

THE

Oldham Quilmerian.



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The Oldham Hulmeian.

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No. 15.

School Notes.

WE welcome the following New Boys this term:—A. Park, F. Murray, H. Swallow, A. S. Parkes, A. Taylor, H. Ashton, J. Mills, J. D. Taylor, E. Broughton, H. Needham, J. A. Schofield, H. Desden, A. Death, D. Watkinson, N. Wild, J. T. Mercer, J. B. Hope, F. K. Booth, C. D. McNeil Smith, L. R. Stanton, J. Andrew, J. H. Kershaw, M. B. Fray, G. Thorp, W. C. Thorp, C. Eatough, A. Cleverley, J. Platts, W. H. Roebuck, T. P. Lees, G. A. Lees, T. Bovill, F. R. Myott, W. Wild.

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We wish success to the following boys who left the School in July:—S. Warhurst, W. R. Wilde, F. Bamford, A. S. Howeroft, J. S. Moore, E. Brierley, R. J. A. Hudson, J. I. Brierley, V. H. Gartside, H. C. Waddington, W. L. Martland, V. J. Fowweather, J. E. Ford, O. A. Marshall.

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Congratulations to W. H. Hall on his success in Moderations at Oxford: also to A. C. W. Hutchinson who continues to gain fresh honours in his Medical and Dental Course at Manchester.

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The Old Boys' Association has made remarkable progress during the past year, and we hear that some 20 more members have joined it since the Annual Meeting in November, of which a report is given on another page.

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The Annual Dinner on December 14th, at the Union Club, was a great success. Mr. Garfitt proposed the toast of "The School" in a genial and humorous speech, full of reminiscences of the early days of the School,

The Headmaster, in reply, referred to the gratifying increase in the number of boys in the School ; and said that he was glad to see Old Boys taking an active interest in political and social life. The School was fulfilling one of its great duties to the community if it sent forth Old Boys who had learnt the lessons of faithful self-devotion and willing service.

The toast of "The Oldham Hulme Grammar School Old Boys' Association" was proposed by W. L. Middleton (Old Boy and Member of the School Staff), who, in a brilliant and witty speech, welcomed this opportunity for pleasant intercourse as a break in the serious events of the week. He congratulated the Association on its vitality and growth, and referred to the pleasure all had derived from the Dance last February.

Mr. B. W. Lees, replying for the Association, gave an interesting resumé of some of the earlier developments of the Association in the form of Debating Society, Gymnasium Class, &c., and said that the Dance seemed to have solved the problem of drawing Old Boys into closer touch with the Association.

An excellent Musical Evening followed, concluding with a vote of thanks to Mr. H. Mitton, who had arranged the programme.

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We hear that there is some talk of an Officers' Training Corps in connection with the School.

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In spite of the unfavourable weather we have had some good Football. The House Competition is very exciting, as the Houses are more nearly equal than ever before.

The Lower VI play a good game, but were not quite successful.

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All connected with the School were sorry to hear of Mr. Pym's accident. We are relieved to hear that he is making good progress, and wish him a speedy recovery.

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COCKELL—On December 20th, to Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Cockell, a Son.

Natural History Society Notes.

WE are pleased to announce a period of successful growth of the Society, especially in numbers. The membership of last year constituted a record, numbering as it did almost 90 boys. The work of the society has, however, not fared so well owing chiefly to the inclement weather restricting our opportunities for real natural history work. At the beginning of the year it was decided that the society should hold three rambles, but owing to the rain only one was held. We are pleased to notice that several members of the Lower School have become interested in natural history, and we hope that their example may be followed by many more. The most active branch of the society is the Meteorological Section, whose work is not only interesting and instructive to the members themselves, but is also most important and useful to the School. We congratulate them on having made such remarkable progress. The Field and Photographic Sections seem to have been doing some useful although quiet work, but the Photographic Section has not been very successful in its collection of photographs of places of interest in the neighbourhood. It is unfortunate that the head of the Microscopical Section, Mr. Pym, receives so little support from the members of the society, as there is plenty of scope for much useful and interesting work, especially in the direction of the pond life in the district. Perhaps this little appeal will cause members to take more interest in this section.

The officers this year are : President, the Headmaster ; treasurer, Mr. Pym ; secretary, S. S. Hammersley ; general committee, the Headmaster, Mr. Pym, Dr. Potter, Bradbury, J. W. Slater, Swales, E. E. Mellor, W. K. Slater, J. Wrigley, Gill, J. Kershaw, and Hammersley.

Appended are the sectional reports :—

PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION.

The Photographic Society has not been very energetic this term owing to the unfavourable weather, but some good prints have been sent into the committee. One meeting was called in order to encourage the members who had not sent in prints for the photographic album to do so at once. Dr. Potter also invited queries on any branch of photography. J.S. C.G.

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METEOROLOGICAL SECTION.

During the last two terms this section has continued to read the instruments kindly placed at their disposal by the School. The readings are taken at 9 a.m., and the barometer is also read at the close of afternoon school. Since Dr. Potter gave his lecture on "Weather Forecasts" charts have been received from London every morning, by means of which the readers are able to forecast the weather for the day. The readers hold a meeting every Friday night at which the charts for the preceding week are discussed, and the cyclones which have passed are duly entered into a book, together with observations on the weather which was experienced during their passage. It is thought that by these means allowance may be made for local conditions.

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FIELD SECTION.

This term the section has not had much opportunity for active work, as there have been no organised rambles, partly owing to bad weather and partly because it was extremely unlikely that we could have done much active work at so late a period. Our record book, however, has had some interesting additions, and we hope those boys who do make observations will make a permanent record of them in this book. Kershaw J. has been appointed on the Field Section committee in place of Brierley E., who has left school. J.W.S.

First XI. Cricket Averages, 1909.**BATTING.**

NAME	No. of Innings	Times not out	Runs	Most in an Innings	No. of Runs	Average
Hartley	8	0	25	80	10-00	
Midgley	8	3	15	44	8-88	
Slater J. W.	9	0	25	54	6-00	
Bradbury	8	1	16	40	5-71	
Wilde W. R.	7	1	22	30	5-00	
Mellor E. E.	9	0	13	40	4-4	
Hodgkinson	7	1	10	21	3-50	
Park	3	1	3	4	2-00	
Warhurst	7	1	3	9	1-50	
Booth	5	1	4	5	1-25	
Singleton	6	1	1	2	0-40	
Brierley E.	3	0	0	0	0-00	

BOWLING.

NAME	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Booth W.	35	13	60	14	4-25
Hartley	21	7	91	16	5-7
Hodgkinson	52-5	13	125	18	6-9
Singleton	30-4	7	104	13	8-00
Warhurst	43-1	16	168	13	13-0

Football.

THE School Football so far this season has shown a marked improvement on last season, but is not yet as good as we should like it. This is probably due in some degree to the fact that we have not yet had a full team this season. The weak point has undoubtedly been the forwards, the shooting on many occasions being very bad indeed. We hope that in the remaining matches there will be some improvement in this direction.

We have lost four matches out of six, and two of these by the narrow margin of two goals to one, the game at Warrington being lost by a penalty goal. Each result has

shown a substantial improvement on last season's figures, the result against Stand G.S. being reversed from a 4-3 defeat to a 3-1 victory. J.W.S.

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MATCHES.

Saturday, October 2nd, 1909. v. BOLTON G.S.—Our season opened in brilliant weather with a match against Bolton, and remembering our heavy defeat at their hands last season we were not over confident of victory. Hartley was out of the team, and Hodgkinson had to go centre forward. Our opponents were a much heavier team than we and scored two goals quite early in the game. But School were not to be discouraged, and they made repeated efforts to beat the Bolton defence, but our left wing was much too small and we scarcely troubled the goal keeper. Towards the end of the half the heat seemed to tell upon us, and our opponents scored three more goals before half time. In the next half we had the wind and the sun to our backs and this helped us considerably, but the Bolton backs were quite safe. The forwards had several opportunities but could not find the net till shortly before time, when Hodgkinson kicked into goal and in a great effort we got the ball through. Bolton responded well and scored a splendid goal five minutes from time. This ended a most pleasant game, which we had all enjoyed, and in which the score might have been much more representative if our forwards had shot more repeatedly and left some of that fancy work in front of goal for some other time. Considering the difference in weight of the two teams we were by no means disgraced. Result—Bolton 6, School 1. Scorer: Hodgkinson.

Tuesday, October 12th. v. MASTERS.—This postponed match was played on a half-holiday, but we were unfortunate to be without Singleton and Bradbury, who were on the sick and injured lists respectively. We won the toss and started with a strong wind, but the shooting was only moderate, and the forwards with two absentees were completely disorganised. We could not score, however, and so the Masters settled down

to attack, and Mr. Sisson sent in a fine cross shot which was cleared. Almost immediately afterwards the same player scored from a scramble in goal, but Hartley shortly afterwards brought us level again with a splendid long shot. Half time arrived with no further score, and we could hardly congratulate ourselves seeing that we had played with the wind. The second half was very keenly contested, our defence being in good form. Towards the end, however, Mr. Cockell put in a splendid run and scored the winning goal with a fast shot close in. Our forwards tried hard to equalise, but found Mr. Middleton and Mr. Edwards quite invincible. Hartley was our best forward, and had bad luck on several occasions. Result—Masters 2, School 1.

October 16th, 1909. v. BURY G.S.—On this date School went to Bury but had the misfortune to be without Singleton and Buckley through illness. We were much smaller than our opponents, and in the end their superior weight won them the match. Again the forwards were the weak part, Hartley's goal being about the only time our attention was drawn to them. On the other hand the defence was on the top of its form, Hilton and Haigh being particularly conspicuous. Our opponents opened the score, and shortly afterwards got another point. Just before half time Hartley scored after a brilliant run. In the second half we seemed to hold our opponents much better, but towards the close Gill had the misfortune to hand in the area but the penalty was saved. Shortly before time Bradbury was injured and left the field, and during his absence Bury scored a third. This ended a game which had been exceedingly slow and had our forwards been at full strength we might possibly have won. Our defence was the only notable feature in a somewhat poor game. Bury 3, School 1.

Oct. 27th. v. STOCKPORT G. S.—In this match we were again handicapped by the absence of Bradbury and Singleton. However, their places were ably taken by Daroll and Horsfall. School won the toss, and, playing with a strong wind scored

through Horsfall with a good shot soon after the start. Stockport equalised shortly afterwards through a mistake by one of the backs, but School were not long in taking the lead again through Hilton. Stockport again attacked, but Slater saved nicely and relieved the pressure. Shortly before half time Midgely added another point for School, and this ended a half which had been marked by very poor play. We seemed to have held our opponents too cheaply, and in the second half we early saw our mistake. Stockport attacked with much vigour, and all through the half our defence had a warm time but came out of the struggle with only one goal to Stockport, which Slater had the misfortune to fist through from a corner when no one else had touched it. This put new life into our forwards and Hartley, after a fine run, completely beat the goal keeper. This was a very gratifying result as two of the players were making their initial appearance in the team. School 4, Stockport 2. Scorers: Horsfall, Hilton, Midgely, Hartley.

Nov. 7th. v. WARRINGTON.—Away. For this match Hodgkinson formed a further addition to our absence list, and the members of the team are patiently waiting for the time when we can be represented by a full team. It was evident quite early that the match was going to be a splendid struggle, and there was no scoring till almost the end of the half, when Bradbury opened for School after a good run. Shortly afterwards Warrington scored a very soft one, which Cave never attempted to stop. The second half was keenly contested, but the defence on both sides was so good that the goal keepers were seldom troubled. Towards the end Warrington got a corner and the ball was kicked against Hilton's hands in the fatal area. From the penalty kick Warrington scored the winning goal. Our forwards were again weak in front of goal, and had they taken half the chances given to them we should have won easily. It was a very unsatisfactory result from our point of view and a draw would have been much more fitting. Score: Warrington 2, School 1. Scorer: Bradbury.

Nov. 24th. v. STAND G.S.—Home. The ground was in a very bad state for football as the result of a thaw which made it very slippery. Remembering our close defeat at our opponents hands last season we anticipated a keen game. School were leading by three goals at half time, scored by Bradbury, Hartley, and Horsfall. The second half was much more even, but School did most of the attacking but could not score. Towards the close Stand scored a good goal after Mellor had saved a good shot. The slippery state of the ground rendered good football impossible, and our forwards were robbed of many chances though not being able to keep their feet. Result: School 3, Stand 1. Scorers: Bradbury, Hartley, Horsfall.

J.W.S.

Athletic Sports.

THE week in which the athletic sports were held this year was a wretched one from a "sport's" point of view. On Monday, July 27th, the swimming sports were held; on Tuesday it rained nearly all day and prevented the preparations for the sports; while on Wednesday—a fine day—the mile, half mile, and the eliminating trials of various events were held. Thursday—the intended sports day—proved to be a very wet day, and accordingly the sports were postponed to the last day of term—Friday. Friday dawned wet and dismal, and as the rain showed no sign of stopping it was thought that the sports would have to be held over until the following term. Towards 2-30 p.m., however, the weather cleared up and the sports were begun on a very bad ground and before very few spectators. Naturally the conditions were not such as to make record-breaking possible, and, as was to be expected, there was a general increase in the time required to complete any given race. In spite of this, however, some good racing was seen, and all the races were run with the exception of the steeplechase and the old boys' events.

A keen race was expected for the one mile handicap, nor were we disappointed. Singleton, the scratch man, arrived home first, running steadily and strongly all the way, He was closely followed by A. C. Horsfall, who arrived second and Clynes third.

The result of the half-mile handicap (under 14) came as a surprise, for J. N. Braddock arrived first, with F. A. Hilton second and J. A. Bunting third. Although Braddock had a fair start on the others his performance was most creditable, for he was much smaller than the majority of the competitors, and he well deserved his silver medal.

E. W. Singleton was undoubtedly the athlete of the day, for, in addition to receiving the senior championship cup, he captained the champion House and also the winning tug-of-war team. He easily won the senior cup with 45 points (first in long jump, high jump, 100 yards, 220 yards, mile, and throwing the cricket ball). His nearest rival was Howercroft with twelve points.

The junior championship cup fell to F. A. Hilton, who was first in the 100 yards, 220 yards, quarter-mile, junior swimming scratch, and second in long jump, high jump, half-mile, and throwing the cricket ball (all under 14), thus totalling 31 points. Bunting came second with 15 points.

Hilton was also the champion of the swimming events, winning both the senior and junior scratch races.

The tug-of-war was easily won by the Assheton House team, who were undoubtedly the heaviest team.

The House championship shield was, for the second time in succession, obtained by Assheton House (E. W. Singleton captain), Platt coming second, and Lees third.

PRIZE LIST.

Half-mile handicap (under 14)—1 J. N. Braddock, 2 F. A. Hilton, 3 J. A. Bunting.

One mile handicap (over 14)—1 E. W. Singleton, 2 A. C. Horsfall, 3 J. H. Clynes. Time 5 mins. 39½ secs.

220 yards handicap (under 14)—1 F. A. Hilton, 2 F. Carter, 3 J. A. Bunting. Time 28 $\frac{1}{3}$ secs.

220 yards handicap (open)—1 E. W. Singleton, 2 S. S. Hammersley and A. S. Howcroft dead heat. Time — secs.

High jump (under 14)—1 J. A. Bunting, 2 F. A. Hilton, 3 W. Sankey. Height 3ft. 10in.

High jump (open)—1 E. W. Singleton, 2 J. Swales, 3 C. Moore. Height 4ft. 6in.

100 yards handicap (under 12)—1 W. Sankey, 2 J. G. Hall, 3 E. D. Smith. Time 14 $\frac{1}{3}$ secs.

100 yards handicap (under 14)—1 F. Carter, 2 F. A. Hilton, 3 J. A. Bunting.

100 yards handicap (over 15)—1 E. W. Singleton, 2 A. S. Howcroft, 3 H. Bradbury. Time 11 $\frac{1}{3}$ secs.

100 yards handicap (under 15)—1-2 Clynes and Cave a dead heat, 3 A. Beech.

Throwing cricket ball (under 14)—1 W. Thompson, 2 F. A. Hilton, 3 Wilfrid Noble. Distance 63 yds. 1 ft.

Throwing cricket ball (open)—1 E. W. Singleton, 2 A. R. Cave, 3 A. Buckley. Distance — yd. — ft.

100 yards scratch (under 14)—1 F. A. Hilton, 2 J. A. Bunting, 3 F. Carter. Time — secs.

100 yards handicap (open)—1 E. W. Singleton, 2 H. Bradbury, 3 J. W. Slater. Time 11 $\frac{1}{3}$ secs.

Egg and spoon race (under 12)—1 S. Fletcher, 2 E. D. Smith, 3 J. G. Hall.

Quarter-mile handicap (under 14)—1 F. A. Hilton, 2 J. A. Bunting, 3 G. Halliwell. Time — secs.

Quarter-mile handicap (over 14)—1 A. S. Howcroft, 2 F. Whittaker, 3 A. Beech. Time — secs.

Long jump (under 14)—1 W. Noble, 2 F. A. Hilton, 3 H. Waddington. Distance 11ft. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Long jump (open)—1 E. W. Singleton, 2 H. Bradbury, 3 W. W. Buckley. Distance 13ft. 4in.

Consolation race (under 12)—1 Schofield.

Consolation race (under 14)—1 Seddon, 2 Ross.

Consolation race (over 14) — 1 J. S. Moore.

Tug-of-war — 1 Assheton House, 2 Platt House, 3 Lees House.

Junior championship cup (presented by Mrs. A. Emmott) — F. A. Hilton.

Senior championship cup (presented by Mrs. C. E. Lees) — E. W. Singleton.

House championship shield (presented by Dr. H. T. Gill) — Assheton House.

The prizes were afterwards kindly distributed by Mrs. Pickford. Thanks were accorded to her by the School in three hearty cheers, and the same compliment was also given to Mr. Cockell, the sports' secretary.

Officials :—Referee : Mr. R. Pym ; judges : Messrs. F. H. Cockell, H. S. Edwards, and A. F. Woode ; starter : Mr. C. K. Dove ; timekeeper : Dr. L. F. Potter. S.S.H.—W.R.W.

Swimming Gala.

Each Thursday throughout the summer months a swimming class is held at the Central Baths, Union Street, which all the boys who wish may attend. They are accompanied by a muster, and Mr. Onions, A.S.A.C.T.S., is present to give tuition and coaching to all who desire it. On Monday, July 26th, the annual gala was held at 4-15 p.m., and some good races were witnessed by the headmaster, and most of the masters and boys of the School. Hilton proved himself quite the most capable swimmer present, and easily won the scratch races. The handicaps showed good judgment, and several exciting finishes were the result. The senior handicap was an excellent race, Hilton and Hall swimming absolutely level in the last length, but Hall managed to find the tape a fraction of a second before his rival. The squadron race evoked much enthusiasm—four representatives from the Houses each swimming a length—and was won by Assheton House. There was a pretty exhibition of diving, and very little to choose between

Ashton, Hall, and Slater. The results were as follow :—

Senior scratch (5 lengths)—1 F. A. Hilton, 2 H. Hall.
Time 1 min. 54 secs.

Senior handicap (2 lengths)—1 H. Hall, 2 F. A. Hilton.

Junior scratch (2 lengths)—1 F. A. Hilton, 2 J. H. Clynes.
Time 38 secs.

Junior handicap (under 15, 2 lengths)—1 F. A. Hilton,
2 J. Ashton and F. Carter.

Diving competition—1 J. W. Slater. Length 36½ ft.

Beginners' race—1 Rowley, 2 Cooling.

Squadron race—1 Assheton House, 2 Platt House, 3
Lees House.

Balloon race—1 A. C. Horsfall, 2 F. Carter.

Neat dive—1 J. Ashton, 2 H. Hall.

The prizes were distributed on the same day as those of
the athletic sports.

..... Old Boys' Notes.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Old Boys' Association was held in the School Library on Tuesday, November 20th, when the Secretary read the following report :—

“The Committee in presenting the Eighth Annual Report is glad to record a large increase in membership during the past year, numbering 33 new members, which is most encouraging, and it is hoped that with the advent of these young members a renewed interest will be taken in the pursuits of the Association. The total membership for the financial year just ended is 100.

The Eighth Annual Dinner was held at the Café Monaco on 15th December, 1908, the number present being 50, which was the largest and most enjoyable re-union of Old Boys yet held. The toast of “The School” was ably proposed by Mr. W. H. Hall (at present of Keble College, Oxford), and responded to by the Headmaster, Mr. Pickford; the toast of “The Association” was proposed by Mr. Cockell, a member of the School staff, and responded to by Mr. W. E. W. Millington, the chairman of the committee.

In order to stimulate the interest in the social side of the Association your Committee decided to have an "Old Boys" Dance, which took place at the Town Hall on February 22nd last. The assembly of Old Boys and friends numbered 173, which included as guests the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr. and Miss Bolton), to whom the best thanks of the Association are due for their presence amongst us, this being the first time that the Association has been recognised officially by the Mayor and Mayoress of our town.

Your Committee appointed a sub-committee to amend and draft new rules for the constitution of the Association. The sub-committee has drafted, after very careful consideration, new rules which have been duly approved by the Committee, and a copy has been circulated amongst the members for their adoption at the annual meeting.

In conclusion the Committee desires to express its thanks to the Headmaster, Mr Pickford, for the assistance and time which he is always willing to give to promote the success of the Association, and also to Mr. Pym, who has in many ways encouraged boys who have left school to join the Association."

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Old Boys will be pleased to learn that Dr. Gill was unanimously elected an Hon. Vice-President of the Association, as some recognition of the interest which he continually takes in the life of the School, especially in connection with sport. It is well known that Dr. Gill presented for competition amongst the boys a very valuable silver shield which at present adorns the walls of the hall.

The Rule of Clive in India.

LORD Clive, so successful a soldier, so able a governor, and founder of an Empire nearly thirteen times as large as the British Isles, is undoubtedly one of the greatest of all the great and heroic Englishmen who have assisted in the building up of the British Colonial Empire.

Yet, after rendering so great and meritorious services to his country, his enemies so hated him that they tried to deprive him of both fame and fortune. They so ruined his great mind and wounded his honour that at the age of forty-nine he died by his own hand. It is true that "Clive, like most men who are born with strong passions and tried by strong temptations, committed great faults," but Macaulay says, "Anyone who takes a fair and enlightened view of his whole career, must admit that our island, so productive of heroes and statesmen, has scarcely ever produced a man more truly great, either in arms or in council."

Born in 1725, he was sent to Madras at the age of eighteen as a clerk in the East India Company. He did not stay long, however, at that post, for he entered the army, and his military genius was soon displayed. Shortly afterwards he was made captain of the English forces at Madras, and he entered on a campaign against the French, who had become all powerful in Southern India, and who were trying to establish a French Empire in India. Clive was everywhere victorious, and slowly the French power in India declined. After having been absent in England for a short time he returned to Madras, but was called to avenge the atrocious deeds of the cruel Nabob of Bengal, Surajah Dowlah, at Calcutta. He had captured the Company's territories, and had thrust over one hundred English prisoners into a small room, which has ever since been known as the "Black Hole:" of these only twenty-three were alive next day. Clive, assisted by the navy under Admiral Watson, captured Calcutta, but was forced unwillingly to make peace with the Nabob for a time, who, however, proved treacherous and soon afterwards sought for French aid, so Clive resolved to put him off the throne.

It was now that Clive performed transactions which, in his later life, could not be defended against his accusers, and which have left a stain on his moral character. Honest and sincere by natural disposition, yet when dealing with Indian intriguers "He himself became an intriguer," and was the equal of any Indian despot in treachery.

A conspiracy, formed by the chief nobles of the Nabob, to depose him and place his commander-in-chief, Meer Jaffier, on the throne, was readily agreed to by the English, who promised to give their assistance on condition that they were rewarded if successful. Clive wrote what he called a "soothing letter" to the Nabob expressing entire friendship, while at the same time he sent a letter to Watts, the English agent, telling him that he was preparing troops for Meer Jaffier's assistance. Negotiations were carried on between Clive and the Nabob by a Bengal trader named Omichund, who was to be rewarded for his services. When the plot was ripe he threatened to disclose it to the Nabob unless he should be given a much greater reward, which should be inserted in the treaty between Clive and Meer Jaffier. Clive, not to be beaten, had two treaties drawn up, one red and the other white, the former was false and Omichund's demands were inserted, while in the latter and real one no mention of Omichund was made. Watson, however, had scruples about signing his name to the red treaty, and the absence of so important a name could easily be detected by the crafty Indian, and so Clive, to his dishonour, forged Watson's name. Everything was now ready for action and Clive declared war. Surajah Dowlah summoned all his forces and marched towards Plassey, where he met the English and was defeated in that famous battle, and Meer Jaffier was placed on the throne. Omichund now learned the truth, and the shock he received rendered him insane. The Company was copiously rewarded, and the treasury of Bengal was thrown open to Clive, who took about £300,000, soon afterwards sailing for England.

During Clive's absence the Company ruled with the utmost atrocity and tyranny, reducing the natives to a state of despair, and causing them to resent the harsh English Government. The revenues of the Company decreased, while servants continually returned home enriched.

Clive was then sent back to India as Governor-General of Bengal. On arriving at Calcutta he was greatly moved to see how the English name had sunk, and "he called up all the

force of his mind for a battle far harder than Plassey," and set himself to the work of reformation. He met with much opposition from the Company, but his strong will bore down all resistance. He made many reforms, both in the civil and military service of the Company, and also in the native states. He strictly forbade the receiving of presents from native princes, and granted larger wages to the Company's servants, and after a stay of eighteen months he left India for the last time.

A very unpleasant reception awaited Clive on his return to England, for his enemies, and especially those who had been deprived of their fortunes by him in his last rule, had been poisoning the mind of the country against him. His policy in India was eventually to a great extent abandoned, and when matters got so bad in the East that the Government had to interfere, "the whole storm of abuse broke on the head of Clive." He was hated by the country, and was regarded as the sole cause of all the abuse which existed in the government of India. He was attacked by his enemies on his last government in India, but he defended the charge so well that he was then attacked for his earlier government. The evil could not be defended, being exaggerated, but Clive declared that should he be again placed in the same circumstances he would again act in the same way. Reasonable men could not consider him blameless, but when weighing the good with the evil the latter was outweighed, and "the sense of justice which forbade them to conceal the faults of his earlier days, compelled them to admit that these faults were nobly repaired," and that he was worthy of one of the highest places in the English roll of honour.

F. W.



Pageants.

DURING the summer months much has been heard of pageants, which have been both secular and religious in character. All pageants are planned with some special aim in view. The idea may be to vividly and dramatically illustrate by means of real scenes the progress or

decline of a certain town or city during a long period of time in order to show what part it had played in national affairs, or demonstrate the growth and development of a particular religious body from its foundation. In the Fulham pageant, which had the latter aim in view, there were excellent representations of the coming of the missionaries under St. Augustine, the dispute between Dunstan and the monks about the celibacy of the clergy, the coronations of William the Conqueror and Edward VI., the massacre of Thomas Becket, the trial of Wycliffe, and a pilgrimage scene in the days of Chaucer. These spectacles furnished vivid illustrations of the characters, habits, and dress of the people of past centuries.

Then again, in the York pageant, there was a succession of important events portrayed which dealt chiefly with the prominent persons who played a part in the history of York from the time of the early Britons to the days of Cromwell. Warriors dressed in skins were first depicted, then the conquest by the Romans who established a camp there. After that there were scenes in the struggle between the Saxons and the Danes who had come over to England and were ravaging the country. Then, quickly following, was the scene in which Harold's queen was galloping to Hastings, only to find that her husband was defeated and killed. After that there were scenes from the Middle Ages and Reformation and Puritan England. These scenes were of an England vastly different from that of the present day.

In the Fulham pageant it was particularly shown how very intimately the history of religion is often interwoven with that of the state.

All the pageants abounded with notable incidents which splendidly illustrated the most striking episodes in English History.

Return of Halley's Comet.

IN a few months the world will see the return of the famous comet first observed and measured in 1682 by the celebrated English astronomer Edmund Halley. Until that date astronomers were entirely in the dark as to its motions, but it occurred to Halley to gather up all historic details with reference to the appearance of comets, and find if any recorded celestial visitant had pursued the same track in the heavens which had been passed over by that comet in 1682. He found that comets bearing much the same physical appearance and traversing the same regions of space had appeared in 1531 and 1607, and now again in 1682. These epochs are separated by 75 and 76 years respectively. Halley, by dint of a brilliant series of celestial measurements, was encouraged to predict that its return to our earthly skies would occur in 1758, *i.e.* 76 years after he first discovered it. About the year 1758 the prophetic declaration of Halley created an unusual interest throughout the astronomical world. Two famous astronomers, Lalande and Clairant, undertook to predict the exact day of its arrival. But two new planets had been discovered since Halley's death in 1742, namely, Uranus and Neptune, and these exerted considerable influence on the path of the comet. In November, 1758, Clairant announced that it would be nearest the sun, either 30 days before or after 13th April, 1759.

It was first detected on Christmas Day, 1758, and was nearest the sun on March 12th, a month ahead of its predicted time. The splendid comet that appeared 4 years before the commencement of the Christian Era was merely Halley's comet in one of its periodical returns, and it was again in evidence at the time of the Norman Conquest. Its next return is confidently awaited. It was first observed in September, and will be probably visible to the naked eye in March or April 1910. Slight impressions of it have been found on negatives taken at Greenwich Observatory.

H. H.

English Seamen of the Sixteenth Century.

PART II.

I have devoted so much space to Drakes' voyage because such an exploit was a magnificent feat for English seamen in those days; and it is one more example, and a great one, of the fact that Englishmen were the equals, if not the superiors, of other seamen.

The next expedition of importance started in 1585 with Drake at the command of 25 privateers. It was purely a private enterprise, and the participants might very well have been called pirates, as they received no wages and only went for the adventure, and with a desire to frighten Spain.

They set sail on September 14th and soon met with a Spanish ship laden with fish, which they took. They passed France, and menaced the Spanish shores, forcing towns to give them provisions. Spain was at once furious and amazed, and a fleet under Santa Cruz was sent to the West Indies to guard their interests there. Drake, however, sailed on by the Canaries, missed the Gold Fleet, which he intended to capture, and took the city of Sant Iago, on the Cape de Verde Islands, and burned it. He passed on and entered the West Indies, where the heat of the tropics spread yellow fever through the fleet and destroyed many men. The fever after about 20 days disappeared, and Drake attacked St. Domingo. The castle surrendered, and on one of Drake's messengers, a negro boy, being struck by one of the enemy's officers, Drake became enraged and compelled the striker to be executed by his own countrymen. Then Drake considered the ransom of the city. The Spaniards hesitated and 200 men were told off each morning to burn, while the magnificent Government House—the finest building in the New World—was utterly destroyed. After carrying on this sort of work for a month Drake reduced his demands and sailed away. His next object was Cartagena, which, despite the preparations which had been made for his

coming, was taken and given back to the Spaniards for 30,000 ducats, a lower price than Drake demanded, because yellow fever re-appeared, and Drake thus had to sail away.

Their numbers having been much reduced by the terrible heat they turned back home. The expedition had not been much of a financial success, but politically they had done much, and had dared the Spanish king in his own dominions. They sailed home and on their way wiped out a Spanish fortress, and also saved an English settlement planted by another brilliant Elizabethan seaman-courtier—Sir Walter Raleigh. He was of a most romantic character. He imagined all sorts of things, and most of his expeditions began in enthusiasm and ended in failure. He had set a colony in Virginia, but was deceived by the country, with the result that the settlers starved, and the survivors were picked up by Drake and returned with him to England, arriving safely on the 28th of July, 1586.

Catholic Europe was startled and the Pope roused Philip to action, with the result that he decided to fit up the largest fleet ever built, and to menace England with it. Gigantic preparations were made for the construction of this fleet, and these were hastened by the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots, whose death warrant Elizabeth unwillingly signed after the discovery of the Babington plot. In all the harbours of the Iberian peninsula the work was carried on night and day: and Elizabeth, realizing the position, allowed Drake to go with another expedition to see what was going on. He was not to do too much, and a vice-admiral was sent with him to check over-audacity. Drake, however, disregarded him and went his own course. They sailed till they reached Cadiz, where they saw the preparations for the Armada. Drake at once proposed to enter the harbour—the officers would follow Drake wherever he went—and thus the ships sailed straight into the harbour, while the vice-admiral stayed behind. Drake never tried to land but spoiled the ships, took all that was of any use, and then burnt all the ships. He sailed out of the harbour without a single loss, and he said he had singed the King of

Spain's beard for him. In fact, he had done about a million ducats' worth of damage. Again Europe was astounded, and they recognised in England a Protestant power. Drake wished also to repeat the escapade in Lisbon harbour, but Elizabeth prohibited it, and Drake reluctantly obeyed the command. After a great delay he made for home, and met a Spanish treasure ship, the "San Philip," which he easily took and presented to the Queen.

We now come to a most important period in English naval history, and one which established the basis of England's supremacy of the sea. The whole Spanish nation was furious at the Cadiz escapade, and the preparations for the fleet were increased. By the end of February, 1588, the old admiral, Santa Cruz, was ready, but unfortunately for Spain he fell ill at the last moment, and died after a few days' illness. He was the only man who knew that the task would not be easy, while Philip did not mean fighting but overawing England. He chose the Duke of Medina Sidonia as Lord High Admiral, a man who protested his unfitness for the post. But Philip did not want a fighter, he wanted someone who would do as he was told. At last all was ready. There were 130 ships, 8,000 seamen, 19,000 Spanish infantry, with gentlemen volunteers, officers, priests, surgeons, galley slaves—at least 3,000 more—provisioned for six months. Everything in the fleet was blessed and no impure thing was allowed to approach it. The Duke's orders were to go straight to the North Foreland and there to anchor and communicate with Parma, which command was in opposition of the views of Spain's experienced admirals, who recognised, more than Philip did, England's fighting power. On the 14th of May the great Armada started, but it was found that their provisions were bad and there was no water. So the fleet had to retire to Corunna, the crews being nearly starved. The inexperienced Duke was frightened and wished to stop the sailing, but the more experienced ones knew better; the defects were soon made good and the Invincible Armada sailed once more after two months' delay.

In England preparations had to be made, but Elizabeth would not listen to the many warnings of her captains, and almost neglected the navy. She said there would be no war, and so dismissed about half of the navy. England, however, had other ships than the navy. From every part of the coast gentlemen volunteers came forward with their vessels. Drake and Howard besought the Queen to take action, but the Queen would allow no repetition of the Cadiz enterprise, but curtailed Drake's expenses. Elizabeth put the men on short rations, with the result that during their two months of dreary waiting they were hungry with famine. At last the great Armada was sighted, and a fleet comprising of about 50 small ships under Howard and Drake waited for them. They engaged, but the English proved themselves much better gunners, and while they were most effective, the Spaniards were helpless, being too big against these little ships. Quarrels broke out in the Armada, and one ship was blown up by its own crew. Up the Channel sailed the great hope of Spain, and up the Channel followed the English fleet. In all the fighting that took place the Spaniards were outsailed, outmatched, and crushed by guns of longer range than theirs. Whilst their own shot flew over the English ships, the English shot split open their sides. The Duke commander tried to land in the Isle of Wight, but was easily prevented, and he at once sailed for Calais, in order to meet Parma and his troops. The English still followed him and kept guard over Calais, but they didn't stop there; their commanders held a council of war with the result that eight fire-ships were sent by night amongst the Spanish fleet. The Spaniards were affrighted and flew in all directions, and in the morning the great Armada was broken up and the ships scattered about. Then Drake seized his chance, and approached the scattered galleons. The Spaniards fought bravely, but they were helpless, they were far too clumsy and big. As before, their shot flew above the English boats, whilst the English shot made terrific havoc. Victory was all along for the English, and when Howard and his fleet joined them it was more than certain.

The battle ended through lack of powder, but the English had practically crippled the Armada. Drake and Howard then went in search of more shot, and having collected this went in chase of the other half. This, consisting of about 70 ships, was disinclined to fight, and so sailed northward. The English followed up to the Forth, so that the Armada should not land in Scotland, and then left it to sail northwards. The great Armada then met another enemy—the weather—and after a tempestuous voyage round Scotland and Ireland reached Spain in a very battered state. Of the 130 galleons which left Spain only 60 battered ships returned, many having been wrecked on the rocky coasts. This defeat made Protestantism in England secure for ever, and it also established her commercial power.

All through the XVIth century Englishmen had gradually been asserting their claims to respect. This century brought forward Englishmen in a new light. But people will say that they gained this respect by piracy. Let those people remember why these seamen acted as privateers. They did it, as I said before, for revenge. What cruelty they performed was very small in comparison with the brutality of the Spanish Inquisitors. They only acted in the same way as the Spaniards. But they showed, far above this, that possession of courage and daring which has characterised the English race ever since. It was by daring that Drake made his expeditions so successful, and it was the daring of the little English fleet which destroyed the “Invincible Armada,” and at the same time all attempts to replant Roman Catholicism in Britain. And so let us keep in grateful memory those ancient sea-dogs, and let us always respect the names of such men as Drake, Hawkins, Gilbert, Amyas Leigh, Raleigh, Frobisher, and Grenvil (who fought a whole Spanish fleet with one ship); for by their acts England occupies her present proud possession of the title—“Queen of the Seas,” and also the distinction of being the premier Protestant Country of the World.