

THE  
DENSTONIAN

VOLUME XLIII.

*Edited by P. HAMBLIN SMITH and S. L. WARE.*

DENSTONE COLLEGE

1919

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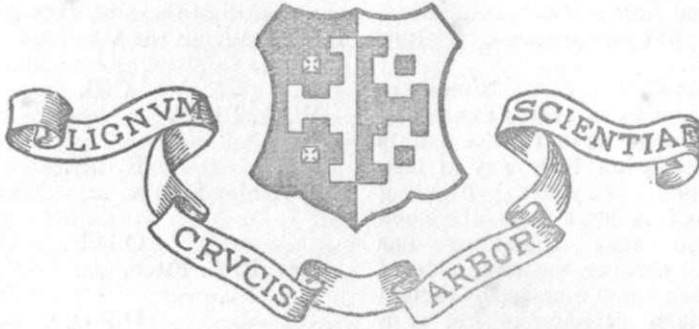
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# The Denstonian.

MARCH, 1919.

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## EDITORIAL.

"FOOLS rush in where angels fear to tread," otherwise this Editorial would not have been written. But all the same we can at least claim for it some degree of originality. We have been looking through the back numbers of the *Denstonian* and we can find nothing like it—all the rest are far better. Still, it is something to be different from the others.

We came back this term chastened in mind and body after our experiences with the 'flu, and we all hoped that it was over for ever. But not a bit of it. For we found to our sorrow that the disease still

lingered in the neighbourhood, and that the Tuck Shop was closed in consequence. This came as a great trial to the more juvenile members of the school, one of whom was even heard to declare that it was "just like the Coll." Fortunately, we have ourselves had no cases and the danger has now passed.

We take this opportunity of reminding Denstonians that, now the War is virtually over, there will obviously be a decreasing amount of War News. We hope, therefore, that any geniuses we may possess will send in as many contributions as possible. Besides curtailing the news of O.Ds. at the front, the Armistice will also shortly put a stop to our deplorable lists of casualties. But, to pass from grave to

gay, in spite of the Armistice—or perhaps because of it—we learn that even the Censor has been taken prisoner. This is a matter for our heartiest congratulations. With which cryptic announcement we turn to other topics.

This term the signs of the times are very strong; there have been a number of changes which show us that peace and its blessings are really on their way at last. For one thing, Bayonet Fighting and Officers' Class have been abolished—a sure sign that something has happened. For another, the male side of the staff has been again increased—though whether this is a blessing or not is a matter of taste which our readers must decide for themselves. We are, at any rate, most fortunate in the return of Mr. Huskinson and Mr. Ogle, and extend a hearty welcome to Mr. M. H. Nicholson and Mr. Johnson. And last, but by no means least, our meals have undergone such a transformation as to be quite unrecognisable. When is late dinner coming? Judging by all these improvements, one might be led to suppose that the Golden Age was come at last. But no; for we have one piece of news which must cast a gloom even over such joys as these.

We were all most sorry to hear at the beginning of term that the Headmaster was leaving. The knowledge that he is to be succeeded by the Rev. R. M. Grier, who is not only an Old Denstonian but is a proved and experienced Headmaster in the Society, cannot make us forget the fourteen years during which we have had Mr. Hibbert among us as our chief and—may we add?—as our friend. However, we must wait till our next number to express our feelings, so that we may obtain the really representative opinion of Oenstonians, past and present, on this great loss to their school.

## WAR NEWS.

Since our last number was published we have heard of these honours gained by Old Denstonians in the War :—

## C B

W. A. Bland.

## K.B.E.

T. Ashley Sparks.

## O.B.E.

Rev. E. A. Fitch.

## D.S.O.

Lieut.-Colonel F. G. Dobson.

## BAR TO MILITARY CROSS.

Second Lieut. J. Cornes.

## MILITARY CROSS.

Lieut. C. F. Harwood.

Lieut. R. D. Taylor.

## AIR FORCE CROSS.

Captain I. MacDonald, M.C., D.F.C.

## SPECIAL PROMOTION.

Major H. M. Milward, D.S.O., to be Brevet Lieut.-Colonel.

## FRENCH CROIX DE CHEVALIER.

Lieut.-Colonel H. M. Milward, D.S.O.

## FRENCH CROIX DE GUERRE.

Rev. E. A. Fitch, Div. C.F. (with Silver Star).

Captain R.B. Bullock, M.C. (with Palm).

## ITALIAN ORDER OF VALOUR.

Major J. B. Hardinge, M.C.

## ITALIAN CROIX DE GUERRE.

Capt. W. F. Greenwood, D.S.O., M.C.

The following accounts are published of how O.Ds. gained their Military Crosses:

A/Capt. R. W. Abbotts, Tank Corps. For conspicuous gallantry during an attack. He led his section into action on foot. One of his tanks got hit by a gun and some of the crew were wounded, but he ordered it to go on and knocked out a machine gun with it, thus enabling the infantry to advance. When the tank was later completely knocked out, he went to try and find another. He was all the time on foot in advance of the infantry. His determined courage and leadership were admirable.

T/Capt. A. L. E. F. Coleman, R.A.M.C. For conspicuous gallantry, tireless energy and devotion in attending the wounded during operations. For two days and nights he never left his post, though subjected to continuous machine-gun fire and frequent bombardments of high explosives and gas. During this period a continuous stream of wounded poured in, both from his own and other units, and by his prompt attention and ceaseless hard work he undoubtedly saved the lives of many severely wounded cases.

T/Sec. Lieut. J. Cornes, Northumberland Fusiliers, 64th T.M. Battery. The enemy having recaptured a trench with two Stokes guns and one Lewis gun with which they were enfilading our line and causing many casualties, he engaged them with his remaining Stokes mortar and inflicted severe casualties, and with one N.C.O. rushed the position and recovered the Lewis gun. Going forward again with a few infantry, he recaptured the remaining Stokes mortars and drove away the enemy. During the whole time he showed a complete grasp of the situation, and his coolness and gallantry set a splendid example to his men.

L. B. Helder, J. F. Menzies and J. K. Summers have all returned from captivity in Germany.

R. A. Briggs has had quinsy in India. He says that G. B. Fyldes is stationed at Multan, A. R. Leech is in Persia and A. E. Barlow is "going strong." R. A. Briggs is in the Deccan.

An O.D. writes: "On a carved oak screen erected at S. Martin's, Salisbury, in memory of Cecil Rawlings, O.D., the full Denstone crest and motto hold a prominent position. It struck me as being strangely appropriate, too, because that very church has the nearest approach to the Denstone Eucharist that I have been to since I left."

J. Cornes has had a rather serious bullet wound in the thigh.

J. N. Knight joined the Army in 1914, in the ranks. At first he was a cook, but as the men objected to this he was, says a humorous friend, given a commission in order to get rid of him from the cook-house. He went to France in 1915, and has served there some time, winning the M.C., and becoming a company commander.

F. V. Harris was Sub-Governor at Damascus for a time.

G. B. Fyldes is still another of the O.Ds. who have profited in Egypt from Mrs. Roberts' overflowing hospitality. "All O.Ds. make our house a home," she says. "It's wonderful how they all find it out! All the O.Ds. come into my choir and help me—they like to come. I find them all good churchmen and good moral men. I think it is splendid. Green is at Ismaila now as padre. He used to come and see me often. Colin Finch walked in one day. He was with us for a while, but is now—January—up the line, I think."

G. Warburton was in January at Port Said, J. Warburton at Kantara.

E. Roberts has been stationed at Port Said.

T. ProfEt went from the Shropshire Yeomanry to an O.C.B., and was gazetted to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders,

with whom, from August to November, he saw some stiff fighting.

H. D. Ainger has been at a demobilization camp at Hazebrouck.

B. A. Jervis was captured by the Turks (at Katia, in all probability) in 1916 and was afterwards imprisoned at Yozzad. He was repatriated at the end of 1918.

J. Prompt enlisted in the Coldstream Guards and has had nearly four years of hard service.

T. D. Kenion writes: "I've just finished reading a little pile of *Dnstonians*. What a magnificent all-round record! I'm prouder of the old school than ever. It will interest you to know that I, like Gilling, have carried Shakespeare's plays (and also a little pocket Homer) in my kit since I joined up, and have turned to them with great profit and satisfaction under various and trying circumstances—from the stupefying existence on the 'East Anglian' front to the more exhilarating conditions of a shell-hole in France. I well remember a peaceful Sunday afternoon last August in the bottom of a shell-hole when I read several scenes of *Twelfth Night*. It is almost superfluous to say that visions of old 'Steger' floated vividly before me.

F. M. Jackson, R.N., who for several months was Acting Naval Chaplain at Dover, was present with the Fleet in the operations at Zeebrugge and Ostend.

Brigadier-General Mudge, C.M.G., speaking of the victorious operations in Palestine, wrote a letter which contained details of especial interest for Denstonians: "The Northampton's had the hardest task of the lot, having to push on and seize an important water supply three or four miles further on. It was asking a great deal of the men, but Colonel Winnington had explained the necessity for it to all ranks, and splendidly they rose to the

occasion. The opposition met was very slight, and whenever the Turk did try to stand, the nearest commander pushed in more troops and outflanked him, so that he was kept continually on the run. Our men were awfully exhausted, and of course some dropped out. Captain St. John Browne's and Lieut. Haptie's companies stuck to it like men. They had the furthest of any to go, and, plodding on nearly all night, at last, at 4 p.m., after 22½ hours solid fighting and marching, reached their objectives and could pause. It was a very fine effort, which I now hear was not expected to succeed by some in authority. I am very glad indeed to say that I have just this morning (October 12) seen the Military Cross pinned on Captain Browne and Lieut. Haptie. In spite of our exhaustion there was not much peace, as at 5 a.m. the advance was resumed, but I left your people alone. St. John Browne, however, joined in 'on his own' and gave most useful help with machine-gun fire. By noon we really did halt, as the Turks were in full flight and out of our reach. Very glad we all were to sit down for a little rest."

B. Webb has been engaged on the Army Educational Staff.

O Victor, after "months up Douai way," was in December doing spiritual work in a Base Hospital at Etaples.

H. Hamer has been a Field Cashier in France.

C. C. R. Reynolds was in October on the point of leaving India. He had met J. Auton (25th Punjabis), who was Mess Secretary to his Depot.

J. I. Boothroyd, R.A.F., was for some time Assistant Adjutant at Stonehenge; then he was at Chingford and was later posted to County Cork.

G. Griffin and H. S. Bates were in the same brigade in Alexandria.



G. A. Elliot went to France, but caught influenza and never reached a squadron before the Armistice.

L. A. Loup has had typhoid.

E. Passmore has had slight nerve trouble ever since being blown up by a shell.

G. G. Goode is stationed in India.

H. Wolferstan Beck took a leading part in organizing recently a R.A.F. Pantomime in Italy, but was ill and could not act personally. The scenery was ambitious, and six Austrian prisoners gave assistance with it—one a carpenter and another a steeple-jack, whose acrobatic capacities made Beck covet him for *Dick Whittington and His Cat*. Wigs were hired from Verona quite cheaply. Shades of *Two Gentlemen* in happier years!

R. W. Peel who is a Lieut, in the R.A.F., wrote in September from the Aegean: "I have been moved about a little to different stations on the various islands; also, I had a trip up to the mainland last spring. Everywhere I find things wonderfully interesting. The old Greek peasant ways are very primitive, and at first it was not unlike being away from civilization. I came out for sea-planes, but after flying for about five months I got tired of the slowness of the patrols—except for the *Goeben* stunt, for which by some fluke I managed to get the D.S.C. and Greek War Cross. Then I transferred to land machines and have since been on scouts, and may say I have a good time generally. Naturally I found the great heat of the summer very trying at first, but we have plenty of excellent bathing."

Though C. Hope was only in France after August, he saw stiff fighting.

W. V. Clark wrote in November: "I went out to Mesopotamia in March, 1917, to be attached to another regiment. There I didn't see very much in the way of fighting, but a great deal of interesting

work on defences in Samarra. It is terribly hot there, but I think the dust-storms beat everything else. The first night I joined the regiment we had a very bad one. It was impossible to get anything to eat, and it continued all night and till about noon next day. Digging the defences there, we found several interesting things—coins, glass and pottery, and a big length of water-pipe made of glass, which must have been very ancient indeed.

"We left Mespot. in December, 1917, and came here to the E.E.F. Except for the first two or three months, we have been up in front all the time. I managed to get ten days leave to Cairo, which I thoroughly enjoyed, as I had had no leave since I was in England in 1915. Much to my surprise, I met Greenwood when I was there.

"This last push has been a glorious effort, and I think I have seen as much of it as an infantryman could expect. Our division has been the one ahead all the time, and we are now a few miles north of Tripoli. I wish I could tell you of all the things and places we saw. Acre, I think was one of the most interesting; it is quite old, with narrow streets—in some places covered in—while the old defences, too, are most interesting. I received the *O.D. Chronicle* in Beirut, where we stayed for a few days. It is quite a good spot, and we had a really enthusiastic welcome from the inhabitants. It is somewhat dull here now, and the rains have begun in earnest."

L. Cumin writes: "The enormous sacrifices which have been made will not be fruitless, let us hope. It is not without emotion that I have read the list of O.Ds. dead on the field of honour; and when I add to this list those of my French friends, killed in action in the same way, the hideousness of war appears more clearly than ever before. My brother is still in

the East, and I do not know when he will return to France. Since my own return I have been in the artillery. This means that during the war I have been *chasseur, dragon, fantassin, an train, et pour Unit artilleur !* "

R. Holland wrote in September from prison in Germany: " We are a happy crowd. I have lots of pals all over the camp, and we go to each others' rooms for tea and supper. We have a square in the barracks and three blocks—200 men in mine. There are eight of us in a long room, which is a whole house to us. We have a bed each, with a large locker beside it. We mess in couples, and an English Tommy does work for us. We have three meals a day, and cook for ourselves, as we have a fine stove, and buy logs for it. At 7 o'clock I have a cold shower ; breakfast at 8; roll-call at 9, 4.30 and 9.30; tea at 2.30, supper at 7.30. My day is spent between the tin room, committee work, hockey, reading, gossip—I am quite busy ! We have lectures in great variety, a splendid concert and a walk, both once a week. We have a tennis-court and a billiard-table. With flour we make jam-rolls, parkin, pastry, cakes, buns, etc. I can cook anything ! "

G. E. Jackson is on the Salonika front.

J. H. Davies was a prisoner in Cologne when the revolution broke out there. He says that he had very little food but was otherwise fairly well treated, though this was only the case with the officers. In his march to our lines he was much struck by the disorganization and shortage of munitions behind the German lines. When he left Cologne, the population was not looking forward to a (supposed) Belgian occupation.

J. B. Hardinge was for a time on the Italian front, where he gained the Medal for Valour, but was for the most part in France.

He is now in the Army of Occupation in, or near, Cologne.

A. S. Merrett writes:—" I have been a ' 2nd. Loot' in the Middlesex Regiment for some time now. H. L. Pearce is near Tournai, and fears he may have to go to Germany before long—but perhaps he is pessimistic. My battalion is now at Havre, and we are doing demobilizing work, which is somewhat tantalizing. I have had enough roaming, and intend to settle in England. Four years in British Columbia and the Western States, followed by three in the Army, has cured me for the time being. I met Fallon here. I knew neither Pearce nor Fallon at Denstone, but it is wonderful what a bond of union the fact of their being O.Ds. is. I hope the annual Shakespearean play is to be revived in all its glory now. Do you remember the *Merchant of Venice* and *Richard II. ?* " Of course Merrett played ably as " Portia" and "York."

F. J. Keble has been released from prison in Germany. He was at Rastatt and was well treated. After the Armistice the camp was handed over to the senior British officer, and Keble was able to go for some beautiful walks in the Black Forest. He returned through Switzerland and Lyons.

G. D. Collis has returned from internment in Holland.

S. Tew has been demobilized.

G. S. C. Weigall has the work of protecting the Armenians, but finds it much harder to protect himself when it comes to doing business with them.

#### WAR OBITUARY.

*James Ferguson Boyce* was in Lowe from September, 1909, until March, 1911. He was serving in the Household Brigade

when he was killed, on May 26, 1917.

*Captain Brrol Seymour Rerrie* had a distinguished career at Denstone and in France. He was in Head's i. from 1911 to 1914—a fine football player, a prefect, a good shot (viii) and lance corporal in the O.T.C. He was also a clever boy. He obtained Certificate "A" in the last Examination which was held and was in camp at Aldershot when war came. Immediately he obtained a commission in the 3rd Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment and soon served in France. Then he went to Salonika, but presently returned to France, where he fought in the second battle of Ypres and was at Loos, Arras, Bazentin le Petit and Mametz. In Sept., 1916, he was wounded at Flers. His Military Cross was gained by a characteristically bit of daring work. In July, 1917, he was reported missing and nothing has been heard of him since that date.

*Lieut. Walter Herbert Ettrick Moore* was in Lowe from 1902 until 1906. He was a boy of considerable ability. He obtained a commission in the Manchester Regiment and subsequently transferred to the 1/8th Lancashire Regiment. He died of wounds on November 13 last.

*William Ethelbert Abbott* was in Shrewsbury from 1897 to 1899. He was a sound and solid boy, not brilliant but always trustworthy. He was in France with the Australian Imperial Force, and was killed in action on October 3 last.

*2nd Lieut. Eustace Charles Keble* was in Lowe from 1912 to 1916 and rose to the position of Prefect by sterling merit. He was certainly one of the very soundest boys who have ever been at Denstone, thoroughly straight and really religious in conduct and

temperament. His influence was always strongly and unmistakably on the side of right. He was appreciated and popular, and quite good at sports. Intellectually he was promising and was reading for a Scholarship at Oxford, but of course went to his Military Service instead. He was in the 1st Battalion North Staffordshire Regiment and was reported missing on March 21 last. The Chaplain was J. C. Davies, who was captured, and now on his release he says there is practically no doubt Keble was killed at Pontruet. One of his men who had been with him during the morning at a listening post reports that "he was killed fighting hand to hand with the Germans."

J. C. Davies says of him : "He was one of the whitest boys I have ever known and a very gallant officer. He set an example of a Christian soldier to officers and men alike. I have often heard his brother officers speak of him in terms of very high praise. He made his Communion on March 17 before going up the line." Evidently Keble was in the Army just what he was at Denstone, and he could be nothing better. We like to treasure that last memory of him—making his Communion and then "fighting hand to hand with the enemy," even to the end. That is the sort of thing he did at Denstone.

*Arthur George St. John Toms* (1907-09—Lowe) was a private in the 21st Canadians and we have just heard that he, like his brother, has been killed. He fell in action at Courcellette on September 15, 1916.

*Harold Charlton Fenwick* was in Head's ii. from January, 1906, to July, 1909. He joined the Newcastle Battalion of the Northumberland Fusiliers and saw a good deal of service. He was taken by the

Germans last March and only one post card was ever afterwards received from him. On the conclusion of the Armistice it was found that he died in hospital at S. Quentin on June 16.

*Lieut. Alfred Selwyn Basil Jones* was here from September, 1894, 'til July, 1900. He was in Selwyn Dormitory, a prefect and an excellent football player. He had real abilities and gained the Higher Certificate in 1898, 1899 and 1900, and was an actor in the Shakespearean Plays. He gained a Classical Exhibition at Jesus College, Oxford, and went into residence on leaving Denstone. He was in his College XV. and was President of the Athletic Club in 1902-3. Subsequently he went to Canada, where he did well. He joined the 1st Canadian Pioneers and did good work with them, and it is sad to have to record that he died in hospital at Kinmel Park of pneumonia on February 9.

R.I.P.

#### THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

In spite of the fact that the Society was only able to meet twice during its first term, it may be congratulated on having made a good start. We finished up with a public mock trial in the Schoolroom. It was purely experimental and most of the officials were as ignorant of legal procedure as the boys who took part. Apart from the fact that it was too protracted it was a great success, and at all events sufficed to show that in spite of the war Denstone's talent for acting has not diminished. Mr. Averill was tried for running over a prize-bred cockerel, the defence being that the bird deliberately committed suicide. The verdict was given for the defence. Counsel: M. Mitcheson and J. Corbishley for the

prosecution, and N. Whitfield and S. Torkington for the defence. Mr. A. R. Wood presided as judge.

The first debate of this term was held on Sunday, February 2nd. The motion before the House was "That this House approves of the present attitude of Labour." Mr. Butler, in a very able and witty speech, proposed the motion, seconded by Mr. P. Hamblin-Smith, the opposer being Mr. Hicks, seconded by Mr. Backhouse. There was a good House, and it was encouraging to see the number of members who spoke in the course of the evening. There is at present a tendency to treat questions in too much detail without getting at essentials: but the improvement on the preceding debate was very noticeable. Mr. Hicks spoke well against the motion, while Mr. P. Hamblin Smith made an excellent speech supporting Mr. Butler.

Mr. Backhouse raised some able criticisms of Mr. Butler's speech, but he never came to grips with the real question.

The motion was carried by 18—13.

The new officers are:—Mr. Green (Chairman), Mr. P. Hamblin Smith (Hon. Secretary), Mr. N. Whitfield (Sub. Sec), Mr. Lawton (Deputy Chairman), Messrs. Backhouse, Finney and Corbishley, Ushers.

The Junior Debating Society has also been revived this term.

#### FOOTBALL.

##### NEW ZEALAND MACHINE GUN CORPS.

Lost, 6—0. In this game we were without McMichael and Kilbourn. It was an excellent match all through and very exciting to watch. Our team's training stood them in good stead so that they were able to keep the heavier New Zealand team well employed. It was noticeable that our forwards managed to get the ball

out very often owing to the fact that they got down quickly in the scrum. However, our scrum half occasionally failed to get it back to the three-quarters, as the New Zealanders followed up very quickly. Consequently, our three-quarters could not do very much, though they ran very well when they did get the ball. By half-time the New Zealanders had scored two hard-earned tries but had failed to convert. After half-time we played down-hill and not only held the New Zealanders but also pressed them right back to their line. In one good three-quarter rush Harrison just failed to score ; and several times Fergusson, backed up well by the other forwards, dribbled the ball far down the field. Both teams combined well, so that the game was very clean and pretty to watch. Thacker, who had not played for the team before, tackled very well and did some good work. Of the three-quarters, Harrison and Finney ran very well. The forwards as a whole played excellently.

*Team.*—Thacker ; Finney, Corbishley, Seddon, Harrison ; Whitfield, Nason ; Fergusson, Wildsmith, Carmichael, Wynne, Whittles, Hobday, Tomlinson, MacGregor.

#### NEW ZEALAND RIFLE BRIGADE.

Lost, 9—0. In this game we unfortunately had to do without four of our original team. The visiting team was very much heavier than ours but we had the advantage in training, Our forwards always were first down in the scrum and so very often got the ball back. After some exciting play the New Zealanders broke through our defence on the right. They failed to convert. As soon as the ball was dropped out from the twenty-five a New Zealand forward got it and they again scored by some pretty combination. This put us on our guard and we held them for some time. However, just before half-time the New

Zealanders scored again and again failed to convert. As we were playing down-hill after half-time we held the visitors well in hand but only twice pressed them near their own line. Our forwards did some excellent dribbling and our three-quarter line also worked hard but without much success. Thacker, as before, played a fine game and saved several tries for us. Finney, Harrison and Seddon were also very conspicuous, while of the forwards who undoubtedly did most, Fergusson, Wildsmith, Carmichael, Whittles and Hobday were best. The tackling in this game was not as good as previously as most of the team went high.

*Team.*—Thacker ; Whitfield, Nason ; Finney, Corbishley, Seddon, Harrison ; Fergusson, Wildsmith, Carmichael, Whittles, Hobday, Tomlinson, MacGregor, Davies.

#### O.D. NEWS.

It is hoped that there will be a Re-union of Old Boys at the College during the first days of the Summer Holidays. It should be of a quite extraordinary interest, as bringing together Denstonians who have represented their country and their school in many countries and under widely differing conditions.

D. J. Fergusson has been playing forward for Leicester R.U.F.C.

P. H. Sykes has been demobilized and hopes to go to Oxford, where he gained before the war the Holroyd Musical Scholarship at Keble.

A. H. Cowan and C. H. Horner have been demobilized. The former is going to Liverpool University.

G. H. Wildsmith is in business with his father at Lincoln.

A. F. Cross is returning to the Civil Service College in London. He writes;

" I find lessons rather trying after four years of a rather easygoing life. However, I remember one of our old plays - ' If it were done when 'tis done, 'twere well it were done quickly,' so I have started early."

T. D. Kenion has returned to Barnard Castle School.

Alan Edward Chinn came in October, 1874, and remained till 1877, when he migrated to Rugby. He was admitted a solicitor in 1889 and joined his father at Lichfield. He held many offices at Lichfield and was also a leading cricketer, being an excellent slow bowler. He was a member of the M.C.C., Free Foresters, and Derbyshire Friars. He played at various times for Staffordshire. He died on January 20, aged 54. R.I.P.

C. J. J. T. Barton wrote in December from Durban: " I have been sent down here on a nominal four months leave, and am endeavouring to enjoy myself in the most expensive country on earth. I have had the pneumonic plague, which has taken 50,000 natives in the towns of South Africa alone. I never want to be so ill again. For Christmas I go to Maritzburg to stay with a kindly judge of the Supreme Court there, and then I think I go to the Victoria Falls on the Zambesi. It means five days in the train ! "

H. Jacks wrote before his sad death from septic pneumonia : " I have decided to settle in Lagos and go into partnership here. I think I am doing a wise thing, as, with so many people returning to civil life, there will be so much competition in all professions that it seems better to start again in a place where there is every indication that one will be able to earn a substantial income.

" Last November the Governor asked me if I would act as Crown Prosecutor at the Niger Assizes ; so for the last month I have been in Warn, prosecuting criminals

for offences ranging between the theft of a duck and a criminal libel.

" This country, which is the richest of our Crown Colonies, is steadily improving. There is a surplus income over expenditure of more than £3,000,000 this year, and many resources are at present undeveloped. There are gold, tin, silver and coal in certain parts, but the staple industry is palm oil, and its constituent parts—for now every part of the tree is valuable commercially. I enjoy the life out here, but one must have a good deal of wire and determination to avoid the great temptations of drinking and gambling. There is a good opening for young men just leaving the University as Assistant District Officers, or in the various other departments of the Government service. To a man who was prepared to start on a salary of £300-£400 and progress slowly until he left the service after eighteen years, with a pension, Government service would appeal.

" My partner and I have very ambitious ideas, and if things go on as at present we intend having offices in Sierra Leone, at Accra, on the Gold Coast, and at Port Harcourt and Calabar in Nigeria. We shall have an office in London. The affairs on the Coast will of course be under qualified European lawyers."

But, alas, death cut short all the plans which he had made with so characteristic an enthusiasm. He was always devoted to Denstone, and almost his last act was to offer his help in starting a young Denstonian in his firm. His ability had brought him, as Legal Adviser, to a Staff Post during the war, and he saw considerable service in France, being wounded there. R.I.P.

R. Holland is married, and has two children.

Major A. Wynne Corrie wrote to the *Times* recently with regard to the burning of his residence at Oswestry, speaking

most warmly of the assistance rendered in saving the furniture " by the exertions of Brigadier-General Winsler, O.C. Troops," and others.

R. E. Hutton (1877) is Chaplain at S. Margaret's, East Grinstead. He has published *The Soul Here and Hereafter*, *The Sorrows of the King*, *The Crown of Christ* (2 vols.), and *The Soul in the Unseen World*.

F. M. Jackson is now Curate-in-Charge of Christ Church, S. Mary Abbots.

H. M. Chapman helped in the recent "Forty Hours" services for victory at S. Saviour's, Hoxton.

Lewis Casson and Balliol Holloway have been acting together in the Stage Society's productions.

H. P. Boyd, having failed to pass the Army medical examination, took a post in an Insurance Company in London. He is in the underwriting department of a Fire Office. He is married to a native of Brussels.

L. J. Roskams before the war was in a Merchants Office in London.

A. S. Mason, after suffering from influenza, pneumonia, bronchitis and pleurisy, has reached Port Arthur, at the head of Lake Superior. He is Assistant to the Chemical Superintendent in a Wood Pulp and Paper Mill. He is learning the business under the Canadian Governments' "Vocational Training" scheme. He has been married.

S. H. Larkam and W. Horsfield have gone into residence at S. Catharine's College, Cambridge.

#### NOTES.

The Headmaster has been appointed by the Bishop of Lichfield to be a Prebendary of Lichfield Cathedral.

The Headmaster has accepted from S.

John's College, Cambridge, the living of Lilley in Hertfordshire.

P. R. Sutton has passed the Preliminary Examination of the Surveyors' Institute.

G. H. Drury has passed into Sandhurst.

Mr. Swift has celebrated the Armistice by a repetition of earlier triumphs. P. Hamblin Smith has gained a £60 Open Scholarship for Modern History at Lincoln College, Oxford.

The Dancing Class has begun again and Prefects are flocking to it, despite the extreme difficulty of obtaining the necessary impedimenta.

Towards the end of last term we had two very good concerts, the first of which was especially successful. Mr. J. L. Smith as the Vacuum Cleaner brought down the house, while Broncho Bill and his high-mettled steed were greeted with thunderous applause.

The military authorities are sending us a captured German trench mortar, as some memorial of the work done by the O.T.C. in the war.

The O.T.C. is unfortunately deprived of the services of Lieut. Wood, who has been demobilized. He will be much missed.

The following promotions have been posted:—Lance-Corporals Finney and Hamblin Smith to be Sergeants. Privates Hobday and Lockyer, F., to be Corporals. Lance-Corporals Seddon, Alker and Chapman, E., to be Corporals. Privates MacGregor, Corbishley, Kilbourn, Champney, Hicks, Dodds, K., and Lawrence to be Lance-Corporals.

The School Officers this term are:—

Captain of School—E. Finney.

Prefect of Hall—S. L. Ware.

Prefect of Chapel—P. Hamblin Smith.

Captain of Football—N. G. Whitfield.

Editor of the *Denstonian*—

P. Hamblin Smith.

The following have been made Prefects:

—P. R. Sutton, J. N. Nason, F. A. Beresford, J. R. Hodgson, R. Thorpe, V. L. Griffiths, M. A. Mitcheson, D. Garman and K. Dodds,

Among those who left last term were:—  
J. Carmichael (H.M.H. ii.), Prefect, ist XV. Colours, Lance-Corporal O.T.C.

G. H. Drury (H.M.H. iii.), Prefect, Lance Corporal O.T.C.

D. J. Fergusson (Woodard), Prefect of Hall, Sergeant O.T.C., Captain of Football, Captain of Cricket, Captain of Fives.

C. Lowndes (Lowe), Prefect, O.T.C.

R. K. McMichael (H.M.H. ii.), Prefect, O.T.C., ist XV. Colours.

H. P. Rerrie (H.M.H. i.), Prefect, Lance-Corporal O.T.C., Editor of the *Denstonian*.

J. Whittles (Shrewsbury), Prefect, ist XV., ist XI. & Fives Colours, Sergt. O.T.C.

G. R. Wildsmith (H.M.H. i.), Captain of School, Sergeant O.T.C., ist XV. and 2nd XI. Colours;

F. G. Wynne (Shrewsbury), Prefect, ist XV. Colours, Sergeant O.T.C.

The following have been awarded their Football Colours:—ist XV., E. Finney, J. Whittles, S. B. Harrison, R. K. McMichael.

2nd XV, S. L. Kilbourn, H. D. Thacker, R. Seddon, M. G. C. Hobday, J. H. Tomlinson, J. N. M. Nason, C. M. MacGregor.

Selwyn won the Chess Trophy last term, beating Head's iii. in the final.

In the first round of the Middle Side Football Matches Head's iii. beat Head's ii., Shrewsbury beat Head's i., Selwyn beat Lowe, and Woodard beat Meynell. In the second round Shrewsbury beat Head's iii., while Woodard were beaten by Selwyn. In the final Selwyn just beat Shrewsbury after a very good game.

Lowe won the Junior Fives Cup, beating Woodard in the final.

Lectures have been given this term by Mr. Clifton Kelway on "The Catholic Revival," and by C. Thompson, in the L. and S. Society, on "The Border Abbeys."

The new boys this term are:—

Baker, Alfred Masefield	. Meynell
Blair, Kenneth	. Selwyn
Blair, Neil	. "
Blomefield, John Woodyear	. H.M.H. i.
Brayshay, Patrick Cecil	. Meynell
Burrows, Ralph Tertius	. H.M.H. ii.
Crichton, Frederick Gordon	. Seiwyn
Davies, Frank	. H.M.H. iii.
Fisher, Hugh Warren	. Selwyn
Gregory, Noel William	. Shrewsbury
Griffiths, James Howard Eagle	. Preparatory
Harker, John Gresham	. Shrewsbury
Hunt, John Roy	. H.M.H. iii.
Kearton, John James	. H.M.H. ii.
Lancashire, Cecil John	. Preparatory
Lofthouse, Roland James	. Woodard
Marr, John Thornton	. H.M.H. i.
Marr, Ronald	. "
Martin, Thomas John	. H.M.H. iii.
Mason, John Harold	. Shrewsbury
Moseley, Francis Marion Volta	. Woodard
Mothersdale, John	. H.M.H. ii.
Perkin, Alfred John Goodwin	. Woodard
Proctor, Douglas Vernon	. H.M.H. ii.
Roberts, Thomas Trevor	. H.M.H. i.
Ryder, Reginald Walter	. Selwyn
Stanley-Turner, Harry Philip	. Woodard
Stanley-Turner, Donald Bruce	. "
Buckworth Butler	. Preparatory
Stansby, Harry Stanley	. Selwyn
Tait, Donald Augustus	. Woodard
Taylor, Edgar	. Preparatory
Watts, Guy	. Lowe
White, Bernard	. Shrewsbury
Woosnam, Martin	. H.M.H. iii.

All MSS should be on one side of the paper only, and should be addressed to the Editor, P. Hamblin Smith.

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