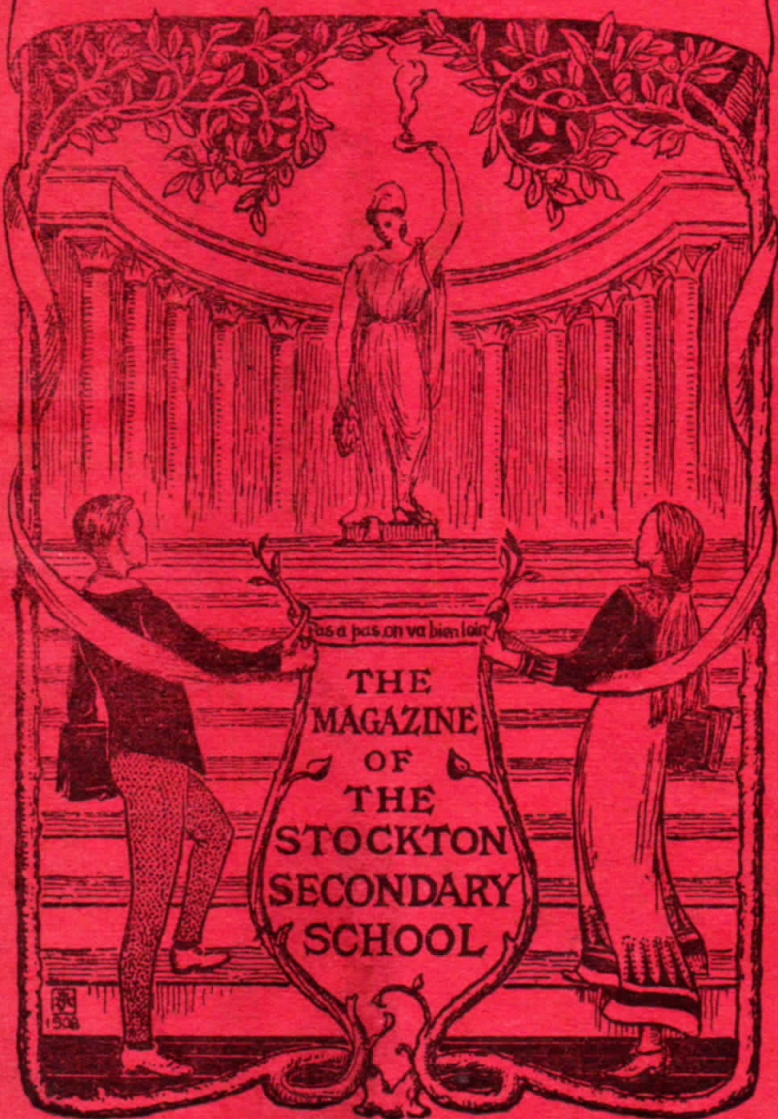


Kues 1915

THE STOCKTONIAN.



pas a pas on va bien loin

THE
MAGAZINE
OF
THE
STOCKTON
SECONDARY
SCHOOL

APPLERY, PRINTER, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

FOOTBALL XI—1915-16.



T. C. ARROWSMITH. F. LAMPLUGH. S. CALLENDER. H. BATTY. H. TOMPKINSON.
H. WARD. H. WOOD. L. LEWIS.
(Capt.)
H. BENNETT. L. KING. W. NODDINGS. G. LAWSON. N. DONKIN.

"The Stocktonian" S.S.S. Magazine

Vol. V.

CHRISTMAS, 1915.

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.

The scissors are now worn blunt: the waste basket is well-nigh brimful: the Editorial sanctum is flooded with a veritable sea of manuscript. But the penning of these lines brings relief, for now our task is almost complete, and we send forth yet another number of our Magazine with every hope and confidence that it will please our most censorious critic.

* * * * *

Our efforts last term were certainly successful, for all records, so far as circulation is concerned, were broken. To have a sale of over five hundred copies is certainly something to be proud of, but we are aspiring to even greater things, and we ask for united effort on the part of all our readers in order to make our Magazine a *financial* success.

* * * * *

Our thanks are due to our many contributors whose efforts in many cases are highly commendable. We would remind them that contributions—if they are to merit a place in our Magazine—should be interesting and original. Where are all our versifiers? Might we appeal for greater support from our Upper Forms?

* * * * *

We have, however, a grievance to voice before we are done, and we have just cause for doing so. It will be noticed that there are no Society Reports (Boys) in this issue. Can this mean that our Societies, started with so much life and enthusiasm, are to be allowed to die *unnatural* deaths? Surely it is a reflection on our boys that they have no Debating Society! Let us hope in our next issue to be able to fill a page with "Societies."

* * * * *

We record with pleasure the doings of the Old Stocktonians' and the Old Girls' Associations.

We are justly proud of our Roll of Honour, for there is now scarcely any branch of the Service in which the School is not represented. The extracts from the letters of some of our Old Boys on active service will, we are sure, be of great interest to all our readers.

* * * * *

And now there remains just one thing more, and that is to wish all a restful and peaceful Christmastide. May it bring good cheer to all!

Beauty.

She comes, while earth smiles welcome at her feet,
 And something more than mortal with her brings,
 Nature personified, perfume concrete,
 The essence of all earth's enchanted things,
 The glowing suns of twice a hundred years,
 The south wind breathing soft on yellowing wheat,
 Perfume of honeyed clover, scented tares
 Waving beside cream-tinted meadowsweet.
 The rose-loved hedges, cornflower, azure blue,
 All the exhilaration of green pine,
 Freshness of brooks which sun-kissed iris' strew
 All that the wild woods hold of sprite design;
 Two hundred years of freedom of the hills,
 Of golden Autumn's songs and purple Spring,
 Of dewy violets, swaying daffodils,
 And night, immortal, soul-awakening;
 The rhythm of Time unrolling here sojourns
 In her to whom earth-empire will unfold,
 Then sprang she, and the world towards her yearns,
 The beauty of seventeen—centuries old.

A.P.

The Scouts' Cooking Class.

Imagine my surprise on being asked to give a course of lessons on Cooking and Sick Nursing to a class of Boy Scouts.

The classes were held on Saturday evenings and consisted of boys of various ages and sizes. Some were still school boys, while others, the more important ones, they themselves thought, had left school and were in offices or engaged in some sort of work.

I looked forward to these classes. The boys were so keen on the work, and they were so happy. They didn't like a bit when I gave demonstration lessons, for I made small quantities and then there was very little for them to taste at the end of the lesson. It is tiresome too, to sit for an hour and a half watching another person doing something that you think (until you try it) that you can do yourself.

Several of the boys were artistic. I discovered this after the visit of the Inspector, as I saw sketches they had made of her while she was looking on at the demonstration lesson. It was then too, I discovered they had many sketches of myself which they had done while I was enjoying the idea that they were paying great attention and taking down notes.

Their practice lessons were very interesting. They much preferred making scones and steamed puddings to soups and stews. If

they made the mixture too soft, they were very philosophical and thought that the addition of a little flour would put things all right, besides making the scones much larger.

The Xmas lesson was Plum Pudding. Many of the currants that should have gone into the pudding met with a much more sudden end.

We looked forward to a lesson in the open and had planned a happy day at the foot of the hills, when the boys would make a fire and cook the dinner. Unfortunately we never realized that day. In summer, however many of the boys went camping and others did Coast Guard work. They found that their meals were very much nicer that summer than they had been in previous years at Camp. J.B.

A Song of Sister Susie.

We drink our tea and have a bun,
And then of course our meal is done,
We pay three cents but long for more,
Our inwards empty to the core.
And then into the Hall we wend,
And o'er our knitting keenly bend,
While music falleth on the ear.
About an hour we all stay here,
When various voices blend to sing—
"God bless the knitters—Country—King."

The Heike Crab.

Near Shimonoseki in the province of Nagato is a place called Dannoura which cuts quite a prominent figure in the history of Japan. It was here that the last decisive battle was fought between the two great families of Old Japan, the Heike and the Genji. Several hundreds of years have passed since then, but even now the scream of the sea gulls as they whirl about the place and the sound of the breakers as they strike against the rocks, tell many stories of the remote past to those who have ears to hear. Especially as one stands by the river Misuso and listens to the wailing murmur of the stream, one can hear the story of the tragedy that befell the Heike family and the infant Emperor Antoku whom the vanquished family strove to protect. Whether it be true or not, tradition says that the ghosts of the brave that perished there seem to haunt the place in the form of crabs. This is a very strange kind of small crab, on one side of the shell of which is a quaint design resembling a man's face. This is said to be the face of one of the warriors weeping over and resenting the lost battle of Dannoura.

Many of these crabs are kept in the schools and by the antiquarians of Japan, who are interested in the history of that country. Some Japanese people keep them in memory of the once prosperous Heike family who were crushed never to rise again in the fatal battle.

E.F., IVa Girls.

A Visit to the Belgian Grottoes.

As my father had promised to give me a 'real good' holiday I kept him to his word, and so one evening found us both on board the steamer 'Dresden' bound from Harwich to Antwerp. We arrived there about 8 o'clock next morning and we spent all that day—which happened to be Good Friday—and the next, viewing the many sights of this large seaport. Brussels was our next stopping place and from here we took train to Jemel. A trap was waiting us at the station to take us the eight miles to the Grottoes.

When we arrived we went down the slips into a cave, where we were met by two guides, one a young man, the other much older. The old guide led the way and held aloft a searchlight which enabled us to see through the pitchy darkness a little, while the younger man followed behind and also had a searchlight we walked under the mountains by the river Lesse, and at intervals the old guide would tell the other to climb into a corner and turn on a powerful searchlight, which made all the rocks take different colours and pretty hues. These colours were caused by the peculiar construction and composition of the rocks themselves.

Soon we had to get into a boat and the sensation was most weird and eerie. All one could hear was the constant 'flop, flop, flop' of the oars. When we had got about half way through we got out of the boat at a landing stage and had a nice cup of coffee. The old guide started to hum the English National Anthem and we all took off our hats and sang.

Once aboard the boat again we continued our zig-zag course, and while we were in one of the deep recesses a small cannon was fired. The sound echoed and re-echoed again and again in every corner and it was truly terrifying to hear it.

After about three minutes more of 'flop, flop, flopping' we saw daylight and soon we were out in the open again, after a thoroughly enjoyable and interesting experience. We then drove back to Jemel, had dinner, and left for Namur, to view the sights of that glorious town.

L.M.H., IVa.

Teacher: "What are the two chief minerals obtained in England?"

Tommy: "Lemonade and soda-water."

My Pet.

We once had a dog called Scamp, and a scamp he was, though a great pet nevertheless. He was a rough-haired Irish terrier. When we got him he was just a few months old. He was a very intelligent animal and at times most amusing.

One day when a puppy he somehow hurt his foot, which made him limp very badly. Once a day the foot was rubbed with embrocation. This he did not like at first, and ran away whenever he saw the bottle being brought out. But as soon as Scamp discovered that the lotion did his foot good, he used to run to the vet and hold the injured paw out for inspection and attention.

One spring a hedge-sparrow built a nest among the ivy in our garden, and mother and I often watched it very closely, as there were three young birds in it. We little thought that Scamp might also be interested therein. One morning to our great sorrow and dismay we found he had been to the nest and destroyed it. The nestlings, which could not fly, were killed, but the mother bird, which probably was seeking food for her babies, fortunately escaped. Needless to say, we punished the dog for his wrong-doing.

We kept Scamp a long time, but because of his keenness for fighting, we had to part with him when we removed to another town.

M.R., III B GIRLS.

New Books.

We have much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of the following recent publications, which have been most favourably reviewed by our literary critic. We strongly recommend that they be added to the shelves of our School Library,

Reformed Spelling, by "Nunk."

Our System : a treatise on physical development, by Lieutenant Graeme Elcoat and T. E. D. Harland.

The Misogynist, by E. D. Ward Gearey.

Billingham : its history, people, and aspirations, by Launcelot Atkinson.

Little Women and Good Wives, by Elsie Procter.

The Dashing Cadets : a romance of the V.T.C., by C. Lofthouse and F. Williams.

Blushes : their cause and cure, by Rose Henderson.

C.

"Why are you crying like that?" said an old man to a little boy who was crying bitterly.

"Because," said the little boy, "I can't cry any other way."

Examination Results, Summer Term, 1915. (Boys).

	English	History	French	Maths	Physics	Chemistry	Geography	Art	Manual	Needlework
Form VI ...	Johnson H. King	H. King Elders	Gilbraith Johnson	Elders H. King	H. King Elders	H. King Gilbraith	Johnson H. King	Elders H. King Darnbrough]		
Form Va ...	King Goodchild	Wood King	King Goodchild	King Wood	King Lamplugh	King Ball	King Goodchild			
Form Vb ...	Goodchild Elcoat		Robinson Elcoat	Goodchild Richardson	Goodchild Allibone	Allibone Bennett Hind]		Mech. Draw. Goodchild Elcoat	Medd Richardson	
Form IVa ...	W. Noddings R. Wilson	Ramsdale W. Noddings	W. Noddings Plummer Ramsdale]	R. Wilson W. Noddings Arrowsmith]	Plummer W. Noddings T. Noddings]	W. Noddings Ramsdale	T. Noddings Ramsdale	Plummer Robinson	R. Wilson N. Wilson	
Form IVb ...	Callender Porrirt	Bateman Crossland	Crossland Porrirt	Crossland Stephenson, L.	Porrirt Bateman	Porrirt Stephenson, L.	Crossland Bateman Callender]	Stephenson, C. Hewgill	Atkinson Davison	
Form IIIa ...	Siddle Gearey	Prest Rutherford	Peacock Prest	Sturman Rutherford	Williams Sturman		Maddock Clark	Sturman Bell	Prest Sanderson	
Form IIIb ...	Cardno Pinkney	Pinkney Linton Stacy]	Holmes Sweetman	Bernhard Sweetman	Bernhard Pinkney		Stacy Lofthouse	Richmond Linton	Lofthouse Nertney	
Form II... ...	D. Gaunt Livingston	K. Davidson D. Gaunt	D. Gaunt I. Heavisides	G. Gargett Wedgwood			K. Davison Livingston	Wedgwood Livingston	Barratt Wilson	G. Gargett D. Gaunt K. Davison]
Form I ...	D. Hale D. Wright	Dennison E. Watt	D. Hale D. Wright	Wardell D. Hale			Plummer Jackson	Wardell Plummer		

German—Form Va—Ball, Leckenby. Form IVa—Arrowsmith, Plummer.

Nature Study—Form II—Barratt, [D. Gaunt, I. Heavisides].

Latin—Form Va—King. Form I—V. Walton, D. Wright.

"Old Stocktonians."

Since the last report was given in this Magazine, the Association has passed through a critical period in its history. About 130 members, and this number includes the greater part of its most active members, have joined the 'Colours.'

This depletion gave the committee serious thought as to the advisability of suspending the operations of the Association until the war terminated. It was agreed that the members present, and the opinions expressed at the General Meeting of October 15th, should decide the course to be followed. This meeting exceeded the expectations of the committee. A large number was present, consisting of boys who had recently left, and a few of the older members. It was the unanimous decision of this meeting that the Association should continue, and since then the eager response to membership by the younger fraternity has been most gratifying. It is to these 'military ineligible' we look for support. Those who have left recently we ask to rally up, and for the sake of the School let us keep the flag of the "Old Stocktonians" flying—until the "Boys come Home."

It was also decided that in view of the times, next year's officers should consist of the remaining members of the old committee, with four others to be elected.

We regret to announce the resignation of Mr. Baker, as treasurer, and Mr. Scholes was elected to fill the vacancy. Since his appointment Mr. Scholes has found it impossible to take up the work, owing to business pressure, and Mr. Baldwin now occupies the post.

Two enjoyable evenings have been spent. On October 29th a Social Evening was held, in which games of all types were arranged to suit the taste of every member. The unanimous wish for a similar evening at an early date proves the success of the night.

On Friday, November 26th, Mr. J. G. Taylor delivered an interesting and instructive address on "Explosives."

Invitations were sent to the members of the O.G.A., to which a large number responded. The meeting was indebted to Mr. Connors for several interesting specimens of shells.

A date we would ask all members to keep open is February 4th, 1916, when Mrs. Dr. Stainthorpe has promised to give a lecture entitled:—"From the Auvergne Mountains to the English Channel," by motor. A E. L.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

"PRO PATRIA."

Rifleman J. Armstrong (wounded in France); 2nd Lieut. G. R. Atkinson; Sergt H. Bowery; Sapper P. Barker; Sapper E. Brown; Driver H. Bulmer (France); Sergt. H. Blench (France); Private F. Beards; Corpl. H. Bishop; Driver H. Broadbent (wounded in France); Lance-Corpl. R. Bagley (France); Sapper J. Borrie; 2nd Lieut. J. Barr; Pioneer H. Bush; Signaller H. Brownlee; Lance-Corpl. J. Cheseldine; Lance-Corpl. H. Castle; Bombardier R. Crookston; Private T. Connelly; Sergt. C. Counter; 2nd Lieut. R. Clews; Sergt. W. Corner; Lance-Corpl. A. Crawford; Private J. Corner; Lance-Corpl. A. Cussons; Corpl. P. Cohen (France); Private H. Cussons; Private N. Dowse; Private H. Dickinson (killed in France); Warrant Officer P. Dixon (France); Private C. Dresser (Dardanelles); R. L. Dickinson (H.M.S. Liffey); Pioneer G. Dee; Corpl. G. Elliott

(France); Trooper R. Elliott (France); Pte. C. Elliott; Lance-Corpl. A. Fawell; Private F. Foster; Rifleman S. Flockton (wounded in France); Rifleman J. H. Fenny; A. J. Fairey; 2nd Lieut. C. G. Funnell; Corpl. T. Grainger; Pte. G. Green; Pte. N. Green; Gunner V. Gibson; Pioneer W. Gill; Sapper F. Garbutt; Lieut. W. Hansell (France); 2nd Lieut. R. J. Harris; Corpl. R. Harrison (France); Petty Officer M. Hale; Private H. Horn; Eng. Telegraphist F. Hale (B.E. Africa); 2nd Lieut. H. Heavisides; Pte. E. Harper; Lance-Corpl. E. Howie; 2nd Lieut. W. Inglis (France); Corpl. A. Inglis (France); Gunner F. Jackson (France); Pte. R. E. Jackson (France); Pte. G. Jones (died of wounds in France); Pte. H. Jones; Com. Qr.-Mrtr. Sgt. H. Jennings; Trooper T. Jobling; Lance-Corpl. V. Jobling; Corpl. W. Jewitt; Pte. R. Kistler; 2nd Lieut. J. Leader, Sergt. W. Lumsden (wounded and gassed in France); Corpl. H. Ludbrook (France); Lance-Corpl. G. Lax (France); Driver H. Moss (France); Pte. V. McCourt (France); Pte. A. McLennan (Egypt); Pte. B. Neasham (France); 2nd Lieut. C. Natrass; Pte. A. C. Noble (wounded in France); Rifleman R. Nicholson (France); Pte. T. O'Grady (France-missing); Corpl. H. Pickles (wounded in France); Corpl. H. Pearson (France); Lance-Corpl. J. Pratt (wounded in France); Lance-Corpl. V. Pigg; Pte. T. Parry (German E. Africa); H. Petch; Midshipman R. Prest (H.M.S. Otway); Lance-Corpl. R. Plowman; Gunner L. V. Pringle (France); Corpl. I. Pugh; Pioneer A. Richardson; Corpl. A. Rogers (France); Sergt. G. Readhead (killed in France); Gunner W. Reyer (France); Sergt. D. Raper; Pte. A. Rowlands (France); Corpl. H. Ransome (France); Pte. J. T. Ryan; Trooper T. N. Robson; Corpl. F. Simmons; Gunner G. Shaw (wounded in France); Pte. R. Snowden; Pte. G. Spark (France); Pioneer P. Seymour; Petty Officer W. Sugden (wounded in Dardanelles); Sergt. M. Smith; Corpl. H. Salmon (France); 2nd Lieut. J. Taylor; Captain E. Taylor (Dardanelles); Corpl. W. Teasdale; Pte. F. Thompson; Pte. E. Thompson (France); Pte. V. Verrill; Corpl. F. Verrill (France); Sapper F. Walker (Dardanelles); Pte. J. Willey (France); Rifleman S. Willey (wounded in France); 2nd Lieut. C. Ward (on sick leave from France); Pte. J. Wake (France); Corpl. J. Waller (France); Sergt. N. Wardell; Corpl. E. Wood; Lance-Corpl. B. Watson; Corpl. R. Wood (France); Lance-Corpl. H. Williams; Gunner N. Winn; Pioneer L. Winn; Pioneer T. Weatherell; S. Storey; A. Ward; Pte. L. Daniels; P. Trenholm; (up to Nov. 26th).

Other Old Boys of the School who have joined the forces include:— P. Ainsworth, Sergeant Allan (Staff), W. Atkin, — Armstrong, R. Atkinson, S. Bowes, J. Brownrigg, G. L. Barton, J. Barton, G. Blakey, J. L. Barton, G. Brown, R. Bielby, S. Buffham, S. Cairns, E. Carter, A. Cruddace, — Craggs, N. Dunn, J. Darnbrough, F. Dives, R. Doughty, C. F. Durkin, R. Dalkin, D. Donkin, H. Drinkle, L. Eke, A. Fenny, N. Foster, H. Ford, C. Gooding, J. Griffiths, R. Gibson, W. Hodgson, G. Harper, J. Ingledew, C. Ingman, S. James, P. King, W. King, J. Kelly, 2nd Lieut. M. Kelley, L. Lewis, J. Leak, C. Minto, W. Murray, E. McKenzie, Corpl. W. Morgan (Staff), W. Merryweather, J. McGregor, T. Maxwell, J. McWilliams, J. McCulloch, E. Nicholson, D. Ostle, S. Ostle, H. Ostle, A. Porter, D. Porter, 2nd Lieut. A. Pescod, R. Peplow, R. S. Phillips, B. Robson, Captain A. Raimes, Captain L. Raimes, J. Stocks, J. Smithson, H. Stobbs, E. Stephenson, R. H. Shepherd, Major Stream (Staff), C. Searle, A. Sargeant, A. Reed, 2nd Lieut. F. Robson, W. Turpin, 2nd Lieut. K. Thompson, A. Thompson, J. Thirlwell, T. Tyson, F. Tuck, E. Thornton, O. Temperton, J. Urwin, J. Waller, T. Waters, G. H. Walton, W. Wilson, R. Wood, F. Williams, P. Wilkinson, W. Wright, Captain Welch (Staff) P. Jenkins.

Mr. A. E. Lax, 39, Vicarage Avenue, will be pleased to hear of further Old Boys.

Some noteworthy promotions have taken place among Old Stocktonians since the issue of the last Magazine. Mr. 'Ted' Taylor, who has seen much service in the Dardanelles, has recently been gazetted captain, and has just returned to England to recuperate after an attack of neurasthenia.

Mr. Gus Hansell—now and for a long time past in the trenches in France—is a full lieutenant and has lately been acting captain.

Mr. G. R. Atkinson, after working his way up from the ranks, has been appointed 2nd lieutenant, to which honour Mr. C. G. Funnell also now lays claim.

Recent returned 'warriors,' who have been welcome visitors to the school, include A. Rowlands, W. Reyer, and Lieut. Hansell.

Private A. McLennan (the old school centre and Green House notability) is just recovering in a hospital in Alexandria from a severe attack of enteric.

Sergeant H. Blench took advantage of his leave from France to take unto himself a wife.

THE WAR—AS SEEN BY OLD STOCKTONIANS.

Our reception by the French was very cordial, but grew wearisome by repetition. "Vive l'Angleterre!" and "Are we downhearted" seemed to be the favourite cries, although "Vive Lloyd George!" was not without its admirers. I reflected sadly that not one of our allies shouted "Vive Ransome!"

I have been trying my French. My earliest efforts were most encouraging. Thus my query to the engine-driver "Quand gettons nous à la end of le journey?" elicited the reply "Onze o'clock." This incident took place during our move from our first destination. This move entailed a sixteen hours' journey and I am now no' sae far from the sphere of operations. During the journey I had a splendid opportunity of viewing the countryside, and must confess that the scenery around Stockton compares very favourably with anything I've yet seen. One cannot allow novelty to bias one's judgment.

(Corporal H. RANSOME.—Gas Brigade, Royal Engineers).

It is nothing else but puddle, puddle, puddle up here. To-day I saw something which I shall always remember. We were doing artillery formations. The moors were covered with heather. Beyond, in the distance were the snow-clad hills of the Pennines. There were no signs of life except a few moorland sheep, some grouse, and here and there an isolated tree. All was silent save for the occasional chuckling of the grouse. But it was the sky that took my fancy. The sun was just setting, and was surrounded by a glorious golden colour, then came a sea green merging into dark green and eventually blue, afterwards purple and then all the different kinds of red. It certainly was the most beautiful sky I have ever seen.

(Private J. CORNER, 21st D.L.I., Scotton Camp, Richmond).

Our last spell in the trenches after the attack was a very long one, and we had a couple of scraps to relieve the monotony. The Germans hopped out of their trench after their guns had made a show, but they very soon hopped back again. The most exciting sport here is stealing towards the enemy's lines through the long wet grass at dead of night. All manner of unpleasant things are encountered from half empty bully beef tins to rats and other deceased bodies. One of the party invariably wants to sneeze or cough just when you are quite close and expecting attention from a machine gun or bomb. I went out one night with a couple of my men armed to the eyebrows with bombs and revolvers. We could see the German sentries being relieved, while whispering and talking came from a working party which was only about 15 or 16 yards away. This is the part of the business for nerves, for in the dark you imagine every waving plant to be a Hun waiting and watching. However, you learn what you can, wait, crawl back again, get your rum ration (if any is left), and then slip into your dug out for an hour before "stand to."

(Lieut. W. HANSELL, 6th D.L.I., France).

The only thing to do in the villages is to spend the time at our disposal in 'Estaminets,' where we get light French wines and amusement very cheaply. The latter consists in listening to fellows addressing the hostess in French and finishing up by language which laments in the strongest terms the want of intelligence of our Gallic allies.

(Corporal P. COHEN, Gas Brigade, Royal Engineers).

For a fortnight we, of the 18th Hussars, have been practising trench work and bomb throwing. This latter amusement is exceptionally dangerous both to friend and foe. If the thrower chances to touch the back of the trench, a terrific explosion immediately occurs with most unfortunate results to those around.

(Corporal H. LUDBROOK, France).

While I was on sentry duty in the firing line last Saturday, a bullet grazed my cap, but luckily did not touch my head. I have sent the bullet home as a souvenir.

(Private J. WILLEY, Grenadier Guards, France).

I'm in the hospital when I'm "at home," but I get all sorts of extra work which keeps me going from morning till eve. My real hospital duties begin at 6 a.m. and finish at 8 p.m., but the "fall in"—which signifies "turn out again for wounded"—sounds very often during the night. The way the big naval guns knock lumps off the hills is worth seeing. The country round here is something similar to Ayton, with the hills much higher than Rosebery. One day, a hill occupied by the Turks is quite pointed, but after a bit of the handy man's work it becomes quite flat.

(Private C. J. DRESSER, R.A.M.C., Dardanelles).

After spending a few months in the Army, a man's stomach ought to be capable of digesting anything. Fresh bread (about a fortnight old), fresh butter (margarine), and pure Ceylon tea at 4d. a lb. are three staple articles of diet. But I ought not to grumble—rather ought I to rejoice that in these troublesome times I am getting any food at all.

(Private H. WILLIAMS, 12th Yorks., Aldershot).

At times you may have remarked that I am inclined to be a trifle argumentative. I tried to work it on the orderly corporal the other night, but was peremptorily told that if I didn't close my mouth at once he would march me off to the guard room. Since this time I have maintained a discreet silence.

(Pioneer L. WINN, Royal Engineers, Ripon).

Newspaper Puzzle.

Fill in the blanks with names of newspapers or periodicals.

The — were hard; the feet of the — man sounded on the frozen roadway, and the — rose-trees in the gardens were leafless. The — wires formed a perch for half-starved birds, and the — showed like a — of fire in the sky. To the — it seemed a hard, cold — and, to tell the —, it was so. A train went by at — speed, bearing the — of letters from the country together with the — from a great town. A — description of the scene was written in — for those who live a — and do not hear the —.

W.L.B., IIIb Boys.

Examination Results. Midsummer, 1915. (Girls).

	English	History	French	Maths	Botany	Chemistry or Physics	Geography	Art	Needlework Cookery, &c.
Form VIa	E. Hicks M. Hopkins	D. Pennoek E. Wardell	D. Pennoek M. Hopkins	M. Hopkins D. Pennoek	M. Hutchinson M. Hopkins E. Hicks	M. Hopkins M. Hutchinson	E. Wardell D. Pennoek	E. Wardell C. Munro	D. Pennoek E. Hicks E. Wardell
Form VIb	L. Ainsworth A. Gibson	L. Ainsworth A. Gibson	L. Ainsworth R. Harper	G. Brown A. Gibson	M. Milburn A. Gibson	A. Gibson M. Milburn	M. Milburn L. Ainsworth	L. Lennard E. Watson	
Form Va	I. Margetts C. Gough	A. Sandell N. Garbutt	I. Margetts N. Garbutt N. Wilkinson	P. Fawcett M. Ordish	P. Fawcett I. Margetts M. Elliott C. Gough	N. Wilkinson P. Fawcett	A. Sandell N. Wilkinson	A. Sandell M. Ordish	
Form Vb	B. Willey	B. Willey	G. Thomas	R. Shipley	B. Willey	B. Willey	G. Thomas B. Willey	R. Carter L. Tulip A. Wardell	R. Carter
Form IVa	B. Wardell M. Dewhirst	B. Wardell Beryl Gaunt	M. Gaunt M. Dewhirst	M. Gaunt C. Barker	Beryl Gaunt M. Dewhirst	Olive Idle Beryl Gaunt	M. Dewhirst Beryl Gaunt	Beryl Gaunt E. Saunders A. Walker	M. Dewhirst O. Idle W. Mellanby J. Colman
Form IVb	A. Wild F. Hotson	A. Scrutton J. Evans	J. Nixon A. Scott	F. Hotson N. Corner	L. Findlay A. Scrutton	N. Favell L. Findlay J. Evans A. Scrutton	A. Scrutton J. Evans	D. Carter A. Scrutton	A. Davison E. Wintersgill A. Scrutton
Form IIIa	W. Hughes M. Bateman M. Rowley	M. Bollands A. Clarke M. Bateman	D. Pickles C. Peart	E. Gladders M. Bateman	I. Henderson M. Nicholson	I. Henderson M. Nicholson	M. Bateman W. Hughes	M. Hughes A. Clarke	W. Hughes M. Fender
Form IIIb	D. Bainbridge D. Herd	E. Gibson G. Pigg W. Daniels D. Herd	D. Bainbridge E. Wanless	M. Buttery W. Daniels	W. Daniels I. Robson	W. Daniels I. Robson	W. Daniels M. Harker	G. Dudley D. Herd	G. Davies D. Hunter

German—Form Va—A. Sandell, N. Garbutt. Form IVa—M. Gaunt, M. Dewhirst.

Latin—Form Va—I. Margetts, N. Wilkinson.

Bradly's Ghost.

We were annoyed—in fact everyone who had anything to do with Bradly (who would sooner or later start boasting, generally sooner)—got annoyed. He was always recounting adventures in which he played a prominent part, or telling what he could do, and how it ought to be done. Again, he simply wouldn't be sat upon. No matter how much you snubbed him he would still tell you one of his everlasting adventures. But when my pal and I heard he was not going away for holidays but was going to stay at school instead, we *were* annoyed and no doubt about it. It meant, as our parents were in India, we would have to stay and listen to his everlasting adventures all the holidays.

At last we hit on a plan to give him a fright. One day I started to talk about ghosts. When I had finished he offered in his usual boastful manner to "lay" any ghost that we could show him.

A day or two later the maids reported that a suit of armour—as it seemed to them—had been seen moving its head and arms. They seemed frightened to death to go anywhere near the room where the suit of armour was. At this news Bradly turned very pale, but he turned paler still when we reminded him of his promise. But to save his reputation he said he would 'lay' the ghost that very night, though it was obvious that 'he didn't want to do it.'

That night we saw him safely into the room where the armour was. "I thought that would bring him," I said, as we heard a shriek and saw Bradly come rushing out of the room. Next morning we explained how we had put his pet dog in the armour, and in trying to get out it had worked the limbs and the head, and how a little phosphorus rubbed on it gave it a ghostly look. Of course the maids were in the joke, and Bradly didn't forget it either—and as for Bradly, well, I don't think he will boast as much in future. D.P., IVA.

A Ride to fairyland.

One summer evening, after a very exciting day, I went to bed at 7 o'clock. I had not been asleep long before my bedroom window opened, and in came a little fairy.

She came to the bedside, and said to me, "Would you like to come with me to Fairyland?" I instantly replied, "Yes." "All right," she said, "jump on to this carpet."

When we were nicely seated, the carpet gradually rose from the floor, flew through the bedroom window, and so we sailed along for miles and miles, until we arrived at a beautiful island. Here we alighted in a large field. I was much surprised to see a number of little fairies running about, while others were sitting on toad-stools.

They invited me to stay and have something to eat. Some little maids quickly brought a dish of mushrooms, which they had gathered in the field, and which were most appetising. After eating these delicious mushrooms, we had a few games, and in a very short time I was obliged to take leave of my new companions.

Then the fairy and I jumped on the carpet. We sailed away homeward, passed through the window on to the bedroom floor, where I bade the fairy farewell and jumped into bed. I had not been there long, and was just feeling nice and warm, when I was wakened by my mother, who told me I must rise and get ready for school. Alas! it had been only a dream.

G.G., IIIA GIRLS.

My Bullfinch.

The first sound that greets my ears in the morning when I wake is the 'twit,' 'twit,' 'twitter' of my bullfinch. Suddenly the sound will cease as if he were eagerly listening for my footstep on the stair. Then when I am sitting at breakfast he flutters about his cage like a frightened bird, and I know that this is a sign for me to go and let him out.

Whenever I open the cage door he flies straight to a little pin-tray on which I keep apple pippins, and he searches among the pins until he finds a pippin for breakfast. Then he is satisfied.

I often put a pippin on my tongue and down he comes and takes it off while he is flying. But when any stranger comes in he gets into some place of safety. When I am ready for school he looks at me rather sadly, and if he could speak he would say, "It is not fair to leave me behind."

He often flies to the mirror and there he sees his own reflection, but he thinks it is another rival bird and so he starts to fight. Soon he tires of fighting his own image, and back he flies into his cage to finish his breakfast.

F.L.B., IVB BOYS.

A TRAGEDY.

He blushed a fiery red :
Her heart went pit-a-pat :
She gently hung her head,
And looked down at the mat.
He trembled in his speech :
He rose from where he sat :
And shouted with a screech,
"You're sitting on my hat!"

Old Girls' Association.

The Fourth Annual Re-union and Business Meeting of the O.G.A. was held in the School on November 5th. About fifty members were present. The programme consisted of dancing, songs by Misses Henderson and L. Goodall, and a pianoforte solo by our talented new member, Miss Bishop. We were all delighted with Miss Bishop's playing, and hope she will favour us again in the near future. Coffee and biscuits were provided, and the election of new officials ended a very pleasant evening.

The resignations of the two Secretaries, Miss Young and Miss Rogers, were received with much regret. The Society owes much to their hard work in the past. We wish Miss Rogers every success in her new sphere.

<i>President</i>	...	Miss Miller.
<i>Vice-Presidents</i>	...	Miss Reeves and Mrs. Roberts.
<i>Treasurer</i>	...	Mrs. Hetherington.
<i>Secretary</i>	...	Miss F. Gill.
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	...	Miss Heavisides.
<i>Committee</i>	...	Misses Brothers, Burdon, Crierie, Garbutt, P. Harper, Nelson, Osborne, Toomer, Whitehead, Young.
<i>Magazine Secretary</i>	...	Miss D. Margetts.

It was decided that £3 3s. od. of the O.G.A. balance should be given to some war fund. It has since been sent to the Serbian Relief Fund.

A subscription list was opened with a view to providing small gifts for Old Stocktonians with the colours.

PHYSICAL CULTURE SECTION

One dim light, and the warning to get it put out as quickly as possible, greeted the members of the above section at their general meeting held in October. Everything and everyone looked gloomy. Even the Treasurer's report of a "balance in hand" failed to make an impression. One thought filled our minds—we could not use the Gym. What was to be done? The general opinion was that a class should be held "somehow and somewhere." Many unique suggestions were forthcoming as to how to do this, but at last we decided to follow the advice of a certain politician and "wait and see."

Our patience was soon rewarded. Not long afterwards the announcement of the Annual Meeting and Social told us that the School could now be used in the evening. Without further delay the class was started and we are now in full swing. The class is

held every Monday evening, from seven till eight, and in that hour our popular Instructress, Miss Brothers, finds time for exercises, gymnastics, and various dances, so that there is not one dull moment.

The "roll call" is not as long as we should like it to be, and I would suggest that members of the O.G.A. come for a trial night, fully confident that they will look forward to future Monday nights as much as the regular members.

To Miss Jones and Miss Bruce, of the School Staff, we extend a hearty welcome, and hope they will enjoy the season spent with us. To Miss Annie Rogers, who is shortly leaving us to serve her country in the noblest way a woman can, we give our best wishes for health and strength and a speedy return.

C. HILTON TOOMER.

RAMBLING CLUB.

Since the issue of the last Magazine only two rambles have taken place—August and September being holiday months. On October 2nd we visited Chop Gate. From Potto Station we walked to Swainby and Scugdale, and then "o'er moor and fen" until the main road between Battersby and Chop Gate was reached. After tea at the Buck Inn, we walked over the moors to Carlton, and returned home from Sexhow Station. The sun shone brilliantly, and the woods and hedges were a blaze of glory. One could not help contrasting the peace and beauty of the scene with the desolation of Belgium.

The next ramble took place on November 6th, when we were again favoured with a sunny day. This time we explored the woods and moors between Great Ayton and Hutton Gate. The autumnal tints were not so weird as they were a month ago, but the country was still very beautiful.

A ramble to Eston Nab has been arranged for December 4th. There will be no ramble on January 8th.

The Secretary will be very grateful for suggestions for future rambles.

To the Members of the Old Girls' Association.

The Annual Meeting, at which only about one-third of our members were present, was held on Friday, November 5th. I am sorry so few were able to attend, as this is really our most important meeting from a business point of view. No doubt the demands made by the war upon our time and thought will account for some of the absent ones, whom we all hope to welcome at the next General Meeting in January.

The Association was formed in 1913. During the first year 110 members were enrolled; the following year 46 were added, making a total up to date of 155, the increase for the three years being 36 p.c. This should mean a corresponding increase in interest in the work of the Association, and greater enthusiasm amongst the members.

It is to be regretted that some of the sub-societies formed in the early days of the Association have ceased to exist; the two still remaining being the Rambling and Physical Culture Sections. The members of these are to be congratulated. We hope they will continue to hold successful meetings and gather more of our Old Girls into their fold.

I should like to draw the attention of those who were not present at our last meeting to a few things to which I made reference on that occasion. This is an "Old Girls' Association," and in order to make it a success each one must do her part; some in one way, some in another. The work must be divided. During the past year the Committee have spared no pains in endeavouring to carry out to the best of their ability the work entrusted to them. The officers and members have given up much valuable time, and attended meetings even on wet and dark evenings in order that the work of the Association might be carried on, but, judging from the attendance at the various general meetings, I do not think their efforts have received the support and appreciation which every committee hopes to obtain. A new committee has now been appointed. With a few exceptions all the members are quite new to the work, but I assure you all are most enthusiastic. As president, I ask all our members to stimulate and encourage this enthusiasm by their increased interest in, and attendance at, the various meetings, social or otherwise, which may be arranged by that committee during the coming year.

In accordance with our rules, a Social is to be held in January. A special committee has been appointed to make all arrangements. No matter how informal this function may be, a considerable amount of work is entailed, but I feel sure a record attendance on that date will amply repay all those who may be called upon to undertake any duty in connection with it. The committee on that occasion wish to bring forward a very important suggestion for your consideration, and will so avoid the calling of a Special Meeting to deal with the matter.

I should also like to call the attention of some of our members to *Rule 9*. Occasionally we hear complaints of notices of meetings, etc., not having been received, and names not appearing in the Year Book. A careful perusal of this rule may explain why this has occurred.

Mr. Craig, the Editor of the Magazine, has again pointed out to the Secretary and myself that five pages of that Periodical are set apart each term for articles and information relating to our Association.

I should like to take this opportunity of asking each individual member not only to purchase a copy but to support Mr. Craig in his efforts to make the Magazine a success by contributing articles, in prose, poetry, biography, travel, etc., to fill the above-mentioned pages. Reports and statistics are all very well and quite necessary at times, but we want something more interesting. I am sure the Magazine would prove doubly interesting if it contained a greater number of contributions supplied by the Old Girls themselves.

Might I suggest that the members of the Rambling Section, each term, write an article on their experiences? Surely some of these Naturalists must have quite a number of interesting adventures, to say nothing of the rare specimens of plant, animal, and insect life met with in their walks, accounts of which would be most interesting to those who are not able to accompany the party in their outings.

Then surely out of 150 members there must be some Authoresses and Poetesses who could, from time to time, contribute a short story or poem! Some members we see little of. Circumstances perhaps prevent their attendance at Socials, etc. Could not these occasionally give an account of themselves and their work in the pages of the Magazine. I can assure you all the Editor is quite willing to accept a *nom-de-plume* if any writer does not wish her own name to appear.

Miss Brown, our late Treasurer, though, as she says she is no longer sitting at the receipt of custom, has not forgotten us. I am asking the Editor to insert a letter I have received from her. Before closing I wish to mention another of our members, Miss Rogers, who has for three years done a considerable amount of Secretarial work in connection with the Association. I need not tell you her work has been done well. We all know that. Also she has given her time willingly, not only to attend meetings but has spent many hours over work that only Secretaries know anything about, work that involves care and thought. Miss Rogers is shortly taking up another occupation, one in which she has already had a little practical experience and which I sincerely trust will prove of advantage to her. As soon as things can be arranged Miss Rogers is leaving us to undergo training with a view to be of service to her country in the capacity of Nurse in one of the Military Hospitals at home or abroad. We are all proud of our Secretary and many, no doubt wish they could go

and do likewise, but fate has ordered otherwise. Our "Bit" must be performed in some other way. I know you will all join with me in wishing Miss Rogers the best of health and strength, and every success in the noble work she is about to take up.

Now just one thing more and I have finished. Many of the boys with whom some of us worked whilst in school, and whom I—and others of this Association—have taught, are now serving in various capacities in His Majesty's Army. Some I hear, are still in training; others are on active service. We can scarcely wish them a Merry Christmas, still should any by chance read this article I should like them to know their old companions often think of them, and in the name of the "Old Girls' Association" I wish them all a speedy and safe return to their homes and friends. It will indeed be a Happy Day when the War is over, when Peace is declared, and friends and families are again united.

A few of our younger members are at present in College fitting themselves for the profession of Teaching. To these I should also like to say that we wish them every success and happiness in their new sphere of life and shall be most pleased to see any or all of them at our meetings, whenever it is possible for them to attend, and I would remind them that an article for the Magazine, on their College life and doings would be most interesting to us all, and I am sure hailed with delight by the Editor.

L. R. MILLER,

(President, Old Girls' Association.)

15, Llewelyn St.,
Merthyr Tydfil,

Nov. 1st, 1915.

To the President of the O.G.A.

Dear Miss Miller,

When the Old Girls hold their Annual Meeting on Nov. 5th I shall no longer sit at the receipt of custom but I shall be thinking of you all and wondering whose names appear on the list of officers.

If it were possible for me to be present I would try to thank my friends of the O.G.A. for their kindness to me while I was in Stockton and for their kindly thought when I left. As I cannot be with you in the flesh please convey to the Old Girls my very heartiest thanks for the farewell gifts and more especially for the good wishes. To quote an advertisement "my pen is a boon and a blessing," and if the writing is not of good quality please reverse the usual proceedings, blame the writer—not the pen. I believe

it induces me to write letters that would remain unwritten if I had to search for a pen nib!

My leather bag is also both useful and ornamental and my only regret is that I shall not be able to fill it with subscriptions this year. I hope you will have a crowded meeting on Friday.

Again many thanks for the good wishes you expressed in the name of the Old Girls and with best wishes for the success of the O.G.A.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

FLORENCE M. BROWN.

Our Juniors' Page.

THE POTATO GOBLINS.

A farmer kept a sack of potatoes in a little room adjoining his house. One night his little boy John heard a little squeaky voice saying "Mark time: form fours." John crept out of bed and went to the little room, where he thought the sound came from.

He looked through the key-hole and this is what he saw, to his great astonishment. There were a lot of little goblins with bodies like potatoes and heads like small potatoes. They were all in fours marching up and down the room. In their hands they had potato sprouts which they used as bayonets. With these they were saluting the officers and were drilling.

John crept quite silently into the room but the officer saw him. He said to the other goblins, "Charge," and they ran at John like mad. They knocked him down and stabbed him all over till he screamed for mercy.

All of a sudden he awoke, and found himself still in bed.

D.L., Form II.

HOW A STAR FISH MOVES.

If you are at the sea side you should try to get hold of a starfish, and if you succeed in getting one put it in a glass of fresh water and examine it. This fish has a very peculiar way of getting through the sea. When it begins to move lift the glass up and watch the under side of its body. You will see that there are many transparent tubes waving as it moves. Each tube moves in its turn and lays hold of the glass and thus it can draw its body along. In the sea it generally draws itself along by the aid of weeds or the sand at the bottom of the sea. It can easily see to move about, and it is supposed to have nearly two hundred eyes.

P.P., IIIb.

BIRD NESTING.

When I went bird nesting I took a basket with some cotton wool inside so as to keep the eggs from breaking. We went first into a small wood where there were a lot of crows flying about. We saw one of their nests and got nearly up to it when a great black crow flapped its wings by my ear, and then I slipped and fell into some nettles and got well stung.

Then when we had stopped the stinging we soon found a water-hen's nest with five eggs and a young one. We took two of the eggs and put them in the basket. Then we saw a thrush fly out of the hedge and soon we found its nest. It had two eggs, and we took one and put it in the basket with the other two. After a time we came across a pheasant's nest with twelve eggs. We took three and then began the search again. We found a blackbird's nest with no eggs in it.

Then we saw a pigeon's nest in an oak tree, I got half way up when the branch on which I was standing gave way and I fell into some mud and got plastered all over with it. The other boy who was with me got up and took two eggs out of it. As he was coming down he dropped one, and it fell on some stones and broke.

We went out of the wood and looked in the hedges and found a linnet's nest with three pale blue eggs. We took one and when we got home, we counted our eggs and found we had eight eggs all in one afternoon and we thought we had not done badly. E.L.W., Form I.

 OWLS.

We have an old tree-stump in our garden, which is hollow from top to bottom. Half-way up the trunk there is a hole, and inside a ledge. A pair of owls built their nest here about three years ago. When they first came they were not very large, but before we cut the tree down they were very big. One was a lovely yellow colour, and the other fawn. They built their nest very roughly—just sticks laid across. Someone climbed up to see it, and found bones, probably of mice and small birds, strewn all round. These owls did not hoot, but made a peculiar noise like a man snoring. They generally do not come out until dusk, but one day one of them drove the other out, and would not let it return for a long time. We had a fine view of them then. At one time there were two young ones in the nest, but these flew away, and never returned. G.L., IIIb.

 Newspaper Puzzle—Solution.

Times: Morning Post: Standard: Telegraph: Sun: Globe:
Spectator: World: Truth: Express: Weekly Dispatch: Mail:
Graphic: Black and White: Country Life: Daily News.

An Escape from the Revolutionaries.

During the French Revolution, when each day the guillotine was exacting its awful toll of victims, Pierre Lavoise, an old farmer was living on a small farm near Caen. He was well-known in the neighbourhood both for his eccentric habits and hot temper. Yet never had his actions aroused the slightest suspicion, and this fact was the more remarkable, since in reality he was a disguised English gentleman, pledged with several of his friends, to aid French aristocrats in escaping from the fury of the revolutionaries. On several occasions he had smuggled nobles to the coast, and, with the help of his little sailing-boat the "Rescuer," they had reached England in safety.

Just now he was scheming to complete another rescue. Hiding by day, and travelling by night, thanks to his efforts, Lord and Lady Saint-Mère had succeeded in reaching Caen about five miles from the coast, and were hiding there in a shed owned by Pierre. Yet final escape seemed impossible, for not only were all exits from the town strictly guarded, but soldiers patrolled the coast day and night. Nevertheless Lavoise was equal to the occasion.

One day, the old farmer drove up to the barrier, his dray piled up with large sacks of oats. But the guards were taking no risks, and their captain gave orders for the dray to be unloaded and examined.

"Hey!" shouted the old farmer, "surely you don't think I've got accursed aristocrats in my sacks."

"Can't be helped, citizen," replied one of the soldiers, "we have our orders so you'd better hurry up and loosen those sacks."

With a very bad grace, the farmer complied, and started to unloosen the ropes. Half a dozen sacks were taken down and examined, but nothing of a suspicious nature was revealed. Then they reached the last sack, and as they lifted it out, a shout went up.

"I say, Pierre, this is a fine heavy one; something a bit heavier than oats in here I should say." "No fear," was the reply, "those are a sample of M. Vestril's very best this year."

And then the sack was opened, and true enough, there was something a bit more weighty than oats inside—the sack was filled with sand. "What!" screamed the angry farmer, "old Vestril trying to palm off sand on me at the price of oats! I'll show him! It's the first time he's tried it, but I'll see it's the last! Put those sacks back. He'll feel the weight of my whip before I've finished with him."

And thus he stormed on, whilst the sacks were swiftly thrown in. Then, amidst the jeers of the crowd, the irate old man drove back to settle with M. Vestril.

After a short while he was back, still hot and angry.

"Well! and did you settle with him, Pierre?" "I did that! He got the best hiding he's had in his life, and I've got a brand new sack full of oats into the bargain."

And there, sure enough, was a fresh sack prominently placed on the back of the dray. The amused soldiers opened the barrier quite satisfied and the dray passed out.

It had gone but a little way, when it stopped and Lavoise came hurrying back.

"I nearly forgot," said he. "How many of the cursed royalists has Mother Guillotine consumed to-day?" "Sixty-three, citizen," was the reply.

"Hélas! that's fine! Long live the Revolution!" responded the old farmer as off he drove—yes, and with two those "cursed royalists" securely hidden amongst his sacks.

Two days the fugitives lay hidden at the farm, and then, just as night fell, they set off on foot for the coast. At some distance Pierre Lavoise followed in an old cart, so as to give timely warning and help in case of pursuit. All went well for a time until suddenly the rider was startled by the sudden issue of a patrol of soldiers from the darkness. "Hello! citizen, whither bound in the dark?" came the challenge.

"Oh!" was the reply, "I've got to bring in a couple of sheep for the market to-morrow. My field is about a mile further on. Are you going far to-night?"

"Not far, but riding is easier than walking so you had better give us a lift, citizen."

"And to be sure I will, with pleasure!" shouted Lavoise, and the soldiers clambered in.

"And get along as fast as you can. We have to meet the next patrol at 11, and we're behind time as it is," commanded the officer.

Thus against his will, Pierre was compelled to drive on faster, so that he was dreading every minute to overtake his friends.

Now the fugitives, hearing the cart, waited for their friend; and Pierre was in an awful dilemma, for he dared utter no warning, and every moment the capture of the Royalists became more imminent. Suddenly, a soldier hailed them as he peered through the gloom—"And who might these late travellers be?" he cried. Quickly he sprang out, and the captives were seized. The Marquis struggled violently, and Pierre was called up to assist in taking the prisoners to a watch-cabin near by. They were flung roughly inside for the night. Then, as Pierre was departing, the soldiers, elated by their capture, called after him to share in a bottle of wine and have a game before he went. Eagerly, he assented, and one man being left to guard the door of the

lighted cabin, the rest sat round the fire outside, playing and singing over the wine.

Amidst the confusion, Pierre managed to scribble two short notes, and unnoticed, he dexterously flung them within the hut to the feet of the Marquis. Then, a few minutes later, springing up—

"Cheats!" he cried, "you changed my cards." "Cheat, yourself!" roared the soldiers, inflamed by the wine, and a savage brawl ensued. The sentry joined in, and Pierre received the drubbing of his life. But fifteen valuable minutes had been given to the prisoners, who, in accordance with Pierre's note hurried off *Westward* towards the sea to meet a boat from the "Rescuer."

Soon the soldiers discovered the escape, and rushing into the cabin, one of them snatched up a note from the floor "Hurry *Eastward* towards the sea—friends waiting" it said, and Pierre having disappeared, off they set eastwards in pursuit.

Thus were they cleverly duped, for the Englishman had sent two notes, one to be read, and a false one to be left behind for the benefit of the soldiers. And as the latter careered wildly eastwards, the Royalists sailed safely away to England and freedom. F.J.

Tomkins Minor.

Everyone thought that we were going to lose our old friend at Midsummer as he had said he was going to join the army as a drummer boy, but at 9-3 $\frac{1}{4}$ a.m. precisely on the morning of September 14th, his well known figure dashed round Regent Street corner, puffing and blowing with his tremendous exertions to arrive at school before 8-55 a.m. having left his beloved Norton at 8-40. Arriving at the class-room, he discovered to his surprise and indignation that he was still in the same form. He found his own favourite seat near the radiator already occupied by Jenkins Minimus, late of Ic, and having failed to eject the invader, after a fierce struggle he was compelled to retire to the front row in a very dilapidated condition, much to the delight of the grinning IIb maidens. The first lesson proved to be English, his pet abomination, and Tomkins having given the feminine of duck as goose, and the masculine of hen as rabbit, the master very generously rewarded him with the pleasure of spending an additional three-quarters of an hour in school after 4 o'clock to learn genders.

With the help of a former IIb boy's books, and many impositions, Tomkins managed to struggle through the rest of the week, although it almost broke his manly heart to find that his intended bride had jilted him in favour of Bramble junior, now of IIIc. Saturday arrived at last and he noted with evident joy that the School XI were playing at home on that day. Prompt to the kick off, Tomkins' lusty voice bawled forth the school cry until some kind individual took pity on the players and

cleverly directed a tuft of grass to a safe resting place in Tomkins' open jaws. Nothing daunted, our hero mounted his favourite perch in the grand stand and again burst into song. Becoming somewhat tired of this pastime, he began to amuse himself by throwing acorns at the people below him. This entertainment was cut short by the breaking of the branch on which he sat and Tomkins lost his balance and a large portion of his unmentionables, whilst a well directed kick from the home left back, who had been hit by several acorns, did not add to his comfort. He then came to the conclusion that he was safer on the ground than in the tree or grand stand, and for the next half hour he was seen parading up and down the touch line with the back of his trousers held together by a large safety-pin and uttering alternately the School war cry and groans. After seeing several shots, which, in the opinion of the one and only, could have been stopped by himself, pass the goal-keeper, he set off home where, after a somewhat lengthy argument with his father and a vain attempt to convince him that the accident to the seat of his pants was the result of a slight misunderstanding with the farm dog, Tomkins senior once again wielded the walking stick with such vigour that, owing to the slight resistance offered by the torn trousers, his young hopeful was unable to sit down to tea. During the meal his downcast spirits revived somewhat and he wrote a paragraph on his favourite game which ran in this style:—

"Mi favorit game is futbal bekause I can play best at this game. The boys at Skule say I can't play, But that is only bekause they are jelus of me. if the skule Captin was not afraid I wud show every Body what a rotten plaier he was. I shud have bean in the furst teme to years ago.

The game of futbal is plaied by 11 boys on each side and the refheree and the side what paies the refheree most money wins."

Having signed his name with much flourish to the literary effort, Tomkins retired to bed, weary in mind and body H.T., VI.

Literary and Debating Society, Girls.

At a meeting held this term the following officials were elected: Hon. President, Miss Nelson; President, Miss Thomson; Vice-President, Miss Jarvis; Secretary, Norah Watson; Committee, Amy Gibson, Gwen Cardno, Emily Watson, Marjorie Ordish, Jennie Nixon, Gwen Thomas, Margaret Dewhirst.

Owing to so many evenings being occupied with Knitting Parties only one debate has been held up to the time of going to press. The subject was "That dress is an indication of character." Miss Thomson took the chair, and papers were given by N. & E. Watson who took the affirmative and M. Ordish and R. Shipley the negative. Miss Dingle and Miss Bruce supported the motion, but Miss Jarvis, O. Idle,

R. Carter, C. Rogers, and R. Storey all opposed it. The voting resulted in a small majority of 2 (17 against 15) in favour of the negative.

It is hoped that next time more girls will realise that they are there to speak.

We also hope to have one more meeting towards the end of the term, when instead of a debate there will probably be a Shakespeare reading.

This will enable girls with dramatic ability to shine. N.W.

School News.

HOUSE REPORT. BOYS.

The Houses have suffered a big upheaval this term in losing more than usual of their men of light and leading. To all those who have left us we tender our very best wishes for future success. Things have now settled down somewhat and a strenuous season is anticipated. Callender assumes the leadership of the Blue House, with Batty as his sports' captain; Donkin is looking after the interests of the Brown House; Lamplugh as captain and Lawson as sports' captain will see that the Green House maintains its proud traditions; while Wood can already boast that under his able guidance the Red House have done better at football than for a long time past. The season is not yet very old, but four House matches have been played off with results shown below.

We must congratulate Plummer on his excellent performance at the swimming sports. It was certainly not his fault that his House did not carry off the championship. We hope that he will be able to appear at the sports for several years to come, in which case he should set up some new records. Did anyone notice that the junior length was done in quicker time than the senior? We may also congratulate S. Goodchild on his performance and condole with him a little on just missing the school championship. However, he showed himself a splendid sportsman all through.

It only remains to wish everyone as happy a Christmas as possible in these hateful times. Results:—

Red House 2 Blue House 1 Green House 5 Brown House 0
 Red House 7 Brown House 0 Green House 5 Blue House 0

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	PTS.
Green House	2	2	0	0	10	0	4
Red House	2	2	0	0	9	1	4
Blue House	2	0	2	0	1	7	0
Brown House	2	0	2	0	0	12	0

HOUSE REPORTS. GIRLS.

GREEN HOUSE.

We were very sorry to lose so many of the older girls, especially those who played for the team last year. We extend to all the new girls a hearty welcome, and hope that they will be quite happy among the members of the House.

At the beginning of term a meeting was held, when Emily Watson was unanimously elected captain (for the third time); Louie Lennard was elected secretary, and the committee as follows:—Form VI, M. Young; V, J. Nixon; IV., D. Pickles; III, D. Latus; I and II, K Peacock.

Some hockey practices were held at the beginning of term, but the girls did not turn up as was expected of them. It is hoped that all girls will try to go up to the field to all later practices. The girls will have to work very hard if they want the "Green House" to win the medal again.

This year, instead of having socials we are having "knitting meetings" to provide mittens, socks, scarves and helmets for the soldiers. We are very pleased to see "Old Girls" at these meetings. Every fortnight a parcel is sent to a prisoner of war. One has already been sent. Miss Thomson wishes to thank all those girls who have so generously contributed in money and kind.

L.L.

RED HOUSE.

At the beginning of term a meeting was held, at which the new office bearers were elected. Olive Idle was elected captain, Phyllis Evans secretary, and the committee as follows:—Form VI, N. Garbutt; V, E. Wintersgill; IV, C. Peart; III, M. Roxby; I and II, V. Walton.

So far we have not been able to have any hockey practices, but we hope to arrange some next term, when a large number of members are requested to attend.

As a rule this is the term when socials are held. This year, however, it was unanimously decided to hold "knitting meetings" instead, and so far they have proved most successful.

At these meetings we are pleased to welcome back old members, and also we are able to become better acquainted with the new. The prisoner of war whom we have "adopted" lives at West Hartlepool.

The first parcel is being sent out at the time of writing, and these parcels of comforts will be forwarded regularly every fortnight.

P.E.

BROWN HOUSE.

The members of the above House extend a hearty welcome to their new House Mistress, Miss Jones, and to all new members.

At the first meeting of the term the following officials were elected:—Captain, Norah Watson. Secretary, Rose Henderson. Committee—VI, Amy Gibson, Alice Sandell; V, Annie Shaw, Winnie Mellanby; IV, Doris Herd; III, Dorothy Gaunt; II and I, Joan Salmon.

Instead of the usual House social we are having knitting parties to provide comforts for the soldiers. We have also decided to adopt a prisoner of war, but up to the present we have unfortunately been unable to send him a parcel.

Hockey.—The House matches have not yet been played, so we have not had much opportunity of showing our prowess in hockey. However, there have been two practices, which the girls have enjoyed very much indeed.

R.H.

BLUE HOUSE.

We were pleased to welcome Miss Pirie as our new House Mistress in place of Miss McLeod, who left last term.

At the beginning of term a meeting was held to elect the captain and committee.

Captain, M. Hotson. Secretary, M. Ordish. Committee—Forms VI, G. Gearey; V, C. Rodgers; IV, M. Harper; I, II and III, G. Hammonds. General—J. Margetts, D. Carter.

Knitting parties are held every fortnight, at which all the girls who wish, come and knit things either for their own friends or to send with the school parcel. During these meetings the different Forms take it in turns to play or sing while the others knit.

We attend to the needs of an English soldier who is a prisoner of war in Germany. We keep him in eatables but not in clothes. Every fortnight after the knitting party a parcel is sent to him.

We have had only two hockey practices this term, but we hope to have more. We wish to keep our good position of last year.

M.O.

Our specially credulous correspondent at Timbuctoo telegraphs:—

"I learn from an extremely unreliable source that arrangements are in progress to give a concert at the Stockton Secondary School.

The date is fixed for Feb. 30th next. It will be held in the Manual Room, and the object is to provide funds for the much needed addition of another storey to the school and so supply that much felt want—the need for a few more stairs. I have succeeded in obtaining an advance and undoubtedly unauthentic copy of the programme. The whole affair is attended with much mystery and is being kept a profound secret.

PROGRAMME.

1. Opening Chorus "Where loud my heavy hammers sound" Vb Boys.
2. * Terrible Solo "I'll sing thee songs of Araby" ... H. Crossland.
3. Bass Solo "I fear no foe" R. Ruddock.
4. Duet "My mother bids me bind my hair" H. King and
E. G. Leslie-Plummer.
5. Violin Fantasia introducing the following airs—"I lo'e a lassie,"
"The ring you gave me," "When we are married," "Love's
young dream" H. Batty.
6. Bass Solo "Behold a giant am I" Claude Crooks.
7. Cornet Solo "The Diver" A. Plummer.
8. Soprano Solo "Beauty's Eyes" Miss N. Watson.
9. Contralto Romance "When Joan's ale was new" Miss J. Salmon.
10. Soprano Solo "Timely blossom, infant fair" ... S. Callender.
11. Song (by request) "The sunshine of my smile" ... Miss N. Watson.
12. Chorus "The Best School of All" ... The whole School.

It is moreover understood that A. Leslie-Lewis is engaged in arranging a Musical Medley to be played as a solo on the Jew's harp by himself, founded on the three airs from the Scottish Students' Song-Book—"Bread and Butter," "Cakes and Ale," "I cannot eat but little meate," (!!) It is not known if the audience can bear this."

* This seems to be a mistake in telegraphing. The word should apparently be treble. B. & C.

We beg to acknowledge, with grateful thanks, the receipt of No. 1 of "The Engineer's Herald." We congratulate the author of "Brother Motor Scouts" on his thrilling story, and are looking forward to the next instalment of "Plum's" great serial, "At the Eleventh Hour." The story of the poor "Pegasus" is told in quite professional style, and if the first riddle is rather needlessly severe on the teachers (is it original?) the editors do not spare themselves or their colleagues in a riddle which follows. The picture of Pater and Mater N—forcibly holding apart their bloodthirsty and ruffianly offspring, and of the struggles of Ernest George to tie the strings of his little white nightie behind, add that obviously truthful personal touch which is so convincing. We wish our bright little contemporary every success, and await the appearance of No. 2 with some impatience.

Athletics.

HOCKEY.—GIRLS

As the weather of the first few weeks of term was very warm, cricket took the place of hockey, but with the advent of colder days the winter pastime was taken up with great enthusiasm. A number of House and other practices were arranged and greatly enjoyed. Owing to the failing light after school our exertions, so far as hockey are concerned, are now limited to Field Days and Saturdays. Emily Watson is captain of the 1st XI for this season, and her namesake Nora is vice-captain. As we lost five of our former 1st XI, we did not start playing matches quite so soon as in former years, and it was October 31st before we played our first match. On that date we played Middlesbrough High School and found—perhaps to our surprise—stiffer opposition than we had anticipated. Defeat seemed to stare us in the face, for we were 3 goals down! Our captain, however, rose to the occasion and quickly enabled us to draw level. In the second half we managed to score again, and ultimately ran out winners by the odd goal in seven. Mention must be made of our splendid centre-half, who, as usual, worked with ceaseless and untiring energy.

We were greatly disappointed in having to cancel our fixture with West Hartlepool High School owing to the unfavourable weather conditions. Misfortune seemed still to be our lot, for our match with Great Ayton had to be declared "off" owing to our opponents being "in quarantine." A fuller account of the term's matches will appear in the next issue of the Magazine.

2ND XI.

The 2nd XI is as yet in rather an imperfect state owing to lack of practice together, but a few matches have been arranged. Our first match is against Yarm Grammar School, and later we play Great Ayton 2nd XI. We trust the reputation of the 2nd XI will be worthily upheld, and next term we shall have more to say about the players and their doings.

We are pleased to hear from our former captain, Connie Prest, that she is now playing on the right wing in the 1st XI at M. Anskey's Physical Training College. We always welcome any hockey news from girls who have left school.

FOOTBALL.

Unfortunately we had to start the season minus the services of several of the best players of last year's XI, and consequently the team had to be reconstructed. However we were fortunate in having such capable reserves, and the XI gives promise of worthily upholding the football traditions of the school. We have had a good many practices together, and already there is evidenced an improvement in our play. The forwards are working more smoothly together, and play is not so ragged and disjointed as it was during the first few weeks of term. We have not played many matches as yet, although we have quite a number on our fixture card. Our first match ended rather disastrously for us, as our opponents, Darlington Grammar School, ran out victors by 7 goals to nil. We were more fortunate against Stockton Grammar School, whom we defeated by 8 goals to nil. On November 20th, we played Guisbrough Grammar School, away, and lost by the odd goal in five. In this game Tompkinson played a grand game, and Donkin scored both goals.

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- Wood.** Our captain. A splendid worker. Always good.
- King.** A strong kick. Capital defender. Has weight and uses it.
- Callender.** Sydney! That left foot!! 'Goalies' beware!!!
- Lamplugh.** Always plays a steady game. Tackles well.
- Lewis.** Sometimes known as 'F * t.' Has weight. Advised by trainer to try Antipon. Feeds his forwards and himself.
- Ward.** Plays a nice game. Fast.
- Bennett.** Fast, and an excellent player. Shoots well from the wing.
- Arrowsmith.** Somewhat slow, but will improve. Capable reserve.
- Batty.** Inclined to get flurried. Keep cool!
- Noddings.** 'Bonnie wee thing.' Little but good.
- Lawson.** Plays a fine game and feeds his men well.
- Lofthouse.** Never seems to tire. Has played excellently this season.
- Tompkinson,** otherwise known as 'Nunk.' Good goalie. Did great things at Guisbrough.

Donkin. Plays a fine game on the wing. Makes with Lawson a splendid wing.

SWIMMING.—BOYS.

The increased interest and enthusiasm noted in our last report was very well maintained right up to the last practice.

The response made to the promise of Certificates of Proficiency was good and 39 certificates were awarded, as shown below, and were presented on the night of the gala. We congratulate the boys who earned them, and especially those who passed the tests for Grades III and IV.—(see last issue for tests). Next season, no doubt, there will be a longer list of successes in the higher grades.

We held our gala on October 14th, when for the second time we were favoured by the presence of Alderman Cameron, who clearly showed a keen pleasure and interest in our sports by the kind and amiable way in which he presented the certificates and medals, and by his offer for a second time of a gold medal for next year's gala. We beg to thank him again most heartily.

We were sorry that the Old Stocktonians, owing to such a large number of enlistments in H.M. Forces, were unable to take the same part as in the two previous galas.

As indicated in last year's report, there were two extra medals to be competed for at our gala—Alderman Cameron's for School Championship, and Mr. Prest's for the Three Lengths Championship—and much good sport was shown. The most exciting event was the re-swim between Plummer and Goodchild, who had tied for the School Championship, Plummer winning only by a touch. Well done, Plummer! Hard luck, Goodchild! We might mention that Goodchild was afterwards presented with a medal by the Staff, as some acknowledgment of his excellent performance. The other medals were won by F. Elders (three lengths championship), A. Plummer (senior length), and P. Wedgwood (junior length).

We gave below a table of results, and note in passing that no records were broken and that the Reds, after several years unshaken supremacy, have at last had to give points to other houses and let the Browns take top place.

In conclusion, we beg to thank most heartily once again Mr. Storey and staff for their continued assistance on practice nights and at the gala; the Old Stocktonians for the pleasure of their events and their interest and help; and the School Staff and Prefects for their aid, so ably and willing given.

RESULTS.

Three Lengths Championship—1, Elders (B), time 73 secs.; 2, A. Plummer (B); 3, S. Goodchild (Br). *One Length Senior Handicap*—1, Plummer (B), time 23½ secs.; 2, S. Goodchild (Br); 3, Ruddock (R). *One Length Junior Handicap*—1, Wedgwood (Br); 2, Plummer (B); 3, Bowey (Br). *Plunge*—1, L. King (G), distance 31ft. 2in.; 2, C. Waller (R); 3, Elders (B). *Neat Dive*—1, Ruddock (R); 2, Plummer (B); 3, Tompkinson (R). *Object Finding*—1, S. Goodchild (Br); 2, Wedgwood (Br); 3, Donkin (Br). *Learners' Breadth*—1, Teasdale (R); 2, W. Noddings (R); 3, Bennett (G). *One Length Back Stroke*—1, Goodchild (Br); 2, L. Lewis (G); 3, Plummer (B). *Swimming Under Water*—1, Thompson (R); 2, Lamplugh (G); 3, Goodchild (Br). *Obstacle Race*—1, Tompkinson (R); 2, Bowey (Br); 3, Walker (G). *House Squadron Race*—1, Brown; 2, Blue; 3, Green.

RECORDS.

School Championship by points—1914, J. Connors, 11 points; 1914, A. Johnson, 11 points; 1913, W. L. Richardson, 11 points. *House Points*—1914, Reds, 42 points. *Championship, 3 Lengths*—1912, A. Short, 69 secs. *Swimming Under Water*—1914, J. Connors, 47½ yards (2½ yards short of 2 lengths). *Plunge*—1914, C. Waller, 32ft.

POINTS.

(B) A. P. Plummer, (Br) S. Goodchild, 10 points; (Br) Wedgwood, 5 points; (B) Elders, (R) Tompkinson, (R) Ruddock, 4 points; (G) L. G. King, (R) Thompson, (Br) J. Bowey, (R) Teasdale, 3 points; (R) W. B. Noddings, (G) L. Lewis, (G) Lamplugh, (R) C. Waller, 2 points; (G) Bennett, (Br) Donkin, (G) Walker, 1 point. *House Points*—Brown 22, Red 18, Blue 16, Green 10.

CERTIFICATES OF PROFICIENCY.

Grade I—Sanderson, Walton, L. J. Wood, Barratt, Teasdale, Atkinson, F. Williams, N. Wilson, Ringquest, Bennett, Allibone, Brown, Reavley, E. Goodchild, Donkin, Dudley, Hird, Lennard, Shepherd, W. B. Noddings, Handley, W. Wilson. *Grade II*—L. King, Jobling, Lugg, Richardson, L. Lewis, Smith, T. B. Noddings, Walker, J. Bowey, Wedgwood, Lamplugh, Harland. *Grade III*—L. Lewis, S. Goodchild, A. Plummer, Ruddock. *Grade IV*—S. Goodchild.

WANTED TO KNOW.

Who likes jelly in class?
 Who smokes O.P.F.E.?
 Is it sometimes called "Gutter Flake"?
 Who scored for the 2nd XI at Middlesbro'?
 Who is the "lock" hero?
 Does he want "locking" up?
 What girl said an antidote is a cure for boys?

