



The Bedan.

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SUNDERLAND :

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EDITORIAL NOTES AND SCHOOL NEWS.

The Summer Term is, on the whole, the busiest and the most important in the School Year.

Good luck to all Bedans who will shortly be Candidates at the London Matriculation Examination or the Oxford "Locals"! But boys will do well to remember that the preparedness which results from hard, steady work is a much better and safer thing to rely upon in an Examination than the wishes of their friends or the mere possibility of good fortune.

We have no doubt that all the examinees will do the best that they can—alike for the credit of the School, their own credit, and the satisfaction of their relatives.

Mr. Arthur H. Baker, B.A., Secretary of the London Committee which, for many years past, has been the means of providing Scholarships tenable at Oxford or Cambridge, for Pupil-Teachers and others, died very suddenly when returning home after his Easter Holidays. He was a man whose character, disposition, and work made him greatly liked and respected. All Old Bedans who have held Toynbee Scholarships will remember Mr. Baker's name—though they probably have no idea of the amount of time and labour which he gratuitously devoted to the business of an organisation from which they, and many other young men like them, have received great benefits. In common with everybody who knew Mr. Baker, the Head Master of Bede School sincerely laments his death and honours his memory.

Though Gibson and J. Rothfield left Cambridge last Midsummer the number of Old Bedans at Oxford and Cambridge this year shows no decrease compared with previous records, and includes, at Cambridge, Moffitt (Jesus), Hetherington (Trinity), Caslaw (Trinity Hall), I. Rothfield (Downing), and Harold Smith (Emmanuel); and, at Oxford, Cairns and Campbell (Brasenose), and G. B. Foulkes (St. John's).

H. Smith, who is a Master of Science of Durham University and a Royal Exhibition (1851) Scholar, has gone to Cambridge for Special Research work.

Until lately Foulkes has, since leaving Bede School, been at Edinburgh University. Last year he distinguished himself there by sharing with another man the Black Scholarship for Greek.

There is an Old Bedan Girl, Miss Lax, at Somerville College, Oxford.

Several new pupils have been admitted since

Easter, and the Fees-Total of the Fee-paying Boys is, this Term, *the largest on record*.

There are now in the School *no* boys holding Durham County Council Scholarships—whereas, up to the year 1910, there were often about 50. The number of Sunderland Boy Exhibitioners is 84, as against from 90 to 100 in several former years. The number of Sunderland Bursars and Student Teachers is 18 now: in former years it was often 25. But there has been such a steady increase in the number of ordinary fee-paying boys that the total number of boy pupils of all sorts is 323, which is only about 20 or 30 fewer than the grand total in some of the best years before 1910.

To our regret we have lost Walter Britain: he has gone with his father and mother to South Africa. And, rather oddly, we have got a new pupil from South Africa—D. F. Chambers. He is the son of J. D. M. Chambers, of Dordrecht, South Africa, who was at Bede School about twenty years ago with C. Gibson, now of Kimberley; R. Littlehailes, of Madras; A. Littlehailes, Vancouver; F. Robinson, Straits Settlements; H. C. Bailey, Alberta; J. Nimmo, Sydney, N.S.W.; A. Jarman, New Zealand; and several other Old Bedans whose main life-work has lain in places many thousands of miles from Sunderland.

We offer our hearty congratulations to Mr. W. J. Smith, of Seaham Harbour, on his appointment as a Bank Manager. He and his brothers (named Ernest Arthur and Thomas Henry, if we remember aright) are Old Bedans.

Bede School has had many most satisfactory pupils from Seaham Harbour. The Smiths, R. Grimes, J. Harrison, R. D. Crawford, C. W. Pollock, H. L. Robson, T. C. Scott, R. M. Neill, and M. H. Murley, are just a few among dozens of them.

Many Bedans have gone into Banks. C. O. Davies has recently been appointed as a "junior" at the National Provincial Bank, Chester. Davies was Secretary of the Arts and Crafts Society up to the time of his leaving school; his work in Drawing was excellent—better than that of anybody he has left behind him.

At Chester he will not be very far away from F. Haswell, who is in the National Provincial Bank at Manchester.

H. B. Davies (who is not related to C. O. Davies) has left Bede School and joined the King's School, Chester, his friends having removed from Sunderland to Chester.

The formation of a School Library has been

begun. The "Encyclopædia Britannica", presented to the School by the Corporation Libraries Committee, was a good nucleus, a number of books from Form Libraries and elsewhere were immediately available, and gradual additions will be made. The bookcase already procured will soon be too small. Mr. Hawkins has kindly undertaken the duties of librarian, and his characteristically good and effective work in that capacity is making the library popular and (as far as conditions will permit) very successful.

In carrying on the Library there will be no great difficulty with regard to the circulation of ordinary books. But the most important part of a School Library is the *Reference* Section; and this, if it is to take a real place in the School's scheme of instruction, and to be of real service to the boys' education by affording them a way to find out things for themselves, must have a room to itself, with a table and a few chairs, where, at suitable times, boys may go and consult (perhaps for two minutes, perhaps for an hour) the particular book of reference (cyclopædia, dictionary, large atlas, standard work on history or geography, gazetteer, or what not) likely to furnish some information or enlightenment which their ordinary text-books or lessons have prompted them to try to discover.

At present there is no room which can be spared for use as a Reference Library. Whether, before the new School is built, there will ever be a room available for Library purposes solely, is doubtful. Meanwhile, all our books—those for circulation and those for reference—are housed in the Art Room: a place which often suffers from acute congestion!

We have noticed with pleasure that, in the last few years, the University Extension Lecture Courses have been attended by a good sprinkling of Bedans. At every Lecture in the latest Course—that given by Mr. Williams, of Christ's College, Cambridge, on "Representative Men of the Nineteenth Century"—there was a large audience; but, at the end of the Course, only one lady and one gentleman took the Examination and gained the University Certificate. The gentleman was a young one—Master Lynton Smith, an Upper Fifth Form boy at Bede School.

We congratulate Smith on his success. It does him great credit, especially as (being an officer of the Debating Society) he has less time to spare than some boys have. But we have often observed that the pains which a boy takes in connexion with Debating Society matters are a help, rather than a hindrance, to his general studies and progress.

Arthur Grumitt, articled clerk with Messrs. T. C. Squance and Sons, passed the Final Exam-

ination of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, held in November last.

We congratulate this Old Bedan—who is an active member of the Old Boys' Association—on getting his full professional qualification.

We thank his younger brother, Corrie Grumitt, now a Lower Fifth Form boy, for presenting the School with a collection of more than a hundred birds' eggs. We believe that this collection was formed by Francis H. Grumitt, C.A., an older brother who is now at Penang, and who will, we think, be glad to know that the eggs are much appreciated, both for natural history purposes and as drawing models, in his old school.

The recently-appointed Secretary of the Sunderland Chamber of Commerce, Mr. W. M. McKenzie, Accountant, left Bede School in 1898.

He has kindly supplied us with particulars—to which we direct the attention of some of the older boys at the school—of a Travelling Scholarship, value £10, which the Chamber of Commerce offers for competition each year.

"The Scholar must be willing to spend at least four weeks in France, or Germany, or Spain.

"He must possess either

- (a) A Senior Certificate of the London Chamber of Commerce, for a modern foreign language, and one other Certificate of the same examining body for English, Commercial Arithmetic, Commercial Geography, or Book-keeping; or
- (b) Two Junior Certificates of the London Chamber of Commerce, for modern foreign languages.

"The Scholar must be approved by the Education Committee of the Sunderland Chamber of Commerce, and satisfy the Committee of his general fitness to take advantage of the Scholarship."

The Applications of candidates must be made before the 1st October in each year.

John Henderson Taylor, Associate Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, called at the School a few weeks ago to say good-bye before sailing for the Argentine, South America, where he has been appointed Assistant Engineer to one of the great Railway Companies. For five years previous to his going abroad he was in the service of Sir William Arrol and Company, and gained most valuable experience. [Sir William, builder of the world-famous Forth Bridge, died very recently.]

We remember very distinctly how fond J. H. Taylor was, when at school, of mechanical drawing, of engines, of calculations, and of working in the manual instruction room, and what skill, taste, and excellence in certain departments, he

showed while still a youngster.

We particularly recall that, having been given one day as home work an ordinary sum in arithmetic about finding the distance which the big wheel of a locomotive would travel along the line while making a certain number of revolutions, he next morning brought not only the correct working and answer but also an illustration of the locomotive so perfect as to drawing, colouring, and scale measurements, that, for years afterwards, it was kept in the school as a "thing of beauty"! And yet he had certainly not done the picture for exhibition purposes: it appeared in an ordinary exercise book, and was merely the outcome of his sheer love of the subject.

He has worked very hard, has gained high credentials, and will, we hope and expect, have an honourable and prosperous career.

We believe that his brothers Edward and Frank are, like hundreds of other Old Bedans, marine engineers.

Some months ago we had a long and pleasant chat with John Barron, who is now Second Master of Southall County School, Middlesex, where one of his colleagues is Mr. J. H. Elwell, French Master. Mr. Elwell will be remembered as one of the Masters at Bede School from 1908 to 1910.

Barron was a boy—frequently the top boy in his Form—at the school from 1894 to 1900, and then went to New College, Oxford. He occasionally wrote for *The Bedan*, and the contributions (especially those in prose) had a certain dry humour very characteristic of the writer, and were often rich in ideas cleverly expressed.

We seem, nowadays, to have no boys who are "poets", whereas, in the closing years of the last and the opening ones of the present century, nearly every Number of *The Bedan* used to contain two or three effusions in verse, on topical subjects. Let us give an example—which is certainly no better, and probably not much worse, than most of the "poetry" then current in the Magazine.

Perhaps no boy now at Bede School can remember the time when Sunderland had no Electric Tramways System at all. But, of course, there was such a time; and there was also a time during which the streets had to be pulled to pieces in order that the "permanent way" might be made and the standards erected. On certain roads the condition of things was somewhat higgledy-piggledy for some months, and, here and there, tremendous holes were dug by the navvies. In *The Bedan* for June, 1900, Barron had the following lines:—

EXCELSIOR!

[The Alps and their avalanches have no terrors

for anybody who has "negotiated" Sunderland streets since the Electric Tramways began to be laid down.]

The shades of night were falling fast
As through a local street there passed
A tiny Bedan on a bike—
An old one—not exactly like
Excelsior.

"Go not that way", an old man yelled;
'Gainst this advice the boy rebelled;—
"Well, if you go, keep to one side!"
And loud the boyish voice replied,
"Excelsior!"

"Beware great stones—a lofty heap;
Beware the cutting, wide and deep!"
This was the watchman's last good-night;
The youngster answered—out of sight—
"Excelsior!"

That boy avoided many a fall;
"Sett", iron rails, he cleared them all;
Ropes, barriers, sand, and gravel too,
Pitch-boilers, numbering not a few.
Excelsior!

But sad to tell, ere close of day
He came to grief, and had to stay
His hurried ride, and cease to shout
To all who dared to walk about,
"Excelsior!"

A great abyss in Western Hill
Engulfed him, spite of all his skill.
Both killed and drowned, he couldn't speak,
But his wee ghost was heard to squeak
"Excelsior!"

Dr. Joseph W. Craven, a prominent member of the Old Bedans' Association, has, we believe, been appointed Surgeon to one of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's mail steamers.

Most boys will remember J. M. Kerr, who left school last Midsummer and went to Canada. His prowess in football and cricket, and his many agreeable personal qualities, made him a favourite with his school-fellows, and his skill in drawing was very noteworthy. He has got a good "berth" in the Hamilton (Ontario) Office of the Carting Agents of the Canadian Grand Trunk Railway, and, in the evenings, studies Architecture at the local Technical College Classes.

He has already found the possession of an Oxford Local Certificate an advantage. That does not surprise us at all. We have known many instances where a boy's Oxford Certificate has done him a substantial service. Several of these cases have concerned some boy who told us the fact in words like these: "The Certificate proved most useful; and yet at one time I couldn't see that I was ever likely to find it a benefit!"

We received lately, from Wilfred Stokle, of Cottesloe Beach, West Australia, a delightful letter, full of good feeling towards his old school. He used to be a Games Prefect, and regards as one of his "dearest treasures" his school football shirt which he wore last winter when playing for the Fremantle British Association Football Club. We have no doubt that he would play *well*: when he was at the school the team was almost invincible.

He has got a Clerkship in the Government Offices—in the Taxation Department. He writes "It may encourage some boys who are working for the Oxford 'Senior' to know that the Certificate has a recognised value even so far away as in Australia—for it obtained me exemption in English and Arithmetic in my Qualifying Examination here."

He was at the Perth College Speech Day. "It brought to my mind vivid recollections of similar gatherings in the Victoria Hall."

He describes the Swan River, which is, in places, nearly two miles wide, and has what is supposed to be the finest stretch of water in the world for yachting. "It is a grand sight to see a squadron of yachts, all moving swiftly and gracefully over the water, and looking (especially when they have their spinnakers set) like so many huge birds."

[A spinnaker is a large triangular sail sometimes carried on the side opposite the mainsail.]

"On a fine evening the river looks very beautiful, and the Darling mountains are visible in the background, at a distance of thirty miles."

We wish our correspondent prosperity and happiness.

Alfred H. Dobbing, of St. Mark's College, Chelsea, passed the latest Intermediate Arts Examination, London University. Dobbing was, for a long time, Accompanist in the Bede School Orchestra—and a capital accompanist he was!

George D. Sharman, who left Bede School in 1910 after gaining Oxford Local and London Matriculation Certificates and other successes, recently passed the Examination for a Second Division Clerkship in the Civil Service, and has got an appointment in Edinburgh.

Two drawings done by Sharman—the one of a violin, the other of a straw hat—were long kept in the Art Room at Bede School, as specimens of very fine work of their kind.

During the Easter Holidays James Wm. Stewart called at the School. He was a Bedan many years ago, and went to Christ's College, Cambridge. He is a Master in Ayr Academy. He spoke of one of his school-fellows, William Crampton Smith, Smith, who has two Honours degrees (from London and Durham Universities), is now a schoolmaster in Scotland—at Keith, we believe.

In the next *Bedan* there will be a long Article on

Oxford and Cambridge. We hope it will prove of general interest—of interest, that is to say, not only to boys who intend to go to the one or the other of England's ancient Universities, but also to all our readers.

We may, however, remark that some new Regulations for the Training of Persons intending to become Masters in Schools under the Board of Education, seem likely to *increase* the number of boys going from Bede School to Oxford or Cambridge.

Of course, different boys go to the Universities with different objects: they certainly don't *all* mean to be schoolmasters. But, hitherto, boys who *did* wish to qualify themselves for the scholastic profession have often found it impossible, or difficult, or inadvisable on the whole, to go to Oxford or Cambridge to get degrees, training in teaching, and certificates as teachers. Though the two most famous seats of learning in the world can, in some ways, offer students *supreme* advantages, they are comparatively expensive, and their degree-courses and the courses for schoolmasters' certificates issued by the Board of Education have, up to the present, in so many ways run counter to one another, that it has been very awkward to carry these on concurrently—a thing, however, which has had to be done, whatever the result. In exceedingly *rare* instances (like that of S. R. Gibson) a man has gained "firsts" throughout his degree-course and "firsts" throughout his certificate-course; in *numerous* cases he has got neither a good degree nor a good certificate.

Henceforward, young men who proceed to Oxford or Cambridge to qualify themselves for masterships in State-aided schools, will (as a rule) spend *four* years at the University, during *three* of which they will devote nearly all their time to degree-work, the *fourth* year being given up to their special training as teachers; and, if they are members of any of the ordinary Colleges in the University, they will receive a Government Grant of £65 a year towards their expenses in each of the first three years, and £35 in the fourth year.

When the new Regulations are known and appreciated they will, we believe, induce many men to go to Oxford or Cambridge who, but for these Regulations, would become students at some Modern University, or at an ordinary Training College.

We acknowledge, with thanks, copies of the *Bromleian* and the *Stocktonian*.

For the March Oxford "Locals" there was no Examination Centre in Sunderland this year. At the Gateshead Centre R. S. Ellis, of Bede School, obtained a Senior Certificate, and J. N. McKenzie, F. Wayman, and A. J. Ferguson obtained Supplementary Senior Certificates.

T. B. Bubb tells us that he has copies of all but three of the issues of the *Bedan* that there have been

in the past fifteen years! We should imagine that not many other Old Boys can say that. Bubb is in London, and sometimes meets old school-fellows there.

John Shields Bowman, A.R.C.S., has been appointed a Science Master in the County Technical School for the Soke of Peterborough. He went to London from Bede School in 1906, on winning a National Scholarship tenable at the Royal College of Science.

His Head Master at Peterborough, Mr. C. Armstrong, is brother of Mr. F. W. Armstrong, A.R.C.A., once Art Master at Bede School, now Head Master of the School of Art, Grahamstown, South Africa.

The Shakespeare Day Celebration in Sunderland this year—on April 23rd—was extraordinarily successful and enjoyable. Dr. R. G. Moulton's Address on Shakespeare was an intellectual "treat" which his auditors will long remember. There were many representatives of Bede School present, and they found the occasion altogether delightful.

Mr. J. Strachan, H.M. Inspector of Secondary Schools, and Mr. A. T. Baines, an Official of the Administrative (as distinguished from the Inspectorial) Department of the Board of Education, paid Bede School a visit, one afternoon in April. They were interested in the Art Work of the boys, and examined a very large number of their "drawings".

The day becoming very wet, these gentlemen also saw (and felt) some of the discomforts which the Masters and the boys at the School have to experience, whenever the weather is bad. How scattered the premises are, and how freely the roof of the temporary building admits water, are things which may escape notice on a fine day; but you are bound to observe them if (like boys changing rooms at the end of a lesson-period) you have to scurry across the playground in a heavy shower, or are obliged, in the Masters' Common Room, to move about from chair to chair, as one place after another becomes untenable owing to the rain's pushfulness. On the day in question the Masters in the Common-Room were (we observed) as nomadic as Arabs; but, unlike Arabs, they never wandered in *search* of water, but always tried to get as far away from it as possible!

Everybody in the Boys' School offers sincere and respectful sympathy to Miss A. M. Smith, a Mistress in the Girls' School, whose sister, Miss Beatrice Smith, was killed at East Croydon Station on May 3rd, when attempting to enter a train which was in motion.

During a discussion about the magnitude of the victory that Sunderland were presently to gain in the "Cup Final", there spake a small prophet of the tin building and said: "Sunderland 'll get beat". On being asked why he

thought so and who had said so, he replied in tones of one taking his pleasure sadly: "I say so".

Mr. E. P. Horowitz, lately a German Master at Bede School, and now occupying the position of Professor of German at Queen's College, London, in succession to Prof. Walter Rippmann, has written a book on The Indian Theatre. We believe there is a copy in the Sunderland Public Library.

We have to apologise for two errors in our last issue: the initials at the end of the article on Carpentry should have been C. W. H.; and those at the end of the article on Chess should have been H. B. W.



OUR CURRICULUM.

It is curious how quite erroneous notions about the Bede School Curriculum have, at different periods, been formed and become prevalent. From 1890 to 1896 the School was obliged (the Board of Education's Regulations for Grants being what they were) to give an unduly large amount of time to mathematics and various branches of natural science. Even then, however, literary subjects received *some* attention—though, confessedly, not enough. But the statement, "That School teaches nothing but 'Science'!", became current, and, though an exaggeration, was at that time perhaps excusable and not to be wondered at.

From 1896 to 1905 (the Board's Regulations having been altered) the Curriculum was much broader, and "general" subjects had a big place in the Time Table. Yet the old cry, "That School teaches nothing but 'Science'!", still continued, and was heard long after the repeated successes of Bede pupils in General Examinations had made it not merely an exaggeration but an absurdity.

From 1905 to the present time the Curriculum has been made increasingly comprehensive, and the study of languages (English, French, German, Latin, and Greek) has undoubtedly developed. But mathematics, natural science (always taught through practical work in the laboratories), drawing, woodwork, etc., still receive due attention;—indeed, boys more frequently select mathematics, physics, and drawing than they select languages as subjects in the Oxford "Locals"; and, in the Matriculation Examination, mathematics is an obligatory subject, and physics is an optional one very frequently selected.

Yet, somehow, in the last two or three years, the idea seems to have got abroad that the School is a sort of specialising place for *literary* subjects mainly!

This new mistake is almost as huge as the old one to which we have already alluded.

It is quite true that, through lack of adequate premises, the School cannot at present form and develop an Engineering Course specially suitable for boys meaning to become engineers, or a Commercial Course (including instruction in shorthand, typewriting, and book-keeping) for boys intended for business callings. Under present conditions with regard to buildings the School must have its limitations in the matter of carrying on such Special Courses as these, and others that might be mentioned. This simply means that it is not *ideally* situated for meeting, to the fullest extent, the *individual* wants of the pupils. It does *not* mean that the School is not as well situated as ever it was for affording boys instruction in *all the important general subjects* which must always form the basis of their education, whatever line of life they may afterwards enter upon; or that pupils do not even now, particularly on reaching the higher Forms, have a considerable amount of choice as to subjects to be taken.

On the contrary, Bede boys, unlike railway sleepers, are turned out by no means all of the same pattern: the attainments of different ones differ not only in extent but also in nature. And, whether the education (general and particular) which the boys have received has, or has not, an all-round fitness as a preparation for life-occupations in the main industries of Sunderland and in various professions, may be tested by one striking fact: *almost every boy who leaves Bede School either has a position to go to, or gets one very quickly*; and the Head Master, when employers apply to him (as they often do) for boys to fill desirable posts, repeatedly is obliged to express his regret that no boys are available, *every old pupil being already booked*.

A fair inference seems to be that the present curriculum, with its various ramifications, furnishes those who go through it with a useful and serviceable equipment. It is at any rate an equipment which makes the boys who possess it be very much in request.

The other day, just after hearing somebody declare dogmatically (in comic ignorance of the facts of the case) that the Bede Curriculum was "too literary" and "unsuitable" for boys who meant to go to the Technical College, or take a Scientific Course elsewhere, or become apprentice-engineers, we noticed in the *Echo* that, at the Technical College, the George Bartram Scholarship and a second Scholarship had been awarded to an Old Bedan, G. E. Edmundson, and that other Awards had been made to W. F. McMillan and R. T. Melvin, who are Old Bedans. We also remembered that *the whole* of the Technical College students who passed the latest

Intermediate Science Examination of London University in Engineering were Old Bedans, that many of the Apprentice-Studentships at the Technical College have, for years past, fallen to Old Bedans, that the Technical College Student who last year won a Whitworth Exhibition, and also a Royal Scholarship tenable for three years at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, was an Old Bedan, and that Bede School is very well represented among the Students at present taking the Science Course at Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

All this must not be taken to imply that the School's Curriculum is so good as to be incapable of improvement or development. Nothing of the sort. A thing is not necessarily perfect just because some of the criticisms passed upon it are exaggerated or wide of the mark. When the premises are ample, and when all boys are admitted to the School *young*, it will undoubtedly be possible to amend the Curriculum in several particulars. May the day of these happier conditions soon arrive!



LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ANCIENT AND MODERN.

[T is difficult for those who study History from text-books, and know ancient literature only in its masterpieces, to realise in the least degree how near we are to antiquity in all except the outward trappings of civilization, and how permanent are the leading features of human conduct in every civilized age. Seen from a somewhat closer standpoint antiquity often seems strangely modern, and our boasted centuries of progress appear to have given us little more than creature comforts in increased degree. To enlarge on such a subject would lead us into prolixity beyond the scope of forgiveness, and into a wealth of literature that would stock an ample library. Yet as we live in an English municipality, we may find it interesting, without being philosophers, to consider, however briefly, whether life in a Roman borough town under the Empire bears any resemblance to our own, and the comparison may give us food for reflection.

Here then Trimalchio, a coarse 'nouveau riche', criticise his town Council in the pages of Petronius' satire. "Town Councillors", says he, "are not what they were when I first lived here: we had fine fellows then—Safinius, for instance, who lived near the Bridge, a sharp-tongued man, but a real friend: in the Council he used to go straight to the point, and on the platform he had a voice like a trumpet. Yet always affable, always noticed you in the street. Rates were low, too,

then : if they go up like this I shall have to sell all my house property."

Of course one rarely meets grumblers of his stamp in this golden age, but somehow he seems familiar.

Again, Trimalchio is giving a dinner party : a friend arrives, and forthwith bursts into an animated harangue. Of what does he speak? Of absolutely nothing but a coming gladiatorial show. Had he lived to-day he would not have talked of gladiatorial shows, but we must admit that his gladiators have only become footballers, and his show a cup-tie. Perhaps the difference is even less than it seems.

And, as we read on, we get on more familiar ground. "My boy", he says, "is doing well at school. He has begun Greek and has a real taste for Latin. But his masters are idle and conceited. He has had enough book-learning. I'm going to teach him a trade. Every day I tell him 'My boy, what you learn you learn for profit. Learning is a treasure, but a trade can never be lost.'" We dare not suggest a modern parallel, yet is there enough to make us wonder if we have travelled so very far in 1800 years.

Of municipal elections our knowledge is based chiefly on the 'posters', laid bare of their coating of mud and ashes by the excavations, at Pompeii.

Pompeii, owing to the attentions of the antiquarians and the accident of its obliteration, has won quite an undeserved importance. It was really quite a small municipality of not more than 20,000 souls, and the only historical event recorded of it prior to the catastrophe, is the fact that a little son of Claudius was choked there by an apple which he had thrown in the air, and caught in his mouth. Yet there must have been stirring incidents at election times, and the usual excitement with which we are familiar to-day.

This is the more remarkable inasmuch as election to the town Council or 'curia' was strictly confined to an aristocratic and wealthy class. A man had to pay £80, and be of high birth too, to be mayor or 'duumvir' of Pompeii. To-day we are fond of boasting that nothing but incapacity can prevent a man rising to the highest offices of state : in the Roman Empire there was an unbridgeable gap separating the official from the non-official class. Even wealth gave place to birth. Still, in the earlier days of the Empire at least, there was no dearth of candidates for municipal honours, and no lack of zeal among their supporters.

Among the Pompeii 'posters' we can still read the following :—

M. MARIUM AED. FACI. O.V.
 "Vote for Marcus Marius as aedile." (o.v. = oro vos).
 (An aedile was an official who combined the duties of a Watch Committee and a Highways

department.

P. FURIVM DVVMVIR. V.B. O.V.F.
 "Vote for Publius Furius as mayor. He's a good man." (v.b. = virum bonum. On the analogy of the two consuls at Rome each borough had two mayors—a custom which is providentially obsolete.)

O.V.F. V.P. VERECVNDISS IVV. HIC AERARIVM CONSERVABIT.
 "Vote for — as —. He's an honest young man and a modest one. He'll keep an eye on the exchequer."

This being translated into modern phraseology would read

"Vote for Bill Jones, a straight runner, the Ratepayers' Friend."

We can suggest no modern equivalent for 'modest'. Modesty is no longer a passport to the Council.

Candidates were often supported by *groups* of persons who put up notices in favour of their nominee—thus :

TI. CLAVDIVM VERVM II VIR. VICINI. ROGANT.
 "His neighbours ask your votes for Tiberius Claudius Verus, as mayor."

CN. HELVIVM. SABINVM AED. ISIACI UNIVERSI ROGANT.

"All the members of the congregation of Isis ask your votes for Cnaeus Helvius Sabinus as aedile." SABINVM AED. PROCVLIVM, FAC ET ILLE TE FACIET.
 "Vote for Sabinus as aedile, Proculus, and he'll vote for you."

We may do these things nowadays, but we do not put them on posters.

Election humour was not wanting. Opponents of the candidate were evidently responsible for the following :

VATIAM AED. FVRVNCVLI ROG.
 "The *petty thieves* support Vatia for the aedileship", and

VATIAM AED. SERIBIBI. ROG.
 "The 'late boozers' support Vatia for the aedileship", and

VATIAM AED. DORMIENTES VNIVERSI.
 "All the 'sleeping brigade' support Vatia for the aedileship"; and lastly we have the following :

CLAVDIVM II VIR ANIMULA FACIT.
 "His little darling asks you to vote for Claudius as mayor." This is obviously unfair to Claudius' rival ; 'non cuius homini'. . . The Primrose League would certainly not have countenanced this.

It may naturally be asked what could have induced a populace without any claim to office to vote for anyone in particular. The reason is not far to seek. There was little direct taxation, and the revenues of a borough were hopelessly inadequate to its needs. Practically all public works were paid for by the Town Council and its officers out of their own pockets. It was therefore of

vital importance to the electors to appoint a generous man. There was often a surplus of candidates—a fact which goes to show that, under the early Empire, public spirit among the governing class stood very high indeed.

Pliny spent as much as £80,000 on his native town of Como. One of his largest benefactions was for the endowment of a School. Would that there were a Pliny in Sunderland to-day! Perhaps he would establish some Leaving Scholarships in connexion with Bede School, or buy the School a good playing-field!

Herodes Atticus, tutor to the Emperor Marcus Aurelius, though not even qualified for the Town Council, was a princely benefactor. Readers of Gibbon will recall that he gave aqueducts, theatres, racecourses, feasts, temples, to innumerable municipalities, and, in his will left all the citizens of his birthplace, Athens, an annual pension.

A magnate of Ferentinum left about £750 to provide an annual feast of pasty and mead on his birthday for all his fellow-citizens, together with 300 pecks of nuts for the children.

Long before this period towns had educational institutions and a *panel of public doctors*, generally provided by the private liberality of public-spirited citizens. For though the gap between wealth and poverty, rank and obscurity, was then in some respects wider than it is in our own day, there was never a time before or since when the rich and the powerful were so completely possessed with the conviction that they were merely trustees of the fortune they enjoyed, and owed it as a duty to share it with the poor.

Wealth, indeed, was valued almost solely for what it could do in the public interest, and the organisation of the Empire depended largely on the principle of voluntary offerings. To be a Town Councillor needed ample means; yet, under the early Emperors, there is little sign of any deficiency of candidates for this honourable office. As the power of the Emperors absorbed more and more of the public offices in the Capital, men seemed to take an increasing pride in their own borough, towns, and their civic life. The mighty Roman Empire depended for its strength and defence not so much on its legions, as on the public spirit and sturdy self-sufficiency of its municipal communities. When this waxed feeble, and local mal-administration drove the central government to take over one by one most of the burdens of the self-governing towns, the Empire began to decay, and soon crumbled away before the advance of greedy enemies.

H. B. W.



MIXED MATHEMATICS.

1. Show that a referee may be either straight or squared.
2. If the quantity that squares a referee be called his figure, show that, as the figure is indefinitely increased, a limit is reached when a straight referee becomes an imaginary quantity.
3. If it is proved that a referee is squared, show that he must eventually vanish, or become a fractional quantity.
4. A claim being positive and the sign of the referee being negative show how the referee is described, omitting vulgar and improper fractions of the description.
5. Prove three halves of any side are less than the whole.
Corollary:—Show that it does not necessarily follow that if the halves of two sides are equal, the sides themselves are equal.
6. Prove that any two diametrically opposite opinions form the basis of a wrangle. Deduce that if those on the two sides of the wrangle are obtuse, the wrangle is acute.
7. If a point is taken at the end of a match, prove that the opposite sides are equal.
8. (a) When one player stands upon another, prove that the power of the terms used is of the highest degree.
(b) If one who is on the side of the horizontal player is describing the circumstances in the lowest terms, where should he draw the line?
9. If a match be drawn, calculate the increase in £ s. d.
10. Find the Interest at 3 p.m. in a Principal Cup-Tie, begun at 1:30, the score being 1—1.

C. W. H.



ARTS AND CRAFTS SOCIETY.

A Life Class, in connection with the above Society, was held during the winter months. The boys who attended showed great enthusiasm, and some of the studies produced are very meritorious.

The first excursion of the year was arranged for April 4th, when about fifteen members met and walked to Marsden. The weather was fine, but rather cold for sketching. However, a few of the keener members set to work and made fairly good pictures of the coast. The party was disappointed to find that the cave at Marsden, which had been an object of special interest for many years, had disappeared, owing to a recent

fall of the cliff.

About 6 o'clock the party returned, after a most enjoyable expedition.

On March 6th an exhibition of Amateur Photographers' Prize Slides was kindly given by Mr. Smithwhite (Vice-President). There was a large attendance, including Mr. Ferguson, the President, and Mr. Witter.

On March 13th a lecture (with demonstration of results obtained from Burroughs & Welcome's photographic preparations) was ably given by Mr. R. Sutcliffe (an ex-Secretary). The slides shown were chiefly those of the official Durbar photographer.

In both of these lectures the lantern was excellently worked by Messrs. Sayce, Duncanson, and Sutcliffe.

The best wishes of the Society go with C. O. Davies, our former Secretary, who has left the School to take up commercial work in Chester. By his enthusiasm, energy and work the Society profited greatly during his term of office. The secretarial duties have been taken up by J. A. Pinchen.

It is intended to hold the Annual Exhibition about the middle of July. Further particulars will be issued later.

J. W. H.



CRICKET.

At the moment (April 23rd) the Cricket season has not yet begun and Football is still being played on the field. It is therefore too soon to make any comments of value on what the future may have in store for us. The field itself is, as it always has been, no worse and no better, but entirely unfit to play good cricket on. As before, we shall have to hire an alien ground to entertain our visitors on in School matches. Of last year's team 5 remain: Brown, Turpie, Ellis, Haddock, and Scorer; so there is plenty of scope for new talent. So far, home and home matches with the following have been arranged: Newcastle Modern School, Ashbrooke IV, Rutherford College.

The Election of Officers took place on April 22nd and 23rd.

School Captain—A. Ferguson.

Vice-Captain—R. Ellis.

Hon. Sec.—M. Huntley.

Captains and Vice-Captains of Districts in the Senior Division:—

Roker (N.E.)

Capt.—Ellis V. Capt.—McCormack

Chester Road (N.W.)

Capt.—Bell V. Capt.—McKenzie

Durham Road (S.W.)

Capt.—Turpie V. Capt.—Haddock

Hendon (S.E.)

Capt.—Hutchinson V. Capt.—Easton.



FOOTBALL.

THIS year, as in the previous one, the school football has suffered greatly from the necessity of playing experimental teams, owing to lack of practice matches. It was not until February 8th that the regular composition of the forward line was decided upon. In the same match Bell, a new right back, was introduced into the eleven, Boustead playing in the forward line. Even after this some changes were necessary, owing to illness. The attendance at school matches has been rather discouraging. The only time when it was at all satisfactory was at the Ryhope match, and we were glad to notice that a fair number of enthusiasts followed the school team to Ryhope when the return match was played. Unhappily they did not witness a victory. Without doubt the results have not been good; yet how much better they would have been with more loyal support from the School it would perhaps be rash to surmise. There is nothing which does so much to lift a team on to victory as an enthusiastic crowd of supporters, and it is a poor sort of sportsmanship which withers away when the home team, though doing its best, is not doing well. A school of the size of ours should be able to muster more than a dozen spectators at a home match.

If the school displayed but little interest in the doings of the team, the same could not be said of the staff. We were never for a moment without their aid and support, and our heartiest thanks are due to them.

The District Competitions were held as usual this year. Both Senior and Junior Competitions were won by the N.W. District (Chester Road), and, singularly enough, this district won, in both cases, because of the failure of the N.E. District (Roker) to get a single point in their last match. These games are very important factors in promoting the success of the School football. They are refereed by Games Prefects, and all promising players are noted and encouraged. Unfortunately, hopes raised by displays in the District matches are sometimes dashed in School matches, but usually this is not the case.

The Junior Football Shield was won by the Lower Fourth (3), who defeated Lower Fourth (1) by 4 goals to 1, after a drawn game.

Our season has been far from brilliant, but on the whole the teams we have met have been rather better than those of last season. The

fixtures with Stockton and Westoe, both of whom were beaten twice last year, were dropped. The only new fixtures undertaken were with Johnston Secondary School, a much stronger team.

The top goal-scorers were Harrison, Peebles, and McCormack, each of whom scored six goals, while Boustead and L. Mitchell are next with five each.

M. H.

MATCHES.

Bede v. Tynemouth Secondary School.—This game was played on December 14th, at home. Hutchinson scored for Bede in the first minute, and before half-time he had added other two, while Harrison had scored two and Mitchell one. In the second half Tynemouth scored once, while Bede could not increase their score, despite two good runs by Harrison. The match was played in a gale of wind, which effectually spoiled all efforts at combination.

Bede v. Johnston Secondary School.—On Jan. 18th Johnston Secondary School, of Durham, paid a visit to our ground. They scored three times in the first half, and finally won by seven goals to three. Boustead did the "hat trick" for Bede. In this match the school team was assisted by A. J. Ferguson, last year's captain, who has not been able to play as a rule.

Bede v. Ryhope Secondary School.—The school team went to Ryhope to play the return match, the first having been lost by six goals to three. The game was hotly contested, and Ryhope, having played with the wind, led by one goal at half-time. On the resumption Bede had rather more of the play, but could only score once, after Ryhope had added their second goal.

Bede v. Rutherford College.—Played at Newcastle on February 15th. In this match the school team did much better. Early in the first half L. Mitchell scored, and, later, Peebles got the second goal. In the second half McCormack scored after a grand run by Davison. Rutherford rallied and scored two goals, but the school team won quite easily.

Bede v. Gateshead Secondary School.—On Feb. 22nd the return match against Gateshead was played at Sunderland. The school team had suffered a heavy defeat in the first match, and were resolved to make amends. Gateshead won the return match also, but many stated that it was the best game of the season, while the players agreed that it was the hardest. In this case the score was quite small, being two goals to nil.

Bede v. Johnston Secondary School.—The school team visited Durham on March 1st to play a return game with Johnston Secondary School. In the first five minutes McCormack scored from a corner, and before half-time Bainbridge had also scored. Our opponents had, however, scored three goals. Shortly after half-time they added another goal. Finding them-

self two goals in arrears, with only twenty minutes left to play, the team appeared to be becoming disheartened. A change soon took place, however, and the school team pressed. Mitchell and Peebles scored in fairly quick succession, and the game resulted in a draw. On the whole, the Bede team rather deserved to win.

Bede v. Modern School, Newcastle.—The last match of the season was against Newcastle Modern School, at Sunderland. The visitors were short of two players, and we found them two substitutes. Both of these scored, but the School won by 5 to 3.

M. H.

FOOTBALL SEASON 1912-13. RESULTS.

Date.	Club.	Ground.	Goals.
Oct. 19.	Tynemouth Municipal High School	.. Away.	6-2
Nov. 9.	Ryhope Secondary School	.. Home.	3-6
16.	Newcastle Modern School	.. Away.	2-2
23.	Gateshead Secondary School	.. Away.	0-8
Dec. 7.	Rutherford College, Newcastle	.. Home.	1-1
14.	Tynemouth Municipal High School	.. Home.	6-1
Jan. 18.	Johnston Secondary School, Durham	.. Home.	3-7
Feb. 8.	Ryhope Secondary School	.. Away.	1-2
15.	Rutherford College, Newcastle	.. Away.	3-2
22.	Gateshead Secondary School	.. Home.	0-2
Mar. 1.	Johnston Secondary School, Durham	.. Away.	4-4
8.	Newcastle Modern School	.. Home.	5-3

Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	For.	Agst.	Points.	Possible.
12	4	5	3	34	40	11	24

New Clubs awarded to Boustead, Weatheritt, D. Mitchell, Bainbridge, McCormack, Davison, Lee, Warburton, and Bell.

FOOTBALL CHARACTERS.

- WARBURTON, goal-keeper: a good custodian, who has improved considerably with practice.
- G. BELL, right back: a good back, not afraid to use his weight. One of the season's discoveries.
- R. S. ELLIS, left back: a popular and enthusiastic captain, and a fairly reliable defender.
- D. MITCHELL, right half: one of last year's team. A good half, who knows how to help his forwards as well as stop his opponents.
- R. F. M. LEE, centre half: a new player, tackles strongly and feeds very well. Needs more experience.
- J. T. WEATHERITT, left half: a good tackler, who never leaves his man. Can shoot when necessary.
- B. DAVISON, outside right: speedy, though on the small side. Centres well, and plays well with his man.
- J. F. MCCORMACK, inside right: very tricky, shoots well. Is joint top-scorer with Peebles and Harrison.
- J. PEEBLES, centre forward: moved from the half line. His loss has weakened the latter, but has strengthened the attack.
- R. G. BAINBRIDGE, inside left: plays well in his man. His shooting has been rather disappointing.

- L. MITCHELL: a brilliant outside left, with plenty of speed. Shoots well, and causes trouble to opposing defences.
- C. BOUSTEAD: has played in three positions, right back, inside left, and left half, and was very useful in all three.



SWIMMING.

IN the winter time very little can be done by the Swimming Committee, but Easter marks the return of the swimming season. This year the Committee felt rather reluctant to make so early a start, but the enthusiasm of the Lower School induced them to fix Thursday, April 24th, for the first of the practices.

These practices are held at the High Street Baths every Thursday night at 7 o'clock. Arrangements have been made whereby a member of the Swimming Committee and one of the Charge Masters attend each practice.

The attendance of 70 at the first practice this season was satisfactory in every way. This number was composed, not of those who could swim well, but mainly of the younger swimmers, who do not aim at speed; and of non-swimmers, who come to learn. Our claim to be a swimming school is one that can be upheld only by a number of good distance swimmers, and not by one or two sprinters.

The School has many awards to offer to those who make themselves proficient in this very important branch of sport. For the beginner there is the Elementary Certificate, for ability to swim one-and-a-half lengths of the bath ("breast stroke"), one length on the back, and to perform certain simple diving tests. For the more advanced swimmer there is the Proficiency Certificate, corresponding to the Life-Saving Society's Proficiency Certificate. To obtain this, the candidate must be able to swim 100 yards ("breast stroke") and 50 yards on the back. He must also show a thorough knowledge of life-saving and resuscitation. For one who finds he can swim fast, there is the Speed Certificate, awarded for ability to swim a quarter of a mile in 11 minutes. The record is at present held by T. Dale, who completed the distance in 8 minutes 3 seconds.

The Swimming Committee, recognising the value of life-saving as a branch of Swimming, pays the examination fees of anyone who may desire to enter for the Bronze Medallion of the Life-Saving Society. The possession of this medallion, or ability to perform the tests required to obtain it, to the satisfaction of the Swimming Committee, entitles the holder to a seat on that Committee. The most difficult to

obtain of all the awards is the Silver Medallion. To gain this, the competitor must swim 600 yards with his clothes on, and must also show proficiency in other branches of swimming, including life-saving.

The examinations are conducted by two members of the Swimming Committee, who act as judges; and they are held whenever there are candidates who wish to be examined. Beginners will find the seniors always ready to give any help or advice. The presence of the Masters is another stimulus to young swimmers, as it gives them a sense of security.

The prospects for this season are bright, and we hope to have a creditable number of new swimmers by the end of the summer.

M.H.



THE ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.

DURING the Spring Term the Orchestra has devoted its time chiefly to the learning of the accompaniments to Handel's "Messiah". Although the practices have not been so well attended as we could wish, yet great progress has been made with the work. It is an extremely useful addition to the repertoire of the orchestra, and we hope that next term we may have reached a sufficiently high standard of playing to admit of this work being performed in public.

The society seems to be gaining popularity with the public of Sunderland, for, during the term, it has provided music at two concerts and at a public meeting. The first concert was at St. Peter's Hall, Green Street. A meeting of the Sunday School Association was being held, and before the meeting began a short concert was given by the orchestra. The second was a concert in St. Gabriel's Parish Hall on Shrove Tuesday, at which Mr. P. M. Greenwood, recited "His master's honour" (Rudyard Kipling). After the recitation the orchestra played some selections, and several songs were sung. At both the concerts the orchestra, although handicapped by the size of the platforms, performed very creditably.

The public meeting was held in the Victoria Hall, in aid of the Sunderland Royal Infirmary. The people assembled were addressed in a very eloquent manner by the new Dean of Durham (Dr. H. Henson), and during the afternoon several hymns were sung. The accompaniments of the hymns, together with some selections, such as the first movement of Schubert's B Minor (unfinished) Symphony, the first movement of Mozart's Jupiter Symphony in C, and Mendelssohn's march from "Athalia", were played by the orchestra. The orchestra was considerably ham-

pered by its position on the platform, but its playing won encomiums from many people present. We regret that one of those who played for us on that occasion has since joined the Great Majority. We are pleased to say that the members of the society attended in large numbers.

In conclusion, we hope that, although the summer is drawing near, interest in the society will not be lacking, and that the practices, of which there are not many this term, will be well attended. Also, may we advise the members of the society, especially the younger ones, to take the copies of the music home and practise it, so that greater progress may be made.

Officers:—Leader, W. E. H. Campbell.

Treasurer, R. Sutcliffe.

Accompanist and Sec., Rupert Lee.

RUPERT LEE.



EASTER TERM EXAMINATION "HOWLERS".

AT every Term Examination the written answers handed in contain a certain number of absurd, or curious, or extraordinary errors.

At Easter, two literature papers—the one on Hamlet, the other on parts of Milton's "Paradise Lost" and Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire"—were on the whole quite creditably done; but a few boys managed to make mistakes more or less remarkable.

A. The slips in spelling included some odd cases of the incorrect doubling of letters:—

Accross (across), untill (until), fearfull (fearful), appart (apart), millitary (military), and indirectly (indirectly).

Other instances of faulty orthography were:—

Gost (ghost), hugh (huge), metle (metal), frey (fiery), beleving (believing), concieved (conceived), athiest (atheist), and predjudice (prejudice). The really hard word *ecstasy* was given in many forms, of which the queerest—got by simple transposition of the right letters—was *ecasty*.

"Cynical" and "Domitian" were not recognisable at the very first glance—for they came disguised as "synical" and "Timician".

B. Some amazing statements were made with regard to certain words or phrases the explanation or context of which had been asked for. Thus

Phrase. "But I am pigeon-liver'd, and lack gall."
Ans. "The king spoke these words when trying to pray in his room." !!

Phrase. "Hyperion's curls, the front of Jove himself."

Ans. "This is an oath, or rather a sudden exclamation."

Phrase. "Give me that man
That is not passion's slave".

Ans. "Show me a man who is not in love with something." !!

Phrase. "Soft recorders". [Milton meant musical instruments, like flageolets.]

Ans. "Sarcastically used by Satan to describe the flames and tortures of hell." !!

Another Ans. "Gentle reminders, or hints of something."

Phrase. "Precious bane". [Milton meant "gold".]

Ans. "Certain oil from a whale." !!

Word. "Belial".

Ans. "Another of Satan's chief men". !!

Word. "Languedoc".

[The language spoken in Provence in the Middle Ages. It was a Romance dialect in which the word *oc* (a corruption of the Latin word *hoc*) was used for *yes*—whereas one of the words *oil*, *ouil*, *oni* was used for *yes* by the people of Northern France, whose language was accordingly called *Languedoil* or *Languedoui*.]

Ans. "Land of the Doc." !

C. The assertions with regard to Gibbon's Style and Various Incidents in his Life were, perhaps, the most remarkable of all.

a. "He sneers at things as it were *up his sleeve*."

b. "He is fond of using seemingly paradoxical sayings, and this gives his book a *nip* which is always present."

Boys find it hard to keep colloquialisms and slang phrases out of their attempts at literary composition. The passages here quoted, though faulty in expression, embody correct ideas of Gibbon's cynical humour, and of the added force which his sentences derive from their antithetical construction.

c. "From 1764 to 1765 Gibbon was in Italy, amongst the ruins of the Capitol."

What an earnest antiquary he must have been!

d. "While writing his great Roman history he was an intimate friend of John Stewart Mill who lent him his magnificent library."

There's a screw loose here, somehow. John Stuart Mill was a most precocious boy, and may well have had numerous books while still only in his childhood. But Gibbon completed his History in 1787, and he died in 1794—twelve years before J. S. Mill was born!

e. "Gibbon was born in 1723 - - - He returned to England in 1894 to die."

Really, it was high time. No wonder he had been able to write a *long* history!

By the way, the same boy who credited Gibbon with such length of days, gave Milton's principal devil a very euphemistic name—"Satin" !

f. "Gibbon entered *Temple Bar* as a barrister." !
This is one of the very drollest mistakes we have ever met with in an examination paper.

Gibbon never was a barrister; but, even had

he been one, that fact would not diminish the amusing confusion of thought evident in the "howler" before us.

In London, between Fleet Street and the Thames Embankment, there is a most interesting district called "The Temple". It consists of a venerable church, Gothic halls, old-fashioned squares and courts, rows of lawyers' "chambers", extensive lawns, and pleasant flower-gardens. More than seven hundred years ago the whole district belonged to the Knights Templar; but, for at least five centuries, it has been the headquarters of two of the great "Inns of Court", or corporations of barristers—namely, the Inner Temple, and the Middle Temple. Many young men who wish to become barristers join one of these societies as students, and then, having passed certain examinations in law and satisfied some other conditions, they are "called to the bar" (as the phrase goes), and are thenceforward entitled to practise as members of the higher branch of the legal profession. [We may remark in this connexion that one of the Masters at Bede School, Mr. Maingard, is a barrister-at-law, and is "Of the Middle Temple". He was "called to the bar" after passing, with First-Class Honours, the 1908 Final Examination of the Board of Legal Education.]

Now, it happens that, in the Strand (which is a very famous London street near "The Temple"), for hundreds of years there stood a big stone arch or gateway, which spanned the road, and through which all traffic had to pass. This great gateway or barrier was, on account of its situation, called "Temple Bar". There is nothing like it in Sunderlaid; but Bedans may have seen similar "Bars" in Alnwick, Chester, York, Southampton, and other ancient towns. It was familiar to many generations of Londoners. In former times the heads of criminals used to be exhibited on iron spikes on the top of the gateway. The whole structure, being a great impediment to traffic, was pulled down in 1878. It was re-erected near Cheshunt, to form an Entrance Gate to Theobalds Park, which now belongs to Admiral the Hon. Sir Hedworth Meux, K.C.B., brother of the Earl of Durham.

Boys will now realise the magnitude of the "howler" which we are discussing, and yet will see that the perpetrator of it had a certain amount of excuse. He *meant* to say that Gibbon became a barrister, being "called to the bar" as a duly qualified student of the Middle Temple or the Inner Temple (each of which is, as already stated, a kind of College or Society of Lawyers called an Inn of Court). What he *did* say was that Gibbon became a barrister by going into a gateway! And the truth is (as we remarked at first) that Gibbon was never a barrister at all!

g. "Gibbon was brought up as a Protestant, but

his argumentative temperament persuaded him to become a Roman Catholic. He soon sickened of the outward pomp of that religion, and returned to Protestantism, which also was to him nauseating, and he became a Nonconformist. (!) However, his sceptical views soon led him to forsake all religious ideas, and to turn atheistic. He died, an embittered mind, in 1784."

As a piece of pompous balderdash this would be bad to beat.

Perhaps the most surprising item of nonsense in it is the implication that a person must renounce Protestantism in order to become a Nonconformist. Just a little less foolish is the description of Gibbon as "an embittered mind". He had a singularly even, placid temper, and, though capable of using very caustic language, was wonderfully free from personal bitterness.



THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

204TH MEETING.

SINCE the last *Bedan* was issued the Society has held its 200th meeting. A celebration of some kind had to take place, and it was decided to have a tea and "social" at the Fawcett Street Café. Although it was the 200th meeting of the Debating Society no speeches were made, unless the few short remarks of the Treasurer could be called a speech. But, for all that, we had a very enjoyable gathering, and certainly not a silent one.

The long-talked-of Parliamentary Evening has also been held, and proved a success. The Debate for the Cup (presented by Mr. Airy, a former master) took place on March 6th. In addition to the Cup, a special prize was offered by Mrs. Ferguson for the best speech amongst ex-cupholders, officers, and ex-officers. There was a brilliant debate, and, as the Headmaster said, it was a long time since so many good speeches had been heard in one evening. Mr. O. Harrison won the Cup and Mr. L. Smith the special prize.

There have been several other good debates.

The officers during the spring and summer terms respectively were:—

President: G. McLoughlin and W. A. Freedman.

Vice-President: J. W. Engvall and L. Smith.

Secretary: W. A. Freedman and J. W. Engvall.

Treasurer: Mr. H. H. Joseph.

Committee: Messrs. L. Smith, G. Lee, R. Lee, and Messrs. G. Lee, V. Finney, and O. Harrison.

The Programme was as follows:—

1912.
Dec. 17—Parliamentary Evening. "Home Rule" Bill. Carried.
1913.
Jan. 21—"This House considers that a Republic is better than a Monarchy." Carried.
Jan. 28—"This House considers too much interest is taken in sport." Defeated.
Feb. 11—"This House considers that cinematograph shows are harmful to the public." Defeated.
Feb. 18—"This House considers that there are too many periodicals." Carried by President's casting vote.
Feb. 25—Charades.
Mar. 4—Cup Debate. "Adversity doth best discover virtue."
Mar. 11—200th meeting. Tea and Social.
Mar. 18—"This House disapproves of games of chance." Carried.
Apr. 15—"This House deplores the recent actions of the Powers towards Montenegro." Defeated.
Apr. 22—Discussion on "Talebearing." The House decided against Talebearing.
Apr. 29—Readings.
N.B.—The annual excursion will probably be held on June 21st.

J. W. ENGVALL, Hon. Sec.



CHESS.

THERE seems to have been a slight revival in chess circles during the spring term, especially in the Upper Fifth (1), where a most interesting league tournament has taken place.

The chess has been very much better than in the first term, there being fewer cases of players taking man after man until only the two kings and a few pawns remained on the board; and more thought about each move has led to a great improvement in style, and has been the cause of much more play after half-past four.

Although the U. V. (1) chess league can only boast of ten members, yet so keen were they that at the end of the term there were no fewer than four who were equal in points at the head of the league, namely, Beattie, Hutton, Stephenson, and Turpie. In the contest for Mr. Widdows' prize Hutton beat Stephenson after a very long and close game, and Turpie beat Beattie after an equally exciting but very much shorter game. In the final, which was very short for such an important game, Hutton, with a clever mate, conquered Turpie, and so became champion of the form.

We also arranged two Form matches, one with U.V. (2) and the other with L.V. (1). In the first, with U.V. (2), we were represented by Turpie and Scorer, and they by Pedersen and Duckett, who, although they played very well, were both defeated. Against the L.V. (1) the contest was much closer; each Form had a team of four players, and in the end we won two matches. Beattie and Hutton beat Lynn and Grumitt, Stephenson and Snowdon drew, and Turpie lost to Porteous.

In this, the summer term, we are not having a "League", but in all probability there will be a "Knock-out" Competition. W.S.

In our last issue we gave two Chess Problems, which we reprint below, so that it will not be necessary for those who may be interested in the solutions to run and fetch their copy of the last *Bedan* as well as a chess board.

A.—White to play and mate in two moves.

WHITE: K on Q 3, Q on Q B 5, R on Q 7, B on K 8, Kt on K B 5, Ps on K Kt 2 and K Kt 3.
BLACK: K on K Kt 5, R on K R 4, Ps on K R 3 K B 3.
Key: Q—Q B 8. If Black play K×Kt; R—Q 5, mate. If he play R—Kt 4; R—Q 4, mate. If any other move, R—Kt 7, mate.

B.—White to play and mate in three moves:

WHITE: K on K R 2, R on K Kt 1, Kts on Q 2 and K 4.
BLACK: K on K R 5, Kt on K R 2.
Key: R—Kt 5; Black, Kt×R; White, Kt—B 6; Black, Kt—B 6 ch. (or any other); White, Kt×Kt, mate (or Kt—B 3).

We give two more problems below.

C.—White to play and mate in two moves:

WHITE: K on K 1, Q on Q Kt 8, R on K B 3, B on K R 7, Kt on Q R 5, Ps on K 6, K Kt 2.
BLACK: K on Q 5, B on K Kt 4, Kts on Q Kt 7 and Q 8, Ps on Q R 5, Q B 4, Q 4, K 2, K Kt 6.

D.—White to play and mate in two moves:

WHITE: K on Q 4, Q on Q Kt 2, Rs on Q B 5 and K 5, B on Q Kt 1, Kt on Q Kt 8, Ps on Q 6, K 6.
BLACK: K on K B 3, B on Q B 1, Kt on K R 1, Ps on Q Kt 4, K B 2, K Kt 2, and K Kt 6.

Problem C is by Mr. Hildebrand; D is, we believe, from an old copy of the *Daily News*.

Solutions will be given in the next number of *The Bedan*.



OLD BEDANS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER,
December 18th, 1912.

[From the *Sunderland Daily Echo*].

At the annual meeting, held at the School, Mr. G. T. Ferguson, headmaster of the Bede School and president of the association, presided. The hon. secretary, Mr. J. M. Herring, in his annual report stated that the membership was now 50, against 25 last year. The financial report, presented by Mr. C. W. Pollock (hon. treasurer), showed that the expenditure during the year was £6 12s. 4d., and the balance was 28s. Five guineas had been paid back to the president, who had lent them money at the commencement, and there now remained a debt of £4 19s. 0d.

The officers were thanked for their services and re-elected, and a committee was formed for the purpose of canvassing new members.

At the dinner, held at the Palatine Hotel, Mr. G. T. Ferguson presided, and there were also present Messrs. R. Willis, C. W. Hildebrand, A. E. Hodgson, H. B. Widdows, K. C. Auchmuty, and F. Hogben, masters at the school, and some thirty old Bedans. M. Huntley, head boy, represented the school. A letter regretting inability to be present was received from Mr. T. B. Bubb, in London. An excellent dinner was served by Mr. J. Hugall and his assistants, after which a short toast list was honoured. Following the loyal toast, proposed by the president,

Mr. W. Nimmo, who was the oldest of the Old Bedans present, proposed the toast of "The School". He spoke of the greatness of Japan in all departments of official life, and attributed the advance which had been made by the country to loyalty. He could not possibly do any better than suggest that the best possible thing for their school was that they should cultivate that great spirit of loyalty (Applause.) He expressed gratification at the fact that there was a prospect of the school at last having adequate buildings. (Hear, hear.)

The toast, with which the name of Mr. Ferguson was coupled, was heartily honoured, and

Mr. Ferguson, headmaster, responded. He gave a short account of the work done by the school during the year, the examination successes gained, and the success attained by the various societies connected with the school. He referred to the fact that the school had lost one governor who was particularly sympathetic towards it, Mr. G. O. Wight, a man who was always well disposed towards the school, and who in one way and another helped it a good deal. They were, went on Mr. Ferguson, very well situated in having so sympathetic a chairman of their

governing body. Coun. Johnson, who had held that position for some years, was a very staunch friend of the school. He had proved his real interest in all that related to higher education in Sunderland by the enormous amount of pains and time he had given to the development of everything that related thereto, and more particularly to the good of the Bede School. He (Mr. Ferguson) would be particularly glad to see the size and influence of that association increase for many reasons, and one reason that appealed to him very powerfully was that if they could enlarge very greatly the bounds of that association, they could do very important work in forming and fostering and developing a public opinion favourable to the school. (Hear, hear.) The school, he thought, had done a great deal to justify its existence in the past, but still it would be capable of even better work and of a wider range of influence if it got more support, and they as Old Bedans could do a very great deal to give it assistance. On behalf of the school and himself he thanked them for the toast. (Applause.)

Mr. C. S. Swann proposed the toast of "The Staff." He referred to the changes which had taken place in the personnel of the staff, and said that they would always remember with affection and gratitude Mr. Reg. Airy, the founder of the Debating Society, who was now the headmaster of another school. (Applause.) The staff deserved all credit for their fine work under adverse conditions, but they were now living in hopes of having their new buildings. In Mr. Ferguson they had an ideal headmaster—(applause)—who held that it was not enough to give boys knowledge, but that they must be taught the lessons of patriotism, loyalty to the school, citizenship and honesty, and all that went towards the formation of character, for what was education without character? In these principles their "head" was ably backed up by the staff, who were, they would all agree, jolly good fellows. (Applause.)

The toast was received with musical honours.

Mr. R. W. Willis, senior master, responded. He said that the old school was the mother of a good big family of clubs and societies of different sorts, and the masters had nursed them all in turn. There were the football club, the swimming club, the Arts and Crafts Society, which was always an attractive child, and which still drew—(laughter)—the Debating Society, and the baby of the family, the Old Bedans' Association, whose birthday they celebrated that evening. Examination successes did not constitute the only test of usefulness for a school. The greatest work they had to do was to try and form in their boys an upright character.

Mr. H. B. Widdows proposed the toast of "The Sunderland Old Bedans' Association", and in

doing so congratulated the secretaries on their work during the year. They wanted at Bede School to counteract to some extent that mad rush for monetary gain and neglect of things of the mind which seemed a characteristic of the country as a whole, and they looked to the Association to take into the life of the country and the town these principles of high purpose, honesty, straightforwardness, and clean living which bound them together and to the school, and which were the mark of the Old Bedan all the world over. (Applause.)

The toast was heartily honoured, and Mr. Gordon Haswell responded. He said that there was no tie so strong upon a body of men as the tie of school spirit. That Association existed for the cultivation and promotion of that spirit, for the making of new acquaintances and for the renewal of old friendships. It would do, he hoped, in the future a great work. They wanted to make the thing live, and with the enthusiastic material at their disposal they ought to make the Association a very great success. Old Bedans should be recognised all over the world as worthy sons of a worthy mother. (Applause.)

During the evening an enjoyable programme of songs, recitals, and pianoforte solos was rendered by Messrs. Hildebrand, Hogben, Wayman, Haswell, and McMillan, and the gathering concluded with "Auld Lang Syne."

All Old Bedans over eighteen years of age are invited to join the Association.

Information about the Association will be given by the Hon. Sec., J. M. Herring, 80 General Graham Street, Sunderland, or the Hon. Treas., C. W. Pollock, 46 Marlborough Street, Seaham Harbour, or by the Headmaster.

The Editor of *The Bedan* will be glad to receive at any time, news of the doings of Old Bedans, for insertion in the school magazine.



GENERAL KNOWLEDGE.

At the end of the Winter Term we indulged in a General Knowledge Paper. It consisted of a hundred questions; and every boy in the School wrote down, "out of his mind", answers to as many of the questions as he could manage (in some cases, even more).

The struggle was short and sharp, for all the papers were finished in about 40 minutes; and some of the competitors who had not felt thirsty after general knowledge, were knocked out long before that.

There was a handicap, so as to afford every

one a chance; and three 'Divisions,' with a prize for the best paper in each.

The handicap was as follows:—

Boys in the Upper VI, scratch.			} First Division.
" Lower VI, received 4.			
" Upper V, " 8.			
" Lower V, " 16.			} Second Division.
" Upper IV, " 24.			
" Lower IV, " 32.			
" Form III, " 40.			} Third Division.
" Form II, " 45.			
" Form I, " 50.			

The best papers were:—

		Actual Score.	H'ep.	Total.	
1st Div.	Everatt, L. V. (1)	80	+ 16	= 96.	(Prize).
	Porteus, L. V (2)	68	+ 16	= 84.	
	Wayman, L. VI	79	+ 4	= 83.	
2nd Div.	Huntley, U. VI	82	scratch	82.	
	Sinclair, L. IV (3)	58	+ 32	= 90	(Prize).
	Lipton, L. IV (1)	53	+ 32	= 85.	
3rd Div.	Huntley, L. IV (3)	49	+ 32	= 81.	
	Frazer, L. IV (1)	49	+ 32	= 81.	
	H. B. Allan, III (2)	37	+ 40	= 77.	(Prize).
3rd Div.	Richardson, III (1)	34	+ 40	= 74.	
	Scroggie, III (1)	33	+ 40	= 73.	

It was asserted, not without reason, in one paper, that Shipbuilding was the chief export of Sunderland. In another, the names of the largest and the smallest of the Balkan States were given respectively thus: "Turkey was"—"Turkey will be". Quotations were "completed" in unexpected ways. "Uneasy lies the head of *Jenny*". Poor Jenny! We shall never learn her melancholy story. "Home they brought *the cheese*". Did they succeed in raking it out of the pond after all? It cannot have been the famous "gruntin', grindin' grindlestone" found by the Three Jovial Huntsmen; for in the song we are assured: "an' that they left behind", although one had said it was "an owd fossil cheese that somebody's roll't away".

The question, "give the right name of the Little Corporal", was answered, "Adam and Eve". The name of *The Iron Duke* is said to be *Drake*—doubtless a 'canard'.

"O, wad some power the giftie gie us to see some folks as they see us." It probably wad.



