



THE BEDAN,

JUNE, 1928.

FOREWORD.

A GAIN the School Magazine makes its bow to Bedans past and present and we are sure that it will be of more than usual interest to the former since the outstanding event of the year has been the foundation of the Guild of Old Bedans which we hope may increase and flourish so that the school may not be left again, like Rachel weeping for her children.

We are pleased to welcome Miss Briggs, Miss Parkin and Miss Ward who came to us last September, and we hope that they are happy with us at Bede. We have also had one or two welcome visits from Miss Lumb and Miss Macpherson.

Last summer the school prospered under the wing of three kind friends; Mrs. Stagg presented us with a beautiful picture which she chose specially on the continent and which is used as an Art Prize; Mrs. Dodds gave us the "Charlton Shield" which led to an exciting Gymnastics Competition, won by IVA.; and lastly, Mrs. Simpson presented a Botany Prize to Lower Vb. for holiday work; we should like to thank them all most sincerely for their gifts.

The past year has been full of interest and enjoyment as well as of hard work which, though mentioned last, is by no means least in the life of Bede School.

And now as our readers turn to peruse the contents of this volume we hope that they will enjoy the articles which are an indication of the various interests and talents of our youthful contributors.

MARY ROBERTSON, L. VI.

The Guild of Old Bedans.

For some time loyal old Bedans have felt the need of a living association that would bind them together and further their interest in their school and in each other.

In January, some energetic spirits made the definite proposal that the Old Girls' Association should be revived and re-organised. As a result of this, a Construction Committee was formed, consisting of twelve old Bedans representative of various years or groups of years, Miss Farquhar as representative of the staff and Miss Shearer as organiser.

After considerable discussion and preparation, this Committee drafted a constitution, and called a general meeting of Old Bedans resident in the district to discuss the proposed formation of an Old Girls' Association. The outcome of this meeting, held on May 2nd, was the formation of "THE GUILD OF OLD BEDANS." Under its auspices, old pupils of the School will be able to carry on their various activities as Old Bedans, and it is hoped that at least one meeting in the year may be arranged at a time when girls at college and those who are in Sunderland only for holidays may have an opportunity of being present.

There are—as *The Bedan* goes to press—over a hundred members of the new Guild. A great many good wishes have been expressed for it, and a great many kind things said and written about it; so may it live, and prosper exceedingly!

Meeting of Old Bedans, May 2nd.

On Wednesday, May 2nd, a meeting of Old Bedans was held in the evening in Room 37. About a hundred and thirty were present. Miss Boon said a few words of welcome and spoke for a little on the subject of the proposed Guild, after which the meeting proceeded to business.

It was unanimously agreed that an Old Girls' Association be formed, to be called "THE GUILD OF OLD BEDANS," with Miss Boon as its first President. The constitution drafted by the Construction Committee was read and passed, and the members of the Committee agreed to undertake the management of the Guild affairs until September, 1929. From their number, Catherine Mallen was elected Chairman and took over her duties at once. Mary Mackintosh was appointed to be Vice-Chairman, and Miss Shearer to be Joint Secretary and Treasurer.

Possible activities of the Guild were then discussed; branch clubs were suggested, and various old Bedans volunteered to organise the beginnings of a Rambling Club, a Singing Club, a Dramatic and a Hockey Club. (See separate notice).

It was further decided to hold a meeting of the Guild in July, all arrangements regarding it to be left to the Committee. This concluded the business.

The rest of the programme was of a social nature. Coffee and cakes were served and there was much talk among old acquaintances. Hilda Adamson and Helen Fisher kindly sang to the company and there was some community singing under the leadership of Mary Mackintosh. The evening concluded with the singing of the school song, conducted, by request of the meeting, by Miss Hutchinson. The reluctance with which those present dispersed seemed to us of good omen for the future of our baby Guild.

Meeting of the Guild of Old Bedans.

A meeting of the members of the Guild of Old Bedans will be held in the old Grange School Grounds on Wednesday, July 4th, at 4.30 p.m. Members are asked to let the Secretary know if they intend to be present.

The Guild of Old Bedans.

Constitution.

- 1.—The name of the Association shall be "THE GUILD OF OLD BEDANS."
- 2.—THE GUILD OF OLD BEDANS shall consist of former pupils and past and present members of the Staff of Bede Collegiate Girls' School, Sunderland.
- 3.—The Headmistress of the School shall be President of the Guild.
- 4.—It shall be within the power of the Guild to appoint Honorary Members from time to time.
- 5.—The Guild shall be managed by the present Construction Committee until September, 1929, when all members will resign, but shall be eligible for re-election. From that time, the Guild shall be managed by an Executive Committee consisting of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Joint Secretary and Treasurer as *ex-officio* members, and eight ordinary members. Of this committee, not more than three shall be members of the School Staff. Of the eight ordinary members, four shall retire annually and

shall not be eligible for re-election for at least one year. Any member who is absent from three consecutive Committee Meetings without due cause being made known to the Secretary will be held to have resigned membership and it shall be in the power of the Committee to co-opt a new member in her place to serve till the following business meeting.

6.—The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall each hold office for one year, but shall be eligible for re-election for one further term of office.

7.—The Joint Secretary and Treasurer shall be a member of the School Staff. She shall be elected annually, and shall be eligible for re-election.

8.—At meetings of Committee, five members shall form a quorum, provided that not more than two of these are members of the School Staff. The Chairman shall have a casting vote.

9.—The Annual Business Meeting shall be held towards the end of September.

10.—There shall be a Social Meeting of the Guild in January, and such other meetings as the Guild may decide.

11.—Members shall be Annual or Life Members. The subscription for Annual Members shall be 2s. 6d.; that for Life Membership £2 2s. 0d., if paid within two years of joining the Guild, £2 12s. 6d. if a longer period be taken. A copy of the School Magazine will be sent to every member of the Guild. The financial year shall begin on September 1st; subscriptions should be paid between then and the Winter Re-union in January.

12.—All notices of motion on constitutional questions must reach the Secretary at least a fortnight before the meeting at which they are to be considered.

13.—No alterations in the Rules shall be made except at the Annual Business Meeting in September, and with the consent of two-thirds of the members voting.

14.—A special meeting of the Guild may be summoned at any time if a requisition to that effect be signed by any twelve members.

15.—Branch Clubs may be formed, provided that members of these are members of the Guild. Secretaries of these will give a report at the Annual Business Meeting of the Guild in September.

16.—Except in cases of emergency, all committees for specific business of the Guild shall be appointed at the General Business Meeting, and shall report to the next Business Meeting.

Subscriptions to the Guild.

As stated in the Constitution, each subscription, Annual or Life, entitles the member to a copy of *The Bedan* where some pages will be devoted to Old Bedan affairs. Subscriptions should be sent to Miss Shearer at the school.

The Guild of Old Bedans.

President of the Guild—Miss M. E. Boon.

Chairman of Committee—Catherine Mallen.

Vice-Chairman—Mary Mackintosh.

Joint Secretary and Treasurer—Miss E. R. Shearer.

Members of Committee—Hilda Adamson, Emily Anderson, Maisie Curry, Marianne Deans, Miss J. Farquhar, Mrs. Fryers (Jessie Rae), Hilda Hardwick, Leslie Service, Jean Stirling, Lena Thompson, and Chrissie Wardman.

Branch Clubs.

Any old Bedan who has paid her subscription to the Guild may belong to any or all of the Branch Clubs. These Clubs are self-governing and self-supporting. For further information, intending members should apply to the secretaries.

THE RAMBLING CLUB has already a membership of about twenty, and had several pleasant walks on Wednesday evenings, and rambles further afield on Saturdays to such places as Finchale Abbey and Shincliffe Woods. Secretary, Nora Pallister, 103 Cleveland Road.

SINGING CLUB. There are a great many applicants for membership of this club, but no formal meeting of it will be held until September. Secretary, Mary Mackintosh, 19 Co-operative Terrace.

DRAMATIC CLUB. A meeting of intending members will be held shortly after the meeting of the Guild on July 4th to discuss plans for the autumn. Secretary, Hilda Adamson, 6 Wolseley Terrace.

HOCKEY CLUB. It is hoped to set this club going in the autumn. Secretary, Lilian M. Thompson, 15 Oakwood Street.

Notes on Old Bedans.

Of old Bedans at Universities and Colleges we have good news. We are glad that our girls hold their own and are given positions of responsibility in their new communities. At Darlington Training College, for example, Kathleen Morley is Head Prefect, D'Arcy Hogg, Games Captain, and Hannah Dean, Games Representative of her House; and so it is in other Colleges.

Of girls who left us last year, most have come back to see us, and some of us have had the opportunity of visiting those who have not gone too far afield.

Of our last year's Prefects, our Captain, Isabel Alexander, is studying English at King's College, London, and staying with her sister Edith, whom also we remember as a very efficient Head Girl, and who is at present a student at Chelsea College of Physical Training. Alice Munro is at Manchester University, where we are represented also by Eleanor Carlill and Gwentyth Wilkinson. Dorothy Blencarn, Bertha Bailes, Bertha Byfield, Winnie Talbot, Diana Verity and Annie Wilson have gone to swell the ranks of Bedans at Armstrong College; Ena Beattie and Bertha Howison are at Darlington Training College, and Evelyn Johnson is at Durham University at St Hild's College where Betty Hall, Winnie Halliday, Kathrine Slimin and Mary Walton are two year students.

Of Bedans studying languages, Eveline Blackett has had for the past year an *au pair* post at L'Ecole Normale at Niort, and has had good opportunities of seeing something of French customs and life. Madge Gray is going to spend the summer vacation in Besançon, and Vera Lawrence in Hanover. Eleanor Carlill, Kathleen Morley and Rose Smith are trying to find vacation posts in France, but these are few, and we have not heard if they have been successful.

Space forbids our mentioning in detail the doings of other Bedans in this number but we should be glad to hear from our old girls of their work and interests, and we want to assure them

that in spite of the inhospitable reception the present school building seems to give them, we like to have them come back to visit us, and are always glad to see them.

SCHOOL SONG. Old Bedans who do not know the School Song are asked to learn it to sing at meetings of the Guild. Copies of it may be had from Miss Ewart at school, price 6d.

A THANK YOU. The Committee of the Guild of Old Bedans thanks all those present Bedans who have been kind enough to act as postmen for the Secretary.

Late News.

Ina Russell, Form Upper VI., has been awarded an Exhibition of £20 os. 0d. for three years at Ashburne Hall, Manchester University.

Bertha Byfield has been awarded an Open Scholarship of £40 os. 0d. for three years at Armstrong College, Newcastle, on the result of the Intermediate Science Examination.

Winifred Talbot has won the prize for Physics, and that in spite of her sudden serious illness in the midst of the examinations. We sympathise with her and wish her a speedy recovery.

At Armstrong College, Mary Alexander and Sarah Glicklick have obtained the Degree of B.A., and Doreen Youll and Nancy New have obtained the Diploma for Secondary Teaching.

Other University and College results are not yet to hand.

Edith Alexander, mentioned earlier in these pages, has been appointed to be Physical Trainer at Cheshire County Training College.

Silver Lining Society.

The collections in aid of "Our Cot" in the Children's Hospital this year amounted to £20 4s. 9d., and there will be one more collection in our "self-denial week" after this has gone to Press. Several forms have been particularly generous and there is one class which has gained a reputation for itself in this respect, as it has travelled up the School. The help given is

much appreciated, and girls who have visited the Hospital must have felt how good it is to be "doing our little bit" to help some of these poor children.

We sent our annual subscription of £25 0s. 0d. at Christmas. Lower Vb and c have made little nightdresses which we sent up with parcels of toys, etc. At Easter we collected 419 fresh eggs as an Easter gift to the Hospital.

D. S. ARKLE.

Baby Fund.

This fund still keeps its original name, although our "Baby" is now a sturdy little boy who plays cricket and football, and also works hard at school. His mother tells us how delighted he always is with his nice Christmas presents, but cannot quite understand what he has done to deserve them! He will still be the school's "baby" until he is sixteen, and there are many little "mothers" in the shape of "Baby Monitors" who look after his interests with the greatest enthusiasm. The collections for the last year have been good, as usual, the girls of I.Va. showing especial generosity.

M. G. WILSON.

Sunset.

Evening steals on; the sky of dazzling hue
Tells of the beauties which in heaven adorn;
Slowly the sky transforms from palest blue
To splendour only seen at heaven's morn.

What radiant beauty all of red and gold
Uplifts our hearts to blissful realms on high,
The dull blue curtain, desolate and cold,
Removes, revealing glories of the sky.

A glimpse of heaven to us is given each day,
A peep at what we someday too may share,
Where we may walk clad in the bright array
That angels, who this life have passed, now wear.

There may we meet upon that golden shore
To live and love and worship evermore.

MARY HUMPHREY, Form Lower Vc.

Hockey Notes, 1927-28.

Despite the fact that seven matches have had to be cancelled owing to unfavourable weather conditions, we have had a very successful season.

The only match that we lost was against the Sunderland High School, when the score was 2-1.

On behalf of the Hockey Team, I wish to thank Miss Ward who has given up much of her time to coaching us, and also to thank Mary Ruddick and Betsy Powley for supervising the teas.

C. FAIRGRIEVE, Captain.

Hockey Criticisms, 1927-28.

FIRST ELEVEN.

- W. GRAHAM—Winnie was erratic at the beginning of the season, but has improved latterly and has done some good work.
- R. MARLEY—Has played steadily throughout the season; her stick-work is neat.
- P. OER—Promises well but still needs practice in combining with her Right Back.
- J. SPARLING—Has worked well and steadily; with the development of a stronger hit, Joan will make a good player.
- B. FAIRGRIEVE—Betty has played a good determined game as Centre Half, making the most of all her opportunities. Her stick-work has improved.
- K. CROSSY—Much improved since the beginning of the season. Could make more use of the "roll in."
- M. PARSON—Has played consistently well; she has great speed but must take care not to over-run the ball.
- W. ROGERS—Has played a steady game, but stick-work could be improved.
- E. FIELD—Has played an excellent game throughout the season; she is fast and a good shooter. Has made a helpful Secretary.
- K. WALTON—Has played a neat game; her shooting has improved but she does not always make the most of her opportunities.
- C. FAIRGRIEVE—Has done some very neat, hard work in her position. She plays a very good game and has made a good Captain.

RESERVES.

- P. ATKINSON—Works well but needs to make use of her opportunities and to get a stronger shot.
- C. BARKER—Has improved but must overcome her tendency to obstruct.
- L. FORSTER—Shows promise and works hard; with practice she ought to make a good player.

Tennis, 1927.

The Tennis Team was mostly successful, but played well even when unsuccessful. The match against the Sunderland High School, when we lost by a narrow margin, was particularly good and interesting.

For the first time, as we had the Grange ground, all the Forms were able to play tennis on their games days, though only the upper part of the school had the right to play at other times. Unfortunately, however, the vagaries of the ground and the absence of netting round, make really good, swift tennis difficult.

In the inter-form matches the finals were between Lower Va. and the Students, when the Students won.

TEAM.

*ISRAEL ALEXANDER.	ELAINE FIELD.
CONNIE FAIRGRIEVE.	KATHLEEN GOLDBROUGH

* Colours.

Netball Notes.

The netball this season was played with the usual zeal and enjoyment, although the results were not so good as we could have wished. The standard of play at the beginning of the season was lower than that of last, as we were so unfortunate as to lose six of the team at the end of the year, but with keen practice both the teams improved considerably. The weather on the whole has been very satisfactory, only three matches having been cancelled.

Great keenness and vigour were shown while the Form matches were being played. The Pictures competed for, were won, in Forms III. by IIIb., and in Forms IV. by IVa. The Shield was competed for by Forms V. and VI. and the Students. After some very well fought matches, Upper Vb. and Students were left in for the final. Both teams were encouraged by a large number of supporters, and we're fortunate in having as chief guest, Mrs. Nicholson, who presented the Shield to Upper Vb. after a very even and exciting game.

We wish to wish thank Miss Lodge who has given so much of her time to coaching us, also Ina Russell, Nellie Fraser and Hilda Lisle who so ably supervised the "teas."

We would like to express our sympathy with our Captain, Lillian Warbarton, who had a most unfortunate breakdown.

NETBALL TEAM.

KATHLEEN ROBINSON, *K.G.*—Can play well, but is very variable and inclined to be lazy and slow.

LILIAN WARBARTON, *D. Captain*—Has worked very hard and improved tremendously. Jumps and catches well; is improving in anticipation; marks and passes well.

NANCY WAITE, *D.C.*—Is much better in attack than defence; should try to mark her opponent better. Passes well in the centre, but inclined to waste her passes to her shooters.

DORRIS HUTTON, C.—Very energetic; jumps, marks, intercepts and passes well as a rule, but is inclined to waste her energy flying about the field and to rely merely on speed and strength rather than cunning for passing in to her shooters.

EUTH LOCKY, A.C.—Secretary—Has improved tremendously; always plays sensibly and passes in to her shooters really well.

A. SMITH, A.—Usually shoots well and plays sensibly, but does not always give enough help in the centre and is not very sure of holding the ball.

IRIS LITTLE, G.S.—Plays a steady, reliable game; shoots well, and is improving at getting free. Both shooters are inclined to muddle.

I should like to thank the Secretary and Captain who have done everything to make all arrangements go smoothly and well.

League of Nations Union.

The meetings of our Junior Branch have been well attended this year and have been made specially interesting by the talks of two visitors, Miss Tulip and Miss Currie from the League Headquarters.

We are grateful to Miss Parkin and the Committee of Representatives for helping to strengthen the Union. The Lower Fifts were made eligible for membership this year and they responded by increasing the number of members to over a hundred. We feel that the success of our Branch is assured while they are in the school.

The new officials are—President, K. Walton; Vice-President, B. Powley; Secretary, M. Ruddick; Treasurer, L. Mottram. The Secretary has tried to arrange inter-school debates, and it is hoped that the first one will take place at the end of the term with Redby School. Our aim is to broaden our knowledge of the League of Nations by hearing people other than ourselves and by mixing with other members at their conferences. For this purpose several girls attended a Conference on Disarmament in December, whilst other are going to see a film on the League's work. Our last meeting is in the form of a picnic—a jolly ending to a season of successful meetings.

Le Cercle Français de la Cinquième Classe.

Tous les quinze jours le mercredi, après avoir suffisamment mangé pour nous empêcher de mourir de faim, nous nous sommes mises en cercle et nous avons écouté des causeries, des devinettes et des récits que chaque jeune fille a faits à son tour. Et puis nous avons chanté, nous avons eu des concours, et nous avons joué à des jeux. Une fois, quelques jeunes filles nous ont donné deux charades,

composées par Isabel Lundy et Doreen Hutton. Cette fois-là nous avons invité quelques jeunes filles de la classe L. V.

Ce matin, nous avons eu notre examen oral, et à en juger les visages riants, je crois que le cercle français a dû nous aider à parler couramment.

Il nous a fait beaucoup de plaisir de voir Mesdemoiselles Shearer, Arkle et Haggart à nos réunions et nous voudrions remercier Mademoiselle Seddon de nous avoir aidées à faire réussir la société.

Soirée de Lecture. (Form Lower VI.)

Pendant le premier et le deuxième trimestres, tous les quinze jours, nous sommes restées à l'école, après quatre heures de l'après midi, pour lire des pièces de théâtre. Celles que nous avons lues, nous les avons trouvées très intéressantes. Nous voudrions bien remercier Mdlle. Shearer de nous avoir aidées à jouir de nos séances.

Le Cercle Français de la Classe IVa.

Cette année les jeunes filles de notre classe ont eu un cercle français tous les quinze jours. Nous y avons chanté, joué à des jeux, et quelquefois nous avons eu des concours; nous nous sommes très bien amusées. Ce trimestre nous apprenons une petite pièce de théâtre que nous espérons jouer plus tard si nous le faisons assez bien.

Le Comité.

A Tale of Bede Scole.

(With apologies to Chaucer).

A road ther was enclosed al aboute
 With green trees and a greāt wall with-oute,
 Behinde ther was a scole by nam of Bede
 Of alle things this building hadde great neede.
 Its wals were crackēd and in such a state
 On windie days the Bedans shivering sate;
 In ancient days the desks were carvēd more
 Than alle the sculptor's work on any doore.
 By ech one temporarie was it nam'd
 And this great building in the town was fam'd.
 But whanne more years than fiftene were gan by
 A newer building gan they raise on high.

Now haste us to the newe and stinte alle this,
 O Bedans fayre, so have we allē blis.

Of a thinge god hath sent us large grace ;
 For whan we see the grandeur of this place,
 It ben so finer than the one used yet,
 It makes us alle our waiting to forget ;
 For " Post teñbras lux " doth mean to you
 After you leave the old, you'll have the new,

BETSY POWLEY, Form Lower VI.

Sunset.

In golden light is bathed the moorland vast,
 Behind the western hills the sun sinks low
 And purples all the sky with sunset glow
 While to their homes return the birds at last ;
 This day unto its close is drawing fast,
 And what to-morrow holds of joy or woe
 Of good or ill, we cannot tell, but know
 To-day, with all its joys will soon be past.
 E'en so, our lives unto their end draw nigh,
 And when our time is come, may we depart
 As peacefully as doth the sun each eve ;
 And as the setting sun leaves all the sky
 Tinged with its splendour, may we in the heart
 Of man, a fragrant, lingering memory leave.

ISABEL LUNDY, Upper Va.

My Books.

It is one of the characteristics of a book-lover that he or she is able to read anywhere; but there is one place in which I cannot read, and that is in a garden. I have only once tried the experiment, and found myself utterly unable to concentrate on what I was reading. To begin with, it was an excessively hot day—the kind adored by wasps and bees, which flew to and fro buzzing incessantly. Queer little green flies and bits of twig dropped on my book from the trees overhead, and, to crown all, after a particularly energetic attempt on my part to assassinate an inquisitive bee, my deck-chair collapsed.

I nearly always retire to the back-attic, a forlorn looking apartment to a stranger but a paradise to me, for here are my friends; their covers, old and new, seem to crinkle into a smile as the door closes behind me with an anguished wail, suggestive of lack of oil. My study, as I proudly term it, possesses neither chair nor table, an ancient sea-chest does duty for the latter, and I sit on an old cushion, which should have been disposed of long ago but was not.

My books stand in three orange boxes, stained to a delightful shade of dark brown. I have no curtain over the front, because I like to see my books without hindrance, however ancient their dear covers. Authors are not considered in the slightest on my shelves. Baroness Orczy's *Scarlet Pimpernel* stands next to Carlyle's *Sister Novels*. Poor Teufelsdröckh! He would have had a hard task to expound his philosophy of clothes to Sir Percy Blakeney.

In my attic I have a pleasant sense of security (no one intrudes except during Spring cleaning time), and I find in my book heroes and heroines whose characters are more interesting and more original than those I know in this work-a-day world.

JOYCE E. TAYLOR, Lower Va.

Sea-Lure.

Wild white wings and a breeze of the sea
 Are calling, with voices loud and free,
 I can hear the roar of the tossing waves,
 And I see the gleam in the dim sea caves,
 And some strange spirit within calls me
 Back to the restless sea.

Yonder the foam-horses toss and fret,
 And their manes are caught in a rainbow net,
 They are ridden by sea-sprites, strange yet fair,
 With their cold grey eyes and their sea-green hair;
 And their siren voices they call, call me
 Back to the restless sea.

'Tis I would follow them down below
 Where silver fishes dart to and fro
 Through the emerald deeps, or the golden shallows,
 Or over the crests of the foaming billows,
 For the sea-lure in my heart calls me
 Back to the restless sea.

M. FIELD, Lower Va.

Old Sunderland.

While reading some old histories of the County of Durham, I was very much interested in a description of "Old Sunderland."

At some remote period the Town Moor was granted to the Burgesses of Sunderland by one of the Bishops of Durham, and we learn by the earliest charter extant, that of Bishop Pudsey in the twelfth century, that, "it was permitted to the burgesses to enjoy their common pasturage, as had been originally granted to them, and the boundaries were ordered to be perambulated."

In 1719 it was decreed by an act that the Town Moor was to be divided into three sections. These parts were afterwards called the Great Moor, North Moor and the Intake and it was on the latter portion that a church was built.

From the very earliest times the Common was appropriated for public convenience and recreation, and it always showed signs of the occupation of various workers, such as fishing nets representing the fishing trade. Near the sea was a spa-well supposed to be possessed of healing properties, but this was washed away in the early part of the nineteenth century.

The Town Moor formerly extending over fifty acres of ground, has gradually been encroached upon until it is now very much smaller than it was originally.

The town water supply is at present so very good, that it is difficult to realise that the inhabitants of Sunderland used to obtain their supplies from springs, the chief of which was Bodle Well. Then it was the usual practice for people all over the town to send their maids every evening to this well for a "skeeful" of water.

In 1880 an announcement was made by the "Improved Patent Ropery" in Bishopwearmouth, informing the people of that parish, that excellent water could be obtain at their Ropery "at a farthing a skeel, on the spot, and by a

water in a few days at a halfpenny a sked at their own houses." To this was added a postscript which said "This water is found to make excellent tea water, and answers well for washing."

At one time and another, various acts have been passed to enable the citizens to make certain improvements in their harbour, but in 1767 Sanderson in his "History of the County of Durham," observes that the bed of the river is so rocky that it is thought neither art nor money is able to make it navigable.

In 1841 a great engineering feat was accomplished when the lighthouse, as a whole, was moved at the rate of about two feet in a minute, from the site on which it had stood for many years, to the eastern extremity of the pier which had been lengthened. This feat however was surpassed by the construction of an iron bridge over which there were very great rejoicings, for previous to this, fatal accidents to the ferry boat were a frequent occurrence.

There is, too, a description of the inhabitants of Sunderland, and we read that the main part they were of a nautical appearance, with frank open faces, but their dialect was very peculiar, while the expression on the women's faces is said to approach almost to "distingue." "The rather coarse and unenviable epithet of Sunderland Sowers," says Mr. Desham, "is even down to the present day applied to the fair sex of Sunderland," and, it is suggested that they are so called "on account of their bulky proportions and warlike propensities."

After reading these "histories" I think that the "good old days" have been much overrated and that the comforts of the present day are not to be despised.

SARAH HUTCHINSON, Upper Va.

The Tale of Peter Pott.

Oh, Peter Pott, the greedy lad
A naughty fancy always had
For creeping to the larder dim
When nobody was watching him.

One day he went there, soft and shy,
To steal a piece of apple pie,
But in the darkness bumped his head
Against a tray of ginger-bread.

Down, down it came; and to his woe
It struck the milk jug just below;
It overturned a treacle tin
And all the sticky stuff within

Came pouring out, its way to trace
O'er Peter's hair and neck and face,
Oh pity him, yet blame him too,
Because it's wrong for boys to do

What Peter in his cunning way
Had tried to do that very day;
And when they found him, sad and meek
With tears and treacle on his cheek
They washed him well from toe to head
And sent him crying up to bed.

KATHLEEN CAMPBELL, FORTH IVG.

The Schoolgirl.

(With apologies to Punch's "Simple People.")

Once there was a schoolgirl, and her form mistress said to her you must write me a contribution for THE BEDAN and she said what about? and the mistress said oh anything you like but don't make it too hackneyed so she said oh alright and went home to try.

She thought, and thought, but she couldn't think what to write about so she asked her mother, and her brother, and her sister, and the baby, for suggestions and they all said oh run away just now I'm very busy, except the baby and it said goo-goo. Well the girl was rather a clever girl really, only she just couldn't think of anything to write about so she took the baby's advice and wrote "goo-goo" very neatly at the top of a piece of paper and ruled a line under it, and sat and thought for a while and then wrote a word and then rubbed it out again and ruled another line. After ruling ten lines she wrote a long story. And when she showed it to the mistress she said very nice dear but I don't like the title much and there are one or two words I must alter, so when the mistress had changed the title to "Vegetarianism versus Vivisection" and altered the plot and the dialogues, the article was accepted for THE BEDAN and everybody said how clever and the form mistress said yes isn't she and the schoolgirl went home and kissed the baby for giving her such learned ideas and she gave it a soft pink sweet the kind that babies like and everything turned out well and everybody was happy.

M. TURNER, Lower Va.

To the Forest.

Oh! thick and shady forest
Where all is calm and still,
With a quiet shining brooklet
Or a clear rippling rill,
Where little purple flowers
Are dancing in the sun,
Where, 'neath the shady fir trees
The tiny streamlets run,
Where birds have found a haven
To build their cosy nests,
Where all is peace and comfort,
And everything at rest.

ELSIE WHITE, IVa.

A Summer Evening.

It was a cool, summer evening. The silver moon shed its light on the deep blue lake beneath. Only the lapping of the water on the shore, the sighing of the gentle breeze through the trees, and, at long intervals, the "Tu-whit! Tu-whoo!" of the night-owl broke the silence. In the distance could be seen some ruins, which had once been a stately Abbey, where, years before, monks had walked softly. In the growing darkness one could see the purple mountains, which seemed to enclose, like sentinels, this beautiful spot into which no cares nor fears from the outside world could ever penetrate.

BLANCHE WICKENS, IVb.

On a near prospect of the Durham Examination.

Six weeks! the cry rings through the room,
 Six weeks! we hear it yet
 Its tone fills all the girls with gloom,
 And to their tasks they set.
 "If you work hard from morn till night,
 Do not indulge in idle play
 But strive to learn with all your might
 The lessons taught you day by day,
 Then you need not work hard and cram
 The week preceding the exam."

ELIZABETH WILSON, Upper Va.

Concerning the Doings of the Children of En during the time of "The Total Eclipse."

And it came to pass that in the land of En great excitement prevailed amongst the children thereof, for the prophets had foretold a great wonder that was to be wrought in the heavens.

And on the twenty-ninth day of the sixth month of the year the children of En arose ere the morning had waned, and did make them a journey unto all parts of that land.

Now, there was a mountain in the land of En, which was the mount of Ward Law, and to this mountain many people, even from the land of Sen, did make their way. But the wise men, prophets, and scribes did journey to the land of Gig, where the wonder of wonders was to be revealed to their gaze more plainly in that part.

And it came to pass that among the people gathered together on the Mount of Ward Law were the children of the school of Bede, who had journeyed thither with their rulers in chariots drawn by steam. And many people did carry with them pieces of glass, lest, peradventure, their eyes might be destroyed by the rays of the sun.

And it happened that many merchants were gathered there who had journeyed from North and South and East and West. And unto these did come the people who had not this glass to make purchase, so that the merchants gathered in many shekels and waxed exceeding rich.

And it came to pass that when the hour drew nigh for the wonder to appear, that great darkness did descend upon the land, and the children of En were stricken with awe, and some grew sore afraid and did cry in their fear. And when light reigned upon the earth once more, it was then that the multitude knew that that which they had journeyed to see had been hidden from their sight. And they murmured amongst themselves, and spoke unto one another, "Behold, where is this mighty thing which the prophets did foretell?" And then did their hearts grow heavy within them, and their countenances did become downcast.

But it is recorded in the chronicles that to the wise men, prophets, and scribes that were assembled in the land of Gig was the wonder revealed.

And to those of the people who had remained in their tents was the wonder also revealed, and they did rejoice exceedingly.

And it came to pass, when they that had journeyed far returned to partake of their victuals, their brethren who had remained in their tents recounted all that they had seen of the wonder.

But with the approach of evening, they that had not seen the wonder took comfort, for the wise men and scribes had taken a likeness, which was shown in the chronicles and sold throughout the length and breadth of the land.

Now take heed all ye children and walk in the ways of the Lord, that your days may be long upon the earth, and ye too may live to behold the wonder and glory of that which men call "The Total Eclipse."

LILY TOPAZ, Upper Va.

An Old World Garden.

Give me an old-world garden fair,
And let me see the roses there,
Night-scented stock and mignonette,
The tiger-lilies, with dew all wet,
Fancy faces, demure and sweet,
In a row so trim and neat,
Canterbury-bells and hollyhocks,
Dressed in their gaily coloured frocks!
Carnations rare and lavender sweet,
My garden, then, would be complete.

MOLLIE JOHNSON, IIIa.

Darling Lily.

Such a small curly head,
Such a light and airy tread,
Such a pair of laughing eyes
As blue as any summer skies,
With such a little piquant nose
Like the bud of an opening rose,
And such a little dimpled chin,
Cheeks where smiles slip out and in,
Has our loving, darling Lily.

HELEN SUTHERLAND, IIIc.

Night.

Night comes falling, falling gently
From a rosy, glowing sky,
Comes to hush the earth to slumber
With a soothing lullaby,
Comes with shadows and with darkness,
And the stars upon her breast,
Comes and with be-jewelled fingers
Lulls the earth to rest.

MARJORIE STEPHENSON, IVa.

Dear Auld Scotland.

England has her landmarks
Her nooks and corners dear,
Wales her shady valleys,
Her mountains ever clear ;
Ireland has her misty lakes,
Her fells of mossy green ;
But dear auld Scotland holds a charm
That makes the roamer keen :

Her lochs of shining water,
Her paths that turn and twist,
Her fierce and rushing torrents,
And her peaks wrapped close in mist.
By a cosy happy fireside,
A glowing red peat fire
In a home in dear auld Scotland
He has gained his heart's desire.

MILLCENT NOBLE, FORM IVa

Homework.

Every night at seven o'clock,
I sit with pen and ink,
I write the date, then chew my pen,
Then scratch my head and think !

I look in every corner, but
It helps me not at all ;
I knit my brows together,
And study every wall.

But nothing will inspire me,
My brain it will not work ;
I hope I'm not thought lazy,
For I'm sure I do not shirk.

Alas ! Alack ! I give up hope,
I drag myself to bed ;
I am all warm and cosy
When a thought comes to my head.

When I wake up next morning,
I look round for that thought,
But I can never find it,
It refuses to be caught.

And so it happens every night
(Excepting one or two).
My work seems, oh ! so very hard,
And I wonder what I'll do.

SARILA VERITY, IVa.

Upper VI. Form Notes.

Let us begin with September. Having entered our new quarters we set to work to improve them by re-arranging the furniture and pictures. October we spent admiring the sunsets, but life was a misery in November owing to the librarians; they were so proud of the new books that they would not leave us to disarrange them in peace. In December we resigned all claims upon the Hockey and Netball Shields, being beaten by the Students and Lower Va. Nevertheless we were able to uplift our thirteen voices and entertain the Lower School with carols.

1928 brought sorrow. In January we lost an object of great beauty—our oak and brass coal scuttle was replaced by a mere tin pail. February was a month of illness, two members even asserted that they had returned from the jaws of death. Room disinfected. Our "Reliance" clock, after going every other hour, stopped altogether in March. We spring-cleaned and placed several pictures behind cupboards. Joy came in April—a new carpet and a square of linoleum were bestowed upon us. Oh, for some armchairs and a table-runner! In May we opened a subscription fund to provide a certain member with a new blazer. Work seemed to dominate June, and in July—Alas! We shall say farewell with the advice to future prefects that

"To leave this school with unbeamirchéd name,
To do great deeds that will achieve high fame
Is well, but what is nobler still than that
Is, leave, like us, no stain upon the mat."

Lower VI. Form Notes.

We began this year with the motto "we are seven," but since then one of us has gone away and now we are six, a small band of weary pilgrims roaming the stairs of Bede School and learning by experience that we are not so young as we used to be. But there is one thing for which we are eternally grateful and that is that the Physics Laboratory, our nominal home, is a quiet spot far from the madding crowd, and we hope we have not disturbed Mr. Bailes' solitude too much.

Unfortunately, in consequence of our small number we have to join others for games and singing—not that we should really like to sing alone—and now—(the unkindest cut of all)—we are to seek the support of Upper VI. for the Gymnastics Competition. But we are pleased to say that Miss Shearer bravely faced us alone at a French Reading Circle which we thoroughly enjoyed, and we

should also like to thank Miss Shearer as our Form Mistress for making our Lower VI. year a very happy one.

There is just one secret—we are hoping that summer will be in the afternoon this year so that we may give the usual entertainment in the Grange grounds at the end of this term—but no more of this, the gods forbid it.

There is only one girl leaving from our form in July, Helena Cattle; we shall be sorry to say good-bye to her but we wish her good luck in the future.

Upper Va. Form Notes.

We live in Room 13; this probably accounts for our misfortunes. We have had no luck in games this year, so we have turned our minds to higher matters. We have gained the reputation of being a rather noisy form and have actually been compared with a rout of uncouth monsters. Before afternoon school on Wednesdays, strange noises issue forth from our room—we are only practising for our forthcoming singing lessons and mistresses, not knowing this, often drop in to ascertain the cause. We often wonder how our form mistress retains her calm serenity through it all. We are already casting possessive eyes on the singing cup and we believe in beginning early.

We were sorry to say good-bye to Helen Jackson last term. She is now enjoying life at Paisley Grammar School and we wish her the best of luck in her new life.

We have had a happy year's work and if it were not for the approaching horror—namely, exams.—we should still be happy. To these we are looking forward with mixed feelings—the brilliant with the calm triumph of work well done and their less fortunate sisters with the calmness of despair. If only Dante had found a special purgatory for examiners, then might they repent of their evil ways and allow twenty-seven Bedans from Form Upper Va. to pass.

Upper Vb. Form Notes.

We of Upper Vb. do our best both at lessons and games. We shall know the results of our hard work in August, but our success in games can be seen from the various pictures and shields which adorn our walls.

As a form we are keen on Botany, and all available space is occupied with jam jars containing rather pitiful specimens. These do not tend to make our room either tidy or beautiful.

In spite of examinations we shall do our very best in both the gymnastic and singing competitions.

Upper Vc. Form Notes.

We have not many notes to offer this year. We seem to ourselves to be continually trying to work for our approaching examination. But, alas, our good resolutions are often broken, only to be renewed with equal fervour and no little trepidation.

On the day of our writing this the oral French examination has just drawn to a close. We have all enjoyed it and would like, for the sake of better results, to take it once more. Unfortunately that cannot be.

We are hoping to be successful in the attempt to win the gymnastic shield and the singing cup, since we have not succeeded in obtaining any games honours.

Lower Va. Form Notes.

We of Lower Va. have had a very jolly year. We like Room 15, but have not had much chance of becoming experts in knowing its advantages and disadvantages, because we are compelled to move continually for classes to come to singing lessons. Lately we have had many flowers on our window-sills, which have brightened the room considerably. Flowers present a pleasant contrast to our fearsome-looking crocodile.

We made valiant efforts for the Baby Fund and Silver Lining by selling toffee, chocolate and flowers.

Our team qualified to meet Upper Vb. in the finals for the Hockey Shield, and after a hard-fought game we were beaten 4-2.

The netball team too, has been very successful this year. We beat the Sixth Form 16-11, but were in our turn beaten by the Students after a thrilling game.

Our tennis afternoon was greatly enjoyed, for the weather clerk has been so unkind that we have only had one, and we appreciate very much the advantage of the new grass courts, and the wall proves to be very useful for learning new strokes.

Until a year ago, we had no idea that as a form we were particularly artistic, but the Art Picture has fallen to our share for two years running, and last term we spent an exceedingly dusty half hour hanging it in our room.

Our party was held in the gym this year, and we had a very happy time, the Lower Fifths being all by themselves. It seemed very strange to be dancing about there in our party-frocks; we kept thinking that we had made a mistake and ought to be wearing tunics.

Lower Vb. Form Notes.

Room 18 is a very pleasant, sunny room, which has been made even more gay with flowers all the year round.

We have a very encouraging form mistress in Miss Haggart, and our prefect, Dorothy Goodsir, has been a great help also. So far as hockey and netball are concerned we can relate no successes, but as the weather did not favour us, we missed many practices. It is unlucky "to count one's chickens before they are hatched," but we have better hopes for the gymnastic and singing competitions, which are to be held at the end of term. The charity funds also have not been neglected in spite of the short memories of many of us.

Lower Vc. Form Notes.

We were beaten by Lower Va. at hockey for the shield, but it was a good game as no goals were scored before half-time, but we were beaten by 2-0. We were also beaten by the Students at netball. But we have not lost hope yet because there are still the Gym Shield and the Singing Cup to compete for.

We are a very privileged form for our room is situated next to Miss Boon's. It is a very pleasant room especially when the sun is shining in the morning. Our flower mistresses have done their best to keep the room gay with flowers.

We still support the charities to the very best of our abilities.

IVa. Form Notes.

The Art Room is room 37 this year, and we, the members of IVa. find ourselves in Room 30, the old Art Room. It is a very pleasant room receiving the afternoon sun, and sheltered from the cold winds. The Art Picture has been taken from our wall, and given to Lower Va., the rightful owners, but we still have the Gymnastic Shield, won by last year's IVa. We intend to make a

good attempt to retain it, and to gain the Singing Cup this year. We have done quite well at games. At netball we defeated IVb. and IVc., the latter after a close game, and IIIc., but were defeated by Lower Va. after a good game. IVc. beat us by one goal in hockey, but only after two games had been played previously, each resulting in a draw. We have made a good effort to collect money for the "Baby" and "Silver Lining" Funds, and have succeeded in obtaining a good sum. As senior form in the Lower School we have tried to set a good example to the younger ones, but at times, I am afraid, we have failed, for we seem to have been in trouble rather frequently.

IVb. Form Notes.

Our form did not meet with much success in form matches for the Netball and Hockey Shields, but nevertheless we did our best and still hope that we may obtain the Junior Singing Cup as we did last year. We have contributed to all the charities as well as we could. A member of our form visited the Children's Hospital and was able to tell us something about it. Many of the girls were present at the opening of the new wing of the Infirmary.

IVb. is housed in a new classroom this year; and we rather like the change as our room is no longer used as a passage, but we have had a little trouble with our windows, having cracked a few panes. Our inkwells, too, have proved a source of anxiety, but accidents have been less frequent of late, to everyone's relief.

IVc. Form Notes.

There are twenty-nine members of Form IVc. who inhabit Room 34.

We are sorry to say that our lessons are not as good as our games. We lost the Netball Picture to IVa. with an unusual score of 3-2, but we beat IVb. 1-0 in the first hockey match. IVa. was not beaten so easily. Snow and rain invariably fell on days when our match was fixed, but after playing 3 times we managed to beat them in an exciting match by 3-2, only to be beaten by Lower Va., 3-0. However, we have won the Hockey Picture.

The collections for the Baby Fund, Silver Lining, etc., have not been very good but we have had a good collection of silver paper.

Our examination results were not very good last term but we hope to do better in the next set.

IIIa. Form Notes.

In our Form there are thirty girls each of whom has a desk of her own and it is her business to see that it is kept tidy. Every Friday our Form Prefect comes round to inspect and see if they are neat. We have not been very fortunate with games this year but we hope to win the singing cup which was in our room last year. Every alternate Thursday we have hockey and in the summer term tennis, this causes some excitement as it is quite a pleasant break in the week, although apart from this recreation we always have a good time in and out of school.

IIIb. Form Notes.

We are an entirely new form of scholarship girls and so far have not obtained much praise, but lately we have been encouraged by hearing that we are showing signs of improvement.

We have done fairly well in games, winning netball and hockey matches against IIIa, but losing to IIIc.

We try to keep our room nice by arranging that each section in turn provide flowers for the room for one week, marks being given at the end of week.

As IIIb. gained the Singing Cup last year we are working hard for the competition so that we may keep it.

In a few weeks' time we shall have the examinations to go through and so we shall have to work hard.

We are all looking forward to the summer holidays.

IIIc. Form Notes.

The girls of our Form have had a year of varied fortunes. On the whole the work has not been as good as it might have been. However our prowess has been shown by victories in hockey and netball over our opponents in Forms IIIa. and IIIb. The collections for the various funds have also been successful, thanks to the energy and practical assistance of our form mistress, Miss Briggs.

Births.

WALLACE.—To Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wallace (Kather McLauchlan) on October 18th, 1927, a son.

McBAIN.—To Mr. and Mrs. D. W. McBain (Lilian Aldridge) on January 19th, 1928, a son.

LINFOOT.—To Mr. and Mrs. A. Linfoot (Jessie Thatcher) on May 15th, 1928, a son.

ANDERSON.—To Mr. and Mrs. Anderson (Hilda Marisel Bruce) on May 27th, 1928, a son.

Marriages.

WILSON—ROGERS.—William Wilson to Margaret Rogers, on May 9th, 1927.

LINFOOT—THATCHER.—Arthur Linfoot to Jessie Thatcher, on July 2nd, 1927.

BICKERTON—THATCHER.—Harold Bickerton to Laura Thatcher, on April 5th, 1928.

LENG—GREGG.—Charles Harold Leng to Alice May Gregg, on May 8th, 1928.

TINDALE—GRIERSON.—William Tindale to Beattie Grierson.

Death.

RAINE.—Elizabeth Raine, Form 111a, age 19 years, 148 Hastings Street.

