



The Denstonian.

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EDITORIAL.

IT is unfortunate that our New Year should have opened with a fire at the Preparatory School; but there are many who think that this fire will eventually prove to have been a blessing in disguise—for it should awaken people to the need for thoroughly efficient fire apparatus. It is hoped that when this is provided the school will unite with Mr. Smith in his efforts to prepare for any possible future outbreak of fire.

For the first time for many years we have enjoyed a few days of real winter weather, and the skating thus provided was

thoroughly appreciated on all sides. It is true that the frost put football entirely out of the question, but luckily it came at a time when matches were few and so only one had to be "scratched." The two 1st XV. matches which have been played this term have resulted in victories for the school, and the 2nd XV. were also successful in their match. Gausson's are to be congratulated on the success of their Little Side football team, which is one of the best seen in the Little Side matches for many years.

The performance of *The Lyons Mail* on Shrove Tuesday was excellent, and we take this opportunity, on behalf of the School, to express our thanks to those who gave us such an enjoyable and excellent production.

The Dormitory Musical Competition is as usual being enthusiastically prepared for, and looks like being more severely contested than in previous years. The Cross Country Dormitory Race should be a most successful innovation, and will undoubtedly add much interest to the sport.

In conclusion we wish the School every success in all its undertakings in 1912.

4 TOUR IN SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

By F. H. Harward, O.D.

As it occasionally happens that the Editor of a school magazine is hard put to it to complete a number, I am going to send you a diary of a little tour of mine that I lately undertook in the course of my work as an inspector of schools in Southern Nigeria.

February 9th, *Cross River*.—I left Calabar yesterday, starting up the Cross River in the more uncomfortable of the two mail launches, and reached Ita in the afternoon. I remained on board all night and early this morning I transferred into a steel canoe, attached to another containing a motor. I am in for an uncomfortable trip, for both canoes are so full of cargo that almost all the native passengers who were waiting to embark at Ita were told to wait another week—there was no room for them. In the part set apart for white men there is really only room for one and there are two of us, the other man being a trader. We may reach his destination to-night; I hope we do! The river is very shallow just now and contains numerous sandbanks. On nearly every one—they average about 6 feet high—are houses, which remind one of seaside camps in England, except that there the huts are not made of palm leaves. They are all swept away when the rains begin and the sandbanks are 10 feet under water.

At Ita they wanted 5s. for a fowl, a bird little bigger than a pigeon. I had a tin of raspberries for dinner last night, containing barely ten mouthfuls. It cost 10d. A rather unusual thing happened just at that moment. A good sized fish, about 2 lb. weight, jumped clean over the bows into the canoe, a leap of at least 3 feet high.

February 11th, *Obubra*.—I arrived here after four uncomfortable days in the canoe. The first school I have to do is here, but as to-day is Saturday, and the afternoon, I can't do anything till Monday. The harmattan (the north wind which blows at this time of the year, bringing sand with it from the Sahara) is particularly thick and strong to-day. It is appallingly dry. It is delightfully cold at night and I find I can sleep much better than when down on the coast. This station stands on a hill with a grand view; at least, it would be a grand view at any other time of the year, but during the harmattan the air is too thick to see far. I am alone here in the District Commissioner's bungalow, as he is away travelling. I have managed to secure a fowl at last and am quite glad to be able to give my tinned meats a rest. When I get further away into the bush I shall be able to get fowls without any difficulty, as it is only a matter of how many my boys can catch. I pay for them, of course, a reasonable price, but the owners are not given the option of refusing. In the towns, where English law prevails, we are afraid to do that, and are compelled to treat our "poor black brother" as though he really were our relative, which he neither is nor ever will be. Climate affects character to an extent which no amount of training can completely eradicate.

February 14th, *Irrabong*.—I spent the Sunday at Obubra and yesterday examined Obubra school. To-day I started off for my next school and have got as far as this town. This is a condition of travelling that I do not at all appreciate. I started

off at 8.30, two hours late. I found when I got here that I had left some of my tent poles behind, but I managed to rig up a covering by fastening the tent to a tree. All I really want is some sort of covering over the bed to keep off the heavy dew. There is no fear of rain at this time of the year. I passed through one small town to-day where I noticed six human skulls in the ju-ju house. It is possible they were old, a relic of former times. The other thing is also possible—cannibalism is still rife in many parts of the colony. I also passed through a town which had been recently burnt out and deserted; probably an accident, it is quite common. The first thing I demanded when I got here was water "for wash." As it was a long time coming I spoke to the Court Messenger, who was accompanying me, and it appeared he had misunderstood. He had ordered all the carriers down to the river "for wash."

February 15th, *Okuni*.—I have reached here all right and in better time than yesterday. There is a Rest House here so I am quite comfortable. I had a very refreshing drink on the way at a cocoa-nut restaurant. It took a little time to get the welcome beverage, as the "cellar" was a trifle high up. There is a good half-pint in a full grown nut; I had four. We reached a town at 4.20, which my messenger told me was two hours from Okuni, so as I was then tired I decided to stay the night. However, I wisely looked at the map first and found the messenger had as much idea of distance as a messenger usually has. I pushed on and arrived here, as I expected, half-an-hour afterwards.

February 16th, *Okuni*.—On the way to the school, which I inspected this morning, I passed an interesting sight. At the bottom of a gully are some large rocks, in which numerous round holes have been made, about 6 inches across and 8 inches

fairly heavy piece of rock, wedge-shaped and about 18 inches long, and by the side of each was a heap of chips of a blood-red wood. The chips are put into the hole and there you have a pestle and mortar. The chips are beaten up into a fine powder, and with the addition of a little water this is made into cakes, oval in shape, 12 inches by 6 inches, and baked in the sun and on the fire. They are used for the same purpose as ladies use paint in Europe, the difference being that the native belle paints her feet. All the time the women were pounding away they kept up a sort of chant which was not unpleasing. I very much wished I had had a camera.

February 17th, *Ikom*.—I have had a very short journey to-day, only six miles, and was here by 9 a.m. I did not want to come here at all, as it is out of my way, but I have had to do so in order to get a fresh supply of carriers. The District Commissioner is away, but the doctor is here, so I have someone to talk to.

February 18th, *Isafan*.—Another day's journey accomplished, and I have to be thankful as I get on from day to day. I started out in great style, but lost it in the course of the day. Two hours were lost at one place owing to a palaver with the carriers, who wanted to turn back. In the end I got them all through here, except one man who had a nasty accident and couldn't go on. It happened just at a small village where we had been greeted by the usual curious crowd, but as soon as they understood that one of the carriers was disabled they all melted away like smoke. I sent three men round immediately to get a substitute, and there was not one man, woman or child in the place except an unfortunate damsel washing clothes on the river bank. It was the worst bush track I have ever traversed,—up and down steep hills, pushing our way through where the track was overgrown by

the bush and almost obliterated, and the surface was painfully rough. One's eyes were glued to the ground the whole time, as nearly every step had to be carefully chosen. The hammock, of course, was useless, and I had to foot it all the way, but as the whole road was in the depth of the forest and untouched by the Government road engineers it still possessed its natural and heaven-sent shade, and I was quite all right. It is only the burning sun which kills one, and that is always worst on Government made roads. The actual distance we have come to-day, as the crow flies, is ten miles, and we have come in a direct line from Ikom. The time taken was of hours. I am feeling very fit and could keep this up for a long time if only the carriers would cause no trouble. They are the worst part of every journey, and I cannot help thinking it is owing to the policy of the English legislature, which is guided by the maudlin sentiment of the neurotic old women of both sexes. It is a particularly hot night. I have had my dinner and am sitting outside in pyjamas, yet dripping wet with perspiration.

February 19th (Sunday), *Isafan*.—Here I am back again. The chief told me that the road out of here was particularly bad, and that I had better go by canoe to a town ij hours up the river (the Cross River) and strike inland from there as there was a better road. My map showed me that that was quite possible, but I suspected that he really wanted to avoid giving me carriers, my Ikom carriers having, as I expected, slipped off home. However, as I did not know the road, nor did my guide (?), I took his word and his canoe. At the next town, of course, there were no carriers to be had five minutes after I had got there, so I have come back here again and am stranded until the chief chooses to supply me. I only want 18, and I offer them the usual wage of gd. a

day, but they do not want money. It looks as though I may not be able to get to Oban at all, and my letters are waiting there for me by now. I might leave the school to be inspected another day, as I have only myself to report myself to, but I cannot leave my letters!

February 20th, *Mkpot*.—I am sure I am out of it now. They have "done" me, and planted me down in a tiny village, which I am certain is not on the road to Oban. Plenty of men have gone from Isafan to Oban in three days, and I calculate I must be now at least four days from Oban. Well, it is no good worrying. As I travel through this country I realise what a wonderful man Stanley must have been to have taken 400 men right across Africa, on a two years' journey, cutting his own road, finding food for himself and his army every day, and being attacked time after time. There are few heroes I have ever read of for whom I have a greater respect. Stanley and Pizarro were two wonderful men and somewhat similar in character. For undaunted pertinacity and endurance, in the face of the cruellest drawbacks and hardships, they are, I think, unrivalled. But I am wandering from the text. I had no need of the hammock to-day as the road was through dense bush so that there was practically no sun.

February 21st, *Ndebiji*.—I have had a good walk to-day of about twenty miles, and am as fit as a fiddle. I was luckier to-day with my carriers, and covered more ground and more pleasantly. The road i the whole way, 6| hours, lay through thick forest through which not a ray of sun penetrated, and the path was decently broad, though, as might be expected, it was one mass of roots and fallen trees. It was quite hilly, but not mountainous as I had expected. This is no country for wet season travelling: I can see that, The number of rivers I have been carried

through and the dried up streams I have crossed must be altogether too trying in the rainy season, when each one is a roaring torrent, overflowing its banks and making a swamp for any distance on each side. Some of the river beds, filled with huge boulders, overgrown with luxuriant tropical vegetation, were really very pretty, and the water was beautifully clear. I picked up a bush kitten last night at Mkpot, that is, the kitten of a wild cat. It is only just old enough to crawl, but is quite tame and travels in my pocket. It can lap a little milk and tried to tackle some coconut, but its teeth are not yet strong enough. I expect it will get wild and run away as soon as it grows up, but meanwhile it amuses me. I saw lovely wee birds to-day. I longed to be able to catch them with my butterfly net, which is always with me, but if it had been possible I do not know how I should have kept them alive as they feed on the honey of flowers. They were bigger than humming birds, but not much. The head and upper part of back were brilliant green, lower part of back electric blue, blue wings, vermilion breasts, and white underneath. The colours were so startling and bright they might have been painted, only that nothing painted could glitter as they did. On the road to-day I came across a party of natives making a large clearing in the heart of the forest. On enquiry I discovered that they were the vanguard of a town in the Kamerun across the border, and were preparing the ground for a new town. The whole of the present town is going to trek over to British territory because the Germans "trouble them too much." That means that it is probably approaching the time for the collection of the annual poll-tax of 5s. per head on every male over sixteen which is levied by the Germans on the natives of the Kamerun. I soon find out we have no taxes at all,

and they make their way over the border, which is very sensible of them. I had such a nice set of boys with me this afternoon that when I arrived here I offered them the exorbitant wage of is. per day (it really is exorbitant up here) if they would come on with me to-morrow. They declined, and when I asked them why, they flatly told me they did not want money. All they want is enough food for to-day without work, and as their women folk see to that, why should they work? To-morrow will take care of itself. I ought to have the power to take them with me against their will, paying them of course. But as we do not force our loafers at home to work, and as we are very careful to treat all our subjects exactly like Englishmen, I could do nothing.

February 22nd, *Akaw*.—I have not got quite so far as I hoped to-day, but arriving here at 2.45 p.m. and finding a very comfortable Rest House, and hearing on reliable authority that the next town is at least hours away, I decided to stay here. "When I say "comfortable Rest House," I must not deceive you into thinking I am in a daintily furnished bungalow. It is just the ordinary native-built house, with mud walls and palm leaf roof, and devoid of the faintest scrap of furniture of course. This one happens to be well-built, and there are two bedrooms actually containing doors, and with locks too. I have not even looked inside them as I prefer to sleep in the open verandah. It is comfortable compared with the ju-ju house I slept in last night. I have done about 16 miles to-day and have had to change carriers four times. I started off from Ndebiji with women only, and a chattering crowd they were. At the first town they were changed for men and women mixed, and the last two changes were men only. It is now fourteen days since I left Calabar, and so far I have done only two schools 1

I hope to get to Oban to-morrow, where there is another school, but it is a long days' walk, over 20 miles I believe. I get up directly it is light, 5.30 a.m., and start off as soon as I possibly can after a breakfast. I have lunch anytime between 10.30 and 12.30. I take an hour's rest then, sometimes two hours. The first thing I require on reaching my camping place is tea. The second thing is a bath, and that is the best thing in the day. Somewhere between 6 and 7 I have my dinner—a good dinner—and get to bed about 9, and it doesn't take me long to get to sleep. I am surprised to find so few mosquitoes about. I have not seen one for eight days. One of my fowls, of which I have now six, presented me with an egg just after I got here. I wish they were all so thoughtful.

February 24th, *Oban*.—I have got here afterj all, and glad I, was to see the place. I started at 6.45 a.m. and, barring a two hours' rest in the middle of the day, I was walking all the time till I got here at 4.30 p.m. and I was very weary. I got to the state when I dare not stop to rest—I should never have got up again. Yesterday I wanted the hammock and the road was quite good enough, but I happened to be very short of carriers and had had to leave hammock and tent and several other things behind at the last stopping place because I could not wait. They came on afterwards all right. I found my precious letters waiting for me, but of course the Deputy Commissioner was away. I saw at least eight new kinds of butterflies to-day, a very large number of new ones for one day, but unfortunately I didn't succeed in catching one of them. I am taking a complete rest to-day, that is, I am not going out; but it is now 2 p.m. and I have been writing since 8.30 a.m., so I am not absolutely idle. I shall examine the school to-morrow, and the day after, Sunday, I shall be on the trail again. I passed many fine hills yes-

terday, though I could only see them when we arrived at a town clearing; we appeared to be walking along the bottom of a range. They were almost perpendicular and with many peaks, but all thick forest right up to the top, unbroken by a single open patch. This is a very quiet place, with no big towns and very little work to do, good water, plenty of flies and no supplies or doctor nearer than Calabar. A doctor could not be obtained under four days, more probably five. No bungalow has been built yet. The District Commissioner's house is an ordinary bush house, mud walls, mud floor, palm leaf roof. The furniture consists of one small dining-room table and two bentwood chairs. The District Commissioner and his women-folk have to bring out all their furniture, beds, crockery, and everything they require. For that he gets the handsome allowance of 2s. 6d. a day! Incidentally he has to take everything back home with him every year, because no man is ever certain of returning to the same district. It is not a proper house to bring an English lady to, and what they find to do to pass the time beats me. Even the best furnished Government bungalows do not come up to the ordinary missionary's house. They are far and away the best built and best furnished houses in the colony. But I don't blame them. We are more or less birds of passage, but they make their homes here, staying out for several years on end. They do not do their work any less well for having comfortable houses, but probably better.

(To be continued.)

FOOTBALL.

MATCHES.

CHEADLE HULME.

On December 9th, we journeyed to Cheadle Hulme for the return fixture. With

a determination to avenge their previous defeat, our opponents placed their strongest possible combination in the field. Played in perfect weather, before an enthusiastic gathering, which included many ladies, the game proved extremely fast and very attractive to watch. Though the fates were unpropitious, and we lost by 21 points to 11, the team earned golden opinions by their plucky tackling and clean smart play.

Cheadle kicked off and soon began to press, but their right wing men, though more than once threatening danger, were never missed by Wain and Smith, the latter relieving with a kick which brought the play back to mid-field. A further rush was stopped by Tomkins, and a forward dribble followed by some pretty passing among our backs, took the ball into our opponents twenty-five. The forwards worked hard, frequently getting the ball back to Piggford who made several neat openings, the wing man just failing to score. Cheadle replied with good kicking and Tomkins failing to gather, we were forced back to our own twenty-five, an attempt to drop proving futile. Forward play brought the ball back, and H. Wilson failed to score from a penalty, but clever kicking by White and B. Wilson neutralised any advantage gained, the latter bringing off a magnificent tackle when Hodgkinson had got clear. From a line out Moir scored the first try B. Wilson failing with the kick. An opening by White initiated some clean passing, Wain eventually scoring a try which Smith did not improve.

On resuming, a bout of forward play ended by Tomkins getting possession and scoring behind the posts, Smith converting. Realising our advantage Cheadle now determined to wear us down by their superiority of weight, and though their forward work was constantly spoiled by Wain and Tom-^{s?} the y would not be denied, Moir scoring a second try and shortly after, a

scramble over the line gave Cheadle the lead. Two more converted goals, scored by Folds the County player and R. G. Wilson, placed our opponents out of danger, but there was still time for Tomkins to provide the prettiest bit of work in the day's play. From a pass in mid-field, he ran clean through the Cheadle outsides, beating the full back completely and adding a try from which Smith unaccountably failed with the kick. No blame can attach to our team for failing to beat a vastly heavier and stronger set of men: indeed the referee, that veteran campaigner, C. Williams, awarded us the palm for better football. Smith's place kicking was poor, but his defence was excellent: White was scarcely up to form, but the remaining backs worked very well, while of a sound pack Mason was the most conspicuous.

Team:—B. Wilson, G. L. Tomkins, C. F. Smith, G. A. Anderson, R. C. Wain, F. C. White, C. G. Piggford, R. L. Goldsmith, A. S. Mason, A. E. Barlow, H. G. Williams, C. G. Salmon, R. B. Mitchell, L. B. Helder, L. E. Wright.

BURTON.

This match was played on December 20th, and in view of the good form recently shown by the team there appeared to be good prospects of a win, but until half-time Burton held the upper hand and gained a strong lead which proved enough for a win. All through the first half the School backs failed to reproduce their best form, while, as was expected the Burton forwards were too heavy for our pack. The first try was scored by Robinson who broke away from a line out, and as both this and the following try were converted Burton led at half-time by 10 points to nil. After the interval the School XV. woke up and played really well: the forwards were quite a match for their heavier opponents and the backs got in many brilliant movements.

A good rush resulted in Barlow scoring behind the posts, but Smith unfortunately hit the cross-bar with his kick at goal. The School backs were constantly dangerous and after some pretty passing and re-passing between White and Smith, the latter scored: this time he converted. Burton pressed occasionally during the second half, but for almost all the time the School were attacking. No further score however resulted so Burton won by 10 points to 8.

For the School the forwards played well; especially Woolliscroft and Barlow; but were of course completely out-weighted. White and Piggford were good at half. Of the three quarters Anderson was the shining light; he gave quite his best display of the term constantly cutting through and beating the centres before passing to Bates, who also ran strongly, Smith played a sound game, and Tomkins was fair, but dropped too many passes, Wilson was not up to his best form at back, he showed none of his usual decision in meeting forward rushes.

Team :— B. Wilson, G. L. Tomkins, C. F. Smith, G. A. Anderson, H. S. Bates; F. C. White, C. G. Piggford, F. H. Woolliscroft, R. L. Goldsmith, A. E. Barlow, H. G. Williams, R. B. Mitchell, L. B. Helder, C. G. Salmon, L. E. Wright.

NOTTINGHAM.

The success that attended the first match of the tour was conspicuous by its absence in the game next day against Nottingham. Our opponents were weakly represented which makes the defeat all the more unaccountable.

The beginning of the game gave the impression that we should gain an easy win, as Tomkins scored two tries in quick succession, neither of which was improved upon. After this we seemed to go to pieces and the rest of the half was of a scamb-

ling nature, being chiefly confined to the forwards, who were passing badly and were quite unable to get possession. Just before half-time one of their three-quarters broke away and scored, and a goal being kicked, we led at the interval by 6 points to 5. On the re-start our team pulled themselves together for a short time and Williams scored in a forward rush, the kick again failing. After this Nottingham carried all before them, and added a goal and a try to their score, an unsatisfactory game ending in their favour by two goals and a try to three tries. Our team entirely failed to reproduce their form of the day before, and were weak in all departments. Roberts failed to do himself justice and got rather badly hurt in the second half. Of the three-quarters Bates was the pick, though Tomkins made the most of his opportunities. Piggford had an off-day, White played a plucky game at half and the defeat was no fault of his. Of the forwards Williams and Woolliscroft were the pick and Goldsmith made good use of his long arms.

Team:—H. T. M. Roberts, G. L. Tomkins, C. F. Smith, G. A. Anderson, H. S. Bates, F. C. White, C. G. Piggford, F. H. Woolliscroft, (capt). R. L. Goldsmith, A. E. Barlow, H. G. Williams, R. B. Mitchell, L. B. Helder, C. G. Salmon, S. O. Surridge.

UTTOXETER.

The return fixture with Uttoxeter was played on the New Road ground on January 27th, the School winning by 20 points to 3. The town enlisted the services of five masters, and a large gathering of Uttoxetians followed the game with curiosity and enthusiasm. We kicked off and for some minutes play was dull until Bates relieved with good kicking. The home back experienced much difficulty in finding touch

and Smith taking immediate advantage by dint of judicious passing transferred to Bates who scored near the posts, the try being converted. After some uninteresting play in mid-field the Town was off-side, and with the ensuing kick Smith found touch well up in the home twenty-five. From the line out White broke away and working across with Smith quite mastered the Town backs, Smith touching down between the posts. A further try was contributed by Smith before half time, though neither was converted.

In the second half Uttoxeter made a determined effort and for a while enjoyed most of the game. After a medley of erratic passing among the backs Barber scrambled over, but failed to convert. The Town worked hard to add further points, but good defensive work by Anderson and Wain checked the attack, and after some good passing Bates again got over. The School continued to press, and after some smart work by Tomkins, who was well supported, Bates scored our fifth try. The School now appeared to have a monopoly of the play, and a spirited rush by the School pack ended in Smith picking up and enabling Tomkins to score the last try before time was called.

The School team quite out-classed their opponents. Wain at back was very safe, while Smith and White were neat and clever, Barton filled the vacant place at half with credit, and the pack did very sound work.

Team:—R. C. Wain; G. L. Tomkins, C. F. Smith, G. A. Anderson, H. S. Bates; F. C. White, R. A. E. Barton; F. H. Woolliscroft, R. L. Goldsmith, A. E. Barlow, A. S. Mason, H. G. Williams, R. B. Mitchell, C. G. Salmon, L. B. Helder.

UTTOXETER.

On February 17th, at home the School Kicked off, playing down hill, and for some

time the play remained in mid-field, but eventually Anderson broke away and passed to Smith who scored our first try, which he failed to convert. Our forwards then carried the ball into their twenty-five, and two penalties were awarded us in rapid succession, but nothing resulted from them, at last, however, the three-quarters got going, and by a brilliant pass from Smith, Tomkins scored in the corner, this try was also not converted. After a further score by Goldsmith, Uttoxeter rallied and the game became more even, however, Tomkins managed to get behind our opponents line, and scored just before half-time. As soon as play was resumed, the visitors took the ball into our twenty-five and their forwards succeeded in scoring, by a rush, their first try. Mr. Barber having converted, their forwards continued to press, but some brilliant dribbling by Smith and White relieved the tension and carried the game to the Uttoxeter twenty-five and Bates added another try to our score.

Tries followed in quick succession, Williams scoring two, Bates and Smith one each, but a brilliant run by J. Northcott, O.D.J. carried the game into the home twenty-five. The situation was saved by Wain finding a splendid touch; and just before time Bates still further increased the score by another try.

The feature of the game was the poor place kicking, as not one of our ten tries were converted. The final score was 30—5 in the School's favour.

Team :—R. C. Wain; G. L. Tomkins, C. F. Smith, G. A. Anderson, H. S. Bates; F. C. White, R. A. E. Barton; F. H. Woolliscroft, (Capt). R. L. Goldsmith, A. E. Barlow, A. S. Mason, H. G. Williams, C. G. Salmon, L. B. Mitchell, L. B. Helder.

LITTLE SIDE DORMITORY MATCHES.

In the first round the winners were: Airy's,

Gaussen's, Head's iii and Hornby's. Then Gaussen's beat Head's iii, and Hornby's beat Airy's. In the final between Gaussen's and Hornby's, the former earned a well-deserved victory, by 38 points to nil. Gaussen's played exceedingly well all through, their combination being really excellent in every department. Of the outsides Clark, Ferguson and Taylor did much good work, and Radford and Osman were most conspicuous in the pack. For Hornby's Booth and Longbottom did a great deal of sound work.

O.T.C.

As the result of the November Examination : Sergeant L. G. Harris and Lance-Corporal A. L. Forrest have obtained their " A " Certificates. Lance-Corporal B. Delap passed the examination and will receive his certificate after camp.

Promotions :—Sergeant E. R. Wood to be Color-Sergeant.

Corporals Harris and Fisher to be Sergts.

Pte. A. L. Forrest to be Lance-Corporal.

Field day. On Saturday, 24th February, 3 Officers and 130 Cadets journeyed to Trentham to take part in a field day organised by Major W. L. Loring, the Adjutant to Birmingham University. We arrived at Trentham before 11 and marched across the manoeuvre area to our rendezvous at Shelton under Harley.

Our Commanding Officer was Major Pigott of the Warwick Regiment.

The contingents forming our force were: Birmingham University, K.E.S. Birmingham, Bromsgrove, Denstone, Ellesmere, Newcastle, Wellington, (Shropshire), and Wolverhampton.

We started from the rendezvous with Birmingham and K.E.S. as advanced guard and marched by the road to the top of Hanchurch Hills. Whilst waiting here in

column of route, a section of the enemy who had escaped the vigilance of the advanced guard opened fire, but was quickly captured by a section of South Company, under Lance-Corporal Merryweather.

Once over the brow of the hill, the enemy's main position was visible, and North Company was ordered to advance against their left flank. This they did with considerable success, until the Park Wall was captured. Once over this our advance was checked, and, as the main part of our force had been directed against the other flank, we could do no more than hold our own.

In the meantime the South Company had been kept back in reserve to meet the defenders' expected counter attack. Unfortunately for them the enemy launched their attack against the front instead of the flank of our main attack, so that they had nothing to do but drive off a small body of the enemy, who had apparently been left in the woods behind us.

At the conclusion of proceedings Major-General H. I. W. Hamilton, the General Officer commanding the North Midland Division, criticised the operations for the benefit of the Officers, N.C.Os, and Certificate " A " Candidates, who assembled on the high ground which had formed the enemy's main position.

Major E. B. Ashmore, from the O.T.C. section at the War Office was present for part of the time.

On the way to the station across Trentham Park, we marched past the General in column of route.

Finally we reached Rocester about 6.30 after a pleasant and fairly instructive outing.

SHRO VE- TIDE EN TER TAIN MEN T.

It was enterprising and ambitious to substitute for the usual farce and miscel-

laneous concert at Shrovetide a complete play, and such an exacting play as *Ille Lyons Mail*. True it is short and our edition was considerably abbreviated, but little of moment was left out, and the condensation had the advantage of added directness. It was an experiment, but completely justified itself. For the few who knew the play, and still more for those who did not, a most enjoyable evening was provided; and the various incidents, amusing and exciting, were followed with close attention. The staging was simple, but quite adequate. The Paris Tavern with which the piece opened was admirable, and the scene of the lonely Inn on the Lyons road was also good. The Salon at Joseph Lesurques' house was cleverly effective. Jeannette's room was quite picturesque—a dark chamber with moonlight and firelight contrasted.

The bare garret with Notre Dame seen towering above the houses below was a good setting to the horrible ending of Dubosc, and the stage management at the end, where the door is burst open by the mob, and Dubosc dragged (apparently) across the garret while Lesurques walks in through the door surprised everybody. The costumes were exceedingly good, and the acting was usually adequate. Mr. Whitmore of course had a part, or rather two parts, admirably suited to him: he was especially good as Dubosc. Mr. Gaussen's representation of Jerome could not well have been improved upon either in appearance and acting. Mr. Barber and Surrudge were very good indeed, though they hardly spoke loudly enough, and Beck as the dandy was delightful. Mr. Coleman as the chief of police gave an admirable study of officialdom, and Winkler was a delightful *gamin*. The support rendered by the others was as a rule quite good, and the various » effects," mostly melodramatically horrible, were well attained. We owe a real debt of gratitude

to all who combined so well to give us such an enjoyable evening. And the expression of appreciation must certainly include Mr. Wood and the band, who played well and added to the pleasure of the entertainment.

The complete programme was as follows:

THE PERSONS OF THE PLAY.—Jerome Lesurques, Innkeeper at Lieursaint: E. A. Gaussen. Joseph Lesurques, his son: F. J. S. Whitmore. Didier, his prospective son-in-law: A. Huskinson. Lambert, a friend of Lesurques: E. L. Chadwick. Gerneau, another friend: R. A. E. Barton. Daubenton, chief of the police: R. H. F. Coleman. Gendarmes: J. L. Smith and C. F. Smith. Dubosc, leader of a gang of thieves: F. J. S. Whitmore. Courriol, a dandy, and member of the gang: H. W. Beck. Choppard, a horsedealer, and member of the gang: S. O'R. Surrudge. Fouinard, another member: H. S. Barber. Ostler at the Inn at Montgeron: B. Hall. Joliquet, servant to Jerome Lesurques: J. B. Winkler. Waiter: B. Hall. Jeannette: P. C. Atkins.

THE SCENES:—Act 1. Sc. i. A tavern in Paris. Sc. ii. The Inn at Lieursaint, on the Lyons Road. Act 2. A room at the house of Joseph Lesurques. Act 3. Sc. i. Jeannette's room at Lesurques' house. Sc. ii. A garret overlooking the Place de la Guillotine.

THE MUSIC—Marche Militaire (Schubert). Gavotte (Sullivan). Marche aux Flambeaux (ScotsonClark). Menuetto (Haydn). Gavotte (Salabert).

The Band included Messrs. Wood, Bell, G. A. Anderson, L. B. Helder, F. H. Belton, R. V. Kirby, R. E. Perrin, E. C. Bladen, D. G. Wood. Prompter: R. A. Briggs. Lights: H. C. S. Walker. Properties: G. W. Reed. Stewards: Messrs. Hornby, Cadman, E. R. Wood and H. S. Bates.

A few friends came to share our enjoyment and to give us the pleasure of their company. We thank them, too, for their presence.

O.D. NEWS.

R. R. Lewer (Sept. 1898) was elected F.G.S. in December 1911.

H. M. Butler (July 1908) is a master at Ardingly. He recently took the part of young Marlow in *She Stoops to Conquer*. He acted as unofficial Stage Manager and deplores the fact that plays at Ardingly are not treated in the businesslike way prevalent at Denstone. He wishes the school every success.

W. O. Wilding, the Hon Secretary of the O.D. Club, has issued a most welcome list of members, with addresses, etc. It contains a short sketch of the history of the club and has also particulars of the Manchester and North of England Clubs. The unavoidable omission of the London Club alone makes it incomplete.

A. C. Richardson (Jan. 1900) is in Bloemfontein with his regiment, 2nd Batt. Bedford.

A. J. C. Richardson (Jan. 1904) is apprenticed to Messrs. T. and J. Harrison's Steamship Co.

G. A. Burgess (Sept. 1900) is farming in Queensland.

J. D. Mason (May 1907) is with the Cunard Steamship Co. at Liverpool.

Rev. J. C. Parker (Sept. 1902) is Chaplain on H.M.S. Blake, the parent ship to the 2nd Destroyer Flotilla.

O. A. Keyworth (May 1902) is going to India for three years in the employ of the Asiatic Steamship Co., whose head-quarters are at Calcutta.

N. F. Deerr's address is H.S.P.A. Experimental Station, Honolulu, T.H.

A. W. R. Murray (Jan. 1902) is co-principal of a coaching establishment for the Army, etc. at Pine Bungalow, Fleet, Hants.

H. C. B. Jones (May 1900) was ordained priest by the Bishop of Southwark at Advent, and H. C. Hunter (Jan. 1899) by the Bishop of Derby at Lent.

H. E. W. Aldridge (Jan. 1903) was ordained deacon by the Bishop of Win-

chester at Advent. He is curate at Portsea

E. H. Holden (March 1881) has been appointed Sub-Warden of Bishop's Hostel, Lincoln.

E. G. Holden (May 1894) is going out to the South African Railway Mission in February.

F. T. Howard (May 1881) has been appointed Divisional Inspector of Schools for London.

J. W. Greenstreet (April 1906) has been appointed Chaplain at the College.

G. A. Greig (Sept. 1902) was ordained deacon by the Bishop of S. Andrew's on S. Andrew's Day.

A. E. Dudley has been appointed curate at Clewer, on his resignation of the Chaplaincy at the College.

N. G. Dunbar (June 1899) was married on Dec. 26th, at Chinsura Church, E.I. Ry. He has been Under-Secretary to the Government at Darjeeling for nearly three years, but is relinquishing the post and is going to Monghyr, Bengal, to build a jail, the estimated cost of which is £20,000. He hopes to be in England by April, 1913.

A Tacoma (Washington) newspaper has the following paragraph:—

"ALMOST EQUALS RECORD.

"A. Wilson (Sept 1902) wins First Prize in Burroughs Adding Machine Contest.

The \$25 silver cup offered by the State Business College in the Burroughs adding machine contest, which ended last night, was won by A. Wilson of the Bank of California in 3 minutes and 55 seconds. This is only 15 seconds above the world's record, which was made in private. The contest last night was witnessed by 400 persons."

A. T. Williams (Sept. 1893) has married and has gone to do medical mission work at Ranchi, Bengal.

W. P. Bleakley (Sept. 1907) is taking a Cotton course at Bolton Technical School.

J. Sloper (Sept. 1906) keeps his place in the Surrey XV.

E. K. Boyd (Jan. 1902) has played for Middlesex.
 J. Laithwaite (Jan. 1907) is in the Surveying Department of the Wigan Coal and Iron Co. He was second in his class at the Technical School at Wigan (5th year Course of Mining).

G P Spencer (May 1909) is in an Estate Agent's Office in Manchester.

T Kemp (Sept. 1902) has accepted a post as Chartered Accountant in Valparaiso.

R W. Abbots (Sept. 1909) is articulated to an Accountant in Manchester.

C. P. Russ (Jan. 1902) is in a bank in the Argentine Republic and played in the national team against the Corinthians.

We have to chronicle the establishment, or rather the re-establishment of the Manchester Old Denstonians' Club. On Nov. 2nd a most enthusiastic meeting was collected by the energy of M. R. Smith, 39 O.Ds. were present and the whole company numbered 52.

Great pleasure was expressed at the presence of F. T. Howard and W. O. Wilding, both of whom had come over at great inconvenience. The former was elected as Chairman in the absence of Capt. Godfrey, Chief Constable of Salford, from whom a letter of regret for his absence was read, and telegrams were received from the Headmaster, W. S. Crews, who was first treasurer of the former Manchester O.D. Club, and from the Secretary and Committee of the London O.D. Club. A Committee had already been appointed, consisting of C. V. Godfrey, (Chairman), J. C. Abbott, F. Sutton, M. R. Smith, (Secretary), J. E. Baynes, R. H. P. Coleman, A. S. Hind, C. C. Tones, W. S. Roberts, C. L. Roberts, and J. F. Bentley. His Committee met before supper and drew up the rules, the subscription being fixed at 2/6 per annum. The rules were submitted to the General Meeting and unanimously adopted. F. T. Howard and

E. T. Greenwood were also elected on the Committee.

After Supper the Chairman proposed the Toast of the King, which was loyally received. The Rev. J. C. Abbott then proposed the toast of the College in terms of great loyalty and suggested that O.Ds. should take up some special work and as instances he cited the various School Missions in some of the large towns. The toast was followed by the singing of the *Carmen Denstonense* in loud strains. C. L. Roberts then briefly responded. F. Sutton proposed the O.D. Club to which W. O. Wilding replied and in doing so urged all men to join the Club. "Our Guests" was entrusted to J. F. Bentley who hoped that Denstonians would show that they were not behindhand in showing hospitality. The Rev. R. Pratt, whose son had been at Denstone, replied and spoke of the great pleasure he had when visiting Denstone as a parent. He also said how much he had enjoyed the plays especially those in which he had seen W. N. Greenwell taking part.

After these toasts an excellent entertainment was provided by the following, among others: J. F. Bentley, C. L. Roberts, H. B. Silverwood, M. R. Smith, A. N. Allen, J. Sutton, P. C. Clayton, R. H. P. Coleman, F.R.C.O., assistant organist at Manchester Cathedral accompanied.

At the conclusion of the Meeting it was unanimously decided to accept the Headmaster's kind invitation to visit Denstone in the summer, and also to ask the O.D. Club to hold their Annual Meeting on that day at the College. After the singing of the National Anthem and "Auld Lang Syne" the meeting broke up. The success of this meeting augurs well for the future of the Club. In addition to those present 31 others have promised to join.

The O.D.s present were: J. C. Abbott,

A. N. Allen, J. F. Bentley, J. E. Baynes, F. E. Blunt, J. A. Blackburn, W. H. Blakemore, N. Broadbent, R. H. P. Coleman, C. Cockerill, B. Y. Cockerill, P. C. Clayton, E. T. Greenwood, F. T. Howard, R. P. and J. H. Holland, H. G. Hinnell, R. C. Harrison, J. S. Ingham, C. C. Jones, H. Kitchen, T. H. Mills, C. and C. R. Norman, E. Pickford, S. Piatt, C. L. Roberts, F. J. and H. Sutton, C. L. and D. L. Smith, M. R. Smith, H. B. Silverwood, H. N. Thomas, C. E. Tetlow, E. L. Walton, A. B. Weston and W. O. Wilding.

On Feb. 14th the Manchester O.D. Club held a Dinner under the Presidency of Dr. J. P. Williams. It was fairly attended and the Rev. M. R. Smith is to be congratulated on its success. The Headmaster and Mr. Barber were present from the College.

The Annual Dinner of the North of England O.D. Club was held in January, when the following were present: The Headmaster, Mr. Airy, Rev. J. W. Greenstreet, Rev. A. Bowcock, J. W. Sedcole, R. N. Graham, F. O. Walker, R. H. Simpson, E. Graham, N. F. Humphreys, W. Graham, and H. Jacks (Secretary). Small in numbers it was abundant in enthusiasm and enjoyment, and the toast of the College and the Club were received with delight. The speakers included the Headmaster, Mr. Airy, Rev. A. Bowcock and the Secretary to whose energy and zeal no small share of the success of the Club is due.

W. G. Walsh (Sept. 1898) writes from S. Paul's Rectory, Philipsburg, Que.

W. O. Wellington (Jan. 1895) writing from P.O. Box 35, Roodepoort, Transvaal, says "The only school out here which is run at all on Woodard School lines—S. John's, Johannesburg—is going very strong. I believe the Headmaster, Father Nash, visited Denstone, when he was in England a few years ago. The Community of the

Resurrection run the School." O. Victor (Jan. 1892) is of course on the staff.

We much regret to hear of the death, on December 3rd., 1911, in British North Borneo, of Harry Richardson, aged 24 years. R.I.P.

NOTES.

On May 21st there is to be a gathering at the College of representatives of all the Schools of the Midland Division of S.; Nicolas College, for a Procession and Service. It is hoped that some 90 in all will come to join us, from Ellesmere, Worksop, S. Anne's, S. Mary's and S. Winifred's! The Provost of Lancing has kindly promised to preach. On the previous evening! there will be a joint Concert, and we hope as many as possible of our guests will stay as late as they can on Wednesday for Tennis, etc. It should be a most interesting occasion and we can assure our visitors that they will receive a hearty welcome.

At the end of the holidays one of the buildings at the Preparatory School was burnt down, and it made a good blaze, but the inhabitants of the cottage a field away were undisturbed, and actually knew nothing of what had occurred till they were told of it next day in the village.

We congratulate G. E. Jackson, on gaining one of the McMahon Law Studentships at S. John's College, Cambridge. It is of the annual value of £150 for four years.

We also congratulate E. O. Whitfield on gaining the £40 Choral Exhibition at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

We congratulate E. R. Wood on the Modern History Scholarship he has gained at Downing College, Cambridge.

S Chad's Day was especially festive this year. For the first time for many years the Chapter Meeting was held on S. Chad's Day, so the Provost and Fellows were able to take part in our great service. This was a very fine act of worship, and was perhaps the grandest service we have had for a long time. It was very well sung—the elaborate part, like *Mendelssohn's "Introit"* and *Gounod's "Sanctus,"* by the choir, and the congregational parts, such as the Creed and Gloria, by everybody.

On the previous evening Mrs. Wrottesley was kind enough to come and adjudicate at the preliminary Dormitory Musical Contest.

We have to regret the departure of the Rev. A. E. Dudley, who has been Chaplain for so long. No part of our life was outside his interest, and he was always ready to put his hand to anything that meant happiness and progress. Of his especial work it would not be fitting to speak at length, but all Denstonians who have lived here while he was with us will remember with gratitude his unflinching kindness and readiness to help. He has been appointed to a curacy at Clewer, and we wish him every happiness in his future life.

We are very glad to hear that another Old Denstonian has been appointed to succeed him—the Rev. J. W. Greenstreet, who will come next term.

We heartily welcome Mr. J. L. Smith, (O.D.) as a member of the staff, in place of Mr. Meyrick whose manifold activities have returned to Canada.

Pitman's Shorthand Certificates (Elementary Stage) have been gained by S. H. A-F-Haines, H. Seddon and R. Sykes; and the Book-keeping Certificates of the Association of Book-keeping Teachers (Intermediate Stage) by R. L. Goldsmith

On February 22nd, the Rev. H. B. Hunt gave an most interesting lecture on the work of the "Waifs and Strays Society."

We sang a *Te Deum* for the safe return of the King and Queen from India.

On February 27th Mr. Barber, and on March 12th Mr. Airy preached at Christ Church, Needwood.

Mr. J. C. lies, M.A., who was for a short time a master at Denstone in 1891 prior to his appointment to be an Inspector of Schools, has been appointed to be an H.M. Senior Inspector of Schools for the division which includes Staffordshire.

The list of New Boys is as follows:—
 Pnigg, Ronald George Hornby's
 Darby, George
 Sykes, Percy Hill
 Waite, Noel Hellemell Airy's
 Smith, Ernest Stanley
 Robinson, Eustace Dixon Sharper
 Pearce, Humphrey Largen Clark's.
 Fallon, William Alfonso Gausson's
 Martin, John Leslie
 Randle, Morris Smith's.
 Brooksbank, Edward John Hoult
 Barratt, Henry Warden
 Dyson, John Stuart
 Horsfield, William Headmaster's III.
 Davenport, Vyvyan Hope Lancelot
 Brock, Eric Arthur Headmaster's II.
 Gosling, Stanley Victor Headmaster's I.
 Evered, Richard Kennick
 Hastings Preparatory School.
 •Brenan, Sydney Vernon
 Rerrie, Harold P.
 Sutton, Philip Bowley

The following have left:—
 C. G. Piggford (Sept. 1907). Prefect, Sept. 1909; Shooting VIII, 1908, 1909; Captain, 1910-11; 1st XV. 1911-12; Colour

Sergeant O.T.C.; Boxing Colours, 1909; Represented the School at Aldershot (Feather), 1909, 1910; Form, Modern VI.

A. W. Brown (May 1910) Form, Modern VI.

H. T. M. Roberts (Jan 1911). 2nd XV. Colours; Form, Modern VI.

G. Wilson (Sept. 1908). Form Modern VI.

E. C. Sharp (Sept. 1909). Form, Modern Division.

M. Elrington (Sept. 1910). Form, Classical V.

G. H. Hayward (Jan. 1906). Form, Upper Modern V.

A. F. Haines (May 1911). Form, Lower Modern V.

C. B. Wilson (Sept. 1910). 2nd XV. Colours. Form, Upper Modern IV.

J. A. Bockett (Sept. 1910). Form, Lower Modern IV.

L. S. R. Scott (Sept. 1908). Form Lower Modern IV.

We had a most enjoyable Christmas Entertainment at the end of last term. It was well arranged and well carried out. The First Part comprised *The Gondoliers* overture by the Band and *Turn him out* played by Mr. Whitmore, H. G. Williams, C.G.Piggford, F. C.White and H.W. Beck. The Second Part was delightfully in the spirit of Christmas. Mr. Wood arranged a series of Christmas Airs for the Band and the School, as an overture to a dramatised version of Dickens' *Christmas Carol* which the Headmaster's Dormitories acted. This was admirable in every way. It was very well staged; a gloomy panelled room for Scrooge's Chambers, with a miserable fire in the overmantel of which Scrooge saw one of his visions of Marley, and large doors opening on a London street which we saw at nightfall in moonlight with windows

lighted up and snow everywhere, and next morning in bright sunshine with Christmas Bells pealing. The ghosts appeared most realistically (if such an expression is allowable) under the management of Mr. Barber, and the visions were shown by H. C. S. Walker with his accustomed deftness. The acting was good and the smoothness of the whole performance, which contained many features unusual to us, spoke volume for its careful rehearsal and organisation. The parts were as follows: *Scrooge*; S. O. R. Surridge; *Frank Freeheart*, R. A. E. Barton, *Bob Cratchit*, E. L. Chadwick, *Cheerly and Hearty* B. Girling and C. Venables, *Carol Singers* J. H. Auton, A. M. Knight, J. N. Knight, S. H. M. Larkam, R. W. Larkam, C. M. White, A. O. F. Winkler and J. B. Winkler. L. G. Harris and C. G. Salmon saw to the Carols, Perrin supplied some incidental music with his violin, and Briggs was there to prompt if it had been necessary. Mrs. Hibbert was a very efficient costumier.

The Editor acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the following: *Aluredian*, *Stonyhurst Magazine*, *Geelong Grammar School* (2), *Hymesian*, *Elstonian* (2), *St. Bee's School Magazine* (2), *Fire-Fly*, *Olavian*, *Blue* (2), *Framlinghamian*, *S.S.M. Quarterly*, *Merchistonian*, *Federal Magazine* (2), *Lancilg College Magazine*, *St. Edward's School Chronicle*, *Armidalian*, *K.E.S. Chronicle*, *Felstedian*, (2), *St. Andrew's College Magazine*, *Brighton College Magazine*, *Bloxhamist* (2), *Cadet Black and Red*, *Hurst Johnian*, *Ardingly Annals*.

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and at Chiswick.