THE·GREAT·PUBLIC·SCHOOLS

RUGBY

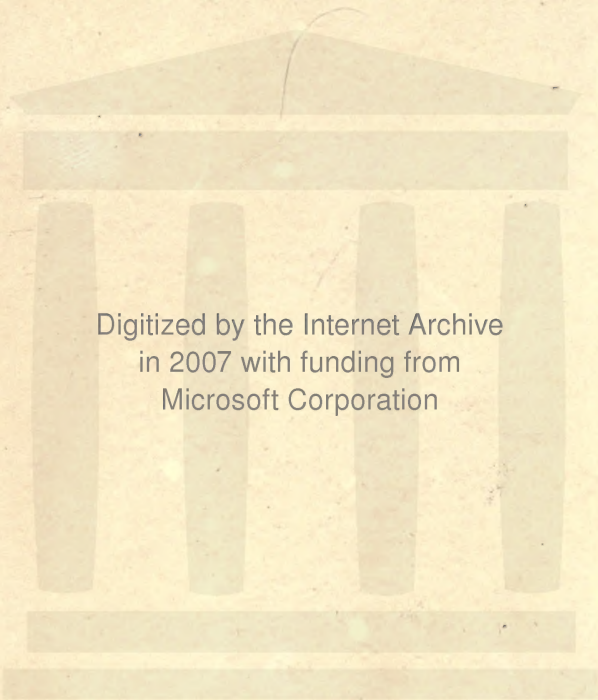
GEORGE BELL & SONS

HANDBOOKS TO
THE GREAT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RUGBY

GEORGE BELL & SONS

LONDON: YORK ST., COVENT GARDEN
NEW YORK: 66, FIFTH AVENUE, AND
BOMBAY: 53, ESPLANADE ROAD
CAMBRIDGE: DEIGHTON, BELL & CO.



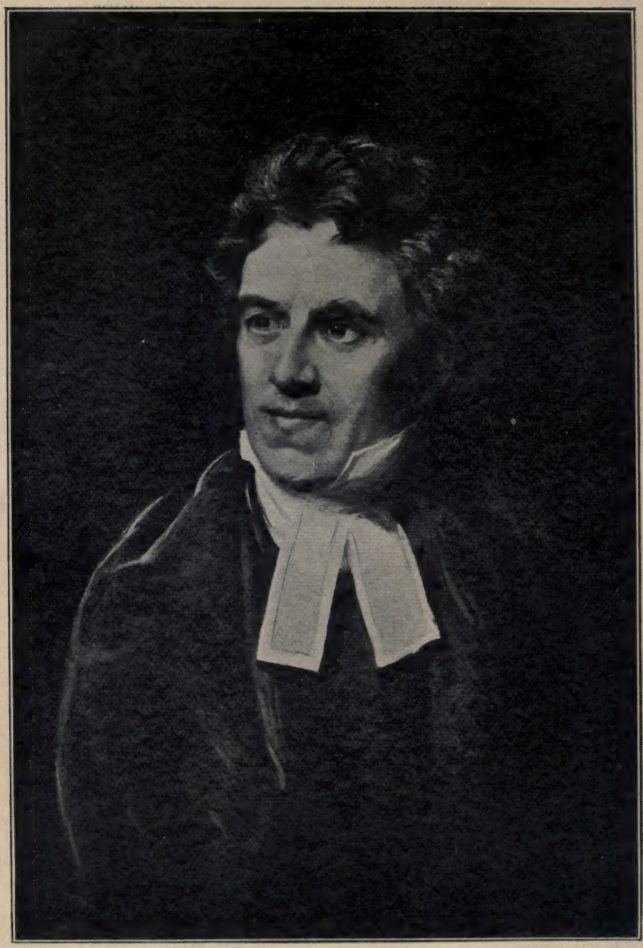


Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

DR. ARNOLD.

From a Portrait by G. Richmond, R.A.

RUGBY

BY

H. C. BRADBY, B.A.

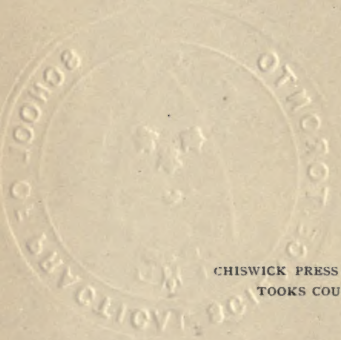
ASSISTANT MASTER AT RUGBY SCHOOL

WITH FORTY-FOUR ILLUSTRATIONS, CHIEFLY FROM PHOTOGRAPHS

LONDON

GEORGE BELL AND SONS

1900



CHISWICK PRESS : CHARLES WHITTINGHAM AND CO.
TOOKS COURT, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON.

PREFACE

THERE is nothing new in this little book, which simply aims at giving in a convenient form information about the School. I have endeavoured to make it as complete and accurate as possible, but I have no doubt that there are omissions and mistakes, and I shall be very grateful to any reader who will point out such to me.

Those who wish to make fuller acquaintance with the history of the School may be referred to the two standard works which have supplied the materials for the short sketch in this book, viz., "Rugby, the School and Neighbourhood," collected and arranged from the writings of the late M. H. Bloxam, O.R., F.S.A., by the Rev. W. H. Payne-Smith, M.A. (1889), and "A History of Rugby School," by W. H. D. Rouse, M.A. (1898).

My best thanks are due to the Rev. A. T. Michell, Mr. Morris Davies, Mr. A. J. Lawrence, and other Old Rugbeians for helping me with much information; also to the Old Rugbeian Society for the use of the map on p. 91, and to Messrs. E. H. Speight and G. A. Dean for the use of many photographs.

CONTENTS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

RUGBY SCHOOL. ENTRANCE FROM THE HIGH STREET.

As engraved in Nicolas's "History of Rugby." From a Drawing by E. Pretty.

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

HIGH STREET AND ENTRANCE TO SCHOOL.

RUGBY

CHAPTER I

HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

RUGBY SCHOOL was founded in the year 1567, in accordance with the will of Lawrence Sheriffe, "citizen and grocer of London." The exact date of the founder's birth is not known, but it must have been between five and ten years after Henry VIII. had ascended the throne, for in 1541 he had finished his apprenticeship and was admitted to the freedom of the Grocers' Company. The place of his birth has been in dispute, and the honour has been claimed not only for Rugby itself, but also for the little village of

Brownsover, some two miles distant on the other side of the Avon. Tradition has fixed on an old house in the latter place as the scene of his birth, but it can hardly be doubted that tradition is in this instance wrong, for a certain petition drawn up in 1641 by inhabitants of Rugby, definitely speaks of Rugby as the place "where hee [Lawrence Sheriffe] was borne." Indirect evidence also points to the same conclusion, for, on the one hand, it is asserted that the house in question is of a much later period, and, on the other, supposing it to be the same as, or on the site of, Lawrence Sheriffe's house in Brownsover, it is most unlikely that he was born there, for it was only bought by him in 1562, and at the time of his birth belonged to the monastery at Leicester. Moreover, as has been pointed out, Rugby and Brownsover were equally unimportant hamlets in Lawrence Sheriffe's time, and his choice of the former as the site of the School and Almshouses tends to confirm the opinion that it was his birthplace. From Rugby, then, Lawrence Sheriffe was sent to seek his fortune in London, and, after having served his apprenticeship, was, in 1541, admitted to the freedom of the Grocers' Company.

He lived in London for the rest of his life, and enough is known of his career to show that he prospered in his trade, and that he was, like John Gilpin, a "citizen of credit and renown." His life was no doubt uneventful, like that of many another industrious and peaceful citizen, but an interesting incident, fortunately preserved to memory in Fox's "Book of Martyrs,"

shows that in the troubled period through which he lived he was no time-server, but stood up for his opinions with a loyalty, courage, and shrewd sense which are pleasant to think of.

During the reign of Edward VI. he had become one of the tradesmen by appointment to the Princess Eliza-

Photo. *G. A. Dean.*

BROWNSOVER PARSONAGE.

beth, and supplied her household with spices, and it was in her defence that he gave proof of his good qualities; in 1554, the first year of Mary's reign, Elizabeth had been sent to the Tower under charge of complicity in the unsuccessful rebellion of Sir Thomas Wyatt, and though she had been released in default of any convincing testimony against her, devotion to her was by

no means a sentiment likely to lead to the favour of those in authority. Under these circumstances, Lawrence Sheriffe happened one morning to pay a visit to the "Rose Tavern," not far from where he lived in Newgate Street, and there heard a certain Robert Farrer, a haberdasher from the neighbourhood, with whom he was on friendly terms, talking wildly against the Princess, saying that "that jill had been one of the chief doers of this rebellion of Wyatt, and before all be done, she, and all the hereticks her partakers, shall well understand it. Some of them hope that she shall have the crown, but she, and they I trust that so hope, shall hop headless or be fried with faggots, before she come to it." Lawrence Sheriffe could not put up with this, and replied, "Farrer, I have loved thee as a neighbour, and have had a good opinion of thee, but hearing of thee that I now hear I defy thee, and tell thee I am her grace's sworn servant, and she is a princess, and the daughter of a noble king, and it ill becometh thee to call her a jill; and for thy so saying, I say thou art a knave, and I will complain on thee." Farrer refused to retract his words, and accordingly Lawrence Sheriffe, taking with him an honest neighbour, brought his complaint before certain commissioners who were sitting at the time at the house of Bonner, Bishop of London. As might have been expected, the commissioners threw cold water on his complaint: "Peradventure," said Bonner, "you took him worse than he meant," while another commissioner affirmed that "there is not a better Catholick than Farrer, nor an honester man, in the City of London."

Lawrence Sheriffe, however, was not to be so easily suppressed, and, after proclaiming Elizabeth as his gracious lady and mistress, shrewdly brought forward an argument which the commissioners could not treat so scornfully, namely, that at the Court he had seen the Lord Cardinal Pole and King Philip do obeisance to the princess on bended knee. "And then methinketh it were too much to suffer such a varlet, as he is, to call her a jill, and to wish them to hop headless that shall wish her grace to enjoy the possession of the crown, when God shall send it her as the right of her inheritance." Bonner caught at these last words: "Yea, stay there," quoth Bonner, "when God sendeth it unto her, let her enjoy it. But truly," said he, "the man that spake the words you have reported meant nothing against the Lady Elizabeth, your mistress, and no more do we. But he, like an honest and zealous man, feareth the alteration of religion, which every good man ought to fear: and therefore," said Bonner, "good man, go your ways home, and report well of us toward your mistress, and we will send for Farrer and rebuke him for his rash and indiscreet words, and we trust he will not do the like again." So Lawrence Sheriffe was sent off, content, no doubt, that his strategy had wrung as much as this from such an unsympathetic tribunal.

This is the only glimpse that we get of the personal character of Lawrence Sheriffe: it is hardly to be doubted in which direction his sympathies lay in the religious controversies of the time, but probably he was far too moderate in his opinions to be the object

of any molestation ; but although his championship of Elizabeth in her darkest hour does not seem to have affected his prosperity, he profited no doubt by his loyalty to her when she ascended the throne, for the year after that event he received a grant of arms from the Heralds' College. In 1559 this was not an empty honour, nor were Lawrence Sheriffe's arms, so familiar to all Rugbeians as the arms adopted by the school which he founded, derived from some fabulous ancestor, but a new coat of arms, bearing reference to his calling. They are as follows :

Azure, on a fesse engrailed between three griffins' heads, erased, or, a fleur-de-lis of the first, between two roses gules. Crest, a lion's paw, erased, or, holding a bunch of dates, the fruit of the first in the pods argent, the stalks and leaves proper.

The griffins, legendary guardians of the treasures of the East, are appropriate to the arms of one whose "argosies with portly sail" brought back the spices of the East. They appear also in the arms of the Grocers' Company. The lion's paw which holds the dates would also seem to point to the dangers of the trade, while the fleur-de-lis and the Tudor roses may well be the result of his faithful service to Elizabeth.

Little more remains to be said about the life of Lawrence Sheriffe, but his continued prosperity is attested by the following facts : in 1562 he exchanged New Year's Gifts with the Queen, receiving "one gilt salt with a cover weighing 7 oz.," in return for "a sugar loaf, a box of ginger, a box of nutmegs, and a pound of cinnamon" ; about the same time he is found

speculating in landed property, in company with a somewhat mysterious Thomas Reve, and in 1566 he was elected to be Vice-Warden of the Grocers' Company. In the following year he fell ill, and "being sick in body, but of good and perfect remembrance, thanked be God," he drew up on the two and twentieth day of July the will, in which he made those provisions for the foundation of a Schoolhouse and Almshouse in Rugby, which have caused the perpetuation of his name and fame. What his illness was is not known, but he recovered for a time and came down to Rugby, perhaps, as has been suggested, on the "graye ambling nagge" which he bequeathed to his wife: here he busied himself no doubt with the scheme that must have been so much in his mind, and here, on the 31st of August, he added a codicil to his will, making an alteration which was destined to be of immense importance to the school. Soon after executing this codicil, he returned to London and died: the exact date of his death is not known, and for many years it was supposed that, in accordance with the provision of his will, his body was, as he wished, "decently buried within the parish church of St. Andrew, in Rugby, near the bodies of my father and mother, and a fair stone laid upon my grave, with a title thereon declaring the day of my decease and so forth." For some reason, however, his wishes were not complied with, and it was discovered in 1864 by Mr. Bloxam, that his body had been laid to rest in the Grey Friars Church, or Christchurch, Newgate Street, the street in which he lived. Though the church was destroyed in

the Great Fire of London, the old registers fortunately escaped, and contain the following entry:

"September, 1567. The xvi. Daye was buryed Mr. Lawrence Shyryfe."

Though not buried in the place of his choice, the bones of Lawrence Sheriffe lie among those of a goodly company. The Grey Friars' church had been a favourite burying-place in mediæval times, and had contained the tombs of three queens: it had, however, been ruthlessly despoiled at the Reformation, and "nine alabaster tombs and seven score tombs of marble" had been pulled down and sold by a goldsmith and alderman of London. The "fayre stone," which we may hope was placed over Lawrence Sheriffe's grave, must have perished in the Great Fire, which destroyed all but a portion of the cloisters; but among the many interests which cluster round the church built on the ruins of the old one, not the least to all Rugbeians comes from the thought that it is the resting-place of the founder of their school.

It may be noted that Founder's Day at Rugby is kept on a date (October 20) which has no known connection with the life of the founder. We have seen that the days of his birth and death are unknown, and that the day of his interment was only discovered in 1864. October 20 was fixed upon at a time when the school year was divided into two halves, apparently as forming a suitable break in the middle of the second half-year. When this date was fixed on, and how long Founder's Day has been celebrated, we do not know, but it was at any rate before Mr. Bloxam

RUGBY SCHOOL IN 1809. ENTRANCE TO THE HALL.

As engraved in Nicolas's "History of Rugby." From a Drawing by E. Pretty, Drawing Master.

entered the school in 1813. At that time it was kept as a whole holiday, except that the school had to assemble in the morning in the great schoolroom to hear a Latin essay commemorative of the founder delivered by the head foundationer, the essay itself having been previously written by one of the masters. At the present time the day is marked only by a special service in the morning (when the lessons are read by the two head foundationers), and by a half-holiday, but it seems likely that in the near future measures will be adopted for making it more of a special occasion in the school year.

The debt owed by the school to its founder is also kept before it by the constant use of a special collect, the origin of which does not appear to be ascertainable, but which was certainly used in 1821, when the first chapel was consecrated. It runs as follows:

"We give Thee most humble and hearty thanks, O most merciful Father, for our Founder Lawrence Sheriffe, and for all our Governors and Benefactors by whose benefit this whole school is brought up to Godliness and good learning: and we humbly beseech Thee to give us grace to use these Thy blessings to the glory of Thy Holy Name, that we may answer the good intent of our religious Founder, and become profitable members of the Church and Commonwealth, and at last be partakers of Thy Heavenly Kingdom, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen."

The provisions for the Charity which Lawrence Sheriffe founded are contained in his will, and a document appended to the will, called the Intent, in which he sets forth the details of his scheme. He had taken

the first steps during his lifetime, and had (as Mr. Rouse has lately shown) built a large house, which he calls his Mansion House, on the site of some cottages which he had purchased and pulled down. This Mansion House was to be the residence of the master of the school, and was situated on the north side of what is now Church Street, opposite the parish church of St. Andrew, just to the east of the present almshouses. He directs in his Intent that a "fair and convenient school house" should be built near to this Mansion House; also "four meet and distinct lodgings for four poor men." These four poor men were to be called the almsmen of Lawrence Sheriffe, of London, grocer, and two of them were to be chosen from among the inhabitants of Rugby, two from among those of Brownsover. In like manner the school, which was to be called the Free School of Lawrence Sheriffe, of London, Grocer, was "to serve chiefly for the children of Rugby and Brownsover, and next for such as be of other places thereunto adjoining." An honest, discreet, and learned man, a Master of Arts if possible, was to be chosen and appointed to teach grammar, freely, in the school. The master was to receive a salary of £12 per annum, equivalent in modern times to about £180, and was to live in the Mansion House without being charged either for rent or repairs. The almsmen were of course to have free lodging, and 7*d.* a week for maintenance, equivalent to about 8*s.* 9*d.* at the present time.

To carry out this scheme he chose two dear friends, as he calls them: George Harrison, of London, gen-

tleman, and Barnard Field, citizen and grocer, of London; the property which was to supply the wherewithal was made over to them and to their heirs for ever, that they might use it for the specified purposes. This property was as follows:

1. The Mansion House and land in Rugby.

2. The house and land at Brownsover, which have been mentioned before as belonging originally to the Monastery at Leicester: Lawrence Sheriffe's sister, Bridget, and her husband, John Howkins, were to be tenants of this property during their lifetime at an annual rent of £16. 13*s.* 4*d.*, and on their death their descendants were to be preferred as tenants to any other person.

3. A third part of a field of twenty-four acres, near London. This field was called Conduit Close, and had been purchased by Lawrence Sheriffe in 1560 for £320. This is occupied nowadays by the houses round Lamb's Conduit Street and Great Ormond Street, which intersect about in the middle of the property: it is close to the Foundling Hospital.

It was with this piece of land that the codicil dealt, which was added by Lawrence Sheriffe on his last visit to Rugby, a few weeks before his death. He had in his will left a legacy of £100 for the school, but by his codicil he revoked the legacy and left the land instead. The importance of this codicil is obvious, for Conduit Close has been long in the heart of London, and the third part, which in 1567 brought in about £6 or £8 a year, yields now £5,700. The alteration made the fortune of the school.

4. A sum of £50 (=*circa* £750) was left to provide for the building of the schoolhouse and almshouses.

Such were the provisions of the will and intent, but it was many a long year before these provisions were freed from attack and the school enjoyed its own without molestation. Its history during the first century of its existence is one long struggle against injustice, due to the shameful dishonesty of the tenants of the Trust, and the no less shameful slackness and indifference of the trustees. It was most unfortunate that the provisions of the Trust gave any loophole for dishonesty: had there been more careful arrangements for the holding of the Trust property by a sufficiently large and renewable body of trustees the difficulties would probably never have arisen; as it was, the heirs of Barnard Field (George Harrison seems to have dropped out from the first) yielded to the temptation to try to evade the conditions of the Trust and make the Conduit Close property their own, while successive Howkinses attempted to do the same with the Brownsover land.

The real troubles began as early as 1580, but even from the very first the founder's intentions were not carried out as they should have been. The four almsmen, indeed, were selected without delay and installed in the Mansion House, and this was not an unreasonable arrangement, as there could be no school or schoolmaster until the schoolhouse was built. Obviously, however, the building of this schoolhouse and of the almshouses should have been immediately proceeded with; as it was, the schoolhouse was not finished

till seven years after the founder's death, and when the first master, Edward Rolston, of Christ's College, Cambridge, was installed in the Mansion House, and for many years after, no attempt had been made to begin the almshouses. All that was done was to block up the doors of the almsmen's rooms opening into the house and to provide them with separate access from the outside. Thus, at the outset, rooms which should have been at the service of the master, and which might perhaps have been used for boarders, were filled by the almsmen. It was not as if the schoolhouse was a very elaborate building requiring years to finish: it was a large plain room, built like the Mansion House itself, of bricks and timber, with windows glazed in small leaded panes, and a thatched roof, in the picturesque style still constantly met with in old houses in the neighbourhood. The money for the building was provided, and there is no apparent reason for the delay; it would seem that for some reason or other Harrison left things to Field, and that Field was busy with his own concerns, for we know that he was engaged with other merchants soon after Lawrence Sheriffe's death in attempting to get satisfaction from the King of Barbary, who had appropriated certain shiploads of cloth sent into his dominions, and a few years later he had similar trouble with the King of Spain.

Whatever may have been the cause of the delay, seven years or so after the founder's death the school was started; but before many years there was serious trouble. In 1580, probably, Rolston had been suc-

ceeded by a young Warwickshire man, Richard Seele, of Trinity College, Oxford, and it is to be feared that the first Oxonian master was no credit to his university, for after a short tenure of office he was forcibly ejected. The deed was done by a leading county magnate, Edward Boughton, of Cawston Hall, who "with divers others in his company . . . made a forcible entry into the school of Rugby and from thence removed with strong hand and displaced Richard Seele." One can imagine the stir made in the village, and the excitement in the schoolhouse when in strode Boughton and his followers and turned out the expostulating dominie; it is not every day that the wielder of the rod finds the tables so suddenly turned on him!

The story has come down to us through a petition, which was presented by some inhabitants of Rugby to the Privy Council against this Edward Boughton: it was indeed a high-handed proceeding, and, at first sight, one's sympathies go out to Seele; but further consideration makes it very doubtful whether he is deserving of sympathy. Boughton did not act apparently on his own initiative, but on that of the trustee, Barnard Field; for the petition, which is very violent in tone, accuses him amongst other things of being in league with papists, and namely with one Barnard Field. Now Field had appointed Seele, and there can be no reason for supposing that he would have been anxious to get rid of him, if he had not shown himself unworthy of his position; this view is further confirmed by the fact that Boughton is also accused of being a "boulsterer and mayntainer of evell

men and evell causes in the cuntrie wheare he dwellethe, namelie of Nicholas Greenhell and others": but this Nicholas Greenhill, who was appointed by Field when he had got rid of Seele, seems, from the little that is known of him, to have been a good sort of man; at any rate he made several little improvements in the building at his own expense, during the four and twenty years that he was master, bequeathed to the school the various fixtures which he had put in, and did what he could to prevent the misuse of the Trust property. Very likely Boughton was an overbearing person, and his methods were certainly irregular, but Mr. Rouse has not unreasonably conjectured that the prime mover in this petition may have been Howkins, grandson of Lawrence Sheriffe, who perhaps found in Seele no obstacle to dishonest dealings with the Brownsover property.

And now we enter upon the long period of litigation which lasted off and on right up to the year 1667, exactly a century after the Founder's death. It arose, as we have said, from the dishonesty of the heirs of Barnard Field, beginning with his grandson Barnard Dakyn, who held the third part of Conduit Close on trust, and of the Howkinses, the tenants of Brownsover parsonage: later on the Conduit Close land also got into the hands of the Howkinses. The object of all these people was to establish a claim to the Trust property as their own personal property, subject only to the rent charge fixed upon it at the time of the Founder's death; but whenever they could, they withheld even this. It is true that the will of Lawrence

Sheriffe makes no provisions for the rise in value of the property, probably he did not think of it, but it is obvious that his intention was, that the property should belong to the Trust, not to the tenants, and this being so, the increase in value would be to the advantage not of the tenants, but of the school and almshouses which the property was to support. This principle always guided the legal decisions which marked the course of litigation, and the fact that the strife was so long continued shows once more the truth of the old saying that possession is nine-tenths of the law, and is a speaking commentary on the gross negligence of the trustees who were from time to time appointed. The three most important dates in the period, are those of the three Chancery Commissions which were appointed in 1602, 1614, and 1653, to settle the business.

Before 1602, Barnard Dakyn had had the audacity to sell the Conduit Close property for £120, in spite of the fact that Greenhill (who was still Master) had an action pending against him for recovery of certain moneys unlawfully detained; the Commission, however, was not brought about by Greenhill, but by Anthony Howkins of Brownsover, who sympathized, no doubt, with Dakyn's action, and hoped to get rid once for all of the claims of the master. He was undeceived, for the Commission did all that Greenhill could desire: it cancelled the sale made by Dakyn, appointed twelve Warwickshire gentlemen as trustees, in whom all the school property was vested, made arrangements for filling up vacancies among those trustees, ordered

the building of almshouses, and settled the payments to be made to master and almsmen.

But now comes the disappointing part. So inert were these trustees that, in spite of the decision of the Commission, the enemies of the school still triumphed, showing a pertinacity worthy of a better cause; after twelve years of claiming and counter-claiming, the result was a second Chancery Commission, which met in 1614 at Hixhall, in Middlesex, Augustine Rolfe, or Rolph, being master of the school at the time. This Commission ended by confirming the decree of the first, and ordering payment of the arrears of rent which the tenant of Conduit Close had refused to pay: this tenant was a certain Rose Wood, and the property had come to her from her first husband, John Vincent, who had bought it from Dakyn: it will be remembered that the first Commission had ordered the sale to be cancelled, but this had not been done: the second Commission failed equally to get the better of the strategems of Rose Wood, for when a forty years' lease of the property was granted to one Henry Clerke, at the rent of ten pounds, an absurdly small rent considering that the first Commission had estimated it as worth double that amount, straightway the lady appeared on the scene again and obtained the transfer of the lease to herself.

Nor did this second Commission lead to more satisfactory results in other ways. The trustees were as neglectful as ever, and the unfortunate master was left to fight his battle alone as best he might; consequently, we find Wilgent Greene, Rolfe's successor, after vainly

protesting against the new lease of Conduit Close, coming to an agreement on his own account with Rose Wood, by which, needless to say, the Trust was defrauded. We may also notice that not even a protest had been raised, when about 1612 the grasping Anthony Howkins had himself been forced by Edward Boughton the younger, who must have inherited his father's spirit, to alienate the tithes and part of the glebe land at Brownsover for a yearly payment of £28 17*s.* 6*d.*, a thing which he had of course no right to do.

Such being the spirit of the trustees, it was natural that things should go from bad to worse, and the darkest days of the school were during the period of the great Civil War. In 1641, the year before the war broke out, Greene died, and there was a great to-do about his successor. The inhabitants of Rugby had got it into their heads, and the indolence of the trustees had no doubt fostered the idea, that they had the right to choose the schoolmasters: so when Greene died, they held a meeting and chose a Rugby man, Edward Clerke: they submitted their choice to the surviving trustees and the heirs of those that were dead (the provision for keeping up the number by a system of co-option had been neglected), and a majority of these appears to have agreed to the choice; but there was some dispute, and the matter was referred to the Lord Keeper, who ordered that Clerke should have the place. However, Sir Roger Fielding, one of the dissentient trustees, was not to be beaten: his *protégé* was the vicar of Long Itchington, near Rugby, Raphael Pearce by name, and so strenuously did he canvass

the county people in his behalf that he succeeded somehow in upsetting the previous arrangements, and Edward Clerke had to retire from his post in favour of his rival. The joy of the unfortunate Pearce, who was poor and had doubtless hoped that his new position would bring better times to himself and his large family, must have been short-lived. War broke out, and in the troubled times that ensued, the best right was the right of the strongest: the tenants of the Trust property were not slow to take advantage of the circumstances, and the Howkinses refused to pay their rent; the tenants of Conduit Close did likewise, alleging that the land had been damaged by breastworks drawn across it, although the damage did not affect so much as one acre.

Poor Pearce must have wished himself back in Long Itchington, for, as is said in a petition drawn up later on behalf of his wife, he "became in extreme want and exceeding poore, having nothing many times wherewith to provide bread for himselfe his wife and children, which caused a wonderfull weakness in his body. Which same weakness, for want of sufficient dyet, growing more and more upon him, it brought him at last to his much lamented death."

Such was the fate of this "so able honest and painfull a Schoole Master," most unfortunate of all those who have presided over Lawrence Sheriffe's foundation. His death took place in 1651, but some months before it he had given up his post in despair, and for a while there was no teaching of grammar freely in the now dilapidated school-house. Hitherto the work had gone

on steadily in spite of all troubles; as early as 1621 there is direct evidence of a boy from the school passing on to Cambridge: direct evidence is apparently hard to procure, for at this time only four Cambridge colleges, and none at Oxford, give information as to previous education in their entrance registers, but as six Rugbeians were entered at three of these four Cambridge colleges between the years 1621 and 1642, we may reasonably suppose that other scholars went elsewhere, and that the masters of the school did not shape their conduct on that of the trustees.

The year 1651, then, stands as the lowest point in the school history. On the "ffowerth" day of December in that year Lord Leigh, the sole surviving trustee, appointed Peter Whitehead as master, and two years later yet another Chancery Commission was appointed. This Commission quashed the claim of the Howkins family (who now held both the Conduit Close and Brownsover properties) to pay only the rent prescribed in Lawrence Sheriffe's time, and ordered them to pay arrears. Once more they began their old tactics of appeal and evasion, but at last they were worsted, and on November 26, 1667, the Lord Keeper confirmed the decree. That settled the matter, and it is exceedingly satisfactory to learn not only that Mrs. Pearce and Mrs. Whitehead gradually received the unpaid salaries of their husbands, but that an obstinate Howkins was prosecuted and put into prison and not released till he had paid his debts. One can imagine the master quoting his "pede Poena claudo" with particular gusto when that happy event took place! From this time

onward the school, amidst all its ups and downs, is free from the enemies who threatened its very existence, and the good results of this relief were soon manifested.

Whitehead had been succeeded in 1660 by John Allen, who died ten years later. The next master, Knightly Harrison, is interesting as having been the first Old Rugbeian to hold the post, unless indeed Edward Clerke, who was deposed in favour of Pearce, was educated in the school of his native place, which may well have been the case. Harrison resigned after five years, and was succeeded in 1675 by Robert Ashbridge, who is notable for having begun the School Register. We have seen that from early times boys were sent up from the school to the University, and the register shows clearly that, though of course quite small, it was not a mere village school, but that a number of boys came as boarders from the neighbourhood. Even had there been no register at the time this might have been deduced from the fact that, in the mastership of Ashbridge, another storey was added over the schoolroom. Ashbridge only stayed six years, and Leonard Jeacockes, who was appointed in his place, had a sad career. It is clear that some special circumstances caused his failure, for he started with a capital entry of twenty boys in 1682, five of whom must have been boarders, while in the following year there are only two names recorded ; in 1684 only one, and then for two years there is a complete blank. It is also noticeable that a good many boys who must have left the School during this period were re-admitted

in 1688. What then were the special circumstances which caused this temporary collapse? It has been recently conjectured by the Rev. A. T. Michell, that the explanation may be found in the occurrence of an epidemic in the town. He has shown that the normal death-rate of Rugby at the time was about 20 per annum : in 1680 it rose to 42, and in the following year it was 37 ; then after a lull of three years it rose again in 1685 and the two succeeding years to 50, 40, and 49. This would amply account for the cessation of entries in 1685, but it does not clear up the sudden drop in 1683, the middle of the three years' lull which followed the first outbreak, after the good entry in the previous year. Mr. Michell has pointed out in this connection that severe outbreaks of small-pox in Rugby in 1710 and 1733 apparently made little or no difference in the register, and it seems probable on the whole that there was some additional reason for the collapse. Possibly Jeacockes's health may have given way as early as 1683, or he may have done something to make himself unpopular with his neighbours : however this may be, he died in 1687, when only thirty-three years of age.

And now we come to the first great name among the Masters of Rugby, Henry Holyoake, De Sacra Quercu, as he calls himself with a pleasing fancy which enlists our sympathy at once. He was of a Warwick-shire family who had strongly espoused the Royalist cause. His grandfather, while incumbent of Southam, near Rugby, had had his house pillaged by some Parliamentary troops, who found in it "a drum and

several arms" ; his father, a most versatile man, when Chaplain of Queen's College, Oxford, had commanded a company of foot, mostly composed of undergraduates, with such success that he was made a Doctor of Divinity ! He had made his living by the practice of medicine during the Commonwealth, and had spent his spare time in compiling a large English-Latin and Latin-English Dictionary. His son came to the school under interesting circumstances : he was one of the Chaplains at Magdalen College, Oxford, when James II. made his famous attempt to Romanize that foundation. Holyoake was amongst the many members who resigned in protest against the arbitrary expulsion of Fellows, and though afterwards restored he chose to remain at Rugby, where he had been appointed as master, and resigned the chaplaincy soon after.

He presided over Rugby school with conspicuous success for the long period of forty-three years, a record unbroken as yet, and likely to remain so. During these years, 630 boys were admitted to the school, and the large proportion of non-foundationers (nearly five to one) shows that the fame of the school was spreading, and that it formed at this time a strong connection among the leading families in Warwickshire and the neighbouring counties. The numbers in the school at any one period have been variously estimated ; it depends of course on what number of years is taken as the average length of a school generation : putting it at six years, as Mr. Rouse has done, for boys came very young in those days, the numbers must have reached upwards of ninety.

If this estimate is correct, it is evident that Holyoake must have had assistant masters to help him in the teaching. The Commission of 1653 had contemplated this necessity, and had provided that in such a case, the trustees should "find or enjoin the Schoolmaster to provide an usher," who was to be paid such salary as they thought fit, out of the overplus of the rents; there is, however, no evidence that this had yet been done. The names of three of Holyoake's assistants are known, and they probably helped him not only in the school, but in the livings which the trustees allowed him, as a special mark of their high esteem for him, to hold. Pluralism was not yet in disrepute, and it doubtless did not seem unfitting to anyone that Holyoake, while master, held successively the livings of Bourton-on-Dunsmore, Bilton, and Harborough.

It is quite likely, too, that his assistant took in boarders: it is true that, as Holyoake was a bachelor, he must have had a good deal of room in his house, and that fresh rooms were added over the schoolroom, but, considering the proportion of boarders, there could hardly have been accommodation for them all on the school premises.

The great occasion of the school year was Speech Day, which took place in August. It was called Trustee Day in early times, and apparently the institution grew up from the ceremonies at the most important and best attended of the quarterly meetings of the trustees, which took place in that month: it would be only natural that on such an occasion the trustees should be given the opportunity of judging the pro-

ficiency of the scholars: the custom, however, of strewing the schoolroom with rushes may have been derived from festivals of the same sort in earlier times. There still exist Latin and English compositions of Speech Days in Holyoake's time. Themes have changed, and the domestic history of trustees no longer forms the burden of our song on such occasions, but in their general character time leaves little trace on Speech Days.

For forty-three years Holyoake lived among his boys and his books, and died in 1731, full of years and honour: his will, with its many legacies and remissions of outstanding debts, bears witness to his kindly disposition; his relations, his executor, his servant and the poor are all remembered; so also is the daughter of "Mrs. Harris, the tripe woman," who receives thirty pounds, in memory, perhaps, of savoury dishes! To the school he bequeathed the portraits of his grandfather and father, by whose side he was buried in St. Mary's, Warwick, and also his books, which were carefully preserved till they disappeared mysteriously from the Clock Tower some thirty or forty years ago. One or two of them with Holyoake's name have been found among the volumes in the Library, but as no list of them survives, it is impossible to trace those which have no such distinguishing mark.

Some examples survive of Holyoake's letters to parents, which show his character as a man and a schoolmaster in so pleasant a light, and bring him so vividly before us, that they deserve quotation. The

two first were communicated to "The Meteor" of May 20, 1899, by the Rev. A. T. Michell, through the kindness of the possessor.

"1702, *December* 16. *Rev. Mr. Holyoake, from Rugby, to Sir Justinian Isham, Bart.*

"Your two young gentlemen went to Lamport on Friday last, healthfull and well. I am happy that I can say they both continue very hopefull, and are like to prove extraordinary scholars. Mr. John (besides his judgment in Greek and Latin Authors) shews great parts and ingenuity in his Compositions, both in Prose and Verse, with solid sense and substantial Latin; and I beleeve will have a peculiar Genius to Horace's measures, whom he has sometimes happily imitated in Odes on occasionall subjects. Mr. Edmund has also made very great improvements: He renders his Authors naturally and with good command: writes judicous latin; composes a short Epigram not without its acumen in the close, and has a very good foundation in Greek, of which he gives no mean Account. Their Morals also bear proportion with their learning, their behaviour being always civil and decently modest, and their recreations innocent."

"1703, *July* 23. *The same to the same.*

"As I have always done the young Gentlemen justice in giving their good characters, so I think it as necessary to give you information when they do amisse. On Wednesday last they both took a ramble, and wand'red about four or five miles from home in order to have gone farther: I sent two messengers after 'em, and desir'd my Brother Blake to take a Horse to go in quest of 'em, who found 'em, and brought 'em back in the evening. The offence taken was as follows: In the morning looking by chance upon Mr. Edmund, I saw him busy in cutting and mangling the covers of his new Lexicon, for which I reprov'd him, and gave him a gentle correction upon the Hand. Mr. John I also corrected in the same manner for his verses, which were intolerably bad, both in the measure of the sense and quantity: upon this they took their journey: and I don't

know in what respect I have given them the least provocation besides since their return. I design'd, Sir, if this had not happen'd, to have inform'd You, that since Whitsuntide they have strangely fall'n from their former diligence and good humour, especially Mr. John, who has not compos'd me one Exercise well since He came last to Schole: but has rather lost than gain'd ground. 'Tis pity, Sir, the wheel should run back: that they who were of so great hopes, should frustrate at last the expectations of their parents and Master. If you please to do me the favour to write a chiding line or two to each of 'em, we'll hope the good effects. I have not punish'd 'em for this their fault, but make this complaint their punishment, knowing that your frown will produce much greater effects than all the Master's Rods can do."

It is satisfactory to find that both boys turned out well, and gained Fellowships at Oxford. The third letter is quoted by Mr. Bloxam, and belongs to the year 1726:

"Kind S^r^," he writes to a Mr. Ward, "Your young Gentleman is very hopeful. At first indeed I believe he thought of nothing but Liberty, but he soon applyed himself to busines, and moves with promising success; for He had lately discovered a pretty Emulation of not being outrivaled by any of his Equals, which Inclination t'will be my busines to cherish; I have as t'were just tasked Him and accordingly S^r^ you'l find him at present raw and unpolished yet I question not, but he'l soon make a more considerable figure."

After a short interregnum, during which the school was carried on by Joseph Hodgkinson, an old Rugbeian, and doubtless an assistant master at the time, another old Rugbeian, John Plomer, was elected to the vacant place. Plomer had been an usher under his predecessor, and in that capacity had done well, but as a head master he was not successful: during his

eleven years of rule the numbers in the school went down very much. He resigned in 1742, and after him comes a succession of four masters from Queen's College, Oxford. The first of these, Thomas Crossfield, would seem to have been an exceptionally able man. Such a reputation had he as a scholar and a teacher, that in his first year there were no fewer than fifty-three entries; and his fame must have been widespread, for only two of these were foundationers, and of the remainder only half were from the neighbouring counties. But before his abilities had time to display themselves in the new sphere he died, in his thirty-third year. He was succeeded by his friend, William Knail. In Knail's time a great event in the school history took place: the change of site. For many years the school buildings had been very ricketty: again and again they had been patched up, and bills for repairs had formed no small item in the school expenses, till in the middle of the eighteenth century the architect appointed to survey them found that repairs were no longer possible: the old roof would stand no more tinkering, and its removal was expected to cause the general collapse of the walls. There seems to have been no thought of rebuilding on the old site; this would have made the continuation of the school during the operations very difficult, and, besides, in the old premises there was no playground: like the Idle Apprentice, the boys had used the churchyard for their games.

The first idea was to purchase a newly-built house and ground close by the school, on the west side. The

house still stands—the large red-brick house with Corinthian pilasters, covered now with creepers, on the north side of the Market Place. The negotiations fell through for some reason or other; most fortunately, for on that site there would have been no room for expansion. The house finally fixed upon was the large Manor House of the village, standing where the present schoolhouse stands, on the south side of the town. This house was a good-sized building, some hundred years old, perhaps, at the time of its purchase; it formed three sides of a square, the open side facing on the Hillmorton Road. To the west of it, where the School House hall now is, was built the new schoolroom, of which some account is given in another place (see p. 100). With the house were purchased some adjacent fields and farm buildings, the whole property covering some eight acres of ground, and costing £1,000. The money for the purchase and the new building, £1,800 in all, was raised by a mortgage on the Conduit Close property. This property had been steadily growing in value, but it was let out on a long building lease, which did not fall in till 1780, and in 1748 the income of the Foundation did not amount to more than £116 7*s.* 6*d.* To enable the Trustees to make this mortgage, an act of Parliament was necessary, and this was passed in 1748, through the influence of Sir Thomas Cave, one of the Trustees, member for the county of Leicester. Cave was himself an old Rugbeian, and speaks of the school in one of his letters as "that Seminary to which I am indebted for whatever little Talent I am master of,"

and he devoted himself to its service with praiseworthy energy.

So in 1750 the school went over to the new premises, but in its new home it was not, at first, particularly fortunate in its directors. Knail resigned in 1751, and is remembered chiefly through some words of an old

OLD SCHOOL HOUSE.
From Radclyffe's "Memorials."

pupil, who, speaking of the original buildings, says "I have said many a lesson in a small room, into which the Doctor occasionally called some boys, and in which he smoked many a pipe, the fragrance of which was abundantly retained in the blue cloth hangings with which it was fitted up." His successor, Joseph Richmond, only stayed four years, and is remarkable only for the blank in the register under his name:

doubtless there were not many entries to be recorded, but one cannot believe that there were none! The next master, the last of the four Queen's men, was Stanley Burrough, who had been an assistant master: he remained at Rugby twenty-three years, but he made no particular mark in the place, though the school was fairly prosperous, and a few of his pupils attained distinction in after life. It was during his mastership, however, that a gallery for the use of the school was erected in the Parish Church, and for the first time the school attended services on a Sunday in one body. Though not distinguished in other ways, his reign is marked by a most important act, passed in 1777, by which a new constitution was given to the school. This act was made necessary by the approaching termination of the lease of the Conduit Close property. On the expiration of that lease, the Trustees looked forward to an annual income of over two thousand pounds, but ready money was needed at once to pay off the debt on the new buildings and premises, which amounted to six thousand pounds, and also to improve the trust property. Accordingly the act sanctioned the raising of a sum not exceeding £10,000, by sales, fines, or mortgage, and appended to it was a schedule "containing Rules, Orders, and Observations, for the good government of Rugby School and Charity." By this schedule it was laid down that Burrough was to be "continued," so long as he should behave well; the boys were to be taught grammar, Latin and Greek, and one or more Ushers were to be appointed by the Trustees to assist the masters in this, and to hear the

boys under twelve say their Catechism once a fortnight: a special master was to be appointed to teach writing and arithmetic, but head masters and assistants alike were for the future to be removable at the will and pleasure of the trustees, who were enabled, if they liked, to grant pensions to them out of the Trust funds. The foundation was extended to within five measured miles of Rugby (this was extended to ten miles by the trustees in 1780), and in addition to his salary (£63 6*s.* 8*d.* and a sum not exceeding £50) the head master was to have a capitation fee of £3 on every foundationer: the foundationers were to attend Sunday services, and were to be examined in the hearing of the trustees at the quarterly meetings. Regulations were made with respect to the alms houses, the Clerk to the trustees, and a Receiver of the rents of the Middlesex estate: a fire-engine was to be bought for the use of the school and town, and finally, eight exhibitions to Oxford or Cambridge were established, of the value of £40, tenable for seven years.

Burrough, who still enjoyed a freehold appointment, resigned in 1778, and was succeeded by one of the most distinguished of Rugby head masters, and the first to bear that title, Thomas James, an Etonian and Fellow of King's, commonly spoken of in Rugby at the present day as James the First. Under him, the school took its position as one of the leading English public schools, and the numbers increased rapidly: the year after he came there were only eighty boys; eleven years later, in 1790, there were 240. His face, as depicted in his portrait, is very attractive, with

its long aquiline nose, arched eyebrows, and firm but pleasant mouth which speaks the character of the man. His mental abilities were of no mean order, but his success was due not so much to his capacities as a scholar and a mathematician, but to his abundant energy, which displayed itself in the organization of the school down to the minutest details: in this organization he had little foundation to work on, for none of his predecessors had been called upon to govern anything like such a large number of boys, and it says much for the merit of his work that, through the manifold changes that have been made during the last century, much of it remains intact. The system which he introduced was based on the Eton system, under which he had been educated. The school was divided into six forms; the Sixth was the highest, and (like the Fifth) has survived as a name, though the reason for it has passed away. The routine of work for all forms was most carefully arranged. It consisted mainly of translation from Latin and Greek authors, and composition in these languages, but it was not exclusively classical: Bible History alternating with the Histories of Rome and England, modern geography and Milton, all find a place in the regular curriculum of the Sixth and Fifth, while modern languages and mathematics, which latter study James himself greatly loved, although they were "extras," were encouraged.

James's arrangement of school hours has in the main survived, the principle being that on whole school days there should be five lessons, one before breakfast,

T. JAMES, S.T.P.

Scholae Rugbeiensis Magister.

Engraved by Matthew Haughton, 1792, from a Painting by G. Engleheart.

prepared overnight, two before dinner, and two more in the afternoon, and it is from this period that the three half-holidays on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday are inherited, though at this time the Thursday half-holiday was not a regular one, but only given in honour of specially good work done by some member of the Sixth, "play for So-and-So" being the formula under which the good news was announced. The forms were very large, six masters being considered a reasonable number for a school of 200 boys, and James introduced the Eton tutorial system. Every boy who wanted private tuition paid four guineas a year, and in return received help in preparing his lessons: a boy was not compelled to have a tutor, but most boys did, and some such help must have been very necessary in days before dictionaries and school editions had paved the paths of learning: the system, too, helped to eke out the pittance received by the assistant masters, whose official salary was as a rule only £60: this was indeed supplemented by additional grants from the trustees or from James himself, who was always ready with his purse to further the interests of the school, but the whole did not amount to more than £100, and it is a further testimony to the character of the head master that he was able on these terms to attract such men as the two Sleaths, afterwards head masters respectively of Repton and St. Paul's, Innes, head master of Warwick School, Philip Homer, renowned as a Greek scholar, and Richard Bloxam, himself an Old Rugbeian, and father of the well-known antiquary. The income of the head master amounted

to nearly eleven hundred pounds, in addition to his house and grounds, which he held rent free. The bulk of this came from school fees, the official salary remaining at £113 6*s.* 8*d.*, but a curious item was furnished by a custom which prevailed among parents of sending a guinea at Christmas "to enable him to engage able scholars and respectable gentlemen;" this guinea was, later on, added to the head master's tuition fee. These Christmas presents amounted in one year to £167, but they did not cover by £100 the expenses incurred in supplementing the salaries of assistants.

Besides arranging the routine of work for all in the school, James drew up a book of sumptuary laws, which affords much interesting information: several of the minor regulations have been handed down to posterity, such as the system of tradesmen's notes, forbidding tradesmen to supply boys on credit, unless a note, signed by the boarding-house keeper, is brought for the article required; if a tradesman breaks this rule he is put out of bounds. Again, he introduced special paper on which "impositions" were to be written out, imposed fines for books lost or left about, and required the bookseller to write the boy's name in every book sold. Weekly allowances of money were introduced, rising from 3*d.* in the lowest form to a shilling in the Sixth, and in lieu of prizes, which did not then exist, a stimulus to the diligent was given by the system of "merit money"; anyone in a form who was "sent up for good," as it was called, at the end of the week had his allowance doubled.

Such regulations would seem to be those of a peace-

ful and well-ordered community, and indeed, according to the standards of the time, James was a strong disciplinarian. But in this respect standards have altered enormously: the head mastership of a public school is no sinecure now, but it is easy work compared with the struggle imposed on James in his efforts to maintain control over the turbulent young scamps committed to his care. The boarding house system of the time differed widely from that of the present day, by which all boarding houses are under the care of masters responsible for the well-being and conduct of their inmates: it is true that some masters besides the head master took in boarders, but numbers of boys lodged with townspeople; these houses were called by the Eton name, "dames' houses," though the keeper was generally a man.

But what made discipline still more difficult was that there was as yet but little idea of trusting the upper boys with the maintenance of it. There were indeed "præpostors" as they were called, and these had many privileges, chief amongst them that of fagging their juniors; they made full use of this privilege and demanded services undreamt of by the modern fag; besides acting as bootblack, water carrier, and general servant, the unfortunate fag might be called upon on winter evenings to perform the functions of a warming pan, and early on a summer morning he might have to speed across country to take up some night-line set by his master, for fishing was one of the principal amusements of the time. But the præpostor had little thought of doing service in return for the

service he exacted; and his relations with the head master were those of a genial antagonist, bearing no malice when defeated, but ready to seize any opportunity of stealing a march, and delighted when a stratagem succeeded. Moreover the masters were few; some of them had to attend to curacies which they were allowed to hold in order to make a living, and outside the form room things were apparently left to the head master. Under such conditions it is not to be wondered at that James found his task no easy one. He endeavoured, as he says, to govern more by "principles of justice, and what I call among the boys (my only law) the Eternal Rule of Right and Wrong ... than by the terror of the Rod; though I have established *that* on all becoming occasions (in my own opinion) from boys of six years old to boys of eighteen, or even more than eighteen years of age." His impartial justice and avoidance of all underhand methods won the respect of his pupils; where his system failed was in not awakening the sense of responsibility among the præpostors, and we consequently find him remarking in a letter that "a head master's house may always be expected to prove a hot-bed of rebellion, because he will have a larger number of big boys there." In like manner we read of incidents which in modern times would be quite incompatible with the maintenance of any authority. On one occasion, for instance, a young donkey was tied up to his desk in school; he had influence enough to be able to treat the incident lightly, and merely remarked, "Take him down, but pray don't hurt the young doctor," but in

his war of wits with his greatest pupil, Walter Savage Landor, the two met, as it were, upon an equality; it must have been hard to preserve dignity when met, as James was on one occasion when he knocked at Landor's study door, with nothing but the reply, "Get thee hence, Satan," and it was for writing scurrilous verses in the head master's album that that strange genius had finally to be removed. It is strange, too, to hear of boys getting hold of his horses and laming them over fences, and to read of the junketings that took place at the end of the half year. Means of locomotion were very scanty in those days, and it took a week or more to get rid of all the boys, and as much to collect them again. "A sort of saturnalia," writes an old pupil in his reminiscences, "followed the speeches" (they were then held in June, at the end of the half year). "The last few days of the half-year were spent in all kinds of riotous excesses. No lessons were expected to be done, excepting after a manner chosen by the boys—that is to say, anyhow; and half the windows of the school were broken, to be paid for by the parents, for the benefit of the Rugby glaziers. Then the closing scene may scarcely be credible. What is called a feast, or supper, was given at each boarding-house, and punch *ad libitum* was the order of the night."

It is never safe to omit the necessary grain of salt in reading an old boy's account of his deeds at school, especially if they tend to establishing his character as a "wild young spark": the same writer, at any rate, met with his reward often enough to have his mind

impressed with the fact that James, "although a small man, had a very powerful arm"; but the nature and extent of the discipline maintained is made clear enough, and the difficulty of establishing even as much as this is shown by the rebellions which occurred on three successive occasions at the end of the century. The only one of these of which an account has been handed down took place under James's successor, and will be described in its place, but one of the two which James had to deal with was serious enough to provoke a special meeting of the Trustees (Nov., 1786), at which they expressed their unanimous determination to support the head master's authority, and their hope that he would not hesitate to expel every boy who should presume to dispute it.

Sixteen years of such labour, lightened only by the half yearly holiday of one month (cut short by the period during which the boys gradually dispersed) were as much as James's health could stand: his nimbleness of wit, energy, and determination, were combined with a highly-strung nervous system which gave way before the strain, and in 1794 he resigned. Soon afterwards he was made a prebendary of Worcester cathedral: he recovered his health and spirits, but died in 1804, in his fifty-sixth year. He was buried at Worcester, but a monument (*vide* p. 122) was erected to him in the school chapel when it was built, and the surplus of the money collected among his old pupils for the purpose was used to found a prize for Greek verse, a subject which he introduced into the school *curriculum*.

James was succeeded by another Etonian and Fellow of King's, Henry Ingles, who well sustained the credit of the school during his twelve years of mastership. The numbers indeed fell by about fifty, but numbers are not always a sure indication of the efficiency of a school. He was a gloomy man, saddened by a terrible shock he had received when he had suddenly and unexpectedly met men carrying home the body of his eldest son, who had been accidentally drowned: it is related of him that, when one of the masters told him of the victory of Trafalgar, and added, "But I am sorry to say, sir, Lord Nelson is dead," he replied, "And I wish I were dead also." He made few changes in the school, but it is worth remembering that he abolished the Christmas present guinea, and introduced the system of having outside examiners for the exhibitions. He also attempted to make arrangements for every boy to have a separate study (the study system had been introduced by his predecessor), and it is noticeable that he thought the care of a boarding-house "incompatible with the general duties of the school," and wished to reduce the numbers in the School House (then only twenty-two) to six or seven; doubtless, too, he took his share in furthering the great re-building scheme carried out under his successor, but his reign is chiefly marked by the great rebellion of 1797. It took place in November, a month which James, too, had found a rebellious one, probably owing to the excitement of the great horse fair which was held then. The "Black Tiger," as Ingles was significantly called, was walking down the

town one day when he heard sounds of firing as he passed Gascoigne's, one of the "dames' houses"; he walked into the yard and found a boy named Astley amusing himself by firing cork bullets at the study-windows. He asked him where he got the gunpowder, and Astley gave the name of a grocer called Rowell: but Rowell, who had entered the powder in his books as tea, denied the charge, and the head master, setting greater value on his word than on that of the boy, flogged Astley as a liar. Not unnaturally the School was very much incensed, and wreaked its vengeance on Rowell's windows, whereupon Dr. Ingles gave out that the damage should be paid for by the Fifth and Sixth Forms. A round robin was drawn up in answer, in which they refused to do so, and forestalling the vigorous measures which were sure to follow, at fourth lesson on Friday they blew open the door of the head master's school with a petard. On the following day, Saturday, after second lesson, the mutineers got hold of the school bell and proceeded to ring a loud alarum on it, by way of formally declaring war, while fags were sent round to all the boarding-houses to gather the clans. They then blocked up the passage by which the Doctor came from the School House to the big school-room, and this done they broke all the windows, and dragging out the benches, wainscoting, and head master's books, they made a bonfire of them in the Close, to the delight of the spectators who lined the Dunchurch Road. Ingles did not venture to appear on the scene; he sent at once for the masters, but they were all taking advan-

tage of the Saturday holiday ; two were fishing in the Avon, another was shooting rabbits near Brinklow ; none of them were to be found ; so the doctor fell back on a recruiting party who happened to be in Rugby at the time, and posted the sergeant before the School House to guard the position with fixed bayonet. It was reserved for Mr. Butlin, banker and J.P., to quell the disturbance. He negotiated with the horse-dealers, who, armed with their long whips, formed no contemptible force, and at the head of these and the rest of the recruiting party, he marched into the Close. The rebels left their bonfire and retired to the Island (see p. 93), a real island at that time, surrounded by a moat too broad for any but a good jumper to clear, and from four to six feet deep ; it was crossed on the west side by a small drawbridge ; the mutineers drew this up, but Butlin's strategy was too much for them ; while he was reading the Riot Act and holding the attention of the boys, the drovers waded across the moat behind them and the position was lost. Stern was the vengeance of the head master ; several of the ringleaders were expelled on the spot, amongst them a future bishop and a future general, but it is on record that these could look back on the event with greater equanimity than those who were assigned to the chastisement of the rod.

Ingles resigned in 1806, and the choice of the trustees fell on John Wooll, a Balliol man. The choice was a good one, although they had an opportunity of making a still better, for among the candidates was Samuel Butler, James's favourite pupil, who

THE ISLAND AS IT WAS, SHOWING MOAT.
From Radclyffe's "Memorials."

as head master of Shrewsbury became the most famous master of his time. The schedule of 1777 ordained that, *ceteris paribus*, preference should be given to an old Rugbeian, and the only reason suggested for the rejection of Butler is that the trustees were frightened by the rumoured severity of his discipline. Though Wooll was not endowed with the powers that Butler possessed, he proved in many ways a good master, and seems to have been looked upon with affection by his pupils. "I really regret him," writes one of these, the great actor Macready; "he was kind, most hospitable, ready to enjoy and delighted to look upon enjoyment, in short, of a most benevolent disposition. He had little or no pretensions to profound learning, but he was a thoroughly good-natured, kind-hearted man." The numbers in the school were well maintained during Wooll's mastership, though they fell off at the end of his time, and reached in one period as many as 381, nor did its reputation for scholarship suffer.

But something more than benevolence, or the strictest maintenance of discipline according to the prevailing methods, was wanted to deal with the evils which existed in public schools; the best friends of the system would be far from denying that in our own day it is free from imperfections and from great dangers, but before Wooll's successor, Thomas Arnold, entered on his work, its possibilities for good were unrevealed. One of the most crying evils was the bullying. Macready, for instance, was lodged in the boarding house of his cousin, Mr. Birch, one of the

masters; he writes of him in after life as "the friend of my life, my relation, my tutor, my benefactor—God bless him." Nor was he ill-adapted for school life; he always retained the warmest affection for "dear old Rugby," yet his first year was made wretched by bullying. "This system of bullying," he writes, "seemed to have banished humanity from most of the boys above me, or rather of those between me and the highest forms. I was fag to a young man of the name of Ridge, an Irishman, who was a very harsh task-master; and I was made so uncomfortable in the Common Hall, that, but for the refuge of my own snug bedroom, I should have been almost despondent. . . . From the bullying endured, the first year of my term was real misery."

In like manner Bloxam tells us of a "barbarous custom," which was indeed abolished by Dr. Wooll. When a boy got his remove from a form he was welcomed to his new form by various kinds of torture; on getting out of the lowest form into the second form he was "chaired," *i.e.*, hoisted up and pinched till he shrieked with pain. In another form the torture was called "buffetting," the new-comer having to run the gauntlet up and down the great school room while he was buffetted with handkerchiefs tied into what were called Westminster knots, and the same writer remembers, as a small boy, being released for a short time with the rest of the set by the writing master in order to watch a "buffetting." This does not sound so formidable, especially as body armour in the shape of book-covers might be arranged to

afford some protection, but against the "clodding" in the Fifth form no defence prevailed. For this process clods of clay were gathered by fags from the banks of the pool in the Close; these were made into balls, dried, and hurled at the sufferer as he ran the gauntlet along the sheds. Another thing which must have pressed hard on the weak was the prevalence of fighting; as a means of settling quarrels it has many advantages, and athletic youngsters like Landor no doubt enjoyed it, but it was another thing when the unfortunate new boys (and they came very young in those days) were picked out and set at each other by their seniors. Some of them, however, throve on it; one young man aged eight and a half years reported to a horrified family servant who had been sent three weeks after the beginning of the half to see how he was going on, that he had already fought four battles and received three floggings; for Wooll did not forget Solomon's precept, and we read of one occasion when in the extraordinarily short space of fifteen minutes he flogged the whole of a form of thirty-eight boys, who had thought fit to put a stop to a lesson by the simple expedient of going away.

Reforms were, indeed, urgently needed, and unless we realize how very imperfect education was at Rugby and elsewhere we shall fail to estimate Arnold's work at its true value. It would, however, be a mistake to paint the picture too black, and the affection which was inspired by their school in many Rugbeians shows that there was in it much that was good; had it not been so indeed Arnold would never have succeeded.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS, SHOWING OLD CHAPEL.
From Radclyffe's "Memorials of Rugby."
(To the right of the Chapel is seen part of the Fives Court.)

The chief event of Wooll's reign was the building of the new School House and school rooms; a description of these will be found in another section, but it may be mentioned here that the money for the building came from the surplus income which had been increasing for many years with the increase in value of the London property, and had accumulated till it had reached the large sum of £40,000. It was well that the surplus was large, for so massive was the construction of these new buildings that, without including the chapel, which cost between seven and eight thousand, they ran away with £35,000. The School House and schools were begun in 1809 and took six years to complete. It must have been a worrying six years for teachers and taught, as the lessons went forward to the sound of hammer and saw; how they ever managed to keep the school work going as usual is a marvel, but somehow or the other it was done. When the buildings were finished in 1816 attention was turned to the Close, and the divisions between the fields were levelled, to its great improvement as a playing ground. Finally, in 1819 the chapel was begun, and consecrated in 1821. Hitherto the school had worshipped in the parish church, though the Big School had been used since its erection.

In the second half-year of 1828 Thomas Arnold took over the reins of government from Wooll, and the fourteen years during which he held them form one of the most important epochs in the history of the school and of English education in general. He is

SCHOOL BUILDINGS FROM HILLMORTON ROAD.
From Ackerman's "Public Schools."

perhaps the most famous of schoolmasters; everyone has heard of him; at Rugby his name is still on all lips; our cousins from beyond the seas come to visit his grave and his study. Why is it? What did he do? The answer to these questions is amply given in two books of two of his best known pupils, his life by Dean Stanley and "Tom Brown's Schooldays" by T. Hughes. It may be as well, however, to try yet again in a few words to give some idea of the facts, as even now misunderstandings still arise. For instance, we find the latest historian of Winchester (Mr. Leach) writing that Arnold "consciously and avowedly reformed Rugby after the fashion of Winchester." Now whatever we owe to Winchester for having helped to mould Arnold, this of course was not the case. It is true that in a few details Arnold introduced changes which were due to his memories of his old school, but in the main he preserved the old school constitution; this constitution was doubtless similar to that of Winchester, but its descent was not from Winchester through Arnold, but from Eton through James. Moreover, the reforms which Arnold made, which changed the whole character of public school institutions without destroying them, were due not to the influence of what had been or was anywhere else, but simply and solely to the intense zeal with which he carried into practice his own ideas of right and wrong. It is only fair to Mr. Leach to say that he seems to recognize this on a subsequent page, where he naïvely says, "Arnold's real greatness as a schoolmaster did not lie in the introduction of any novel

ideas or practices, not even in the bringing of Rugby into closer harmony with Winchester ideas and practices, so much as in his extraordinary enthusiasm and intellectual courage, and the way in which he inspired others with the same enthusiasm and courage."

What Arnold did for public schools was to alter and expand, to a degree which amounted to a revolution, the aims and objects which these institutions set before themselves. Before his time the avowed object of the public schools was to impart learning; systems and discipline were subservient to this end, and though incidentally they had other effects, their main object was to render learning possible and effective; if this object was attained their work was done, and they were judged by their success or failure in this respect.

Arnold took a much broader view of the objects of education; while deeply impressed with the importance of learning, he realized that it was only a part of education, and that the great end and aim of education was the formation of character. This was the great object which was to dominate all others: to this end learning and everything else must be subservient. The ideal which he set before himself was to train boys to become not merely scholars but Christian gentlemen.

But, like most men who have done great things for the world, Arnold was not only an idealist, but a most practical man as well. In the public school system at Rugby he found to his hand an instrument which, however imperfect, was capable of serving his ends; he did not therefore attempt to revolutionize; he ac-

cepted the system as a whole, rejecting some parts and developing others, with the object of creating conditions under which a boy's character could grow on right lines. We may mention a few points to illustrate the way in which he worked.

He accepted the two great features of English public schools, the liberty allowed to all, and the power exercised by the senior over the junior boys, but he bent all his energies to bring it about that the liberty should not be mere licence, and that the power should be exercised for good and not for evil, as had been too often the case. The power he vested in the hands of the Sixth Form only, having, as Stanley says, "a strong belief in the general union of moral and intellectual excellence;" the liberty he curtailed but little, but, on the other hand, he freely exercised the right of sending away those who, even if they had not committed any flagrant evil, showed themselves unfit to make proper use of their privileges; on this point he was very emphatic, and his opinion is well worth notice at a time when the justice of superannuation rules is often called in question; "till a man learn that the first, second and third duty of a schoolmaster is to get rid of unpromising subjects, a great public school," he said, "will never be what it might be and what it ought to be."

Secondly, he introduced very necessary reforms as regards the status of assistant masters. "From the first," to quote Stanley again, "he maintained that the school business was to occupy their main and undivided interest. The practice, which owing to their

Photo. SCHOOL BUILDINGS, SHOWING OLD CHAPEL (1870). *G. A. Dean.*

lower salaries had before prevailed, of uniting some parochial cure with their school duties, was entirely abolished, and the boarding houses as they respectively became vacant he placed exclusively under their care." Hitherto "dames' houses" had still survived. An increase in school fees had also enabled him to raise the salaries of his assistants, so that he felt himself justified in every way in making the demand that his assistants should give their whole time and energies to their school work.

Thirdly, he laboured strenuously to make the direct religious teaching effective. This he did, not by multiplying services, nor by attempting to force young minds into a fixed mould of piety, but by using the opportunities which the pulpit afforded for imparting something of the fiery zeal for right which consumed him, for presenting forcibly and directly to the minds of his hearers the practical effects which religion ought to have upon their daily life at school, and for stimulating in them the quality of moral thoughtfulness which he prized so much.

Such were the main points of his system. In carrying it out he had to meet with the storm of abuse and opposition that so often is the lot of great reformers. Perhaps, had he been content to concern himself with the school only, people might have let him alone; had he done so, he would not have been Arnold. His heart and mind were too full of passionate desire for reforms in Church and State for him to stand aloof; the education of boys in the small society of school was successful to him only if they

learned there how to play a true part in the larger societies wherein they were destined to move. And so it came about that the man whose great aim in life was to help to make English boys and men Christians in practice and not only in name, was accused of laxity of religion, and that his educational system was the object of bitter attack. But he was "ever a fighter," a magnificent fighter, with no arrogance and the broadest sympathies, but inflexible in the maintenance of what he thought right, and in the end he triumphed over all opposition. With the better sort of boys he soon succeeded; no boy worth anything could resist the influence of a man so transparently sincere, in whose zeal for religion there was such a complete and refreshing absence of humbug or of mere conventionality, a man who was not afraid of anybody. The trustees, too, in spite of the dislike with which many of them regarded his public views, did not fail to recognize the good work which he was doing at the school; even in July, 1836, when a resolution of censure was brought forward, which Stanley says "would probably have occasioned his resignation had it not been lost," there was no criticism of his school work; "they did all I wanted," writes Arnold at the time, "about the school." They could, indeed, hardly have done otherwise in face of a special resolution of confidence in him which they had passed in the previous March. Last of all the popular prejudice against him died away, and in 1841, the year before his death, when he was elected Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford, he was beginning to

occupy in general estimation the place which he deserved.

The question remains to be asked, how far did Arnold succeed in realizing his ideals of school life? What permanent results did he leave? He would have been

SCHOOL HOUSE ENTRANCE IN 1816.
From Ackerman's "Public Schools."

the last to affirm that his ideals had been completely realized, or that he was satisfied: he had no blind self-satisfied faith in the public school system: "experience," he writes to a friend in 1835, "seems to point out no one plan of education as decidedly the best, it only says, I think, that public education is the best when it answers . . . a very good private tutor would tempt

one to try private education, or a very good public school, with connections among the boys at it, might induce one to venture upon public. Still there is much chance in the matter; for a school may change its character greatly, even with the same master, by

Photo. *G. A. Dean.*

ENTRANCE TO SCHOOL HOUSE.

the prevalence of a good or bad set of boys, and this no caution can guard against." Again he writes, in 1840, to an old pupil, "I have many delightful proofs that those who have been here, have found at any rate no such evil as to prevent them serving God in after life; and some, I trust, have derived good from Rugby. But the evil is great and abounding, I well know; and

it is very fearful to think that it may to some be irreparable ruin."

What the dangers of the system were is obvious to all readers of Tom Brown ; it depended so largely on the character of the Sixth that when the Sixth were weak all sorts of abuses crept in. But Arnold's greatness and his success lay in the fact that he did inspire a very large proportion of boys placed in authority with something of his own spirit of duty, and that in the minds even of boys who did not come into personal contact with him, he implanted a feeling of their responsibility as members of a great society. In this way he did succeed in showing what a public school, in spite of its imperfections, "might," to use his own phrase, "and ought to be." He did succeed in rousing people to the fact that the aim of education was not merely to stimulate the intellectual faculties but the moral faculties as well, that the great object to be pursued was the formation of character. In this he was a pioneer, and his example soon had great results. "A most singular and striking change has come upon our public schools," wrote Dr. Moberley, head master of Winchester, to Dean Stanley soon after Arnold's death, "a change too great for any person to appreciate adequately, who has not known them in both these times. This change is undoubtedly part of a general improvement of our generation in respect of piety and reverence, but I am sure that to Dr. Arnold's personal earnest simplicity of purpose, strength of character, power of influence, and piety, which none who ever came near him could mistake or

question, the carrying of this improvement into our schools is mainly attributable. He was the first." What he left, then, was not a cut-and-dried mechanical system, but a great example. The public school system remains much as he left it: some evils, such as drinking and the grosser forms of bullying, have been practically stamped out; but the dangers of misuse of liberty and power must always go along with the advantages of the right use of them, and the spirit which animated Arnold is still the only thing which can avert the dangers and bring out the advantages.

Arnold was succeeded by A. C. Tait, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury; it was no easy task to fill the place vacated by the sudden death of a man whose influence was so great, and Tait, with all his good qualities, was not an Arnold. "Tait was certainly by no means a born schoolmaster," says one authority; "as the head master of a public school he was hardly a success," writes another; but the standard by which he was judged was an exceptional one, and if in following up Arnold's work Tait did not give evidence of the exceptional powers which his predecessor had shown, he nevertheless accomplished much good work by his quiet unflagging industry, and after a terrible illness in 1848, the affection, which he inspired in large numbers of his pupils, became enthusiastic. The chief alteration that was made in the school during his time was in point of numbers; Arnold had endeavoured to restrict the number of boys in the school, and had persuaded the trustees in 1830 to limit the number of non-foundationers to 260: he had

not found it possible to keep to that limit, but now the restriction was entirely removed, and the numbers rose till they reached close upon 500. Tait's health was much shaken by his illness, and in 1850 he resigned, on being made Dean of Carlisle.

E. M. Goulburn, afterwards Dean of Norwich, was chosen as his successor; he was not in sympathy with the tendencies of thought which had become characteristic of the place, and the control of a large school was not so congenial to his tastes as the parochial work to which he returned after eight years at Rugby, but he maintained in the school a high standard of efficiency. The numerous Scholarships gained at the Universities bear witness to the excellence of the teaching, while his successor, Dr. Temple, has given striking testimony to the deep religious impression that he had made upon the whole school, and especially on the Sixth Form. "I do not know," he said, when unveiling the Goulburn Memorial window in the Chapel, "that I ever witnessed so striking and so permanent a work as that which he had done; and I learnt to look upon him more and more as one of the salt of the earth, who served the Lord there, and who made all those who were then with him feel his goodness."

Goulburn resigned in 1858, and for the next eleven years the school flourished under the vigorous government of the present Archbishop of Canterbury, who as Chairman of the Governing Body still maintains an intimate connection with Rugby.

Two events at the end of his time must be recorded:

OLD CHAPEL, WEST END.
From Radclyffe's "Memorials."

(1) the Tercentenary of the School in 1867, to commemorate which the New Buildings were begun. The work was continued for the next twenty years, but there is no need to say anything about it here, as the buildings are dealt with in another section; (2) the Public Schools' Acts of 1868 and 1872, under which the constitution of the School was entirely changed. The management of the School was taken from the trustees and put into the hands of a governing body of twelve members, and a scheme was passed by which the trustees transferred to the governing body, the School House, School Buildings, and Close, and also the net yearly income of the charity, subject to certain deductions. The governing body, empowered by the Acts of Parliament, proceeded to make statutes for the regulation of the School. The most important of these, which was not carried through without considerable opposition, was that by which the nature of the Foundationerships was altered: the old privileges were confined to residents in or within five miles of Rugby at the time of the passing of the Act of 1868; for the future, the privileges were connected with previous attendance at a subordinate school, called the Lower School of Lawrence Sheriffe, at which the instruction was to be "such as may be suitable for boys intended for commercial and other similar occupations, and also may qualify them for admission into the Higher School." The system under which major and minor foundationers are elected from the subordinate school is described elsewhere. The Lower School was opened on May 27th, 1878, under the mas-

tership of Mr. H. T. Rhoades (O.R.). The appointment is in the hands of the head master of the great school, subject to the sanction of the governing body. Dr. Temple was succeeded, in 1870, by H. Hayman, who resigned after four years. It is well known that this was not a flourishing period in the fortunes of the school, but the time has not yet come when the details of the trouble can be sketched without offence: suffice it to say in conclusion that under T. W. Jex-Blake, now Dean of Wells, himself an Old Rugbeian boy and master, the school fully regained its prestige, and that through his energy and generosity its building-equipment was, when he resigned in 1887, practically complete, while under his successor, J. Percival, now Bishop of Hereford, Rugby was guided by the strong hand of a great head master. A new boarding house was built in 1893, during his mastership, and the present head master, H. A. James, directs a school of nearly 600 boys, vigorous descendant of the Free Grammar School of Lawrence Sheriffe.

Distinguished Old Rugbeians.

No sketch of the history of the school, however slight, would be complete without mention of the most famous of those who have received their education there. Places of education have a calm way of claiming credit for the achievements of all their sons, whatever their mutual relations may have been; does not Oxford, for instance, feel a personal, if diffident pride in Shelley's fame? It is a comfortable doctrine, even

if, like many others, it does not always tally with the facts, and we will make no apologies for accepting it: we know that many of those whom we mention recognized a debt to Rugby and paid it in affection; let us assume it to have been their own fault if this was not the case with all.

To begin with statesmen: the governing class has in the main been very faithful to Eton, but Rugby has supplied some well-known names. It is curious that while no Rugbeian has attained the dignity of Prime Minister in England the school has supplied one to France: this was W. H. Waddington (entered 1841), who in the course of his brilliant career presided in 1878 over one of the many short-lived ministries of the Third Republic; before this he had held the portfolios of Public Instruction and Foreign Affairs, and had represented France at the Congress of Berlin. Subsequently as Ambassador to England (1883—1892) he did his utmost to maintain good relations between the two countries. In 1877, while Waddington was at the Quai D'Orsay, and another Old Rugbeian, F. O. Adams (ent. 1840), was Chief Secretary at the British Embassy in Paris, Lord Derby (ent. 1840) was controlling the English Foreign Office. At different periods the same statesman held office, twice as Colonial, once as Indian Secretary. Roundell Palmer (ent. 1823), afterwards Lord Selborne and Lord Chancellor, can only be half counted, for he left in the Fifth to go to Winchester; but there are two Irish Secretaries, E. J. Walhouse, afterwards Lord Hatherton (ent. 1806), who held office in 1833, and E. Horsman

(ent. 1819), who, after being a Lord of the Treasury in 1840-1, was Secretary for Ireland in 1855-7. Nor should we forget S. R. Lushington (ent. 1785), Governor of Madras from 1830-4, Sir Charles Bagot (ent. 1790), who ended a long diplomatic career as Governor-General of Canada; W. P. Adam (ent. 1835), Minister of Public Works in 1873, and F. J. Halliday (ent. 1814), who was Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal during the Indian Mutiny and Vice-President of Council for India in 1877. At the present day there are many Rugbeians who have done and are doing good service to the state, both in Parliament and the Civil Service. There is Lord Cross (ent. 1836), who has twice been Home Secretary, once Secretary for India, and is now Lord Privy Seal; Sir Richard Temple (ent. 1839), who has been Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Governor of Bombay, and a prominent figure in Parliament; Sir H. Drummond Wolff (ent. 1843), who entered the Foreign Office at seventeen, and has identified his name with the Eastern Question, both in Parliament, when he was a member of the famous "Fourth Party," and in diplomatic service at Constantinople and elsewhere; the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen (ent. 1845), who in a long and distinguished parliamentary career has twice been First Lord of the Admiralty and once Chancellor of the Exchequer; Sir James Fergusson (ent. 1845), who was wounded at Inkerman, and has been Governor of South Australia, New Zealand, and Bombay, Under-Secretary in three Departments and Postmaster-General; Lord Brassey (ent. 1851), who long ago made his name as a naval

authority, and is now Governor of Victoria; Lord Sandhurst (ent. 1869), Under-Secretary for War in 1886, now Governor of Bombay; Sir Arthur Godley (ent. 1862), permanent Under-Secretary for India; Sir J. Engleheart (ent. 1837), and Sir H. Longley (ent. 1845), who have distinguished themselves in the Home Civil Service, and others who have made a name in India, like Sir A. Arbuthnot (ent. 1832), and Sir W. Lee-Warner (ent. 1859); C. B. Stuart-Wortley (ent. 1865), who was Under-Secretary for Home Affairs in 1885, and two members of the present Ministry, R. W. Hanbury (ent. 1859), and J. A. Chamberlain (ent. 1878).

Amongst men of letters who have come from Rugby three names stand out pre-eminent: Walter Savage Landor (ent. 1783), A. H. Clough (1829), and Matthew Arnold (1837). Of Landor's schooldays, characteristic of his after life, there are many excellent stories; even the long-suffering Dr. James had at last to protect his authority against repeated onslaughts, by getting rid of him; but his poetic fame is linked with Rugby by the lines on "The Swift joining the Avon," just as that of Matthew Arnold is by the great poem, "Rugby Chapel." Landor, however, was not the first Rugbeian to win fame by his pen; Thomas Carte (ent. 1695), whose championship of the Stuart cause was such that when Bishop Atterbury, his patron, was sent to the Tower in 1722, £1,000 was offered for his apprehension, wrote a History of England and other works, the manuscripts of which are in the Bodleian, and Hume is said to have borrowed

largely from his works. Edward Cave (ent. 1700), who apparently left the School under false accusation of raiding his housekeeper's poultry-yard, was founder of the "Gentleman's Magazine," and a friend of Dr. Johnson, who wrote his biography.

John Parkhurst (ent. 1742) was a celebrated lexicographer; and contemporary with Landor was H. F. Cary (ent. 1782), the well-known translator of Dante, friend of Charles Lamb, who wrote of him as "the pleasantest of clergymen," and of Coleridge, who was first attracted to him by hearing him reciting Homer to his son on the beach at Littlehampton. He is buried in Westminster Abbey by the side of Dr. Johnson. A little later comes one who perhaps should not be excluded, C. Apperley (ent. 1789), who wrote on sporting subjects, under the name of Nimrod. Amongst antiquarian writers there are several who attained some distinction: W. Bray (ent. 1746), R. W. Eyton (ent. 1829), J. Fetherstone (ent. 1850), but best known to all Rugbeians is the name of M. H. Bloxam (ent. 1813), one of the most generous and devoted friends that the School has ever had. Amongst political writers are A. G. Stapleton (ent. 1814), who was private secretary to Canning, and wrote his life, and S. G. Osborne (ent. 1819), who wrote the well-known letters to "The Times," signed S. G. O. No Rugbeians need reminding of the names of A. P. Stanley (ent. 1829), and T. Hughes (ent. 1834), whose works did so much to spread the fame of their great head master. G. A. Lawrence (ent. 1841) was a well-known novelist in his time, while the name of "Lewis Carroll" (C. L.

Dodgson, ent. 1846) is gratefully remembered by thousands of readers; and the philosophical works of T. H. Green (ent. 1850) have become classics.

Of living Rugbeian writers it is harder to speak, but the poetry of A. G. Butler (ent. 1844) and James Rhoades (ent. 1852) is known to many, as are the histories of W. Bright (ent. 1837), J. F. Bright (ent. 1844), and F. York Powell (ent. 1864), and the historical and other writings of H. O. Arnold-Forster (ent. 1869), while the "Methods of Ethics," and other works of Henry Sidgwick (ent. 1852), are well known to students of philosophy.

With the men of letters we should perhaps class those who have won a wide fame as scholars, such as John Conington (ent. 1838), F. J. A. Hort (ent. 1841), J. B. Mayor (ent. 1841), A. Sidgwick (ent. 1853), and H. J. S. Smith (ent. 1841) who shone alike in classical and mathematical learning, but perhaps the most famous scholar from the school was Samuel Butler (ent. 1783), Bishop of Lichfield, who as head master of Shrewsbury was one of the most successful teachers that have ever lived.

Besides Butler, there are several Rugbeians who have presided with success over Public Schools. Amongst the earliest are J. Saunders (ent. 1697), who was for thirty years master of Sedbergh School (which is at the present time in the hands of an old Rugbeian, H. G. Hart, ent. 1858), and J. Burton (ent. 1698), head master of Winchester, who was at Rugby before he entered College at Winchester as one of founder's kin.

Others are W. B. Sleath (ent. 1773), head master of Repton for thirty-two years; John Sleath (ent. 1776), high-master of St. Paul's; J. H. Macaulay (ent. 1809), who succeeded Sleath at Repton; C. J. Vaughan (ent. 1830), to whom Harrow owes so much; G. G. Bradley (ent. 1838), head master of Marlborough; A. G. Butler (ent. 1844), and E. H. Bradby (ent. 1839), who successively guided Haileybury from infancy to full growth; T. W. Jex-Blake (ent. 1844), first old Rugbeian head master of Rugby since the Act of 1777, and finally, F. W. Walker (ent. 1845), the present high-master of St. Paul's School.

Of clergy who became noted in other ways, an interesting figure is that of W. Paul (ent. 1696), who was chaplain to the rebels in 1715, and in the following year was dragged on the hurdle to Tyburn in full canonicals.

Rugbeians who have held sees in England are E. Legge (ent. 1781), Bishop of Oxford; R. Bagot (ent. 1790), Bishop of Bath and Wells; T. L. Claughton (ent. 1819), first Bishop of St. Albans, and E. Parry (ent. 1843), Suffragan of Dover. Amongst those who have held colonial sees, we may mention F. Gill (ent. 1834), Bishop of Madras; E. R. Johnson (ent. 1842), Bishop of Calcutta, and T. V. French (ent. 1839), Bishop of Lahore, who distinguished himself at Agra during the Mutiny, by insisting that the native Christians should be allowed to come inside the fort.

At the present day the bishoprics of Chester and Gibraltar and the suffragan diocese of Shrewsbury are in the hands of Rugbeians.

The list of old Rugbeian soldiers and sailors who have distinguished themselves is a long one. In a little book, "Naval and Military Services of Rugbeians," published in 1865, which includes those who entered the school between 1744 and 1853, there are over 370 names, and this list is, we believe, incomplete. Selection among these is not easy, but there are some names which stand out prominent. Chief among them is Sir Ralph Abercrombie (ent. 1748), who did so much to restore the spirit and discipline of the British army at the beginning of the great struggle with France. After a distinguished career in different parts of the world he was given command of the army to drive the French out of Egypt in 1801 ; it is recorded that he was on the point of setting out to revisit his old school when he was stopped by the news of his appointment to this command. He performed his task well, defeating the French at Aboukir and again near Alexandria ; in the latter battle he was wounded, and dying on his way to Malta was there buried. A public monument in St. Paul's was voted to him, and a peerage and pension given to his family. Another heroic name of the time is that of Mansel; John Mansel (ent. 1744) commanded a brigade of heavy cavalry in the Duke of York's campaign in 1794. Stung by an unfair suggestion in one of the Duke's despatches reflecting on his zeal he determined to prove his worth on the next occasion, and led a series of magnificent charges on April 26th at the village of Cawdry. After taking the village he attacked in succession two strongly posted batteries of eight and

fourteen guns, and by their capture decided the fortunes of the day. He lost his life, however, and his son, Major J. C. Mansel (ent. 1780), was wounded and taken prisoner in attempting to save his father's life. Another son, Robert Mansel (ent. 1780), was in the navy, and in 1801, when in command of the "Penguin," eighteen guns, sustained a brilliant engagement with a French corvette of twenty-four guns and two privateers of eighteen and sixteen guns; after an hour and a half the corvette struck colours, but the other ships continued the fight till night fell, and the "Penguin" suffered so severely that the three French vessels managed to escape in the night. Then there was G. T. Walker (ent. 1772), who routed a French column at Vimiera in 1808, and at the famous storming of Badajoz in 1812 led the desperate escalading attack on the bastion of St. Vincent, by which the place was taken, though he lost 500 out of his brigade of 900. He was terribly wounded in this attack, but contrary to the expectations of his doctors recovered, and, after attending the Rugby speeches in June of the next year returned to gain fresh wounds and glory in the Peninsula; he lived to his seventy-ninth year. A. B. Clifton (ent. 1783), fought with Landor when at school, and in many battles with the French, and lived to be over ninety. J. B. Skerrett (ent. 1785), with 1,000 British and 800 Spaniards successfully defended Tariffa in 1811 against a French army of 10,000. He was killed in 1814 in the attack on Bergen-op-Zoom, when he was first in the works, though he had broken his leg not many weeks before.

N. W. Oliver served under Abercrombie, and elsewhere, and deserves mention as one of those who set their faces against the absurd system of duelling, and steadily refused in 1821 to challenge a naval officer who had insulted him. G. G. C. L'Estrange (ent. 1791), when a boy at school was victim of a time-honoured joke, and in innocence of heart and ignorance of Latin showed up with woeful consequences two verses which he had got another boy to do for him :

> " Hos ego versiculos scripsi, sed non ego feci
> Da mihi, præceptor, verbera multa, precor."

In later years he distinguished himself greatly at the battle of Albuera in 1811, and was recommended by the Duke for promotion "in the strongest manner"; "some way or other," he says, "after the other parts of the same brigade were swept off by the cavalry, this little battalion alone held its ground against all the columns in mass." Other well-known officers who served in the Peninsula were J. P. Hamilton (ent. 1793), who afterwards distinguished himself as chief minister plenipotentiary to Columbia, and Sir Willoughby Cotton (ent. 1795), who led the great rebellion of 1797 when at school, and, after troubles in Europe were over, served with distinction in Burmah, Jamaica, and Afghanistan. He was a great friend of Sir Henry Havelock. Nor should the exploit be forgotten of H. Hanmer (ent. 1797), head of the school when he left in 1807 : when aide-de-camp to Sir Robert Hill before Pampeluna, in order to save time in delivering an important message, he ran the gauntlet under

the walls of the town and leapt his horse over the chasm in the bridge over the Arc, the central arch of which had been blown up. Rugbeian sailors of the time were naturally not so numerous, though there were more than one would expect; G. L. Proby (ent. 1792), afterwards third Earl of Carysfort, was probably the only Rugbeian present at the battles of the Nile and Trafalgar; his two elder brothers (ent. 1788) had both served their country, one in the navy, the other in the army through many campaigns.

Boys went straight from the Close to the battlefield in those days. G. Whichcote (ent. 1803, aged eight), one of the twenty-six Rugbeians who fought at Waterloo, had been in nine historic battles and sieges before then, and had been in the same form with the boy who, as senior præpostor of the week, asked for a holiday when Paris surrendered in 1815! General Whichcote lived to be one of the last survivors of Waterloo; he died in 1891. Another real Rugby boy present at Waterloo was E. N. Macready (ent. 1807), brother of the great actor, who won his lieutenantship at the age of sixteen on that great day: his account of the battle is quoted by Creasy in the "Decisive Battles of the World."

In the Crimea the list of Rugby officers swells to seventy-two; those of them who fell there are commemorated in the Crimean window in the Chapel. Notable amongst them were Thomas Unett (ent. 1814), who tossed with Colonel Wyndham as to whose column should lead the attack on the Redan, won, and was mortally wounded there; Sir William Eyre (ent. 1817),

the "four-eyed chief" of the Kaffir war (so called because he wore spectacles), who led a Brigade in the Redan attack and handed over his command when wounded to an old schoolfellow, Frank Adams (ent. 1819). H. W. Adams, brother of the above, who commanded a Brigade and distinguished himself greatly at Inkerman and elsewhere, and others who shared in the cavalry charges at Balaclava and the various famous incidents of the war. Of the young Rugbeians who fell in this war one of the most deeply lamented was A. Clevland (ent. 1849), who survived the charge of the Light Brigade, killing single-handed three Cossacks who attacked him as he was returning on his wounded horse, but was killed by a shell at Inkerman; while few names are more worthy of remembrance than that of J. W. J. Dawson (ent. 1850), who, going straight from the School to the Crimea when only sixteen, lost his life in an heroic attempt to avert danger from some wounded under his charge; a siege-train had exploded, and Dawson, rushing in among the burning shells, began to carry them off, when one burst in his hands and wounded him mortally.

Serving in the blockade of Sebastopol by sea was J. C. D. Hay (ent. 1883), famous for his exploits against the Chinese Pirates in 1849, and in later years a Lord of the Admiralty.

Nor were Rugbeians wanting in the Mutiny. Chief among them was W. S. R. Hodson (ent. 1837), famous at school for his running, and in history as the organizer and leader of Hodson's Horse. His action in killing the three princes near Delhi has caused much conten-

tion, but his niche in the temple of fame is secure. Then there was J. L. Vaughan (ent. 1833), constantly mentioned in despatches; H. A. Sarel (ent. 1839), who commanded the cavalry under Nicholson at Najuffghur and elsewhere, and was fourteen times mentioned in despatches; W. T. Johnson (ent. 1841), wounded at Inkerman, who commanded the small body of native cavalry in Havelock's relief of Lucknow with conspicuous success; H. S. Wilmot (ent. 1843), who won the Victoria Cross at Lucknow; H. S. Mitford (ent. 1851), recommended for the V.C.; J. C. Gawler (ent. 1844), who had already done splendid work in the pacification of Kaffraria as chief of the so-called Auca-Gawler tribe; H. C. Wake, a civilian, who gallantly defended Arrah with a handful of men against 2,000 mutineers. A window in the Chapel commemorates those who fell.

The military traditions have been well sustained in later years. W. Palliser (ent. 1845) was famous for his artillery inventions. H. H. Crealock (ent. 1843), well-known also as an artist, served through the Crimea and greatly distinguished himself in the attack on the Redan, being left there while Colonel Wyndham was bringing up fresh men; after seeing much other service he commanded a Brigade in the Zulu War, while his brother J. V. Crealock (ent. 1849), who was twice mentioned in despatches in the Mutiny, was military secretary to Lord Chelmsford. H. M. Bengough (ent. 1851) also served with distinction in the Zulu War. H. M. Hozier, author of "The Seven Weeks' War" (ent. 1851), gained a name in the Abyssinian Cam-

paign of 1868 and was accredited representative of the English Government for inspection of Military Matters in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71. Sir G. S. Arbuthnot (ent. 1833), a Crimean veteran, commanded the Burmese expedition of 1887, and Rugbeians have served with distinction in most of the various campaigns of the last thirty years, *e.g.*, Sir C. S. B. Parsons (ent. 1869), who has done good service in Egypt under Lord Wolseley and Lord Kitchener, and Sir W. H. Meiklejohn, who commanded a Brigade in the Indian North-West Frontier War of 1897-8.

The number of Rugbeians who go into the army has naturally increased largely since the formation of a special Army Class in 1887; consequently, of the numerous Rugbeians serving in the present South African campaign the majority are subalterns. Of officers who, up to the present moment, have come before the public in the war we may mention Col. J. F. Brocklehurst (ent. 1867), commanding the 3rd Cavalry Brigade in Ladysmith, and Captain J. S. Cayzer (ent. 1886), signalling officer with General Buller. Two young officers have been mentioned in despatches: 1st Lieut. A. J. B. Percival (ent. 1887), for services at the Modder River; 2nd Lieut. C. F. Holford for services at the battle of Colenso.

It remains to mention some of those who have been distinguished in other walks of life: an interesting figure, from adventitious circumstances, is that of A. S. Douglas (ent. 1759), whose claim to the vast possessions of his uncle, the last Duke of Douglas, was disputed, and led to one of the most famous

lawsuits ever known. We are told that Edinburgh was illuminated for three nights when at last the House of Lords, in 1769, reversed the decision of the Courts of Scotland and decided it in Douglas' favour. Amongst doctors there have been Simon Burton (ent. 1696), Court physician, who attended Pope in his last illness; Henry Halford Vaughan (ent. 1774), President of the College of Physicians, and Physician in Ordinary to George III.; James Fellowes (ent. 1786), who was knighted for his services as Inspector of Military Hospitals in the Peninsular War, and also got a war medal and clasp for Barossa, and Charles Locock (ent. 1810), physician to Queen Adelaide and the Royal Family. Amongst judges there have been Thomas Coltman (ent. 1796), L. W. Cave (ent. 1847), Lord Davey (ent. 1848), Lord Bowen (ent. 1850), G. Farwell (ent. 1860); while the stage owes to Rugby one of her greatest actors in W. C. Macready (ent. 1803), who remained till his death a good friend to the School. Among men of science we may mention two distinguished botanists, J. Pettiver (ent. 1676), and M. J. Berkeley (ent. 1817); H. Highton (ent. 1829), for many years a Master at the School, one of the pioneers of the electric telegraph, and D. Galton (ent. 1834), an authority on the hygienic construction of buildings, who was President of the British Association in 1895 and 1896. Among war correspondents, there are F. C. Lawley (ent. 1837), who in the American war of 1862 represented "The Times" with the Confederate Army, and W. H. Bullock (ent. 1850), who wrote for "The Daily News" in the Franco-Prussian

War. Amongst famous travellers we may mention Lord Mountmorris (ent. 1784) and Sir John Carr (ent. 1785), who both published widely-read books of travel; W. C. Oswell (ent. 1833), who went with Livingstone into Central Africa, and discovered Lake Ngami in 1849, besides doing much exploration in South Africa; F. C. Selous (ent. 1866), whose work in South Africa is known to all; and, lastly, we may add M. S. Wellby (ent. 1881), whose recent expeditions in Tibet and Abyssinia have shown him to be possessed of the qualities which make great explorers. Finally we come to the few who have won distinction in the arts, J. Lodge (ent. 1814) and H. S. Oakeley (ent. 1843), well-known musical composers; J. E. Hodgson (ent. 1846), the only Rugbeian, we believe, who ever attained any reputation as a painter, and C. E. Kempe (ent. 1851), whose fine work in stained glass is widely known and appreciated.

OLD SCHOOL BUILDINGS FROM THE CLOSE.

From Radclyffe's "Memorials."

CHAPTER II

SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

THE town of Rugby is well known to hundreds who have never stayed there, as a considerable railway centre. Now that the Great Central Railway is complete, there are no less than eight approaches to Rugby by rail. Travellers coming to it by any one of these numerous ways may get a very fair idea of the nature of the country which surrounds it. It is a gently undulating grass country, and has been held by some to be devoid of beauty. Dr. Arnold, for instance, speaks of Warwickshire in one of his letters as one of the only five counties he knew which could not supply his "physical cravings for the enjoyment of nature." "We have no hills," he complains, "no plains—not a single wood, and but one single copse: no heath—no down—no rock—no river (this was very hard on the Avon!)—no clear stream—scarcely any flowers, for the lias is particularly poor in them—nothing but one endless monotony of inclosed fields and hedge-row trees." Most people, however, would agree that tame as the country is, compared with many parts of England, its shady roads, with their broad margins of grass, its picturesque villages and gentle slopes, have a great charm of their own,

especially when the hawthorn and the dog-roses are in bloom. It is, however, emphatically a country for riders of horse or bicycle, not for the pedestrian. The town itself is situated on the edge of a low plateau, overlooking the valley of the Avon: till the railway came, it was quite a small place, much like any other Warwickshire village, and must have been rather pretty with its old thatched brick and timber cottages. Its principal attraction was the large cattle and horse fair in November.

The railway has brought prosperity with its usual modern concomitant of ugliness. The old houses have nearly all disappeared, and the fields give way to rows of cottages and villas of the common type. As yet, however, the town is not very large, containing only some eleven thousand inhabitants.

The school buildings, as well as the boarding houses, are situated at the south edge of the town, about half-a-mile from the London and North Western Railway station, which is at the north end. None of the buildings date from an earlier period than 1809. For the first two centuries, nearly, of its existence, the school was situated close to the present market-place, on the north side of Church Street, opposite the parish church. It has been in its present situation since 1750, but the buildings which were then bought or erected were all pulled down in 1809 and the following years.

The Close.

Before dealing with the buildings, however, it will be well to give some account of the Close, the place to

which a visitor's steps will probably be first directed; it is the principal, and was till recent times the only playing ground of the school. It lies on the south side of the main block of school buildings, and in its present dimensions occupies over seventeen acres. It is still, with its broad expanses of well-mown turf and its shady trees, the most attractive place in Rugby; but its beauty has been sadly spoiled by the havoc of storms, notably those of 1881 and 1895; for its particular charm lay in the splendid elm trees, marking the lines where in old days the hedges had run when the ground was still divided into fields. Elm trees are notoriously untenacious, and in the storms referred to the great giants came crashing down one after the other, and their loss is but ill compensated for by the increase of room which their disappearance has given. Perhaps the latter storm did most to spoil the look of the place, for it attacked the line of fine trees that ran along the eastern edge, by the Barby road, and left but a few stumps to shelter the ground on that side. With the trees went also most of the rooks, whose pleasant homely note added greatly to the attractiveness of the Close. Among the trees which have disappeared, the earliest to attain fame was a great elm which was called "Treen's Tree," after a family of that name who held the farmyard in which it stood. Three of these Treens, sons of an "old Mother Treen," who lived at the corner of Sheep Street at the beginning of the century, were champions of the town against the school in the pugilistic encounters which were the fashion of the time. This tree was the largest in the

Close, and was spared the fate which has fallen on so many of its brethren, by being cut down, in 1818, to make room for the chapel, the west end of which is built on its site. The wood was used for panelling the vestry. Some verses, made on the occasion, have been preserved; though of little merit, they are interesting as showing the sentiment which the spot inspired in the minds of an earlier generation of Rugbeians: the last verse may be quoted as a specimen:

> "With thee were formed—with thee are fled—
> Ties of the distant and the dead,
> And many a former tale and token
> Might cheer old hearts the world had broken!
> Fond recollections joined to thee!
> Young loves and friendships, poor Treen's Tree!"

It is interesting to note that when, in 1865, the new chapel necessitated the removal of an elm planted by Dr. Wooll, which stood at the present east end, engineering skill came to the rescue, and instead of being cut down it was successfully removed by a contractor, on a December morning, to the place which it now occupies on the south side of the chapel: it stood the transplantation wonderfully; a photograph taken at the time gives an idea of what a difficult business this must have been.

To a later generation the best known trees were a little group of three large elms, called the "Three Trees," which stood a little apart from their neighbours, about the middle of the ground as it was before the last addition; they were within the limits of the football ground, and many a Rugbeian can still re-

member bruising himself against them; two of the three fell in 1881, but the remaining one retained the name, no longer applicable, till it shared the same fate in 1895. Nor must we forget the tree that helped to form Case's Gallows, a peculiar goal set up in his school days by the present Waynflete Professor of Moral Philosophy at Oxford, in which the cross-bar

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

THE THREE TREES.

was formed by a horizontal branch of a tree which met the short arm of the "gallows." It stood between Old Bigside and the Chapel Piece.

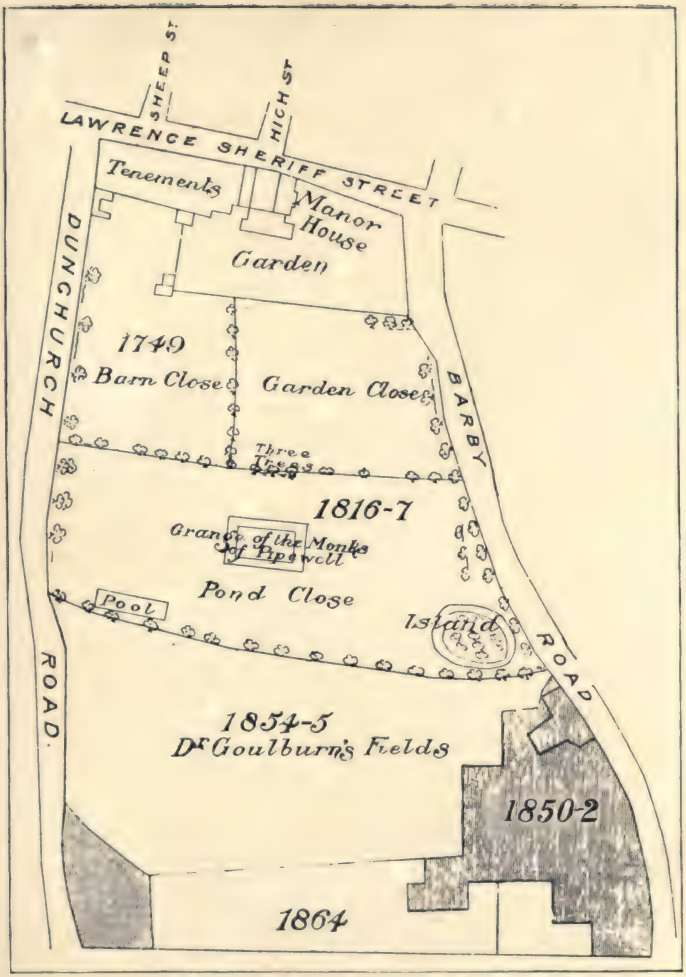
One sad incident is connected with the trees in the Close. In the south-west corner of the chapel is a marble tablet erected to the memory of a boy who was killed by a fall from a tree. It bears the following touching inscription: "Edmundo Lally,

filio unico, cariss: obsequentiss: qui vixit annis xii. m. ii. d. xi. H. M. F. C. parentes contra votum superstites. —Te juvenem egregiæ spei, te morte immatura peremptum, quem merito luget Rugbæa, Ave Vale."

The Close, as it is now, is divided into three parts, though, as we have said, the trees which formed the lines of demarcation are disappearing: the older northern part consists of "Old Bigside" on the east, and the "Pontines" and "Chapel Piece" on the opposite side; the name "Pontines" was, of course, given to it because of its marshy character; this must have been very much more noticeable in the days when the slope down to it was more pronounced; various levelling operations, undertaken at different times, have destroyed the appropriateness of the name.

The "Chapel Piece" occupies the greater portion of what used always to be called "Littleside," corresponding to "Bigside"; for a long time it was considered to belong by special right to the School House; no other boarding house could play on it unless the School House waived their claim, and there was a famous Bigside Levee, or meeting of senior boys, on the subject in Tait's time; for weeks the discussion was protracted by the rhetoric of a great School House orator, but at length the opponents of privilege prevailed, and for the future the ground fell to those who could take it first. It was on a corner of this ground, behind the old chapel, that, as readers of "Tom Brown" need not be reminded, fights took place in days when fighting was still an institution.

These three parts made up, until 1854, the whole



MAP TO ILLUSTRATE SUCCESSIVE ADDITIONS TO CLOSE FROM ORIGINAL SURVEYS OF 1750. 1843 AND 1886

From coloured map in O. R. Society's pamphlet on "The Origin of Rugby Football," by permission.

playing ground, and had been formed from three fields bought with the house in 1749, when the school moved to its present quarters; these fields were known as the Garden Close, which was by the house, the Barn Close, which bordered the Dunchurch Road, and beyond these the Pond Close. Apparently the Barn Close was from the first used for playing ground; "Bigside" cricket and football were played here till preparations began, about 1818, for the erection of the first chapel. The divisions between the fields were levelled, about 1816, when with the new buildings the school premises began to take their present shape.

The Pond Close was a field full of historic interest. At the eastern end of it was the tumulus, which, with the trees that grow on and around it still forms such a pleasant feature of the Close. This tumulus is pronounced by Mr. Bloxam to be an ancient British barrow. "It was used," he says, "for a twofold purpose, first as a burial place for some warrior or chieftain of the tribe of the Dobuni—secondly, for a military purpose, as an advanced post for videttes on the northern frontier of the tribe of the Dobuni," the Avon with the morasses on each side forming the barrier between that tribe and their neighbours the Coritani. It was one of a series of tumuli, many of which still exist, connecting the two ancient British track-ways, the Fosse Way and the Watling Street, "both of which were subsequently utilized by the Romans, and formed into Roman roads."

At some period later than the end of the thirteenth century the monks from the great Cistercian Abbey of

Pipewell, who had built a Grange some fifty yards from the tumulus, dug a broad moat all round it and filled it with water from springs in the gravel. This was done in order to provide a fish pond for the Grange, and keep up the supply of fish which was demanded by fast-days. Thus the tumulus became an island, and it still retains the name of Island, though the moat was drained in 1847. The Island, while still it was such, played a considerable part in the school life. It was to this natural stronghold that the mutineers retired in the great rebellion of 1797 (*vide* p. 45), and in later years it became the scene of the curious system of "Island Fagging," as it was called, by which for a short space of time, in the Spring, the Island was transformed.

The origin of the custom is not quite clear. It had certainly been the practice of the boys, from the previous century, to cultivate little allotment gardens opposite the Close, on the Barby Road apparently as well as on the Dunchurch Road, and these gardens were visited annually by the Trustees and visitors on Speech Day, which, until 1836, was on the Wednesday in Easter week. According to one authority, it was when these allotments on the Barby Road were sold for building land that the gardens were transferred to the Island. Another Old Rugbeian writer connects it with the erection of the present school buildings, when the custom of decorating the form rooms with flowers and ferns for Speech Day fell into disuse, in 1814. However this may be, it is certain that it pleased some of the Sixth Form,

to whom the Island was sacred, to cause gardens to be made on it. Now the Island being covered with trees, is not a place naturally adapted for horticulture; it was consequently necessary, if flowers were to be found there on Speech Day, that they should be transplanted thither from some more congenial soil; but for some weeks before this was done, in order to keep the fags employed, the surface was diligently scratched and made ready for the reception of the plants. There were more fags in the school than were needed for the purpose, so those of the Sixth who took no interest in the proceedings excused three or four fags each. The rest, some eighty or ninety in number, were formed in line by the school buildings, and at a given signal raced for the bridge which spanned the moat. A few of the first arrivals were excused, and the number was still further diminished by the elimination of those who first volunteered to jump over the moat, a feat seldom accomplished by a fag, for the moat was broad, and the best jumpers could only clear it in two places; certain moreover seem to have purchased their freedom by procuring a spade or other gardening tool. Spades, however, must have been rare, and for the most part the digging had to be done with knives, large nails, or pointed sticks. Making bricks without straw must have been light work compared to digging up the Island with a pocket knife! This went on till the week before Easter, when turf had to be procured to cover the top of the Island, and form borders round the beds. The turf was obtained by the simple process of cutting it in some neighbouring field where it seemed

good, and dragging it back to the Island on a "turf-cart," a rude wooden conveyance to which some twenty fags would be harnessed by a rope with cross-bars at short intervals. Finally the fags were despatched to procure flowers by the same simple method of appropriation, and great must have been the dismay of the owners of neighbouring gardens on finding their bulbs and other

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

THE ISLAND AND OLD PAVILION.

flowers mysteriously thinned by the young pillagers. One wonders if they ever recognized their lost treasures when the Speech Day procession passed across the Close to inspect the beauties of the Island Gardens.

In 1836 the system came to an end, for Speech Day was changed to the end of the Summer "half," when cricket was in full swing, and no one had time to think of "dressing" the Island. For several years after the

abolition of Island fagging, the Island remained a place of resort for the privileged, and a common meeting place : it was on the Island, for instance, or on a little mound under the elms, between Bigside and Littleside, which has disappeared, that in Tom Hughes's time the Bigside Football "levees" met to discuss points that arose in connection with the game. But when the moat was drained in 1847 the peculiar fascination of the place was gone, and though in 1852 a motion to admit fags to it was rejected on the ground that the freedom of the Island was "the only external mark of respect now left to the Sixth," succeeding generations ceased to struggle for a privilege that had lost so much of its charm, and the Island became common ground.

Close to the Island, in the middle of the Pond Close, lay the Grange of the Monks of Pipewell, who made the moat round the Island. It was built in the latter part of the thirteenth century, when, like the School in later times, the monks moved from a position near the parish church. It was surrounded by a moat, which, like that round the Island, was used as a fish-pond ; but, according to Mr. Bloxam, the moat was older than the Grange, and the site of that building was one of those moated areas, which were common in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, and were formed "not as strongholds, but merely for defensive purposes against temporary marauders, and sudden aggression." It is not known what happened to the Grange when the monasteries were dissolved, but the moated area remained till about the year 1816, when it was filled up.

Near the south-western corner of the Pond Close, not far from where the Bath now stands, there used to be a square pool, dug probably, like the island moat, by the Monks of the Grange, and for the same reason, but interesting chiefly as having been a favourite haunt of Landor when he was a boy at the school. It was here, as he tells us in a note to the Imaginary Conversation between Leofric and Godiva, that he wrote a little poem on the subject, and after recalling the laughter with which the friend to whom he showed it greeted the last line, and the earnestness with which he entreated and implored him not to tell his schoolfellows, he gives the verses, "if," as he says, "any one else should wish another laugh at me:"—

> "In every hour, in every mood,
> O lady, it is meet and good
> To bathe the soul in prayer,
> And at the close of such a day,
> When we have ceased to bless and pray,
> To dream on thy long hair."

"May the peppermint" (so he ends) "still be growing on the bank in that place!"

The path running parallel to the Dunchurch Road used to be and is still sometimes called "Scholar's Walk," though the name was never very widespread.

Of "New Bigside," the southern portion of the Close, little need be said, for it possesses no antiquarian interest. The ground which composed it was incorporated with the Close at three periods; the eastern end, where the boarding house School-field (now Mr. Brooke's) stands, was added in 1850, and part of the southern end in 1864, but the greater part of the

cricket ground, as it now is, was presented by Dr. Goulburn in 1854: it was levelled in that year and the next, and was first used for cricket in 1856; before that time the fields formed a small farm, where the head master kept cows, the farm house standing where the boarding house now is, on the Barby Road. New Bigside, as it will perhaps continue to be called till it is as old as "New College," is sacred to cricket, football only being played on one edge of it, and forms a very fine ground, especially since its borders were enlarged in 1886 (to the great relief of slow bowlers), by the levelling back of the bank which runs along the south side.

We must not take leave of the Close without allusion to the conjecture of Mr. Bloxam's that Cromwell's Ironsides once encamped in it. It was on March 30th, in the year 1645, that Cromwell quartered at Rugby with 1,500 horse and two regiments of foot, on his way from Northampton to Coventry. On this occasion he may well have lodged at the Manor House, the principal house in the village (though a tradition points to the now demolished "Shoulder of Mutton" Inn), while his troopers would occupy the surrounding sheds and fields. Nor, perhaps, though the transition is somewhat abrupt, should we omit to mention "Samson's Quarters," a name forgotten now, but well known to former generations; it was given to the corner of the Close by the White Gate and the head master's wall, because it was there that the caterer (whose reputed strength had gained him the name of Samson) spread out his provision baskets.

The Close is not the only playing-ground for the school. In 1886 a large field of eight acres, a little west of the Close, was opened. It was purchased by subscriptions raised in memory of C. M. Caldecott, of Holbrook Grange, near Rugby, an old Rugbeian who took a keen interest in school games, and it is named after him. It lies on the south side of the Hillmorton Road behind the houses, nearly opposite the glebe land, formerly known as Reynolds's field, where football used to be played before "Caldecott's" was acquired. The greater part of it had been a market garden, and the levelling, turfing, etc., was no mean task. Some half mile from the school, further up the Hillmorton Road, are the fields known as "Benn's." These fields, which comprise forty-three acres, were bequeathed to the school by Mr. G. C. Benn in 1895. They form a farm which for some years previously had been rented by Mr. W. G. Michell, in order that the school might be able to play football there throughout the winter. Two of the fields have now been thrown into one and levelled, and make a splendid cricket ground. The growth of the town rendered the gift of these fields (which are close to the Great Central Railway) quite invaluable.

Of the games with which the Close and other grounds are so pleasantly associated in the minds of all those who have played there, we shall speak elsewhere; we must now return to the school buildings.

The Buildings.

We have seen that in spite of the antiquity of its foundation, Rugby School can boast of no buildings dating from before the second decade of this century. In 1750 the school was moved to its present position, when for £1,000 the trustees bought the old Manor House, standing on the site of the present School House. Drawings of this house survive, and display on the front a main block, with a Georgian front, and two rather barn-like wings stretching towards the Hillmorton Road (p. 33). On the Close side, the original gables of the house appear, for the main part of the house was older than the front (p. 84). On the west side of this house, where the School House Hall now is, was built the schoolroom; it was built by a local man called Johnson, and closely resembled the original schoolroom, except that the south end, towards the Close, was built in semicircular shape; at this end, with his back to the window, and dominating the room, sat the Master. Over this room were two chambers, one a trunk-room, the other the chief dormitory, which went by the name of Paradise, though, or perhaps because, it had the reputation of being not the most peaceable lodging in the house. The building was surmounted at the north end by a small clock tower, with a large clock; on the west side, the big doors, which were only opened on the day when the trustees met in August, were approached beneath a Doric porch, introduced, presumably, to give a classic tone to the seat of learning. Later on,

SCHOOL HOUSE IN 1816.
From Ackerman's "Public Schools."

as the school grew under James's guidance, the porch was removed to the north end of the building, and two new schoolrooms were built against the big school (p. 11). But the numbers soon outgrew the accommodation, though barns and outbuildings were transformed into schoolrooms, and in 1808 the trustees determined to rebuild the whole of the school buildings. Various architects sent in designs for the work ; Samuel Wyatt, the architect whose plans had gained most favour, died before he could begin to execute them, and they were then intrusted to Mr. Henry Hakewill.

The buildings which Hakewill erected are commonly known as the Old Buildings, and form the School House, *i.e.*, the head master's private house and boarding house, and the schoolrooms, which, with the school house, form the Old Quadrangle. The buildings, however, have been considerably enlarged since their erection, and the addition of studies and form-rooms, of bath rooms, and, last of all, a new dormitory over the Old Big School, has made an extra storey all round the quadrangle, so that from the inside of that quadrangle it is hardly possible now to estimate the effect of the original plan. The best points of view are from the High Street, looking up to the "Quad Gates," and from the Close. From these points the alterations do not seriously interfere with the original idea, and most people would agree that, in spite of the obvious architectural defects, Hakewill's buildings are worthy of their object. They are built of white brick with stone facings and battlements, in imitation of the castellated style of the fifteenth century, and their principal defect lies in the

inevitable unreality of the imitation, though we are inclined to believe that not a few who see them for the first time are surprised to find that they are not a hundred years old. But the imitation, though unreal, is not offensive, and the splendid solidity of all the work, induces a feeling of permanence and security which is

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

OLD QUADRANGLE, NORTH-EAST CORNER.

one of the chief charms of really ancient buildings. The main entrance faces, as we have seen, down the High Street. On entering the gates, we find ourselves in a porch leading to the Quadrangle ; this porch was for a long time used regularly as a fives court (see p. 215), and here, as we are told in "Tom Brown," the School House boys used to assemble in summer for the house singing, which took place on the last Saturday

of the half-year. In one corner of this porch a winding staircase leads up to the Sixth School, built in 1827, a rather small but lofty room, where (except for a few years in the Eighties) the Upper Bench of the Sixth has been taught ever since the room was built.

Originally this was the Library, and the upper part of the room is lined with book cases, containing the Bloxam collection, mostly volumes dealing with antiquarian subjects, one of Mr. M. H. Bloxam's many legacies to the school; access to these is given by a slight gallery which runs round half way up the room. Round the lower part of the room are hung the tops of the little tables at which many generations of the Sixth have sat, but whose utility was impaired by the feature which has given them their interest—the names carved upon them. The big bow-window looking out upon the street is filled with very interesting stained glass, the gift of Dr. Percival, containing the names, and in many cases the portraits, of successive head masters from the earliest times till 1894; like many other places in Rugby, this room is indissolubly connected with memories of Dr. Arnold, for it was here, "sitting," as he says in a letter to an old pupil, "in that undignified kitchen chair, which you so well remember, at that little table, a just proportional to the tables of the Sixth themselves," that for years he gave the daily lessons which made so deep an impression on so many of the hearers. "Kitchen chair" and table are both preserved in the Art Museum.

Opening out of this room, but having its principal entrance from the Quadrangle, of which it forms the

north side, is a long gallery, divided now into two parts by a wooden partition. This was built as a memorial of Dr. Arnold and is called the Arnold Library: all the

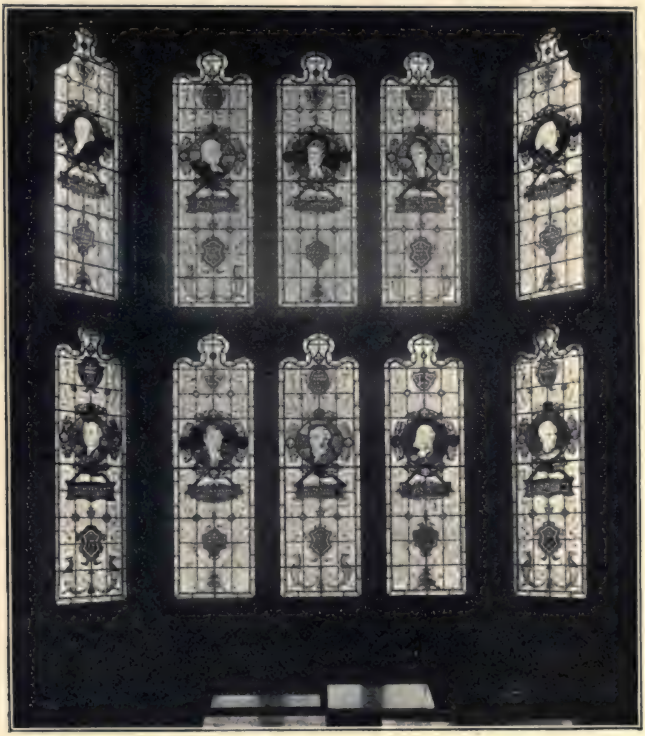


Photo. *G. A. Dean, Rugby.*

WINDOW IN OLD LIBRARY.

books belonging to the School Library are still labelled "Arnold Library," but only the classical books remain in their old quarters, the great mass of them being housed in the Temple Reading Room. For many

years the Museum of the Natural History Society was placed in this gallery, but it has lately been removed to a building of its own. The greater part of the room being thus freed has been made into a form room for the Lower Bench of the Sixth, and new windows on the Quadrangle side have much increased its facilities for light and ventilation. The west end of the gallery, partitioned off, contains the classical books and is also used as a form room for the "Specialists."

Coming down the stairs, we find ourselves in the Old Quadrangle, a small square paved with asphalt. On the west side is the Old Big School, surmounted by a newly-erected dormitory belonging to the School House. On the south and east the quadrangle is surrounded by low cloisters, with rows of School House studies above them, the names of which, "New Row," and "New Top Row," indicate that they are additions to the original buildings. The appearance of the south side has not been improved by the building of a row of bath rooms, with ugly little lozenge-shaped windows, over the studies. Behind the cloisters on the south side are form rooms, in one of which the gown has yielded to the sword, for it is used as the armoury of the Rifle Corps. It must have been hard work for the master in old days when forms of forty-five to sixty boys had to be taught in these rooms. Above these are School House dormitories.

At the south-eastern corner of the Old Quadrangle a tall arch in the cloister forms the entrance to the School House dining hall, which stands, as we have

seen, on the site of Johnson's Big School, and is of much the same dimensions as that building; it is a long, tall room, plainly furnished with strong oak tables and benches and with an oak wainscoting some eight feet high all round it; a severe room, scornful of ornament and impossible to damage. On the east side

Photo. *G. A. Dean.*

OLD QUADRANGLE, SOUTH-EAST CORNER.

are two large fireplaces with broad heavy fenders of iron. At one of these took place the roasting so vividly described in "Tom Brown." At the south end, underneath the window, is a platform just wide enough to receive a bench and table, where the Sixth in the house sit at meals. Over the hall is another dormitory.

The hall communicates by a side door with the other School House buildings, which run round a small inner courtyard. Between the hall and the head master's part of the house are the three original storeys of studies; the two upper passages have a row of studies on each side looking out on to the Close on one side, on to the court on the other. These "dens," as they are familiarly termed, are queer, cosy little places, where the occupant can sit in his armchair and take down a book from any of his shelves without having to get up. They are warmed, nowadays, by hot water pipes, but till within recent years there was no nearer source of heat in winter than a big fire at the end of the passage. As custom forbade the study doors of all except the house magnates to be left open, but little warmth found its way into many of the studies, whose occupants had to be content with the less hygienic plan of lighting many candles or inviting many friends. For the last five years, the School House and all the other boarding houses, as well as all the form rooms, and more recently the chapel, have been lit with electric light supplied by a small private company of which the house masters are the shareholders.

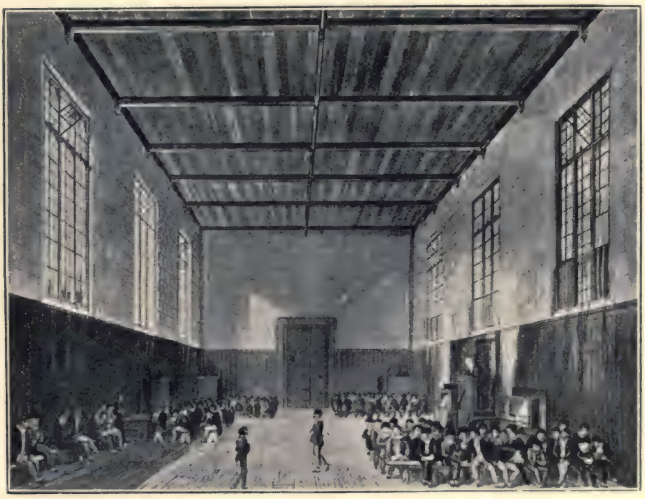
From the middle of the three rows of studies a door leads into the entrance hall of the head master's house, the most interesting room in which is naturally the head master's study, the headquarters of the school life for so many years. It is a fair-sized room in a corner where the building projects towards the Close, and has one window looking out on to the Close, and a second, over the mantelpiece, looking towards the chapel.

At one corner of the room is a turret with a short staircase leading straight out into the Close. It was in this room that Tom Brown had his first interview with Dr. Arnold when he found him with his children round him, busily engaged in carving a ship, and hither come the successive generations of Rugby boys, when, for advice or praise or blame, they are summoned to the head master's presence. Few Old Rugbeians could enter that room without some feeling of awe. In front of the study and the adjoining drawing-room there is a narrow strip of garden raised above the level of the Close, from which it is separated by a low brick wall. It is over this wall that, on the last day of the Summer term, one of the trustees (for many years past it has been, and we hope it will be for many years to come, the Chairman, Lord Leigh) reads out the results of the examination on which the leaving exhibitions are awarded. Beyond the line of the building there is more garden, the chief feature of which is a fine copper beech, but the greater part of the head master's garden lies on the other side of the Barby Road : it is notable for a beautiful fern-leaved beech which was planted by Dr. Arnold. The outside of the head master's house is splendidly covered by Virginia creeper and ivy, and the front door with its ivy-clad turrets is a favourite subject for sketch and photograph.

Returning to the Old Quadrangle, we have still to visit the Old Big School, which forms the western side. It is a large plain room, some sixty-three feet by twenty-nine, panelled part of the way up in oak.

During the first six years of its existence, from 1814 to 1820, until a chapel was built, services for the school were held here on Sundays, and for many years it played a more important part than it has done since the New Big School, opened in 1886, has become the natural meeting-place of the school as a whole. Here, for instance, the school assembled for morning prayers, and old Rugbeians of the time have vivid recollections of the little addresses on points of discipline, or the like, which from time to time, as occasion arose, Dr. Temple delivered after these morning prayers. Here, too, for many years, were held the speeches, on which occasion a special structure of seats was raised for spectators, which went by the name of the Oxford Gallery, because the first seats erected in this way were meant for Old Rugbeians still at the Universities; the name "Oxford" shows that at the time few Rugbeians went to the sister University, and indeed the great majority of University scholarships won by members of the school are still at Oxford. Here also the school concerts used to be held, the choir being massed on raised benches at the south end, round a small organ. Nowadays, however, the only occasion on which the school gathers there is for the afternoon calling over on half-holidays, when the boys come in by the east door, and file out, form by form, through the south door, the master of the week standing at a sort of pulpit-desk by the door. This desk is the sole survivor of the numerous ones of the kind that adorned the room in the days when several forms were all taught there at the same time.

Even in recent years want of space has sometimes driven two forms together into Old Big School, but the modern schoolmaster shuns society in school hours, and though a curtain, hung on a rail across the room, veiled the two forms from each other, he of the weaker voice was generally driven from the field to seek a tem-



OLD BIG SCHOOL.
From Ackerman's "Public Schools."

porary asylum elsewhere. Old Big School still has some share in the festivities of Speech Day, for the head master's lunch to the guests on that occasion is spread here. On the walls at the ends of the room are boards, on which are painted the names of all those who have gained exhibitions since 1829. Amongst these may be noticed the names of many

Old Rugbeians who have distinguished themselves in later life. Behind these boards, at the North end, as was seen when they were taken down in 1899 on account of building operations, are carved in the plaster names of boys who were among the first frequenters of the room (they range from 1815 to 1829). As they are high up on the wall, they were presumably carved at the time when the "Oxford Gallery" was put up for Speech Day. All round the room on several boards are the names of the various form masters in the school; opposite these the various forms are supposed to stand when waiting for their turn to come at calling over.

Outside Old Big School, in a shallow recess on the east wall, stands the old pump with the date 1817 on it. On each side of it the curious may notice wooden boards with little hooks on them; these were put up some thirteen years ago in order that the various fives courts might be "taken" there; the custom had been that the fives courts should be engaged for the different hours by the insertion of a small note in the wire or wall stating the claim: such notes could only be inserted after certain hours, and this necessitated much running across the Close and consequent formation of a regular track in places. To obviate this these boards were put up and now the notices are stuck on the hook corresponding to the court desired. Carefully are these notes written and eagerly are they scanned in the Spring term when competition is keen, for custom ordains that if there is any mistake at all in the wording, mistake of date

or spelling or name, the note may be "dished," as it is called, in favour of another.

Between the south end of the Old Big School and some form rooms a gateway leads into the New Quadrangle. The old building on the left projects a little way beyond the gateway and ends in a turret; up this a winding staircase gives access to a small but well-known form room, long used as a school for the Twenty (the form next to the Sixth) in the days of Price and Cotton and Tom Evans: in the time of the last-named it was known familiarly as Uncle Tom's Cabin; it is now used for the lowest and smallest form, but it is famous still as the place where Solomon's celebrated maxim is acted upon. It was for this room, or its predecessor, that under the head mastership of Dr. Wooll the happy motto was suggested, "Much cry and little wool."

The wall beyond the turret formed the front wall of one of the two original fives courts of the school; there was ample space, for the old chapel did not extend nearly so far east as the present one. A school built on to the vestry of the old chapel used later to serve as a back wall for the court. The ground was paved with flagstones, and bat fives only was played there. There was another fives court made in Tait's time where the New Quadrangle now is, on the site of some cottages which were bought up because their insanitary condition made them dangerous to the school.

In the New Quadrangle we come to the new buildings of the school; those in the New Quadrangle con-

sist of the chapel on the south side, and a large block of form rooms which runs along the north and west, and is joined to the chapel by a short cloister (now shut in and fitted with racks to hold hats). The rest of the new buildings are either in or near the Close. It may seem ungracious in the generation which uses them to

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

NEW QUADRANGLE.

criticise too severely buildings which the generosity of countless old Rugbeians has presented to the school, but truth will out, and it must be confessed that few would claim for these buildings erected by Mr. Butterfield (excepting the interior of the chapel) any degree of beauty. Their aim is to attain, by free use of different coloured bricks and slate, the richness of colours characteristic of some Italian building; but the aim

has not been realized and the colour effect is irritating rather than rich; especially annoying is the use of slabs of slate, instead of glass, to fill the tracery of a window. There are few who do not think that with all their faults the old buildings are preferable to the new, for in their strength and simplicity they do, to some extent, attain the qualities of what they imitate. It is sad to think what an opportunity for beautiful work has been lost at Rugby in the numerous buildings which have been erected since the tercentenary in 1867. This building scheme has been accomplished mainly through the generosity of old Rugbeians, and the way in which they have responded to the appeals issued at various times may be judged by the fact that between 1867 and 1887 no less than £57,725 was raised, mostly by subscription, for various objects, principally buildings.

A short statement of the different amounts which make up the large total is given in the report of the School Improvement Fund, which was open from 1877—1887, and is perhaps worth reproducing here. It is as follows:

	£	s.	d.
1. By Tercentenary Fund (including Bath, 1876)	22,156	7	10
2. By School Improvement Fund (begun 1877) .	20,729	6	6
3. By Funds at the disposal of the Masters 1875—1885, devoted to the completion of New Quadrangle	2,767	0	0
4. By the Governing Body, for Ground £5,850; viz.,			
a. For Temple Observatory, Art Museum and Temple Reading-Room	1,700	0	0
b. For New Big School	3,250	0	0
c. For Caldecott field	900	0	0

	£	s.	d.
5. By subscription to Caldecott field through W. H. Bolton, Esq.	1,191	6	10
6. By subscription to new Racquet Court and Fives Courts	1,695	0	0
7. Second Sanatorium (from Sanatorium Fees) .	1,328	11	10
8. Tait Memorial Scholarship Fund	2,007	14	6
Total (irrespective of £2,500 devoted to the Memorial Windows in Chapel, and the Stanley Monument)	57,725	7	6

It may be added here, that since 1887 there have been various funds and bequests, chief among which are the bequests in 1895 by the late Mr. G. C. Benn, (an old Rugbeian), of forty-three acres on the Hillmorton Road, for playing fields (see p. 99), and the fund in memory of the late Rev. P. Bowden-Smith, by which the west end of the chapel has been rebuilt and enlarged (completed 1898). Future generations of Rugbeians will not lack examples to inspire their generosity towards their school. And in this connection should be recorded the names of two old Rugbeians, the late Frederick Dumergue, secretary of the Tercentenary Fund, and Dr. Jex-Blake (head master from 1874—1887, now Dean of Wells), secretary of the School Improvement Fund, whose untiring energy did so much to insure the success of the two funds.

To return to the New Quadrangle. The blocks of form rooms (the west block completed the quadrangle in 1885), have only associations too modern to make them of general interest: we turn therefore to the chapel.

THE CHAPEL.

The present chapel has grown out of the original chapel built by Hakewill and finished in 1821; needless to say it is entirely different in character, and now nothing remains of Hakewill's chapel; till 1898, how-

OLD CHAPEL, WEST END.
From Radclyffe's "Memorials."

ever, when the west end was rebuilt and enlarged in memory of the Rev. P. Bowden-Smith, this was not the case, for the building erected by Mr. Butterfield (finished in 1872), incorporated the whole west end of the old chapel. The old chapel, interesting from its associations, which however it has transferred to its successor, was not a thing of beauty; it was

built, like the rest of Hakewill's buildings, of white brick, with stone dressings, in the style which has been nicknamed "The Georgian Gothic," and with its heavy tracery and stout buttresses pretending to support a very solid wall, it was but a very clumsy imitation of fifteenth-century work. Inside it was still worse, for there was a flat plaster ceiling intersected by thin beams in a geometrical pattern, a ceiling much detested by Dr. Arnold: its length was ninety feet, its breadth and height (to the ceiling) thirty feet, and the solidity of its construction may be judged from the fact that it cost £7,500. Many additions were afterwards made to the old chapel, but only the "Narthex" or ante-chapel, erected in 1856, survives.

The present chapel consists chiefly of a long, lofty nave (the full length of the building is 140 feet): since the recent alteration of the west end (carried out by Mr. Jackson, with Mr. Butterfield's approval), the height of the nave has been made uniform all the way down; the old west end was lower and narrower than the new one, which has a small aisle on each side. A remarkable feature of this west end is that the large windows of the former building have been put in the clerestory, the aisles being low. Beyond the west end the chapel widens out into a transept, the roof of the nave being supported by tall round pillars of red and white stone in alternate blocks. Beyond the transept three steps lead up under a lofty arch to the chancel, which terminates in an apse. The roof of the chapel is of open woodwork, elaborately painted. The

whole of the interior (excepting the west end) is decorated with coloured bricks and painting, forming patterns on the red brick and white stone of which

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

CHAPEL, SHOWING NEW WEST END.

the building is composed. Exception may be taken to the details of this decoration, but the general effect of the interior of the chapel is undoubtedly good, its height and fine proportions giving it a great air of

space and dignity. This has been much increased by the enlargement of the west end, though the large west window is not altogether successful, two very heavy mullions running straight up giving it a rather stiff and clumsy appearance. All the old windows of the chapel are filled with stained glass: some of these, and of the mural monuments and tablets, of which the building contains no less than seventy-two, are of great interest.

Entering the chapel by the small door from the quadrangle, on the south side, we find ourselves underneath a small oak gallery, containing the keyboard of the organ. The organ chamber is on our left, and was built, as an inscription on the wall outside shows, by the pupils of Dr. Temple: a warning perhaps is necessary (for the inscription is written in very large characters) that the words "Hanc ædiculam" refer, as the diminutive shows, to the organ chamber only, and not, as the casual observer might perhaps suppose, to the chapel itself.

The organ is not the original instrument of the chapel, though, it has incorporated in it something of its predecessor. The first organ was built by Elliott in 1821, and consisted of great organ, swell organ to tenor F, and a set of pedal pipes. It was put at first in a gallery over the west door, but was subsequently removed to a chamber built for it over the vestry, on the north side of the chapel, near the east end; at the same time a choir organ of five stops and a second set of pedal pipes were added by Hill. The erection of the present organ was

begun in 1872, after the enlargement of the chapel. The work was done by Messrs. Bryceson, who included three stops from the old organ in the new one. It is a fine instrument, and, as it now stands, has cost little short of £2,000. The original plan, however, is not yet complete: fifteen stops, the probable cost of which would be about £800, are still wanting. The present gallery for the keyboard was built in 1897; before that it stood on the south side of the chapel, some forty feet from the body of the instrument, the connection being partly by electric and partly by pneumatic action, an arrangement which was inconvenient in many ways. The electric action has been retained. The old organ stood for many years in Old Big School, but was taken down when a new instrument was built for New Big School, soon after its erection.

Above the organ loft is a window representing the "Confession of St. Thomas": its interest lies in the fact that it was erected after Dr. Arnold's death, in accordance with his wishes; its subject was one to which his mind very frequently recurred, and, when the pain of his last short illness seized him, the first words he uttered were those which form the inscription of this window: "And Jesus said unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me thou hast believed; blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed."

The window is unfortunately far from beautiful.

On the wall close by this window is a fine memorial by Chantrey of Thomas James, head master from 1778—1794 (*vide* p. 36); he is seated, in wig and

gown, with a book on his knees, the figure being in deep relief: below is an inscription by Bishop Butler, his favourite pupil.

THOMAS JAMES, S.T.P.
Coll. Regal. apud. Cantabr. olim. soc.
Scholæ. Rugbeiensis. ab. a. s. MDCCLXXVIII. ad. a. s.
MDCCXCIV. magister
Vixit. annis. LV. mensibus. X. diebus. IX.
decessit. X. Kal. Octobr. a. s. MDCCCIV. Vigorniæ.
sepultus. est
Erat. in. hoc. viro. ingenii. acumen. singulare
Quo. venustates. literarum. ipse. penitus. persentiret
Erat. in. iis. exponendis. verborum. naturalis. non.
fucatus. nitor
ita. ut. quod. ipse. optime. intellixisset
Copiose. et. dilucide. cum. aliis. communicaret
Erat. lepore. condita. gravitas. qua. mentes. puerorum.
ad. se. alliceret
et. discendi. tædium. docendi. suavitate. leniret
Erat. in. sumptibus. eorumdem. moderandis. in.
valetudine. tuenda
in. moribus. ad. pudicitiam. probitatem. pietatem.
informandis
animus. vere. paternus
his. ille. virtutibus. instructus
Scholam. hancce. magna. discipulorum. frequentia.
magno. famæ. cumulo
auxit. atque. ornavit
Qui. autem. apud. discipulos. suos. sancti. parentis.
locum. tenuit
idem. ille. huius. scholæ. gubernatoribus. ita. carus.
acceptusque. fuit
ut. ab. iis. una. mente. regi. honorifice. commendaretur.
cujus. favore. præbendarius. in. ecclesia. cathedrali.
Vigorniæ. constitutus. esset
tali. et. præceptori. et. amico
alumni. ejus. pio. gratoque. animo. h. m. p. c.
a. s. MDCCCXXIV.

Photo. CHAPEL, LOOKING EAST. *G. A. Dean.*

The seats in the chapel, as in most other buildings of the kind, run east and west, facing each other, the blocks being slightly raised as they recede from the middle: a few steps then on and down from the north door, bring us to the end of the central gangway, just below the chancel steps: here a plain gray stone, inscribed simply with a small cross and the name, marks the grave of Thomas Arnold. He is buried in the vaults which he caused to be made at what was the east end of the old chapel: he alone of the head masters is buried there, with a few of his pupils who died at school, and two assistant masters. The vaults were afterwards closed. The plain stone which marks his grave is a worthier and more fitting memorial of him than the badly executed monument which stands in the north transept. On the step above the grave stands the lectern, where on Sundays members of the Sixth Form read the lessons from a Bible presented lately by the Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Temple). On the south, at the corner of the chancel, is the pulpit of plain oak: it was part of the furniture of the first chapel, and has been in use ever since.

The chief feature of the chancel is the window at the east end, representing the Adoration of the Magi.

It was brought by Dr. Arnold from the Church of Aerschot, near Louvain, in Belgium, at a time when the parish was raising funds to restore the church, and with this object sold some of its stained glass. The three kings are represented in the three stages of manhood which tradition associated with the names

Balthazar, Melchior, and Caspar. Balthazar, King of Saba, the old man, kneels before the Virgin and Child in a beautiful crimson mantle and offers his gifts; to the left advances Melchior, King of Araby; to the right stands Caspar, King of Egypt, here, as is usual in Northern art, depicted as dark-skinned. Behind the principal figures runs a semicircular balustrade, beyond which are seen peasants and serving-men, and charming little glimpses of landscape. Above the Virgin, in the centre of an arch, is a disc inscribed with a large M. On either side are two twisted pillars, recalling the two pillars taken from the Temple at Jerusalem to Constantinople, which appear also in Raphael's cartoon of the Beautiful Gate of the Temple. The design of the window has been attributed, solely on general grounds, to Albert Dürer, and it has been classed as fifteenth-century work: this is certainly not so: the architecture depicted in the window, as well as the general style, show it to be undoubtedly a sixteenth-century work, and there is no reason to connect it with Albert Dürer. An interesting resemblance has been noticed by Mr. Kempe in the figure of Melchior (the king on the left) to a print by Lucas Cranach the younger of Charles V., the Emperor, the points of resemblance being in the projecting under lip and bent knee. The resemblance, however, is not enough to build hypotheses of design upon, or to prevent the natural conclusion that the window is by some Flemish artist of the sixteenth century. The window has, of course, received modern additions to fit it to its present position; the angels in the small upper lights

and the blue in the trefoils of the three principal lights are modern, as is the border at the bottom. The head of the Virgin is also modern, the difference in the colour of the hair of the old and new part being very noticeable. According to C. W. Radclyffe's "Memorials of Rugby" (1843), the twisted pillars are also modern, but this would seem to be a mistake. The window was the gift of the masters and was set up in 1834. It is interesting to note that two windows from the same church, representing the Nativity and Pentecost, were obtained at the same time for Wadham College Chapel.

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

EAST WINDOW OF CHAPEL.

On either side of the east window in the apse are two lancet windows. These were filled with stained glass representing single figures of prophets and saints, in memory of Dr. Cotton, Bishop of Calcutta, who was an assistant master at the school from 1836—1852. They were designed by Mr.

Butterfield and executed by Messrs. Gibbs. Below the windows are a central cross and eighteen medallions in mosaic; round the cross are the four evangelists, on the left Old Testament heroes, on the right some mediæval saints. They were presented by two masters and some Old Rugbeians. Above the windows in the apse is a large mosaic representing God the Father surrounded by the symbols of the four evangelists, and angels at the sides. On the communion table are a pair of seventeenth-century candlesticks in bronze gilt, given by Rev. R. Bird, assistant master 1821—1841. On either side of the chancel are memorial slabs, some of men who have gained renown in the outer world or spent their lives in the service of the school, others of Rugbeians whose promise has been cut short by an early death. On the south wall of the chancel is a window representing the Flight into Egypt. It was presented to the school by Rugbeians in India in memory of their comrades (who fell previous to the Mutiny): an inscription on brass below runs thus:

> "Hanc fenestram Rugbeienses apud Indos Orientales commorantes suorum haud obliti. P. C. MDCCLII."

It is in what was called Nuremberg style, and came from the workshops of the Kelners, who supplied several of the new windows in Cologne Cathedral. The art of staining glass was at a low ebb unfortunately at the time, and the window with its commonplace design and smooth bad colouring is not an ornament. Already the colours are beginning to run,

as they did in a window by the same firm which was presented by Dr. Goulburn and stood in the south transept till the recent alterations. The subject was Christ blessing Children, and less than half a century had reduced it to a lamentable condition: it is a pity that the same fate does not overtake all bad glass. But though the glass perishes the memory of the gift remains.

Very different to these is the first window on the south wall, as we leave the chancel. It is a very beautiful work, which came from Rouen, and was put up in 1839, having been purchased by subscription. No details of its purchase have been handed down, but the fact that Rouen was its place of purchase would not necessarily indicate that it is French work. It has been put down as fourteenth-century work, but it cannot be so early: the flat triple arch in the upper part with its renaissance mouldings would seem to point to the sixteenth century. The dreadful glass in the tracery at the top and the scroll below were added to adapt it to its present shape. It has been generally taken, as the texts on the scroll indicate, to represent the Presentation in the Temple. There are, however, certain features which militate against this theory. The figure of the man kneeling at the Virgin's feet and holding a book is more suggestive of some other saint than Simeon, who, we believe, is universally represented as standing to take the child in his arms. The beautiful figure, too, of the woman kneeling on a cushion suggests in many ways the figure of a donor. However this may be, the glass is

very beautiful. The figure of Simeon, if it be Simeon, is said by Radclyffe to be modern, while Benson, in "The Book of Rugby School," speaks of it as partly modern: if any of it be modern it has been exceedingly well done. The blue background seems to show signs of different hands in its differences of colour and greater and less markedness of pattern.

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

SO-CALLED "PRESENTATION" WINDOW.

Close by this window on the wall is a monument by Westmacott to Dr. Wooll, who was head master from 1806—1828, and who, as the inscription by an old pupil, the Rev. J. H. Macaulay, head master of Repton school, testifies, "amores omnium singulari quadam suavitate sibi conciliavit."

By the door on the projecting east wall of the transept is a beautiful portrait medallion by Mr. Bruce-Joy of the late Archbishop Benson, assistant master from 1852—1859; above are some memorial tablets. The two south windows of this transept were designed by Mr. Butterfield and executed by Messrs. Gibbs. The one further west was given by Mrs. Buckoll in memory

of her husband, the Rev. H. J. Buckoll, assistant master from 1826 till his death in June, 1871, and author of the hymns for the beginning and end of term and of several others well known to all Rugbeians. The subject is the Transfiguration: in the upper lights are our Lord in glory with Moses and Elias; below are Peter, James, and John; and below these again three small groups representing the Feeding of the Multitude. The corresponding window was erected by the Rev. C. B. Hutchinson, assistant master from 1858—1884, and his wife, in memory of their only son, who died in May, 1866, in his fifth year. Above are our Lord in glory with St. Stephen and St. John the Baptist; below are the three archangels, typical of guardian spirits; and at the bottom three small groups of the Nativity, Christ with the Doctors in the Temple, and Christ blessing little Children.

The window in the west wall of this transept was inserted in 1898, in memory of Dr. Goulburn, head master from 1850—1858. It is a fine example of the work of a distinguished Old Rugbeian artist, Mr. C. E. Kempe, and, like the window which it has replaced, represents Christ blessing Children: unfortunately, in the position it occupies it is not seen to the best advantage.

The next window on the south wall of the west end is again an old window. It was bought by a subscription raised at the Universities and was erected in 1840. It came from Germany (the exact place of purchase has not been recorded), and is probably sixteenth-century work. While not to be compared to the two

old windows previously mentioned, it has considerable merits of colour. It represents our Lord before Pilate. When it was bought it is said to have "suffered somewhat from the introduction of a gray landscape and the intrusion of a mean figure holding an ewer before Pilate's feet": these were removed about 1855. As in the other cases the text is an addition. The flat triple arch is again noticeable in the composition of this window.

The last window on the south side, by Messrs. Hardman, depicts the Entombment and Resurrection. It was presented by friends in memory of Old Rugbeians who died in the Indian Mutiny: their names are recorded on a brass plate below the window. The west window in the south aisle has recently been filled with glass by Morris and Co., from a design by Sir E. Burne-Jones. It was presented by J. Collins, Esq., in memory of his mother. The west doors open into an ante-chapel: over the door on the inside is inscribed in gold letters: εὐφράνθην ἐπι τοις εἰρηκοσιν μοι εἰς τον οἰκον κυριου πορευσομεθα—"I was glad when they said unto me, We will go into the house of the Lord." The windows in the ante-chapel are by a French artist and were given principally by Dr. Goulburn. They represent "The Confession of Boys, The Acts of St. Lawrence, The First Communion, and The Four Professions." Returning to the chapel the first window on the north side is a companion window to the "Mutiny Window," by the same firm, put up in memory of Old Rugbeians who fell in the Crimea: it represents the Confession of the Centurion. The

next window is again an old one: it was inserted in 1836, having been bought by subscription. It is said by Radclyffe to have come, like the east window, from Aerschot, but curiously enough Benson does not record the fact. Like the other old windows, it is probably sixteenth-century work. The colour is good, but it is perhaps the least attractive of the old windows. The subject of it has been disputed: the inscription, added when the window was put up, runs thus "Apparuit primo Mariæ Magdalenæ. Sanctus Marcus, cap. xvi., ver. 9": but it certainly represents the traditional appearance of our Lord after His resurrection to His mother. He appears, as Benson says, in red, "in garments dyed from Bozra," with "the standard of His victory over Death and Hell in His hands," while she is turning towards Him, "joining her hands and, according to the plaintive old legend, falling upon her knees, to thank Him meekly for that He had been pleased to bring redemption to man, and to make her the humble instrument of His great mercy."

The window in the west wall of the north transept contains three small single figures, by Wailes and Hardman: the central figure of Christ blessing a child was given by Mr. Bloxam; the St. John on the right by friends in memory of R. B. Townsend, a Rugbeian who died young in 1852; the St. Luke on the left by members of the Sixth Form in 1846.

Close by on the north wall are monuments to Dr. Arnold and Dean Stanley, one above the other. Both monuments have recumbent figures: that of Stanley

is a fine work by Boehm, full of quiet dignity; that of Arnold above it is by Mr. John Thomas, a well-known sculptor of the time, but it is sadly to seek both in design and execution. It bears the following inscription, written by Arnold's great friend, Chevalier Bunsen:

Vir. Rev.
THOMAS ARNOLD, S.T.P.
Historiæ . recent . ævi . tradendæ . apud . Oxonien . pro . Reg
hujus . Scholæ . per . annos . XIV . antistes . strenuus . unice . dilectus

Thucydidem . illustravit . Historiam . Romanam . scripsit
Populi . Christiani
libertatem . dignitatem . vindicavit . fidem . confirmavit . scriptis . vita
Christum . prædicavit . apud . vos
Juvenum . animos . monumentum . sibi . deligens.

Tanti . viri . effigies . vobis . hic . est . proposita
Corpus . sub . altari . conquiescit
Anima . in . suam . sedem . patre . vocante . immigravit
fortis . pia . læta
Nat . a . d . XIII . Jun . MDCCXC . Mort . a . d . XII . Jun . MDCCCXLII
amici . posuerunt.

The inscription on Dean Stanley's monument runs as follows:

"Effigie, quam spectatis, revocatur alumnus hujusce scholæ germanus et primarius, ejusdemque, et supra jacentis magistri, interpres unicus, Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, Ecclesiæ Westmonasteriensis, ubi sepultus est, Decanus, qui cum litteris, theologia, perigrinatione, optimi cujusque consuetudine, ingenio, vel senior, recente, apud æquales floreret, in publicis et privatis officiis ita versatus est, ut patriam et civitatem dei uno amore complexus, Christum non in deserto non in penetralibus quærere, sed palam loquentem mundo, docentemque in synagoga et in

templo, pertranseuntemque benefaciendo, sibi imitandum proponere videretur. Natus Id. Decemb. A. S. MDCCCXV obiit a. d. XV. Kal. Sext. MDCCCLXXXI."

Above these monuments is a window in memory of Mrs. Arnold, wife of Dr. Arnold, given by members of the family: it represents in the upper lights

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

CHAPEL, NEW WEST END.

Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; below them Sarah, Rebekah, and Rachel; and below these three small scenes, Abraham entertaining angels, Rebekah meeting Isaac, and Jacob meeting Rachel. The corresponding window on the same side was erected to the memory of the Rev. C. T. Arnold, assistant master from 1841—

1878: at the top are Nehemiah, David, and Malachi, then Ezra, Elijah, and Zechariah, and at the bottom three scenes of the Sermon on the Mount. These windows are by the same firm as the ones opposite them in the south transept. Below this window is a large memorial slab to Archbishop Tait, head master from 1842—1850, and one to Theodore Walrond.

The inscription to Tait is by Archbishop Benson, and runs as follows:

"Ne vester sacer paries nomine ceteris caro vobis proprio videatur indigere, Archibaldi Campbell Tait, hic legite virum animo vere Rugbeiensi atque Arnoldiano octo annos Arnoldo proximos vobis præfuisse profuisse. Academiæ qui antea Oxoniensi in deliciis habitus, capitulo post Carleolensi sedibus Londinensi Cantuariensi præfectus, XIII tandem annos in primatu gerendo versatus totius Angliæ immo majoris Britanniæ, indolem virilem cum simplici pietate conjunxit. Judicio sensuque omnium communi plusquam omnes usus, partibus nihil, multum paci concedendo, morum, orationis, prudentiæ, gravitate, sale, securitate, patribus et senatus et ecclesiæ consiliantibus auctor sanus sapiensque placuit. Tantum virum Deus vitæ disciplina pæne tragica ut filium Ipsi acceptum erudiebat. Domum ad suos revocavit in $\overline{\text{DCA}}$ prima Adventus A $\overline{\text{DNI}}$ MDCCCLXXXII Æt. LXXII."

Finally, among the memorial slabs on the east wall of this transept, we may notice one written by Dr. Arnold to a pupil whose life was lost in the endeavour to rescue another boy when bathing in Churchover Brook. "Infra sepultus jacet JOHANNES WALKER, I.F., juvenis ingeniosus, mitis, pius, proptereaque impavidus, qui sodalem vicino fluvio jam submersum morti erepturus, ipse vitam vita redemit. A.D. v. Kal. Sept. A. S. MDCCCXLI æt. XVI."

The chief feature of the exterior of the chapel is a hexagonal tower at the east end, which is surmounted by a heavy-looking stone cap. The height of the tower is 138 feet. It is strengthened at the base by ungainly buttresses, and the exterior of the building in general lacks the dignity which the interior possesses in large measure. On the north wall of the west end is an inscription (by Mr. R. Whitelaw) recording the rebuilding of the west end in memory of the Rev. P. Bowden-Smith, assistant master from 1852 till his death in 1895. It runs as follows:

"Carum et honoratum nomen Philippum Bowden-Smith Rugbeiensem per XLVII annos discipulum magistrum amplificata hac æde commemoraverunt omni ætate uno animo amici an. sal. MDCCCLXCVIII."

The enlarged chapel was reopened by the Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Temple) in October, 1898. The Goulburn window and Benson memorial were unveiled by him at the same time. It should perhaps be added that a scheme is now on foot for the erection of memorials to two of the most distinguished sons of Rugby—one to A. H. Clough, the other to Matthew Arnold, whose well-known poem, "Rugby Chapel," is the best expression of his father's greatness and his own.

The hymn-book used in the chapel is a special one; it has grown through several editions from a small book published in 1804, the first special hymnal of any public school, which contained only thirty-eight "Psalms, Anthems, and Hymns." The present edition, published in 1897, contains 359 hymns. Its chief features

are the number of hymns (forty) based on psalms, and the hymns for special school occasions written by the Rev. H. J. Buckoll, who is commemorated in a window in the south transept. Several of the best tunes in the special tune-book are by music-masters and other masters at the school.

Other Buildings.

The path from the chapel along the west side of the Close leads to the bath. This was opened in 1876, and is the chief of many splendid gifts to the school from the Rev. T. W. Jex-Blake. Over the door is the inscription "Rugbeiensis Rugbeiensibus." The actual water surface of the bath is 70 feet long by 30 feet broad; the depth is graduated from 3 feet 6 inches to 6 feet 6 inches; there is a heating apparatus by which the temperature of the water is so regulated that the bath can be used all the year round. The old bath, on the site of which it stands, was a very small one (dug as early as 1754), fed by the springs which in former times filled the fishponds of the monks of the Grange: the water, according to all accounts, must have been very cold. A good swimming bath had become more of a necessity, since the growth of the town had destroyed the charm of the bathing-places in the Avon, beloved by former generations, "Swift's," named after the

> "Silent and modest brook! who dippest here
> Thy foot in Avon, as if childish fear
> Withheld thee for a moment——"

and "Aganippe," and the shallower stretch of "Sleath's."

At the south-west corner of the Close are several buildings—two covered Eton Fives-courts, built and presented in 1864 by some masters whose names are recorded on a stone inside the court—the gymnasium and workshop, and the "New" cricket pavilion. The gymnasium was opened in 1872. It is a large building, particularly ugly on the outside, but providing inside ample space and every conceivable kind of appliance for the development of muscles. It is built on the side of a slope, and the ground floor was fitted up and opened in 1880 as a workshop. A small subscription is charged for the use of the bath, gymnasium, and workshop, which are controlled by skilled attendants. In the south-east corner of the Close are two racquet courts and several fives courts. The first racquet court was built in 1859, the second in 1884. Both courts have been recently covered with Mr. Bickley's patent cement, which, while hard and durable, has the great advantage of allowing no moisture to form on it, so that the courts can be played on now on the many days when a quick change of temperature causes the ordinary cement wall to be bathed in wet. Fives courts are built against the walls of the old racquet court on both sides. These are "Rugby" fives courts, oblong courts with plain walls; they are of different dimensions, the results of various experiments at realizing the ideal size for a court of the kind. New fives courts have been and are being erected in a line with the new racquet court, and the dimensions of the

latest of these is 29 feet by 19 feet; the back wall is 5 feet high, with wire netting above, the front wall about 30 feet high, the service board 29 inches. The courts which experience has shown to be least suitable for hand fives are principally used for squash racquets. Between the two racquet courts is a bat fives court

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

NEW BIGSIDE, BATH, AND GYMNASIUM.

with no side walls, and at the back of the old racquet court are two uncovered Eton fives courts: here, too, is a large corrugated iron shed, presented by Dr. Percival, where cricket can be practised in the spring on a cocoanut matting pitch. Close by the racquet courts is the boarding house (now Mr. W. P. Brooke's), the only one (excepting the School House) built on school property, and owned by the Governing Body:

it was built by Sir Gilbert Scott. Just beyond it we come to the Island (see p. 92), on the edge of which is the old cricket pavilion.

A gate behind the Island takes us out into the Barby Road. Almost opposite this gate a road leads in a few yards to the sanatorium, where all serious cases of illness are attended to; it contains forty beds. Opposite the sanatorium, on the left side of the road, is the Temple Observatory. This building was due mainly to the Rev. J. M. Wilson, assistant master 1859—1879, now Archdeacon of Manchester, who presented the telescope. It was opened in 1878, with sub-curator's house attached, on ground given by the Governing Body. The big telescope in the observatory was originally made for the Rev. W. R. Dawes, a well-known astronomer: it is thus described in the memoirs of the R. A. S.: "Equatorial, originally mounted at Haddenham (Hopefield Observatory), Bucks. The glass was cut by Chance and Co. Aperture $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches, focal length 110 inches. The figure is excellent to the circumference, and the dispersion but a little over-corrected. The finder has an aperture of 2 inches. The micrometer was a parallel wire by Dolland. A driving clock and a very good Bond's spring governor render the action very smooth."

The telescope bears the following inscription: "Hoc Perspicillum in usum Dawesii ab Alvano Clark elaboratum, Scholæ Rugbeiensi, quo cœli miracula explorent, scientiam augeant, exerceant ingenia, in dei gloriam, Frederico Temple auctore, D.D., J. M. Wilson, A.D. MDCCCLXXI." The observatory also

contains a transit instrument and a twelve-inch reflecting telescope. Regular observations of double stars have been taken here for many years past. It is open to boys at certain times on all cloudless evenings during the term.

Returning to the Barby Road and turning to the right past a boarding house (now Mr. C. G. Steel's), we reach the Temple Reading Room and Art Museum, the former in the lower storey of the building, the latter above it. The north end of the building is the curator's house. The block stands back from the road, and on the lawn in front of it was erected, in 1899, the statue of the late Judge Hughes, known to all the world as the author of "Tom Brown's School-days." It was erected by subscription amongst old Rugbeians and others, a surplus of £186 over the cost of the statue (£1,000) being devoted to the Home Mission. The statue is the work of Mr. T. Brock, R.A., and is successful as few modern open-air statues are. The figure, which is more than life-size, is of white marble and stands on a pedestal of gray granite, the total height being about eighteen feet. He is represented as bare-headed, with a pen in the right hand and a book in the left; the head, half turned to the right, looks over the Close towards the School House. The pose is very natural and dignified, the difficulties of modern dress have been very skilfully overcome, and the whole gives a vivid impression of a strong, fearless man. The likeness is also pronounced to be excellent by those best qualified to judge. On the pedestal is the following inscription: "Thomas

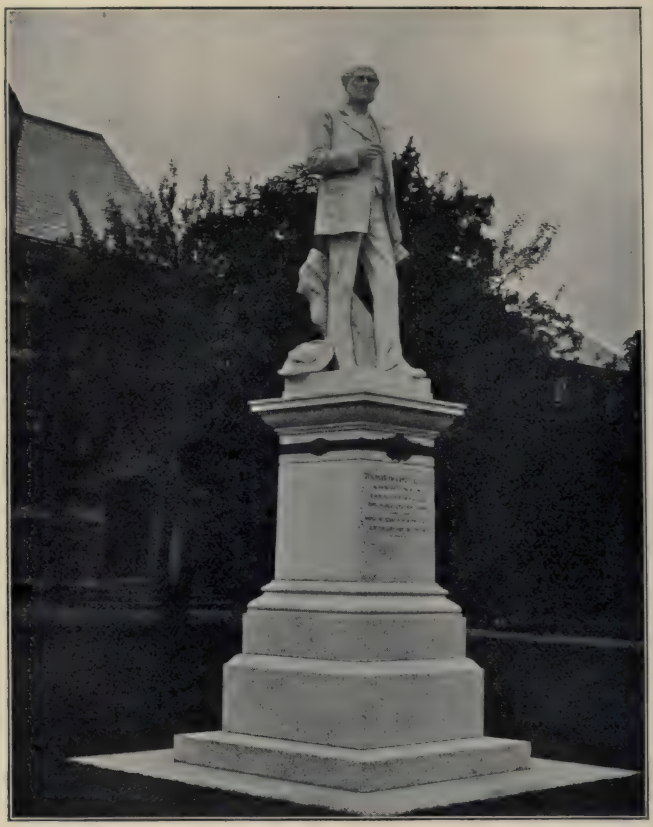


Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

STATUE OF THOMAS HUGHES.

Hughes, Q.C., M.P., author of 'Tom Brown.' Born October XIX., MDCCCXXII. Died March XXII., MDCCCXCVI. Watch ye: Stand fast in the faith: Quit you like men: Be strong." The statue was unveiled by the Archbishop

of Canterbury on Speech Day, 1899, before a large company made especially interesting by the presence of several of "Tom Brown's" contemporaries at school. Amongst the speakers on that occasion, the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen (O.R.) expressed most happily the feelings which prompted the erection of a statue

Photo. *G. A. Dean.*

TEMPLE READING ROOM.

as the most fitting memorial of Tom Brown at Rugby, referring to him as "the incarnation of the highest form of the British schoolboy, the best type of the character of the school which moulded him."

The Temple Reading Room was opened in 1879; the special subscription list towards it, in memory of Dr. Temple's headmastership, is notable for an anonymous gift of £2,000. It contains the bulk of the

school library, the Arnold Library as it is still called. The chief newspapers and periodicals are taken in, and the room is open to subscribers during the greater part of the day. The windows are of stained glass, bearing the names and arms of Rugby boys and masters who have become bishops. At the end of the room is a bronze bust by Mr. T. Brock, R.A., of the late Lord Bowen, and a beautiful water-colour by Sir W. B. Richmond, R.A., of the late Dean Vaughan. Here, too, is hung a photograph of the late G. Nutt, assistant master 1874—1895, to whose knowledge and zeal as librarian the library owes a great debt. In the library there now stands a model of the Acropolis presented by the British Museum.

Above the reading-room is the art museum, one of the most interesting places in Rugby, the existence of which is a striking testimony to the efforts made by modern educational systems to widen the range of mental activity. The institution was mainly due to Dr. Jex-Blake, "in the hope" (to quote his words) "that leisure hours would then be given by many boys to a delightful form of culture, often too little thought of at home or school, and with the conviction that some few boys would draw great enjoyment, life-long interest, and a new faculty from it." An interesting illustrated account of the museum (from which these notes are for the most part taken) was contributed by the curator, Mr. T. M. Lindsay, to "The Magazine of Art" for September, 1898. In this account he pays a just tribute to the generosity of

the late Mr. M. H. Bloxam, whose most valuable and interesting gifts form the nucleus of the collection. Mr. Bloxam was widely known as an antiquary and author of a "Handbook of Gothic Architecture"; to all Rugbeians he was also known as an unfailing friend of his old school for more than half a century. With the exception of some family portraits he either gave or bequeathed the whole of his magnificent collections to the school. Many others, besides Mr. Bloxam, have contributed generously to the collection, which now contains specimens of many kinds of work of artistic and archæological value. It comprises "paintings in oil and water colours; statuary in plaster, marble, and bronze (original and copies); casts of antique gems; arms and armour; carvings in wood and stone; ancient pottery, glass, coins, and medals; ecclesiastical metal work; examples of mural painting from demolished churches; engravings, etchings, mezzotints, photogravures, and their variants; photographs of nature and art; wood-engravings; the Arundel Society's publications in chromo-lithography, and fictile ivories, etc."

The visitor will find all the exhibits clearly labelled and arranged, as far as possible, according to their classes or periods. Amongst the drawings and paintings he should not fail to notice three drawings by Michael Angelo, and one of St. Michael "attributed to Raphael, but more probably by his pupil, Giulio Romano"; a small oil painting by Turner, characteristic of his later manner; a good example of J. S. Cotman; two small portraits by Ferdinand Bol,

and a portrait by Sir Joshua Reynolds, "much restored," of a Mr. John Bland; a portrait of a baby attributed to Velasquez; an excellent collection of water-colours, including examples of Cox, Turner, Prout, Alfred Hunt, and many others; a fine drawing in charcoal and coloured chalks (Perseus and Andromeda) by Sir E. J. Poynter, and pencil drawings by John Flaxman and the late Lord Leighton. Amongst the cases in the room the most interesting perhaps is the one which contains a number of Greek helmets. One of these is of unique interest, from the fact that it comes from the bed of the river Sert, the ancient Centrites, a tributary of the Tigris. The river barred the way of the Greeks in the famous retreat of the Ten Thousand, and they had considerable difficulty in effecting the passage of it with the Persians opposing them on the opposite bank, and the Carduchi threatening their rear (Xen. Anab. iv. 3). It is most probable then that this helmet belonged to one of the Ten Thousand. It was discovered in 1884, when Mr. T. B. Oakley and another old Rugbeian were being carried down the Sert on a raft. The raft got into shallow water where the Sert joins the Tigris, and the boatman, in lifting up his pole from the bed of the stream, brought up on it this helmet. It was taken to be an old copper kettle, and Mr. Oakley bought it for about a shilling: he afterwards gave it to Mr. Bloxam.

Noticeable also amongst the collection of armour is a very rare Gothic gauntlet, of which we believe only two other specimens exist, and some buff jerkins of the Commonwealth period, which are also rare. Many

Photo. *G. A. Dean.*

ART MUSEUM.

of the relics of the period of the Civil Wars come from the neighbouring battle-fields of Naseby and Edgehill. There is also a fine trophy of Dervish arms, recently given by Colonel Sir C. S. B. Parsons (O.R.).

A very interesting case from the Bloxam collection, placed under the window on the staircase, contains weapons illlustrating the development of the primitive palæolithic flint-head into the battle-axes of mediæval times. On the staircase, too, should be noticed the chair and table which Dr. Arnold habitually used when teaching. These are very few amongst the things which form the permanent collection: they are supplemented from time to time by loan collections of various kinds. Gift, bequest, and purchase have so enlarged the contents of the art museum that the sum of £16,000, for which they are insured, is said to fall short by £9,000 of their real value.

Adjoining the art museum is the drawing school, built in 1888, a large room 45 feet by 35 feet, made of wood and iron: the outside, which is not beautiful, is fortunately screened by some trees: the inside is light and well adapted for its purpose, and is well furnished with casts.

Close to the corner where the Barby Road joins the Hillmorton Road are some wood and iron sheds erected in 1894. They contain a large room where the collections of the Natural History Society are exhibited (see p. 179), a physical laboratory and lecture room, and music schools, where the votaries of the art may practise in small compartments without any disturbance to their neighbours.

Close by, opposite to the entrance to the head master's house, is the New Big School. It was completed in 1886, and stands on the site of a boarding-house occupied successively by Messrs. Highton, Burrows, Green, and Michell, the last-named building a new house further up the Hillmorton Road when the

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

NEW BIG SCHOOL.

old one was demolished. The site was given by the governing body, the money for the building being raised by subscription. The building is a characteristic work by Mr. Butterfield: the ground floor is occupied by a vestibule and three large class rooms: two staircases lead up to the Big School, which takes up the whole of the upper storey. The room is eighty-three

feet by thirty-seven, but its length is curtailed by a fine organ which occupies the east end, a small chamber on the south side, which was originally designed for its reception, proving unsuitable for many reasons. The room is used for morning prayers once a week, for concerts and lectures, for "Speeches," and for examinations such as the scholarship examination, when a large number of candidates have to be seated. For ordinary purposes it is large enough, but on the occasions when visitors are added to the school the want of room is rather severely felt. It is surrounded by a high oak panelling, above which are coloured windows on either side of the room; it has rather a handsome waggon-roof. At the west end of the room, on a pedestal, stands a bust of Dr. Arnold by Mr. Alfred Gilbert, R.A. It was originally intended for Westminster Abbey, but being too large for the place which it was destined to occupy there, it was presented to the school. It is a fine bust, but the likeness is not considered very good by those who remember Arnold. Round the walls are hung portraits of some former head masters and distinguished Old Rugbeians. The majority of these are copies. On the west wall are Dean Stanley and Matthew Arnold; on the north Dr. Jex-Blake by Herman Herkomer; Lord Derby; Dr. Arnold; Dr. Temple by Watts; Dr. Percival by Hubert Herkomer; T. Hughes; Dr. Hort; F. Dumergue by G. P. Jacomb-Hood, and Dr. Cotton: on the south wall are W. C. Oswell, Rev. E. H. Bradby, F. C. Selous, and the Rev. Septimus Hansard. On the west wall, too, are four portraits from the Bloxam col-

lection, which would perhaps be more fittingly placed in the Art Museum. They are of Mary, Lady Howard of Effingham, by Otto Venius or Vern; Sir Richard Steele, by Kneller; Henry, Prince of Wales (son of James I.); and a good portrait of the Duke of Monmouth by Sir Peter Lely. In the recess on the south side is a portrait of Mary, Queen of Scots, from the same collection.

Behind the organ is kept a red velvet banner with the school arms embroidered on it, which is displayed on great occasions: it is a testimony to the fame of "Tom Brown's Schooldays," for it was presented in 1860 by Mr. William Mills of Connecticut, U.S.A., who was so struck with admiration by that work that he deputed a friend, Mr. J. G. Day, to present this banner to the school.

Of the boarding-houses there is no need to say more than appears on a subsequent page (p. 156); but it may be useful to give a list of the various houses, in so far as they can be traced; for this list I am indebted to the Rev. A. T. Michell, who is preparing one for the forthcoming new edition of the first volume of the "Rugby Register."

BOARDING-HOUSES IN THE TOWN.

About 1790 there were:

Finch.
Loggin.
Powell.
Malin (Sheep Street).
Moor, C. (Hillmorton Road).

About 1801-1806:

	Extinct.
Mrs. Bucknill (now High St., No. 24)	1831
Mr. Philip Williams (now Market Place, No. 5)	1831
Mr. William Gascoigne (now Market Place, No. 6)	1822

BOARDING-HOUSES IN THE TOWN—*continued.*

	Extinct
Mr. Townsend (now 23 and 24, Market Place) . . .	1831
Rev. W. Birch (site of four Western Almshouses), Church St.	1826
Mrs. Wratislaw (now Lloyd's Bank), Church St. . .	1824
Mr. Robert Stanley (site of part of New Schools) . .	1847
Dr. Bloxam (west corner of Sheep Street and Lawrence Sheriffe Street)	1831

MASTERS' HOUSES, NOW EXTINCT.

Birch (as above). Bloxam (as above).

"Troy House," 12, Hillmorton Road.
1832. Grenfell.
1845. Congreve.
1848. Walrond.
1851. Shairp—1857.

16, Hillmorton Road.
1841. Arnold, C. T.

14, Hillmorton Road.
1831-40. Lee.

33, Bilton Road.
1841-6. Penrose.

1, Newbold Road.
1831-9. Buckoll.

1838-40. Merivale (not known where).

SUCCESSION OF PRESENT HOUSES.

Hillmorton Road, South side.
1790. Moor, C.
1803. Moor, J. H. C.
1832. Bird.
1841. Mayor.
1863. Wilson.
1879. White'aw.

Hillmorton Road, South side.
1836. Powlett.
1840. Cotton.
1852. Compton.
1858. Smythies.
1861. Anstey (*pro tem.*).
1862. Moberly.
1874. Philpotts.
1875. Lee-Warner.
1884. Morice.
1895. Payne-Smith.

Hillmorton Road, North side.
1841. Highton.
1850. Burrows.
1872. Green.
1882. Michell (new house 1884).

Hillmorton Road, North side.
1845. Bradley.
1858. Jex-Blake.
1868. Elsee.
1889. Collins.

Barby Road.
1830. Price.
1850. Evans.
1862. Hutchinson.
1884. Donkin.

Barby Road.
1828. Anstey.
1854. Bowden-Smith.
1889. Steel.

Barby Road.
1853. Arnold.
1878. Scott.
1892. Brooke.

Horton Crescent.
1893. Stallard.

Photo. *J. Hensman, Rugby.*

REV. H. A. JAMES, D.D., PRESENT HEAD MASTER.

CHAPTER III

THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL

THE object of this chapter and the following one is to give some account of the various activities which make up the life of the school.

There are at present in the school not far from 600 boys. Of these some forty live in the town or neighbourhood, and attend the school as day boys; the rest live in boarding-houses managed by masters in the school. Of these houses—there are nine—the largest is the School House, which is under the control of the head master; it contains some eighty boys, and forms part of the old school buildings; the other houses contain some fifty-two boys each.

A limited number of those who wish to wait until room can be found for them in a boarding-house are boarded at private houses (licence being given by the governing body) until a vacancy occurs. To each of the boarding-houses a junior master is attached as tutor; his nominal duties are limited to the taking of evening preparation twice a week, and in some cases the instruction twice a week of a "Tutor Set," consisting of those boys in the house who are in the Classical Upper School, excluding the Sixth; but his real *raison d'être* is that he may get to know the

boys in the house, to the mutual advantage of them and of him. The School House has three tutors. The boarding-houses, the great majority of which have either been entirely built, or much altered and added to within the last fifteen years, are all arranged on the same general scheme. The chief feature of each is a large hall, where the boys have all their meals; these halls are also used as sitting and reading rooms by the older boys, and by the younger within certain limits, the daily and illustrated papers, paid for by a house subscription, being taken in there. They are also used for evening preparation four times a week, when boys in the Middle School prepare their next morning's lesson under supervision of the house master or tutor. In some cases the house library is placed in the hall. Every boy has a study, which, according to the size of the study, and his position in the school, he shares with another, or holds as his separate domain. None of the studies in any house holds more than two. These studies are furnished with the necessary cupboards, table, and chairs, the ornamentation being left to the devices of the occupants. The dormitories are of various sizes. The boarding fee is £24 a term, in advance, besides which there is a house entrance fee of £3 3*s*. Applications for admission for boarders are made to the boarding-house masters.

The school course of work is still mainly classical, two-thirds of the boys being in what is called the Classical Side, which aims in the main at preparation for the Universities. The results of this work may be roughly estimated by the number of scholarships

gained at the Universities, still better perhaps by the result of the examination for Oxford and Cambridge certificates, for which the whole Sixth Form enters at the end of the summer term. Statistics on both lines prove a high level of attainment. Latin and Greek are, of course, the principal subjects taught on the Classical Side, but modern tendencies have caused a

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

STUDY OF HEAD OF SCHOOL HOUSE.

considerable expansion in the curriculum, which includes, besides these two subjects, Divinity, History, Geography, English Literature, French, Mathematics, and Natural Science: in the Upper School Modern Languages (*i.e.*, French and German) and Natural Science are alternative subjects. Rugby was the first of the great public schools to introduce the teaching of Natural Science as part of the regular work.

Boys who are not on the Classical Side are taught in one or other of three separately organized departments : these are,

1. The Modern Side. This was introduced in 1886, and aims at giving a general education of a literary character to boys who do not intend to go to the Universities. The curriculum differs from that of the Classical Side chiefly in the absence of Greek. Latin forms part of the regular work, and the time gained by the abolition of Greek is devoted chiefly to French, but more time is given than on the Classical Side to English subjects and Natural Science, and in the upper forms to German.

2. The Army Class. This was originally part of the Modern Side, but is now organized quite separately. A special fee of five guineas per term is charged to all members of it, which enables it to be arranged in small sets, where special attention can be given to the particular needs of every boy, the average number in each set being only twelve. The numbers in the Army Class are limited to about fifty, and no boy is admitted to it until he reaches the top form of the Middle School (Upper Middle 1). The curriculum in the Army Class is, of course, arranged solely with a view to certain examinations, namely, the examinations for Woolwich and Sandhurst and the Indian Woods and Forests ; mathematical subjects are therefore prominent. The Army Class has two divisions, but promotion into the upper division does not always depend solely on merit, preference being given, where it is advisable, to those whose examination is hard at

hand. These divisions are each subdivided into two sets of about a dozen boys for almost all subjects, and the two divisions do not do the same subject at the same time, the object being that the same two masters may teach one subject throughout the whole of the Army Class. Since the introduction of this system, the Army Class has been remarkably successful.

3. Specialists. By this class opportunity is given to those desiring to "specialize" in Mathematics or Natural Science, generally with a view to University scholarships in these subjects. Such specializing is not admitted till a boy reaches the Upper School. If he then shows promise, arrangements are made by which he can devote most of his time to one or both of these subjects. These "specialists," of whom there are generally about fifteen, are taught Classics and English subjects in a form by themselves.

The regular tuition fee is £14 6*s*. 8*d*. per term, payable in advance, but for the use of the chemical and physical laboratories a special fee is charged, £1 15*s*. per term in ordinary cases, but varying up to a maximum of £3 10*s*. per term according to the amount of instruction given.

The school is divided for purposes of instruction into nine forms, most of which are subdivided into parallel or successive divisions. The nomenclature of these forms is of various origin, and is somewhat complicated by not unfrequent change, so that the value of the terms, so to speak, is not in all cases permanent. The top form has had a permanent name, the Sixth, for more than a century, since the time

when Dr. T. James divided the school into six forms, the basis of all subsequent organization, though of the names only the Sixth and Fifth have survived. The Sixth has two divisions, called the Upper Bench and Lower Bench, and in view of the disciplinary powers which all its members possess, it is ordained that no boy may be promoted into it until he is fifteen and a half years old. As a rule a boy is not promoted till he is sixteen. The entrusting of large duties and responsibilities to the Sixth Form has been a marked characteristic of the school system since the days of Dr. Arnold. The duties of the Sixth Form at Rugby may be summed up by saying that they are in general responsible for the discipline of the school and the houses, and the enforcement of all rules. Amongst their minor duties may be mentioned that of reading the lessons in chapel on Sundays, and taking the collections. Along with their duties and powers go certain privileges, chief among which is the right to fag all boys not in the Upper School. In modern times the duties of a fag are not very arduous: he has to sweep out and dust the study of a Sixth Form boy every now and then (for there are always more fags than studies), a duty which he generally performs in a manner which would shock any housemaid, and he will occasionally be called upon to run messages; but the increase of hot water pipes has in most cases done away with the duty of making fires and toast, and the electric light needs no cleaning hand. It not unfrequently happens that Sixth Power is granted in a house to a boy who

is not in the Sixth Form ; in such cases his powers and privileges do not extend beyond his own house, but it is very seldom in any case that a fag is called upon to do anything by a Sixth Form boy in a different house.

The head of the school has special duties, of no insignificant kind. Besides summoning and presiding over all "Sixth Levees" and "Bigside Levees," *i.e.*, meetings of the Sixth and Upper School, reading the lessons in chapel at the first and last services of term, and on any occasion when by accident nobody else presents himself, he has to keep and publish the school accounts ; all the money which is raised by a compulsory subscription for the school games (as distinguished from the house games) passes through his hands, and this amounts to no inconsiderable sum. He is, as it were, the treasurer of a games club to which all the school belongs.

Below the Sixth comes a form called the Twenty. The name, given originally because of the number in the form, is no longer applicable, for the numbers in it vary from twenty-five to twenty-nine. It is a specially important form from the constant presence in it of the ablest boys who cannot be promoted into the Sixth until they reach the maximum age, and ever since the days of B. Price the teaching of the Twenty has been one of the great features of Rugby.

Next to the Twenty comes the Fifth, then the Lower Fifth. Both of these forms have parallel divisions.

These forms constitute the Upper School, which

has privileges not enjoyed by those below it. The Upper School boy is exempt from fagging and from supervised work at evening preparation, and the whole Upper School has the right, or is under the obligation, of attending "Bigside Levee"; the Middle School boys, as fags, have not the franchise. The questions which come before a Bigside levee are practically confined to points about the games; as a rule the levees are purely formal meetings which fix the dates for the beginning and end of football, the athletics, and kindred points; occasionally, however, motions are brought forward which excite keen controversy, such as systems for guiding the inter-house competitions, and at such times a vote possesses a real value. All decisions of Bigside levees are subject to the veto of the head master. It is one of the duties of the head of the school to keep a record of these decisions.

The names of the Middle School Forms show a lack of variety, running through a series of Upper Middles and Lower Middles. One more picturesque name, "The Shell," has in recent years been dropped on the Classical side, though it is still retained on the Modern. The name came originally from Westminster School, where it was given to the form that sat in a shell-like alcove at one end of the great schoolroom: from Westminster it spread to several other schools. At Rugby the Shell has gradually sunk in rank among the forms until it has at length been eliminated. Last of all comes the Lower School: this name was formerly applied to a considerable section of the school; in modern times it clings only to a

small form of about fifteen on the Classical side, and half a small form on the Modern.

The reason why these names have gradually altered in their application is the tendency to lessen the apparent severity of the superannuation rule. This rule lays down that no boy may remain in the Lower School after the term in which he is fifteen years old, in the Lower Middles after sixteen, Upper Middles after seventeen, Upper School below the Sixth after eighteen, or in the Sixth after the summer term of the year in which he is nineteen. A boy is also liable to superannuation after he has been four terms in the same form ; this of course does not apply to the Sixth. Such a rule, however necessary for the welfare of the school in general, would press very unfairly on certain boys if it were inviolable. Consequently, except for boys over nineteen, the head master has power to suspend it in individual cases, and though no boy can claim such suspension, a good report for conduct and industry from all masters with whom the boy has to deal always ensures it, if the limit of age or time in the form has not been greatly exceeded. In such cases, much depends on the boy's reports. These are written for every boy in the school at the half-term and end of the term, and sent to the parents or guardians. They contain information about the boy's place and progress in all his work, together with general remarks from the house master and head master.

Promotion in all forms goes strictly by the final order of each term, which is reached by a careful and elaborate system of marking, regulating the propor-

tions to be assigned to term's work and examination, and to the various subjects. The largest proportion of marks is assigned to form subjects, *i.e.*, those subjects which are taught to each form by the form master. On the Classical side these are Latin, Greek, and English subjects, while on the Modern side French takes the place of Greek. For other subjects the various parts of the school are divided up into a separate organization of sets: promotion in these sets goes entirely by set work, but the marks obtained when reduced to their due proportion are added to the form marks, and so affect largely the boy's place in his form. A form order on these lines is made out for the reports at the end of each half-term: the final order is made up on term and examination marks combined. Examination on all subjects takes place in the last week of the summer and autumn terms. Prizes are awarded for good work in the latter examination; the head of each form in term's work also gets a prize, and on the Classical side (as far down as the Upper Middles) the boy who is top in Classical composition. In the spring term the amount of examination is mostly left to the discretion of the form or set master; in the regular examinations almost all the papers for each form are set and looked over by masters other than the form master. In the Middle School a weekly order in form subjects is made out, and some of the top boys in each form are allowed to prepare their evening work in their studies.

The system of forms and sets renders the time-table of lessons somewhat elaborate. On an ordinary "whole

school day" there are five lessons, three in the morning, two in the afternoon. The day begins with a short service in chapel at 7.0 in the summer, and 7.30 in the winter months: to keep up the standard of punctuality and prevent a rush to the doors at the last moment, when

> "The schoolboy groans on hearing
> That eternal clock strike seven,"

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

GOING INTO CHAPEL.

the forms have to attend a calling over and leave their books in their various rooms before chapel. First lesson, which has been prepared overnight, follows for an hour. The normal scheme for the next three lessons is that an hour's preparation done out of school

is followed by an hour's lesson, but it constantly happens that a master has to take two classes for a prepared lesson in consecutive hours; in such cases the class which has an "early second or third," has to get its preparation done beforehand, while in compensation it gets a leisure hour, made all the sweeter from the fact that most people are in school. The lower forms, instead of preparing their work out of school, come in for an hour and a half, and prepare under supervision, so that at all sorts of different times boys and masters may be seen hurrying in and out of school. Fifth lesson is unprepared, and, like first lesson, sees the whole school in at the same time. It ends at 6.0 in the winter, 5.30 in the summer.[1]

The evening preparation in houses for Middle School forms lasts for an hour and a half: it does not take place on Wednesday (in the summer term Thursday) evenings, which are consequently chosen for all lectures and concerts, nor on Saturday, which is the meeting day of the Debating and Natural History Societies. Of the composition in the Upper School two "copies" or exercises a week are done out of school, and each boy goes to the master at a fixed time to have his copy corrected *vivâ voce*. The third "copy" is done in school. All "extras" have to be worked in during out of school hours, but this is made easier by there being three regular half-holidays a week (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday), while every third Monday is also a half-holiday. This is called

[1] See Appendix.

"middle-week." It was instituted by Dr. Arnold, but the origin of the name is not clear. It has been supposed to be derived from its having been given in compensation for a mid-term exeat; but these exeats survived alongside with "middle-week" till the "half-years" gave way to three "terms" in 1866. More probably it compensated for monthly whole holidays, and perhaps it was so called because the half-holiday Mondays are sandwiched in each between two distinct whole-school day Mondays. Half-holidays are also not unfrequently given on fine Mondays, in recognition of scholarships or special events.

The summer holidays are eight weeks long (a special feature of the school which all Rugbeians remember with deep satisfaction). Eight weeks are distributed between Christmas and Easter; nowadays they are nearly always evenly divided, the school staying over Easter if it falls early.

Drawing and music hold a prominent place in the work of the school. Drawing is a compulsory subject for all the Middle School, and the artistic interests of the drawing classes are stimulated by occasional visits in the drawing hour to the Art Museum, where the drawing master, who is curator of the museum, gives them an informal lecture on some of the exhibits. Music is not compulsory, but in various ways is very widely taught. For private instruction in professional drawing and instrumental music an extra fee of £3 10*s.* a term is charged, and so many boys avail themselves of the musical opportunities that a school orchestra of varied instruments has become a reality, and a brass

band leads the rifle corps on days when they "march out." The orchestra is excused one lesson a week for purposes of practice. Still more boys get a certain amount of musical training in the choir. All new boys have their voices tried, and if the result is satisfactory they are put in the choir; some fortunates pass steadily through the alto stage, and never have to leave it; others return to it when the cracked treble has passed into a bass, or, less commonly, into a tenor, for tenors are always rare birds. In this way boys learn a good deal of vocal music, for there are regular practices for chapel singing, and also practices for the school concerts which are given twice a year, at the end of the summer and autumn terms. In return for the time given to these practices, those who sing in the concert are excused repetition at the end of term, and in the Middle School the Saturday evening work, an essay or the like, is remitted.

The choir was not always so well supported as it now is. When the first chapel was consecrated in 1821, and volunteers from the school were called upon to form a choir, so diffident were Rugbeians of the time of their vocal powers that only two boys offered themselves! A paid choir was consequently started, and continued as late as about 1866, when the boys were induced to sing by being made responsible for the singing. There are two annual singing competitions, taking place towards the end of the spring term; one for the best house quartette, the other for the best house unison-singing. The quartette competition has been held since 1876, when Mr. Edwards, for

many years school organist and music master, presented four cups for the successful singers. The unison singing competition was begun in 1893; a fine cup, purchased by subscription, goes to the winning house.

Opportunities are also provided to boys for hearing good instrumental music: besides a short organ recital in the Chapel on Sundays after morning service, there is an orchestral concert in the autumn and spring terms, and concerts of chamber music are also arranged from time to time.

Such are the main features of the routine of school work; we must now give some data as to the scholarships and prizes which are offered.

Scholarships and Prizes.

An examination is held at the school every June for election to ten or more scholarships, if the candidates show sufficient merit. They are of the following value:

4	or more	of	£100	open	to boys	between	12 and 14
2	„		£80	„	„	12 „	15
2	„		£60	„	„	12 „	15
2	„		£40	„	„	12 „	15
4	„		£20	„	„	12 „	15

The examination is conducted by the head master and assistants. There is no special work to be prepared, and the papers are set mainly with a view to well-taught boys between thirteen and fourteen, but allowance is made for age by adding a proportional percentage on marks obtained. A special scholarship

augmentation fund provides for the private increase of any scholarship to such an amount as in the judgment of the head master the circumstances of the scholar may require. All scholarships are tenable as long as a boy remains at school, provided that the head master is satisfied with the good conduct and industry of the scholar. If this is not the case the scholarship may be forfeited. Candidates have to apply to the secretary for admission to the examination on or before May 26th, and testimonials of good conduct and registrar's certificate of birth must be sent at the same time. No boy is admissible who is not fully twelve years old on the 1st of January, or who will be more than fourteen or fifteen, as the case may be, on the 1st of July of the current year.

The Natural Science candidates are examined in Elementary Physics (Statics, Dynamics, and Hydrostatics).

The £100 and £80 scholarships are generally awarded for proficiency in Classics, English, Elementary Mathematics, and French ; but any scholarship may be won by excellent work either in

(*a*) Classics, together with English, Elementary Mathematics, and Elementary French ; or

(*b*) Mathematics or Natural Science, or both combined, together with Latin, English, Elementary Mathematics, and Elementary French ; or

(*c*) French or German, or both combined, with other subjects as in (*b*) ; or

(*d*) English, Latin, French, German, Mathematics, and Natural Science, and candidates may also offer

one or two of the following subjects: Chemistry, Electricity and Magnetism, Heat, Light, Geology, Physical Geography, Botany. The examination is partly of a practical kind, and the candidates have to name their subjects when applying for admission. The £40 and £20 scholarships can be held either by a boarder or a day boy, but scholarships of a higher value are only tenable by boarders, who, unless they are already members of the school, are assigned a place in a house by the head master.

Among the scholarships there are certain special ones founded by or in memory of individuals. These are—the Tait scholarships founded in memory of Archbishop Tait, head master from 1842—1849: the Walrond scholarship founded in memory of Theodore Walrond, C.B., a distinguished Old Rugbeian who was head of the school when Dr. Arnold died: the Derby scholarship founded in memory of Edward Henry Stanley, 18th Earl of Derby, who entered the school in 1840: the Benn scholarships founded in accordance with the wishes of the late George Benn, O.R., who died in 1895. One of the Benn scholarships has special conditions attached (see below), but the money from the other special foundations is amalgamated with the other funds which the school possesses for the payment of scholars. At the same time, though all scholarships are awarded in the same examination, special scholars are from time to time designated as Tait, Derby, Walrond, or Benn scholars. The names are thus perpetuated without the general scholarship system being interfered with.

The scholarships are open to all comers, but these are not the only aids to education, for the foundation offers great advantages to residents in accordance with the wishes of the founder, Lawrence Sheriffe. These are now regulated by statutes which took the force of law in July, 1874. Persons residing in or within five miles of Rugby on July 31st, 1868, are entitled to send their sons, if of good character, and able to read English, and capable of being taught the first elements of grammar, to enter the school as foundationers and receive the instruction of the school free of charge. Such persons are becoming fewer, and the most important regulations of the foundation apply to residents in or within five miles of Rugby who were not so residing on July 31st, 1868. To these are offered:

1. Twelve major foundationerships, giving free tuition. These are confined to boys between twelve and fourteen years of age, who have attended the Lower School of Lawrence Sheriffe (commonly called "The Subordinate School"), which takes boys of eight and upwards, for the two years preceding their election. The tuition fees in this school are, for boys under twelve, £6 per annum; for boys over twelve, £7 10*s*.

2. Twenty-four minor foundationerships, giving education at a tuition fee of £20 per annum. For these there is no restriction except that the boys must enter the school between twelve and fourteen, and the parents home must be in or within five miles of Rugby whilst their boys are at school.

3. A scholarship of the value of £25 per annum, founded by the late Mr. G. C. Benn, and called after

him. It is tenable with a minor, but not with a major or old foundationership, and elections only take place as a vacancy occurs.

Finally, the masters offer free tuition to every day boy (whether previously a member of the school or not) who is admitted into the Upper School before he is fourteen years of age.

Vacant foundationerships are filled up, and masters' free admissions are given, at the entrance examinations every term; also at the annual scholarship examination in June. If in the appointment of major foundationers the number of boys qualified exceeds the number of vacancies, preference is given to the boys who stand highest in the last preceding examination of the Subordinate School. If it happens in the case of minor foundationers, the entrance examination supplies the test. Foundationers are eligible to scholarships, but a major foundationer vacates his place on the foundation if elected to a scholarship, and a minor foundationer does the same if his scholarship exceed £20 per annum.

There are no "close" scholarships from Rugby at the Universities, but every year three major exhibitions of £60 per annum, and four minor of £30, are awarded. These are open to members of the Sixth Form who have been in the school not less than three years, and are tenable at the Universities or any other place of education approved by the governing body. The major exhibitions are given for general proficiency, the minor are given respectively for Classics, Mathematics, Natural Science and Modern Languages

(French and German). A major and a minor or two minor exhibitions may be held together. They are tenable for four years, and are awarded on an examination conducted at the end of the term by external examiners, named or approved by the governing body. This is now the Oxford and Cambridge Certificate Examination.

Scholars and exhibitioners may waive the emoluments in favour of others to whom they are of greater importance, while retaining the distinction.

The prizes founded to encourage the pursuit of various studies are numerous. Chief amongst them is a gold medal, which the Queen founded in 1848 for an English essay on an historical subject. Prizes in books are given for almost every conceivable subject, to be competed for by different parts of the school. Amongst them may be mentioned: The trustees' prizes for a Latin essay (founded 1820), Latin hexameters (founded 1813), and Latin lyrics or elegiacs; the head master's prizes for an English poem (founded 1813), Greek prose, geography, and Homer; a prize for English literature, founded in memory of Dr. Jex-Blake's headmastership; prizes for Latin prose; a prize for Greek iambics, in memory of Dr. T. James, head master 1778—1794; prizes for divinity, founded in memory of Archbishop Tait, and by A. F. Buxton, Esq. (O.R.), and the late Dr. Hastings Robinson (O.R.), and others; a prize for ecclesiastical history, history of the Prayer Book, or Christian Evidences, given by the Rev. Canon Evans; prizes for general modern history, founded by Mrs. Bowen in memory of her

son, the late Lord Bowen (O.R.); a prize for set subjects in the Army Class, founded in memory of the late H. C. Wrigley, who died while still a member of the school; Tom Hughes prizes, founded by Dr. Percival, Bishop of Hereford, head master 1887—1895, which consist of a copy of Judge Hughes' work, "The Manliness of Christ," given to every boy who becomes head of the School, the School House, the Cricket Eleven, and the Football Fifteen.

Other prizes, which have no particular interest in their origin, are given for certain Classical subjects, history, mathematics, modern languages, natural science, and reading.

Photo. *G. A. Dean.*

SCHOOL BUILDINGS, BEFORE THE TREES FELL.

CHAPTER IV

SOCIETIES, GAMES, AND OTHER INTERESTS

Debating and Natural History Societies.

From the work of the school we will now turn to the societies. The two most important are the Debating Society and the Natural History Society, which meet on alternate Saturday evenings during the autumn and spring terms. Of these the Debating Society is the elder and can trace its origin back to 1833; the society then first formed was not long-lived, but since 1845, when its successor was established, the records have been kept almost continuously, and amongst the speakers have been many Rugbeians who have made a name for themselves in after life. As now constituted all members of the Upper School are eligible to the society, but they must be proposed and seconded by members, and are elected by ballot. The president is a master, the vice-president, secretary, and usher being selected from members of the school. The subjects of debate are principally such as arise in all debating societies, political questions of the day naturally affording the best field for argument, though it is as rare in the society as in more august assemblies that the eloquence of the speakers influences the

voting on such subjects. Visitors, whether members of the school or not, are admitted to the debates, and the gatherings are naturally largest when some topic of general school interest is down for discussion; that the debates do not often hang fire may be seen from the pages of the "Meteor," the school journal, where they are duly reported.

The Natural History Society dates from 1867, when it was formed under the presidency of Mr. F. E. Kitchener, an assistant master at the time. Its records have been regularly kept since that date, and have been issued annually in the form of a report. Any member of the school may join the society in one or other of the following ways: (1) by presenting to the honorary secretary a note, signed by his house master, giving leave for a terminal charge of three and sixpence to be made in the house bills; (2) by paying direct to the honorary secretary a "compounding fee" of fifteen shillings. The members proper are limited to fifteen, and are elected by the committee, but there are a number of honorary members and corresponding members, the latter chiefly consisting of ex-members of the society. Amongst these may be noticed the name of Mr. F. C. Selous, O.R., who was one of the early members of the society. The mass of those who join the society are called associates. Its popularity may be judged by the fact that in 1898 the number of members and associates reached 365, and the wide scope of its activities may be seen by a glance at any of the annual reports. These reports publish the essay which wins the society's annual prize, and

some of the most interesting of the various papers read at the fortnightly meetings. They also contain the reports of the various sections, of which there are no less than seven, a meteorological section which takes regular observations of barometer, thermometer, and rainfall, also entomological, botanical, zoological, architectural, geological and photographic sections. Most of these combine business with pleasure in the summer term by expeditions to places of interest in the neighbourhood.

The most precious possession of the Natural History Society is its museum. The prime origin of this appears to have been a heap of stones and fossils which the boys of the time brought back with them after the holidays, in response to a request from Dr. Arnold that they should bring specimens of the common stones and fossils of their respective neighbourhoods. These lay in an unsorted and diminishing heap until Mr. J. M. (now Archdeacon) Wilson set to work on them in 1859, when he joined the staff of masters. The specimens worth keeping were selected, and to them were added a collection of fossils of the local Lias which he made with the aid of pupils, and a small collection of British and foreign fossils presented by other masters. They were all placed in the Arnold Library; at first a single case sufficed, but the collection soon overflowed on to the adjoining bookshelves. When the Natural History Society was started in 1867 botanical and entomological collections were begun by the president and Mr. A. Sidgwick, and various boys formed collections of birds eggs and fresh-water

shells. When the new buildings were erected these were housed in a small room in them; but the geological specimens remained in their old quarters in the Arnold Library, and were presently joined by the others, when the opening of the Temple reading-room set free a large space in the Arnold Library. Here the collections, constantly increasing by gifts from all quarters, remained till 1894, when the temporary buildings at the corner of the Hillmorton Road were erected and the greater part of the Arnold Library became a school room for the lower bench of the Sixth. Want of light and proper cases had very seriously hampered the usefulness of the collections, but a special room in the new quarters has provided admirably for their accommodation and made it possible to arrange and display them as they deserve. The room is lighted from above and heated by water-pipes below, and the whole wall and floor space (forty-five feet by forty-five) is thus available for cases and shelves. The work of arrangement was no light one; some of it has been done by Mr. Collinge, of Mason College, Birmingham, some by the efforts of masters and boys, and the value of the collections has been much increased thereby in every way. To the scientist they present much that is of interest, while the casual observer will notice especially the cases of stuffed birds and animals, the collection of butterflies, the fossil remains of one of the large extinct New Zealand birds, and the mummy, whose history is unknown, but whose genuineness has been lately demonstrated by a photograph taken by means of the X rays, which

showèd the bones. The museum also contains a plaster model of the neighbourhood of Rugby extending four miles in all directions, a good library of natural history books, and a portrait of the late Mr. M. H. Bloxam, O.R., a devoted friend of the Natural History Society, which benefited much by his learning and his generosity.

The museum and library are open to members and associates from 2 p.m. to locking-up on week-days, and from 2 to 4 on Sundays.

Besides the museum the Natural History Society also boasts of a vivarium, which was established in the glass-houses which belonged to the market gardener who held the greater portion of what is now Caldecott's field. The collection is almost entirely confined to British and foreign birds, chief amongst which in a well-deserved popularity is a fine white cockatoo. Occasionally "strange serpents" find their way to the vivarium, for not long ago a tiny crocodile was presented by an Old Rugbeian; but though kept in the warmest of the glass-houses he only survived a month. The vivarium helps to support itself by the sale of flowers, for which the glass-houses provide ample room.

A third and far smaller society is called Eranos. It consists of twelve members only, who fill up their number by co-option from among the Sixth, who alone are eligible. It was instituted by the Rev. F. B. Westcott (now head master of Sherborne) some ten years ago, and meets regularly for reading and discussing papers, chiefly on literary subjects.

The Volunteer Corps.

Here, between the societies and the games, is perhaps the right place to notice the Volunteer Corps, the enrolled members of which form the F Company in the 2nd V. B. Royal Warwickshire Regiment. It was founded in 1860, at the time when the Volunteer movement was spreading over England through fear of French aggression, but it was not the first institution of the kind: the school had shared in the movement of the same nature in 1803, and had raised a contingent equipped in blue coats with scarlet cuffs and collars, and armed with heavy wooden broadswords. When the second volunteer corps was organized in 1860, officers as well as privates were all members of the school. Since 1868, however, the superior officers have been masters; at present there are a captain and two lieutenants from the masters, and three cadet officers from the school. Patriotism combined with the attractions of "marches out," "field days," and perhaps the smart red uniform, renders the rifle corps a very popular institution, so much so that there is at present a total strength of 260. A special feature of the arrangements is that the members from each house form a section or sub-section, which are thus complete permanent units. This arrangement puts a good deal of responsibility on the non-commissioned officers, which is increased by the fact that promotions from the ranks to lance-corporal are made on the recommendation of the house sergeant. The natural rivalry between these house-sections is stimu-

lated by three competitions, the successful squad gaining temporary possession of the challenge shields, which are placed in the house hall. These competitions are (*a*) in manual and firing exercise, motions of rifle on the march, and bayonet exercise; (*b*) in smartness of dressing; (*c*) in general efficiency, including

Photo. *E. H. Sfeight.*

SCHOOL RIFLE CORPS.

attendance at drill and a tactical exercise carried out by squads of twelve with a non-commissioned officer in command. The corps attends one or two large public school field-days during the year: these are held at Aldershot and mean a whole holiday for those who go; besides these a number of small field-days or "marches out" are organized during the year: the fighting is frequently followed by tactical instruction

to the cadet officers and non-commissioned officers, mistakes in the field being pointed out, while victors and vanquished alike find comfort in tea.

The rifle corps possesses a range of its own in the Avon valley, permanent use having been granted by the owner, Mr. Boughton Leigh. It is about one and a half miles from the school, with canvas targets working on the newest principles and telephonic communication between markers and firing points. From among the marksmen eight are selected to represent the school in the various shooting matches, and the competition for the Ashburton Shield at Bisley. This trophy has been won twice—in 1861, the first year it was competed for, at Wimbledon, and in 1894. The Spencer Cup has also twice fallen to Rugby (in 1889 and 1890), and the Cadet's Trophy and Veteran's Trophy once each. The Queen's Prize has twice been won by Old Rugbeians, viz., J. B. Carslake in 1868, and A. P. Humphry in 1871, while P. Richardson was equal in 1886. In 1892 the Allcomers Aggregate fell to G. A. Wilson. The interest in shooting is further stimulated by various challenge cups, which are in some cases supplemented by a money prize given by the Company. For one of these a competition is held every month at 500 yards range only. The others are all competed for at 200 and 500 yards, under Bisley regulations: they consist of the Denman and Humphry Cups, the Wimbledon Cup for the highest score at Bisley, a House Cup for teams of three from each house, the Town and School Cup, which is competed for between teams of ten from the

town and school corps, and the Wratislaw Cup for individual marksmen from school and town companies.

Fire Brigade.

The school also possesses a Fire Brigade, consisting of two officers from among the masters and two boys from each house. It was formed in 1892, its main object being to interest boys in fire brigade work, though no doubt their knowledge would prove exceedingly useful in case of a fire in any of the boarding-houses: hitherto they have fortunately had no opportunity of displaying their skill under any but imaginary circumstances, for they do not, of course, go out with the town fire brigade. They possess a hose-cart and fire-escape, but a modern fire-engine belonging to the town has superseded the old school engine of 1822, itself a successor of an engine bought in 1780, in accordance with statute, "for the use of the school, alms-houses, and town of Rugby." The 1822 engine still survives, with the directions how to spread the water by the application of the thumb when used for gardening purposes!

Football.

Of the games played at Rugby, the one chiefly associated with the name is football. Unlike cricket, which was developed under the guiding hand of a central club, so that the rules were everywhere the same, the game of football progressed along very

different lines at different schools. Of these school games many, owing to their special characteristics, were not suitable for general adoption; the game played at Rugby, however, attained through the Universities and clubs, whither its cult was transferred by Old Rugbeians and members of other schools, notably Marlborough, which had adopted the game, a popularity which increased so rapidly that it has spread over the British Isles. Its rules have for many years been laid down by a Union to which the various clubs send members, and the school has since 1888 laid aside the special features which, to some extent, lingered there, and adopted in all games the rules of the Rugby Union.

As to the origin of the game, much has been written; the similarity has been established between the modern Rugby game and a very ancient English popular game, which may perhaps claim its fount and origin in the "Harpastum" of the Roman settlers in Britain. But the modern game undoubtedly sprang from and was modelled on the game played at Rugby School. It was necessary then, if the chain was to be complete, to establish the connection between the primitive game and the game played at Rugby. Mr. Montague Shearman, author of the well-known "Badminton" volume, has endeavoured to do this, but, in our opinion, an interesting pamphlet on "The Origin of Rugby Football," published in 1897 by the Old Rugbeian Society (see p. 219), has disproved his conclusions. His thesis is that the primitive game, the main feature of which was the carrying of the ball, sur-

vived at Rugby alone of all the great schools, because it "alone seems to have owned, almost from its foundation, a wide open grass playground of ample dimensions." But, as the pamphlet has pointed out, this theory will not hold for two very good reasons: (i.) that for the first two centuries, nearly, of its existence, *i.e.*, till 1750, when the school moved to its present position (see p. 31), there was no proper playground at all, and, even then, the ground obtained remained divided up into fields of no great size till 1816; (ii.) that the carrying of the ball, the distinctive feature of the primitive and modern games, was not an original feature of the game played in the Rugby Close, but an innovation.

That this is so is amply proved by the statements of the late Mr. M. H. Bloxam, who entered the school in 1813, and the late Rev. T. Harris, who entered in 1819. It will readily be understood that in the early part of this century, when games had not attained, either at schools or elsewhere, the prominent position which they occupy at present in the national life, there was none of the elaborate codifying of rules which obtains nowadays; the laws which governed the football in the Close were laws of custom and tradition, strict enough on some points, such as offside play, but not attempting to provide a hard and fast system. It was not till 1846 that a code of written rules appears, "sanctioned by a Levee of Bigside on the 7th of September." These do not profess to contain the whole theory of the game, but assert that "they are to be regarded rather as a set of decisions

on certain disputed points in football, than as containing all the laws of the game, which are too well known to render any explanation necessary to Rugbeians." But the number of rules shows that, however well known the main laws might be, there were, as might be expected, a very large number of disputed points.

When the game, then, was in the plastic state which preceded the codification of its rules, it was quite natural that by degrees a change in its methods should have sprung up, which led inevitably, when once it had obtained a footing, to the complete alteration of its nature; this change was the practice of carrying and running with the ball. The evidence collected in the pamphlet of the Old Rugbeian Society goes to show that this change began between 1820 and 1830. The two oldest authorities are, as we mentioned before, agreed that running with the ball was not allowed in their time. The ball might be taken on the bound and drop-kicked, and there were much the same regulations as still exist for a fair catch, but the player might not run on with it. The introduction of this innovation is put down by Mr. Bloxam to a boy named Ellis, who in the second half-year of 1823, as he says, "for the first time disregarded this rule, and on catching the ball, instead of retiring backwards" (to take his kick), "rushed forwards with the ball in his hands towards the opposite goal, with what result as to the game," he continues, "I know not, neither do I know how this infringement of a well-known rule was followed up, or when it became, as it is, the standing rule."

There is no other evidence than Mr. Bloxam's for

attributing the first carrying of the ball to Ellis,[1] and his evidence is not first hand, for he was not an eye-witness; but whether it was so or not is not a question of great importance, for no one has suggested that his action was generally approved at the time, or that it led speedily to the alteration in the game; the evidence is all the other way: but it is obvious that when once the idea had been suggested, the temptation must have been very great to the fast runner who found himself in possession of the ball with an opening ahead; and so it gradually came about that running with the ball obtained, as the pamphlet says, between 1830 and 1840, "a customary status," which was "legalized first by Bigside Levee in 1841-42, and finally by the rules of 1846." Picking up, however, was for many years only legal when a ball was on the bounce; a rolling ball had to be played with the foot.

It would seem, then, that although the similarity is great between Rugby Football and the ancestral game which attracted the unfavourable notice of kings as far back as 1314, the former can lay no claim to direct descent from the latter: whether, if it had not been for this primitive game, it would have occurred to any boy to play football at all in the new Close or elsewhere, whether the players were influenced at all by having heard of or seen this primitive game, are different questions, but it is evident that Rugby Football proper is a product of the nineteenth century, and that its main features were developed in the Close.

[1] A tablet has been placed by the O. R. Society in the wall of the head master's garden to commemorate Ellis's exploit.

It would be beyond the scope of this little book to attempt to trace the manifold changes which have made the Rugby Football of to-day such a different game from that played by a previous generation, especially as, for nearly twenty years, the parent game at Rugby has relinquished its special features and fallen in with the legislation passed by the Union of the various clubs which are its offspring. It may, however, be interesting to note a few of the steps in the history of the game at Rugby.

Of the game as it was played fifty and sixty years ago there remain three descriptions in particular, to which, if he does not already know them, the reader may be referred. Best known of these is the description in "Tom Brown" of the great annual match of School-house *v.* School; then there is a capital description of a Sixth match (*i.e.*, Sixth *v.* School) by W. D. Arnold, which may be found incorporated in a chapter on football in "The Book of Rugby School" (1856), and quoted in Mr. Rouse's History (p. 266); finally, there is the φωτοβαλλομαχία, which first appeared in a school magazine, "The Rugbeian," in 1840, and has been reprinted for the benefit of a younger generation in the pamphlet on the "Origin of Rugby Football." It is a skit in Homeric Greek on the Sixth match of 1839 by Sir Franklin Lushington, the greater part of which is taken up with a list of the heroes who fought on that day, amongst whom we find Tom Hughes and Theodore Walrond, Bradley and Hodson and Matthew Arnold.

Imagination may easily make up from these de-

scriptions a picture of the old game: but the eye too may still get some idea of what it looked like, in the games played annually in the autumn term which have survived from former years. These have hitherto been three in number, the Sixth match at the beginning of the season, the Old Rugbeian match on November 1st, and "Cock Houses" (the two best House fifteens *v.* the School) at the end of the term. Not that these games are played under the old rules; the modern rules are adhered to as far as circumstances permit; the peculiarity of these games is that you may still see here, especially in the last-named, instead of the fifteen a side, sides of fifty and upwards confronting each other: for the number of players is not limited, and besides the players in the school Old Rugbeians join in the fray. In all other respects the game is different, but the crowded field, the enormous scrummage, the tramp of many feet all recall the football of past generations of Rugbeians, and in the Old Rugbeian match non-combatants of the school may still be seen guarding the goal line. The Sixth match has for many years been losing its interest, from the disparity in number of the sides (not as in old days in favour of the School, but of the Sixth), and its failing to attract Old Rugbeians; there has, therefore, seemed no objection to the scheme for making more of Founder's Day (Oct. 20), which comes early in the football season, by playing the O. R. match on that date, and in future this change will be made, the Sixth match surviving as an ordinary Bigside game.

The difference between these "survival" games

and the ordinary matches shows how great an effect the limitation of numbers has had. The earliest trace of this appears to be in 1839 or 1840, when, according to the late Mr. G. C. Benn, "a match was made of fifteen or twenty on each side chosen from those who were thought to be some of the best players." The custom grew, though the big games still continued, and in 1867 we find the first "foreign" match, twenty a side, between the school and a side got together by Mr. A. H. Harrison, of which all but two were Old Rugbeians. The school was defeated.

As Rugby football spread foreign matches became natural features of the school games, and we find that in 1870, three years after the first match of the kind, a regular School Twenty was chosen, with colours. It was an inevitable result of the introduction of foreign matches that the school game should conform to the changes of rule introduced from time to time by the Rugby Union founded in 1871; otherwise such matches would have been impossible, for Old Rugbeians who kept up the game naturally joined some Rugby football club where the Union rules were in force. We consequently find that in 1874 a Bigside Levee legalized the picking up of the ball when rolling in accordance with the Union rule (hitherto, in spite of many attempts to bring about the change, the old rule had stood that the ball might only be picked up when bouncing), and in 1876 the school matches were played fifteen a side. In the same year was abolished "hacking over," a feature of the game which had excited much unfavourable com-

ment, but which was really, according to all accounts, not nearly so bad as it sounded, being a dexterous trip rather than a deliberate kick. "Hacking on the ball" in the scrummage, which had been an inevitable feature in the game when the ball had to be driven through the dense mass of players on Bigside, survived as long

Photo. *E H. Speight.*

A SCRUMMAGE ON OLD BIGSIDE.

as the twenty game with its long tight scrummages flourished, but disappeared when the looser modern game came in with the change to fifteen a side. Finally, in 1881, the Union rules *en masse* were substituted for school rules in the fifteen game. But though these changes were necessary when the school met outside players, and were thus destined gradually to make their way into all games, some of the old

traditions did not die without a struggle in the contests which, after the middle of the century, began to engross the interest of the school, and still cause perhaps even more excitement than any other games ; we mean the house matches.

We have seen that the School House contains eighty boys, while the other houses have only fifty. In the days when there were no picked sides, but the weaker were put to guard the goal line, and when, moreover, the other houses were not so large or so numerous as they are now, the School House was a match for the rest of the school put together, and the match "School House *v.* School" was, as readers of "Tom Brown" know, one of the great events of the football season. But the supremacy was not to last ; in 1850 a single house, Cotton's (now Payne-Smith's) was, as its "Fasti" record, "cock house in football, beating school house, which, for the first time in its great history, played a single house in playing us." The Old Rugbeian Society's pamphlet, so often referred to, has printed in an appendix gleanings from the "Fasti" or annals of different houses, which show that from this date onwards (except in 1851, for which there is no record) there was some competition among the houses. For many years, however, there was no regular method of conducting it, superiority being decided by the best houses challenging each other : in 1853, for instance, the School House match book records that "notwithstanding that the Shairpites (Shairp's house, since extinct, had come to the front in 1851) were generally considered to be far the strongest house, it was thought

better by the School House not to drop the annual custom of playing them." The numbers engaged varied, and on this occasion the School House played with twenty-five against twenty-one of their opponents, while in the following year we find them "venturing to bring twenty-seven" against the same house, "though they were not thought to have degenerated since the previous year." Sometimes opinions differed as to the result of the games; in 1855 the School House claims to have had much the better of a drawn game with Shairp's, while Compton's (Payne-Smith's) "Fasti" attribute the victory to Shairp's, although they had but eighteen boys, all told, in the house, and claim the second place for themselves! It appears, too, that Old Rugbeians might join in the fray, for we hear of Tom Hughes "doing much service" for the School House in 1857. As time went on the conditions under which the competitions were held became definitely fixed, and in 1867 a regular system of playing off ties was instituted, but, as we have said, the old traditions of the game lingered in these matches: the fifteen game was not substituted in them for the twenty till 1888, and the methods of the twenty game survived in spite of the change till within quite recent years. Hence it comes that Rugby has been rather behind other schools which have adopted the game, in seizing the principles of the "modern scientific football," the dawn of which is said by a great authority in Mr. Marshall's book to have been marked by the reduction of the number of players from twenty to fifteen aside. One result of this was that of the annual

matches which the school has played with Cheltenham College for the last five years it lost the first four. It was not till 1899 that the tables were turned. An annual match with Uppingham also has now been arranged : the first match was won by Rugby.

House matches have a very important influence on the game at Rugby, not only because of the interest they arouse, but because the school games are organized on the house system. Not only are there house matches played in the autumn term between house fifteens, but second house fifteens have a competition in the spring term for a cup presented by Mr. A. S. Francis, O.R. Moreover, on days when the thirty best players in the school are playing on "Bigside" (sometimes there are two "Bigside" games), the houses play each other in "Belows" (*i.e.*, those "below" Bigside) and "Two-Belows": only the few for whom no place can be found in these games are sent off to take part in a mixed game, rejoicing in the emphatic name of "Remnants." On days when there are no inter-house games the various houses play "Littlesides," *i.e.* pick-up games amongst members of the house. The increase of ground of late years has enabled this system to be very thoroughly worked, and, now that "Remnants" has been established on a firm basis, every boy in the school who may play gets a game of football on a half-holiday. The same remark applies to cricket, which is organized on the same lines.

Football is compulsory for all below the Sixth who have not got a medical certificate of unfitness. The season lasts from the beginning of the autumn till

three quarters of the way through the spring term: in the latter term it has of late years largely taken the place of "running," but it is not pursued with the same zest as in autumn, as the only competition is between the second house fifteens; foreign matches continue till the end of the season, but the various "distinctions" which mark individual prowess are only given in the autumn term. These are: (i.) the Fifteen colours; viz., a red, white and blue ribbon on the straw hat, dark blue knickerbockers, and school crest on a white jersey. (ii.) "Caps" (about thirty-five of these are given nowadays, including the Fifteen). These are the oldest of the football distinctions, dating from about 1843, though the exact date seems uncertain; they are gorgeous affairs of velvet with gold or silver braid, which set the fashion of football caps for the Universities and other Rugby football clubs. They are awarded by the head of the Fifteen, but they vary in colour, each house having its own. In the old days players wore them on the field, and they must have added a pleasant touch of colour to the scene. In the modern game, where heads in the scrummage are unseen, the cap would have a hard time of it, and have become—as indeed they always must have been—quite useless bits of splendour. With the cap go certain privileges of crest and knickerbocker. (iii.) Flannels. The name has survived its appropriateness. It was given in times when the regulation garments were "ducks," and flannel trousers were reserved as a mark of distinction. "Flannels" are now distinguished by black stockings and a crest on the straw hat.

It has only been within the last fifteen years that common sense has prevailed in allowing all boys to wear garments most suitable for games, distinction being only preserved in the colour of the material. About the same time a wise legislation reduced to a reasonable degree the endless multiplicity of braid and ribbon which formerly marked distinction in games or degree of seniority. It should be mentioned that in games old members of the school teams resign their colours at the beginning of the season, except the senior member left, who becomes captain.

No account of the school games could omit all mention of Rugbeians who have distinguished themselves therein. This is no place for a full list, which would be a very long one, but a few names may be selected. "First and foremost of all half-backs, whether of this or any other period," writes Mr. A. G. Guillemard, himself a noted Old Rugbeian International player, "was C. S. Dakyns, who from 1861 to 1868 accomplished such marvellous achievements on Old Bigside at Rugby, and in the ranks of the Richmond Club, as could hardly be credited by those who never saw him at his prime." Full of resource and excellent in all departments of the game, his unerring drops with either foot from among a crowd of adversaries seem to have been the feature of his play which most impressed his contemporaries. Among other noted players in the early days of club football were A. Rutter, first President of the Union, and E. Rutter, "whose long left-foot drops" (to quote the same authority), "were as useful to his club (Rich-

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

OLD BIGSIDE AND SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

mond) for many seasons as was his left-hand bowling to the Middlesex County Eleven;" E. C. Holmes, "one of the most hard-working of men, and equally good in or behind the scrummage," who, with A. Rutter and L. J. Maton, drafted the first code of rules, and with M. Davies and G. Hamilton formed a trio whose combination was very effective on the field; C. S. Fryer, a very fast and tricky half-back; C. W. Sherrard of the R.M.A., and F. Stokes of Blackheath, "one of the very best examples of a heavy forward," who was captain of the English International team for the first three years of its existence. Of the first International Twenty in 1871, no less than ten were old Rugbeians, prominent amongst them being J. F. Green, "for several years one of the most brilliant of half-backs," F. Tobin, and D. P. Turner, a magnificent forward who played in five successive matches against Scotland. Seven of the next year's team came from Rugby, including F. W. Isherwood, "perhaps the best forward playing on this occasion;" and for some years the school continued to be well represented, amongst those selected being C. W. Crosse in 1874, "one of the very best of forwards that ever came from Rugby;" E. H. Nash, who was conspicuous in the match against Scotland in 1875; A. T. Michell, "an admirable half-back," captain of the Oxford team in 1874, and brother of W. G. Michell, who has shown for many years in the Close how well the game may be learned at Wellington and Cambridge; also G. F. Vernon, the well-known cricketer, in 1878, who played five times for England and was "certainly one of the

very best forwards of his time." Of late years Rugby has supplied but few International players: three members of the 1880 fifteen obtained that honour, but since then there have been only two, A. Mackinnon, who represented Scotland in 1898 and 1899, and A. O. Dowson, who played for England in 1899. We have only mentioned a few among International players, but doubtless there were many as good in earlier days whose fame never spread beyond the Close: such were "Jem Mackie" and the other heroes of 1839, celebrated in the φωτοβαλλομαχία, and after them players like A. G. Butler, M. T. Martin, J. S. E. Hood and C. Marshall, while all authorities unite in placing F. E. Speed, captain of the fifteen in 1877, amongst the best three-quarter backs ever seen at Rugby.

CRICKET.

Cricket at Rugby, at the present time, is organized on the same system as football: as in football there are "Foreign matches," Bigsides and Littlesides, House matches, Belows, Two and Three Belows, and Remnants. The competition, however, among the House Belows of various grades differs in that for the last five years it has been conducted under the League system—each house playing two matches against every other house. The object of this was to keep up the interest which "counting" games give, for a house defeated in Belows early in the term used to find itself condemned to a monotonous series of "bosh" Belows. The result of the new system has been successful, though the

strength of a House Belows varies much from time to time, according as its prominent players are engaged in Bigside or not, Belows being only played when there is a Bigside.

A special feature of cricket organization which has been introduced latterly is the "Young Guard." This consists of boys under sixteen who show promise: they have special "ends" (*i.e.*, practice nets) at the further end of Caldecott's, where they get coached by the master who manages this Young Guard, and a professional, whose appointment and payment have been due to the suggestion and generosity of the Old Rugbeian Society. Besides the "ends" the Young Guard have pick-up games on days when such games do not interfere with the "counting" games, and in these the umpire endeavours to impart some of the science of the game which can only be learned in a match. When a boy is over sixteen and has to leave the Young Guard, he is, if still promising, allowed to go on the "ends" reserved for those who have gained the "tie" (the first school distinction), where he practises with the better cricketers of his age and gets occasional coaching from masters, until he gets his Twenty-Two colours, when he has the freedom of the Twenty-Two ends: here there are two if not three professionals ready to bowl at him, as well as masters. The attempt to provide stepping-stones for the young cricketer has combined with other things to raise the standard of cricket in the school at large. Chief among other factors in this we should place the general improvement of the grounds, and the practice

of playing all house matches on the best ground, New Bigside, where the young cricketer who plays correctly has much more chance of making runs than on a bad wicket, and the bowler can get his field into the positions which he wants. All cricket distinctions, the Tie, Twenty-Two, and Eleven, are given by the head of the Eleven. The Eleven colours are light blue cap and shirt and white flannels. All others nowadays wear gray flannels.

Cricket has certainly flourished at Rugby for more than a century; of its early days little is known, but, as Mr. Rouse has pointed out, "Nimrod" (C. Apperley, entered 1789) speaks of it as being in high repute in his time. "All along the ground" was not yet the cricketer's ideal in those days, for Nimrod boasts that he had never seen balls "sent further or higher from the bat" than when hit by the heroes of his time. Since 1831 scores have been preserved, and these, from 1831 to 1893, have been published by the Old Rugbeian Society, beginning with a defeat at the hands of the Arden Club in May, 1831, a defeat which was avenged in July of the same year. "Foreign matches" then had already begun at that time, and are to be found in the scores along with the principal school games, Sixth *v.* School and School House *v.* School, as in football, North *v.* South (of chapel), and so on. Lists of the Eleven, painted in the cricket pavilions, date from 1834; in 1840 we find the school playing the M.C.C. at Lord's, and in the next year, after the Wellesbourne match, took place the M.C.C. match which forms the basis of the well-known description in "Tom Brown."

Of the famous cricketers whose names appear in this book we may mention a few. In 1843 we find the first recorded "century" opposite the name of C. O. Pell ("Pell" in the scores, for initials were omitted except in cases where two of the same name might be mistaken): he made 113 out of 185 against the Wellesbourne Club at Wellesbourne, and followed it up with 92 against the Town Club. He gained fame afterwards, not only as a cricketer, but as a marksman at Wimbledon. Five years later we find the first mention of the well-known name of C. G. Wynch, one of the best leg hitters ever seen in the cricket field; we may mention here that the first 100 on "Bigside" was scored in 1849 by H. A. Pickard, who in later life served with great distinction in India. Contemporary with these, though strangely enough his name does not appear in the scores, was David Buchanan, a thorn in the side of batsmen on the most famous cricket fields as well as on the Close and the Rugby Town Club ground, for many more years than fall to the lot of most famous bowlers. In 1854 first appears the name of E. G. Sandford, three years captain of the School Eleven, and a well-known figure in Oxford and Gentlemen of England elevens; and overlapping him at school was E. M. Kenney, a famous fast right-hand bowler. At this time, too, we notice the name of B. B. Cooper, captain of the Eleven in 1862, who used to go in first with W. G. Grace for the Gentlemen, and made a stand of 283 with him for the first wicket on one occasion, which was unsurpassed for many years; also C. Booth, and E. Rutter, the

Middlesex slow bowler. Contemporary with these was T. Case, who in his brilliant career at Oxford showed as much excellence in cricket as in other things. Coming to 1866 and 1867 we find the Eleven captained by B. Pauncefote, perhaps the best all-round cricketer who ever learnt the game on the Close; included in its ranks were W. Yardley, the brilliant bat who scored for Cambridge the first hundred ever made in the 'Varsity match, and still holds the record as the only player who has performed that feat twice, and C. K. Francis, a fast right-hand bowler, probably the best ever produced by the school, who at Lord's in 1869 took seven Marlborough wickets in the first innings and all ten in the second. Passing over in the Seventies such sterling cricketers as H. W. Gardner, W. O. Moberley, and G. F. Vernon, we come to C. F. H. Leslie, captain in 1879 and 1880, the last Rugbeian to gain a place in an All England Eleven. Since his time there have been no such notable players, though the Close has seldom seen a more successful schoolboy bat than E. H. F. Bradby, captain in 1885, who in that season scored four centuries in eleven innings, and had an average of 69. There are few Rugbeians at present playing in first-class cricket, but P. F. Warner, captain in 1892, is becoming one of the mainstays of the Middlesex eleven, while R. W. Nicholls helped last year when playing for that side to make the record stand for the last wicket.

Such are some of the names best known in the Close during the last half century. It would be interesting to trace the changes in the game from the

old days of underhand bowling and top hats, through what was in 1855 "the still developing era of swift round bowling, with all its manifold paraphernalia of newspaper reports, pads, pavilions, and professionals" (John Lillywhite in 1850 was the first professional); but space forbids, and we can only call attention to one or two points of interest. Peculiar to Rugby, we believe, is the term, perhaps the institution, "Pie Match." A Pie Match is a match after which the winning side celebrate their victory by a "stodge," to use the modern slang word, and as far back as 1850 we find a school Pie Match being contested on Bigside. The losing side used to contribute double the amount of the winning to the feast, in which only two of the losers shared, the two who had made most runs and taken most wickets. School Pie Matches have long since dropped out, but house Pie Matches still flourish, though the feast nowadays is generally provided by the house master.

The great match of the year is the Marlborough match, which is played at Lord's on the first two days of the summer holidays. It was first played in 1855 at Lord's, and has been an annual match ever since, excepting in the years 1858, 1859, and 1861, while in the years 1888 and 1891 rain prevented any play. Since 1871 the match has always been at Lord's; in the preceding years it had been occasionally played at the Oval, and once each on the respective school grounds. Rugby got a long start in victories to begin with, and of the forty matches that have been played (up to 1899) she has won twenty-two; thirteen have

Photo. *G. A. Dean.*

OLD BIGSIDE.

been won by Marlborough, and five only have been drawn. It is curious to note in how few cases there has not been a large margin of wickets or runs for the winning side.

It may be interesting to note that, besides by Marlborough in 1868, the Close has three times been visited by elevens from other schools. In 1858 a Harrow eleven, not the proper school eleven, for it contained two Old Harrovians, played a two days' match and was badly beaten, while in 1887 and 1897 the school celebrated the Jubilees by defeating in single day matches elevens from Clifton and Uppingham respectively, the result in each case being somewhat contrary to expectation. It is not likely, however, that a second school cricket match will be adopted, the present arrangement having very great advantages.

Running.

Another time-honoured pastime of Rugby boys is cross-country running. It seems to have dated from the end of last century at any rate, and at the beginning of this it was the custom to have a run after the prizes had been awarded, when the winners of the prizes supplied ale at the end of the run at some public house in the neighbourhood; as readers of "Tom Brown" will remember it was in full swing in the Thirties, and since 1837 records of the runs have been kept by the head of the running, who is called Holder of "Bigside Bags," it being his duty to keep the bags

in which the "hares" carry the "scent." At that time the runs were paper-chases in the true sense of the word; although the general direction was known and the "come-in" or end of the run was at a fixed place, the course varied according to the pleasure of the hares, and the tracking of their course formed a great feature of the sport. The "come in" in those days was generally at some public house, where ale was provided for those who succeeded in reaching the goal within a certain time. It would seem that gradually the course of the runs became more and more fixed (the first "times" recorded are in 1844), and in 1858 L. N. Prance, who then held the Bigside bags, wrote a description of the fixed course of Bigside runs. These descriptions were revised and printed by R. S. Benson in 1877, and since then there have been two more editions, in 1883 and 1893, which contain not only descriptions of the runs but records of runners. Noticeable among the earliest recorded winners of runs are A. H. Clough and W. S. Hodson, while in 1849 and 1850 occurs repeatedly the name of T. W. Jex-Blake who held Bigside bags in those years.

There are thirteen runs described in this book, all of which, except one, the Hillmorton, introduced in 1882, are old ones dating from the Thirties: they vary in distance from the Bilton, which is just under five miles, to the Crick, the most famous of them all, which is about twelve and a quarter miles. For many years the Crick used always to be run on the first Thursday in December, but of late years it takes place, like most other Bigside runs, in the spring

term. The "record" for it is held by E. B. Kellett, who in 1889 ran it in the splendid time of 1 hour, 15 minutes, 15 seconds. The first half of the course lies mostly over fields, the last six miles are along the road from Crick to Rugby, where the very few who under present regulations may compete are cheered on their way by swarms of bicyclists. In 1881 a cup was given by former winners of the Crick, to be called the Running Cup: for some years this was competed for by house running eights, the cup going to the house whose representatives scored most points in Bigside runs. The competition for the cup was keen, but it began to be recognized that, except for individual boys, long distance running is apt to prove too much of a strain, and in 1892 the system of inter-house competitions was abolished. At the same time very strict regulations were laid down with regard to running in general. The Running Cup for a few years went to the winner of the Crick; it now goes to an individual runner, but one or two other runs besides the Crick may count in. The interest in running is still kept up by a School Running Eight, who have two or three matches in the spring term against outside running clubs. The members of the Running Eight wear a distinctive dark and light blue ribbon on the straw hat.

By the rules which have been in force since 1893, no boy under sixteen is allowed to run any Bigside runs, and leave from home is also necessary; for the Crick the limit of age has been put at seventeen, and leave has to be obtained from home and from house master.

The organization of house runs was also altered at the same time. The various houses, as well as Bigside, have their traditional runs, but the method under which they were conducted was different: starting from some point close to the school all those who ran (and running was compulsory for all fags and junior boys) kept together till a point was reached where the "come-in," generally some half-mile or more long, began; then those who liked raced on, the rest going as they pleased. At the end of the "come-in" stood the "coat fags," who had carried the coats of the runners from the starting point to the "come-in." This system, as being apt both to come hard on the bad runners, and to encourage the good runners to race, as well as providing a very poor afternoon's employment for the coat fags, was altered in 1893. Since then all house runs have started from and finished at the house; no times may be taken, and instead of all going together they are run in two divisions, senior and junior, each under charge of two responsible persons. For those who cannot manage even the junior house runs there are special very short runs in which the "remnants" from the different houses combine.

House runs form the regular exercise throughout the winter on days when it is too wet for football. Formerly they were the mainstay of the spring term, but of late years increase of ground has enabled football to be played in the spring term by all the school. The football season generally stops soon after the first week in March; after this boys begin practising for the Athletics, which take place at the end of March. The

earliest recorded athletics were held in 1853, but the institution apparently dates from before that time. The School House seems to have started the idea, which is the reason why the head of the School House is an *ex officio* steward. The Athetics were very comprehensive at first, including not only running and jumping but hand-fives, place-kicking and dropping, swimming and diving. The competitions in these still take place, but are not associated with the athletics. The events now included in these comprise flat races of a mile, half-mile, quarter-mile, 150 and 100 yards; 100 yards hurdle races, high jump, broad jump, throwing the cricket ball, putting the weight, and an inter-house tug of war. For most of these events there are junior as well as open competitions. The prizes are almost all provided by school subscriptions, three weekly allowances being stopped for the purpose, but the head master gives the prize for the mile. The rule that no other prizes should be given was only broken in favour of the late Mr. M. H. Bloxam, who for many years gave prizes for two flat races of 300 yards for junior boys; these races are still called after his name. Some of the events, however, have challenge cups attached to them which go to the winner for the year, and there are two Athletic Cups for the two who win most points in the events. Finally, there is the Wrigley Cup, instituted in 1891 in memory of H. C. Wrigley, a member of the Sixth Form and Army Class, who died in the Easter holidays of 1890. It goes to the house which gains most points in the sports, and greatly increases the in-

terest in the competitions, for points can be scored in all events, and in the open events go down to the fourth in the order of winners. Not unfrequently the issue depends on the tug of war, and the interest is sustained right to the end. The Athletics, which take place on

Photo. *E. H. Speight.*

A STEEPLECHASE.

two days, are managed by five stewards. The heads of the School, School House, the Eleven and the Fifteen, are stewards *ex officio*. Bigside levee elects the one or more stewards necessary to complete the number. Of performances recorded at the Athletics the most notable are C. W. L. Bulpett's mile in 4 minutes, 39¼ seconds (1871), E. L. Curry's 105 feet, 2 inches, for

throwing the cricket ball in the same year, F. W. Capron's high jump of 5 feet, 5 inches, in 1879, and C. A. S. Leggatt's broad jump of 20 feet, 2 inches, also in 1879. M. J. Brooks, the famous Oxford high jumper, did not do anything phenomenal at school. There are plenty of ten seconds "dead" recorded for the 100 yards, but times in such races cannot, at any rate before the perfection of stop-watches, be relied upon.

Other athletic events of the spring term are the School and House Steeplechases. The courses for these, of varying length and difficulty, according to the age of the competitors, but never exceeding about a mile, are set with flags through the fields by the Clifton brook; they cross and recross the brook, and finish up not far from the Clifton road and Butler's Leap, the leap from the road over the low railing and the brook below, just before it passes under the bridge, made famous by A. G. Butler. Organized house brook-jumping, "paper chasing" as it was called, has died out, but brook-jumping is still a popular pursuit on fine spring days.

Fives and Racquets.

Two other games largely played at Rugby deserve mention, Fives and Racquets. The former is the older game: when it first came into existence we do not know, but given a wall, a paved ground and a boy, one may be fairly safe in conjecturing that some sort of fives will be played. The buildings

completed in 1816 afforded, unintentionally no doubt, special facilities for the game, for a narrow stone coping runs all round them about three feet from the ground, where the wall becomes slightly thinner; it thus forms a natural line over which the ball must be hit. There were two specially suitable places known in the Thirties, at any rate, as the Great and Little Fives Courts. The Little Fives Court was under the old Sixth School, the library as it was then, just inside the school gates: the door in the east wall is modern, and the place was well adapted for hand fives, which was played there; it was used by the School House long after it had ceased to be a recognized fives court, but the door has spoilt it. On the Great Fives Court bat fives only was played: the front wall was formed by the windowless west wall of the block of schools which faces the Close; the floor was paved, and when a form room was built against the vestry of the old chapel, there was a back wall; when the new chapel was built the space was no longer free. A third fives court was built in 1848 in what is now the New Quadrangle, on the site of some old cottages which were bought up and pulled down: this of course disappeared when the new buildings were erected. All the fives courts nowadays are at the south end of the Close, and were built for the purpose (see p. 139): bat fives is still a popular game, though there is only one court, the flooring of which is not what it might be, while, besides the plain wall Rugby hand fives courts, there are four Eton fives courts, which are not however so well frequented. These courts are most

sought after in the spring term, when school competitions are carried on as well as house competitions (generally handicaps) of all kinds. There are, however, no matches with outside players, and consequently there is no regular school pair at fives. Racquets was introduced with the building of the old court in 1859. Since 1884 there have been two courts. A professional racquet player is employed at the courts, who, besides playing, sells the requisite materials for fives and racquets and looks after the courts. From 1868 to 1894 the well-known champion player, J. Gray, was professional, and since then his son has carried on the work. The school has from the first competed for the Public Schools Challenge Cup, but has only been successful twice, in 1870, when H. W. Gardner and T. S. Pearson carried it off, and again in 1896, when it was won after a most exciting struggle by W. E. Wilson-Johnston and G. T. Hawes. There have, however, been many good players, notable amongst them, besides the pair of 1870, being J. W. Weston, R. O. Milne, S. K. Gwyer, and C. F. H. Leslie, while successive Bowden-Smiths have identified their name with the game.

The best players in the school form what is known as the Racquet Club: these have the privilege of booking courts at a fixed time for the whole term, care being taken that they do not monopolize the courts, and of changing in the dressing-room at the courts. The six best players in the club are selected by competition in the autumn term, and these six compete with each other in the spring term after reasonable

time allowed for practice; those who come out first and second are chosen as the pair to represent the school. By this method the pair can be fixed upon early enough in the spring term to allow of their practising together, in ordinary games and in matches with outside players, for nearly a couple of months before the competition, even if, which is not often the case, they have not played much together before. The expenses of racquet playing being heavy, those who represent the school are subsidized, but only to a reasonable degree, by the Old Rugbeian Society. The racquet pair have two distinctions in dress, a jersey trimmed with light blue for playing in, and a special badge instead of the school crest on the ordinary school blazer. Besides the regular school racquet competitions in the spring term for singles and doubles, there is a challenge cup competed for by pairs from the different houses in the summer term. The head master, too, gives a racquet to be played for by boys under sixteen.

GYMNASIUM.

To the few who may not play active games, and to many others, exercise and employment is afforded by the gymnasium and workshops. They are open regularly during play hours, while for the gymnasium the various boarding-houses have a special hour in the evening once a week. A subscription of 10*s.* a term is charged for the gymnasium, 7*s.* a term for the workshops. Boxing and fencing are taught without

extra charge at the gymnasium at certain stated times, and private lessons may also be had. Distinctions, worn only inside the gymnasium, are given to the best gymnasts, the best pair of whom are chosen to represent the school in the inter-school competition at Aldershot. A gymnastic eight is also now selected to compete with Harrow. The workshops afford facilities for turning and all kinds of carpentry.

Old Rugbeian Society.

Frequent mention has been made in these pages of the Old Rugbeian Society. It was founded on December 19, 1889, its object and purpose being "to assist and promote the games of Rugby School, and so form a bond of union between past and present Rugbeians." The minimum donation, which is of the nature of an entrance fee, is a sovereign; no further subscriptions are required, though they are gladly received. The society has cricket colours. Its founder and first hon. sec. was S. P. B. Bucknill; he was succeeded in 1893 by Morris Davies, whose presence in Rugby is a great factor in the successful working of the society, which is thus constantly kept in touch with the needs which from time to time are most pressing at the school. The membership of the society has risen steadily since its formation, and it now numbers 853, and has a balance in the last statement of accounts of £286 10*s.* 11*d.* The society lends a helping hand to all sorts of things connected with games, *e.g.*, payment of cricket professionals, subsidiz-

ing of racquet players, levelling of ground, cementing of racquet courts, and so on : a list of principal votes for the last ten years (nearly) amounts to £808 : its great object is to act as fairy godmother without taking upon itself expenses which should reasonably fall on the school subscriptions, and in this it has succeeded admirably. The society sends a copy of the "Meteor" (the school paper) and the "School Calendar" to all subscribers of a pound and upwards, and has published two works, frequently referred to in these pages, a volume of Rugby School Cricket Scores, from 1831 to 1893, with several interesting appendices (price 10*s.* 6*d.*), and a shilling pamphlet on "The Origin of Rugby Football." It has been proposed that the society should extend its scope so as to include other things than games, while keeping them as its primary object, but hitherto the objection has prevailed that such a step might lead the society into a sphere of action for which its present constitution would render it ill adapted. It is, however, very much to be hoped that the society will some day see its way to some slight alteration of its rules such as would enable it to support such work as the publication of the School Register ; this most interesting work has hitherto been dependent on the energy and enterprise of individuals.

Before leaving the subject of games it should be mentioned that questions as to the management and organization of games are discussed, when they arise, before the Games Committee, which consists of masters and boys, the latter predominating : its de-

cisions are of course always subject to the approval of the head master, while any radical change has to be submitted to a Bigside levee before being submitted to the head master.

PERIODICALS.

It will not be out of place here to say a few words about the periodicals which have from time to time been published by members of the school. The earliest of these seems to have been the "Rugby Magazine," which flourished during the years 1835-1836. There is an interesting letter (No. 92) in Stanley's "Life of Dr. Arnold," in which, writing to a pupil (H. Highton, afterwards a master at Rugby, Principal of Cheltenham, and a distinguished scientist), he welcomes the idea, at the same time laying down the conditions which alone could ensure its being of value to the school—the inexorable rejection of trash, "or worse still, anything like local or personal scandal or gossip," and the absence of politics; "I do not wish," he says, "to encourage the false notion of my making or trying to make the school political." In a subsequent letter (No. 116) he speaks of the second number: "It is written wholly either by boys actually at the school, or by undergraduates within their first year. I delight in the spirit of it, and think there is much ability in many of the articles. I think also that it is likely to do good to the school." The Magazine contained no chronicle of school events; its contents are purely literary, but some of the lighter contributions give glimpses of the school life of the time. Amongst

the contributors to it was A. H. Clough. Following the Magazine, in 1840, came a single number, which must be exceedingly rare now, of the "Rugbeian." It contained the φωτοβαλλομαχία (see p. 190).

The same traditions were kept up in the "Rugby Miscellany" (1845), "Rugbeian" (1850-1852), "New Rugbeian" (1858-1861), and the "New Rugby Magazine" (1864-1865).

In 1867 was started the "Meteor," which has flourished ever since. Its stability is due to the fact that it has no other aims than to chronicle school events: "small beer" they may be to the outside public, but to past and present Rugbeians they are of great interest, and the "Meteor" has become a school institution; once only we believe did it launch out into literary effort, but its voyage was a very short one. It has of late clothed itself in a pictorial cover, designed by Mr. T. Lindsay. The head of the school is an editor *ex officio;* the other editors are co-opted: formerly the editors shared the profits, but of late years, since the "Meteor" has been supplied to every boy, being chargeable in the bills, they receive a fixed sum, the surplus going to the school funds.

Literary propensities have, however, produced other papers at intervals. There was the "T. V. W." (Two Venturesome Wilsonites) in 1877-1878, best known from delightful descriptions of the school in the manner of Herodotus, from the pen of Mr. A. Sidgwick; then came the "Leaflet" (1883-1886), where illustrations first make an appearance, and the "Sibyl," which had a comparatively long life (1890-1895). Finally, in

1898, comes the "Laurentian," destined, we hope, to survive for many seasons.

Missions.

We must not conclude without a word about the two missions which the school and Old Rugbeians support. The oldest of these is the Fox Mission. It was founded in memory of Henry Watson Fox (entered 1831), who went out as a missionary in Southern India, and died young in 1848. The funds go to maintain a mastership in the Noble College at Masulipatam, a large native school. A sermon on behalf of this fund is preached annually in the school chapel on November 1st, All Saints' Day. The other mission, called the Home Mission, was started in 1889: it was feared at the time that the Fox Mission Fund might suffer by the new move, and a minimum of £300 was consequently guaranteed to it, the deficit to be a first charge on the Home Mission: hitherto no call has been necessary, and the two have flourished side by side, though it is only natural, perhaps, that more interest should be felt in the Home Mission, which consists in the maintenance of two boys' clubs, the largest at 223, Walmer Road, Notting Hill, W., the other at Mission Room, Theodore Street, Birmingham.

The Notting Hill "Rugby Club" has developed from a small organization of the kind started by Mr. A. F. Walrond, O.R. It is situated in one of the poorest and roughest parts of London, and it still succeeds, in spite of the gradual introduction and steady maintenance of discipline, in attracting the poorest and

roughest class of boys. The present manager, Rev. F. Meyrick-Jones, is an old Malburian, but he is assisted in the work by several old Rugbeians, who, living in London, devote some of their evenings to regular work at the club. The annual report will give the reader a good idea of the organization of the club. Two special annual events may be mentioned as being the chief ways in which Rugby boys may come into contact with the club: (i.) the visit to the school in the spring on the day of the annual general meeting, when members of the club come down, headed by a capital drum and fife band loudly playing the "Floreat," the school song, play games in the Close, and are feasted in the boarding-houses; (ii.) the camp in August, when a number of them are taken down for a week's outing, generally by the sea, and old and present Rugbeians are welcomed by the regular staff to take part in the various labours and amusements which camp life affords. In such ways the Home Mission endeavours to win the interest and sympathy of the school in a branch of social work which must appeal to all sorts and conditions of men.

School Song.

Finally, we must add a few words about the school song. The earliest composition of the kind was an English imitation of the Winchester "Domum," the Latin chorus of which was retained. It flourished at the beginning of the century and is quoted by Bloxam in one of his contributions to the "Meteor," reprinted in "Rugby" (p. 89); it is evidently a youthful com-

position, and is chiefly remarkable for a curious emendation in the first stanza. It ran originally:

> "Let us now, my jovial fellows,
> Shout aloud with youthful glee,
> Sing, old Rose, and burn the bellows,
> Sing sweet home and liberty."

According to Bloxam the third line referred to one "George Rose, Esq., sometime M.P. for Christchurch, who was equally celebrated for his vocal abilities and his wanton destruction of furniture when in a state of excitement. Such appears in a note to an edition of the 'Ingoldsby Legends,' published in 1863." The reference being forgotten, the line became unintelligible, and was altered to "Sing sweet home and burn libellos." The music, not apparently the well-known tune of the Winchester "Domum," used to be played as a voluntary on the organ in the parish church, and later on in the chapel, on the last Sunday of the half year. The Rugby "Domum" fell into disuse in Dr. Arnold's time, and its place was not filled till in 1870 the Rev. C. E. Moberly, a master at the school, wrote the words and music of the "Floreat," which has endeared itself to all Rugbeians since. It runs as follows:

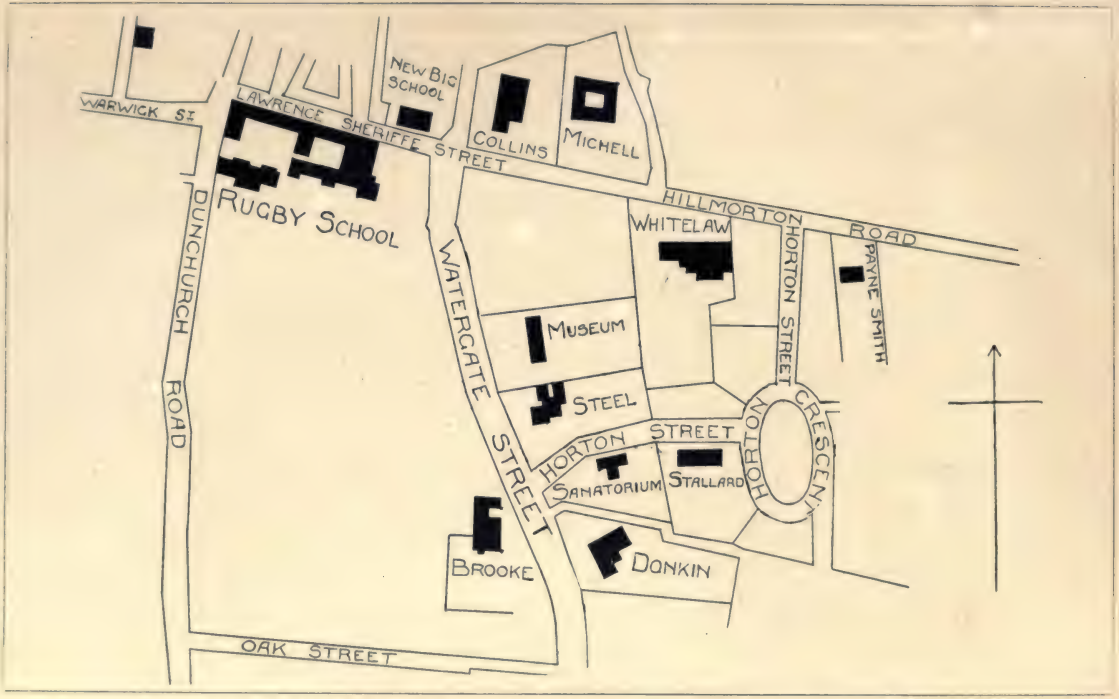
> "Evœ læta requies
> Advenit laborum,
> Fessa vult induties
> Dura gens librorum,
> Nunc comparatur sarcina,
> Nunc præsto sunt viatica,
> Nos læta schola miserit
> Nos læta domus ceperit
> Æquales, sodales, citate, clamate
> Floreat, floreat, floreat Rugbeia.

Chorus. Floreat, floreat, floreat Rugbeia,
Floreat, floreat, floreat Rugbeia !

"Campi nostri gramina
Trita jam quiescent,
Dein bimestri spatio
Læta revirescent,
Sic se tandem refectura
Nostræ mentis est tritura,
Et rigor omnis diffluet
Et vigor ortus affluet
Ut choro sonoro, citemus clamemus
Floreat, floreat, floreat Rugbeia.
Chorus.

"Illa vivat operum
Strenua navatrix,
Et virtutum omnium
Unica creatrix.
Illa regno cives bonos
Et bonorum det patronos,
Det claros senatores
Laureatos bellatores,
Et donis coronis, laudata beata,
Floreat, floreat, floreat Rugbeia.
Chorus.

"At si fatum omnes nos
Tanta vult conari,
Hæcce saltem tempora
Fas sit otiari ;
Nondum cancellarii
Sumus aut episcopi,
Sic fratres gaudeamus
In loco desipiamus,
Et choro sonoro citemus clamemus
Floreat, floreat, floreat Rugbeia."
Chorus.



SKETCH-MAP OF THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND BOARDING HOUSES.

INDEX

CHISWICK PRESS : CHARLES WHITTINGHAM AND CO.
TOOKS COURT, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON.