

THE
Oldham Hulmeian.



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"The Oldham Hulmeian."

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Price 3d.

School Notes.

THE School breaks up on December 23rd, and re-assembles on January 19th at 2 p.m. The Entrance Examination for new boys is at 10 a.m. on January 19th.

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WHEN the School re-assembles, probably the 'fairy hands that work in the dark processes of the night' will have transformed the Manual room into a new Cloak room, and the present Cloak room and Lavatory into a Physical Laboratory. Room will be found in the new Cloak room for lockers to hold the suits of the teams.

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THE following are Prefects this term:—Cloak rooms: B. W. Lees and Barlow. Fields: Hirst, senr. Roll: Wilde, senr., W. L. Middleton, Duxbury, Young, Jagger (in place of G. H. Lees, who has left).

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MR. W. E. Cross, M.A., Caius College, Cambridge, will join the School Staff next term. Mr. Cross was Captain of the Caius Boats, and a member of the Cadet Corps at Felsted, and of the University Volunteers at Cambridge.

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It is proposed to start a Debating Society next term, to meet during the two winter terms.

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THE following boys are leaving this term:—Barlow, H. Holt, Axson, Booth, J. H. Buckley.

Football.

1ST V. FERNBANK (home), September 26th.—The opening match proved an easy victory for the school, as the team had all their own way with Fernbank, who were very weak, with the exception of one or two men, whom the school backs prevented from scoring. A. O. Lees, scored 2, and W. E. Young, Davis, Middleton, and Hirst (who shot from about half way) 1 goal each, a rather one-sided game indeed, ending in a win for the school by 6—0.

1ST V. BORDER RANGERS (home), October 3rd. This team proved altogether too heavy for the school. Nevertheless, the latter played up well,

the backs getting through a great amount of work, but the visitors frequently overpowered them, scoring 6 goals while the school did not secure one. Kershaw in goal had an "off-day," letting the ball slip through his hands two or three times. Result, a lost game by 6—0.

2ND BLUE COAT SCHOOL (home), October 3rd. The opening match for second eleven was a very well contested game, both sides evenly matched. Each side scored 3 goals. Davies, Moran, and Waterhouse, the latter with a splendid shot, scored for school.

1ST V. CATHOLIC COLLEGIATE (away), October 7th.—This team, like Border Rangers, was too heavy for the school. They did not seem, moreover, at all acquainted with the Association code of rules, a great deal of off-side play and fouling being allowed by their referee. The school did not notch a goal to their credit, C.C.I. running out winners by 7—0.

1ST V. HULME GRAMMAR SCHOOL, MANCHESTER (away), October 10th.—The school journeyed down to Manchester to play the Hulmeians second there. The match was begun and played for ten minutes, when a terrific thunderstorm broke over the district, and the game had to be abandoned.

1ST V. MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL TEAM (home), October 17th.—This was one of the best contested games ever taken part in by our team. The visitors kicked off, and at half-time the score stood—4 for Manchester, 1 for school. In the second half the school forwards played up very well, taking the ball to the visitors' goal in fine style. Young scored 3, Duxbury and Lees 1 each. The finish was very exciting, the score being 4—4 until a minute or so before time, when Lees from a pass by Middleton shot a fifth goal for the school. A very fast game, resulting in a win for the school by 5—4.

2ND V. WATERLOO BOARD SCHOOL (home), October 31st.—This match was an extremely one-sided game, in fact, little short of a farce, the school piling the goals on to the tune of 14, of which Booth scored 6, Butterworth 3, Swales 2, Wooster 1, and Davies 1. The visitors did not manage to score even 1 goal. A poor game, resulting in a win for the school by 14—0.

1ST V. HULME GRAMMAR SCHOOL, MANCHESTER (away, November 11th.—This was the match which should have been played on October 10th. Our half-backs did not play at all up to form, allowing the opposing forwards to break through very easily, giving a great deal of work to Hirst and Lees. Bradbury, too, seemed off colour. In the second half Middleton had plenty of chances to score, but made some poor attempts. The result was rather a surprise to our supporters, being a win by the Manchestrans by 5—2. W. E. Young and H. E. Tetlow scored for the school.

SCHOOL 1ST V. OLDHAM CENTRAL.—Played at home on November 28th. Wellock began for the school down the slope, and they immediately pressed. Middleton centred finely, and Tetlow scored. The Central made a rush, which was well stopped by Hirst and the other backs, who gave the ball to Young, and he shot, one of the Central putting it through his own goal. After half-time, the Central (who were, I should say, altogether too heavy for the school), made a series of rushes by which they scored 6 goals. The game resulting in a win for the visitors by 6—2

SCHOOL 2ND V. FERNBANK (at home), Dec. 5th. Booth started for the School, who pressed and forced a corner from the visitors. From the kick a long struggle took place in the mouth of Fernbank's goal, one of Fernbank putting it through his own goal. Tetlow shortly afterwards centred to Booth, who shot a goal, C. Swailes scoring soon after. Then Heptonstall scored for Fernbank. After half-time the School had the best of the game, Tetlow and Davies scoring. Fernbank also scored again. A good game, resulting in a win for the School by 5—2.

THE SECRETARY.

Football Notes.

A look at the Secretary's report of the matches already played, this season shows a rather unfavourable result; but for my own part I consider that the play on the whole has improved, and I would rather attribute our failure to the frequent alterations we have been compelled to make in the forward line. Our special difficulty has been to find a sufficiently reliable centre.

Taking the members of the team individually, I begin with the goal-keeper. Here we are undecided between F. Kershaw and J. B. Bradbury. The former, except on a wet and heavy ground, when he is much the safer, shows this season a far inferior form to that which made him so popular last. He needs to improve in his kicking, especially when the game is

open. Bradbury kicks well enough, but should keep in his goal a little more, and use his hands more frequently.

As full-back, H. Hirst has shown himself thoroughly reliable. He might judge his kicks a little better at times; but he is undoubtedly the "crack" of the team.

His partner, H. Lees, works hard, but at times seems rather at a loss what to do. He never "funks," but should learn to act with a little more promptitude and vigour.

F. A. S. Duxbury, our usual left half-back, is somewhat uncertain. He is rather apt to use his hands in charging, and requires more judgment in tackling and kicking. If he observes this, we shall expect more of the really fine play which he has shown us on so many occasions.

F. C. W. Taylor, the centre half, being small and light, and a slow runner, is not of much use against heavy teams; but his clever dodging and passing are of great service ordinarily.

H. C. Waterhouse, the new right half, began the season well, but seems to have fallen off a little. With less dribbling and more quickness in kicking he would be invaluable.

As regards the forwards, A. O. Lees, the left outside, is the best shot we have. He should play the outside game more strictly, however.

Our worthy captain, W. E. Young, as left-inside, is too much given to the "kick-and-follow-up" game. With better dribbling and passing his great dash and vigour would render him truly formidable.

T. Wellock, who at present acts as centre, is a splendid dribbler, but is slow in receiving and passing the ball, and against a heavy team very weak in shooting.

E. M. Wilde, our right-inside, has improved wonderfully lately. He takes up the ball finely, and as soon as he learns to keep his place properly, will be as good as anyone we have.

Our right-outside, W. L. Middleton, plays the correct outside game and centres finely, though in this respect he has fallen off of late. He would do well to centre a little sooner than he does.

Definite criticism of the second eleven must be reserved for another occasion; but we are pleased to notice plenty of talent, which, with practice and a rather more serious view of the game, should lead to great things.

Notwithstanding the great increase in the number of boys at school, the Treasurer reports that the exchequer is in an unsatisfactory state. It is unaccountable that so few boys join the club. In a school like ours every boy ought to take a pride in belonging to it, even if he does not play.

OLD HALF-BACK.

A Singer of Liberty.

THEODOR KÖRNER was a German, born in 1789, and killed in battle in 1811. In these twenty-two years he lived through the darkest hours of his country's history. The victories of Ratisbon and Wagram had left Napoleon free to scour the German countries without let or hindrance. In the demoralization of the German peoples and the supineness of their Governments, a young officer called Lützow formed about the year 1809 a company of volunteer horse, known as Lützow's Black Horse. Of this company Körner became the most distinguished member. He had been a delicate boy, but with training and open-air exercise grew up a fine athletic fellow. He was intended by his mother to be a poet or a man of letters, but on Lützow's call to arms he embraced the sword. He took his muse with him, however, and cheered every camp fire with his inspiring songs. He was killed in 1811 in one of the actions in which a guerilla warfare engaged his company: but—to use Wordsworth's language about Wallace—'he left his name to be found like a wild flower all over his dear country.' His manly and liberal character made him the beau ideal and inspiring genius of Young Germany through all the dark decades that followed, and his songs were sung round many a camp fire in the '70. The following song is descriptive of an incident in 1810, when he broke up a line of communication which the French were establishing across the Rhine.

This song, like many others of his, has been set to music by his countryman, the famous composer, Weber.

What gleams from yon copse in the bright sunshine ?

Hark ! the din thunders nearer and nearer.

It glides down the hill in a long, dark line,

And echoing bugles their music combine

To thrill with affright the hearer.

Ask the black comrades what means that race—

'That is Lützow's wild and desperate chase.'

What shoots so swift through yon forest glade ?

O'er hillside and fell it is flying.

It gathers in darkling ambuscade,

Th' hurrah peals forth, loud rings each blade,

The traitorous foeman is dying.

Ask the black hunters what means that race—

'That is Lützow's wild and desperate chase.'

Where yon vineyards bloom, where yon waters roar,

The bloodhound his ambush is keeping.

What swoops like storm from the hill to the shore ?

They are swimming the tide—they are clean passed o'er,

On the foeman's ground they are leaping.

Ask the black swimmers what means that race—

'That is Lützow's wild and desperate chase.'

Why storms in yon valley the hurdling fight,

Where sabre on sabre is clashing ?

Mad horsemen are breaking the armies of night,

And the spark of their freedom is burning bright,

And in blood-red flames is flashing.

Ask the black riders what means that race—

'That is Lützow's wild and desperate chase.'

Who sounds the death rattle in yon sunny spot

With whining foes strewn o'er him ?

In the quivering face ye may read his lot,

But the hero's heart it trembles not,

For the land is saved that bore him.

Ask the black corpses what means that race—

'That is Lützow's wild and desperate chase.'

Desperate chase and wild career

'Gainst the murderous tyrant that scourged us !

But raise not a wail and shed no tear :

Behold ! the bright dawn of freedom is near,

Though to dark death freedom hath urged us.

Let it sound on to the last of our race—

'That was Lützow's wild and desperate chase.'

A.

"Omnia mutantur : Nostra Urbs mutatur in illis."

Where naught reliev'd the dreary view

Of treeless slopes and smoky plain,

Where stunted herbage feebly grew,

While fierce west winds drove up the rain :

Lo ! now our School's majestic pile

Adorns the erstwhile bare hill side.—

The noblest sight for many a mile,

Of all the region round, the pride.

Where miners toil'd for coal or clay,

Where cattle graz'd the smoke-foul'd mead,

Are heard the glad some sounds of play,

And witness'd many a gallant deed :

So, when we join a sterner strife,

Or roaming far, or ling'ring near,

They shall inspire a nobler life,

Those mem'ries bright of schooldays here.

Far back, in James of Scotland's reign,

Was built a school in Oldham town.

What though no longer that remain ?

Still lingers Assheton's fair renown.

Yet give to Hulme the chiefest praise ;

His mem'ry greet with loud acclaim,

Whose wealth bequeath'd, availed to raise

This School that proudly bears his name.

No princely Founder thus boast we,

Nor e'en a knight of noble birth :

What reck we, then, of low degree ?

We honour more their native worth.

In deeds we vie to reach their fame,

Their goodness celebrate in song ;

Come fair, come foul, our School's bright name

We ever guard from stain of wrong.

ARAITCHPI.

A Trip Down a Coal Mine.

THE chance offered to me of going down a coal-mine is one not given to everybody. When I arrived at the mine, I was shown all round the machinery on the surface by the under-manager, who explained everything to me. There are two shafts to a mine, one is called the down-cast, and the other the up-cast. At this particular pit

there was a fan which ventilated the mine. The fan draws fresh air down the down-cast shaft, all through the workings, and then up to the surface again by the up-cast shaft. The winding engine was a horizontal one, and the pit was lighted by electric light, supplied from a dynamo driven by the fan engine. All the machinery on the surface having been seen, the under-manager said to me:—

"Are you ready to go down now? If you are, we will get our lamps."

"Yes, I am quite ready," I replied.

After we had got our Davy lamps we went up on to a stage, and got into the cage which was waiting there.

"Lower away," shouted my conductor to the engine driver. I cannot describe the sensation which I felt when the cage first started to go down. The nearest I can get to it is that the cage was going down quicker than I was, and was leaving me to follow it as best I could.

After I had gone down some distance, I should guess about half way, the cage seemed to be going up again. When I arrived at the bottom of the shaft I could at first see nothing, but could hear water rushing somewhere. I was then led a few yards along by the side of some small wagons until I came to an office. Inside this place I sat down on a bench until I recovered my eyesight. Having regained my sight, the under-manager and I got into one of these wagons, which are called tubs. Soon the tubs began to move, and then the under-manager said:

"We are now going round a pretty sharp corner, so keep your fingers inside the tub or you will soon have them cut off."

Very soon we started again, and were going at a good speed down a hill, when suddenly I heard a noise, which seemed to be underneath the tubs, and coming nearer. Almost immediately after the commencement of the noise I felt the tub in which I was sitting, jump up a little. I was told that this was caused by what are called oilers. An oiler consists of a trough, into which oil is put, and in which a couple of wheels revolve. As the tubs go over these wheels the axles of the tubs get oiled, the oil being brought up by the revolving of the wheels. We got out at the bottom of a hill and went into a room made in the side of the road. Inside this room there was an electrical pump, which was driven by electricity brought down from the surface dynamo by means of cables, and which was used to pump water from the bottom of the above-mentioned hill to the shaft, whence it is pumped to the surface. Having seen this pump, we began our march again. We went between two long lines of tubs, one line of which was made up of full ones and the other of empty ones. We

next came to a horse, which was pulling a tub of coal up a hill. The way in which it was done is as follows: A wire rope was fastened to the tub, then brought to the top of the hill where it was passed round a pulley and finally fastened to the chains of the horse. The horse walked along the road at right angles to the one up which the tub was coming, and so pulling the tub up the hill. When it reached the top the rope was unfastened, and then the horse walked back again ready for the next tub. Going further along we passed several men, with hardly any clothes on except their trousers and boots, who were pushing tubs along. The roof here was very low, and all of a sudden I shouted out:

"Oh! my poor head!"

"What is the matter?" asked the under-manager.

"Only bumped my head a little," I replied.

"Well, think yourself lucky if you don't get it bumped again," he said.

That was all the pity he had for me and my head. Well, we went on till we came to the place where the men were working. These men were stripped quite as much as the men whom we passed as we were coming to the workings. The place in which these men worked was very low, and the roof was propped up by a great number of wooden props. After I had myself hewn a piece of coal, we started on our return journey. By this time I was quite used to the lowness of the roof. As we went back the under-manager showed me a whole tree-trunk fossilized. We walked back to the shaft up the hill which we had descended. The roof of this road was simply covered with fossils of all kinds. Every few yards there were recesses in the side of the road into which the colliers and other people go for safety when the tubs are going up or down. These recesses are called man-holes. We soon arrived at the shaft and went up to the surface again. When I got home I can assure you I had a good wash, and I needed it too, for I was very dusty and dirty.

E.M.

Editor's Note.

Two numbers of "The Oldham Hulmeian" will be published each term, one appearing at mid-term, the other at the end. The next number will come out about March, 1897, and all contributions must be sent to the Editor on or before Friday, February 12th, next, or they will be too late for publication in it.

We propose to open a correspondence column in our future numbers, and we invite letters from our Subscribers, discussing various matters of interest, scholastic or otherwise.