

Kuma, 1913.

# THE STOCKTONIAN.

pas a pas on va bien loin

## THE MAGAZINE OF THE STOCKTON SECONDARY SCHOOL



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(Captain)

# "The Stocktonian" S.S.S. Magazine

VOL. III.

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No. 1.

NOTICES.—This Magazine will appear once every term, at Xmas, Easter, and Midsummer.

Extra copies can be obtained through any member of the staff.

## Editorial.

The dark December days are again with us and we are all looking forward to the time when we shall be able to lay our books and work aside to enjoy a well-earned rest. At this time we are reminded of the words of the Prince in King Henry the Fourth—

"If all the year were playing holidays  
To sport would be as tedious as to work."

To us the year is certainly not all "playing holidays," and so when 'they seldom, they wish'd for come.' We all think we deserve them.

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It is very gratifying to know that this year there is a large increase in the numbers attending School. We hope that all boys and girls who entered school at the beginning of term will enjoy their time with us, and that they will do their best to uphold the honour and traditions of the school.

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Unfortunately we have to record a slight decrease in the number of our contributors. We trust that the present generation of pupils will try to emulate the example and to maintain the reputation of those who have gone before them. We thank all who have helped us, and we regret that the limits of our space compel us to use the 'blue pencil.' Let no one be discouraged. There is always a measure of satisfaction in having tried.

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All of us are delighted to hear of the continued and increased prosperity of the Associations for Old Boys and Old Girls. The record of their work is convincing proof of their success, and it must give great pleasure and satisfaction to all those who have worked and are working so hard in their interests.

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We wish to give a special vote of thanks to Mr. Ball, Photographer, who has helped us on several occasions in a very practical way. All the groups which we have reproduced in our Magazine were taken at Mr. Ball's studio, and he has several times given us the block free of charge. We thank Mr. Ball for his kindness and liberality.

Soon the curtain will be rung down on another year. May the New Year be one of happiness and prosperity to us all! To all our readers the time-worn but ever cherry greeting—

A MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

### Press Notice.

We have pleasure in publishing an extract from the criticism of our Midsummer issue, which appeared in the Stockton and Thornaby Herald:—

"I have received a copy of the Summer number of *The Stocktonian*, and like all special numbers it is full of good things. The compilers must be congratulated upon their efforts, for the magazine of the Stockton Secondary School is equal to if not better than many published in connection with larger schools. I notice many breezy articles from the pens of the scholars which are very interesting, and it is pleasing to note from the accounts given, that the "Old Stocktonians" Association is thriving splendidly."

### The Threshold.

I

Ring out, O bells, ring silver-sweet o'er hill and moor and fell!  
In mellow echoes let your chimes their hopeful story tell.  
Ring out, ring out, all jubilant, this joyous glad refrain:  
'A bright New Year, a glad New Year hath come to us again!'

II

Ah, who can say how much of joy within it there may be  
Stored up for us, who listen now to your sweet melody?  
Good-bye, old year! Tried, trusty friend, thy tale at last is told.  
O New Year, write thou thine for us in lines of brightest gold.

### Old Stocktonians—Editorial.

Our Association has now been in existence almost a year and perhaps it would be appropriate to indulge in a gentle review of our doings and to give some account of our stewardship. Have we justified the energy and work that has been expended? I think the majority of us can say "yes," for the Old Stocktonians as an Association has certainly made wonderful progress right from its embryo down to its present influential and firmly rooted stage. When we think of the enormous amount of thought that this success has entailed, the name of Mr. Baldwin naturally introduces itself. There is no need for me to detail to you what we owe to him—may his shadow never grow less!

The annual meeting was held on Oct. 10th, the Headmaster kindly presiding. On every side there were evidences of enthusiasm as keen as at the inaugural meeting. Mr. E. Scholes, a living symbol of energy and enterprise, was re-elected president and we could not have made a happier choice. Thanks are due to the

officials who performed the strenuous work during the first year ; those who follow them can be as sure of the support of every individual member as they were. For the winter new sections were formed and efforts were made to cater for all tastes. The "Smokers" which have been held monthly have always proved attractive and enjoyable functions.

An Association such as ours has practically unlimited scope, but we must be careful not to let success get the better of our judgment. Let us rather take up a few things and do them well than a great number and fail in the majority. The sections have been formed for the benefit of the members and it is the duty of every one of us to take advantage of them, for only by active co-operation can we realize the ambitions of the Old Stocktonians.

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### FOOTBALL SECTION.

This section can claim to have made a most auspicious beginning. Up to date, the first XI has played nine matches, 7 have been won, and 47 goals have been scored against 15. The great strength of the team is in the half-backs where Daniels, Atkinson and Osborne constitute a trio exceedingly difficult to circumvent. The forwards are all on the light side, but are fast and tricky, and at times have shown more than a glimpse of what the local reporter calls "characteristic" combination. Counter has been consistently good, while Harrison, a trier at all times, has on occasion been very successful. In Brownlee, the Old Stocktonians possess a player, who, with added weight and experience, may go very far. Stewart after a promising opening, has temporarily lost his form. Iley at his best is a delightful player. Corner, who has a fine conception of the passing game, has shown good combination. N. Winn at back has played the game in an enthusiastic and sportsmanlike way, while his partner, Jack Thompson, has done really well. Raper in goal has had little chance of showing his undoubted abilities.

The reputation of the club was established by an excellent performance against Stockton, the latter having great difficulty in beating us by 4-3. Since then, representations have been made to us to join the Tees-side League, while no difficulty has been experienced in filling up odd fixtures. We freely acknowledge our debt to the Stockton directors who have been our friends. Through their influence, we had hopes of securing games with Scarborough, Leytonstone, and New Cross St. James (the amateur champions of Kent). Leytonstone wanted us to play in London, while Scarborough will probably give us a fixture next season. At the present time we are negotiating with a well-known amateur club to come to Stockton next Easter, when the Victoria ground is at our disposal.

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The second team has been equally successful, six matches having been won out of eight. Though its constituents have naturally fluctuated more than those of the senior XI, yet a stiff backbone has been given by stalwarts like Snowdon, Howie, L. Winn, V. McCourt, Gill, Ransome, W. Corner, Kidd, and Cohen. A newcomer in Bagley has given hints of football prowess, while several not mentioned above need only the opportunity to do well.

In short the prospects of this section are very bright, and would be made all the brighter by a greater measure of interest and support from Old Stocktonians in general. SPECTATOR.

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### CAMERA SECTION.

At a general meeting held in the early part of the year, a desire was expressed that we should form a Camera section in connection with our Association. The idea was carefully considered at the time with the result that it was thought advisable for the Summer to join with the Cycling and Rambling enthusiasts—those particularly interested in Photography to take advantage of the choice bits of scenery etc., etc., provided by the outings. Now that the dark nights have set in and practical photography has to be done mainly at home, we have decided to hold meetings about once in three weeks for the purpose of talking over difficulties and of discussing new methods and processes. The first meeting took place on Monday evening, Nov. 17th, when we discussed the question of making the negative with special reference to Watkins' Factorial Method. Our next meeting on Dec. 8th will be devoted to various printing processes which will be described by our members.

We appeal to all Old Stocktonians who are interested in photography to join this section as we are anxious to invite prominent local amateurs and professionals to give us the benefit of their experience, and we can only do this if we feel sure of a good and appreciative audience. W.J.

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### ENGINEERING SECTION.

The winter session opened on Oct. 23rd, when Mr. F. J. Walker gave us a very interesting and instructive paper on "The Theory and Uses of Re-inforced Concrete." On Nov. 14th, Mr. G. Pettigrew, Gas and Chemical Engineer, and the father of one of our members, delivered an excellent lecture on "The Manufacture of Gas with the recovery of By-products."

Mr. Prest presided at the first meeting, while Mr. Scholes officiated on the second occasion.

Dec. 10th is the date for the next meeting of the section, when Mr. A. N. Kennedy will speak upon "Marine-engine running and trials."

Entries for the prize medal competition close on Jan. 1st, 1914.  
G.H.S.

### CIVIC SECTION.

This section, which owes its inception to Mr. Taylor, has for its object the study of citizenship.

At its first meeting, a paper on the "History of Local Government" was given by Mr. R. Clews. An interesting discussion took place, and many questions were asked and answered; keen enthusiasm was displayed by everyone and it was unanimously agreed that the meeting had been very enjoyable and instructive. The programme for the session includes papers on Various Local Authorities, The Franchise, Rates, Education, Sanitary Matters, Mock Meetings of Town Councils, and addresses by experts.

The success of the section seems assured, and with a few more members, there should be no limits to its capabilities. All those who aspire to be Lord Mayors or who are interested in the general somnolence of Town Councils will be welcomed. R.C.

### DEBATING SECTION.

This section shows signs of becoming a useful adjunct of the Association. Every effort has been made to cater for various tastes, and the Secretary is looking forward to a very successful session.

The first debate was held on Nov. 10th when Messrs. R. Harrison and H. Ransome took the affirmative and Messrs. J. F. Pickard and W. Hewitt the negative upon the question "That the savage is happier than the civilised man." A spirited discussion followed, and on a vote being taken the opposition were victorious by 4 votes.

On Dec. 1st, an "open" night, we were honoured by a visit from Mrs. Dr. Stainthorpe of Saltburn, who kindly gave us an illustrated lecture on "Through Brittany by Motor." Mr. E. D. Hetherington of Wellington St. was in charge of the lantern, and did full justice to the beautiful slides so ably prepared by Dr. Stainthorpe. The lecture was thoroughly enjoyable and our best thanks are due to the genial lady and her good husband as well as to Mr. Hetherington. May we have the pleasure of seeing them all again!

Amongst the items of future entertainment is a breach-of-promise trial when Mr. Baldwin will be the counsel for the plaintiff, while Mr. Hewitt will appear in a like capacity for the defendant.  
A.E.L.

## PHYSICAL CULTURE CLASS.

The members of the above class are going strong in more senses than one.

Believing that if a thing is worth doing at all it is worth doing well, and having come to the conclusion that the dietetic side of the question ought to be tackled at the same time, they have had prepared for them, at great expense, an instructive and comprehensive daily menu.

We give it in its entirety:—

**BREAKFAST:**—Sandow's cocoa, to which has been added a small pinch of Cerebos salt, (bone forming material), half slice of thick cut bread and a banana.

**DINNER:**—Pea soup, mustard and onion fritters, skim milk, and a toothpick.

**TEA:**—Three choice monkey nuts, and a cup of sour milk, i.e. the older the better, because the strength giving germs (lactic bacilli) will then be deliciously fat.

Since this diet was instituted startling reports have reached the editor concerning the feats of strength which have been accomplished by budding Sandows.

It has been rumoured that a member was noticed the other day strenuously engaged in the task of breaking eggs with a stick, whilst another was reported to have "lifted" a pearl necklace.

It will thus be seen that very great progress has been made; indeed that pathetic incident in the "Village Blacksmith" is faithfully portrayed by more than one member:—

"The muscles on his brawny arms  
Stand out like sparrow's ribs."

SANDOW.

### O. S. Jottings.

Several Old Stocktonians have lately been "on the wing." J. W. Wardell has secured a better appointment in London, where he may encounter Alf. Pickworth, lately removed from Lanarkshire. Fred. Hale is sailing to far off Mombasa in East Africa, C. Cohen has gone to Glasgow, while Alf. Ward is now residing in Birmingham. Best luck to every one of them.

Congratulations to "Dick" Iley, who has been invited to play for Stockton. We shall all be there to cheer him on.

The "smokers" have disclosed hitherto unsuspected musical talent. H. Bishop's rendering of "Alphonso Spagoni" bids fair to become a classic. And what about the President's "Jimmy Law"?

The old "Old Stocktonians" are slowly joining the fold. We welcome them with open arms.



S. Storey and T. Barber were the heroes of the Swimming Sports.

Mr. Dumble is deserving of our best thanks. His work among the raw recruits on Thursday evenings is beyond all praise.

Willie Hewitt has joined the Benedicts. We wish them both a long life and a merry one.

Professor Wearmouth has twice favoured us with his presence. He is welcome not only for his musical abilities but for his real good comradeship.

Mr. Richard Kearton, F.Z.S., F.R.P.S., the world-famous naturalist, will lecture, under our auspices, in the Borough Hall, on Dec. 17th. This is our first entry into public life. We ask the parents of 'old boys' and 'old girls' as well as the parents of future 'old boys' and 'old girls' to co-operate with us to make that entry a great success.

Two Old Stocktonians, Tommy Barber and Austin Dee, have greatly distinguished themselves at the recent London University Examinations, both now having the honour of appending B.Sc. to their signatures. Great is the rejoicing thereat and many vile cigars have been consumed on the strength of the result.

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### Old Girls' Association.

The O.G.A. continues to grow in popularity. Great things have not been accomplished, but the steady growth of all the branches cannot fail to be gratifying to those who have worked with such untiring energy throughout the year.

The Tennis and Swimming sections have had a successful session. The Tennis Courts at the Ropner Park were extensively used by the O.G.A. It is hoped that the Association will be able to rent private courts next session.

The Swimming Club did not receive the support it deserved, especially towards the end of the summer. Some of the members were soon discouraged, whilst others did not appreciate the delicate flavour of the water.

On the other hand there are a few enthusiastic learners who have visions of swimming the Channel next summer, and many are looking forward to being able to swim a length.

The Rambling Club is being continued during the winter. The "rambles" have all been thoroughly enjoyed by the members.

The Second Annual Business Meeting and Re-union was held in the School on Friday, October 17th. A large number of the members of the Association were present.

The programme for the evening was arranged by Miss Reeves. Solos and trios were rendered by Mrs. March and the Misses Thompson, recitations by Misses A. Sugden and M. Whitehead, and a scene from the "School for Scandal" by Misses Reeves and C. Toomer. The Misses Usher, Gill, and Henderson acted as accompanists.

The Dances at intervals were much appreciated.

After supper, Miss Reeves, on behalf of the O.G.A. presented Mrs. E. D. Hetherington with a Sheraton Music Cabinet, on the occasion of her marriage. Miss Reeves spoke of the high esteem in which Mrs. Hetherington was held and of the valuable work she had done for the Association, and assured her of the good wishes of all for her future happiness. In replying, Mrs. Hetherington thanked the members for their kind gift and also for their hearty support during her year of office.

The President then took the chair, and the minutes of the last Annual Meeting were read and confirmed. In her opening speech, the President gave a brief resumé of the year's work, mentioning the various sub-sections already formed viz. Tennis, Secretary Miss E. Heavisides, Swimming, Secretary Miss N. Wallace, and Rambling, Secretary Miss F. Armstrong. Reference was also made to the various sub-sections about to be formed, namely, the Dancing, Literary, Hockey, and Physical Culture sections. She thanked the Committee for their loyalty and energetic work during the trying first year and hoped that future committees would rear on their foundation, the structure they hoped for.

The following were elected on the Managing Committee for the coming year :—

<i>President</i>	...	Mrs. E. D. Hetherington.
<i>Vice-Presidents</i>	...	Miss Miller, Miss R. Reeves.
<i>Treasurer</i>	...	Miss Fernie.
<i>Secretary</i>	...	Miss A. Rogers, 91, Parliament Street.
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	...	Miss A. Young, 25, Shaftesbury Street.
<i>Committee</i>	...	Mrs. W. R. Ball, Miss Brown, Miss S. Burdon, Miss M. Danby, Miss N. Gill, Miss E. Heavisides, Miss B. Thompson, Mrs. H. Roberts, Miss M. C. Waters, Miss M. Whitehead.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring President, Miss Nelson, on the proposition of Miss Waters.

After the hearty hand-shaking, which is inseparable from the efficient rendering of Auld Lang Syne, the meeting was adjourned until Tuesday, November 4th.

In the interval between the meetings, those interested in forming the sub-societies had been called together, and with such

amazing rapidity did the appointed committees make their plans, that they were able to announce on Nov. 4th that the Dancing, Literary and Physical Culture sections were ready to commence operations.

It was decided that it was inadvisable to start a Hockey Club so late in the season. A meeting of those interested in Hockey will be held in April to make definite arrangements for next Autumn.

At the adjourned Annual Meeting three rules, which were not satisfactory, were rescinded and one new rule substituted.

The Statement of Accounts showed a balance in hand of £2 3s. 11d.

The coffee sent in by Miss Nelson and the wedding cake by Mrs. Hetherington proved a welcome diversion. Many extended their circle of acquaintances, and the hope expressed by Miss Nelson, in responding to a vote of thanks, which was proposed by Miss Burdon and seconded by Mrs. Hetherington, that the time was not far distant when she would know personally every member of the Association, was echoed by all.

Members of the Association may join any of the sub-sections.

#### DANCING SECTION.

This section shows signs of being a great success. Classes are being held every other Monday at 8 p.m. commencing Nov. 17th.

At the first class, there were 35 members of the Association present, and I think all will agree that a very enjoyable and instructive hour was spent. The Assembly Hall was not crowded, so it is hoped that many more enthusiastic dancers and intending dancers will join the class.

Mrs. Hetherington kindly acted as pianist for the first class. Any "Old Girl" who is willing to play for one evening, is asked to communicate with the Secretary.

*Secretary*:— Miss D. Crierie, 88, High Street.

*Treasurer*:— Miss M. M. Pearson.

*Committee*:— Misses F. Burdon, N. Cheseldine, M. Fordy.

D.C.

#### PHYSICAL CULTURE SECTION.

A splendid beginning has been made by this section of the O.G.A.

There are already 38 members, 30 of whom were present at the first class held in the Gymnasium, on Monday, Nov. 10th. The classes are held on alternate Mondays from 8 to 9 p.m.

All expressed their delight at this "reminder of old times."

The following officers have been elected :—  
*Secretary* :— Miss S. Burdon, 7, Ashfield Terrace.  
*Treasurer* :— Miss F. Garbutt.  
*Committee* :— Misses E. Caswell and C. Toomer, Mrs. Roberts.  
*Instructress* :— Miss Brothers, Secondary School.

S.B.

## RAMBLING CLUB.

The Rambling Club is now well established. At present the members are few but all are keen. The rambles are fixed for the first Saturday in each month.

The entrance fee is 3d. in order to defray the expense of sending notices to each member. The following is a list of the rambles already undertaken.

June 14th.	Pinchingthorpe, Roseberry Woods, Ayton.
July 5th.	Osmotherley.
Sept. 6th.	Battersby—Chop Gate.
Oct. 4th.	Great Ayton, Kildale.
Nov. 1st.	Yarm, Leven Bridge, Thornaby.

The November ramble was arranged to suit those who wished for a ramble nearer home, but no one turned up.

The Secretary regrets to say that she is unable to give a list of future rambles at present. All members will however receive notice in due course.

The next ramble is fixed for Dec. 6th, (Saturday) to Redcar and Saltburn, train leaving Thornaby 10-32 a.m.

Wodencroft, Norton-on-Tees.	F. ARMSTRONG, Hon. Secretary.
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## LITERARY CLUB.

In connection with the above, a Literary Club has been formed, with the aim of spreading a social feeling among the members, and arousing a keener interest in literary directions.

A Committee of six was formed, who had power to add to their number.

The following Rules were drawn up :—

- I. That this should be called the O.G.A. Literary Club.
- II. That meetings should be held on alternate Thursdays in the Secondary School, from 7 to 8 p.m. (commencing Nov. 20th).
- III. That the entrance fee be 3d. pro. tem.

At the Meeting on Thursday, Nov. 20th, Miss Armstrong was in the chair, and 13 other members were present. An Irish Play "The Rising of the Moon" by Lady Gregory was read, parts being taken by Miss Waters, Miss Nelson, and Miss Armstrong. Irish Songs were charmingly rendered by Miss Waters, and all was

thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Business matters were then discussed before the meeting was closed.

On Thursday, Dec. 4th, Miss Nelson has promised us a "Kipling Evening," while Miss Burdon is arranging "Twelfth Night," for Dec. 18th, and Miss Armstrong a "Cranford Evening," for Jan. 15th.

All are invited to these meetings.

8, Silver Street,  
Stockton.

MABEL HENDERSON,  
Secretary.

### fact and fancy.

I was sitting in a big arm-chair near the fire, industriously studying my geography for the morrow. The hour was getting late and I was tired, but there was no help for it—my geography must be done, and I began repeating to myself the names of the chief countries and their capitals.

Suddenly before my astonished gaze the walls of the room receded, the fire vanished, and I found myself on a dusty road. Gaily decorated waggons of every description, peasants in holiday attire, were all going the same way. I followed them and looked around me with interest and surprise. What strange people they were and what a confused babel of sound I heard. Every one seemed to be reciting prayers or something of that sort. Some of the men wore quaint felt hats, blue blouses and wooden sabots, which made such a clatter as they walked along. I noticed one little girl clad in a dark blue dress, richly embroidered with tinsel, and wearing over it a brilliant silk apron. Round her neck she wore a gold chain and cross, and she had a lace collar and cap and many charms. I followed the stream of people and found myself in front of a large church, where all the people had assembled. Then I saw a procession, headed by a man bearing an image of St. Anne and another bearing a golden cross. They all proceeded into the church. Then a Bishop appeared on the balcony and raised his hands in blessing. Next some choir boys sang a sweet hymn; a thrill ran through the crowd and the great feast was over. Somehow I understood all that was being said, and I learned this was a great French religious feast, which no Breton misses if he can possibly help—the pardon of Saint Anne. Then the people dispersed—some to the stalls on the fair ground to buy souvenirs and holy relics, some to the dancing ground—I followed these. A prize was given to the couple who kept on the longest—a broad blue ribbon with silver tassels for the youth, and a wreath of flowers and tinsel for the maiden. With the end of the dancing came the end of the feast.

Next I found myself, not on the crowded Breton highway, but walking along beside a frozen canal. I noticed a large

number of windmills and I realised that I was in Holland—the land of dykes and windmills. Almost all the people were skating with great speed along the frozen canals. The dresses of the women were curious and pretty. They wore very full blue skirts, with a plain bodice, a lace cap and vest and rolled up sleeves. All wore jewellery of some description, either silver buckles, garnet necklaces, or ear-rings. One little girl with two fair pig-tails greatly interested me. She wore a striped frock and a lovely lace cap, and was skating along as fast as she possibly could. All the people—men, women and children—wore wooden sabots. I left the canal side, where much fun was going on, and walked past a house. I heard a warning shout and moved aside just in time to escape a deluge of water, which came down from the top. I discovered that it was a Dutch custom to clean the *outside* of a house as well as the inside. The Dutch are very clean people, and their visitors have to leave their sabots outside when they enter a house. The last thing I noticed was the dykes, without which Holland could not exist.

I walked on and on and I felt the air getting warmer and warmer, and I smelt the fragrant perfume of almond blossom. The canals, watermills and frost had vanished and I was in "Sunrise Land," the home of flowers and brightness. The ladies wore gay kimonos, of all the colours of the rainbow, and their hair was fantastically arranged with flowers and fans. Nearly all wore chrysanthemums in their hair. All was bright and gay, flowers were blooming everywhere and the sun warmed the scented earth. The queer old shop windows were full of dolls of every description—wooden dolls, dolls of enamelled clay, large dolls and small dolls. Some were dressed to represent the Mikado and his wife, some were dressed like court minstrels, nobles, soldiers, and most wonderful to relate, there was also everything necessary for the dolls to eat, drink and dress themselves. I wondered what this great display of dolls meant, but I soon found out. It was the great Doll Festival, when every little girl brings out all her dolls (she is given two when she is born) and all the dolls which have descended to her from her ancestors, and has a great feast for them. Then they are all put away until the next Doll Festival. Little girls in Japan value their dolls very highly, and they keep them until they are grown up and then pass them on to their children, who in turn pass them on to theirs. Then I heard a noise which startled me very much.

I jumped up in alarm and found myself once more in my chair beside the fire. My geography book had fallen from my knee on to the floor with a clatter. This was the noise I had heard, and my visit to France, Holland and Japan was "of such stuff as dreams are made on."

D.D., VIA.

## A Swelled Head.

Breathing time again—the exams. were over. When Madge reached home after a worrying day, she was greeted with the usual words, "Well dear, how have you fared to-day?"—which question nearly brought the tears to her eyes, so her parents refrained from saying anything further about school. After tea she took a book and sat by the fire, moodily thinking over the events of the day.

Imagine her surprise when next morning two lists were put up and her name appeared first on both, and as each list was read out after this her name was always called first. The teachers all congratulated her on her success, and before long she received a letter from Durham, saying, the Governors were so delighted with the result of her papers, that she should not receive the usual prize, but she could choose one for herself, and also the person to present it. Her reply was soon sent, to the effect that she would very much like a bicycle, and the Mayor (in his robes) to present it.

Speech Day arrived and as Madge made her way to the hall, her head was held so high that she hardly deigned to look at her schoolmates. The prizes were all arranged on the platform and the bicycle held a very prominent position. The Mayor presented the prizes and Madge's name was called last. Amid much applause the Mayor presented the bicycle and she was acknowledging it by a very graceful bow (which had been specially rehearsed) when a voice was heard saying, "What on earth is the matter?" While sitting by the fire Madge had fallen asleep, and when making the graceful bow had overbalanced herself and fallen into the fender amongst the fire irons, making a tremendous clatter. And all that she had to show on the real Speech Day was a "swelled head."

A.G., Form Va.

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## Bull-fighting as a fine Art.

A couple of years ago, whilst on a visit to Barcelona, I was induced by the British Consul to attend a bull-fight. Arriving at the Plaza de Toreas, we were accosted by a fierce visaged subject of Alphonso who said something in broad Spanish which I did not understand. My friend answered, and I suppose he was assuring the man that we had no cigarette cards. There was a great noise prevailing in the arena and inquiry elicited the information that the band was playing. Relieved that nothing more serious had occurred, I listened. The handicapping was very bad, a noisy hooter with a blast similar to a ship's foghorn being well off the mark followed by several others of minor importance. The hooter kept his place right through and won by a semi-quaver, second and third close up. The remainder of the audience treated this portion of the entertainment with marked insouciance, being apparently better occupied with the cracking of nuts and the

shouting of ribald remarks. The arena was attractively laid out with such home comforts as sawdust and mats, and presently an odd assortment of creatures entered and bowed towards the place where King Alfonso ought to have been seated. Each of these performers, competitors, or whatever they were, paraded round without doing any harm, and then the ring, which was not decorated with boy scouts, the bulls not being of Royal breed, was cleared for the next business. An old barn, which had a very pleasant, eastern situation close to the sawdust, threw open its doors with a graceful gesture and a dear little bullet, bullock or bull wandered into vision facetiously pretending to nibble at the grass which wasn't there. Presently the amiable animal strolled over to the side of the ring with an admirable air of nonchalance and seemingly asked a policeman where the other fellows were. Simultaneously there appeared a complete set of warriors including Banderillos (two strong), Capas (four all told), Espada (by himself), Picadors (twain, armed from moustache to shoe laces) and several foemen with an unspellable name. It appeared that the odds were somewhat heavy against Senor Bull, (and I casually offered four to one in nuts that he would lose). The Espada started the game by playfully prodding the bull's flank with the business end of his carver. The others, too, soon lost their shyness and paid like attentions to the poor beast who at the end of fifteen minutes presented a rather festive appearance, the Banderillos having left gaily-festooned darts sticking in the nape of his neck. The game was not devoid of regrettable incidents and one of the Capas should have been ordered off the field for deliberately pulling the animal's tail. The latter—the bull I mean—could be excused in his action of kicking sawdust into the offender's face. It was now time for the Espada or Matador to convert the bull into beef and having secured sufficient orders for Monday's dinners, he drew forth his niblick and with a clever overhead stroke performed the dread deed. The second aspirant for the Beef Stakes entered before the band had concluded "A la Mort-uary," and his advent synchronized with my departure, as I heard that there were six bulls upon the menu. Outside the Consul and I shook hands in solemn silence and he invited me to his house to tea. We concluded the day playing that good old British game "Snakes and Ladders."

T.A.K.

### **The Death Carriage.**

It was Christmas Eve and snow was falling heavily. For hours the ground lay buried beneath a thick layer of snow which gradually grew thicker each moment. The wind blew bitterly along the hills that skirted the road between Ballysimon and the next post-town, and pedestrians, despite the inclemency of the weather were to be seen wending their way towards the Church for midnight mass.



Along the road a car was rapidly coming with a jingling of bells and harness, and with the hearty greeting, "A Merry Christmas, bhoys!" the driver passed on his way. Swiftly it sped on, the horse's hoofs scarcely making a noise on the white carpet beneath.

"It's a raw morning, Maloney, and maybe you'd be after liking a weeny drop of this to warm you," observed Desmond O'Sullivan gaily. At the same time he handed the driver his flask.

"Bedad! But ye're a kind an' free-handed gentleman, sor," said Dan Maloney. "Faith it warms the cockles of wan's heart, so it does." Then, lowering his voice mysteriously,— "An bedad, a little spirit widin may sarve to keep other more uncongenial spirits out."

Desmond laughed heartily. "You're as great a believer in ghosts as ever, Dan. It would not be a bad idea to while away the time by telling us some ghost stories, as my friend here from England would be enchanted to hear them, I'm sure."

"Yes, indeed," pleaded Desmond O'Sullivan's friend, Alick Crawford, and suggested that the one about the "Death Carriage" would suit admirably. Dan looked doubtful.

"Faith, Master Desmond, I'm after thinking that ye're not aware av' what date it is; shure 'tis the anniversary av' the night when the ladies were drowned."

"You are right, Dan, and as we're nearing the bridge, tell us the story, and point out where it happened."

The driver cleared his throat and was about to begin, when the mare neighed piteously, threw up her head and pranced wildly about, at the same time sniffing and pawing the ground furiously.

Dan's face clouded. "Faith, the mare sees something unnatural, or I'm a Dutchman. Be the powers! The Lord betane us an' all harm! 'Tis the Death Carriage itself!"

As Dan burst out with these words, with a noise like a clap of thunder, an old fashioned coach with driver and footman seated on the box, and two postillions riding in front, came into view. The three spectators sat as if rooted to the car, staring with horror-stricken eyes at the uncanny sight, unable to speak or withdraw their gaze.

"Hold hard! Sit closer or ye'll be crushed to death," yelled Dan in perfect terror, as, with a deafening roar the cumbersome vehicle bore down on them. Hardly had he shouted the warning than the unwieldy monster, like a flash of lightning flew past them. On it went with a speed never achieved by any ordinary vehicle, then, as it gained the bridge there was a terrible cry, followed by other and more piercing calls for assistance, as, with

a resounding crash, the bridge gave way and into the treacherous waters went carriage, horses, and passengers. Dan Maloney never forgot that awful experience and the people of Ballysimon remember with awe and terror, the Legend of the Death Carriage. E.G., IVa.

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## Our Juniors' Page.

### MY PET.

My pet is a mountain roller canary, and I am going to tell you one of his tricks. When I take his cage down to clean it, he will sit on his swing and scratch his head backwards and forwards. After we are finished with breakfast, he cries for his. During the time he was moulting he stopped singing and for a long time his voice was very feeble. Now, however, it is a little stronger. We feed him on watercress and a special kind of seed. He also has some cuttle fish on which he sharpens his beak. He baths himself every morning after he has had a drink. At about nine o'clock at night we wrap him up in a duster. Then he goes to sleep. One day we cut his toe nails and he was so frightened. Once he got out of his cage but father caught him and put him in again. We have a chair in our kitchen near his cage and if a stranger sits on it, he chirps very much for he is frightened. We used to call him Richard but he does not like it so we changed his name to Dicky. G.G., Form I.

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## The Visit of Aurora.

Once upon a time a woodman and his wife and two children lived in a very large wood. They were very poor and they never knew where the next meal was to be got. The only way they could earn their living was by cutting down trees.

One day the woodman returned home after having spent his day in the wood, and he looked very excited. After Stella and Lindo had gone to bed the woodman told his wife that the fairy Aurora was coming to the village at the other end of the wood, and she would give magic prizes to the two children who could bring her certain uncommon flowers. The children had heard the conversation and they said they would search for very rare flowers in the morning.

Early the next morning Lindo crept very softly into Stella's room and told her to get ready very quietly, and they would go out and look for flowers. They walked on and on until they were very near the edge of the wood, when Stella spied a pretty little flower in the hedge, and neither of them could remember ever having seen a flower like it before. They walked a little further when Lindo plucked a lovely flower something like Stella's.

When they reached the village they saw the lovely Aurora in a beautiful carriage drawn by two lovely white horses. She was dressed in white and on her head was a lovely crown. When the time for the flowers to be shown came round, crowds of children gave their flowers to Aurora. For a long while everybody thought that no one had got the right flower. At last it was Stella's turn to give her flower. Lo! it was the very one Aurora wished, and when Lindo offered his, it was also graciously received. The fair Aurora presented Stella with a magic wand and Lindo with a magic stone. The power of the wand was such that Stella should always be rich, and if ever she was in danger she had just to wave the wand and Aurora would come to help her. The power of the stone was such that its owner should always be wealthy while he had the stone in his possession.

The children set off for home feeling very pleased, and they had not gone far when they met their parents coming to meet them. They were delighted to hear of the good fortune that had befallen their children.

E.R., Form II.

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## The Stocking's Christmas Eve.

Midnight had come and gone. The stocking was growing very impatient, and quite angry at the thought of being so badly used. "Just fancy," he said, "being taken from the drawer without being aired this cold winter's night. Upon my word, it is beyond a joke! Being tied to a bed-post is not a very comfortable position I can assure you."

Little thinking of the poor stocking's vigil, a little girl lay fast asleep in a snowy white bed, probably dreaming of the toys the morning would bring her. Her clothes were neatly folded, and the general appearance of the room tended to show that the little girl was careful.

"It's simply monstrous," came the direful tone of the Stocking, "to spend such an important night in such a manner, and of course I was the unlucky one. I might have been peacefully dreaming like my mistress. I do declare I am getting colder and colder." Suddenly a noise, issuing from the regions of the chimney, broke the stillness of the night. Turning round, the Stocking was surprised to see the figure of a white-bearded, red cloaked old gentleman come into the room. With his appearance the room seemed to present a more cheerful aspect, and the Stocking was indeed so surprised that he quite forgot to grumble. His surprise was greater when he saw the kindly-faced old man, who was no less a person than Father Christmas, advance towards him. But imagine his dismay when the visitor walked right past him to the sleeping child. "Well, Jeannie, what a big girl you

have grown since I last saw you," the Stocking heard, and indeed he felt quite offended. His spirits revived, however, when he saw Father Christmas coming to him with outstretched hand. "Now, old man, how are you getting on? Don't you feel rather cold?" "Rather cold," ejaculated the Stocking; "I've never been so cold in all my life." "Never mind," replied the old man, "you must do your duty to-night, for it's only once a year." With these words Father Christmas proceeded to fill the Stocking with all manner of good things. The Stocking seemed to be getting bigger and bigger, and at last he could bear it no longer. "Oh! he shrieked, "what do you think I am? Please remember I'm only a stocking and not used to such rough handling." "All right, I've finished now, and I think those will please her," said Father Christmas.

It was just light when Jeannie woke up to relieve the Stocking of its burden. Then he was put back into the drawer, absolutely tired out with hard work. "Well," said his mate, the other stocking, "what do you think of yourself staying out alone all night? You ought to be ashamed of yourself." "Well, I never," said our hero, "fancy being greeted like that, after working harder than I've ever done before. Nevertheless, I will return good for evil; allow me to wish you a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year." "What nonsense is this," demanded the other stocking; but overcome by fatigue, our friend had fallen asleep.

I.D.P. (S.T.)

### Home Lessons.

What's the good of grumbling dears,  
 What's the good of yawning?  
 You know you have to get them done  
 Before to-morrow morning.

They're not so very difficult,  
 If you really try to do them,  
 And once you've made a proper start  
 You'll find you're nearly through them!

Sometimes a thing seems very hard  
 Until you have begun it,  
 And then you're really quite surprised  
 To find how soon you've done it.

Then set to work in earnest,  
 You'll find that it will pay,  
 And when you have your lessons done,  
 How you'll enjoy your play!

W.H.M. (Vb).

# Examination Results. Midsummer, 1913.

	English	History	French	Maths	Physics	Chemistry	Geography	Art	Manual	Needlework
Form VIa ...	M. Gill	E. Dowse ] M. Gill	Q. Plummer	Williams	Williams	E. Dowse	E. Dowse ] M. Gill			
Form VIb ...	M. Ross D. Dewhirst	D. Dewhirst	K. Ordish	M. Ross L. Carling		Williams				
Form Va ...	L. Carling	J. Hotson	D. Dewhirst	Wilkinson	Trowsdale		Wilkinson	H. Prest		
Form Vb ...	Johnson Crawford C. Rimer	Crawford Johnson C. Munro	Gilbraith Johnson M Hutchinsson ] D. Pennock	Crawford Johnson D. Pennock	McWilliams Crawford Wrightson	Johnson Crawford D. Pennock L. Storey E. Wardell ]	McWilliams Johnson Wrightson C. Barr	A. Callender Kewley Crawford C. Rimer		
Form IVa Girls	A. Pugh L. Ainsworth	E. Wardell L. Ainsworth	A. Pugh L. Ainsworth	A. Pugh M. Milburn						
	R. Harker	D. Yellow	E. Leader	A. Gibson ] O. James ] Darnborough	A. Gibson ] M. Milburn ] H. Wilson	A. Gibson	A. Pugh M. Milburn	D. Pennock N. Watson		M. Milburn
Form IVa Boys	J. Smith	Tompkinson	C. Smith			M. Milburn	A. Gibson ] R. Harker ] MacLennan	R. Henderson		R. Harker
	MacLennan	McLennan	J. Smith	Dudley	Darnborough	G. B. Smith	Jonsson McLennan ] I. Smith	Harris		
Form IVb Girls	C. Bateman	R. Scaife	C. Bateson	B. Clover ] P. Evans ] I. Martin Richardson			C. Smith	Dudley McLennan ]		
Form IVb Boys	P. Evans Ward	L. Lennard Ward	N. Prosser Robson		G. Brown	I. Martin	L. Lennard	G. Geary G. Brown ] P. Cox Richardson ] King		G. Brown
Form IVc ...	Robson Ferguson	Robson Ferguson	Ruddock Sanderson	Hansell Downing	Richardson Downing	Foster Ferguson	Ferguson	Ferguson	Ruddock	I. Martin
Form IIIa ...	L. Sherwood H. King	Greig H. King	Greig H. King		Morrow	Morrow	Greig H. Everett ] E. Cook	Greig H. Everett ] E. Cook		L. Sherwood E. Cook E. Kewley ] M. Smith ]
Form IIIb ...	W. Thompson	C. Allibone	W. Thompson	H. Everett			E. Cook	S. Dodds ] R. N. Hind ] Barton		
	Wood	Wood	Elcoat	Wood	Elcoat		Richardson Lawson ] Ball	Elcoat		
Form IIIc ...	Leckenby	Leckenby	Robinson	Lawson	Lawson		M. Hotson ] M. Lewis ] R. Shipley ] C. Gough ] G. Lerman H. Cunliffe A. Wardell ] Lambert M. Tose ] Williams ] Robson	Iley Leckenby ] M. Lewis	Cornforth	
Form IIIc ...	E. Ingram	C. Gough	G. Thomas	G. Cardno	M. Lewis					
Form IIIc ...	A. Sandell	B. Willey	M. Lewis	D. Hall	N. Eden		O. Atkinson			C. Gough ] E. Ingram ] R. Carter ] A. Sandell ] A. Wardell ] G. Lerman ]
Form IIIc ...	A. Wardell L. Lewis	L. Lewis A. Wardell	M. Harrison Parry	A. Wardell G. Lerman	G. Lerman J. Clacherty		E. Phillips A. Richardson	Crozier Robson		
Form II ...	E. Frankland M. Tose	B. Wardell C. Rodgers		A. Franklin R. Reed			A. Wardell ] Lambert M. Tose ] Williams ] Robson	A. Franklin		M. Tose
Form I ...	B. Dodds ] E. Robson ] Nettleship Jackson	B. Dodds E. Robson ] Geary	E. Robson Jackson	Wedgewood ] Geary Robson ] Prest			Prest	J. Atkinson G. Sanderson ] Lambert A. Welch Robson R. Wedgewood		D. Wedgewood E. Robson B. Dodds

**Nature Study**—Form II—A. Franklin, E. Frankland.  
**Botany**—Form IVa (Girls)—A. Gibson, M. Milburn.  
 Form Vb—N. Wardell, C. Barr.

Form I—Prest, Robson.  
 Form IVb (Girls)—N. Nicholson, L. Lennard, G. Brown.

**German**—Form Vb—D. Pennock, C. Munro.  
 Form IVc—L. Fenny, L. Sherwood.

## Christmas in Norway.

The old salute—'A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year'—will soon be resounding on every side. Let us see how this ancient festival is held in the 'land of the midnight sun.' Christmas day in Norway! To many this will convey ideas of a bleak wintry region. But this is entirely wrong, for if the lakes are frozen and the rivers ice-locked, the air is clear and exhilarating, and the sun shines brightly over the wide expanse of snow. Then the people themselves are a hardy, kindly, hospitable race, and are ever ready to welcome the stranger with a warmth that makes up for any cold without. This is looked upon as a national duty for the Norwegians possess in a high degree this primitive notion of hospitality.

On Christmas morning the roads are thronged with sledges, and the bells which decorate the horses make a merry tinkling in the frosty air. The day always begins with divine service and whenever this is over, relations and friends assemble at different houses according to invitation where a preliminary repast, consisting of a variety of viands, liqueurs, and sweets is partaken of before dinner, which (woe to the dyspeptic!) follows immediately after.

Whenever a male guest enters a Norwegian house no matter at what hour of the day, the first courtesy shown him is a pipe of tobacco. Dinner is a lengthy affair, and between the courses, intervals are allowed for the singing of national songs, the giving of toasts, and the drinking of healths. To the Norwegian the words *Gamlé Norgé* ('Old Norway') have a wonderful spell in them, and on festive occasions like the present they cannot be resisted. The words are repeated by every voice: the glasses are filled and drained: and then bursts forth in a simultaneous chorus the national song of Norway, *For Norge*.

When dinner is over the chief guest rises saying, *Tak for marden* (Thanks for the meal). This is responded to by all present, who bow to the host and hostess at each end of the table. At seven o'clock, tea is handed round: then a little later four or five boys enter dressed in white mantles. The tallest of these holds a large coloured lantern shaped like a star, while another bears a small glass box containing two little wax dolls, one of which represents the Virgin Mary and the other the infant Jesus. The lantern is meant to represent the star in the East, which guided the magi to the lowly manger. These mysteries are all explained in the words of a carol chanted by the boys.

After the boys are dismissed very often another band of masked performers come in, and they perform all kinds of fantastic tricks for the amusement of the spectators. No one in Norway ever refuses to admit these performers and no one sends them away empty handed.



OPERETTA GROUP. MIDSUMMER, 1913.

"QUEEN MAB."

After supper the gentlemen settle down for a smoke: the ladies disappear upstairs, where an eager talking and clatter of tongues goes on as they put on their wraps. Then the sledges come to the door: hearty good wishes are exchanged all round: and the happy guests are borne swiftly over the snow, glittering in the moonlight, to their respective homes.

### The Enchanted Castle.

A long, long time ago in the far off land of Persia, there stood an immense forest, into which no human being dared to venture. One night two lovers were out walking and had been so engrossed in conversation that they never noticed that they had got into the forest. When they looked up they saw before them a huge granite gateway. "Oh, Elsa!" exclaimed the young man Phœbus, "we are within the Forest of Mystery!"

Before they had time to flee, however, an ugly witch in a large, black cloak and hood came towards them, from whence they knew not. She held in one hand a gilded bird-cage, and in the other a wand with which she touched Elsa and Phœbus.

Elsa immediately changed into a small brown bird while Phœbus was made so that he could not move, however much he wished. Calyban, the witch, put Elsa into the cage and carried it into the castle, where there were many other such cages whose occupants were singing in a mournful chorus.

After three days had passed Calyban came and set Phœbus free. After searching in vain for Elsa, he left the forest.

He dared not return to his own country, however, for fear of the people who would naturally be very angry. He, therefore, fled to a foreign land and remained in exile for some time. One day, about three years later, as Phœbus was tending the sheep on the moors, the thought occurred to him that he might return to Persia, and visit the forest again in search of Elsa.

After a long and weary journey Phœbus reached the edge of the forest. He passed through the gateway and up to the castle. At the door a dwarf asked him his business. "I'm looking for Calyban," answered Phœbus. "Well, what is your name?" asked the dwarf whose name was Ates. Phœbus told him and he replied, "Why, you're the very person I've been waiting for for some time now; Calyban is dead: but before she died she told me that, although with her death the enchantments would be broken, none of the captives could be released unless you came back and set them free." Ates showed Phœbus from room to room and everywhere birds, animals, and even stone pillars turned into men, women, and children. Phœbus had got to the last cage, and had almost given up hope of seeing Elsa again. But lo! when he opened it, she stood before him just the same as ever.



"Oh Phœbus!" she exclaimed as she ran up and kissed him, "I'm so glad you've come. We were all so tired of being caged; it was horrid. Ates has been kind, but Calyban was cruel," and she burst into tears of joy. "There, darling never mind," said Phœbus soothingly, "I'll take you home now." What a welcome they received in their own country! People could scarcely believe the story they told, yet no one feared to visit the "Enchanted Castle" as it was termed. Phœbus and Elsa were married and, of course, lived happily ever afterwards.

But what of Ates? You may ask. The faithful dwarf remained at the castle and conducted thousands of admiring visitors through the wonderful rooms, at the same time telling them the story of Pœbus and Elsa.

M.A.E., IIIa.

### Venice.

A friend of mine sent me the following description of Venice and thinking it would be interesting to the readers of the Magazine I forwarded it to the Editor.

"Venice is a most interesting city and there are plenty of places to visit. In summer it is generally full of tourists. It is a fine sight to take a trip along the Grand Canal in a gondola. There are scores of palaces along each side, some of them being very ancient. About half way down it is spanned by the famous Rialto Bridge and in olden days the places on this bridge were used as the Stock Exchange of Venice but now they are all turned into shops. It was here where Shylock, the Jew, was supposed to have lived.

A little further along is a very old looking place, which according to tradition was inhabited by Desdemona and is the house where she is supposed to have been killed.

The most important things are to be seen in St. Mark's Square. Here there are hundreds of pigeons flying about all day and it is quite a common thing to see six or seven perched on a person's head eating corn which the tourists buy to feed them.

The Doge's or Duke's Palace is a very interesting place. As one enters the courtyard and goes up the giant's staircase, one cannot help noticing two large statues of Mars and Neptune. A little way along the corridor there is a hole in the wall, called the "Lion's Mouth," through which people used to put secret accusations and the person's doom was soon sealed. Each room is covered with paintings; some of which are life size. In one room is an enormous picture with 800 life size figures on it representing the "Glory of Paradise." Along the top of the room are the paintings of the different Doges of Venice. One proved a traitor to Venice so the people covered his picture with a large black patch.

Passing on to the dungeons, one goes through all kinds of dark, narrow passages, lined on each side with evil smelling cells where the prisoners used to wait their doom. In each passage and opposite the slit in each cell is placed a crucifix so that the prisoners can console themselves. In the corner of one passage is the place where they used to be executed and in the floor is a gutter with three holes in it for the blood to run away. The bodies of the criminal prisoners were thrown into the canal but those of political prisoners were kept until night when a boat came for them. Lord Byron once offered to spend a night in one of the dungeons but when he had been there a few hours he was glad to come out; it nearly drove him mad. There is a small bridge, called the "Bridge of Sighs" connecting the palace with a prison on the other side. Prisoners passing over to their execution were allowed one minute to take a last look at Venice. We will now leave the palace and go into St. Mark's Cathedral.

First of all, one notices the lovely mosaic work in front and four big bronze horses, the only horses in Venice. When Napoleon invaded Venice he took these horses with him to Paris but after a while he was made to bring them back. Just inside the porch is a small tablet let into the floor. This represents the place where the Emperor Barbarossa of Germany kissed the Pope's foot as a ransom for his son who was imprisoned in Venice. There is a large fountain filled with water just inside and people, as they go in, dip their fingers into the water and cross themselves. The Cathedral seems to be composed of nothing but dark corners lit up with a lot of candles, with here and there a shrine of one of the saints and people kneeling down before it. The roof and the walls are all pictures worked in mosaic.

At the mouth of the river is a fashionable place called the Lido where the tourists go in summer to bathe. There are no such things as horses and carts and motor cars. All the traffic is carried on, on the canals, in gondolas. It is very nice to lie back in one of these boats on the Grand Canal and listen to the band playing." G.B., Va.

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## Nature Notes.

### THE THRUSH.

One day last spring I spied a thrush sitting on its nest which was built in the hedge at the back of our garden. What made me notice it was the fact that the father thrush flew into the hedge, while the mother flew out to go in search of food. After a few days, when I looked into the nest I saw four little birds with their mouths wide open waiting until their food was brought for them. Soon these little birds were covered with feathers and they looked just like little brown fluffy balls. Their breasts were speckled with brown and yellow spots. One day when mother went into the garden she found a number of feathers all scattered round about the nest. Afterwards we found out that a cat had killed the father thrush. Soon after this misfortune the rest of the family left the garden and we have never seen them since.

M H. Form II.

## A NATURE STUDY STORY.

As the day was very hot and sunny my friend and I thought it would be very pleasant to visit a place where apple blossoms grew. When we had decided to go we told our maid to put some lunch in a basket for us, and when the basket was packed we set off. When we got near Yarm we saw some apple trees covered with blossom in a garden, so we went up to them and looked at them very carefully. While we were looking at them the old lady of the house was watching us and soon she came out and asked us why we were looking so intently at the apple tree. We explained that we had Nature Study lessons and told her that we loved nature. When she heard this she said that we could come into the garden and that she would bring us a ladder so that we could examine the blossoms and write down every part of any importance. We thanked her very much for letting us have the steps and when she left us we began our work. We found out that wild apples resembled wild plums and that the branches of both trees are 'armed' with thorns. These "uncomfortable" thorns disappear after the trees have been properly cultivated and after proper attention has been given to them. When it came round to 4 o'clock we thanked the lady again and then returned home.

E.C., Form I.

## PETS AND HOW TO KEEP THEM. MICE.

These interesting little creatures make fine pets and can be easily kept in the coal-house, attic, or tool shed. A cage can be made from a Hudson's Soap box, by fitting in a division to form a nest, and by cutting small air holes in the lid. These should be covered with zinc or wire gauze as the mice would soon enlarge them. A pair of mice can be purchased from any dealer for 6d. and may be had in any of the following colours:—red, white, blue, black, chocolate, silvers, cream, sable, tans, and a mixture of any one of the above colours and white. When your stock arrives put them in the cage, scatter a layer of sawdust on the floor and feed them on oats or canary seed in the morning, and soaked bread at night. The runs should be cleaned out twice a week and a fresh bedding of hay given every week. When the doe has young put the buck in another cage or he might eat the young, which vary in number from 4 to 12. Be careful not to touch the nest until the young are about a week old, and never touch it immediately after handling the buck or the doe will detect the smell and destroy her litter. At the age of about three weeks the young leave the nest and should be given a little extra soft food. At the end of the next week they should be sold for a few pence each and in this way you get some return for your outlay.

H.T., Va.

## Societies.

## ARTS AND CRAFTS SOCIETY.

The craftsmen are most in evidence this term; the artists are still too modest. Fretwork seems to have most supporters, though Nature study runs it close. An excellent idea for collectors is that being followed by several, which consists in framing leaves between two sheets of glass. The effect is well worth seeing and reminds one of the coloured photographs obtained by the Lumière process. Some younger members are collecting seeds. Surely we have more members who draw well and are keen enough to take it up seriously and systematically.

There is some hope of an exhibition being held next year, and with the experience of last year and a long advance notice we should see a display really creditable to our activities.

Perhaps some "freshmen" do not know, that certain masters undertake to advise them about their hobbies, and are always pleased to hear and talk about them. Information can easily be obtained by those who are sufficiently interested to enquire. B.

## School News.

### HOUSE REPORT. (Boys),

Three matches have been played of the six which are down for decision this term. All three have produced excellent games, and one critic avers that he much prefers to see a House match than to pay to see £2000 professionals earn their wages. The first match ended in a win for the Blues over the Browns by 3 to 1, but as the game finished in Stygian darkness it seemed as if anything might happen right up to final whistle. In the second match the Browns were again defeated, this time by the Reds and by the same score. The last match, a very stiff game, gave victory to the Blues over the Greens by 3 to 0.

Might one venture to hope that every effort will be made to play off House matches on the day fixed? The field is so constantly occupied that there are few chances of replacing a lost date, and all interest is lost if a number of matches have to be played off in rapid succession at the end of the season. Moreover it should be remembered that House matches give games to a good number of boys who do not succeed in getting a place on the school first or second team. The fact that a member of the House team is away from school is no sufficient reason for postponement. Surely we are sportsmen enough to take these accidents as they befall us. Dare we suggest also that by no means the least mark of a gentleman is the exactitude with which he keeps his engagements?

By the way, the quotation uttered by the literary prefect after his third unsuccessful attempt to arrange the postponed match was not K Henry VI, pt. 1, act V, scene III, line 43, but Romeo and Juliet, act III, scene I, line 3 (Temple Shakspeare edition). B.

TABLE.

House	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	For	Against	Pts.
BLUE ...	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
RED ...	1	1	0	0	3	1	2
BROWN ...	2	0	2	0	2	6	0
GREEN ...	1	0	1	0	0	3	0

### HOUSE REPORT. (GIRLS).

#### HOUSE MISTRESSES.

Blue	...	...	...	Miss Cartmell
Brown	..	...	...	Miss Brown
Green	...	...	...	Miss Fernie
Red	...	..	...	Miss Barty

#### THE BLUE HOUSE.

There are 50 members this term, H. Prest is the house captain and J. Bateman the secretary. As we have lost so many of our team, all members must play hockey as much as possible so that we may get together a strong side for next term's matches. Practices were held on October 8th, 13th and 21st, at 4-30 p.m., but latterly it has been too dark to play after school. The House Social was held on Friday, November 21st, from 6 to 9-30. There was a Tune Guessing Competition, in which Miss Brockie won the first prize and L. Leader and E. Wardell tied for the second. They drew, and L. Leader drew the prize. There were present Miss Nelson, Miss Barty, Miss Brockie Miss Brothers, Miss Cartmell, Miss Fernie, Mademoiselle Gay, and 38 members.

#### BROWN HOUSE.

There is little to report about the doings of the Brown House this term. We have had one hockey practice, but our House Social has not yet taken place, so that we are in the happy position of still having our cake to eat.

Celia Rimer is the captain and Nora Watson the secretary. The members of the Committee are:—G. Lerman, A. Gibson, M. Robertson, D. Herd and D. Gaunt.

## GREEN HOUSE.

The Green House is the only one which has not a new House mistress this term, although, like all the others, it has changed its captain. Queenie Plummer, who has been the "one and only" captain of the Green House, has resigned her position upon becoming a student teacher. To Queenie, the House Mistress and members owe a considerable debt of gratitude for the cheerful and thorough manner in which she has carried out all her duties as captain. Her place has been taken by Emily Watson, whose services on the hockey field we all appreciated so much last year. Emily's great ambition is to keep the medal which we won last year. So members one and all turn up to the hockey practice regularly, and help your captain with all your might and main.

In Winnie Stewart the House have lost an energetic and devoted secretary, who has been succeeded by Lottie Bowron. The Social took place on Friday evening, October 10th, and was well attended. The prizes for the competition were won by Irene Harker and Beryl Gaunt.

Now, Green House, work hard and stick to the medal!

## RED HOUSE.

There are 48 members in the Red House this term. At a meeting held shortly after the beginning of the term, C. Prest was elected captain and E. Dowse secretary. The Committee are:—J. Hotson (VIa), C. Carter (Vb), E. Conner (IVa) and C. Peart (IIIa). There has only been one hockey practice so far, but the House hopes to maintain its reputation in the matches next term.

The House Social was held on the evening of Friday, November 7th. Thirty members attended, and Miss Fernie and Miss Brockie also came. A literary competition was taken part in before tea. The rest of the evening was spent in dancing, in playing games, and every one seemed to enjoy herself thoroughly.

## Sports.

## HOCKEY (GIRLS).

With the start of the School year we entered once more enthusiastically into that ever exciting and ever welcome sport—Hockey. We are sure that there is no better game and so we are not sorry when the Winter Term comes round. Who has not experienced that delightful thrill of joy when the School has scored? Enthusiasm marked the opening of the season for practices after School were held regularly until the light failed with the shortening day.

We have a good many beginners this term, and although they are keen enough to play themselves, they unfortunately display a sad lack of interest in watching the more experienced players. The attendance at the school matches is a thing to be deplored. Why is the touch-line not lined with enthusiastic spectators ready to cheer and encourage the School XI? Fixture cards were given to every girl in School, and it is a matter for regret that so few show an interest in the fixtures and the doings of the School team.

Hilda Prest was elected Captain and Emily Watson, Vice-Captain, and although the 1st XI is entirely different from last season's team with the exception of our Captain, we have done very well, and we hope to improve with practice. Our attack is certainly good and if we were to single out any special player we might mention our eager and alert inside left who is particularly good at rushing up a shot at goal. Combination is improving but our shooting is rather weak. The defence is the weak spot and the halves have yet to learn to stick to their opposing forwards and to hit harder. The backs will improve and they can both hit well. However a little more speed in recovery is essential for good back play. Our goalkeeper has not as yet had much to do. Rumour says she has had but one hit this term. Well but—wait and see.

We have played three matches up to date—the first against the Brunswick Club we won by 10 goals to 0. We next played Middlesbro' High School and again were easily victorious winning by 10 goals to 1. Unfortunately for our match with Great Ayton—one of our best matches—the weather conditions made the field unplayable and the fixture had to be cancelled. We were all greatly disappointed. A Form Match between Forms V and VI resulted in a victory for the V—4 goals to 2, while against the Grange Hockey Club, South Bank, we were again victorious winning easily by 11 goals to 0. We have so far escaped defeat and have scored 31 goals against 1 for our opponents. However our toughest matches have yet to come.

It is with great regret that we have this term to say good-bye to our captain, Hilda Prest. Her reign has been shortlived and her departing means a big loss to the team. Hilda has been the School right half for fully two seasons and was the first girl to obtain her Hockey colours. She has always played an excellent game, and has been the mainstay of the mid line of defence. We shall have great difficulty in filling her place. We hope some day to hear of her again as playing for her county.

And now we have three more matches to play this term and we are quite determined to maintain our undefeated record. We look to every girl in school to support us. Surely it is a duty which every girl ought to realise. Let us hear your cheers from the line !!

We hope to be able to form a 2nd XI next term.

#### FOOTBALL. SCHOOL TEAM.

The season opened very auspiciously. In our first match against the Old Stocktonians 2nd XI there was a spirit of friendly rivalry between the players of both sides. Although threatened with defeat, the school, after a strenuous game, proved their superiority by a victory of 5 goals to 4. Our next match was with Coatham Grammar School at home, and resulted in the school being beaten just on time by the odd goal in 5. Then came THE match of the season—Barnard Castle N. E. C. School away. In spite of our unusual exertions at dinner, we showed that high life and good football go hand in hand by beating our opponents 2-1. This was a worthy victory, being undoubtedly the fastest game of the season. Apart from the game, the team spent a very enjoyable day. The next match was with Spennymoor Higher Elementary School, whom we easily defeated 4-0. The following week we went to West Hartlepool to play the Technical College. Here we were beaten 5-2 by a superior team. In our match against Stockton Grammar School we underestimated our opponents and it was only in the last quarter of an hour that any true form was shown, Reid scoring 3 clever goals (3-0). The following week, against Guisborough Grammar School, we scored 8 goals to our opponents 0, even the defence indulging in the general rush for goal. We are looking eagerly forward to our next match, with Darlington Grammar School, away, and hope to beat them. Thus it will be seen from the following results that the football team has at least partly atoned for the cricket season.

Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	For.	Against.
7	5	2	0	26	13

T P W.

#### SECOND XI.

This season we have been fortunate, so far as the 2nd XI is concerned, in retaining a number of last year's players, and as a result we have profited by a year's experience. Up to the time of going to press four matches have been played of which three have been won and one lost. The first match was against Coatham Grammar School where we were beaten by 5 goals to 2. Our defeat here seemed to be due more to a lack of confidence amongst us than to any difference in team merits. This one defeat has been followed by three victories—against Yarm (8-1), Hugh Bell (2-1), and West Hartlepool (4-3)—and there

seems to be no reason why this run of success should not be prolonged, for although not a team of giants we can certainly play football.

Goal Scorers—Addison, Birch, 3. Dobson, Lewis, Hansell, Morrow, 2.  
Dodds, Middleditch, 1.

### SWIMMING CLUB. BOYS.

Last year we held our gala at the end of the summer term, but this year we postponed it until after the long summer vacation. By so doing we were able to join with the Old Stocktonians' Swimming Club, and as a result a good evening's sport was witnessed by the large attendance of parents and friends. We wish to thank the Old Stocktonians for their kind, hearty response and co-operation, and it was extremely gratifying to see so many interested in the sport of swimming. We trust that all our friends present enjoyed the time with us and we much appreciate their support. We desire again to thank Councillor Natrass for so kindly presenting the medals.

We were glad to feel that the gala was very successful. It was run on much the same lines as last year, being again a competition amongst the boys of the various Houses, and we heartily congratulate the Reds on retaining, and even improving on, their splendid position of last year.

Richardson deserves special mention for bagging two points; he did exceedingly well, and easily won the proficiency medal. Connors easily broke the school record for swimming under water. The championship race was very keenly contested and had an exciting finish, each competitor giving a real good performance; Willey has our heartiest congratulations on securing the medal.

We were sorry that a few boys were disqualified through starting before their time; it was "hard luck," as otherwise they had good chances.

In conclusion, we give our best thanks to all who worked so loyally to make the evening a success, including Mr. Storey and his staff, the judges and stewards, House captains and prefects (who rendered material service in securing prompt starting of events), not forgetting Mr. Baldwin, who cyclostyed the programme.

Events and winners in Swimming Sports held October 8th, 1913.

1. Three Lengths Championship—1, Willey (R), 71½ secs.; 2, Richardson (R); 3, Connors (R).
2. Senior One Length Handicap—1, W. Jobling (Br); 2, Richardson (R); 3, Willey (R).
3. Swimming under Water—1, Connors (R), 1 length 28ft.; 2, Trowsdale (B); 3, Funnell (B).
4. Junior One Length Handicap—1, Lamplugh (G); 2, Ruddock (R); 3, Cunliffe (B)
5. One Breadth Learners—1, Lamplugh (G); 2, Routledge (Br); 3, Crawford (Br)
6. Plunge—1, Richardson (R), 29ft.; 2, Trowsdale (B); 3, Skinner (R)
7. Neat Dive—1, Birch (B); 2, Richardson (R); 3, Elders (B).
8. Back Stroke, one length—1, W. Jobling (Br); 2, Richardson (R); 3, Elders (B)
9. House Squadron Race—1 (Red), Connors, Willey, Richardson, Johnson.  
2 (Blue), Trowsdale, Funnell, Elders, Dudley.  
3 (Brown), Jobling, Dodds, Crawford, S. Goodchild.  
4 (Green), Lewis, R. Willey, Stoddart, Bateson.

Points awarded to Houses—Red 25, Blue 13, Brown 10, Green 6.

Points won by Boys—Richardson 2, Jobling and Lamplugh each 6, Willey, Trowsdale, Connors, each 4.

Medals. Championship—T. Willey. Proficiency (for most points), W. L. Richardson.

Records. 1912—Short, 3 lengths championship, in 69 secs.

1912—Inglis, plunge, 30ft. 10in.

1913—Richardson (proficiency), 11 points.

1913—Connors, swimming under water, 1 length 28ft.

