurst, and G. Fell. If any of our readers possess old music which they no longer require, we should be very glad to have it.

The Library will be open to all attending the school on payment of a small subscription.

A.M.M.

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The gardens are growing in popularity and as the demand is beginning to exceed the supply, all the gardeners must look to it that their plots are well tended lest they be confiscated to the use of those who will substitute flowers for weeds. Two beds deserve special mention for their artistic arrangement of colours as well as for the excellent condition in which they have been consistently kept, and when Miss Richards and Miss Baguley came to add up the results of their monthly inspections they found that these two gardens had both gained ninety-one per cent. of the available marks, and to the owners accordingly were awarded the prizes which Mrs. Newton had kindly presented. First-Class marks were also gained by H. Taylor ($85\frac{1}{10}$), F. Hodgson and E. Millington ($77\frac{6}{10}$), E. Neild and D. Neild ($77\frac{1}{10}$), B. Martland ($76\frac{6}{10}$), and M. Brierley and E. Henthorne ($75\frac{9}{10}$). Six gardens were placed in Class II and five in Class III, while two failed, having gained less than 40 per cent. The snowdrops are now over and at the present moment there is a pretty display of purple, white, and yellow crocuses, and when their turn comes to fade away the daffodils will be ready to step into the breach.

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We cannot close our notes without reference to the School-dance which bids fair to become an annual fixture. Under the excellent management of a committee of the Sixth and Fifth, a subscription of sixpence was found to cover all expenses for gas, supper, and attendance. Very dainty were the arrangements, nor were they lacking in solid comfort, even to the converting of the Sixth Form room into a "conservatory," where flowers and smilax, hammock chairs and cushions provided a pleasant resting-place between the dances. The committee had arranged to dress as the various months of the year and wild guesses were heard as to which of the Spring months the wearer of violets represented, while November in flame-like red and yellow with an assortment of squibs adorning her frock was unmistakably Guy Fawkes' month. Punctually at half-past eight, Sir Roger brought the evening to an end, and we arrived home in good time saying, "three hundred and sixty-four days more and then we'll have another!"

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Many Old Girls will be glad to hear of Miss Kerly's appointment to the Head Mistressship of a County Secondary School at Tunbridge Wells. We heartily congratulate both her and her girls.

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Just as we are going to press we have to record a most interesting lecture from Miss Baguley on Radium, when the whole Upper School managed to squeeze itself into the darkened Lecture Room, and pass from hand to hand the tiny boxes of shooting stars and various mysterious substances, which gave us some idea of the properties of this latest wonder of the scientific world.

THE OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION.

The committee which met to arrange the Summer meetings decided unanimously in favour of a pic-nic, which took place on the first Saturday in July.

The place chosen was Chester, the day was perfect, and so the river proved the chief attraction. After a hurried visit to St. John's Church, the Cathedral, and the Rows, the party made its way to the steamer for Eccleston-Ferry, which place was reached after an hour's delightful sail. There the party divided into groups: some rested by the river-side, others walked to Eaton Hall, and others visited the new Church at Eccleston built by the late Duke of Westminster. All then met for tea, which was laid under the trees, where we could enjoy the animated scene on the river.

On returning to Chester we visited the walls, and the water tower. Here, there is a small but very interesting museum containing many relics which carry us back as far as to the Roman occupation. All agreed that it had been a most enjoyable excursion, and one which would long recall pleasant memories.

The winter meeting on December 6th was also voted a great success. The grateful thanks of all are due to the members of the committee, E. Atkins, S. Fletcher, L. Johnson, E. Shaw, who arranged progressive games. Two prizes were offered, the first was won by E. Andrew and the second by M. Kershaw. Again we missed several old members who had been with us from the beginning. At the same time we are glad to note that the interest of many is as keen as ever in the Society. We take this opportunity of giving a cordial invitation to all old girls who are not already enrolled as members to join the Association in July.

The garments for the Hulme Charity were shewn at a small exhibition held early in December, on behalf of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

These garments together with the dolls and toys have been greatly appreciated as we heard from Miss Clark, who read us a letter from one of the lady workers in the district. She told of rapturous "oh's!" greeting the appearance of dolly's dress-basket, and of two little girls going off to Canada who were comforted with a dolly each, while two sympathising little brothers of another child when they woke up in the morning called for cheers for the lady who had brought their sister a doll. If only each girl in school would set to work to produce two dressed dolls by December there would be three hundred little girls in raptures, and six hundred boys sympathetically delighted!

F.E.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Somerville College, Oxford,
Feb. 26th, 1905.

To the Editor of the Hulme Victorian.

Dear Madam,—After a year's accumulation the difficulty is, not to find news, but to know what will be interesting out of all that has happened. But I can safely begin by saying how proud all Hulmeians up here (we are few, but we were very proud between us) were of our first First-Class in the schools last year. I regret of course that Miss Neild was not at Somerville, but at any rate, the school has its share with Lady Margaret in the glory.

We are reduced to two now, so I hope that some people are seriously thinking of coming up. We shall have run out by the end of next year, and someone must be ready to write the letters of 1907!

In college news the main thing in the last year has been for us the opening of our new Library by Sir John Morley in June. We had had a rather uncomfortable time while the actual building was going on, for we were turned out of our garden and tennis-courts, and had to go down to the hockey-field for tennis. Now that things have settled down, however, we are better off than ever, for the middle part of the new building, under the Library, is made as a pillared loggia, which is a delightful place for tea, and even for working in in the mornings in the summer. We have music there too in the evenings after dinner. It was in the loggia that

we had the masque at the library-opening garden party. The masque ("Demeter") was written specially for us by Mr. Robert Bridges, and it was liked so much that it was asked for again in Commemoration week. The whole thing came rather appropriately, for it was the twenty-fifth anniversary of our foundation, our half-jubilee, and about a hundred old students came up.

Since then we have not done anything very exciting. The river and hockey and Parliament go on much the same as usual. In Parliament the Liberals, who are generally in a majority here, have passed a Home Rule Bill for Ireland, but they were so worn out by their efforts that they have resigned, and we have to go in and see what we can do with an Alien Immigration Bill.

I remember last year I could just tell you the result of the first eleven hockey match with Lady Margaret, but this time it is not being played till to-morrow. We drew with them last term. The United Oxford Match against Cambridge is to be played in London in the first week of the vacation. Sad to say, Oxford generally gets beaten. I hope the School has had a good hockey season. I suppose there will be an account of the matches in the magazine.

I must not take more of your space, for I expect you have a growing number of communications. With best wishes to the School for next term's examinations.

Yours faithfully,

ALICE SERGEANT.

* * *

Lady Margaret Hall,
Oxford.

Dear Editor,—Although such a subject presents many difficulties, I am very pleased to comply with the request which has been made to me to send some account of our life at college.

Lady Margaret Hall, although small compared with some other women's colleges, can boast of considerable antiquity, as it dates back to 1879. Since the first days, however, there has been much development, and the "Old Hall" is now supplemented by the "Wordsworth Buildings," which holds an equal number of students, and was opened in 1896.

The life is of the usual college type, and is composed of many elements, work, athletics, social amusements, friendships, noise and fun; with some, the intellect comes first; with others, the playing field; others again devote themselves to the artistic decoration of their rooms, with varying degrees of success, depending on their purses and their taste. Every kind of talent is made welcome at this Hall; a somewhat undue proportion of the students perhaps devote themselves to the study of the past, but that is hardly wonderful in so historical a city as Oxford. Classical attainments are welcomed with a really touching gratitude, nor do we allow any undue reverence for the great tradition which envelopes our lives to interfere with an appreciation of the more modern subjects, such as Science and Philology.

Of the charms of Oxford it is hardly necessary to speak, the beauty of the sweet city with her dreaming spires is the common heritage of all English people; but it may not be superfluous to say a few words about the position of the Hall. It stands on the banks of the Cherwell, that same stream which washes the walls of Magdalen College, and is reminiscent of river picnics and kindred summer delights, while its garden is separated from the historic "Parks" only by a light paling. Across the parks, on summer evenings when the sun is getting low, may be seen buildings whose names are known throughout the civilized world, St. Mary's Church, the Radcliffe Camera, and Magdalen Tower, and they gleam and glow in the golden light like the towers and battlements of the celestial city.

At present, I am the only Hulme Grammar School representative at Lady Margaret Hall, as Nellie Neild went down last year, but my advice to all, who wish to broaden their ideas and have a really good time, is to come to Oxford.

E. E. THACKERAY.

Royal Holloway College,
Englefield Green, S.O.,
Surrey,
February 27th, 1905.

Dear Girls,

I had thought that I should find it difficult, in this second letter, to find something new to tell you about. You remember what a long letter you had last year from Holloway. As a matter of fact, so many things have happened this year that it is difficult to decide what you will find most interesting.

Perhaps you will think that I dwell too much on our social life, but then I need not explain to girls of the Hulme Grammar School how very enjoyable a thing work may be. You might possibly be interested to hear that having last term investigated the vagaries of special springs, or the torsions of twisted wires, we are now engaged in the solution of interesting and instructive problems in Electricity, or further that in the last Chemistry lecture we learned that the Phase rule of Gibbs elucidates many difficult points in the question of Chemical change. You might be stirred to the very depths on hearing such news, but then on the other hand you might not.

After all, intercourse with one another and exchange of ideas on many subjects forms by no means the least of the advantages of College life. In "Political" and "Debate" we learn that it is necessary to think about and form an opinion on the questions of the day, and to weigh carefully the pros and cons of an argument.

One of the most exciting debates of this season was that which followed the proposal, "That in all matters relating to the Franchise, the word man should be held to include woman". It was rather surprising to find that there was such a number of women students who were strongly opposed to the suffrage.

Although most of the meetings involve serious discussions of more or less weighty matters, we occasionally change the method of procedure as when some weeks ago, the House having dissolved, an electioneering meeting was held. On arriving at the notice board one Tuesday morning we found a neat little slip of paper bearing the words, Liberal Candidate—A.B. Conservative Candidate—C.D.

During the next two days, almost every student's door was decorated with placards bearing an inscription such as "Vote for B. and the Millenium." On the fiction library door ("Mr." B. is the Librarian) was posted the exhortation: "Let B and fiction go their way, vote for D. and Truth for aye."

Some enthusiastic Liberal had been very busy on the night preceding the election, for on Thursday morning large streamers were hung across the corridors in which we were earnestly entreated or sternly commanded to vote for B. Sandwich men paraded the corridors displaying the usual admonitions.

Early in the day a notice had informed us that the college motor would call for all going to the poll. Accordingly, after dinner we assembled at the foot of the staircase, and were conveyed to the scene of action on—well, if the truth must be told, the coal trolleys, but so elegantly decorated with rugs and flags that it was only by their familiar squeaking and rumblings (which reminded us of the noise in the corridors in the early morning) that it was possible to recognise them. Arrived at the lecture theatre where the polling was to take place, we seated ourselves to right or left according to our party. The candidates "Mr." B and "Mr." D entered amidst a perfect storm of cheering and groans.

In introducing "Mr." D (who by the way is an extremely mathematical person, and Captain of the East fire brigade), "Mr." X spoke of his friend's devotion to his country's welfare and his success in the solution of those problems which are of such vital interest to us all. We quite appreciated this, but when he went on to speak of unflinching courage in the hour of danger, a vision of night alarms rose before our eyes and a deep groan was heard.

On the whole, my impression of an electioneering meet is that everyone makes as much noise as possible, the only variety being that the cheers while a favourite is speaking are changed to howls and groans when his rival addresses the meeting.

"Mr." B was head of the poll, though by a small majority, and after an inspiring speech to his supporters retired quite overcome by his sudden leap to fame.

Scarcely had the excitement of the election subsided than it became necessary to consider the near approach of the fancy dress dance. We have a fancy dress dance once every two years, and it is always the great event of the Easter term. As there has been one at school quite recently, you can gather some idea of what it is like.

I must just tell you some of the costumes; perhaps groups were most interesting. Bottom and his friends from the Midsummer Night's Dream were most grotesque, though they must have been rather dull folk who mistook them for Neolithic men. There was an unfortunate eighteenth century maiden who had such a large hoop that no one could possibly dance with her, and so she was obliged to sit in a corner the whole evening. The seven sages, who in their scarlet robes and venerable beards presented a marked contrast to their partners, were usually dancing with such frivolous people as "Mary, Mary quite contrary" or "The Pied Piper." Our friend Miss Matty was there. She seemed delighted to meet Miss Forrester (and I heard her inquiring anxiously about the lace). She has evidently lost her fear of foreigners for she was chatting gaily with a Turkish soldier and an Eastern Princess.

I meant to have told you about Commemoration day and about some of the outside lectures, but I must save a little space to ask you how the Literary Society is progressing. I am longing for the Magazine to appear so that I shall know what books you have been reading and what debates there have been.

Yours sincerely, M. E. ANDERTON.

P.S.—In the Matriculation list which has just arrived I am delighted to find the names of two girls from school. May I congratulate them?

* * *

The Datchelor Training College,

London.

My dear Miss Clark,

I am so grateful to you for having once more given me the opportunity of writing to the Magazine to describe College Life. The story I have to tell is a very different one to the story I had to tell at Oxford, and learning how to teach is a very different thing from learning other subjects.

The Datchelor Training College is in connection with the Datchelor School, one of the largest High Schools in South London, and the College rooms occupy one wing of the School buildings, but we go there only for lectures and teaching. We live at the Datchelor House, which is about five minutes walk away from the College, and which is a large roomy house with a delightful garden and orchard. It is a constant surprise to find so charming a garden in such a busy place. We go down to college about half-past nine in the morning and stay there till three in the afternoon. Then we come back to the house and we prepare our lessons, and do our reading here in the evening. While we are at College we are either having lectures on such subjects as logic, psychology, the theory and practice of education, and the methods

of teaching various subjects: or we are teaching ourselves. Sometimes we teach in the Datchelor School, sometimes we go to some Board Schools in the neighbourhood. We rather enjoy the latter, for if the morning is fine the walk is pleasant, and then the children in the Board Schools are always very delighted to see us, chiefly, I suppose, because we are a change from the teacher whom they have all the week. A prominent feature at all Training Colleges are the criticism lessons. These are given before all the other students and the mistresses of the College and are criticised afterwards. They are alarming to a nervous student, but (I can speak from experience) they are worse in anticipation than in reality, and as they only occur about twice a term for each student, they need not prove a deterrent to those who intend to train.

When I came here last term, there was no Hockey Club, but after some difficulty we succeeded in getting a ground and sufficient members to form a Club. This term we have had to change our ground, but we have had a large accession of new members, and we are hoping to win a few at least of the matches we have arranged to play. We are only able to play for a short time on Thursday afternoons and on Saturday mornings, so we feel greatly pleased to be able to produce a team at all after one term as the majority of the members had never played before.

Besides one Hockey Club we have a Debating Club, which meets once a month at Datchelor House. We debate for an hour in the study, and then repair to the drawing room, where, after having refreshments, we either dance or play games.

To a northern girl not the least charm of being here is to have an opportunity of seeing the sights of London. We do as much sight-seeing as we can on Saturday afternoons, and last term I availed myself of a long half-term holiday to go to many places in London where I had never been before.

I hope I shall not be the only Hulme Grammar School girl to be trained at the Datchelor College. I know that any who come will have a hearty welcome.

I am, yours sincerely,

NELLIE NEILD.

ANIMALIA.

When I was small, dolls never held a great place in my affections. Instead, I collected models of animals varying in size from one to four inches. I put them on a large table covered with a green cloth. In the centre of this table I placed a paper house. My sisters now gave me several gifts, one presented me with some pieces of rough white coral and a model of a Swiss chalet, another gave me two wooden cannons. My brother brought me some wooden bears from Switzerland, while on birthdays and at Christmas, when I was asked what present I should like, I always asked for more animals. So Animalia, as I called my kingdom, really became quite a thriving town. I made a black ivory elephant, called Tsar, king of Animalia. He had one son, called Kaiser, exactly like him only smaller. I had one animal, a grey cat made of copper, called Kit, whom I loved more than all the other Animalians put together. Where her charm lay I cannot say, for she was by no means the handsomest of my possessions. To this cat I told all my joys and sorrows, and when I lost her I was inconsolable. No animal ever made up for her. I kept my animals' birthdays, feasts, sports, and funerals. To me the animals really moved and talked. I erected roads and arches with my bricks and made a lake out of a large mirror on which I put some china ducks and swans. I also made a rockery out of the white coral. The result of all this was a very pretty kingdom, and all my playtime was spent playing with it. I still have several animals on the mantel-piece in my bedroom though a good many are broken. Since then I have had many hobbies, but none so interesting as Animalia.

PHYLLIS TWEEDALE, Form III,

BASKET BALL.

The game of Basket Ball is virtually (in England) a new game, having been introduced from America, where it is more generally played. It is, however, a delightful innovation and addition to the few outdoor games which can be played by girls. To play it well you must be on the alert, quick to perceive the action of your opponents, and try to prevent them from passing the ball, and so keep them from getting a goal. The game takes eighteen players, though it can be played by a smaller number. It is very exhilarating and conducive to the good health of the players, and it brings into action your legs and arms, and leads to a quick use of your eyes. It is played on a ground divided into three equal parts. In the two end parts is placed a nine foot pole and on each of these poles a basket is hung. The object of the game is to get into these baskets a hand-ball. The baskets are fastened to the poles by a rope, and they can easily be raised and lowered. In the middle part there are six players, three players of one side play against four of the opposite side. To start the game, the ball is thrown up between two opponents in the centre, and one of these two has to touch the ball before the game can begin. Then where the game has begun a player throws it to any other girl who is on the same side as herself and who is ready to receive it. In the two end parts there are also six players. There are three players who are called forwards and they try to get the ball into the baskets, and there are three more players who are called backs and they try to prevent them (the forwards) from doing so. If a player goes over one of the lines that mark out the three parts, the penalty is a free throw for the goal for the opposite side. The ball sometimes goes out altogether, it then has to be thrown in again at the place where it went out, by a girl who is on the opposite side to the girl who touched it last before it went out. Sometimes the ball sits on the edge of the basket before it rolls in, and it is very exciting to watch it. Then, when it has rolled in, you hear from the side who has gained the victory a cry of "hurrah! a goal!" The basket is lowered and the ball taken out and then thrown up again in the centre. I should advise anybody who feels stiff or has rheumatism to play Basket Ball.

DOROTHY WILDE, FORM III.

