THE AVENUE



MARCH 1910

PER ARDUA AD ALTA



FRIENDS' SCHOOL, SAFFRON WALDEN.

THE AVENUE.

The Magazine of the Friends' School, Saffron Walden.

VOL. I. MARCH, 1910. No. 1.

FOREWORD.

SEVERAL attempts have been made in the past to produce a School Journal. There still exists in our library a bound copy in manuscript of the *The Echo* of 1866-8. More recently the *Waldonian*, a fly sheet in type, had an ephemeral but useful existence. The hope that some day a magazine should be established which should more adequately reflect the varied interests and activities of school life has often been expressed, and the regretted discontinuance of *Past and Present* suggests that the time has come for its fulfilment.

Our magazine will doubtless look mainly to those living in the School for its support, but we hope that many Old Scholars and others interested in the School will not unfrequently be found amongst its contributors.

As the School avenue has, for so many years, been the happy social gathering ground for old and young, Past and Present, so we trust this new "Avenue" may become the centre of much pleasant intercourse and worthy endeavour.

J. E. WALKER.

ROUND WALDEN.

Natural History and Archæological Notes.

AS I sit down to write this first communication for our new magazine the wind howls round my study walls and the slanting rain strikes the window pane. A wild day, and a very good sample of the meteorological conditions of the last few months at Walden. The clay uplands are waterlogged and soaked, and every rivulet carries its tribute down to the Cam and Bourne valleys, while the main streams, swollen beyond their wont, spread here and there over the dank river meadows.

Yet the temperature has not been low during the last month, and already the firstlings of spring are appearing. Out on the cricket pitch the grass, which during the winter looked dark and sodden, has now taken on a more vivid tint, and already the bases of the tufts are swelling with bud, and every gleam of sunshine awakes fresh vigour in the young green blades.

In the trees that surround the playground the sap is already circulating and very definite increase is seen in the plump buds. Last year at this time our elm trees were crowded with round flower buds, which afterwards gave rise to myriads of green key fruits or samara, which lay in drifts like snow on the asphalt, and for months the trees looked impoverished and ragged. This year the flower buds are absent, and the elms are putting all their vigour into the formation of leaves. Thus fresh foodstuffs will be stored in the tree, to feed the flowers and seeds of a future year, and so the balance of nature is maintained.

The flower beds have yielded pleasure for a month past. The second week in January showed the Christmas rose, with

its pedate leaves shaped like a bird's foot, and its pink tinged, fleshy flowers, with their petaloid nectaries or honey trumpets. Then the winter aconites pushed their bowed heads through the mould and straightening themselves opened their yellow cups to every gleam of the winter sun. Now the snowdrops form white clusters all down the long walk, and here and there a gleam of yellow or blue shows where the first crocus are bursting the protecting sheaths.

In the trees and over the lawns, the birds fly hither and thither. Our shrubberies offer fine shelter for the feathered folk, and the short grass of the lawns is a favourite hunting ground for worms, seeds and other bird provender. From the class room windows I noted the following: Sparrow, Robin, Chaffinch, Bullfinch, Tom Tit, Rook, Gull, Partridge, Blackbird, Starling and Thrush, all during the last week. A fine nature diary might be made of the appearance and doings of the birds on the School grounds.

Other life is not wanting, under every log the ground people wait for the coming of warmth and light. The spiders' cocoons full of eggs lie by the torpid woodlice, the snails, each closed by a membrane across the shell, sleep through the cold, together with centipedes, millipedes, slugs and such small deer. Every dead log is a microcosm of life, full of interest to the observant eye.

In the ponds and ditches the more equable conditions of temperature enable the water plants and beasties to become active earlier than those of the land. In a single tube of algæ, gathered in a ditch at Cole End in the last week of January, I observed forty-two different kinds of microscopic plants and animals, including Amœba, Dinobryon, twenty-three different diatoms, Tanypus larvæ, Oedogonium, Spirogyra, Mougeotia and Vaucheria. Many of the algæ were germinating from spores, and I was able to follow the interesting stages of development. At the Viaduct a week ago we obtained four species of water snails, fresh water shrimps,

oniscus, two species of caddis, and leeches for the aquarium. Plants of Water Starwort, Canadian Pond Weed and Water Ranunculus were also obtained.

Down by the Cam the male catkins of the alder are elongating and opening ready to shower their pollen upon the small red female cones beside them. The hazel catkins have been evident for some time, but only yesterday I found the red pistillate buds of the female flowers.

The star-gazing section of the Natural History Society have been unable to meet often, owing to lack of time and opportunity, yet many of the winter constellations have been recognised, and also some work with the telescope on lunar geography has been done. Great interest was caused by the appearance of the Johannesburg comet in January. It was seen well down in the western sky in the glow of the sunset, north of Venus. The tail pointed almost directly to the zenith, and was about 10° long, it was slightly curved, and now and again showed increase and decrease in brightness, probably due to vapour and smoke in the earth's atmosphere. From the 24th to 30th of January it gradually faded, and a spell of dull weather brought our observations to a close.

Members of the archæological section of the Society have been hard at work this winter. Last autumn several members became deeply engrossed in brass rubbing, and the country side was scoured to obtain specimens of these beautiful monumental records. At first energy was devoted entirely to obtaining rubbings, but latterly, since most of the available ones have been obtained, a serious study from the archæological standpoint has commenced. A map showing all churches containing brasses is being prepared, and two members are at work on the development of dress and armour indicated on local brasses.

The Archæological Society has recently visited Chesterford, Ashdon, Bartlow and Wenden, to undertake systematic exploration of these villages. The Church as central point of

the village life is first taken; and efforts are made to trace out its history from the architecture; then the village roads, their relation to the surrounding geographical conditions, etc., are noted, old houses, chimneys, plaster work and inn signs are observed, and records made. This work will finally be incorporated in the records of the general archæological survey.

This survey work is undertaken by the Society to incorporate in a general record all observations on local history and archæology. Last year members of the camera helped, and added sixty photographs of churches, ancient buildings, etc., to the collection. This year the survey will be extended to include the Botany, Zoology and Geology of the district.

During the winter some little work has been done at the School collections. Much useless and duplicate material has been weeded out, and the remainder divided into convenient sections. Mr. Lowerison, of the Ruskin School at Heacham, very generously presented us with a set of flint flakes and implements from that village. I should also mention here that Mr. Henry T. Mennell, F.L.S., Croydon, has presented a copy of a pamphlet relating to the excavations in the Saxon cemetery (which was found within the Roman-British earth-works known as the "Battle Ditches") to the Library. The members of the Society here offer their thanks to these gentlemen.

The geological collection has been enriched by a series of fossils, and boulders collected from the glacial clay at the Clay Pits. Some of the fossils derived from the Oxford and Kimmeridge clay are unusually fine. The workmen at the pit keep an eye on the boulders turned out, and keep all good specimens for us. This pit and the waste land and ponds round it is one of the best areas for nature study near Walden, and I think that the nature lovers in the School should make full use of it.

The evening meetings for work have been well attended, and many good papers have been read. During the coming summer the Society's work will deal essentially with the

survey and observations upon the living plants and animals. I am glad to say that the collecting mania is nearly if not quite extinct, and only a few type specimens are retained in the cabinets.

Aquaria and a vivarium have been constructed, and we are all looking forward to pleasant tramps and full note-books for the coming season.

24th February, 1910. GEORGE MORRIS.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD, 1909.

WALDEN IN STORY.

THE subject of the evening attracted a record number of visitors, and the Hall was crowded with a company of 180 visitors and members.

The beautiful palms and plants, lent by Miss Gibson, formed an effective background for a number of fine drawings of historical Walden buildings and celebrities, among which may be mentioned Miss Walker's striking and lovely picture in colours of Queen Elizabeth.

"The Elizabethan Watch," in the persons of R. O. Dunlop, P. L. Plant, R. E. Holttum and others, added to the gaiety of the evening; and the recitations, songs and music were delightfully rendered.

The essays, however, gave the *motif* of the evening, and from the "Introduction" to the end in the "Days of the Merry Monarch" formed a complete whole.

Starting with the Battle Ditches in Roman-British times, our thoughts were carried on through the ages to Walden Priory in the troublous Norman days of King Stephen;

time passed by, and we were sympathising with the martyrs in the market place in Mary's reign, and anon showing a brave front with the Burgesses of Walden in Queen Bess's golden days. Time whirled on, and stern Cromwell sat at the old table in the Sun Inn, deciding the fate of King Charles, and the destiny of England, and the Ironsides clamoured in the Church; a few years rolled by, and happiness was restored (along with distressful times for Quakers) in the merry days of Charles II. at Audley End.

Though dialogue and fiction abounded in the twelve minutes' stories, yet the fiction was embedded in solid historical fact.

Trackway and Camp and City lost,
Salt Marsh where now is corn;
Old Wars, old Peace, old Arts that cease,
And so was England born!

She is not any Common Earth,
Water or wood or air,
But Merlin's Isle of Gramarye,
Where you and I will fare.

—RUDYARD KIPLING.

With the hope that the evening and essays may prove a stimulus to original literary work, the five stories with illustrations are appearing in print as a booklet "Walden in Story."

REGINALD H. ROBSON.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. INTRODUCTION....to "Walden in Story".....
Mr. C. B. Rowntree.

2. RECITATION....."Puck's Song".....*Rudyard Kipling.*
(from "Puck of Pook's Hill.")
Kathleen Townshend.

3. ESSAY....."The Battle at The Dykes".....
Piers A. Richmond.

4. RECITATION...." A British-Roman Song "....*Rudyard Kipling.*
(from " Puck of Pook's Hill.")
Peggy Browne.

3. PIANO SOLO....." Study in C."....*Rubinstein.*
Miss A. Wright.

6. RECITATION....." Hereward's Escape "....*Charles Kingsley.*
Mr. J. P. Whitlow.

7. ESSAY....." The Faithful Abbot " .....
Mr. R. H. Robson.

8. SONG....." Ave Maria "....*Gounod—Bach.*
Mrs. R. H. Robson.
With Violin Obligato—*Miss Clark.*

PART II.

1. SONG....." Where the Bee Sucks "....*Arne.*
(Shakespeare.)
Chorus.

2. ESSAY...." Walden Market Place in 1555 and in 1571 " .....
Dorothy Pollard.

3. SONG....." Should He Upbraid "....*Bishop.*
(Shakespeare.)
Miss Trickitt.

4. DIALOGUE....." The Elizabethan Watch "....*Shakespeare.*
(from " Much Ado About Nothing.")

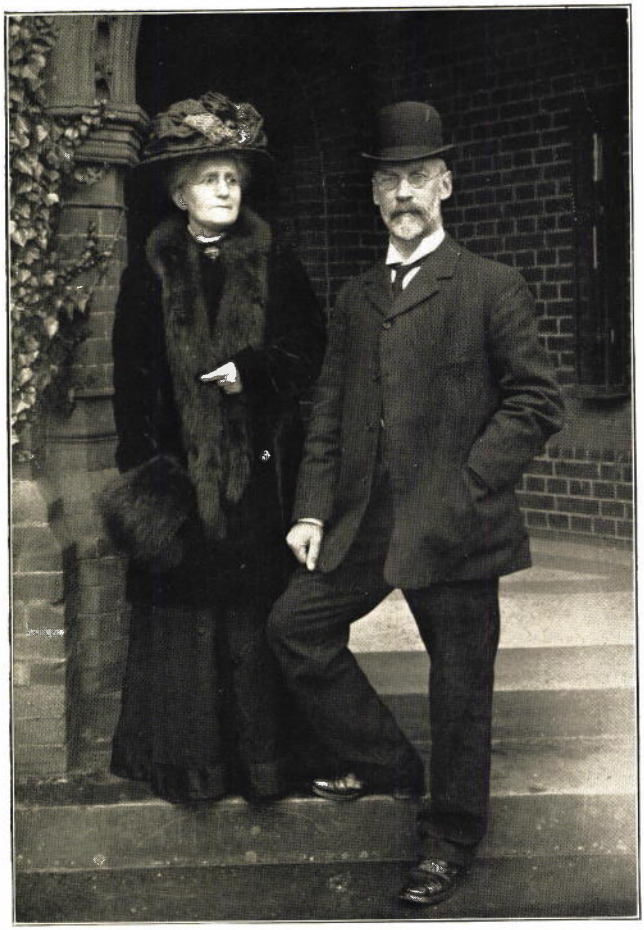
Dogberry	.. *C. B. Stevens.*	Second Watch	.. *P. A. Plant.*
Verges	.. *R. E. Holtum.*	Conrade ..	.. *H. E. Milton.*
Sexton	.. *R. B. Smith.*	Borachio	.. *H. B. Holttum.*
First Watch .. *R. O. Dunlop.*			

5. ESSAY....." At The Sun Inn " .....
Mr. J. P. Whitlow.

6. TRIO....from " The Golden Sonata "....*Purcell.*
First Violin—*Miss Clark.* Second Violin—*Mr. R. H. Robson.*
Piano—*Miss Wright.*

7. ESSAY....." In The Days of The Merry Monarch " .....
Miss Graham.

8. PART SONG....." The Children's Song "....*Statham.*
(Rudyard Kipling.)
Chorus.



JOHN EDWARD AND ANNA PHILLIS WALKER,
Headmaster and Mistress of the Family since 1890.
Celebrated their Silver Wedding, July 19th, 1909.

SONNET.

JANUARY 22ND, 1910.

COBDEN and Bright, your births were come too soon,
Too soon your deaths. Old England waiting now,
Swings left and right, like as a wind swept bough
Swings in a storm. Ere yet another moon,
Her fate, like waters in a still lagoon,
Perhaps may be o'ercast, and she will bow
Her head to tyrant's feet. Should she allow
Hereditary privilege to rule, 'twill be her doom.
The party system old has had its day;
Survival of the times when man and man
Fought hand to hand, to prove that might was right;
And building statues on their feet of clay
Has wasted England's time. Yet daylight can
Make morning gay, from darkest, dreariest night.

Piers A. Richmond.
[First Class.]

[Articles written by Boys or Girls are signed in Italics.]

NATURE TOUCHES IN NEWBOLT AND WATSON.

PERHAPS of all our contemporary poets, the names of Newbolt and Watson stand out most distinctly as nature-lovers, and an interesting study may be made of the different modes of expression of the same subject which these two authors adopt.

In reading Henry Newbolt's poems, or parts of poems which deal with nature, one is conscious of pleasure. Does one not derive this pleasure because the poet echoes our thoughts and impressions of nature, in language

so expressive and beautiful that the scenes come easily into our mental view ?

It is strange to meet in one so poetical two such opposing characteristics as the war-spirit and the love of nature. Newbolt's talent for poetry of the former description is universally recognised, but the latter by only few. The bird lover will appreciate the following lines, which occur in the " Return of Summer."

> The cuckoo shouts as though he'd never tire,
> The nuthatch, knowing that of noise you're fond,
> Keeps chucking stones along a frozen pond.

This poem, which is in the form of a dialogue, has many charming nature touches in it, but its object is to show that the father poet and his daughter, representing age and youth, naturally differ in thoughts. The return of summer brings to the aged dreams of past days spent in happiness, while the young girl is stirred by the surrounding life. " When east is west " their thoughts may coincide.

A power that can conjure up such scenes as the following is truly great :—

> Bluebells as yet but half awake,
> Primroses pale and cool,
> Anemones like stars that shake
> In a green twilight pool.
> On these still lay the enchanted shade
> The magic April sun.

April is a favourite month with poets, for nearly every poet has written some description of its beauty. Newbolt's poem entitled " The Adventurers," describes their ramble over downs and through woods admiring nature, which seems to be at its best.

What a strange experience for many to roam through the country whilst the rains descend, broken by sudden spells of sunshine! Few people see any beauty in April showers. The last verse of the poem enlightens us as to the feelings of April adventurers :—

Homeward over the downs we went,
Soaked to the heart with sweet content,
April's anger is swift to fall,
April's wonder is worth it all.

Turning to William Watson, contemporary with Newbolt, one finds in his works a different appreciation of nature.

William Watson, with his broad mind and broad outlook, has, perhaps, a larger range of subjects than any of his brother poets. In reading his works we find poems of every description, but rarely find one whose title indicates nature, yet whose substance is quite independent of other thoughts. One of the dominating features of Watson's poetry is the delicate interweaving of lovely nature touches with worldly thoughts and strifes, rendering the whole, which otherwise might have been unattracting, an appeal to the heart.

We feel that Watson has the entire grasp of nature, yet this entirety consists not in Newbolt's close observation of plant life, but in the broader view of one who seems to be apart from the world.

The poet in the verses " The Stream and the Tarn," of which the following is a quotation, seems to be admiring from ethereal regions :—

From the silent tarn up yonder,
The cloistered tarn that abides
Where the guarding mountains ponder
As they gaze on the far-off tides.

One of the arresting and most charming of the poet's verses is the one on April entitled " Song," which, when contrasting it with Newbolt's " Adventurers " does, indeed, present a broader view. The verse begins :—

April, April,
Laugh thy girlish laughter,
Then the moment after
Weep thy girlish tears.

Gladys Farnell.
[First Class.]

THE SCHOOL HOSPITAL.

FEBRUARY, 1910.

THE hospital at Walden,
Is such a fine old place,
We call it "Comfort Cottage,"
And there we have a race.

For ere one leaves a bedstead,
Another enters in,
For we dare not leave it empty,
It is so nice within.

The hospital at Walden,
Is such a fine old place,
But yet with all its pleasures,
It has a nasty taste.

For every night and morning,
We have to gargle, ugh!
We also have saline, which is
A horrid medicine too.

Perhaps we give Miss Wiskin trouble,
Keep her running here and there,
We cannot help it really, truly,
We like it so much being here.

We're sorry when we leave it,
And so would you be too,
For when we go back to our school
We have much work to do.

When we look out of our window
The sky seems always blue,
We are so very happy,
And so we hope are you.

V. May Hargrave.

[Aged 9.]

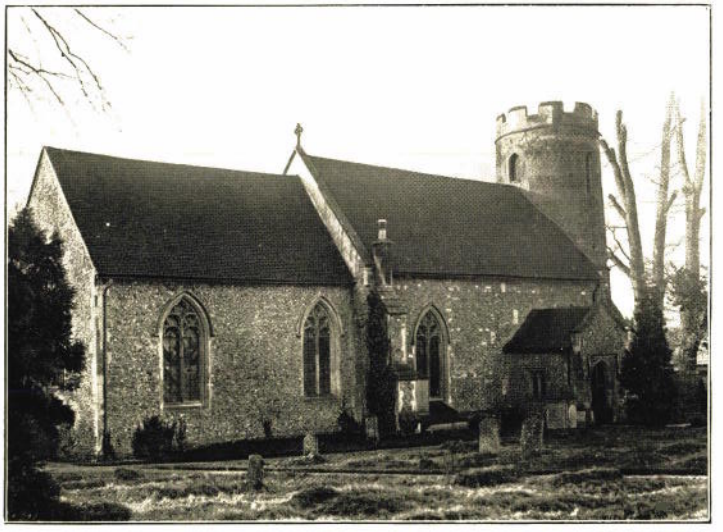


Photo by] [*J. E. Walker.*

BARTLOW CHURCH.

BARTLOW.

BARTLOW is a village in the South of Cambridgeshire, about five or six miles from Saffron Walden. The features of the village which stand out the most are the Church and the Burial Mounds.

The Church is built in various styles, Norman (1100), Early English (1200), Decorated (1300), Perpendicular (1400), and Tudor (1500). The Norman portion is the tower, which is one of the few round towers left in England at the present day. It has a battlemented parapet round the top, and its walls are about four feet thick. The windows in the tower are "lancet" shape (*i.e.* they have a pointed arch and are rather narrow), and were made during the Early English period of architecture.

The Church has only a nave and chancel besides the tower. The windows in the east of the chancel form the Perpendicular part of the church, those in the nave being of the Decorated period. The doors in the south of the nave and chancel are Tudor.

On the south wall of the nave are the remains of an old fresco, which represents Saint Christopher with the Christ-child on his shoulder. At one time this fresco was white-washed over, and most of it is still yellow in consequence. Only the cloak with the cord and tassels fastening it retain their original colour, the former being dark brown and the latter red. The area of the wall taken up by this fresco is about five by three feet.

The "hills" are near the church, on the south side of it. They are seven in number, there being four large and three small ones. The large "hills" are conical, their height being equal to the diameter of the base. The small ones are low mounds. Before any of them were opened, they were con-

sidered to be of Saxon or Danish origin, but it was proved to be otherwise when it was discovered that they contained articles of Roman pottery and other Roman remains, some of which are now to be seen in the museums of neighbouring towns. Many of these articles, however, were burnt when Lord Maynard's mansion, including private museum, was destroyed by fire at Easton.

In the Walden museum there are a series of pictures of the various vases and other utensils and ornaments excavated at Bartlow, as well as a number of the original articles themselves, together with models of some of those destroyed by the fire. Other pictures show the mounds as they formerly appeared, and there are plans of the tombs which were situated in the centre of each. Another illustration shows the "hills" as they appear now,—the excavations having been filled in, rabbit burrows removed, and the surface covered with sods of grass. These tumuli were opened between 1815 and 1849. The largest one, opened in 1832, contained a subterranean vault, to which a passage was bored, and from it were taken the remains of a man, who, from the articles buried with him, was evidently a Briton of authority in the district, and who had been left unmolested by the Romans when they conquered the country.

In one of the smaller mounds was found a tile-built tomb, containing human bones, as well as some ornaments, including a gold ring and a Roman coin of the Emperor Hadrian (who reigned from 117 to 139 A.D.).

A few years ago the estate on which the "hills" are situated changed ownership, and as they overlooked his garden the present owner closed them to the public, so that they have ceased to be the playground, as they formerly were, of the village children, while the botanists of Saffron Walden School are no longer able to roam the mounds in search of the Pasque Flower.

Harold B. Holttum.

[First Class.]

GIRLS' FIRST CLASS SONG.

CHRISTMAS, 1909.

Air—"Marching through Georgia."

NOW the term is ended, and the holidays are near,
And Christmas is approaching, with all its merry cheer,
We'll ne'er forget the happy times that we've been working here,
During our schooldays at Walden.

Chorus :—

Hurrah ! hurrah ! we love the dear old school !
Hurrah ! hurrah ! our ardour shall not cool,
For we're no exception to the long-established rule,
Loving the old school at Walden.

Of matches there've been many, and we've won them nearly all,
The backs have often longed in vain to touch the hockey ball,
And oh! the goal, in spite of mud, has had small chance to fall,
During this last term at Walden.

Chorus : Hurrah ! hurrah !

In picture we've seen Petra, Japan and Pemba's shore,
And though we do not all agree with Dr. Eiloart's lore.
We enjoy the lectures, and we hope for many more,
During our schooldays at Walden.

Chorus : Hurrah ! hurrah ! etc.

History, and Twelfth Night and Scripture with the boys,
Drawing, French and English and Science with its joys,
Hockey and Stencilling, O ! who can say life cloys
During our schooldays at Walden.

Chorus : Hurrah ! hurrah ! etc.

We're int'rested in other things, the Budget and its doom,
The Suffragettes, their vain attempts, the election coming soon,
The night fire-drill, which, strange to say, was acted just at noon,
During this past term at Walden.
Chorus : Hurrah ! hurrah ! etc.

We'll strive to help, with heart and hand, the school to us so dear.
But now the term is ended, and the holidays are near,
A merry, merry Christmas to all folks who're gathered here,
Hurrah for the old school at Walden !
Chorus : Hurrah ! hurrah ! etc.

First Class Girls.

A WALK AMONG THE FELLS.

THE best part of the day in the English Lake District is the early part. We set out fairly early in the morning for Red Pike (Buttermere), after having collected the food for the day.

It was a lovely day, sunny, with a cool breeze ; and we could hear the buzzard screaming high above our heads, and by this time we were rounding the lake side of Burnbank on the high road ; as we went along we could not help picking and eating the bilberries that grew in such abundance on the wayside.

In a few minutes we could hear the sound of running water, and by this we knew that we were nearing Holme Force Beck. This beck, or stream, rises in the bogs on the top of Burnbank Fell, it runs down in a narrow ravine and at about half way it enters Holme Wood, where it breaks up into five falls, of which the first three are one after the other, the last two are side by side ; the interest of the falls is that the second one is a spout ; this is caused by a sudden curve in the rock ; the water is thrown up and then falls over in a curve.

After the beck has had its freak, it goes under a stone bridge and trickles, tumbles, rushes, ponders, and away to the lake.

However we did not stop to see this, but crossed the beck and now stood on the side of Carlingknott; this fell is more rocky than Burnbank, and more berries grow on it. When we had come round to its face we saw the distant mountains; Grassmoor and Whiteside, with Loweswater down below us; they all looked very near.

We now began to descend towards the low road; here we stopped to look over a bridge where High Nook, White Oak and Mosedale becks meet at the Loweswater Beck. We could see large trout fanning the bottom, and then losing themselves in the weeds; we move on and out of that lovely sheltered spot where the trees on either side hang over the water, to the open road where we began to ascend a little on to the side of Melbreak. This mountain though not very high is rocky and thickly grown with short grass; Stag's Horn moss also grows very freely on it.

But now we had left Loweswater, and were walking along the side of Crummock; Crummock Water has some very still water round its edges. We came to a place called Ling Crag; Ling Crag is a small peninsula with its isthmus, and on either side the water is very clear and still; the rocks at the end also take the place of a diving board; so that on the whole it is a convenient place for bathing.

We continued, and soon found ourselves at the mouth of Scale Force Beck; the beck takes its name from the fall or force of one hundred and thirty feet.

All the way up, the beck hardly has a pool, but simply dashes over rough stones and sharp rocks. We rested a little way up, some took out the pots and kettle, while others collected firewood. We soon made a fire, and in a few minutes we were all enjoying our dinner.

After we were satisfied we proceeded once again on our journey, and very soon we could hear a deep roar; and, as the

clouds were darkening over a little, the sound seemed very gloomy.

This waterfall, Scale Force, contains two falls, the lower one is about twenty-five feet high and about six feet broad; as it happened when we were there, the becks were all in full flood. The next fall is deep in a gorge of about one hundred and forty-feet long, the fall at the end being one hundred and thirty feet high. We went about half way into the gorge to see the water; here it was necessary to put on our mackintoshes to prevent being wetted by the spray. The sides of the rocks, the walls of the ravine, were beautifully decked with all sorts of rare ferns.

After we had had a good look round we came out of the gorge and began the real ascent of Red Pike, Buttermere (I say Buttermere because there are other Red Pikes in the District).

We soon found ourselves crossing the beck above the fall, and it looked not far from the top of the mountain; but no, quite suddenly up popped the true summit; this was a very different sight.

When we had reached this true summit, which happened to be a good distance off, we were two thousand four hundred and seventy-nine feet above the sea level. We could see Crummock, Buttermere at our feet, Ennerdale, Loweswater, Windermere, Derwentwater and Bleeberry tarn immediately below. Neither could be seen clearly, unfortunately, because of the clouds.

We soon had to come down because it was dreadfully cold; there was also a strong wind blowing.

On our way back round Carlingknott, we saw on the lake a heron, fishing in the same spot that we had fished in on the previous day; and as we stood we watched the sun sink into its golden slumber, leaving us to plod on in the cold and whispering winds of evening.

Alexander Walker.
[Lower School.]

SCENES FROM "HIAWATHA."

SEVERAL Lower School boys gave us a delightful half hour on December 20th, 1909, at the last entertainment of the term, by performing several scenes from Longfellow's "Song of Hiawatha," which they had been studying for English Literature during the term.

The scenes were made more realistic by the scenery and the model wigwam and canoe. All the warriors were in full war paint and had feather head-dresses.

The performance began with the introduction, recited by one of the warriors.

As the curtain was drawn back the second time, we beheld a band of warriors armed with bows and arrows, tomahawks, and knives, creep suddenly on to the stage from beneath the piano. On seeing the signal of the smoke of Gitche Manito's Peace Pipe, they sat round in a circle and recited in turn parts of the Great Spirit's speech. In obedience to him they washed off their war paint, buried their weapons, and then passed the pipe round, each smoking it in turn.

In the next scene Nokomis entered with her little grandchild, Hiawatha. Presently in stalked Iagoo, the boaster, who gave the child a bow and some arrows, bidding him to into the forest and shoot a deer; but either Iagoo did not make a very good bow, or the child could not manage it, for the arrow could not be made to go through the lecture-room door.

"Hiawatha's Friends" came next, in which Hiawatha figures with Kwasind, the very strong man, and Chibiabos, the musician. Each of the two friends spoke the part describing the other. Kwasind displayed his mighty muscles when his feats of strength were described.

The building of the birch bark canoe was then described, showing how the birch, cedar, larch, and fir trees all contribute their share in the making of that light craft.

The longest scene was "Hiawatha's Wedding Feast." First the feast was described and then Nokomis gave to each a plentiful supply of tobacco.

Pau-puk-keewis was first asked to entertain the company by performing one of his dances. This he did, and his dance, though it must have been difficult, was very well done. It was at first slow, but gradually grew swifter and swifter, the performer threading in between the guests, and finally jumping over them.

When he had finished, Chibiabos was requested to sing, so he sang, or rather recited, a song, and was greatly applauded. Iagoo, being jealous of this, got up and offered to tell one of his wonderful tales. He said he had seen a sea bigger than the Gitche Gumee, and so bitter that no one could drink it. Over this water came a big canoe with wings taller than the tallest trees. It carried a hundred warriors, whose faces were painted white, and whose chins had hair growing on them. Thunder and lightning came from the great canoe, frightening everybody.

At each seeming absurdity the warriors laughed and would not believe him, mocking and deriding him. Hiawatha alone did not laugh. When Iagoo had finished he told them all that it was perfectly true, and that he had seen it all in a vision. He went on to say that these white men were sent by Gitche Manito with his message, and requested that they would not hurt them. With that the scene ended.

The final scene was "Hiawatha's Departure." Hiawatha stood at the door of his wigwam, looking across the great lake towards the east. Presently he saw something in the distance, which he soon made out to be a canoe. When it came near he saw that it contained a figure in a black robe. This was a priest from beyond the ocean.

Hiawatha welcomed him in the name of his people, and invited him into his own wigwam, where Nokomis set food before him. Presently the "black-robe chief" came out to give his message to the people.

Then Hiawatha addressed the people, telling them that he was going on a long journey to the westward, and bade them do all he had told them, and be kind to the white people. After an impressive farewell he sailed away in his canoe.

Thus departed Hiawatha,
Hiawatha the Beloved,
In the glory of the sunset,
In the purple mists of evening,
To the region of the home wind,
To the Islands of the Blessed,
To the kingdom of Ponemah,
To the land of the Hereafter!

Richard Eric Holttum.
[First Class.]

BUDS.

THE best time of the year to study buds is in the spring. Not only can you study the buds themselves at this time, but also their development.

A good example to study at first is the Horse Chestnut—*Œsculus Hippocastanum.* There are two Horse Chestnut trees at the end of the boys' playground, one at the corner of the girls' upper hockey field, and another by the masters' studies.

The dark brown twig is thick, branched, and the buds grow in pairs. On the twig can be seen a number of air pores, through which the plant breathes; they are called lenticels.

Immediately below the bud can be seen the leaf scar, which marks the position of the leaf last season. Round this scar are some black dots which are the ends of the bunches of food tubes that carried the water to the leaf and the food

from the leaf to the twigs. They are evident as the veins of the leaf.

The bud is covered with brownish scales overlaying each other; these are to protect the inside.

If you dip a bud into water, when you take it out the water runs off, and does not run into the inside, and if you smell and taste, but not swallow, the scales, you will find the smell and taste disagreeable, unless you very much like bitter things, and this protects the buds from animals.

Underneath the scales are several layers of green tissue, and then comes a lot of white wool surrounding the young leaves and the flower bud.

The bud scales contain a substance known as resin. The presence of resin makes it a sticky job to pull a bud to pieces. Soon the scales begin to open, and gradually the leaves and flower buds grow.

You can tell any tree in winter by its buds and twigs. For instance, the sealing wax red and plump lime buds that grow singly on the slender lime twig, which is branched, and of a greenish-brown colour. The black ash buds grow in pairs, the twig is thick, branched, and grey, and on it are conspicuous leaf scars. Tennyson in one of his poems says, "Her eyes were black as ash buds in the month of March."

The spindle-shaped, light brown buds of the beech grow singly on the slender twig.

Many trees have naked buds, as the wayfaring tree for an example. These buds are protected by dense hair, which also clothes the ends of the twigs.

Basil G. Burton.
[Second Class.]

THE WALDEN ELECTION.

EVERYTHING was in confusion,
In a simply dire confusion,
For the Lords threw out the Budget.
Then there was a great election,
Which was not to be forgotten
In the minds of many people
In the town of Saffron Walden,
In the ancient town of Walden.
There was great excitement brewing,
All the town was in an uproar.
On the day of declaration
Blue and yellow flags were flying,
And the market square was crowded
With a heaving mass of people.
Shouts were heard of "Vote for Proby,"
"Vote for Pease" and "Votes for Women."
Motor-cars draped o'er with yellow,
Others too in blue resplendent—
Many blue and few with yellow—
Flitted by midst yells and hootings.
And upon the platform standing
Were the friends of Colonel Proby,
Yelling, hooting, shouting, waving
For the Tories were victorious.
Pease and all his friends were silent,
But they were not quite down-hearted,
For they knew that right must triumph.

Two would-be voters,
Winifred Newbery.
Muriel A. Baker.
[First Class.]

THE OLD BOYS' VISIT AND FOOTBALL MATCH.

AT four o'clock on the afternoon of Saturday, February 26th, an Old Boys' Team arrived at the School ready to try conclusions with the present School team. The visitors turned out as follows :—S. J. Willis; G. Merheim, T. Tawell; W. Elliott, W. F. Fairbanks (Capt.), F. W. Newbery; H. S. Redding, L. Redding, A. G. Mitchell, A. T. Carr, H. Wilson. J. H. Quinn officiated as referee, and J. Hess walked round the field and encouraged his side. The School team which opposed them was: P. V. Mauger; P. A. Richmond, G. H. Evans; H. E. Milton, R. H. Robson, W. Pitt; L. Warren, A. Brereton, J. P. Whitlow, C. B. Rowntree, A. R. Deane. The School played down hill in the first half, and the pace all through was very fast. The first goal came from a dropping shot by Warren, and then Mr. Brereton scored with a good low shot which gave Willis no chance. The game was very open till shortly before half-time, when a big kick by the School backs gave Mr. Whitlow an opening, but Fairbanks tackled him as he was shooting, and Mr. Brereton rushing up scored the third goal. Soon afterwards half-time was called, and from the kick off the Old Boys went away with a rush, the left wing being especially prominent, but Richmond tackled well, and on one occasion Mauger saved brilliantly. Then the ball came up from the half-back line and Mr. Whitlow, taking it on the half volley, scored with a very fast shot. Almost immediately afterwards the same player headed a good centre from Warren into the net. Shortly before time the last goal was scored by Mr. Brereton, and the whistle blew, leaving the School victorious by six goals to none. The Old Boys' combination was a formidable one on paper, but they failed through lack of knowledge of one another, and the School defence was very sound throughout; the forwards



Photo by] [*J. E. Walker.*

THE SCHOOL DINING HALL.

also played well together. The pace was rather too much for most of the visitors, who found the School in better condition. Wilson, Fairbanks, and Tawell were perhaps the most prominent among the visiting team.

After tea, an entertainment took place in the Lecture Room. Out of a good programme it seems almost invidious to select items, but mention may be made of one or two. H. S. Redding read a very amusing account of why a certain train was late, and the meeting of Knights at Bury St. Edmunds deciding to force Magna Charta on King John was well rendered by some Lower School boys. H. Wilson sang "Asleep in the Deep," and some Upper School boys caused much laughter by their rendering of an adaptation of W. W. Jacobs' story, "Smoked Skipper." The evening concluded with a setting of Dancla's "Allegro" for four violins and piano, which was much appreciated.

After supper a somewhat frivolous hour was spent by the Old Boys and Staff. "Musical Chairs" found many devotees. The efforts of various blindfolded people to blow out a lighted candle caused much amusement. Many theories were tried, and proved more or less successful, H. S. Redding in particular excelling in the latter respect. At about eleven o'clock the assembly dispersed, some to bed, and some for a pleasant chat before turning in.

Sunday was a cold but fine day till late in the afternoon, when rain began to fall. With most of the visitors it was an opportunity for rest and talk, the afternoon being occupied in partaking of coffee or tea (in some instances we heard of both). Two or three had to leave on the Sunday evening, but the majority attended the School service, and after supper there was some music in the Lecture Room. The day closed with a final gathering for talk in one of the master's studies, at which many and wonderful tales were told by accomplished *raconteurs*, which kept all in a good humour till closing time.

Early on Monday morning, this visit, which has now happily become an annual fixture, came to an end, and amidst many regrets the leave-takings were made, all hoping that the opportunity for a similar visit would not be long in coming.

J. PENROSE WHITLOW.

FROM FAR AND NEAR.

CONCERNING OLD BOYS.

ALEC. B. BEVAN (Scholar 1901-4) writes from Canada: "I am now out in the bush in connection with the National Trans-Continental Railway. Our journey out here was rather amusing and exciting. O'Brien, on the north shore of Sturgeon Lake, terminated our railway journey; from there to North East Bay, on the same lake, we took steamboat, and after that the exciting part began. From North East Bay our journey had to be done by canoe and walking. This may sound very nice, but when you have to carry about six months' supplies with you, apart from stores, cooking utensils, and three tents, the thing turns out to be rather more than a joke. Travelling by canoe was not so bad; it was the wretched "portaging" of our baggage across portages joining lakes that was the unpleasant part of our journey, especially as some of the lakes were three miles apart. Once we got frozen up, and had to wait a week before we could proceed, and at other times we had to have a man in the bows of the canoe to break the ice with a pole. Well, we reached our camping ground on the shore of Rocky River, a few hundred yards from the head of Red-headed Lake, on the 9th of November, having left Winnipeg on October 13th, thus taking almost a month to accomplish the journey.

The camp was at the west end of our section of ten miles, and we remained there about seven weeks. On the 1st of January we moved our camp to the shores of Bald-headed Lake, about three miles from the east end of our section. We are still in tents, and likely to be for about another month, by which time we hope our log camp will be ready. Living in tents out here in winter, with the temperature 40° below zero, is no joke, though by this time I am getting used to it."

January 23rd, 1910.

c/o G. F. HORSEY, ESQ.,
Residing No. 8,
Trans-Continental Railway,
vîa O'Brien,
Ontario.

The following is an extract from a letter written by Ernest W. Sawdon (Science Master 1902-6), Friends' High School, Chungking, West China :

" On Confucius' birthday the boys decorated the school with pretty ornaments, made entirely by themselves, of bamboo and paper, and invited all the graduates of the school to a feast, at which speeches were made by several of the past and present teachers. In the evening two gramophones and a magic lantern helped to keep things going, and the boys enjoyed themselves very much.

" On Christmas Day we all went into the city, where we joined with the scholars of the Primary Schools and the members of the Church in games of all kinds, the one that roused the most excitement being a kind of hockey with a handkerchief and a stick.

" About the time of the signing of the agreement between China and Japan about the Antung-Mukden Railway there were many rumours floating about the city, some saying that the foreigners had landed 10,000 men in the south, and were

going to partition China among them, others saying that China and Japan were at war, others again that Yuan Shi Kai had rebelled and was going to save his country by putting on the throne a son of the late Emperor who is now in exile. A notice appeared in the principal tea-shops of the city, urging the people to rise up against the foreigners, and naming a certain day when all the foreigners in the city were to be murdered. As one went about the streets one constantly heard threats from irresponsible hooligans, but on the day named I walked alone into the city, and was unmolested.

"The new steamer which was going to revolutionise the navigation of the Yangtse river has fallen into the hands of the Chinese officials and is not to be allowed to return to Ichang, because of the difference in the ideas of the viceroys of Szechuan and Hupeh. The latter allowed the boat to come up river under protest, but will not allow her to return.

"The great topic of conversation here in Chungking is always the speed (or otherwise) of the mails. At present it is 'otherwise.' There are said to be three departures of mails a week from England, but we have only had one delivery in the last fortnight. To-day we have heard that all the mail steamers are stopped at Sunday Island, about eighty miles below Ichang, on account of the shallowness of the water. If there is no steamer at Ichang at all this will cause rather a serious delay. The usual plan of procedure in an emergency like this is to run one set of boats from Ichang to Sunday Island, and another from there to Hankow, but if there is no boat above Sunday Island this method will be impracticable.

"We were told yesterday that there are several cases of plague in Hankow, and the steamers are stopping at Kiukiang instead of at the former place in order to avoid the infection."

[The writers of both the above letters would welcome letters from Old Boys.]

SCHOOL DIARY, 1909.

Nov. 23rd.—Annual Meeting Sen. Lit. Soc. (reported elsewhere).

,, 24th.—Lecture: "The Poetry of Peace and War," by Dr. Eiloart.

,, 24th.—Hockey Match:—Girls' XI. *v.* Training College, home, won 7–0.

,, 26th.—Meeting Boys' 2nd Cl. Lit. Soc. Debate: "The Characters of Mary Queen of Scots and Elizabeth."

,, 27th.—Hockey Match: 1st XI. *v.* Cambridge Ladies II, away, won 3–0.

,, 30th.—Meeting Boys' N.H.S. Papers: "Walking Tour in Derbyshire," by R. E. Holttum, and "Ants," by H. B. Holttum.

Dec. 1st.—Football Match.—1st XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford "Wednesday," home, lost 1–5.

,, 4th.—Hockey Match.—1st XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford, away, lost 3–4.

,, 7th.—Meeting of Sen. Lit. Soc. Essays: "Journey to the Hills," by Q. Sloane. Girls' diary by K. Townshend. Music.—Violin solo, Mr. R. H. Robson; Piano duet, P. Browne and K. Townshend.

,, 8th.—Football Match.—Boys' XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford Coll. 2nd XI., home, lost 1–3.

,, 9th.—Meeting of Boys' N.H.S. Diaries read.

,, 10th.—Meeting of Boys' 2nd Cl. Lit. Soc. Essays: "Ashford," by K. H. Green; "The Adventures of a Penny," by H. C. Grimes; "Folkestone," by E. A. Hart.
Lecture: "Petra," by Mr. Oliver Brockbank.

,, 11th.—Football Match.—2nd XI. *v.* Choir Boys, home, won 5-1.

,, 16th.—Joint meeting, Boys' and Girls' N.H.S. Reports of Work done, Mr. Morris and Miss Pickard. Papers:

"Brasses from Neighbouring Churches," K. H. Green; "Prickles that Protect," G. Farnell; "Our Aquarium," R. Goodman; "A Visit to Thaxted," D. Pollard.
Annual Meeting of Boys' Junior Lit. Soc. (4th meeting of term), at "Beechwood," by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Robson. Essays: "Walk Among the Fells" (illustrated), Alec Walker; "Current Events," J. H. Burgon and E. S. Jeffrey; "Coursing," H. Agnew. Recitation, music, games.

Dec. 17th.—Meeting of the Boys' Reading Club at "Hazelwood," by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Rowntree. Books previously read, and discussed at Meeting: "Across the Plains," (R. L. Stevenson); "The Golden Age," (Kenneth Grahame); "Macbeth," "From Cape to Cairo," (Grogan).

,, 20th.—Last Entertainment.

1910.

Jan. —Boys' N.H.S. Preliminary Meeting.

,, 22nd.—Football Match.—1st XI. *v.* Saffron Walden 1st XI., away, drawn 3–3.

,, 25th.—Meeting of Sen. Lit. Soc. Boys' diary, P. L. Plant. Essays: "Early Life of Dampier," C. W. Pratt; "Holiday in North Devon," K. Townshend; "A Visit to the Houses of Parliament," M. Ward. Music: Song, "Devon, Glorious Devon," Mr. Brereton; piano solo, M. Agnew.

,, 26th.—Hockey Match.—1st XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford, home, won 3–2.

Feb. 2nd.—Meeting of Boys' N.H.S. Paper: "The Higher Fungi," H. B. Holttum.

,, 4th.—Meeting of Boys' 2nd Cl. Lit. Soc. Essays: "Boy Scouts," L. R. Hart; "Aeronautics Indoors," W. A. Lee.

,, 5th.—Annual Meeting Girls' P.L.A. Subject: "The Poems of Wm. Watson and Henry Newbolt."
Meeting of M.H.U. at Hill House, by kind invitation of Miss Gibson.

Feb. 5th.—Football Match.—1st XI. *v.* Saffron Walden 2nd XI., home, won 3–0.

Feb. 8th.—Meeting Sen. Lit. Soc. Girls' Diary, Q. Sloane. Essays: "Quantock Land," Miss Jones; "Early English Literature," H. C. Thomas; "Bridlington," M. Tabrum. Music: Violin solo, W. Newbery; Song, "O Lovely Night," Miss Trickitt.

,, 9th.—Football Match.—2nd XI. *v.* British School, home, won 5–2.

,, 12th.—Football Matches.—1st XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford, away, lost 2–5; 2nd XI. *v.* Choir boys, home, lost 1–8. Hockey Match.—Girls XI. *v.* Dunmow, home, won 4–2.

,, 15th.—Meeting Boys' N.H.S. Papers: "Littlebury, Wendon and Walden Churches," H. Skelton; "Mammoths," J. A. Horne. Reading, "Over the Hills," Miss Pickard.

Meeting of Girls' Jun. Lit. Soc. Diary, C. Lidiard; Essays: "The Eskimo and the Man," K. Edmunds; "Christmas," M. Emson. Recitation: I. Newbery, "The Blackbird."

,, 16th.—Football Match.—2nd XI. *v.* Boy Scouts, home lost 2–3. Hockey Match.—1st XI. *v.* Grange Road A., home, won 4–3.

,, 18th.—Meeting Boys' 2nd Cl. Lit. Soc. Essay: "The Aviation Week at Rheims," Mr. C. B. Rowntree.

Meeting of Boys' Jun. Lit. Soc. Diary, E. S. Jeffrey and R. W. Montford. Essays: "Cheltenham," U. A. Baker; "The Sea-shore," R. Trigg; "The Faithful Abbot," Mr. R. H. Robson.

,, 22nd.—Meeting Sen. Lit. Soc. Boys' Diary, H. B. Holttum. Essays: "John Constable," J. E. Thurnam; "A Visit to Waterloo," L. Warren; "Across Siberia," A. B. Whitney. Music: Song, "The Northland," Miss Pickard.

,, 23rd.—Football Match, 2nd XI. *v.* British School, home, lost 0–6.

,, 26th.—Hockey Match.—1st XI. *v.* Cambridge Ladies II., home, drawn 1–1. Football Match.—1st XI. *v.* "Old Scholars," won 6–0. Entertainment.

Girls' P.L.A., M.H.U., N.H.S. meetings held once a week.

J. EDITH V. GRAHAM.
Piers A. Richmond.

EDITORIAL BOARD.

President: J. E. WALKER.

The Secretaries of The Literary Society: J. EDITH V. GRAHAM, B.A., and REGINALD H. ROBSON, B.A.

Secretary: E. LUCY WILLIAMS.

Treasurer: C. BRIGHTWEN ROWNTREE, B.A.

*Lucy Fairbrother, *Lilian Pickard, *Lucy Salter, *George Morris, B.Sc., J. Penrose Whitlow, B.A., *Piers A. Richmond.

* To retire at the end of the year.

NOTICE.

The Avenue will be published once each term, on March 21st, July 4th, December 5th, 1910. Price per copy 6d. (post free 7d.). Price per annum (three numbers), 1s. 6d.; post free 1s. 9d.

Articles and Subscriptions may be sent to the Secretary, E. Lucy Williams; or to the Treasurer, C. Brightwen Rowntree.

Copies may also be obtained from Gurnell C. Green, 17, Ridge Road, Stroud Green, N.

PICTURE POSTCARDS of the illustrations in this number may be obtained from the Treasurer. Price 1d. each.

HEADLEY BROTHERS,
PRINTERS, LONDON;
AND ASHFORD, KENT.