THE AVENUE



JULY 1912

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Secretary.



FRIENDS' SCHOOL, ISLINGTON, 1786-1825. (see page 50).
Reproduced from J. B. Crosfield's Bicentenary Book from the original lent by Benjamin J. Winstone.

THE AVENUE.

The Magazine of the Friends' School, Saffron Walden.

VOL. III. JULY, 1912. No. 8.

FOREWORD.

THE Old Scholars' Gathering at Whitsuntide, May 25th to 28th, has perhaps been the chief event this term. More than 100 visitors, including some sixty Old Scholars—Campers—stayed over the week-end; and the Whit-Monday contingent augmented these numbers to well over 200. The weather was beautiful, and the occasion, including a splendidly fought-out cricket match, was once more a great success.

The following week-end we much enjoyed the visit of the Pilgrims' Cricket Team.

On Wednesday, April 17th, the usual class work after recess was abandoned, and the whole School, well equipped with smoked glasses, went on to the playground and field to study the eclipse of the sun, and the curious accompanying phenomena.

The Girls' and Boys' Athletic Sports, held for the first time together on the same afternoon, took place early in the term, on Thursday, May 2nd. The weather conditions were almost perfect, the entries were large, and the racing close and keen. One Boys' record was broken.

The cricket season is now in full swing; several out of the many matches played have been won or lost by narrow margins.

It is with a sense of thankfulness that we observe, below the School Garden, the rapidly-rising walls of the new Sanatorium.

REGINALD H. ROBSON.

THE CLAY WASTES NEAR WALDEN.

ESSEX has the reputation of being a flat county, but we who reside in Saffron Walden know that this is not exactly correct. Our country side is really a chalk plateau, rising some 300 to 400 feet above sea level, and intersected with numerous little valleys tributary to the Cam, which, rising near Bishop's Stortford, flows down a fairly wide and deep valley into the fen country beyond.

Before the glacial period the Cam valley was much deeper, and the whole country side much higher above sea level. The Cam valley was a narrow gorge at least 300 feet deeper than at present, and after the retreat of the ice to the north this valley remained filled up with gravels, loams and clays. The hill tops and valley sides were also coated with boulder clay to a considerable thickness. Subsequent denudation has removed the clay from the valley sides and bottoms, but considerable tracts remain, and on these tracts we find the wastes or derelict agricultural land, that form the subject of this paper.

In north-west Essex there is but little grass and woodland, most of the country being down for corn; but here and there we find considerable areas that show the marks of the plough, and yet are abandoned to bramble and scrub. Walking over one of these places we are sure to see lying on the surface fossil oyster shells (*Gryphæa*) from the Oxford clay together with semi-rounded boulders of sandstone, fossiliferous limestone, etc. These fossils and stones had been dragged from their beds by the ice sheet, and left imbedded in the sheet of clay, which thus gets its name of boulder clay.

There can be little doubt, I think, that the clay areas in prehistoric time were covered with dense forests of ash and oakwood, with hazel and hawthorn undergrowth. Remains of this primitive forest may be seen in the numerous bits of

woodland that are retained as game preserves all round us, and one flower at least, the oxlip, is a good indicator as to whether a woodland is primitive or is a recent plantation. Mr. Millar Christy tells me that the oxlip is only found in the original woodland. From Roman times onwards the clearing of this forest has gradually been going on, until sixty or eighty years ago practically the whole area, except the game preserves, was down for corn. During the last forty years the opening up of corn lands in America and Siberia, and the importation of large quantities of foreign corn have resulted in a gradual lowering of the price of cereals, until on some parts of the clay, corn could no longer be grown with profit. These areas then became derelict, and gradually became clothed with a distinct flora of their own, which presents a number of interesting problems to the botanist or nature student.

A comparative study of different areas shows that a regular sequence of events takes place when the land is allowed to grow wild. The first year yields an abundant crop of corn weeds, charlock, white campion, creeping thistle, mingled with seedlings from last year's crop. In a season or so the dewberry (*Rubus cæsius*) advances from the hedgerows and takes complete control, forming a dense scrub one to two feet high. Each branch of this plant attaches itself by its tip to the ground, and forms a fresh plant, and thus it can spread with great rapidity. I noted at the Clay Pit a single plant, which had formed no less than thirty-five attachments in this manner.

The third phase in the history of a clay waste appears to result in the gradual dying away of the dewberry and a general impoverishment of the vegetation, owing, I think, to several causes. The filtration of the rain through the surface layers of the soil dissolves out the lime, and the surface cakes into a dense hard crust which dries up completely and cracks in the sun. The dewberry suckers cannot get a hold on this crust, and this leads to the extinction of the plant and its replacement

by a curious characteristic open flora, *i.e.*, a collection of plants that do not touch each other. This is the nearest approach to a desert flora that I have seen in England. The waste near St. Aylott's is a typical example of such an area.

In the early spring the dandelion is dominant, and later the hairy St. John's Wort takes its place. Mingled with these are the following plants in order of relative abundance: wild strawberry, ribwort plantain, daisy, cut-leaved geranium, prunella, field madder, etc. These all show to a greater or less extent the influence of a dry, poor soil. The rosettes of the dandelion are small, and the scape 4 to 5 ins. high; a large percentage of the plants do not flower. The field madder grows to 6 or 8 ins. in the neighbouring corn fields, but here only reaches 1 to 2 ins. I gathered several geranium plants in fruit that could be covered with a penny piece; normally the rosettes would be 3 or 4 ins. in diameter. An interesting feature on this area is the formation of families of a single species, usually propagating by runners or stolons, and taking full possession of a small area. The mouse-eared hawkweed and smooth sedge (*Carex glauca*) are typical examples.

The fourth stage is marked by the invasion of coarse grasses from the neighbouring woods. They form tussocks which slowly invade the barren areas, by sending out short stolons. The dry blades form a covering over the bare earth, and protect it from the baking of the sun's rays, and hence from the formation of a hard crust. In the soil thus protected young seedlings from the neighbouring woods and hedges obtain a foothold, and scrub growth, chiefly of hawthorn, hazel and wild rose, gradually arises, seldom or never reaching a greater height than eight feet. This final process seems to be very slow; areas that have been uncultivated for more than twenty years show the processes in all stages. A sloping ground seems the most unfavourable, while level land at the top of the hills seems to get covered fairly quickly.



Photo by] [MISS BARKER, THE TRAINING COLLEGE.

THE BOULDER CLAY WASTE AT GREAT CHESTERFORD.

In the foreground the hawthorn scrub is shown, in the background is the open association with a few stunted bushes, which grow thicker in the hollow beneath the trees.



Photo by] [*Henry Skelton.*

ST. AYLOTT'S FARM, ASHDON ESSEX.

At present the formation of scrub seems to mark the extent of the reversion to primitive conditions. Young plants of oak and ash may be found in considerable abundance, but they are always stunted and making little or no progress. The slowness of reversion to true woodland of the ancestral type is owing, I think, to two factors: (1) the impoverishment of the soil by cultivation, which has robbed it of much of its original richness; (2) the formation of artificial lines of drainage. The soil is very impervious to moisture, and the old parallel plough lines remain and carry off the surface water to the edges of the area, hence the quicker invasion of grass and scrub upon the level tops.

The plants of the waste may be divided into three groups: (1) invaders from the neighbouring cultivated lands; (2) invaders from the woods; (3) plants of the chalk and native flora that have survived in out of the way corners, road cuttings, etc., and have returned to their old haunts. The dandelion is a type of the first; the hairy St. John's Wort, wild strawberry and false brome grass of the second. Among the third may be mentioned the centaury, yellow wort, bee orchid, and basil thyme.

Finally, if comparison be made with the chalk flowers of the district, it will be found that while the chalk flora is generally well represented, there are several species that flourish on the chalk, which are seldom or never represented on the clay; the rock rose and lady's finger vetch may be cited as examples of these plants.

This, then, is an outline of the vegetation of derelict Essex. With the slight increase of price in corn of late years there is a tendency to take the land back into cultivation, and possibly a few years may again see these wastes disappear.

GEORGE MORRIS.

SAINT AYLOTT'S.

Being an extract from the Diary of Henry Skelton, who won the first prize in the Inter-Schools Diary Competition. The article is illustrated by a number of sketches and photographs, one of which we reproduce. St. Aylott's is situated at Ashton, two miles from Saffron Walden.

WE entered a gate, and so came towards the house or farm of St. Aylott's. We were met at the door by Mrs. Medcalf who took us round the house. The first end we started with shows beautifully an old billeted beam ; then at the angle of the house, which, I believe, was the north-west, there is a curiously carved bracket supporting the gable, and this is fixed into a large log of wood built in with bricks, etc. Outside the bracket, as if to protect it, is a more modern piece of wood which I expect supports what weight there is. While the party moved on I took a photograph, but I am afraid the bracket does not come out very well. This bracket appeared to be carved with a Tudor rose. Passing on toward the southern end we find it is likewise ornamented with a carved beam. The plaster work is also quite pronounced on the gable at the north end of this face ; it is of the usual pattern found near Walden. There is also a carved bracket at this same end. In the south face of the house there is a window with three arched lights (see illustration) similar to perpendicular windows found in churches. There are also iron supports fixed in both ways just as if it were a church window. Going along to the south-east corner, we find the beam and bracket again ; there is also another window here similar to the last, but built of stone and bayed. Beside this is a small narrow-looking piece of the house. This contained the old spiral staircase, and there are one or two small lights in it.

In this part one notices in places that the ground goes down into a hollow, and in front of the building this hollow contains water, though most of this old moat is now filled up.

We then passed round the north end of the house, till we came to a door bearing a sixteenth century date—a typical square-headed Elizabethan door. The beam noticed in other parts of the house is again visible here, and in a better condition. We then went inside the house to see an old doorway, in the spandrels of which are carved some cockle shells, the badge of the Saffron Walden monastery to which this farm used to belong.

The house is built of Tudor brick, which has unfortunately been pink-washed over, with the exception of the chimneys. When we were inside the house we noticed the great thickness of the wall, as shown by one of the windows.

From Lord Braybrooke's " History of Walden," I find that St. Aylott's belonged to the Duke of Norfolk, who was executed in the reign of Elizabeth. He secured it after the dissolution of the monasteries, as it had previously belonged to the Walden monastery.

Henry Skelton.

[*The diary contains accounts of visits to more than thirty other places, treated similarly to the above, and filling more than* 300 *pages.*]

HOCKEY AND FOOTBALL.

OWING to illness a good many matches during the last season had to be cancelled. In spite of this, the girls won eight out of the nine hockey matches played, while the boys played sixteen football matches, eight of which they won.

Our outside left, Miss Priestman, played for the Essex County Hockey Team, on March 1st, against Middlesex 2nd XI.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals For.	Goals Against.
Hockey :						
First XI.	9	8	1	—	47	9
Football :						
First XI.	8	5	2	1	29	13
" A " Team	2	—	1	1	2	3
Boys XI.	3	2	1	—	15	3
Second XI.	3	1	1	1	13	13

WHITSUNTIDE.

Impressions of Saffron Walden being a letter (or such parts as are suitable for publication) written to her sister by the newly married wife of an Old Scholar.

DEAREST MATILDA,—I had a perfectly delightful time at Whitsun, Harry taking me down to his old school at Saffron Walden, such a quaint old town, which I should love to have explored, only there was so much to be done at the School, which stands right at the top of the hill overlooking the village.

We sat down quite a large party to tea in the boys' playroom. After tea the whole school gathered on the tennis lawn for the distribution of the Athletic Sports prizes for boys and girls. Then after supper there was singing round the camp fire. All the boys seemed to be looking on from the windows. One of the masters said they would each get a hundred lines for talking and being out of bed, but I don't think that could be true, as they seemed to do very much as they liked without anybody getting annoyed about it. It's a lovely school that way, they don't have unnecessary rules.

Harry said he was very glad he had a bed to sleep in. Some of the men spent the night in tents at the end of the playground, but from the tales I heard the only sleep they got was on Sunday afternoon, though some of them gave up camping

out and went to sleep by the hot water apparatus in the gymnasium.

Sunday was glorious, sunshine, peace and good will. There was meeting at the village Meeting-house after breakfast, then after dinner we had a walk in the country, and came back to meeting in the large hall at the school, in the course of which we sang a school song written by three of the girls.

After supper hymns were sung round the camp fire. I think it was a very happy party that tumbled into bed that night, except, of course, the Campers, who weren't quite easy in their minds (or beds !).

On Monday morning, I think the " arrival of the mothers," as I called it, was a lovely sight. Most of the children gathering on the drive to await the arrival of parents and other visitors come from London for the day. It was pretty to see the sudden rush of feet down the drive, and arms flung round some beaming " Olympian's " neck.

Then there were cricket matches, tennis, and all kinds of fun and merry-making, and brilliant sunshine to keep it all up. Mr. ——— invented and umpired for a new water polo game (played in the bath between Present and Old Boys); some of the rules *were* puzzling.

A very big company sat down to lunch, everything was beautifully managed. After lunch Cricket and Tennis were resumed until five o'clock, when tea was served on the Avenue. The Girls' Cricket Match resulted in the defeat of the Old Girls by 99 to 46, but the Old Boys won theirs after an exciting game, by 134 to 130.

After tea we all played such a hot game of twos and threes, which they called Terza, until it was time to go to the station for the train, which took most of the party to London. We stayed the night in Walden, and came back to town the next morning after a most delightful holiday.

Yours devotedly,

WILHELMINA.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL.

(continued.)

SINCE the first article on the School was published, a good deal of fresh material has come to hand; we print here an extract from "An Epistle to Friends Concerning the Education of Children," by John Bellers (London, Printed and Sold by T. Sowle, next door to the Meeting House in White Hart Lane in Gracious Street, 1697); and including a letter signed by forty-five Friends. "But few private persons have the Conveniences, Leisure and Capacity, of giving their Children an exact Education at Home; such as have Instructions usually wanting suitable Imployment, and such as have Imployment often wanting Instructions; so that the subject is indisputably the Churches Care, and worth their Modelling. Now as a further Preface as to what may be said for an Industrious Education of Children, I recommend to your consideration my Printed Proposals for raising a Colledge of Industry. By which proposals the Rich may do more good to the Poor than Building Alms Houses for them, with Gain to themselves; and use their Understandings in Modelling and Managing of it in their Life time, whilst their Trust lasteth, and not stay until Death ends it, and an Account is called for of them, and then their Stewardship is given to another to Perform."

"JOHN BELLERS."

"DEAR FRIENDS,

"We having Perused and Considered a Discourse, lately Published by our Friend John Bellers, for the better Education of Youth, and Ampler Provision for the Poor; the care of whom Friends were particularly exhorted to by the last Yearly Meeting; we recommend the said Book to your consideration, as believing it may be of use for those good Ends, if one House or Colledge, for a beginning, were set on foot, with a joint stock by the Friends of estates, through the Nation."

Among the signatories were William Penn (recently come from America on a short visit), Robert Barclay and Thomas Ellwood.

The result of John Bellers' writing and the letter was the securing of the House at Clerkenwell, and five of the signatories actively co-operated. John Bellers, John Hopes and John Edge served energetically on the first Committee for the management of the House.

ISLINGTON.—1786-1825.*

(See the map in *The Avenue*, March, 1912, and Frontispiece in this issue.)

" About 1786 the City authorities found they had occasion for the building at Clerkenwell and bought the remainder of its lease from Friends. A new piece of ground of 1¾ acres was taken, situated, between St. John's Road and the Goswell Road; it formed part of an estate belonging to the Brewers' Company. A building lease was arranged for direct from the Company for a term of 148 years. It was, after the removal to Croydon, under-let as building land, on leases of seventy years from 1827. On the land thus taken somewhat large premises were erected and the School removed there." (Beck's " London Friends' Meetings.")

" The visitors report that the Stewardess, Master, Mistress, Children and Rachel a Servant, are removed into the new House." (Minutes of the Committee, 25th xii., 1786.)

Thus briefly is the bustle and labour of removal of a large institution set forth. The new quarters were not far away from the old Clerkenwell House, and were still in the Parish of Clerkenwell, and near the Peel Meeting House.

" Y^e^ Antient Friends " and the children were separated! The children went to Islington, and the old People remained behind for about a year, until they were transferred (1788) to a large house and garden, purchased for £560, near Plaistow Meeting House, Essex, and in Barking Monthly Meeting.

But owing to the extra expense incurred by keeping up two houses, after some five years the Antients are transplanted once more, and to Islington School enlarged for the purpose. Once again the two families are united!

In connection with the removal to Plaistow of the old folk, one minute may be quoted: " The former custom of allow-

* [NOTE. In the March, 1912, number of *The Avenue*, it was stated more than once that the change to Islington took place in 1788. After further investigation, the date proves to be 1786. The Old People were removed to Plaistow in 1788.]

ing four candles per week to each (old person) for lighting to bed, etc., seems somewhat exceptionable ; a hoard of candles having been found in one of the bedrooms on the late removal."

" Islington Road School was erected on the plot of land anciently known as Hermitage Field, at a cost of £5,500. Malcolm, the Topographer, speaking of the School in 1803, says, ' The house, meeting, schools, apartments, and staircase are as white and clean as brushes and industry will make them. The ceilings are remarkably high and the windows large ; consequently the rooms are perfectly dry and well aired. The outside has the appearance of a villa, surrounded as it is by pleasure grounds, gardens and trees.' " (Beck's " London Friends' Meetings.")

During the thirty-seven years at Islington the School became increasingly comfortable and healthy. All insanitary furniture, beds and bedding from the old House were replaced by much better material. Still there was much to be desired ; for example, the washing accommodation for boys and girls consisted of two large long troughs, eighteen inches across and four inches deep, separated by a wooden partition.

The attitude of the Management seems more humane, and we may note that the coals were now stored on the ground floor instead of in a deep underground cellar ; a Saturday half-holiday was instituted ; in 1795 the weekly penny, pocket money for each child, was started ; an antient man was sent to Folkestone to try sea-bathing as a cure ; School pinafores were provided ; the edges of the boys' desks were faced with copper ; the bill of fare was revised, though beer was still regularly in use.

Education was given a more and more important place, though spinning flax by the boys was kept up till 1800 ; and boys had to take their turns at the washing machine. One afternoon a week boys were occupied in mending their stockings, and the girls continued to have much domestic

work. More time for definite teaching was given, plans of study were drawn up by several well-known and able Committee men; the number of subjects was increased and included arithmetic, tables and mental calculation, spelling, reading, writing and grammar. Prizes were given by the Committee, and included penny tickets for spelling on Saturdays; the children were divided into graduated classes. School hours: rise at 6; school 6.30; breakfast 8; school 9 to 12; dinner 12.30; school 2 to 5; supper 6.30; to bed at 8. The Committee's examinations became more searching; and books became more numerous. Dr. Fothergill presented fourteen copies of Percy's "Key," and among other books in use by the children in the school were Sewel's "History of the Quakers," the Journals of George Fox, John Woolman and Dr. Fothergill, Ellwood's "Sacred History," Penn's "No Cross, No Crown," "Selections of Dying Sayings of Young Persons," Penn's "Rise and Progress of the Quakers," John Gurney's "Address to the Youth of Norwich," Foxe's "Martyrology," Turford's "Grounds of a Holy Life," Kendal's "Catechism of the Christian Religion," and "Summary of the Religious Principles of the Society of Friends." Some of these are still in the School's possession; we might note here also that we have a still older book, bearing a leather label stamped in gilt "T. Story's Journal," "Friends' School and Work House," (date missing).

In 1808, John Withers and his wife, Steward and Stewardess for twenty years, retired. The offices of Steward and Schoolmaster were now combined in one individual, Thomas Salter, who was styled the Master. In 1809 Edmund Gower became Master, a portrait of whom is to be seen at the School.

In 1811 an important change took place. The numbers which had usually been about twenty antients and fifty children, had fallen to seven old people and twenty-eight children. The Old Friends were now sent finally to their respective Monthly Meetings for maintenance. The School—now no

longer cumbered with an Almshouse—was opened to children from other parts of the country. It was intended to conduct it on lines similar to those of Ackworth School, established thirty-two years before this change. Fees were reduced to agree with the Ackworth fees, and children were to enter between the ages of seven and twelve. In addition to the subjects already taught, the girls were to learn needlework and knitting. (See J. B. Crosfield's Bi-Centenary Book.)

In 1812 the first apprentice was taken to be trained as a teacher.

In 1815 there were 111 children in the School.

The Women's Committee during the Islington period came more into prominence, being definitely constituted in 1821. Elizabeth Fry served on the Visitors' Committee in 1805.

Among notable Committee men of this time, who took a vital interest in the School, were Robert Howard, Edward Janson, Wilson Birkbeck, Frederick Smith, Joseph Gurney Bevan, Sparks Moline and Peter Bedford.

"In consequence of the great increase of houses in the neighbourhood of Islington Road, the premises there became by degrees unsuitable for the School." (See "Rules and Regulations for the Government of Saffron Walden School 1904 edition.")

Thus the early years of the nineteenth century, during this Islington period, saw the last of "Ye Antient People," and saw the Institution, now more than one hundred years old, at last definitely launched as an educational institution,—a Quaker school for Quaker children.

The School was removed to open country in Croydon in 1825.

REGINALD H. ROBSON
ARNOLD BRERETON.

[Constant use has been made of J. B. Crosfield's Bi-Centenary Book, "The London Friends' Meetings," W. Beck and T. F. Ball (1869); The Minutes of the Committee, etc., etc.]

THE CALL OF THE SCHOOL.

FROM the North and the South we gather, on one path our steps we set,
Those of us who remember, those who can ne'er forget,
We have heard thy voice familiar, that calls to us clearly yet.

Bells that ring in life's triumphs, and bells that ring in life's pain,
Sound through our lives and find echo sweet in thy bells' refrain;
We who have answered so often, answer them now again.

Freely thy gifts were given when we were too young to know,
But the passing years brought wisdom, and now, with answering glow,
We turn refreshed from thy embrace, longing *our* love to show.

Fain would we have to bring thee honours and great renown,
Fain would we all, thy children, win for thee fame's gold crown,
Knowing that, if we falter, thou wilt not chide nor frown.

So we try to tell thee, yet slow are our tongues to tell,
How still onward we travel, wrapt in thy golden spell,
Thinking about thee often, wishing thee always well.

Always our best we give thee—poor though the best may be,
Knowing that thou wilt value all we may bring to thee,
Whether from life's dull harbour, or spoil from a wider sea.

We grow old on life's journey. Thou shalt be youthful for aye;
The young life fills thy portals that never pass away,
And youth's eternal promise will ever beside thee stay.

So we clasp thy hands of welcome, our eyes with feeling wet,
Those of us who remember, those who can ne'er forget;
Thou hast cast thy spell upon us, and thy voice calls us yet.

MAUDE G. TYLER, 1894-7.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

IT was decided that the Boys' and Girls' Athletic Sports, postponed from last term, should be held on the same day; this necessitated an extra afternoon, Tuesday, March 3rd, being devoted to the heats and the less important events.

Previous to this the Girls' High Jump had taken place, Hilda Rye clearing 4 ft. 1½ ins., only ½ in. below the senior record.

Thursday, May 2nd, dawned fine, but not too hot, and an ideal sports day was anticipated, especially as the number of entries was particularly good this year. We commenced soon after two o'clock with the boys' throw. Events followed in quick succession, some boys' and girls' races taking place simultaneously, but no outstanding feature was witnessed before the boys' long jump. The seniors especially distinguished themselves, Bowry jumping 18 ft. 4 in., only 2 in. short of the School record. Bowry again did well in the 100-yds. and hurdles, but he was not able to break a record until towards the end of the afternoon, when he came in second in the 220 yds. handicap, running from scratch in 25⅘ secs., ⅕ sec. below the School record. Some good running was seen in the other handicaps, Agnew, Kilbey i. and Carrodus ii. doing well.

The Girls' Championship races, especially those of the seniors, were very evenly contested. Hilda Rye and Constance Lidiard ran very well, and the former only gained the Championship by one point. Of the Juniors, Nina Townshend



Photo by] [J. P. Whitlow.

THE "CHINESE TORTURE," OBSTACLE RACE, ATHLETIC SPORTS, May 2nd, 1912.

The two boys in overcoats are W. Cooke, Boys' Champion (on the right), and J. T. Bowry, Record for the 220 yards.



Photo by] [J. P. Whitlow.

Taken to show the curious crescent-shaped shadows cast by the trees during the Eclipse of the Sun.

was easily victorious. Cooke was in very good form in the Boys' senior events, winning the half and quarter miles easily; he also gained second place in four other events, and at the end of the day had more points to his credit than any other senior competitor. Montford was prominent among the juniors, gaining first place in most of the events for which he entered.

Of the events calculated to afford amusement little need be said; the obstacle race, however, deserves comment. The new feature intended, no doubt, to prepare our prospective cricketers for a strenuous season, was a good idea. The unfortunate competitors had to sit under a low wagon, and put on cricket pads, before continuing the race.

Tugs-of-war brought the long list of events to a close. The Girls' Third Form defeated both the Fourth and the Fifth, but among the boys, the Fifth was victorious.

The senior and junior mile races were run on the following Saturday, on a wet field. Good results were attained, however, Pitt winning the junior and Cooke the senior events.

The cross-country races, run on Monday, 6th, proved a great success. The juniors, as usual, started first, and after a well contested race Pitt came in first. Cooke led the seniors all the way, finishing, in good style, in 19 mins. 46 secs. In these longer races, as in many other events, an outstanding feature was the large number of entries. This vigorous competition, following three weeks sustained training, together with the glorious weather, combined to make the sports a success.

Paul V. Mauger.
Leslie R. Hart.

BOYS.

SENIOR.

Cross Country—1. W. Cooke; 2. G. Pratt; 3. H. Agnew; 4. B. F. Deane. Time 19 m. 46 secs.

Mile.—1. W. Cooke; 2. W. Wright; 3. G. Pratt. Time 5 m. 26 secs.

Half Mile—1. W. Cooke; 2. B. F. Deane; 3. W. Wright. Time 2 m. 25⅕ secs.

Quarter Mile.—1. W. Cooke; 2. W. Wright; 3. B. F. Deane. Time 60⅕ secs.

100 yards.—1. J. T. Bowry; 2. W. Cooke; 3. L. R. Hart. Time 11⅗ secs.

Hurdles—1. J. T. Bowry; 2. W. Cooke; 3. W. Wright. Time 18⅘ secs.

High Jump.—1. B. F. Deane; 2. W. Cooke and P. Mauger. Height 4 ft. 6 in.

Long Jump.—1. J. T. Bowry; 2. W. Cooke; 3. W. Wright. Distance 18 ft. 4 in.

Kick.—1. J. T. Bowry; 2. G. D. Williams; 3. G. W. Carrodus. Distance 44 yds.

Throw.—1. G. W. Carrodus; 2. P. V. Mauger. Distance 75½ yds.

JUNIOR.

Cross Country.—1. A. Pitt; 2. R. Montford; 3. J. Thompson; 4. C. Falkner. Time 13 m. 22 secs.

Mile.—1. A. Pitt; 2. R. Montford; 3. C. Falkner. Time 6 m. 14 secs.

Half Mile.—1. R. Montford; 2. A. Pitt; 3. C. Falkner. Time 2 m. 41⅗ secs.

Quarter Mile.—1. R. Montford; 2. J. Milne; 3. R. Appleton. Time 69⅘ secs.

100 Yards.—1. R. Montford; 2. J. Thompson; 3. S. Quarrie. Time 13 secs.

High Jump.—1. J. Thompson; 2. G. Blake; 3. R. Montford. Height 3 ft. 6½ in.

Long Jump.—1. R. Montford; 2. A. Pitt and S. Quarrie. Distance 13 ft.

Kick.—1. E. Kilbey; 2. R. Montford. Distance 31½ yards.

Throw.—1. E. Kilbey; 2. S. Quarrie. Distance 53 yards.

100 Yards (under 11).—1. J. Milne; 2. J. Wedd. Time 14⅘ secs.

OPEN.

Mile Handicap.—1. R. Kilbey; 2. H. Agnew; 3. T. Rayner.

Half Mile Handicap.—1. G. W. Carrodus; 2. H. Farrington; 3. H. T. Roper.

220 Yards Handicap.—1. W. Whiting; 2. (scr.) J. T. Bowry (Record); 3. J. T. Carrodus.

Sack Race.—1. C. Falkner; 2. C. Millar.

Obstacle Race.—1. H. Tilbrook; 2. P. Arundel.

Tripod Race.—1. E. Rogers and J. Thompson; 2. J. T. Bowry and J. T. Carrodus.

Consolation Races.—1. E. S. Jeffrey; 2. N. Cooke. 1. E. Steele; 2. A. Chacksfield.

Tug-of-War.—Boys' Form V. and VI.

Cupholder.—W. C. Cooke.

Junior Champion.—R. Montford.

Boys' Bedroom Sports.—No. 12.

GIRLS.

SENIOR.

Quarter Mile.—1. C. Lidiard; 2. I. Miller; 3. W. Milton. Time 76⅘ secs.

220 Yards.—1. H. Rye and C. Lidiard; 2. E. Rye. Time 32⅘ secs.

100 Yards.—1. E. Rye; 2. H. Rye; 3. U. Smith and C. Lidiard. Time 13⅘ secs.

Throw.—1. D. Kirkpatrick; 2. C. Lidiard; 3. W. Milton. Distance 36½ yards.

High Jump.—1. H. Rye; 2. W. Milton; 3. C. Lidiard and D. Holttum Height 4 ft. 1½ in.

Long Jump.—1. H. Lidiard; 2. M. Smith; 3. C. Lidiard. Distance 12 ft. 2½ in.

Hurdles.—1. U. Smith; 2. H. Rye. Time 26 secs.

JUNIOR.

Quarter Mile.—1. N. Townshend; 2. G. Morgan; 3. E. Blackburn. Time 85 secs.

220 Yards.—1. N. Townshend; 2. G. Morgan; 3. D. Robson. Time 34 secs.

100 Yards.—1. N. Townshend; 2. W. Price; 3. G. Long. Time 14⅘ secs.

Throw.—1. N. Townshend; 2. G. Morgan; 3. G. A. Pigg. Distance 21 yds. 1 ft.

High Jump.—1. N. Townshend; 2. G. Morgan; 3. F. Thurman. Height 3 ft. 4½ in.

Long Jump.—1. N. Townshend; 2. E. Holznagel; 3. G. Morgan. Distance 10 ft. 8½ in.

OTHER EVENTS.

Egg and Spoon Race.—1. W. Price; 2. E. Carrodus.

Egg and Spoon Race (Boys and Girls under 11).—1. M. Maitland; 2. Trigg iii.

Tripod Race.—(Senior) 1. D. Deane and I. Miller; 2. K. Edmunds and M. Teakle. (Junior) 1. M. C. Wellman and E. G. Williams; 2. E. Bell and E. Blackburn.

Sack Race.—1. M. Kirkpatrick; 2. J. Watts; 3. N. Townshend.

Consolation Race.—1. W. Beasant; 2. H. Wright; 3. D. Thurman; 4. M. Inch.

Tug-of-War.—Form III.

Girls' Senior Champion.—Hilda Rye.

Girls' Junior Champion.—Nina Townshend.

Girls' Gymnastic Competition: Cupholder.—Madeline G. Agnew, 32 marks; 2nd, Iris Miller, 31½ marks.

A QUAKER POET.

JOHN SCOTT.

JOHN SCOTT, born in the year 1730, was the son of a London draper, a member of the Society of Friends. His father retired when John was ten years old, and came to live at Amwell House, in the small, quaint village of Amwell, near Ware, in Hertfordshire. It was at this time that "our almost self-educated poet" was sent to a private school in Ware; but he was frequently kept at home through fear of smallpox. The same fear, later in life, kept the poet from visiting literary friends in London, until he submitted to vaccination at the hands of the Quaker physician, Baron Dimsdale.

Apparently John Scott had a sufficient income to enable him to devote his life to literary and other pursuits entirely. In 1768 he succeeded his father as owner of Amwell House. In 1776 he married Mary De Horne.* This was his second wife, Sarah Frogley being the first. The year following his second marriage a daughter was born, who was his only surviving child. At the age of fifty-three years, while staying at Ratcliff, he passed away; and was buried there in the Friends' Burial Ground.

One of his books, "Observations on the Present State of the Vagrant and Parochial Poor," tells us of his interest in the social welfare of his fellows. It has been said that "he was in his neighbourhood another 'Man of Ross,' worshipped by and endeared to all who knew him." We find Scott as an authority on roadways in his "Digest of the General Highway and Turnpike Laws." This work has long been out of print, but the new road between Ware and Hertford, which was constructed through his influence and thought, is still in a

* Her father, Abraham de Horne, was for seven years a member of our School Committee in its Clerkenwell days.—EDS.

good condition and used by hundreds of people. Scott also agitated against the "too frequent miserable situation of prisoners of war, debtors, etc.; and the absurd custom of burying in churches, circumstances contributing greatly to the propagation of disease."

We have Scott's earliest poetical attempts printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1753; later in life he had a volume published containing all his "Poetical Works." Scott's poems—odes, eclogues and elegies—exhibit "powers of landscape painting, and a delight in pastoral scenes."

"The grassy lane, the wood-surrounded field,
The rude stone fence with fragrant wall-flowers gay,
The clay-built cot, to me more pleasure yield
Than all the pomp imperial domes display."

They also give a variety of flower lore.

"Cool was the shade, and cool the passing gale,
And sweet the prospect of the adjacent vale;
The fertile soil, profuse of plants bestow'd,
The crowfoot's gold, the trefoil's purple show'd,
And spiky mint rich fragrance breathing round,
And meadsweet tall with tufts of flowerets crown'd,
And comfry white, and horny silver weed,
The bending osier and the rustling reed."

Of his elegies Dr. Johnson remarked, "they are very well, but such as twenty people might write." Though his poems are almost forgotten, ever and anon lines from his descriptive poem, "Amwell," are quoted in local writings. "Amwell" is considered Scott's masterpiece. Standing on the hill near Amwell church our poet describes the surrounding country, his eyes resting at last on Amwell.

The large grounds of Amwell House were laid out in a most picturesque manner. In parts they are the same to-day. Trees, shrubs, lawns and summer-houses are arranged in a

wild, yet orderly manner. "None but a poet could have made such a garden," said Dr. Johnson. In his garden, in the chalk hill, John Scott constructed a grotto. The grotto consists of seven rooms connected by passages; its walls are covered with shells and fossils in a marvellous way. The roof of one of the chambers is supported by a central pillar, and arches, which are most beautifully ornamented. One needs to walk through the grotto to realize its beauty, and the great amount of work it required. This "Fairy Hall" took thirty years to complete, and is supposed, by some, to have cost £10,000. "Much of the manual labour," Scott observed in a letter to a friend, "fell to my own share."

Basil G. Burton.

* * * * *

An account of Scott's literary work would be incomplete without a reference to an acquaintance which he formed with Charles Frogley. "This extraordinary person was by trade a bricklayer with a natural taste for metrical composition." Called in by Scott's father to do some repairs to the house, he noticed some poetical essays of the son, and lent him a copy of "Paradise Lost." In the company of Frogley, Scott, when a youth, passed most of his evenings, and in 1767 he married his friend's daughter, Sarah.

Some of Scott's elegies reveal much of the character of the poet himself; an oft recurring note is one of which the following extract is typical:

"Enough has Heaven indulg'd of joy below
To tempt our tarriance in this lov'd retreat;
Enough has Heaven ordain'd of useful woe
To make us languish for a happier seat."

His own life of contented happiness suffered sharply about the year 1768, when in the course of two years he lost both his parents, as well as his wife and child. He refers to this in "An Elegy, written at Amwell, 1768."

A note prefacing " Zaid, or the Absent Lover," is distinctly interesting, the poet anticipating an expected criticism from his Quaker brethren thus: " An apology for expatiating on the pleasing subjects of love and beauty when nothing is said to offend the ear of chastity the author supposes needless. If any, however, there be, who question the utility of at all describing those subjects, such may remember that there is an Eastern Poem, generally esteemed sacred, which abounds with the most ardent expressions of the one and luxuriant pictures of the other." Nowhere in his poetical works does John Scott show so near an approach to the humorous as in this note. His writings suggest a man who always held himself well in hand, but a note of righteous anger is found in " An East Indian Eclogue," entitled " Serim, or the Artificial Famine," a prefatory note to which describes how, on one occasion, the East India Company Agents collected all the rice in Bengal, and by thus *cornering* the staple food of a vegetarian people, a famine was artificially caused. The Eclogue concludes:

> " Yet you, ye oppressors! uninvok'd on you,
> Your steps the steps of justice will pursue! "

At this point the author, afraid that his indignation may have got the better of him, adds a characteristic footnote, " The Reader must readily perceive the propriety of this turn of thought, in a poem designed to have a moral tendency. There is much difference between a person wishing evil to his enemy, and presaging that evil will be the consequence of that enemy's crime. The first is an immoral act of the will, the second, a neutral act of the judgment."

Scott wrote several Odes in condemnation of war, of which the best is perhaps the one entitled " Privateering," but it is too long to quote here. Another Ode begins, " I hate the drum's discordant sound."

On Scott's death his friend David Barclay (grandson of the

Apologist) had arranged with Dr. Johnson that the latter should act as his Biographer; but a somewhat delicate situation arose when it was discovered that in a volume of "Critical Essays," which were in the press at the time of his death, Scott had "controverted the doctor's opinion in several instances." However, when Johnson was shown the passages referred to, he said that "authors would differ in opinion, and that good performances could not be too much criticised." Unfortunately, Dr. Johnson's death prevented the contemplated biography. The volume of "Critical Essays" was published, prefaced by a biography from another of Scott's friends, Mr. Hoole. It was the latter who had first introduced Scott to the Doctor; in describing which incident he says, "I had the satisfaction of introducing Mr. Scott to the acquaintance of my invaluable friend, Dr. Johnson, and notwithstanding the great difference of their political principles, Scott had too much love for goodness and genius, not to be highly gratified in the opportunity of cultivating a friendship with that great exemplar of human virtues, and that great veteran of human learning; while the Doctor, with a mind superior to the distinction of party, delighted with equal complacency in the amiable qualities of Scott, of whom he always spoke with feeling regard."

The following obituary notice appeared in the *Morning Chronicle* and *London Advertiser* for December 15th, 1783: "On fryday died of a putrid fever, John Scott, Esqr., of Amwell in Hertfordshire, one of the people called Quakers. He was deservedly esteemed one of the first poets of the age; the benevolence of his disposition and the piety of his mind appeared in all his writings; these qualities, united with unreserved affability, endeared him to all that knew him. The world by his death has lost one of its greatest ornaments, and his friends one of their dearest associates."

C. Brightwen Rowntree.



Photo by] [J. E. WALKER.

THE LOWER SCHOOL.

Boys and Girls of the Upper Third. Autumn, 1911.

SPRING FLOWERS AT WALDEN.

I EXPECT you would like a button-hole, would you not, well then, come and see what I have to give you. The fields at Walden are just now looking very pretty with buttercups and all kinds of pretty, big and little wild flowers. You will see that at the beginning of the year the little flowers which will come up later are only in bud, or, hardly that.

Oh! how lovely it is to be out one sunny spring morning, and to find the dew on the grass and flowers, the mist just clearing off, then is the time to watch the flowers just waking up, to once more begin their day. Hark! can you hear that dear little bird, up in the sky, so high and also singing so nicely, look! she is dropping almost like a stone and is now playing in the flowers down there. It is the skylark. I expect you have noticed that there are many pretty walks round about Walden. I expect you have heard of the Green lanes, well, that is a very pretty walk I think. I am sure that most of us love the country, and I know I do, and think it looks very pretty.

W. Frederick Whiting.
(Second Form.)

ROUND WALDEN.

FIELD NOTES BY MEMBERS OF THE NATURAL HISTORY AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THIS term the society's membership is larger than last year and the excursions have been fairly well attended. A feature of this year's work has been the formation of sub-societies for different sections. Excursions have been arranged every half holiday under different leadership.

The Society is proud of the fact that H. Skelton took first prize for his Archæological Diary in the Inter-Schools Competition. Kenneth Green, Paul Mauger, Howard Diamond, and Dulcie Kirkpatrick also took prizes. So far the honours are with the Archæological section. We hope in the future the Nature Diaries will make a little more show.

GEORGE MORRIS.

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On May 1st, after walking a few miles, a small party were found studying a marsh field at Chinnel Lane.

It was surrounded by hedges which chiefly consisted of hawthorn and wayfaring trees, and we saw a few field and dog roses among them.

There were many kinds of beautiful grasses, among which we found some plants in flower, the dark blue bugle was one, and the cuckoo flower with its delicate mauve colour was another. The marsh marigold was also very fine.

We also found some other plants but they were not in flower, for instance the meadowsweet and iris were plentiful, besides rushes, reeds and a large species of thistle.

Albert Gardner.

* * * * * *

On May 22nd some girls and boys walked to the Fulfen Slade. This is a tributary of the Cam, and enters the main stream in a small wood. The trees of this wood are mostly fir, but there are also a few ash, oak and yew, the undergrowth is mostly nettles. It was pointed out to us how the river wound, and we noticed that the fields round were very flat, and in them were growing buttercups and a few cuckoo flowers.

Then we went to the river and found various animals, such as sticklebacks, shrimps, beetles, tadpoles, etc.

On either side of the stream were beds of sedge, and in the middle were water plants, mainly watercress and starwort.

Hilda Rye.

* * * * * *

The Park wall is very interesting, there are some lichens on the wall, both the yellow and the grey are to be found there.

The action of the frost on the wall is also interesting; the frost has worn away the bricks at the top and the mortar at the bottom.

On the top of the wall there is the whitlow grass which has a transparent seed box, there is also a small speedwell, bulbous buttercups and the dandelion, all of which have been dwarfed.

The vegetation on the ground beneath the beeches is very sparse, because the leaves take long to decay. The grove at the end of the beeches consists mostly of ash and elm. On the banks of the Cam near Audley End there is the figwort, great willow herb, meadowsweet and rocket.

George Manasseh.

* * * * * *

The Photographic Society now claims some beginners in natural history and archæological photography. Of these boys F. Bennett heads the list; he has obtained some excellent results of some tree trunks showing the bark formation; birds' nests also claim his attention, but he should be more careful with his exposure and development in this line. B. D. Skelton has done some general natural history photography, though he takes his photographs more for the pictorial effect. G. H. Farrington is starting archæological photography; a photo by him of part of an old roof in Thaxted Church being especially worthy of mention; H. Skelton still interests himself in archæological photography.

Henry Skelton.

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Arkesden is of ancient origin, as is shown by the finding of many old bronze weapons, and other items of interest belonging to this age, which can now be seen in the Walden Museum. The church was rebuilt in 1855, and so is really spoilt from the architectural standpoint. A few objects of

interest remain however ; the chief of these is the magnificent tomb to Richard Cutte and his wife. The tomb is coloured throughout and bears on the south side a shield coloured incorrectly by the hand of the restorer. The correct colours are known however, because a lady in the Fox family made a collection in 1639 of shields in churches in the district, which contains amongst others one of this shield. The shield is quarterly of eight, and bears the arms of the families, Cutte, Corney (which reads, argent, a chevron between three bugle horns slung, sable ; the Latin cornu means a horn, hence the horns), Esminton, Langley, Fox, Bigwood, Walden and one other. The arms of Walden Abbey are to be seen in the west window on old glass ; one gold mullet, however is missing ; there is also another shield represented on this old glass in this window showing Fox, and Bigwood quarterly within a border engrailed. *Henry Skelton.*

* * * * * *

Part of the meeting of May 14th was devoted to a study of the Elizabethan architecture in Walden and in the district.

B. F. Deane introduced the subject by an able account on Elizabethan domestic building in north-west Essex, and the characteristics of it. The introduction of modern domestic conveniences such as glass in windows, chimneys and wall-paint was shown to date from the sixteenth century ; Manor Houses were replacing the Castles of feudal times ; comfort was possible now that the Wars of the Roses had ceased and there was no need for fortification ; the middle class houses were also changing and the overhanging upper stories were coming into vogue. Examples of the former are the mansions at Wendon Lofts and Lawston Hall ; and of the latter the houses in Newport.

P. Mauger in a paper on Elizabethan work in Walden explained that Walden in the sixteenth century was a more important trade centre than it is now ; its prosperity owed its origin to the wool trade, to the malting industry and to

saffron culture. The building period of the town was Henry VII.'s reign, but the domestic architecture was greatly improved in that of Elizabeth. The northern boundary of the town was where it is now, but Walden has spread towards the south. The Elizabethan buildings still extant, such as, "The Sun Inn" (partly built before); "The Gables," High Street; and several houses in Gold Street and near the Church deserve study, and much interesting material may be found therein.

Paul V. Mauger.

FROM FAR AND NEAR.

Concerning Old Scholars.

Old Scholars who were in the Fifth Form last Term.

Irene Lloyd is living at home, and attending the City of London School.

Philip L. Plant is apprenticed to a firm of Ironmongers in Colchester.

Kenneth H. Green has joined the staff of Headley Brothers, the firm who print *The Avenue.*

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Henry F. Fairbanks (1902-5) has qualified as a Fellow of the Institute of Opticians and of the Spectacle Makers' Co. This also entitles him to the Freedom of the City of London, so that he is now a Plural Voter.

William P. Tozer (1900-3) has recently gone to Canada, where he is in a bank in Montreal.

Laurence H. Redding (1905-6) has obtained an appointment as Inspector to the South Australian Gas Company in Adelaide.

Theodore Tawell (1897-1902) and Leslie R. Tawell (1901-4) sailed for Sydney last month.* Two older brothers, William H. (1881-5) and Charles (1890-4) are already living there.

* On going to press we learn that owing to the strike at the London Docks, the Tawells have not yet been able to sail.

G. Dean Oyston (1900-4) has been travelling for Cadburys in the Philippine Islands and China. He has sent an article for *The Avenue* describing a motor ride in one of the islands, and we hope to publish it in our next issue.

Alec Wallas (1894-7) is in Chungking, in a prominent position in the Chinese Customs service.

Ernest W. Sawdon (Science Master 1902-6) has written, in Chinese, an "Introduction to Mathematics," which is being published by Macmillans. The first part deals with geometry, with regard to which E. W. S. writes: "I am so glad I had the opportunity of taking the Third Class Geometry at Walden, for by experiment with the new method I got quite a lot of hints."

* * * * * *

Emily Blomfield (1899-1902) has recently compiled a short pamphlet on the subject of "Congregationalism in Halstead." It appeared in March last on the occasion of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the Congregational Church there, and gives a concise and vivid account of the growth of that Church from the time of its first minister (one of the original Nonconformists of 1662), when its outward habitation was "a barn in the White Hart yard," up to the present time. A point of interest to Quakers is that after a long and heated debate the privilege was granted in 1837 to the women members of the Church to be allowed to vote with the men on Church matters, and that the practice has been maintained ever since, although rumour whispers that it is contrary to the trust deed.

* * * * * *

Extract from a letter written by Maud Dickinson (1897-8), *who is teaching in the Girls' High School, Brumana, Syria.*

LAST Saturday morning, at breakfast, we noticed three frigates in the harbour. Mr. —— understands the etiquette of war, and when one of the frigates gave three salutes instead of the usual seven, he woke us up to the

fact that an enemy was threatening Beyrout. By that time I had returned to School, and was busy correcting some books, when I suddenly heard a great crash of cannon, and the very house shook. I went out on our balcony, and saw that two frigates lay not far from the harbour, and in the harbour was a great wave rising like a waterspout. Presently I saw that it was the torpedo of the Turks. The Italians, it seems, had been on the look out for some months for the Turkish gun-boat stationed at Beyrout, as the Turks had been steadily taking ammunition to it from all parts, intending to take it to Tripoli. Finding they were watched, the Turks tried to take the ammunition by land to Jaffa, so rumour says. The Italians after watching for some time arrived last Saturday morning, March 24th, about six o'clock, told them to come out into the open sea, or give up their boat. The Turks refused to do this without hearing first from Constantinople, as the boat is said to have been worth £30,000. Thereupon the Italians blew up the ship. The people of Beyrout were many of them taking their breakfast in ignorance when the crash frightened them. They locked their doors and fled. You can imagine what it was like when our school shook, and we were ten miles off as the crow flies. Some destruction was done to the harbour, the post office, and the banks, the customs house and a large wholesale shop on the pier. The number of deaths through that hour's work and through murder and robbery which followed is over a hundred.

Over the Beyrout bridge the people were flying towards the mountains in terror. We had quite a number of people in the hotels up here. They say Moslems were as frightened as Christians, and the Christians were afraid that the Moslems would turn and massacre them ; there were one or two cases of this kind, while one or two men who were taken for Italians were stabbed.

After a time the frigates made off a little way up the coast, but at two o'clock they returned and fired a few more shells

at the vessel which had not completely sunk. They hovered near for a while longer and then made off in a south-west direction.

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Extract from a letter written by Muriel Kingzett (1908-11), *describing her journey to British Columbia.*

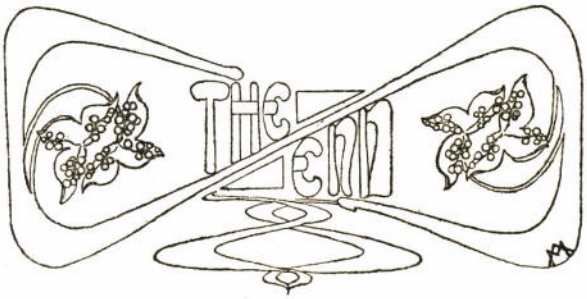
THE first land we saw from the boat was Labrador, then Newfoundland and New Brunswick. They all seemed deserted except for a few shacks here and there. We could only see land on one side of the St. Lawrence.

We saw many icebergs and passed quite close to one. We asked our table steward how the sailors could tell that icebergs were near in the dark, and he said that there is a different smell in the air and a feeling of intense cold.

It was great fun watching the porpoises dive in the water; they kept in line and dived together and came up at the same time.

As we passed through the rockies, the carriages were quite quiet except for the many exclamations about the scenery from the passengers. The train stopped for five minutes to let us see the Albert Cañon. There was a raised platform looking right down into the gorge. The scenery there was so grand that it almost took one's breath away.

Later on we passed rivers, bright green in colour, amongst the mountains. From the windows of this house we can see Mount Baker in Washington, which rises high above the other peaks.



SCHOOL DIARY.

1912

April 10th.—School reassembles.

,, 15th.—Scholarship Exams start.

,, 19th.—Boys' Reading Club Meeting. Books discussed: "The Great Illusion," by Norman Angel; "At the Works," by Lady Bell.

,, 20th.—Archæological Excursion to Thaxted. Lantern Lecture, "Italy," by Mr. J. P. Whitlow.

,, 23rd.—Sen. Lit. Soc. Diary, George Carrodus. Essays: "In the Tower," Dulcie Kirkpatrick; "Early Sea Commerce," Mr. C. B. Rowntree; "Livingstone," W. B. Bennett; Piano Solo, Dorothy Holttum; Violin Solo, John Bowry.

,, 24th.—N.H.S. Excursion to Claypits. 4th Form Lit. Soc. Diary. Irene Newbery and Harvey Agnew. Essays: "Ceylon, Past and Present," Herbert Roper; "Early Sea Commerce," Mr. C. B. Rowntree. Piano Duet, Fred. Butler and Richard Kilbey; Piano Solo, Winifred Beasant.

,, 27th.—Cricket Match. 1st XI. *v.* Fitzwilliam Hall, home, won 194 to 41 and 46 for 4 wickets; Mr. G. H. Evans, 119, George Carrodus 27, and Bernard Deane 4 wkts. for 11. Archæological Excursion to Thaxted.

,, 30th.—Athletic Sports begin. Heats run. Lantern Lecture, "An English River," Mr. Henry Corder.

May 1st.—Cricket Match. 1st XI. *v.* Mr. J. S. Lidbetter's XI., home, lost, 148 to 165. Mr. J. P. Whitlow, 43, Mr. G. H. Evans, 25.
N.H.S. Excursion to Chinnel Lane.
Jun. Lit. Soc. Diary, M. Teakle. Essays: "Life of Longfellow," Reginald Hall; "Visit to a Paper Factory," Nina Townshend; "Folkestone," Winifred Price. Recitation, May Hargrave. Violin Duet, Ernest Kilbey and Philip Ball. Piano Solo, Effie Carrodus.

,, 2nd.—Athletic Sports
Lantern Lecture, "Birds," by Mr. Arthur Wallis.

,, 4th.—Senior and Junior Mile Race run.
N.H.S. Excursion to Debden.

,, 6th.—Senior and Junior Cross-country Race run.

,, 7th.—Sen. Lit. Soc. Diary, May Butler. Essays: "First Impressions of a Life on the Ocean Wave," John Bowry; "Mendelssohn," Constance Lidiard; "The Mystic Mistletoe," Basil Burton. Songs, Mr. E. I. Gower (Head-Master of Hobart School, Tasmania, and former Senior Master at Saffron Walden.)

May 8th.—N.H.S. Excursion to Littlebury Road and Cam Valley.

„ 11th.—Cricket Matches. 1st XI. *v.* Leys School. 2nd XI.., away, won, 197 to 49 and 50. Mr. J. P. Whitlow, 44, Paul Mauger, 43, Mr. C. B. Rowntree, 12 wkts. for 40, Mr. J. P. Whitlow, 7 wkts. for 50. 2nd XI. *v.* Saffron Walden Choir Boys, home, won, 77 to 32 and 38. Percy Munden, 6 wkts. for 13.
Y.A.U. Lecture by Miss Skelt.

„ 14th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Papers: "Thaxted Church," Howard Diamond; "Old Houses at Thaxted," William Bennett; "Elizabethan Work round Walden," Bernard Deane; "Elizabethan Work in Walden," Paul Mauger.
Senior M.H.U. Mtg. Papers: "China," Dorothy Holttum; "Some Chinese Customs," Harriet Lidiard; "Behind the Great Wall," Miss Jones.

„ 15th.—Cricket Match. 1st XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford, away, lost, 100 to 137. Mr. J. P. Whitlow, 25, Mr. A. Brereton, 24.
Junior M.H.U. Mtg. Papers: "Zenana Life in India," Jessie Milne; "A Missionary's Visit to Colombo," Gwendolen Sly; "Indian Jugglers," Ethel Holznagel. Reading: "Religions of India," Winifred Nichols.
4th Form Lit. Soc. Diary, Irene Mason and Fred Butler, Essays: "The Brontés," Hilda Rye; "A Day's Outing in my Summer Holidays," Eileen Theobald; "Cathedrals and Minsters I have seen," Doris Thurman. Song, Miss Graham. Piano Solo, Lily Wright.

„ 18th.—Cricket Matches. 1st XI. *v.* Fitzwilliam Hall, away, won, 77 to 38. Mr. J. P. Whitlow, 27, and 4 wkts. for 12; Mr. C. B. Rowntree, 6 wkts. for 23. 2nd XI. *v.* Higher Grade School, Cambridge, away, lost, 42 and 46 to 61 and 65 for 4 wkts. Wilfrid Wright, 24, Percy Munden, 8 wkts. for 42.
Girls' Cricket Match. 1st XI. *v.* Fowlemere, home, won, 138 to 30 and 72, Miss L. Pickard, 31, Miss M. Walker, 29, May Butler, 25.
Archæological Excursion to Arkesden.

„ 21st.—Sen. Lit. Soc. Diary, Wilfrid Wright. Essays: "Two Days," Barbara Marriage; "Warren Hastings," George Carrodus; "Walks in Cornwall," Miss Wright; "China," Irene Mason. Songs, Miss Trickett. Piano Solo, May Butler.

„ 22nd.—Cricket Match.—Boys' XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford College 2nd XI., home, won, 93 to 36. Leslie Hart, 40, Percy Munden, 8 wkts. for 11.
N.H.S. Excursion to Fulfen Slade.

Jun. Lit. Soc. Diary, Arthur Pitt. Essay: "Lebanon round Brumana," George Manasseh. Piano Solos, Reginald Hall and Freda Thurman. Part Song, "Out with the Tide."

May 25th.—Cricket Match. Boys' XI. *v.* Saffron Walden Grammar School, home, won, 96 to 49 and 85 for no wkts. John Bowry, 25, Paul Mauger, 20, Bernard Deane, 7 wkts. for 31.

,, 27th.—Whitsun Gathering. Polo Match won by Present Scholars, 3 to 1. Team Race won by Old Scholars. Lighted Candle Race on Back won by Old Scholars. Past Champions' Race won by F. Arthur Blake.
Cricket Matches. 1st XI. *v.* Old Scholars, home, lost, 131 to 134; Mr. R. H. Robson, 36, Mr. A. Brereton, 27, Mr. G. Evans, 22, Mr. J. P. Whitlow, 8 wkts. for 46.
Girls' 1st XI. *v.* Old Scholars, won, 99 to 46, Elsie Rye, 20, Ina Farnell, 20.

,, 27th.—N.H.S. Mtg. Papers: "Pond Life," Philip Arundel; "Tits and their Ways," Albert Gardner; "Birds on the School Ground," Ursula Smith.
Sen. M.H.U. Mtg. Readings: "A Glance at the Land," Miss E. G. Jones; "Footbinding," Dorothy Deane; "Marriage Customs," Dorothy Holttum.

,, 29th.—Cricket Match. 1st XI. *v.* Bishop's Stortford, home, lost, 90 to 131 for 6 wkts. Mr. J. P. Whitlow, 24.
4th Form Lit. Soc. Diary, Eileen Theobald and Stanley Gray. Essays: "Cleopatra's Needle," Gerald Trent; "Toss," Mr. J. P. Whitlow; "Hayes and Camping-Out," Helen Wright. Piano Solo, Harvey Agnew.
Jun. M.H.U. Mtg. Papers: "Christianity in India," Minnie Milton; "An Indian Scene," Winifred Nichols. Reading, "An Indian Story," May Hargrave.

June 1st.—Cricket Match. 1st XI. *v.* "Pilgrims," home, won, 124 for 9 wkts. to 39 and 46 for 3 wkts. Mr. J. P. Whitlow, 44; Mr. G. H. Evans, 37; Mr. J. P. Whitlow, 6 wkts. for 12; Mr. C. B. Rowntree, 4 wkts. for 25.
N.H. and Archæological Excursion to Whittlesford.

,, 4th.—Sen. Lit. Soc. Diary, Dorothy Holttum. Essays: "The Violin," Jack Carrodus; "St. George of Merrie Englande," Doris Morgan; "Superstitions, Past and Present," William Cooke. Violin Solo, Miss E. M. Clark. 'Cello Solo, Miss Howell.

,, 5th.—Cricket Matches. 1st XI. *v.* Mr. C. Downham's XI., home, lost, 81 to 110. Mr. J. P. Whitlow, 32, and 7 wkts. for 34. 2nd XI. *v.* Newport Grammar School, away, lost, 59 to 62 and 34 for 8 wkts. Jeffrey, 14 wkts. for 59.
Lecture: "Health and Happiness," Rev. J. Shepheard-Walwyn.

June 6th.—Jun. Lit. Soc. Diary, Nina Townshend and Effie Carrodus. Essays: "The Life of a Penny," Marjorie Teakle; "Elizabeth Fry," Jessie Milne; "A Visit to Paignton," Gilbert Blake; "Southall," Leonard House. Recitations: "The Solitary Reaper," Iris Miller; "The Village Blacksmith," Arthur Pitt. 'Cello Solo, Miss Howell. Piano Solo, Katie Edmunds. Songs, Ball, Cooke, Bull, House, Manasseh, Kilbey.

,, 8th.—N.H.S. Excursion to Takely.

NOTICES.

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SCHOOL MAGAZINES.

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INITIAL LETTERS, Etc.

We publish a tailpiece by Madeline Agnew in this number. We shall be glad of a design for the heading, "The Avenue," on the first page.



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