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LITTERAE
COMMUNES

St. Lawrence's College, AMPLEFORTH.

DIARY

FOR THE TERM ENDING DECEMBER 23rd, 1890.

July 19th.—Most of our kind readers have read the account of the Exhibition in the *Yorkshire Herald* which was published on the following day; still, it would be a fault to miss so important an event out of the series. A few words, therefore, about it will not be out of place, and, we hope, will be welcome to such as were not able to obtain a copy of the *Herald*. “Guy Mannering” was acted on the night previous to the Exhibition day; the scenery, cast, and orchestra leaving little to be desired in the rendering of this beautiful story of border-life. The cast was as follows:—‘Captain Mannering,’ Mr. H. Hobday; ‘William Mannering,’ William Powell; ‘Henry Bertram,’ E. Connor; ‘Walter Lovel,’ F. Priestman; ‘Dominie Sampson,’ W. Payne; ‘Dandie Dimmont,’ L. Casartelli; ‘Dirl Hatterick,’ A. Smith; ‘Gilbert Glossin,’ A. Whittle; ‘Bailie Mucklethrift,’ J. Tucker; ‘Sebastian,’ A. Dillon; ‘Gabriel,’ A. Powell; ‘Sergeant M’Crae,’ Sergeant Garnett; ‘Franco,’ M. Willson; ‘Gregory,’ P. Curran; ‘Barnes,’ F. Forster; ‘Meg Merrilies,’ G. Pentony, ‘Mrs. M’Candlish,’ R. Mawson; Gipsies, Smugglers, Farmers, and Highland Soldiers.

During the evening the orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. H. A. Allen, rendered the following selections:—Overture, ‘Guy

Mannering,' *Bishop*; overture, 'Marinettes,' *Gurlitt*; entracte from 'Rosamunde,' *Schubert*; selection from 'Robert le Diable,' *Meyerbeer*.

Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by his Lordship, John Cuthbert Hedley, Bishop of Newport and Menevia, aided by F. Anslem Burge, the Prior, after which the distribution of prizes took place in the Study Hall, which was adorned with flowers and with the drawings and paintings of the boys. The Rev. Father Prior, who was accompanied by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Hedley, and Rt. Rev. Abbot O'Neill, occupied the chair, and there was a numerous company of ladies and gentlemen. The overture, 'Frà Diavolo,' and the prologue, by C. Hind, having been concluded, the distribution of prizes by his Lordship the Bishop was proceeded with; the successful students being:—

Preparatory:—Class Prizes—1st, F. O'Beirne; 2nd, A. Sherlock, G. Nevill. Composition and English Grammar—F. O'Beirne. Arithmetic—G. Nevill. Writing and Spelling—A. Sherlock. History and Geography—G. Nevill. Catechism—F. O'Beirne, D. Finley. Recitation—C. Hill.

Lower Grammar:—Class Prizes—1st, E. Railton; 2nd, B. Heywood. Arithmetic—E. Railton. History and Geography—B. Heywood. English Grammar—B. Heywood. Catechism—E. Railton. Reading and Recitation—P. Heywood.

Upper Grammar:—Class Prizes—(Awarded to all who obtain a First Division in the College of Preceptors' Examination). *Lower Syntax*:—Class Prizes—Latin and French—A. Kendall. Mathematics—P. Blackledge. Latin and French—W. Adrien. Arithmetic and Algebra—J. Dawson. History and Geography—C. Powell. Catechism—J. Dawson. English Composition—W. Adrien.

Upper Syntax:—Class Prizes—Latin, German, and French—A. Dillon. Mathematics—W. Powell. Geography (special prize)—C. Hines.

Humanites:—Class Prizes—Latin, Greek, and French—R. Willson. Mathematics—G. Hind. Composition—A. Whittle.

Poetry:—Class Prize—L. Loretz. Latin, Greek, and French—L. Loretz. English Composition—J. McSheehy.

Extra Prizes:—English Composition ("Fishwick" Prize)—Charles Quinn, for Upper Grammar and Lower Syntax. Science, for Humanites and Poetry—Jno. Tucker. Music—1st, G. Hind; for improvement (Upper School)—J. McSheehy; (Lower School) —A. Bucknall. Drawing—1st, A. Powell; 2nd, C. Quinn. "Boddy" Prize (Upper School)—W. Dawes; (Lower School)—A. Bucknall. Book-keeping (for all the School)—J. Conolly, Jno. Parker. Shorthand, First Division—J. McSheehy; Second Division—E. Connor. Special Prize for industry—C. F. Dehime, L. Lopez, R. Platt.

The results of the College of Preceptors' Examinations not yet having been published, class prizes could not be awarded to the classes which had competed for them, namely, the Upper Grammar, Lower Syntax, Upper Syntax, and Humanites. The distribution of the class prizes for those classes was, therefore, postponed. The speeches were as follows:—'The Ivy and the Bell,' L. B. Webster; 'Clarence Dream,' W. Payne; French speech, 'Le Medicin malgré lui,' A. Gonzalez, R. Giglio, R. Worswick; the whole concluding with the Epilogue by Jno. Tucker.

August 31st.—The melancholy news of the death of Basil Heywood, of Witla Court, Cardiff, reached the College. He was only eleven years of age when he returned home for the holidays in July, and was apparently in the best of health and spirits. A most promising student, he was always at the head of his class, and his happy bright ways made him a general favourite both with masters and boys. The end came very suddenly. A few days of illness, during which he suffered most acutely, and he passed away. R.I.P.

Sept. 4th.—The boys returned 89 in number, out of 119; this, of course, greatly inconvenienced everybody, as the non-arrival of the boys prevents the prompt commencement of the term's work. Among the boys who have left we are sorry to mention the name of Louis Casartelli, who was an active editor of the diary since its commencement.

Sept. 7th.—The term-voting for the post of Captain of the School was held, once again resulting in favour of G. Pentony. The Government officials were appointed as follows:—

Secretary—A. Powell.

Officemen—T. Noblett, J. Tucker.

Librarian of Senior Library—G. McLoughlin.

,, Junior Library—E. Ruddin.

Vigilarius , C. Challoner.

Clothesmen—G. Hind, E. Connor, C. Quinn..

Gasmen—A. Smith, J. Browne.

Collegemen—P. Curran, W. Pentony.

Vigilarii of Upper Grammar Room—R. Woodiwis, J. Challoner.

,, Lower Grammar Room—L. Cowban, F. Whittam.

Sept. 11th.—A holiday was obtained for Fr. President's feast, which took place during the vacation.

Sept. 21st.—The football season commenced.

Sept. 22nd.—The Religious entered on a week's spiritual retreat given by the Rev. Austin Davy, of Morpeth.

Sept. 24th.—The Rev. W. Phillipson, of Birtley, gave the boys their usual two-days retreat. The weather, fortunately, was fine on the whole.

Sept. 29th.—The October month-day was anticipated. In the evening an hour or two was devoted to a general meeting which the Rules of Procedure require to be held once a month, with Fr. Anselm Turner in the chair; Fr. Sub-Prior opened the proceedings by saying that it was the custom for Parliament to be

opened by the Queen's speech, and he was privileged in making this speech to them. Debating Societies were very great helps, he thought, towards independence of mind and freedom of manner. There were three especial qualities required for a good debater. He should be ready-witted, good-tempered, and easy-mannered; his read-wit would enable him to make sharp repartee when required; his good-temper would enable him to take in good part any verbal blows from his opponent; and easy-manner could give him confidence and make his speech more agreeable to the audience. Anything like sarcasm or biting words should be strictly avoided. A thorough knowledgs of the Rules of Procedure was necessary in debate. Votes, he said, should be given properly and according to the voters' conviction, and not simply for the sake of party spirit, though, in extreme cases, voting for party might be allowed to override one's own opinion. He dwelt strongly on the importance of thoroughly getting up both sides of the question, and the necessity of making notes. Great applause followed the conclusion of this speech. The complaints against the Government were next canvassed. A prolonged discussion took place on the question of whether the complaints, which were written on paper other than note-paper, were admissible. Ultimately the question was settled in favour of the Opposition, and the complaints were argued over. The Debate concluded by a hearty vote of thanks to the chair.

Sept. —th.—Brs. P. Leo Caroll, W. Bernard Hayes, took their simple vows at St. Michael's, Hereford. Br. A. Paul Pentony was delayed from ill-health.

Oct. 7th.—A desire was widely expressed among those who attended the last Exhibition at Ampleforth, that some attempt should be made in Liverpool to enable the Society members to meet occasionally and spend a social evening in a manner similar to that which has proved so successful in London.

On this date a beefsteak supper was held in Liverpool, about fifty members being present. A most enjoyable evening was spent, enlivened by music. It was quite a revelation to the members to find what an amount of superior musical talent existed in their Society. Everything passed off very harmoniously, and gave great satisfaction to all present. To show the interest taken in this re-union by the London branch of the Society, Mr. G. Courtnay Wray, the General Secretary of the Ampleforth Society, came specially from London to be present, whilst others residing considerable distances from Liverpool also attended.

Oct. 12th.—A meeting of the students of the Upper Library was held in order to organize a series of debates and lectures combined. Fr. Sub-Prior kindly took the chair, and Br. Francis Pentony read the first paper. He chose as his subject "Savonarole," and his extremely interesting lecture was followed by a warm debate.

Oct. 14th.—An interesting match took place between the rival elevens of the Band and the School. Although very uncertain during the first half, the match turned in favour of the Band during the latter portion of the game, and School could not keep the ball out of their ground. Great skill was displayed by the Band in passing the leather, and time was called when they had scored six goals to one.

Oct. 19th.—The second lecture of the series was read by John Tucker, the subject being "The Question of Life in other orbs."

Oct. 18th.—Fr. Prior returned from his holidays, accompanied by John Quinn, a new boy from Liverpool.

Oct. 22nd & 23rd.—These two days were the occasion of the third Musical Festival at Hovingham which, under the patronage of Sir William Worsley, took place in his mansion. The Musical Festivals, as some of our readers will know, are quite an event

in their own little world, since, through their agency, all the talent on the country side are brought together to their own advantage, and also an excellent programme is afforded to such as would not care to go to a distance. The evening performance on Wednesday was devoted to Dr. Parry's Oratorio, "Judith," and on Thursday afternoon a miscellaneous collection was rendered. The piece, *par excellence*, however, was Mendlesohn's "Elijah," on Thursday evening, at which a great number of the masters and boys were present. Several well-known artists took parts in the performances, among whom may be mentioned the celebrated soprano, Miss Annie Williams, Miss Mary Munro, contralto, and Messieurs Ffrangeon Davies and Edward Haughton, baritone and tenor respectively.

Oct. 24th.—The Hon. Maxwell Stuart, of Scarthingwell, died. The deceased gentleman took the greatest interest in Ampleforth, and, among other gifts, presented the orchestra with a beautifully bound selection of classical works.

Oct. 26th.—A. Kendall was the first to give a lecture, "On Glass," this term, in the Junior Boys' Library. A slight fall of snow took place in the course of the day.

Oct. 27th.—Two sides having been formed of the members of the Lower Syntax Class, namely, the 'Cambridgers' and the 'Oxonians,' they contended for a half-holiday, which was to be awarded to the party that obtained the least number of bad marks. The 'Cambridgers' first winning, were taken by their Class-Master to Goremire to spend the afternoon, which they succeeded in doing in a very pleasant manner.

Oct. 29th.—The football committee was elected. Those chosen were—G. Pentony (captain), W. Dawes, A. Powell (secretary), T. A. Noblett.

Oct. 30th.—The public meeting for the school was held in the Upper Library. The evening's work commenced with the com-

plaints, some of which, as the Government could not answer them, showed an evident lack of duty on their part. Others, however, were ably defended; the meeting was finally adjourned.

Nov. 1st.—The feast of All Saints. High Mass was sung by Fr. Prior. In the afternoon the first football match of the season was played on the home ground against Kirby Moorside. Although copious rainfalls had taken place on the previous two or three days, a warm sun dried up the moisture, and the ground was in good condition. Ampleforth won the toss, and chose to play up with the sun at their backs first half. The game was commenced by a determined rush on the part of the home eleven, who, however, threw away two corners within the first five minutes. A goal was then scored, closely followed by two more, and, at half-time, the game stood three to nil in favour of the College. The latter followed up their advantage, warmly scoring five more goals, and giving Kirby no chance of retaliating. The game was throughout remarkable for the amount of skilful 'heading' of the College team, the leather being more than once headed from a half-back to the forwards right across the field. Kirby at last gave up all hopes and only attempted to impede the fast play and rapid shooting. Great credit is due to their goal-keep, who, although a novice, defended his goal in fine style.

Nov. 4th.—To-day was ended a most interesting lecture given by Fr. Sub-Prior, the chairman of the Debating Society.

Nov. 6th.—The month-day was kept. The members of the Government spent the day at Castle Howard, the residence of Earl and Lady Carlisle. In the evening they had their tea at Hovingham. The 'Cambridgites' played a match with the 'Oxonians,' and were beaten by two to one.

Nov. 8th.—The same team which defeated Kirby Moorside last week obtained another and more brilliant victory over Slingsby. The ground was in a wretched condition owing to the

heavy rain of the previous day. Although this in a great measure prevented any fast play, the College team throughout the whole game showed its superiority over its opponents. From the start the ball was continually at the Slingsby goal, the College scoring in all 13 to none. This would have been a far larger number had the ground been in a better state. The game only lasted an hour and ten minutes, and the ball was in the act of being rushed through when time was called.

Nov. 9th.—The lectures read to-day were on "Sir Thomas More," by J. McSheehy, in the Upper Library, and on "Julius Caesar," in the Lower Library, by A. Kean.

Nov. 10th.—Father President left for Douai.

Nov. 11th.—The second re-union of the Amplefordians took place, when forty-six sat down to supper. A most enjoyable evening was spent, music and singing being the chief attractions.

Nov. 13th.—The feast of 'All Monks.' High Mass was celebrated by Father Prior in the morning, the choir rendering Van Bree's 'First Mass' with great taste.

A paper-chase occupied the afternoon, the hares being caught when near home. The day was closed with a very successful 'punch-night.'

Nov. 14th.—The return match between the two sides of the Lower Syntax Class was played, the 'Oxonians' again securing the victory.

The Polish Prince Sapieha arrived at Ampleforth to pursue his English studies.

Nov. 16th.—Father Prior preached two charity sermons at Aberford; and Fr. Sub-Prior was also away preaching at St. Peter's, Peel Street, Liverpool. The chairman of the Debating Society being absent, Br. Cuthbert Mercer volunteered to read an extemporary paper on the 'Court of Star Chamber.'

Nov. 18th.—Another lecture was given in the Lower Library by Francis Priestman, on the ‘Siege of Constantinople.’

Nov. 20th.—The lecture on ‘Liverpool, the first port in the world,’ by Thomas Noblett, was concluded in the Upper Library.

Nov. 22nd.—As to-day was the feast of St. Cecily’s, the choir, the band, and also the Government, had their usual play in honour of the feast. They went to Gormire, returning, after a substantial dinner, by way of Byland Abbey. The fading light gave an additional charm to the grand old pile, in which the boys loitered for a short time. In the evening there was ‘punch,’ the especial privilege of the choir and band. The first toast was ‘Success to the music of Ampleforth College,’ in honour of its patroness, St. Cecily. Music, under some form, seemed to be the theme of every speech, and there were several songs and other musical performances.

Nov. 23rd.—Mr. Kirwan gave an interesting lecture in the Upper Library, taking for his thesis ‘the Abolition of Capital Punishment.’

Nov. 24th.—The Prefect’s feast was kept to-day. The morning turned out raw and cold, so a paper-chase was started. The hares kept very much to the woods, and thus evaded capture, while the country round resounded with the cries of the hounds as they were thrown out or recovered the scent. An exceptionally good dinner was provided, the chief feature of which was tipsy-cake. The Senior Library then went to Hovingham by train together with the Upper Syntax Class. Here, in due time, they partook of tea. Then followed songs with choruses, and speeches were made thanking the Prefect for the enjoyable day he had made of his feast.

The Lower Syntax walked to Helmsley. The Upper Grammar went to Coxwold, and the Lower Grammar and Preparatory Classes to Oswaldkirk. When all these parties had returned, a

Magic-lantern show was held, the slides being on the Rocky Mountains and various parts of Canada, the ‘Jackdaw of Rheims,’ and the ‘Misfortunes of a Bashful Gentleman.’ Promiscuous slides and photographs closed the display. The day was brought to an end by the time-honoured ‘Punch-night.’ The great toast of the evening—‘Our Prefect’s health’—was received with acclamation and loud cheers. Other toasts were then proposed—the Prior’s, Pope’s, and Queen’s—and the evening was brought to a close with the Captain’s

Nov. 24th.—Mr. Thomas Byron, an old Amplefordian, died. We ventured to ask his Lordship, Dr. Hedley, for a short account of Mr. Byron. With extreme courtesy his Lordship sent us the following lines:—

‘Thomas Byron, son of Mr. S. T. Byron of Ayton, Pickering, went to Ampleforth when about eleven. He was at first very delicate looking, but in a few years grew into a strong youth with a powerful voice (though he was no musician). He was fond of football, but neither in that nor in any other game was he at all skilful. He was very pious as a little boy, and all through his life was thoroughly religious and conscientious, never concealing his faith or his principles. About the time he entered the Poetry Class, he began to show that odd cleverness which distinguished him. His talents were good, but not brilliant; but he worked hard, and acquired a stock of curious and out-of-the-way information in matters, classical and literary, which he used to display with a whimsical pedantry which his friends and even his masters found very amusing. His class or school (C. Tyndall, J. Hedley, J. Murphy, and himself) went through, after their Rhetoric, a years’ philosophy under Father A. Bury. In the autumn of 1854, when the others entered the novitiate, Byron became a ‘parlour-boarder.’ He then joined the junior religious in their course of Dogmatic Theology, and occupied himself in learning farming,

hunting, and in literature. He left Ampleforth about 1856, and for the rest of his life lived as a gentleman farmer, his residence, latterly, being Snainton, near Heslerton."

We may add that Mr. Byron has bequeathed his valuable library to Ampleforth.

Nov. 26th.—A solemn Requiem was sung for the repose of the soul of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Collier, O.S.B., who died last week. R.I.P.

Nov. 27th.—The new football club of Gilling brought up a few players for practice with the College. The vacancies on the Gilling side were filled by the boys; the College secured six goals and Gilling three goals.

Nov. 29th.—For the first time, since Ampleforth has played football with outside teams, a match was arranged between the 2nd elevens of the College and Kirby Moorside. The ground was thickly covered with snow, and the match, during the first half, was of a very even character. The first goal fell to the College, after which Kirby Moorside scored two. In the second half the home team had by far the best of the game. A. Powell sending in three beautiful shots, especially distinguished himself, whilst W. Buggins, a promising right-wing, and E. Connor, also drove the ball through once each, with the result that the College won by five to two.

Nov. 30th.—E. Ruddin gave a lecture in the Lower Library on the 'Mons Pilatus Railway.'

Dec. 1st.—Father President returned. Being the eve of Fr. Prior's Silver Jubilee there was recreation after dinner. High Vespers were sung in the evening; all the living members of the Benedictine Order, who were clothed with Fr. Prior, taking their places in the choir, with the exception of Rev. T. Barnett, whom

pressing missionary work detained. In the evening there was a magic-lantern. Fr. President returned from Douai to be present on the morrow

Dec. 2nd will always be a very memorable occasion for all Amplefordians, a time of thanksgiving and encouragement. The guests who came to honour Fr. Prior were—the Reverends I. Cummins, W. Phillipson, G. Smith, B. Murphy, W. Campbell, and D. Firth; also the Hon. Maxwell Scott, Dr. Watts, Dr. Porter, Mr. Boddy, Herr Oberhoffer, Mr. Gits, Mr. T. Swarbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Priestman and family, and Mrs. Swarbeck. In the morning Fr. Prior celebrated High Mass, Fr. Cummins standing deacon, Pr. Phillipson sub-deacon. The choir sang Van Bree's 'H. Mass' in a way which showed to advantage their high training. The deacon preached a sermon on the text, 'I will guard thee as the Apple of My Eye.' In the afternoon, the concert, which had been so carefully prepared for, took place in the Study Hall. Before the commencement Fr. Sub-Prior read an address of congratulation, thanking Fr. Prior for his past benefits, and wishing him every success in the future. He was followed by the Captain, G. Pentony, who presented Fr. Prior with a short address on behalf of the school, together with Didon's Life of Christ, in two handsomely bound volumes, stamped in gold with the Upper Library crest, and Fr. Prior's initials. In responding, the Prior expressed himself as deeply touched by the kind exhibition on the part of the community. He thought it a precious sign that on such a day as this they should gather round their Sub-Prior and show to all the spectacle of a loyal and united community. He referred to the gaps in their ranks to-day by the deaths of the Rev. T. B. Cummins and P. McAuliffe. He also expressed his thanks to the boys for their welcome and agreeable surprise. He took it as an acknowledgment of the interest he had taken in each one of them, and the efforts he had made to give them a sound Catholic education. He trusted that

they would live to reap the fruits of the excellent spirit and training which their present demonstration exhibited,

At the end of this speech the concert began, a most successful and enjoyable performance. The programme was as under—

PART I.

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----|-----|------------------|
| Overture | ... | " Les Marionettes " | ... | ... | Gurlitt |
| Sonata | ... | ... | ... | ... | R. W. Oberhoffer |
| 1 Allegra Moderato. | 2 Andante. | 3 Vivace. | | | |
| Piano, Mr. S. A. Gits. | Violin, Herr R. W. Oberhoffer. | | | | |
| Sonatina | ... | ... | ... | ... | Golterman |
| | Cello Solo, W. Rylande. | | | | |
| Berceuse | ... | ... | ... | ... | Poussard |
| Trio. Violin, C. Priestman. | Cello, H. Priestman. | | | | |
| Piano, Herr Oberhoffer. | | | | | |
| Part Song | ... | " The Open Air " | ... | ... | Mendelssohn |
| Ballet-Music | ... | ... | ... | ... | Schubert |
| Quartette | ... | " The Little March " | ... | ... | F. Hermann |
| 1st Violin, Ch. Quinn. | 2nd Violin, C. Priestman. | | | | |
| Cello, H. Priestman. | Piano, G. Hind. | | | | |

PART II.

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|---|-----|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Concerto in C | ... | ... | ... | ... | Beethoven |
| Piano (Mr. H. Allen), and Orchestra. | | | | | |
| Song | ... | " O, Tender Shadow " | ... | ... | Meyerbeer |
| A. Bucknall. | | | | | |
| Trio | ... | ... | ... | ... | Reissiger |
| Violin, Herr Oberhoffer. Cello, Mr. Gits. Piano, Mr. Allen. | | | | | |
| Vocal Duet | ... | " Twelve by the Clock " | ... | ... | C. Lloyd |
| Solo | ... | " Caprice Hongrois " | ... | ... | E. Dunkler |
| Cello, Mr. Gits. | | | | | |
| Glee | ... | " Humpty Dumpty " | ... | ... | A. Z. Caldicott |
| Choir. | | | | | |

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|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Entr' Acte | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Schubert |
| Orchestra. | | | | | | | |
| Concertino | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Jansa |
| Violins and Piano. | | | | | | | |
| GOD SAVE THE QUEEN. | | | | | | | |

To end the day Punch was laid out in the Study. Fr. Cummins and Fr. Phillipson, at Father Prior's request, told in a few words their experiences of the last twenty years. Fr. Sub-Prior, after the toasts of the Pope and Queen, proposed the health of Fr. Prior and his set. In the course of the evening Fr. Denis Firth sang three spirited and entertaining songs; the other performers were Master A. Bucknall, the leading soprano, and Mr. Gits, violoncello. Mr. Boddy also contributed to the evening's entertainment by a very witty speech, which drew repeated peals of laughter.

Dec. 4th.—To-day was the December month-day. E. Connor was presented with the eleven cricket-cap for having done the hat-trick against St. Peter's School last term.

Two Latin extracts were put up for competition, the first between the Poetry and Humanities Classes, and the second between the Upper and Lower Syntax. Fr. Prior offered a prize for the best translation of each piece, the first of which was won by A. Dillon in the Humanities, and the second by P. Allen in the Upper Syntax. G. McLoughlin won the prize for the best translation of a Latin hymn in the Rhetoric Class.

Dec. 7th.—A lecture was read by A. Powell on the question as to 'whether Hamlet was mad or not.' In the Lower Library J. Cowban read a paper 'on Diamonds.'

Dec. 8th.—The feast of the Immaculate Conception. There was play for the whole school.

Dec. 11th.—There was a football match this afternoon against Malton. The visitors won the toss and played down-hill during the first half. They made a very poor show, in fact the College goal-keep did not get a single shot. The ground was in very fair condition except round about the goal-posts, where it always seems to be slimy and wet. The match was rather slow on the whole, all the play being at the Malton goal, which became the permanent scene of action. College won by seven to nil.

Dec. 12th.—P. Blackledge read a paper in the Lower Library 'on Hannibal.'

Dec. 14th.—R. Willson gave a lecture in the Senior Library, his subject being, 'Caesar, a democrat or oligarchist.'

We are indebted to the Earl of Carlisle for the following pictures:—Two paintings, one representing "St. Francis of Assisi in an ecstasy, supported by angels," by Paolo Farinato (1525-1606, Venetian School), measuring 18 by 12; the other, "Two Carthusian Monks," artist unknown, but supposed by the Earl himself to be Salvator Rosa, 10 by 6.

Besides these two pictures he has presented the College with two pictures of the Arundel Series, representing events in the life of Saint Lawrence.

Another oil painting, the welcome gift of Mr. W. C. Milburn, of York, represents "Abraham entertaining the three Angels." The artist is unknown.

A votive candlestand, before the statue of Our Lady in the Church, was inaugurated on Rosary Sunday.

The statue of the Sacred Heart, in the Church, has been considerably altered and improved by G. W. Milburn, Sculptor, of York.

The Very Rev. W. B. Prest, O.S.B., has kindly obtained for Ampleforth an oil painting, the portrait of the Rev. John

Huddleston, O.S.B. Father Huddleston is an historic character, inasmuch as he aided Chartes II. to escape from the field of Worcester, and, more interesting still, he was the priest that attended the same monarch in his last moments at Whitehall.

It has not been previously recorded that a beautiful painting, representing "St. Agnes surrounded by a wreath of Roses," was bought for the Monastery by the Ampleforth Society. The picture measures 32 by 27, and the artist is unknown, probably of the Roman school, after the style of Carlo Maratta.

Dec. 16th. The Liverpool Amplefordians held another very successful gathering, numbering forty-three. Several old Amplefordians turned up who had been unable to attend previous meetings.

A match was played between Gilling Grammar School and our 4th set. The visitors were beaten by 8 goals to none. The home eleven were—*forwards*, Weighill II., Magoris, Connor III., G. Smith, O'Neill; *half-backs*, Greenwood III., Adamson, Greenwood II.; *full-backs*, Whittam II., Jarvis; *goal*, Carr. Weighill shot 5 goals, Connor 2, and O'Neill 1.

REPORT ON THE FOOTBALL-SETS.

I. set have shown a spirit and enthusiasm in the game worthy of the highest praise. The members of this set are ever-ready to practise, even in the dirtiest of weather.

II. set have not played up at all well this season. On short afternoons little or no interest is taken in the games, and, owing to a profusion of silly remarks flowing from certain wits, more laughing than play is the result.

III. set have played up fairly, but there is still room for improvement.

IV. set have given thorough satisfaction, and great credit is due to their combined play and the constant energy thrown into their games.

V. set have throughout played hard, and seem to enjoy their games heartily, despite that their excitement at times tends to merge into ferocity.

G. P. (Captain).

The matches this year have been a perfect success. The first eleven have scored twenty-eight goals with none against them. The second eleven, five against two. There is to be a match between our fourth set and Gilling Grammar School.

Mr. Perry has as usual been very successful in the agricultural department. He has taken the 2nd prize at Birmingham for Kohl Rabi, and highly commended for common Turnips; and 2nd prize at York for Swedes.

The following are the boys who obtained honour-cards this term :—

For October—Briggs, Cockleshutt, W. Priestman, R. Willson.

November—B. Mawson, H. Pike, W. Briggs, Forster, Lima, Connor, W. Dawson, E. Jarvis, W. Priestman, Dillon, W. Smith.

ALFRED DILLON,
ROBIN WILLSON, } EDITORS.



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St. Lawrence's College,
AMPLEFORTH.

DIARY

FOR THE TERM ENDING JULY, 1891.

TO OUR FRIENDS.

We have great pleasure in again bringing the College Diary before the notice of our kind friends. In this number we have been somewhat more pretentious than formerly. We do not, however, bind ourselves to keep every publication of the Diary in the form of the present issue. We trust that the great pains taken over this production will not be in vain; and that our readers will kindly overlook any short-comings which may be found therein.

THE EDITORS.

THE Christmas Holidays came to an end on January 20th, on which day about ninety boys returned punctually to school. This was a good muster considering the inclement state of the weather, and the general prevalence of sickness. Study recommenced on the following morning. During the whole vacation snow was never once off the ground at Ampleforth, but owing to the frequent thaws, and consequent roughness of the ice, no good skating was to be had. However on the night of the 20th, the frost took up again in earnest, and a capital sport was enjoyed for upwards of a fortnight.

Jan 6th.—We sincerely congratulate Bro. Aelred Clarke on his Solemn Profession which took place to-day the feast of St. Benedict Biscop.

The boys, ten in number, who remained at the college during the vacation, enjoyed themselves in a very hearty fashion. Instead of the play which is usually got up at Christmas, some 'charades'

were acted which were both a pleasing novelty and a complete success. The great feature of this kind of entertainment is that no stage or scenery is required, a few dresses being all that is needful for the performance. The Religious were so pleased with the programme that the entertainment had to be repeated on four different occasions.

Under the imposing title of the "Ampleforth Wanderers," some of our enthusiastic football players. (residing in and about Liverpool) sent a challenge to the Waterloo Grammar School. The Wanderers did not disgrace their name. From the very first the game was all in their favour, and when time was called the score stood Wanderers 8 goals, School 0.

The profits of the game were handed over to a neighbouring charity.

Jan. 22nd.—The voting for Captain took place to-day, W. Dawes was elected. His government was as follows :—

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Secretary | ... ... ... | G. McLaughlin |
| Officemen | ... ... ... | T. Noblett, L. Loretz |
| Librarian of Upper Library | ... | J. Tucker |
| Gasmen | —A. Powell, R. Primavesi | |
| Clothesmen | —G. Hind, R. Willson, W. Buggins. | |
| Collegemen | —P. Curran, W. Rylance | |
| Librarian of Lower Library | —C. Challoner | |
| Vigilarius of do. | —J. Couban | |
| Vigilarii of Upper Grammar Room | —J. Challoner J. Cockshutt | |
| „ Lower do. | —F. Whittam, R. Connor | |

Feb. 5th.—We had the usual month-day to-day. Practice for the Sports commenced under very favourable circumstances.

The Monthly Meeting of the School was held in the evening.

After some discussion, with reference to the Sports, the complaints against the Government were dealt with, and with two exceptions, were satisfactorily answered.

Feb. 9th.—Shrove Monday was spent by the Upper Boys at Sheriff Hutton, a historic Castle, some sixteen miles distant. The Christmas Charades were reproduced in the evening by special request. They were eight in number, and from first to last passed off well.

Feb. 10th.—Shrove Tuesday was another holiday. The second Football Team challenged the School, and won by 9 goals to 1. By public request the charades were repeated in the evening with equal if not greater successs. G. McLaughlin fairly surpassed himself in his manifold duties of Stage Director, chief actor and soloist. He was the originator of the idea of the Charades.

March 2nd.—The School to day heard the sad news of the death of Brother Bennett McEntee, at the age of eighty-one. A Requiem Mass was sung for him in the morning. The deceased had been in good health up to the New Year, but the severe winter told heavily upon his aged constitution, and in the middle of January, he took to his bed, from which he never rose again. His end was most peaceful and happy, all the Religious surrounding their dying brother.

His was certainly a gentle life. Brought up from an early age in the monastery, he passed his days in the faithful fulfilment of his duties. For many years he was the only lay-brother in the community. Some of the monks can still remember his weekly ride to York for the letters. In his capacity of ' infirmarian,' he will be especially dear in the memory of old Amplefordians.

Several amusing little stories are told of him in this latter office. One day his parrot was missing. Bennett searched high and low, but his favourite was nowhere to be found. On visiting the sick room as usual, he told the boys of his loss. They were loud in their commiseration and suggested various places where the parrot might be, in all of which Bennett searched. But returning some time after to make the beds a curious movement of the pillow attracted his attention. On closer examination he found therein his beloved bird covered with treacle and feathers. Poor Bennett was wrath and administered condign punishment all round.

The following little poem, about Br. Bennett's monkey, 'Jenny,' appeared in an old College Magazine of 1852. An apology is needed for its somewhat crude character, but it is to be remembered that it is only a juvenile effort, and our readers must kindly accept it as such.

ANNIVERSARY OF JENNY.

I.

As Bennett was walking the passage one day,
Up came a new student, and to him did say,
" Oh ! Bennett, I've not seen that monkey of thine."
Says old Brother Bennett, " that's just why I pine."

II.

" Oh, what is the matter ? " his friend did reply,
As he saw a big tear stand in good Bennett's eye.
" Alas, Sir," quoth he, " she is dead since last May,"
With tears in his eyes, and his face in dismay.

III.

But just at that moment a strange noise was heard,
" It comes," said old Bennett, " from Joe Sydney, my bird ;
And near to the cage of my sweet cockatoo,
Are sparrows from Java in their cage of bamboo."

IV.

He then wiped the said tear from out of his eye,
And said, " My dear boy, no more will I sigh ;
For now I've my birds, though I've lost Jenny, dear,
And always, in future, I'll be of good cheer."

March 26th.—The usual retreat on the last three days of Holy Week was given by Father Alexius Eager, O.S.B., of Liverpool. The weather was fortunately fine.

March 30th.—To-day, Easter Monday, G. Pentony, was elected captain. The government appointed was as follows :—

Secretary—G. McLaughlin.

Officemen—T. Noblett, L. Loretz.

Librarian of Upper Library—J. Tucker.

Gasmen—C. Hines, H. Priestman.

Clothesmen—G. Hind, R. Willson, W. Buggins.

Librarian of Lower Library—C. Challoner.

Vigilarius , J. Couban.

Vigilarii of Upper Grammar Room—J. Challoner, R. Woodiwis.

 " Lower , R. Connor, L. Couban.

March 31st—To-day, Easter Tuesday, the four Upper Classes were privileged to go out for the day. The Rhetoric Class went to Craike Castle, and returned through Easingwold. The Poetry and Humanities Classes walked to Castle Howard, and spent the day either in the grounds or in admiring the pictures. The Upper Syntax went to Shaking Bridge. The rest of the school had a paper chase. All returned thoroughly satisfied with the day's outing.

May 11th.—The Test Examination for the College of Preceptors took place during this week.

May 16th.—Dr. Lacy, the Bishop of the Diocese, held ordinations at the College. Br. Placid Wray was ordained priest, Br. Cathbert Mercer, deacon, and Br. Aclred Clarke, sub-deacon. The Bishop also administered Confirmation to a number of the boys. Fr. Placid sang his first Mass on Whit-Monday, which was followed by the ceremony of kissing the hands and receiving the blessing of the new Priest.

May 19th.—Whit-Tuesday was spent by the Rhetoric Class at Fountains Abbey. The party left the College about seven; Ripon was reached at ten, and Fountains at eleven. The whole day was spent amongst the magnificent ruins. Tierce, Sext, and None were recited aloud in the Lady Chapel according to the rules of Choir discipline.

May 28th.—To-day, *Corpus Christi*, fourteen of the junior boys had the happiness of making their First Communion. The day was made as pleasant for them as possible. Owing to the wet weather the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament was obliged to be held in-doors. The altars were extremely beautiful, flowers and plants being received from all sides. On the Sunday within the octave, the state of the elements being more favourable, the Procession passed through the grounds as in former years.

June 16th.—The College of Preceptors' Examination commenced to-day and continued until Friday. The number of candidates presenting themselves was sixty five.

June 22nd.—The Upper Library Feast was this year held at Fountains Abbey. Fr. Wilfrid Darby, Fr. Clement Standish, and Br. Leo Carroll joined the party. The ruins were reached about eleven o'clock. Later in the day the boys assembled in the

Lady Chapel, to sing Vespers. There were a number of strangers present, who, without exception, behaved with great reverence during the service. The party dined at the Unicorn Hotel, Ripon. They returned to Thirsk by train, and thence drove back to the College. As the evening was fine, the drive was much enjoyed. The boys heartily thanked Fr. Clement for their pleasant outing.

June 28rd.—Gormire Day. The weather during the morning had been beautifully fine, but in the middle of dinner, which was partaken of in the open air, a tremendous downpour of rain came on, which continued, at intervals, throughout the whole afternoon.

June 28th.—The College Choir to-day went to sing at High Mass at the Catholic Church at Thirsk. The service was very impressive, and the singing in every way faultless. Fr. Clement Standish, O.S.B., preached a very eloquent sermon on the "Communion of Saints." In the evening Vespers were sung, followed by Benediction. The Church both morning and evening was packed, the majority of the congregation being non-Catholic. This is the first time that the Choir has gone to Thirsk for fourteen years. Formerly it was the custom to go there once a year; but, for various reasons, this had to be discontinued.

July 4th.—The Band feast was held to-day. Mr. Allen, the conductor, and a few friends took the members of the band for a pic-nic to Foss. The chief attraction at Foss consists of two small lakes which afford capital fishing and bathing. There is likewise a venerable punt for the accommodation of those who are desirous of passing the day in baling, and of experiencing rotatory motion on the waters. It is equipped with one antiquated oar, and the utmost skill is required to pilot it back to shore, once it has

reached deep water. The morning was devoted to these enjoyments. Good appetites having thus been secured, dinner was served. In the afternoon the fishing-rods were called into requisition. A little rain which fell caused the fish to bite well, and our fishermen had capital sport. Some fifty perch mostly of the microscopic kind were safely hauled to shore. Two sportsmen in one instance, captured the same fish, the greedy little monster having devoured both baits simultaneously. Tea ensued on the banks of the lake, the chief item being the aforesaid fish, which, owing to the excellent culinary arrangements of Bro. Philip, proved most enjoyable eating. The revolving punt was again the centre of attraction. All efforts to row this ancient bark to the opposite coast proved abortive. The naval expedition had, therefore, to content itself with sitting still, and allowing the cumbersome boat to gyrate in irregular circles. But when the vessel and its crew had drifted to the middle of the lake, the weather-beaten craft displayed a most alarming capacity of holding water. The baling exercises were therefore redoubled, soundings were taken, and all hands were set to man the pumps. Most of the voyagers considered it safer (and more expeditions) to swim ashore. So, leaving a few of the more venturesome spirits to man the antiquated oar, in they went "*ripare ulterioris amore,*" and swam for dear life to the nearest bank. On reaching shore they had ample time to view the manoeuvres of the water-logged squadron, which, eventually, and amid great excitement and enthusiastic cheering, reached the boat-house and was towed into dock. This perilous adventure at an end the party turned homeward and dispelled their recent terror with jovial songs.

REPORT OF DEBATING SOCIETY.

A series of public debates, attended by the Religious, and the members of the Upper Library, have been held during the winter months. Great pains were taken in the preparation of the lectures, and the speaking on the whole has been excellent.

Fr. Sub-prior kindly filled the post of Chairman, during the session.

We append a list of the debates held, with the names of the leaders on either side, and result of the voting.

| Subject. | Supporter. | Opponent. | Result. Ayes. | Noes. |
|--|---------------|---------------|------------------|-------|
| I. Savonarola was a great and good man | Bro. Francis | Fr. Sub-Prior | 11 | 7 |
| II. There is life in other worlds | J. Tucker | Bro. Francis | 12 | 4 |
| III. There is need of reform in our present social system..... | Fr. Sub-prior | Mr. Kirwan | 12 | 8 |
| IV. Liverpool is the first port in the world... | T. Noblett | Mr. Kirwan | 7 | 11 |
| V. Capital punishment should be abolished | Mr. Kirwan | G. Pentony | 15 | 6 |
| VI. Hamlet was mad ... | A. Powell | Bro. Francis | 9 | 12 |
| VII. Julius Cæsar was not the Champion of the People | R. Willson | Fr. Sub-prior | 5 | 14 |
| VIII. The modern system of warfare is preferable to the ancient | W. Dawes | G. McLaughlin | 7 | 14 |
| IX. Cardinal Wolsey was not instrumental in bringing abt. Henry VIII's. divorce from Catherine of Aragon | G. McLaughlin | Bro. Francis | 5 | 11 |
| X. Our ancestors were more cultivated than we are | G. Pentony | W. Dawes | 6 | 8 |
| XI. Hannibal was greater than Napoleon..... | L. Loretz | R. Primavesi | 10 | 5 |

A course of Lectures was delivered in the Lower Library also, by some of its members. Fr. Clement Standish acted as chairman.

THE YEAR'S FOOTBALL.

The College Football this year has undergone a wonderful improvement. Never before have so many outside matches been played; never before has so much enthusiasm and public spirit been shown. This is owing partly to the efficient management of the Captains, and partly to the great encouragement given to those who showed proficiency in the game. This remark applies to all the sets. The intense rivalry between different forms led to a prodigious number of class matches. The game which was fought out by the united Poetry and Humanities Classes *versus* the School, is especially worthy of mention. A more obstinately contested game has seldom been fought on any college ground. Each side scored one goal, the match being a draw. The 'out matches' were, with one or two exceptions, easy wins for the College. Gilling, Helmsley, Hull, Malton, and Slingsby, all fell an easy prey to the prowess of our team. One of our forwards remarked 'these games were chiefly useful for the excellent shooting practice they afforded.' Kirby, in their first match, suffered a disastrous defeat by 8 goals to none. However, in the return game, the tables were turned. Kirby won after an exciting game, by 3 goals to 1, though it is only fair to add, that our team was not a representative one, and the players were in bad condition, plum cake and other Christmas luxuries having increased their fighting weight, but reduced their muscle and stamina. In further palliation of this defeat, we may add that one of our half-backs had to retire, having sprained his knee.

The following table shows the result of all the matches played this year. The record is certainly a brilliant one, and the eleven may justly be congratulated on such a successful season.

| Teams. | | Result. | College. | Opponents. |
|----------|---------|---------|----------|------------|
| Kirby | I..... | won | 8 | 0 |
| " | I..... | lost | 1 | 3 |
| " | II..... | won | 5 | 1 |
| " | II..... | " | 5 | 2 |
| Malton | ..... | " | 7 | 0 |
| " | ..... | " | 3 | 0 |
| Scarbro' | ..... | " | 2 | 0 |
| Hull | ..... | " | 7 | 0 |
| Helmsley | ..... | " | 9 | 0 |
| Slingsby | ..... | " | 13 | 0 |
| Gilling | I. ... | " | 8 | 0 |
| " | IV. ... | " | 8 | 0 |

Total matches played—12; lost, 1; won, 11.

Goals scored—College, 76; opponents, 6.

The following account of the defeat of the Scarborough team by the College appeared in a local paper:—

AMPLEFORTH COLLEGE v. SCARBOROUGH.—Yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon a team from the Scarborough club, under the captaincy of Mr. Hamer, met the College on their own ground at Ampleforth. The weather was dry, but a high wind prevailed, which marred the game considerably. The teams turned out as follows: College—Goal, Bradley; backs, Hines and Turner; half-backs, H. Priestman, Pentony, and Hind; forwards, Curran, Connor, Powell, Standish, and Allen. Scarborough—Goal, Richardson; backs, Turner and Webster; half-backs, Hamer, Boreman, and Farren; forwards, R. Richardson, A. E. Morley, S. N. Morley, Crawford, and Borton. Referee, G. Pentony. The Scarborough team took advantage of the wind in the first half, and in trying to get down on the left Borton was twice neatly stopped by Hind, and play transferred to mid-field. Richardson then got down in close quarters, but failed at the crucial moment and Turner saved with a huge kick. Keeping up the fusillade, the visitors were

doing their level best, but they could not break through the defence of Hines and Turner. Allen then got away on the right, and proved himself more than a match for Farren and Turner, and centred beautifully. Powell, however, being lame was unable to do his best, and a close scrimmage near the goal resulted in Scarborough getting to the other end. Hamer sent in a good shot, but Bradley snapped up the leather smartly, threw out, and then caught Crawford, who had tried to charge the College custodian, but in vain. After even play of twenty minutes, in which both teams assailed the gaols, Scarborough showing erratic shooting, a corner to the College was unproductive, and then Borton was robbed cleverly close to the goal. The teams then crossed over with no score on either side. With the wind behind them the schoolboys were soon on the opposing backs, and kept up a hot attack for a quarter of an hour. The shooting at goal, however, was very erratic, even with six or seven of the best chances to Curran and Connor. The right wing of the College took up the attack, and then it was that Farren failed, for in trying to stop Allen he was repeatedly beaten, and Richardson had to kick and handle in quick succession. Boreman then tried to check the right wing pair and got winded, and had to retire. All this time the visiting backs were on their metal, and getting on the ball, Allen easily defeated Farren, then passed Webster, and put in a stinger which Richardson could look aghast at, and the game stood one to *nil* infavour of the College. The School now pulled together, and Allen once more got hold, and in conjunction with Standish he eluded Farren and Webster once more, and up went goal number two. From the kick off Allen again got down, and sent one in which Richardson just saved on the post. Scarborough now paid their first visit in the second half to Bradley when the ball burst. The School still held the upper hand, and the whistle blew with Scarborough defeated by two goals to *nil*.

REPORT OF THE SPORTS.—The following is the Result Card of our Sports:

I. SET.

| AGE OF BOYS.—Over 15 years. | WEIGHT:—Over 120 lbs. | 1890. |
|--|--|---|
| 100 YARDS 1. Browne, | 2. Connor, <i>ma.</i> 10 4-5th sec. | Boregrave 11 1-5th sec. |
| 440 YARDS 1. Connor, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Browne 54 2-3rd sec. | Noblett 58 sec. |
| HALF-MILE 1. Pentony, <i>ma.</i> | 2. [Hind, 2 min. 9 sec. | Noblett 2 min. 2 sec. |
| MILE 1. Noblett. | 2. Challoner, <i>ma.</i> 2 min. 5 min. 1 sec. | Pentony, <i>ma.</i> 5 min. 3 sec. |
| HIGH JUMP 1. Powell, <i>ma.</i> | 2. [W. Browne, 4 ft. 10 1/2 in. | Powell, <i>ma.</i> 4 ft. 11 in. |
| WIDE JUMP 1. Connor, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Priestman, <i>ma.</i> 18 ft. 6 in. | Payne 15 ft. 11 in. |
| HOP-STEP-AND-JUMP 1. Priestman, <i>ma.</i> | 2. 36 ft. | Adrian, P. 34 ft. |
| POLE JUMP 1. Dawes, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Loretz, 9 ft. 1 in. | Davies, <i>ma.</i> 8ft. 7 in. |
| PUTTING THE WEIGHT 1. McLaughlin. | 2. Dawes, <i>ma.</i> 34 ft. | Lacy 29 ft. 13 in. |
| (16 lbs., 7 ft. run, no follow) | 2. Challoner, <i>ma.</i> 85 yds. | Buist 84 yds. 1 ft. |
| CRICKET BALL 1. (Quint, Cl.) | 2. [Buggins, <i>ma.</i> 11 secs. | Whittle 11 4-5th sec. |
| CONSOLATION RACE (100 yds.) 1. | | |

II. SET.

| AGE OF BOYS.—13½ to 16 years. | WEIGHT:—70 to 120 lbs. | 1891. |
|---|---|--|
| 100 YARDS 1. Priestman, <i>ter.</i> | 2. Dawson, 12 sec. | Blackledge 12 1-5th sec. |
| 440 YARDS 1. Hardman. | 2. Jarvis, 65 sec. | Whittam, <i>ma.</i> 62 2-5th sec. |
| HALF-MILE 1. Pentony, <i>ml.</i> | 2. Quinn, Ch. 2 min. 27 1-5th sec. | Kendall 2 min. 50 sec. |
| HIGH JUMP 1. Worwick, <i>ml.</i> | 2. Mawson, <i>ma.</i> 4 ft. 6 in. | Whittam, <i>ma.</i> 4 ft. 9 in. |
| WIDE JUMP 1. Dawson. | 2. Priestman, <i>ter.</i> 14 ft. 8 in. | Whittam, <i>ma.</i> 13 ft. 9 in. |
| HOP-STEP-AND-JUMP 1. Dawson. | 2. 31 ft. 1 in. | Whittam, <i>ma.</i> 28 ft. 8 in. |
| POLE JUMP 1. Pentony, <i>ml.</i> | 2. Priestman, <i>ml.</i> 7 1/2 m. | Pentony, <i>ma.</i> 7 ft. 6 1/2 in. |
| (15 lbs., 7 ft. run, no follow) | 2. Powell, <i>ml.</i> 24 ft. 3 in. | Kendall, 22 ft. 9 in. |
| CRICKET BALL 1. Powell, <i>ml.</i> | 2. Forster, 87 yds. 6 in. | Powell, <i>ml.</i> 70 yds. 6 in. |
| CONSOLATION RACE (100 yds.) 1. | | Whittam, B. 13 1-5th sec. |
| | | [Mangor, <i>ml.</i>] 12 1-5th sec. |

REPORT OF THE SPORTS—The following is the Result Card of our Sports:

I. SEXT.

AGE OF BOYS:—Over 15 years. WEIGHT:—Over 120 lbs.

| | | 1891. | 1890. |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| 100 YARDS | 1, Browne. | 2, Connor, <i>ma.</i>....10 4-5th sec. | Borchgrave .....11 1-5th sec. |
| 440 YARDS | 1, Connor, <i>ma.</i> | 2, Browne .....54 2-3rd sec. | Noblett .....58 sec. |
| HALF-MILE | 1, Pentony, <i>ma</i> | 2, { Hind Challoner, <i>ma.</i> } 2 min. 9 sec. | Noblett .....2 min. 2 sec. |
| MILE | 1, Noblett. | 2, Pentony, <i>ma.</i> ...5 min. 1 sec. | Pentony, <i>ma.</i> ....5 min. 3 sec. |
| HIGH JUMP | 1, Powell, <i>ma.</i> | 2, { W. Smith Browne. } 4 ft. 10½ in. | Powell, <i>ma.</i> ....4 ft. 11 in. |
| WIDE JUMP | 1, Connor, <i>ma.</i> | 2, Priestman, <i>ma.</i> 18 ft. 6 in. | Payne .....15 ft. 11 in. |
| HOP-STEP-AND-JUMP | 1, Priestman, <i>ma.</i> |36 ft. | Adrian, P. ....34 ft. |
| POLE JUMP | 1, Dawes, <i>ma.</i> | 2, Loretz. ....9 ft. 1 in. | Dawes, <i>ma.</i> ....8ft. 7 in. |
| PUTTING THE WEIGHT..... (16 lbs., 7 ft. run, no follow) | 1, McLaughlin. | 2, Dawes, <i>ma.</i>....34 ft. | Lacy .....29 ft. 1¾ in. |
| CRICKET BALL..... | 1, Powell, <i>ma.</i> | 2, Challoner, <i>ma.</i> ...85 yds. | Buist .....84 yds. 1 ft. |
| CONSOLATION RACE (100 yds) | 1, { Quinn, Cl. Buggins, <i>ma.</i> } |11 secs. | Whittle.....11 4-5th sec. |

II. SEXT.

AGE OF BOYS:—13½ to 15 years. WEIGHT:—70 to 120 lbs.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| 100 YARDS | 1, Priestman, <i>ter.</i> | 2, Dawson, .....12 sec. | Blackledge .....12 1-5th sec. |
| 440 YARDS | 1, Hardman. | 2, Jarvis.....65 sec. | Whittam <i>ma.</i> ....62 2-5th sec. |
| HALF-MILE | 1, Pentony, <i>mi.</i> | 2, Quinn, Ch. ....2 min. 27 1-5th s. | Kendall .....2 min. 50 sec. |
| HIGH JUMP | 1, Worswick, <i>mi.</i> | 2, Mawson, <i>ma.</i>....4 ft. 6 in. | Whittam, <i>ma.</i> ....4 ft. 9 in. |
| WIDE JUMP | 1, Railton. | 2, Priestman, <i>ter.</i> ...14 ft. 8 in. | Whittam, <i>ma.</i> ....13 ft. 9 in. |
| HOP-STEP-AND-JUMP | 1, Dawson. |31 ft. 1 in. | Whittam, <i>ma.</i> ....28 ft. 8½in. |
| POLE JUMP..... | 1, Pentony, <i>mi.</i> | 2, Priestman, <i>mi.</i> ...7 ft. 7½ in. | Pentony, <i>mi.</i> ....7 ft. 6½in. |
| PUTTING THE WEIGHT | 1, Powell, <i>mi.</i> (15 lbs., 7 ft. run, no follow) | 2, Lima.....24 ft. 3½in. | Kendall, .....22 ft. 9 in. |
| CRICKET BALL | 1, Powell, <i>mi.</i> | 2, Forster .....87 yds. 6 in. | Powell, <i>mi.</i> ....70 yds. 6 in. |
| CONSOLATION RACE (100 yds.) | 1, { Gonzalez, <i>mi.</i> Magoris, <i>mi.</i> } |12 1-5th sec. | Whittam, B. ....13 1-5th sec. |

W
65

XIII. SEXT.

AGE OF BOYS:—11 to 13½ years. WEIGHT:—60 to 90 lbs.

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 100 YARDS | 1, Stanton, <i>ma.</i> | 2, Wells | 13 2-5th sec. | Dawson..... | 12 2-5th sec. |
| 440 YARDS | 1, Stanton, <i>ma.</i> | 2, Connor, <i>ter.</i> | 1 min. 14 2-5th s. | Jarvis | 69 sec |
| HIGH JUMP | 1, Greenwood, <i>mi.</i> | 2, Heptonstall. | 3 ft. 8½ in. | Hines, <i>ter.</i> | 4 ft. 1¾ in. |
| WIDE JUMP | 1, Smith, <i>ma.</i> | 2, Gonzalez, <i>ter.</i> .. | 13 ft. 10½ in. | Railton..... | 12 ft. 3½ in. |
| HOP-STEP-AND-JUMP | 1, Stanton, <i>ma.</i> | ..... | 25 ft. 8 in. | Dawson..... | 26 ft. 8½ in. |
| POLE JUMP..... | 1, Weighill, <i>ma.</i> | 2, Gonzalez, <i>ter.</i> .. | 6 ft. 9 in. | Parker, <i>ma.</i> | 6 ft. 8½ in. |
| PUTTING-THE-WEIGHT..... | 1, Couban, <i>mi.</i> (8½ lbs., 7 ft. run, no follow) | 2, Connor, <i>ter.</i> | 23 ft. 1½ in. | Dawes, <i>mi.</i> | 28 ft. 1¼ in. (7 lbs.) |
| CRICKET BALL | 1, Smith, <i>ma.</i> | 2, Quinn, Jno. | 68 yds. 1ft. 8 in. | Hines, <i>ter.</i> | 60 yds. |
| CONSOLATION RACE (100 yds.) | 1, Briggs. | ..... | 14 sec..... | Greenwood, <i>ma.</i> | 14 sec. |

XIV. SEXT.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 100 YARDS | 1, Swarbreck, <i>ma.</i> | 2, { Steinman | 14 sec..... |
| 440 YARDS | 1, Weighill, <i>mi.</i> | { (Weighill, <i>mi.</i>) | |
| HIGH JUMP | 1, Woodiwis, <i>mi.</i> | 2, Priestman, <i>quar.</i> .. | 1 min. 9 sec. ... |
| WIDE JUMP | 1, Weighill, <i>mi.</i> | 2, Webster. | 3 ft. 8½ in. |
| HOP-STEP-AND-JUMP | 1, Webster. | 2, Webster. | 13 ft. 7 in. |
| PUTTING-THE-WEIGHT | 1, Nevill, <i>ma.</i> | ..... | 24 ft. 3 in. |
| CRICKET BALL | 1, Nevill, <i>ma.</i> | 2, Swarbreck, <i>ma.</i> .. | 22 ft. 10 in. |
| CONSOLATION RACE (100 yds.) | 1, Stanton, <i>mi.</i> | 2, Swarbreck, <i>mi.</i> .. | 50 yds. 1 ft. |
| | | 2, Willson | 14 2-5th sec. |

III. SET.

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 100 YARDS | — | 1. Stanton, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Stanton, <i>ma.</i> | Weight — 60 to 90 lbs. |
| 440 YARDS | — | 1. Stanton, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Wells, <i>ma.</i> | 13 2-5th sec. |
| HIGH JUMP | — | 1. Stanton, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Connor, <i>ter.</i> | 1 min. 14 2-5th s. |
| WIDE JUMP | — | 1. Greenwood, <i>mi.</i> | 2. Heptonstall, <i>ter.</i> | 3 ft. 8½ in. |
| HOP-STEP-AND-JUMP | — | 1. Smith, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Gonzalez, <i>ter.</i> | 13 ft. 10 in. |
| PONE JUMP | — | 1. Stanton, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Gonzalez, <i>ter.</i> | 25 ft. 8 in. |
| PUTTING-THI-WEIGHT | (8½ lbs., 7 ft. run, no follow) | 1. Weightill, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Connor, <i>ter.</i> | 6 ft. 9 in. |
| CRICKET BALL | — | 1. Smith, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Connor, <i>ter.</i> | 23 ft. 15 in. |
| CONSOLATION RACE (100 yds.) | — | 1. Briggs, | 2. Quinn, <i>Jno.</i> | 68 yds. 1ft. 8 in. |
| | | | | 14 sec. |

XV. SET.

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 100 YARDS | — | 1. Swarbreck, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Steinman, <i>ma.</i> | 14 sec. |
| 440 YARDS | — | 1. Weightill, <i>mi.</i> | 2. Priestman, <i>mar.</i> | 1 min. 9 sec. |
| HIGH JUMP | — | 1. Weightill, <i>mi.</i> | 2. Webster. | 3 ft. 8½ in. |
| WIDE JUMP | — | 1. Weightill, <i>mi.</i> | 2. Webster. | 13 ft. 7 in. |
| HOP-STEP-AND-JUMP | — | 1. Webster. | 2. Webster. | 24 ft. 3 in. |
| PUTTING-THI-WEIGHT | — | 1. Nevill, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Swarbreck, <i>ma.</i> | 22 ft. 10 in. |
| CRICKET BALL | — | 1. Nevill, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Swarbreck, <i>ma.</i> | 50 yds. 1 ft. |
| CONSOLATION RACE (100 yds.) | — | 1. Stanton, <i>ma.</i> | 2. Willson | 14 2-5th sec. |

A few comments on the events may not be out of place. Practice commenced on the February month-day. Under the fostering care of the committee elected by the School, consisting of G. Pentony, T. Noblett, and G. McLaughlin, things were soon in full swing, and the beautiful weather of the month contributed greatly to their ultimate success. March was a wild wintry month, and practice was suspended. The sports, on that account, instead of being held on Easter Monday, were put off until April 21st, Father Prior's feast. Heavy rain fell during the previous night, but a warm sun dried up the ground sufficiently to enable the events to be started about three p.m. The three chief results of the afternoon were E. Connor's wide jump (18ft. 6); W. Dawes' pole-jump (9ft. 2in.); and G. McLaughlin's put of the weight (34 feet). The last mentioned would certainly have improved on this had he not strained his back a short time previously. A curious feature of the afternoon was the "throwing the cricket ball," in which A. Powell the winner of the 1st Set was beaten by his younger brother in the 2nd Set. The last event the "tug of war" afforded intense amusement to the spectators, but whether the competitors enjoyed it or not we cannot say.

The races were run on St. George's, 23rd April. The "100 yards" was remarkably fast, and at the same time proved a great surprise, for the winner had done very little practice. The "quarter mile" was also good. The mile race was most exciting. Four heroes started, J. Couban, E. Ruddin, T. Noblett, and G. Pentony. Ruddin winded himself in the first half and had to give up. The others kept up a steady pace until 300 yds. from home. Couban was leading with Pentony close on him, and Noblett bringing up the rear. Pentony then made his spurt, passed Couban, and some 120 yards from home was leading 15 yards. Everyone thought that he had the race well in hand; but Noblett, who had been running easily up to this time, suddenly shot forward, closed on Couban, passed him, and then crept up to

Pentony, who was only 10 yards from home, and by a mighty spurt passed him 3 yards from the post, thus winning a well-contested race by barely a yard. The "consolation races" which followed brought the sports to a close.

"THE AMPLEFORTH SUPPERS."

We are told that the "Ampleforth Suppers" have, this year, been again a great success, owing, chiefly, to the energy of their promulgator, Mr. John Fishwick. The following is a short extract from a letter to one of the Editors,

Dear Sir,

"I was not able to attend the last 'supper' myself; but I am told that it was a very successful evening, fifty being present. There were two or three speeches, and plenty of music, the latter including three or four quartettes which took very well. I might mention that quite fifteen more have attended. I was hoping to have had about eighty, but it seemed that it clashed with some other entertainment. We shall be having another on July 28th, that is if any of the Community of Ampleforth are in Liverpool at that time."

Mr. Fishwick also tells us that a Jesuit Institution, in Liverpool, started a similar entertainment when they saw how successful the Amplefordians were. We beg to offer our sincere thanks to Mr. Fishwick for the kind way in which he kept the Editors constantly supplied with news concerning these interesting re-unions.

HONOURS CARDS FOR THE YEAR, 1891.

To attain to the distinction of an Honour's Card, a boy must have obtained at least 75 out of a possible total of 100 marks, in 4 subjects, and he must have no 'failure' in any other subject.

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| February | ... | R. Wilson, P. Blackledge, R. Connor, and O. Steinmann. |
| March | ... | Polding. |
| April | ... | G. Hind. |
| May | ... | E. Prest, J. Dawson, F. Jarvis, W. Connor, and J. Lopez. |

Easter Examination :

| |
|---|
| B. Mawson, H. Pike, J. Cullen, W. Swarbreck, A. Magoris, R. Connor, and O. Steinmann. |
|---|

THE FINE ARTS.

The Collection of Paintings in the Monastery is increasing. Since our last issue six more pictures have been presented. The donor of three of them modestly desires his name to be withheld from publication.

His three gifts are:—

- (1) "Jacob receiving the news of the death of his son, Joseph."—Artist unknown.
- (2) and (3) A pair representing one, "David with the head of Goliath," the other, "Judith with the head of Holofernes."

These are on small panels, and are labelled "Rubens."

Mr. George Milburn, of York, has given an Original Sketch by Paolo Farinato (Venetian School), 1525; d. 1606. It is a Pencil Study of "The Annunciation." But to Mr. W. C. Milburn, brother of the above, we are indebted for the largest canvasses. His first gift is "Abraham entertaining the three Angels."—Artist unknown. His second is a very handsomely framed picture of "King Assuerus extending the Golden Sceptre of Clemency to Queen Esther."—Artist unknown.

CRICKET REPORT.

In consequence of the disastrous season the College went through last year, more than usual anxiety was this year felt as to the form our eleven would show. There were many who expected nothing more than a repetition of last year's failures, since the team, with one exception, was identical with that of last year's. "*Sed tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis.*" The form shown, both in batting and bowling, has been much superior to that of last year. This improvement is in a great measure due to the able instruction of the College professionals, C. Higgins last year, and W. Mitchell this year. Out of 11 matches played the College has won 8, lost 2, drawn 1.

The following scores above fifty have been made by boys in outside matches :—

- G. Hind 77, v. Ruddin Park.
- G. McLoughlin 54 not out, v. Castle Howard.
- E. Connor 50, v. Mr. Swarbreck's team.
- E. Connor 88 not out, v. Ripon Grammar School.
- G. Hind 65, v. Ripon Grammar School.

The bowling, though considerably better than last year, has not improved so much as the batting.

| Match. | Result. | College Score. | Opponents' Score. |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------|
| Helmsley | ... Lost | 55 | 121 |
| Rudding Park | ... Won | 174 for 5 wkts | 103 |
| Castle Howard | ... Won | 107 for 8 wkts | 73 |
| Castle Howard | ... Won | 158 | 50 |
| Brandsby | ... Won | 140 for 6 wkts | 122 |
| Mr. Swarbreck's XI. | ... Won | 150 | 118 |
| Ripon Gram. School | ... Drawn | 178 for 8 wkts | 46 for 9 wkts |
| Mr. Swarbreck's XI. | ... Won | 126 | 92 |
| St. Peter's, York | ... Lost | 50 | 150 |
| Ripon Gram. School | ... Won | 112 | 21 |
| St. Peter's, York | ... Won | 97 | 88 |

[The following articles are entirely original. With the exception of a few alterations in punctuation, no assistance has been given to the writers.—ED.]

A GLIMPSE OF ANCIENT LIFE.

It is a common fallacy among people who have not had the opportunity of studying the habits of the ancients to think that our ancestors lived very uncomfortable lives, that they had no homely comfort, and none of the luxuries of the present day; that they lived in desolate houses, minus any kind of furniture, that their only food was fruit, and their only clothing a scant covering of some coarse material; in fact that they were nothing more than barbarians. But a little study into the subject will soon dispel this false impression, and, if we consider for a few moments their literary and architectural productions, we shall see that they were by no means inferior to the present generation of men. Of course morality is not included in this assertion. We cannot compare the moral nature of the ancients with that of the present race, as it undoubtedly follows that the introduction of Christianity necessitated an exaltation of moral nature. Notwithstanding this, it is a mistake to think that all the ancients were pagans. They did not look upon the statue of Jupiter, or Mars, or Venus as able to answer their prayer by any direct help. No. They had some vague idea of a Supreme Being, whom they called Jupiter, and of lesser beings, inferior to Jupiter, but superior to the inhabitants of the earth, whom they designated by various names, and it was these beings whom they worshipped and prayed to through the medium of their statues. The vulgar crowd, perhaps, did not hold this opinion, but those who were well educated did.

Again, they had some confused notion about the immortality of the soul; they believed that, on the death of an individual, his "shade," or, in other words, his soul, passed into Hades, and

either suffered eternal sorrow or enjoyed eternal happiness. They either went to Tartarus or Elysium, according to the vice or virtue of their lives on earth.

Socrates proved the immortality of the soul philosophically; and Aristotle certainly knew that there was only one God—"Causa Causarum!" Unquestionably Aristotle was the greatest genius that ever lived. Everything he applied himself to, he mastered; and never has a modern civilized nation produced a man equal to him in intellectual culture. He was a marvel at Natural History. This genius, who lived four hundred years before Christ, discerned the beating of the heart of a chicken three days after its conception. He anatomised the human body, and, although not correct in all his biological theories, he was not far behind that knowledge which it has taken men centuries to acquire.

The epic of Homer, the philosophy of Socrates and Plato, the tragedies of Euripides, the subtle diplomacy of Themistocles, and the wise administration of Pericles, show how rich our ancestors were in intellectual culture. We must certainly allow their superiority in the art of sculpture. Phidias may justly be considered the finest sculptor who ever lived. A few of his productions are still preserved, some in the British Museum, some in Rome; and anyone who has visited either of these places and noted the delicate chisel-work of the ancient Grecian, cannot but admit his far surpassing excellence. And Phidias was one among many. We could mention the names of a dozen sculptors whose works were once as celebrated as his.

We will now take a glance at ancient towns and buildings. In no way do the ancients claim our respect and esteem so much as cities. If one were to acquaint an ordinary ignorant Briton with the dimensions of Babylon, he would laugh at and deride the information. John Bull, who thinks so much of St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, and Windsor Castle, cannot comprehend the vastness of

Jerusalem, with its two hundred towers, its marble terraces, its countless columns, its lofty temples; or of Nineveh, with its fifteen hundred towers, and bounded by a wall two hundred feet high and forty-eight miles in circumference. And yet Babylon was still more magnificent than either of these two cities. It is a revelation when one first hears of its dimensions. Two historians speak of this town, Herodotus and Hesiod. The following statistics given by these two historians are generally accepted, although their figures slightly differ.

Its walls were three hundred feet high, and eighty feet thick; they were pierced by a hundred gateways with doors of brass. The circumference of the whole city measured sixty miles. The river Euphrates bisected the town, and beneath the river ran an underground tunnel connecting two of the royal palaces. Nabuchadonosor's castle, which itself occupied as much space as a moderate sized city, was situated on the banks of the river. The celebrated hanging gardens may be ranked as the principal feature of the town. These wonderful gardens were constructed in this manner:—the first garden or story would be a plot of grass, level with the ground varied with flowers, trees, and shrubberies; the second would be a similar plantation raised to a height of about twenty feet from the ground by rows of white marble columns; the trees and plants in this story were rooted in a thicker layer of soil which rested on sheets of lead plastered over with cement; and in this way the gardens were raised in terraces to a height greater than that of the walls themselves, which, it will be remembered, rose three hundred feet.

It would be most interesting to describe Athens, the city of perfect symmetry; to examine the wonderful Parthenon with its priceless treasures; to gaze in astonishment on the famous statue of Athena, 40 feet high, the robe of which was of solid gold. But

space will not permit and we must pass on to consider for a few moments their domestic usages.

They had most of the ordinary conveniences that we have at the present time, pots and pans, tables and chairs, beds and wardrobes, and all sorts of costly garments and ornaments. In fact the ways of men and women seem to have been much the same in past ages as they are now. De Quincey tells us that the Hebrew ladies spared no amount of money or pains in the decoration of their persons. They appear to have had an enormous amount of wealth about them in some shape or other. The empty purse itself was so richly ornamented with precious stones, gold clasps, and rich embroidery, that it was of sufficient value to buy a large estate. Their garments were chiefly white, and they had an ingenious soap which always kept them in their virginal purity. They wore many rings on their fingers, and from their ankles were suspended silver bells, which tinkled as they walked. Their love for jewellery was only equalled by their love for perfume. In consequence, they so contrived that their wardrobes should be stretched across brass gratings through which rose the steams of scented herbs. But the most wonderful article of the Hebrew ladies' toilet was the girdle, a richly embroidered piece of work, twelve yards in length, and several inches wide, which was wrapped round and round the person in such a way as to exhibit many different forms.

Of course, all this must be condemned as frippery, but, nevertheless, it demonstrates the refined tastes of the ancient ladies, and goes to show our ancestors were not such helpless individuals as is generally believed. Modern superiority in science is undisputed. But that the moderns are inferior to the ancients in architecture, literature, and art, is generally admitted. The great cities of Babylon and Jerusalem, the Temple of Solomon, that house of gold, built in silent reverence, without sound of axe or hammer,

[‘] Like some palm tree, the noiseless fabric sprang,

The Colossum of Rome, the Parthenon of Athens, and the Pyramids of Egypt will be ever memorable to the minds of posterity. Can the same be predicted of any of our towns or buildings, or of any of our works of art? This question may be considered as a guage of our superiority or inferiority to our forefathers, for the test of true greatness is the recognition of posterity.

A MIDDLE SCHOOL BOY ON THE POETS.

Until I was fifteen years of age I had never read anything but prose, tales at first, and afterwards books of travel and essays. But none of these ever seemed to satisfy me. I always longed for something higher, and yet I never could make up my mind to read poetry. It was, I thought, a recreation only fit for girls. One day, however, the *Lady of the Lake* was read aloud to me. I was so delighted with it, that I resolved to try some more of Scott's works. I opened one of his volumes and such was my delight that I read from cover to cover. Nothing I thought could be finer. I was especially charmed with "Rokeby," and the "Lady of the Lake." *Marmion* I thought was next in order of merit, though the "Lay" ran it very close. The "Lord of the Isles" and the "Vision of Don Roderick" ran a dead heat for the last place. I conceived a great dislike for the two latter pieces. Perhaps I had bolted Scott's poetry too eagerly and become satiated. Nevertheless I was greatly encouraged by this first attempt of mine. Two months later I read his works again, and I found my taste had changed. Some of his pieces, such as the description of Melrose Abbey, the Wizard's grave in the "Lay," and Flodden Field in "*Marmion*," were as great favorites as before, but a great deal of his work I thought was rough and careless, in fact rhymed prose.

Macaulay's Lays were next brought down from the shelf where they had lain in shameful neglect, and perused. They are more polished than Scott's pieces, but I did not like them so well. They have not those beautiful descriptions of nature in which Rokeby abounds. Horatius was my favourite. Both Macaulay and Scott have a rush and swing about their verse which hurries one along at a tremendous pace; I could not read either of them slowly or carefully.

But now alas! after I had read Scott and Macaulay I grew too confident and attacked Pope. The "Rape of the Lock" first met my eye and I swallowed it eagerly. It is the most clever, as well as the neatest and wittiest little satire I have yet read. I was captivated by it. Then I proceeded to his other works. Every one of them had the same characteristics, brilliant concise wit and cleverness in taking-off a character. However, they were very monotonous, and I soon grew tired of the same sort of thing. I ploughed manfully through in a ding dong mechanical way for about a week. Then I gave up in despair. I admired his acuteness and epigrammatic wit, but could not love his works; no pathos, no soul, no passion. I could imagine anyone spending an hour or two over him, but as to wading through all his works, which I tried to do, is beyond an ordinary mortal's powers. It is like eating Turkish delight, a little goes a long way. I was disheartened over this repulse, and took refuge in plain prose for some time after.

I soon plucked up my spirits, and went to work again. I had been taught a lesson, however, so I did not choose an author haphazard this time, but asked the opinion of a person, who knew better than myself. He told me that he thought Byron would suit me. He was right. Byron did suit me. I revelled in him! He was the acme of perfection, my beau-ideal of a poet. There is in his writing a vigour and splendour which is wanting in Pope, a pathos and passion that is not in Scott. No poet in the world could equal him. (I had only read Scott and Macaulay!) I found a passionate glow and throb in his verse, a splendour of diction that fairly bewitched me. Childe Harold I was never tired of reading. I knew several parts of it by heart through constant perusal. Two parts especially inflamed my mind, the "Dying Gladiator," and the stanzas following "There was a sound of revelry by night." I thought they reached the highest pinnacle of poetry; I know of none that can equal them. In

short I had the Byronic fit. Most people at some stage of their youth, I suppose, are afflicted with this epidemic. I was no exception. I have almost recovered by now, though I have some traces of it still. I almost liked his murderous misanthropic scoundrels.

Childe Harold, Manfred, the Prisoner of Chilon, and a small poem called the "Dream" were my favourites. I was wild after poetry now; in fact at one period I actually endeavoured to compose, but as rhymes were not forthcoming, I was compelled to desist. I now began Coleridge without hesitation. He too seized my fancy, though in a quieter, and perhaps surer way than Byron. The Ancient Mariner and Christabel stand out so prominently from his other works, that, though the latter may possess some merit, they are so wholly eclipsed by the two I have mentioned that I devoted all my attention to these.

There is a weirdness, a something so utterly strange about these two, that I can positively never tire of them. They are so quaint, so odd, so fantastic, and yet so exquisitely beautiful, my stock of adjectives is far too scanty and meagre to express my opinion in adequate terms. Those who have read the pieces will understand what I mean. Those who have not, should read them as soon as they have the chance. I promise them a treat. The best of friends must part, however, and I had to tear myself away from the book.

I had not as yet read any songs so I thought I would give the great Scotch lyric bard a turn. His songs are gems! They are unapproachable! What love song ever equalled that beginning

"Ye banks and braes of Bonnie Doon."
Who has ever heard the war song

"Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled"
without feeling his blood tingle with enthusiasm and patriotism.
But why should I select any particular song or ballad when every

one is beautiful? The romantic yet homely dialect he uses enhances the beauty of his style. Moore cannot be compared to him. His Irish melodies are not so natural and have not the force, the wild lyrical rush which Burns' songs sometimes possess. Tam o' Shanter is in quite another strain. What a pity Burns frittered his time away on songs and ballads instead of writing some long poem by which he might be rendered immortal. Tam o' Shanter shows he had the power. There is a happy intermixture of the wild and the grotesque, with rollicking fun, which adds greatly to the pleasure of reading it.

When the hot weather came on, and something soothing was needed, I dipped into Tennyson. I say "dipped," because I did not read his greater works, such as "In Memoriam," and the "Idylls of the King," but only his minor ones. One evening I was sitting with a volume of Tennyson before me, feeling very tired, and lazy. I was turning over the pages in a careless way, when I noticed a piece entitled the "Lotos Eaters." The title struck my fancy and I began to read it. I was more than delighted, more than charmed, I was fascinated. The words "luscious," and "luxuriant" will perhaps convey my idea of this poem. The dreamy, creamy flow of words redolent with a rich languid perfume almost sent me to sleep. Had I not known the meaning of the words I should have been soothed; as it was I was enraptured. The true poetical aroma lies in the "Lotus Eaters." I have heard that these pieces are not the highest kind of poetry, but if the piece that gave me the most pleasure is in reality the best piece, I should unhesitatingly declare it to be the finest composition in the language. I was growing quite poetical a few lines back, but I fear I cannot keep it up. "The Morte D'Arthur" was another that appealed to my imagination, but it is more solemn and awe inspiring, and is not so "oriental," if I may use the expression. "The Ulysses" was another that pleased me greatly. Those three pieces I thought were magnificent. Some others I read did not satisfy me so much. I have heard a great deal about his

"May Queen," but beyond being a pretty little piece, I could see nothing in it.

I had grown quite daring now, and had the courage to take "Paradise Lost" from its place on the shelf. It was not without some misgivings that I commenced however, for I had an idea it would be very dry and hard to understand. I was agreeably surprised to find that my conjectures were unfounded, and that it was a grand and, I was going to say, exciting epic. About this time one of the masters was so kind as to lend me the 1st and 2nd Books of "Paradise Lost," with ample notes to them. I saw that neither Tennyson, Coleridge, or Byron, in their highest flights, could conceive so sublime a picture as Milton in his description of Hell and the damned angels. It is hard to choose from such a grand and majestic work any passages which seem above the rest, but, if there are any, I think Belial's speech and Moloch's answer, would be the ones I should select. I could not keep my mind strung up to the sublime for long, so I endeavoured to relax myself with Mrs Browning.

I had dropped from the frying pan into the fire. How could a person write such meaningless gibberish! There is, in "The Drama of Life," for instance, such vapid and insane raving, that out of charity to the poor authoress I believed her mad. I don't doubt, if anyone thinks and meditates, and meditates and thinks, for a few months, one might manage to dig her meaning out. But what right has an author or authoress to put his or her readers to the trouble of finding out the meaning, which, when it is obtained is not so very sublime after all!

I am of opinion that many people do not make a distinction between what is fantastic, and what is obscure. Shakespeare could consent to clothe his ideas in simple English; I see no reason why Mrs. Browning could not have done the same. This obscurity in her words may perhaps have arisen from the paucity of her vocabulary. She wrote a quantity of grand words down on

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paper, and, of course, her critics racked their bewildered wits to construe a grand meaning out of it all. Perhaps you will say I have a spite against her, or else that I am a little dense. Well, there may be truth in the remark, but I can contrive to understand greater and sublimer poets than her. In general, her pieces, however, where she has condescended to talk English, such as the "Lay of the Brown Rosary," are extremely beautiful. The one I have mentioned is tinged with the Coleridge witchery and enchantment. I would say it is very weird if I had not already used that word.

How the time flies, and as I suppose your patience is flying with it, I shall have to bring my chatter to a close. I cannot let you go, however, without showing a list of the authors I read besides those previously mentioned. Gray's Odes and Elegy, Hood's poems, parts of Keats, Shelley, Moore, and Campbell, short lives of Johnson, Spencer, Goldsmith, Gibbon, and Pope, Shelley, and Wordsworth, Trevelyan's Life and Letters of Lord Macaulay, Essays by Goldsmith, Lamb, Addison, and Macaulay; also Bacon, A Manual of English Literature, English Writers, English Humorists, English Essayists, and another from "Chaucer to Tennyson." I own I read many of these at railway speed, and did not reflect over them. I am horrified at the length of the list. I never dreamt it was of such a size. What an atrocious bookworm I must be!

My object in writing has been attained (is it too ambitious?) if some boy, encouraged by this crude and rambling statement of what I have read, and of the enjoyment I have had in so doing, will give poetry a trial. He will have struck an inexhaustible mine of enjoyment for himself, and one which will last him through life.—

PAUL BLACKLEDGE.

IN MEMORIAM.

Fr. Margison O.S.B., died at Wrightington Hall, on Saturday, June 27th. His health for some time had been failing, and for the last two years he had retired from all Missionary work. Fr. Margison came to Ampleforth, on July 10th, 1824, and was therefore witness of the sad events that took place when so many Amplefordians left to found Prior Park in 1830. Nearly all the boys above him in class were taken to Prior Park, and he was left first in the School. He was professed in 1833 and filled the offices of Prefect and Sub-prior in the Monastery. He left for the Mission in 1841; and was stationed at St. Peter's, Seel Street, Liverpool, and later on at St. Anne's, where he was mainly instrumental in building the Church and Presbytery. In 1851 he was appointed to Wrightington Hall, and remained there till his death.

Fr. Margison to the end kept up his interest in his Alma Mater. He was ever ready to assist with his subscriptions any little work going on at Ampleforth. His visits when he was in health, were always looked forward to by the community, his geniality and flow of spirits were unfailing. He was held in such affectionate regard by the family at Wrightington Hall, that Mr. Charles Clifton Dicconson wished his funeral to be like that of one of the family. He was buried at Parbold, on Wednesday, July 1st.

July 1st.—F. Burge, O.S.B., of Barton-on-Humber, died at the advanced age of 82. He came to Ampleforth in 1830, a recent convert to the faith. He was professed for the monastery of SS. Denis and Adrian, and he, F. Hall, and a few others went to Broadway near Worcester, and endeavoured to make a foundation of the ancient Monastery in England. The attempt, however, failed, and the members attached themselves to the existing Monasteries. Though not affiliated to Ampleforth, F. Burge always looked upon it as his Alma Mater, and for over thirty years he never missed an Exhibition Day at Ampleforth. The greater part of his mission life was spent at Barton-on-Humber, which he served for nearly forty-three years. He was held in the highest respect and veneration in the little town, and his funeral was attended by a large number of the inhabitants.—R.I.P.

GEORGE McLAUGHLIN,
ALFRED DILLON,
ROBIN WILLSON, } Editors.