

**THE
JOHN RUSKIN
SCHOOL
MAGAZINE.**

FEBRUARY. 1923.

E. GREEN.

FORM A.

The John Ruskin School Magazine

VOL. I.

FEBRUARY, 1923.

No. 1.

Head Master's Notes.

The school has now entered upon the third year of its life, and with the fixing of the accommodation at 400 and the admission of 100 new boys to complete this number, it has at last reached a state of comparative stability.

With this issue of the School Magazine in a new and improved form it may be useful to take stock of what has been accomplished in three years.

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES.—As in many schools four years is considered to be the normal time required for boys to prepare for the Senior Oxford and Cambridge Local examinations we may congratulate ourselves on the fact that in three years we have been able to achieve the following results:—

- Hardy, Arthur C., *Sen. Camb. Local* (from St. Saviour's).
James, Frederick, *Sen. Camb. Local* (from Winterbourne Road).
Doran, Alfred, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Winterbourne Road).
Wood, Arthur, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Woodside).
Thomason, Sidney, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Parish Church).
Barrett, Francis, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Winterbourne Road).
Durrant, Reginald, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Woodside).
Jurman, Geoffrey, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Winterbourne Road).
Fryer, Sidney, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Winterbourne Road).
Bedward, Frederick, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Whitehorse Road).
Hills, Frederick, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Woodland Road).
Amato, Frank, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Winterbourne Road).
Kelley, Ronald, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from All Saints).
Kellas, Norman, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from St. Andrew's).
Thirsk, Alfred, *Sen. Oxf. Local*.

Goodman, Alexander, *Sen. Oxf. Local* (from St. Andrew's).

Duke, Kenneth, *2nd Class Hons., Sen. Oxf. Local* (from Ingram Road).

Newman, Ralph, *Lond. Matric., Sen. Vict. School* (from Sydenham Road).

Simpson, Donald, *Coll. Precept. for admission as Pharmaceutical apprentice* (from Brit. School).

In addition 15 boys have passed the examination for admission to the Royal Air Force.

EXAMINATIONS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTS.—At the examinations for the Certificates of the Royal Society of Arts in Arithmetic, Economic Geography, English, French, and Typewriting, 195 certificates were gained. This places the school third in England among Day Schools, whose pupils sit for these examinations. The two schools who obtained more certificates were the Municipal Technical College at Halifax, and the "Wakefield" Central School at East Ham.

Both of these schools have been established much longer than the John Ruskin School, and so they have a right to expect precedence; but we shall take care that they do not retain it long.

I strongly advise parents to let their boys enter for as many as possible of these examinations. The papers set are thoroughly educational in character. Any boy who has worked steadily through our course can take the exams. in his stride without special coaching or preparation.

It is an immense advantage for me in writing a testimonial for a boy to be able to state that he has gained such certificates.

DRESS, SPEECH AND BEARING OF BOYS.—Each boy should understand that on his admission to this school he is entering upon a new phase of school life.

He will find it assumed that he comes here with a definite object in view, i.e., to endeavour to make such use of an extended course of education as will enable him to take a better position in life than he would be able to do if he left the elementary school at the age of 14.

This better position, however, is not attained merely by a knowledge of Algebra, French, Geometry and Physics. Such knowledge must go hand in hand with an improvement in dress, bearing and refinement of manners. Unless the regime and discipline of the school results in such improvement its success is only half-complete. Much as I value the examination results which we have obtained, and which we are going to obtain to a still greater degree in the future, it is of far more importance to me that boys should leave this school able to speak their own language in a refined manner, with clean-cut pronunciation, and with an accent free from the cockneyisms which are so prevalent in the neighbourhood. In our efforts in this respect we need all the support which parents can give us.

During the last six months, about thirty boys have left us. All of these have obtained good situations, and I am quite sure that the attention which we have paid to the above-mentioned

matters has contributed largely to the successful placing of these boys.

* * * *

It was with great regret that we saw the departure of Mr. Palmer and Mr. Mayhew last term. Both of them can claim a large share in promoting the success of the school. Neither of them regarded their efforts for the welfare of the boys as limited to the ordinary "school hours," and I am very grateful to both of them for the standard which they have set in work and discipline.

We have four new members of the staff—two to take their places, and two in consequence of the enlargement of the school. They are:
Mr. H. Y. Light, Diplôme en Français (University of London).

Mr. W. Reynolds, Inter. B.Sc. (London).

Mr. A. J. Oakeley, B.A., Hons. English (London).

Mr. —. Furnston, Advanced Society of Arts
Certificates in Russian, French and German.

The Ramblers' Club.

GRANGE WOODS.

By B. STACEY.

Undoubtedly one of the most beautiful places in this district in which to enjoy a day's ramble, is Grange Woods. As most "Heatherns" are aware, this park (or wood as it is so-named) occupies a prominent position on the slope of Grange Road, Thornton Heath.

The main entrance, which can be fittingly described as imposing, has a wide, paved pathway leading from it, bounded on each side by a close-cropped lawn, the monotony of which is broken by plots of various shapes and sizes, containing brilliantly coloured flowers.

A by no means uninteresting feature in this park is the quaint, muddy little pool covered with pure white water lilies, which surge slowly to and fro with every little ripple. During certain seasons this pond literally swarms with tadpoles and occasionally a gold-fish can be seen darting hither and thither through its dirty waters. A narrow, and (until recently) rickety bridge, which spans the pond, adds further splendour to a picturesque scene.

The park also contains a museum which, although sparsely built, contains many objects interesting to historians and geologists; one of the most popular of which is the enormous collection of ancient coins which were found in Croydon.

The band, which in the summer plays popular melodies in the ivy-covered bandstand, attracts many eager listeners, and the grassy hillside is frequently thronged with people.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the park are the beautiful woods to be found extending over large areas of what is comparatively a small park. No more beautiful scene can be pictured than that of a winding path overhung by practically leafless boughs with auburn and golden withered leaves strewn over the surrounding ground, and the pretty birds whistling high up in the near-by tree-tops. No wonder that Grange Woods are a favourite resort for naturalists.

CAMPING OUT.

CAMPING out is a novelty which nearly all boys enjoy. I can, at the moment think of seven attractions of camping, which are as follows:

Cooking your own food.

Air—nice, cool, and refreshing.

Making your own puddings—and risking failure.

Picking your way through a labyrinth of trees.

Independent feeling.

No school to think about.

Go about climbing trees, etc.

CHALDON.

By S. BROUGHTON.

Chaldon is a small village on the North Downs. It is situated about three miles to the left of the Brighton Road, between Coulsdon and Merstham. At Hooley there is a footpath which leads to the top of Farthing Downs, and joins another lane which leads to the village in question.

The walk is a very pleasant one. High banks border each side of the lane, with grass growing three to four feet high on the tops. Later on, the grass space is occupied by bushes and thickets.

The footpath and lane soon develop into a road. Upon entering the village there is a very short road bounded on one side by a farm, and on the other by the ancient church. The church is of great interest to historians. It dates back to old Saxon times, and is well worth seeing.

A DELIGHTFUL WALK.

By J. EVANS.

From Croydon to Sutton is indeed a lovely walk. The distance is only about five miles, and the walk would bore nobody.

Let us start from West Croydon Station.

Our road lies down Tamworth Road. We follow this road along by the car-lines, past the Parish Church and by the railway to Waddon Station.

Take the road that runs by the station and over the bridge and follow it round to the left. We are now on the Croydon Road, and this leads us over the hill-top and along to the Plough Inn. The Croydon Road goes round to the left and down a steep hill by the brickworks. Just a little further on is the Home for Females, and five minutes' walk gets us to Manor Road and Wallington Green.

We go straight on past the Green, past a long orchard and thus into Carshalton. There is a tiny row of shops and a pillar box in the High Street.

Just past the shops we reach a beautiful pond with many gulls swimming and flying about. There is a bridge over the pond and we cross over and continue on until we reach Carshalton Station.

We cross over the road that runs past the station and go down the hill and turn to the right under the archway. Just opposite a footpath runs alongside the railway, and along this we walk right to the end. At the end we continue along a broad road for about a mile and a-half, past the

cars. We follow the tram-track around a bend and 3 minutes' walk finds us at the High Street, Sutton.

OUR CHURCH SPIRES.

By L. MUNTON.

Middlesex.

When people visit various English churches, they are generally struck by the different forms of church tower used. They will notice for instance, that the graceful Somerset steeples differ completely from the strong granite structures of the neighbouring county of Devonshire. The Middlesex churches generally consist of a rather low but solid square structure, embattled at the top, and with a turret at one angle rising above the parapet also embattled; the belfry windows are small, and the whole building appears more like a castle than a church. They are somewhat plainly built. Hadley Church is a very good example of a Middlesex church, with its worn and weather-beaten walls, and ivy—a perfection of Middlesex churches. It has an ancient beacon on its turret, the only one existing in England.

Another interesting feature is the slab over the western doorway, bearing the date 1494. The similarity of Middlesex towers is quite remarkable, and the exceptions are very few. Some of the smaller and poorer churches have miniature wooden towers, and flat-looking spires crowning them. The towers of Harrow and Stanwell Churches are crowned with lofty spires, but as they are very plainly constructed of wood, they were probably intended to be landmarks.

Surrey.

Surrey is not a good county in which to study architecture, for although it possesses several large churches, and amongst others that beautiful edifice, St. Saviour's, Southwark, yet none of its important churches show any marked characteristics, and even its smaller churches partake quite as much of the architectural peculiarities of the adjoining counties, as of that in which they stand. This is the case with their towers. Thus those of St. Saviour's and Lambeth Church might just as well be in London as where they are. Also Surrey was a very scarcely populated county in the Middle Ages, covered in parts by forests, and elsewhere by heath, characteristics which are still to be noticed in that stretch of country between Sheire and Cranleigh, which is nearly all forest. Sheire, Cranleigh, Ewhurst, Godalming, St. Peter's, Guildford, and Compton, are probably the most interesting. The three first being quite

like the Sussex churches. "Restoration" has been perfect over all Surrey, so that the few old churches which have escaped destruction and re-building are robbed of that picturesqueness and interest which attaches to ancient buildings which have been untampered with. Many of the old village churches in this county had curious towers, the lower portion constructed of rubble, or rough

stone work, and the upper portion of timber, the whole crowned by a small spike of wood. Most of these have disappeared. A very good example, however, still remains at Thames Ditton, near Kingston. The lower portion of the tower is very rudely built, and dates back to the thirteenth century.

Sport.

SCHOOL FOOTBALL NOTES.

We are in the middle of the third full season since the School was opened, and, chiefly owing to Mr. Mayhew's work, the organisation of the school football is very fully developed. Our ground at Lodge Road is used each Saturday morning and afternoon, while there are half-a-dozen balls in play on Duppas Hill every fine school-day. On the Hill the Houses are fighting for the championship of the Inter-House League, and each day there is either a senior or a junior match. These are refereed by various masters who enjoy the games as much as the boys do.

Of the school elevens, that looked after by Mr. Mayhew is by far the best. These boys have now played together for three seasons, and although about half have left the school, Mr. Mayhew has kept the team together, and it is now playing very fine football in the Thornton Heath League. It has won some notable victories over such teams as the "Queen's" and the "Brighton Railway," and has now reached the 5th round of the Surrey Minor Cup Competition. Honeysett, Davies and the other boys of this team who are still at school are great favourites with the Lodge-road spectators, and the Old Boys, led by Ricketts and Walters, are keeping in fine form.

We all hope that they will go right through as they have commenced, and will win both the League Championship and the Surrey Minor Cup.

Without Honeysett, Davies, Tetchner, Wallace and Clements the School 1st Eleven is not as strong as we should wish. It practically represents last year's 2nd Eleven, and is playing teams which the 1st Team met last year. As a result we have had several defeats. This is new for the school football, but to play a losing game is a greater test of good sportsmanship than many winning games. In spite of these defeats the eleven under the leadership of Thomason has done well, and when he leaves us Rigglesworth, who has played some fine games, will take over the team. Up to the present this team has won 5 games, lost 4, and drawn 1.

The School 'B' team and the Juniors have had several Saturday matches, and we hope to have

many more next term. Many of the Juniors are very promising footballers, especially Bradbury and Cormack.

The Inter-House League matches are one of the best sides of our School football. There are more than one hundred boys—seniors and juniors—playing, and consequently there is great keenness in these contests and great interest in the League notices on the boards.

We have to thank Mr. Mayhew and Mr. Palmer very much for the magnificent cup they have given us, to be held each year by the House winning the League contest, and this added interest will induce more enthusiasm than ever in next term's games.

Dunnett, Honeysett, Mitchell, Davies, Thomason, the five House Captains, are responsible for much of the organisation of the games, as they look after both Senior and Junior teams.

The tables below show the present position, but it has not yet been settled how many games each House will play, so we shall look forward to many exciting games next term.

SENIOR HOUSE LEAGUE.

	House.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals		Pts.
						For.	Agst.	
1st	C	6	5	0	1	20	4	11
2nd	A	7	5	1	1	25	10	11
3rd	E	6	4	2	0	21	8	8
4th	D	6	0	5	1	7	25	1
5th	B	7	0	6	1	3	29	1

JUNIOR HOUSE LEAGUE. 8

	House.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals		Pts.
						For.	Agst.	
1st	A	6	3	1	2	17	7	8
2nd	E	6	3	2	1	17	12	7
3rd	D	4	3	1	0	8	9	6
4th	B	6	2	4	0	7	17	4
5th	C	4	1	2	1	3	7	3

TOTALS.

	House.	Seniors.		Juniors.		Total	
		Played.	Pts.	Played.	Pts.	Played.	Pts.
1st ..	A	7	11	6	8	13	19
2nd ..	E	6	8	6	7	12	15
3rd ..	C	6	11	4	3	10	14
4th ..	D	6	1	4	6	10	7
5th ..	B	7	1	6	4	13	5

Our Hobbies.

THE BOY FISHERMAN.

By ERIC PURVIS.

I am not an expert angler myself, as I only started fishing as a hobby at the beginning of the last summer holidays, but I find it a most interesting pastime.

I advise any boy who is at a loss to amuse himself one week-end to go to the nearest lake or river to try his luck at fishing, if he has a fishing rod. These are rather expensive, but do not be disheartened. A very serviceable rod may be made from a reasonably long cane, some twine, a threepenny float, one strong hook, and a cotton reel.

At about three feet from the thickest end of the cane, fix the reel with a long nail. In the middle put a small hook and another one at the top. Now tie one end of your twine to the cotton reel, and pass the other through both hooks. The float must be fixed according to the depth of the water in which you are to fish. Tie on your fishing-hook by the piece of cat-gut which is attached to it when bought, and your rod is completed. You may shorten or lengthen your line as required by means of the cotton reel.

All you require now is the bait, which differs according to the kind of fish you attempt to hook. For Golden Carp use a mixture of flour and milk.

Your labour will be fully rewarded when you sit expectantly watching your piece of dough darting about as the fishes nibble it. At first you will be unsuccessful in landing anything, but do not be impatient and give up fishing as a hopeless undertaking, for with a very little practice you will be able to hook them with ease.

CYCLING.

By S. R. THOMASON.

Town riding is frequently condemned as dangerous. This is hardly justified, although there is a certain element of danger.

One finds, after some experience of town riding, that having the saddle so low as to enable one to balance with one foot on the ground is very convenient. This makes it possible for one to pull up in the roadway without getting completely off the cycle. From this position it is easy to start away swiftly without preliminary pushes.

Brakes should be so adjusted as to make sudden stoppage easy. One soon discovers that this is

necessary, as people will step into the road without warning.

It is thought by some that fixed wheels are safer than free—in towns as well as for touring. This seems to be, however, more a matter of opinion than of actual fact.

For touring, the low position of the saddle is not advisable, as it sometimes causes cramp. In fact, a high position is better, as it gives greater leverage for hill climbing.

The variable gear has long been an object of much controversy. It is frequently argued by tourists that a variable gear destroys the regularity of stroke, which is an advantage in long distance riding. Whether the comfort experienced in easily mounting a steep hill is sufficient to counteract this loss can only be a matter for each cyclist to judge for himself. It appears, however, that the three-speed gear is gaining in popularity.

Brakes play an important part in both forms of cycling. Although of late cable brakes have become more common, roller brakes still hold their own with the majority of cyclists. Good brakes, properly adjusted, may make all the difference between comparative safety and the risk of a bad accident.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

By H. OSBON.

There are several things necessary for Photography, and good results cannot always be obtained. The following "makeshift" or "emergency" tips may be useful.

The Globe Polish reducer is made by mixing together the contents of a 2d. tin of Globe Polish, 2-ozs. of salad oil, and 2-ozs. of common terebene. The whole is then strained through muslin, and bottled for use. This forms a mechanical reducer, which is used on a dry negative. To use, shake the mixture well, and place one or two drops on cotton-wool, and rub over the negative gently. This process is completed by rubbing off the mixture with a piece of clean rag, thus polishing the negative. Try this on a useless negative.

Films may be reduced in the same way. This mixture removes stains and fingermarks from negatives.

Shoe blacking can be used as a makeshift backing for plates, as also can any black or red jam. Blacking mixture is used on the back or glass side of a plate, in order to avoid the defect

known as halation, commonly met with in taking pictures of interiors.

To use jam, simply smear it over the back of a negative, and back it with a piece of newspaper to prevent the blacking or messing-up of negatives.

Salt can be used in accordance with the directions given with most self-toning papers, and for getting colder tones, cooking salt (not table salt) is preferable.

Powdered lump-sugar is a useful addition to a hypo-alum toning bath for bromide and gaslight papers, as sugared baths give deeper and richer tones. Of course, only a very small quantity may be used.

Washing soda used for laundry purposes may be used instead of carbonate of soda in developers.

Tea and coffee are often used for tinting prints, as also are "Dolly" or "Drummer" household dyes. Cream coloured papers are popular, but when these cannot be obtained, use ordinary white paper to print and finish the paper as usual. Tone down the whiteness of the paper by soaking the picture in cold tea, coffee or dye. Weak coffee gives the best tones as a rule.

There are many fads and fancies which have been suggested, but these are only emergency tips useful for boys.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SIMPLE WIRELESS RECEIVING SET.

By R. YOUNG.

The first thing to do in making a simple receiving set is to procure a cardboard cylinder between $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 inches in diameter. Then for perfect insulation it is best to give the cylinder one or two coats of Shellac varnish. After the varnish is dry, proceed to wind the coil with No. 24-gauge black enamelled copper wire. Wind for about 10 inches on the cylinder, and then anchor the wire, leaving enough over for connecting purposes. About half-a-pound of wire will be sufficient. The coil is then supported on two stands, which fit into a base-board 15 inches by 9.

The next thing to do is to make the detector. A very simple detector can be made at a very little cost. A piece of ebonite 3 by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, by $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. thick will do for the base. A piece of sheet brass will do for the detector arm, having a piece of No. 30-gauge copper wire for the "catwisker." A condenser can be obtained at a small price.

After everything is fixed on the baseboard one can connect up. One end of the coil is left while the other goes to the earth terminal. The "lead-in" wire from the aerial is connected to a slider bar (a bar on which a slider runs on the top

of the coil), and then to one of the detector terminals. The other terminal is connected to one of the detector terminals. The other condenser terminal goes to earth.

It is better to have a "Hertzite" crystal because "Hertzite" is most sensitive. The crystal may be fitted into the cup by means of melted lead.

WIRELESS.

By C. FARROW.

A reliable and efficient set can be made for £2; but, of course, if a valve-set is required the cost will certainly be much higher.

A rather good idea in regard to a valve-set is to construct it on the unit system. By that, I mean making a one-valve set and getting it in good working order, and then adding valves when sufficient money can be obtained to buy them.

Valves are very expensive, and must be very carefully used, for a very simple mistake in connections, such as connecting the High Tension Battery to the valve filaments, would prove very disastrous. As a matter of fact, new valves would be required.

Perhaps, after all, crystal sets are best for boys, for not a great deal of damage could be done.

It is hoped by myself and other senior boys that, with the help of Mr. Groom, a "Radio Society" for the school will spring up, so that small seniors can ask their more learned seniors why their weird and wonderful wireless sets refuse to emit the usual volume of noises.

MY WIRELESS SET.

By LESLIE R. HULL.

Every night, from half-past eight to ten, I have the pleasure of listening in to Marconi House. My set is home-made, and I really get good results.

It is a crystal set. For the last two weeks I have had the joy of listening in at intervals to the opera at Covent Garden Theatre.

BUTTERFLIES.

By W. THEOBALD.

The hobby of collecting butterflies is a very interesting one. Of course, one cannot take it up unless one is prepared to spend a little money on it, for there is a box to be bought, as well as a good-sized net, a setting board and other things.

An ammonia pot is used for killing specimens. To make one, take an old tin, line with thin cardboard until one can see the tin bottom and about two-thirds of the tin's depth. Put another

piece of circular cardboard to rest on to the other piece. Bore some holes in the circular piece. and then the pot is ready for the lump of ammonia, which can be bought at the chemists.

Of course, one meets with many disappointments in this hobby; for instance, when one just misses a beautiful large Tortoiseshell, or a clouded Yellow Butterfly.

A suggestion is to get out into the country to such places as Banstead or Oxted with one's net and ammonia pot.

In time one will have quite a good collection of butterflies and moths.

STAMPS.

By A. TEBBOTH.

Here are a few hints that may be acceptable for young collectors. When starting to collect, remember that there are millions of different stamps in the world, so do not start buying rare stamps which are, of course, dear. Start with the easier kinds to acquire, which, no doubt, a senior member can kindly give you. If by any chance a few duplicate stamps can be had for the asking, do not say "No, thank you." Accept them, for without a doubt they will come in useful for exchanging. Do not buy a dear album at the start, for if you have a large one it only makes you disheartened when you think how few stamps you have got. After you have collected the first thousand, set your mind on a special issue of stamps. For picturesque stamps, collect French Colonies; or, if quantity is preferred, specialise in German stamps. For Sovereigns' heads, Austria is the best stamp-issuing country.

Whilst specialising, a club should be approached for membership. Almost every town has one—as indeed, has Croydon. In this club every help will be given to young collectors. For appointed times of meetings and exchanges, the booklet should be consulted. The meetings are usually held in a large building in the town.

When placing stamps in an album, mounts should be used. They are quite cheap, 4,000 for 3d. Also, if it is possible, a porcelain water-mark finder should be bought. These cost about 1/6. A powerful magnifying glass should be obtained in order to ascertain different tones of colour.

In various magazines advertisements appear reading thus: "To applicants for my White Elephant approval sheets a large triangular Fiume stamp will be given free. Write a postcard to _____." These should be applied for.

Whilst purchasing accessories a catalogue should be bought. This is very useful for finding the prices of certain stamps.

Included in the many philatelists of the world there is His Majesty King George V. A leading stamp collector of the world visits him every day, and a consultation takes place on his stamps. Another leading philatelist is Judge Philbrick.

Philately is the largest branch of the tree of hobbies in existence. Every minute sees a stamp passing into different hands. Many stamps are worth fortunes. A British Guiana stamp of 1888 issue is worth £5,000,000.

MY STAMPS.

By H. JONES.

I started collecting stamps in July, 1920, when a friend gave me about forty stamps, and the majority were English and Dutch, and afterwards I bought a few sixpenny packets of stamps from Woolworths, and my collection slowly mounted to 500 different specimens. Now came the time when I found it was not so easy for me to obtain different stamps. After collecting for two and a-half years I have two thousand odd stamps, and it is very seldom that I buy one.

Owing to the fall in the mark I now have a 100 mark stamp.

The stamps of the British Empire are printed by Messrs. Perkin, Bacon & Co., and Messrs. De La Rue & Co. The water-mark is usually a crown and C.A., and the perforation usually about fourteen. All the stamps of the British Empire are designed in such a way that you are able to say by whom they are printed.

Take my advice and make a start.

RAILWAYS.

By E. YOUNG.

For those boys who live within a reasonable distance of a place where a railway may be observed without hindrance, a very interesting hobby—costing nothing—may be indulged in.

First, with regard to the engines. Record on paper the number, name and type of the locomotive, noting the time it passes and its destination. Then passenger carriages should be counted and their size (which is generally painted on the girder under the step) should be written down, and the weight of the whole train estimated. Goods trucks should be carefully observed as to the various methods of breaking and also the way in which they are loaded and unloaded. Guard's vans, or properly called brake vans are worthy of notice as on these depend the quick stoppage of the train.

Signals, couplings, the lines and stations might all be investigated in their turn, and in the end a whole stock of information may be gained.

Form Notes.

FORM 'A.'

The present Form 'A' came into existence after the Summer Holidays, the majority of boys arriving from Form 'C.' Consequently, the Form has been rather a mixed one this year, for at various intervals some of the older boys have been leaving us to commence work.

We have progressed greatly in the woodwork and engineering rooms, having made letter racks, ink stands, and pokers in metal; and some equally good models in wood.

At the Swimming Gala we did remarkably well, and the majority of the Life Saving Class consisted of members of our Form.

H. Wilson excelled at the School Sports held in August, and apart from leading his House to victory, he made himself school champion. He was conspicuous in the Swimming Gala also, and carried off many prizes.

Now that he has commenced his business career we have not needed the services of Mr. Banks, our undertaker.

We regret the loss of Rushbrook, who was our water—or rather, ice—carrier during the summer months.

Lywood, our long-haired chorister, has been promoted to the position of vice-captain, and he, with his swimming pal, Ringham, performs his duties well.

We were all extremely sorry to lose Mr. Mayhew, but we hope he will still be able to exist without having an intelligent class of Ruskin boys to look after.

We have not had many Form football matches this season, but several of our members have contributed to the various teams in the Inter-House League.

Nevertheless, we hope to make a good show at cricket in the coming season.

So here's good luck to Form 'A' in 1923.

FORM 'B.'

The greatest event in the annals of Form 'B' has been the passing in September last of the London Matriculation Examination by R. Newman. Our friend is now enjoying the benefits of a Senior Victoria Scholarship at the Whitgift Grammar School, which he gained in May last. Whenever he now visits the school, he is regarded as an object of veneration by

"The gaping rustics ranged around."

Form 'B' is also proud to boast that five boys

passed the Oxford Senior Local Examination last July.

This term seventeen more boys, eager to follow in the illustrious footsteps of these unforgotten predecessors, have immersed themselves deep in the realms of Shakespeare and Appolonious; and, instead of following the fortunes of the Crystal Palace Football Club, have devoted their attentions to those of Henry V of Agincourt.

The loss of Mr. Palmer was deeply felt by the Examination boys of Form 'B,' and we all appreciate the strenuous efforts made by Mr. Field, Mr. Groom, and Mr. Hart, to recompense the loss.

As we have been so very busy during the last few weeks, we do not know very much of the progress of the lower Forms, but from what we are daily—almost hourly—told, Forms 'G' and 'H' must be in a far better position to take the Examination than Form 'B'; for we are repeatedly asked questions which we are unable to answer, but which we are told Form 'G' could answer with ease. Poor Form 'B.'

Now that the Examination is over, Form 'B' has little to do, and so the greater part of our time is spent on Duppas Hill, and the change in a few hours from the poor, white-faced, overworked Examination boys, to the once more bright and healthy youths is truly miraculous, thus verifying the words of Solomon that—

"Much study is the weariness of the flesh."

Mr. Field kindly provided them with luncheon and afternoon tea on the most harassing days of the Examination, for which consideration we are greatly indebted to him. Truly our headmaster understands boys.

The warmest thanks of all those who submitted themselves for examination are due to Mr. Field, Miss Pye, and all other masters for their ever-ready assistance.

Owing to the splitting-up of the School into Houses, the inter-form football has given place to an inter-house league. Thus, although there is not a Form 'B' football team, our Form contains representatives of the 1st eleven in Honeysett and Clements, besides several members of the 2nd team.

FORM 'C.'

During the year 1922, Form 'C' has done a lot of splendid work, both in school and at sports.

At the School's Annual Sports held at Lodge Road, Form 'C' was "well in the running."

Davies and Hollamby were first and second respectively, both in the 100-yds. and 220-yds. race for Form 'C.' There was no Form championship this year, but in the Houses Running Championship I can safely say that all Form 'C'-ites did their best to gain points for their respective Houses.

In cricket and football, Form 'C' did not play many Form matches, but any 'C'-ite will tell you that they could easily defeat any Form team. Form 'C' were fairly well represented in the first and second school teams.

Swimming is also another of Form 'C's' favourite pastimes. At the School Gala, held in the Croydon Baths, we all did our utmost.

In school also, Form 'C' have not been backward in their studies. In the half-yearly examinations we were always near the top in averages. Mr. Locke, our Form-master, despite the fact that the school depends on him, gave all his attention to the Form.

Out of the 33 boys which composed Form 'C' 19 of these are in Form 'B' preparing for the Oxford Senior Local Examination, and all of us are preparing for the Society of Arts. However, though we no longer comprise Form 'C' I am sure we will keep up the good work.

FORM 'D.'

It is now a suitable time to make a review of this Form's past doings. We started this term with Mr. Read as Form-master, but at Mr. Mayhew's departure he left us for less glorified spheres. We are now ably governed by Mr. Reynolds.

The Form is very rich in football talent, twelve of our Form playing in House teams. Just lately a new captain election was deemed necessary and our new leader is C. Farrow.

Our team has only played two matches, owing to the fact that a House match is played practically every day. "Joe," our six-foot footballer, is very keen in his efforts to brighten Form football.

We have finished a successful set of booklets, every boy choosing his own subject. A few of our zealous members chose the subject of Roman History. Plucky youths!

The condition of the Form ink has been rather poor of late. Perhaps it is the powder, or the monitor.

We hope to make a huge success of this term, and show that we can work as well as play.

FORM 'E.'

The Form has progressed very favourably during the past term in work and sports.

It has also done very well, as a whole, in the examinations. Our Form-captains, Porter and Holland, well deserve our praise for the excellent way in which they have done their duty during the term. So far this season we have played five matches, won four and lost one.

We have still "the twins" in our midst, and even now some masters can hardly distinguish them.

Charles Taylor, our present football captain, is still actually increasing in stature!

It is a singular coincidence that Cormack and Woodland, our physical contrasts, occupy the same desk.

We have several representatives in Junior House Teams.

FORM 'F.'

After the summer holiday we returned to work in earnest. Bullock and Parfett were elected captains; and, we are glad to say, have proved excellent, doing all in their power for the good name of the Form.

In football, all the first team players and many of the reserve team are also in the junior elevens of the school groups.

The class team itself is quite formidable. Tottem, though short, is an excellent goalkeeper, and one of the few who can stop Brown's best shots. Only one match has been lost during the season.

At cricket the class has done equally well.

Stamp collecting is the favourite hobby in the Form—Tebboth being the great specialist. This boy has been heard to mention other matters. These occasions are, however, rare; as also are those on which our friend Mitchener is seen before afternoon school without a book or two under his arm.

We have only one brilliant chess player—our reserve goalkeeper, Gaiger. He can checkmate any other boy in the Form in twenty moves.

Beale is still trying to be head of the Form as regards examination results, and also in height. Jeffries, however, is the favourite in the latter race.

We all hope that Liddiard will confirm his early promise as a writer, for he writes essays like a veritable young Bacon. Barker excels in Algebra, and Theobald in Geography.

Altogether, Form 'F' is quite a flourishing class, and has great hopes for the future.

FORM 'G.'

During the last two terms we have been moved about and we have not had a proper form-master. After the Summer Holidays we settled down and progressed favourably with Mr. Drummond, our

drawing-master. Then we started real hard work, for it had dropped off in the last form.

Our cricket was very good as compared with the other junior teams. We practised almost every day and as a result won all, or most of, our matches. This was owing largely to our captain (Southern), who played splendidly. During the swimming season there were only three boys who did not swim, under the direction of Mr. Mayhew.

On the whole our class has made a wonderful improvement in the last term, and we are all still improving.

FORM 'H.'

Mr. Palmer, our Form-master, during the earlier part of the term, saw very little of his boys, for he was continually away teaching French to other Forms of the School. This greatly handicapped the work of the Form, and resulted in a great deal of responsibility being thrown upon the shoulders of Stuart and James, the Form Captains, which, however, was considerably lightened on the arrival of Mr. Oakeley, who succeeded Mr. Palmer when the latter left at the end of October. The Form Captains have shown unflagging zeal in their work, and despite the amount of responsibility and sometimes blame which has fallen upon them, they have continued to strive on.

On the recreative side, the Form is having a good football season, for the 1st team has up to the present, won the majority of its matches. This good fortune, however, is not shared by the 2nd team, which in three matches has not recorded a single victory. Our right back (Ferret) acts up to his name, but, fortunately for the team, our speedy centre-half (Miskin) does not act up to his nickname, which is "Mis-kick." Our centre-forward is James, who always plays well.

At the annual sports, the Form (then Form I) won several races, thanks to Wells and Jamieson. Form 'H' entered only a few competitors in the Swimming Gala held last September, but nevertheless it had several successes to its credit, the most notable performance being that of Down in the swimming-on-the-back contest.

A certain son of Jamie tells the following story: "We once stayed at a quaint little spot not far from Hull, full of beautiful Woodland dells and Green Knowles. We were able to Ferret out some fine walks, but the weather turned cold, and, having warm clothes, we were glad to Wareham. To our delight it had begun to snow, and soon the country-side, covered in a chill White mantle of snow, had the real Christmas Seal upon it. Now followed some fine sport for us boys, but not for the poor little rabbits in their Warren. The next

day a sharp frost set in, and all the ponds were frozen; we hope this won't happen to Wells. After a good morning's skating, needless to say, we stopped at a refreshment Booth, where I obtained a hot drink, which was as bitter as Allum, so I passed it on to James. I learned afterwards that it was bottled in Holland. On Sunday we went to the church of St. Matthew, where the man at the organ was Mr. Morgan, and the soloist was Miss Kin. The Rev. Bernard Sullivan B.D., preached his farewell sermon (which moved everyone) for he was going to Ross, where he hoped to meet Lord Douglas Stuart. While we were tobogganing, Purvis fell Down and hurt his hand, so we took him to Dr. Duge, who extracted a Thorne. I had hoped to Seymour of Cooper and Henbest, but I expect that they were skating on the Trent with the champion Elderton."

The author adds, that if he were a bigger chap he would have touched on Mr. Oakeley, and included a plot in the above story.

FORM 'I.'

Our Form commenced work in May, 1922, and has since improved greatly in many subjects.

The last cricket season was very poor for us, and we found it difficult to obtain a victory.

At the Sports Meeting which was held on the 28th of July, Cane, our sports champion, won the high jump, long jump, and 100 and 220 yards junior championship.

Just after the Summer Holidays, our Swimming Gala was held. Our Form distinguished itself very greatly in this, Cane getting three first prizes, one of them by winning the re-lay for his House.

The Form has a football team, which is captained by C. Fields, who kept goal for Winterbourne Road School last season. From this team certain boys are chosen for the various House teams.

The Form captains are W. Ellis and J. Quedsted who perform their duties very well.

We have learnt a great deal of French, which includes two French songs called "Au clair de la Lune," and "Le chanson du Pecheur."

All the boys are sorry to lose Mr. Mayhew and Mr. Palmer, who have taken up positions at other schools. But we are hoping to see them on several occasions when they visit us.

FORM 'J.'

The Form started the term with small numbers, but achieved many successes.

It started with the idea of becoming a famous Form, and it succeeded. The Form-mistress was Miss Venning, who gave us a good dose of French.

One boy, named Davids, has turned out to be a budding poet, and composed the "Blind Man."

During November we went to a world exhibition at the Croydon Dance Hall. Here, quite a number of interesting things were seen, including produce and clothes from different lands.

About the 4th December the examination

started, and every boy used his brain capacity to the utmost advantage.

A football captain was elected, namely Symes. It is his duty to look after the football and also to select a Form team.

It is hoped that we shall achieve as much success at football, as at work.

Literary.

AN ELECTRICAL ENTERTAINMENT

By J. STEER.

With a few batteries and a sparking coil many very interesting experiments can be performed. For the best experiments a coil capable of giving at least $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. spark is desirable.

Begin by observing the character of the secondary spark. If two points—one connected with each terminal of the secondary—are made to approach from beyond sparking distance, nothing will be observed in daylight until such a position is reached that the longest spark can jump the space. It will be seen that this spark is of a violet colour, tending to be red at one end. The character of the spark depends upon the distance it is made to jump: at its greatest length it is blue, thin and snapping and takes a crooked course. When shortened it assumes a flaming red appearance, more at one pole, however, and goes in a straight line.

For ordinary sparking experiments, the negative electrode should end in a fairly large plate; the positive being an adjustable needle point. By this means the longest sparks can be obtained.

If the space between the electrodes be increased beyond sparking distance, sparks can be made to pass by holding a lighted spirit-lamp so that the heated gases from it rise up between the poles. Similarly, if the electrodes are adjusted so as to bear on a glass-plate, even twice the maximum sparking distance apart, a spark can be made to pass, by simply breathing on the plate.

Keeping the electrodes in the same position, scatter some fine filings on the glass. Sparks will at once glitter over the intervening space, jumping from one particle to another, and diverging very much from the straight line. Repeat this experiment, but use finely-scraped "blacklead" or graphite from an ordinary pencil. This gives slightly different results or effects. The further experiment is to approach the electrodes among carbon particles, which then begin to glow like a small arc lamp. Next put a considerable quantity

of this powdered carbon on the glass-plate and approach the electrodes to the little heap. It will be seen that the clear space is made around the positive pole, the particles being apparently blown from the pole.

All the phenomena of sparking are very much more beautiful when the experiments are conducted in the dark. It will then be obvious that a great deal has been lost in the previous experiments, and glowing brush-like, but silent discharges will be found on the electrodes when these are separated quite beyond sparking distance. A darkened room, in which to perform experiments with a vacuum tube, is most desirable. With the smallest coils even very beautiful experiments can be performed with small vacuum tubes, though the simplest of these is an ordinary electric light-bulb. It does not matter if this is a "burnt-out" one, so long as the vacuum is perfect.

Hold a lamp by the glass bulb and present the capped end to any one of the electrodes of the coil, when the space inside the bulb will glow with an indescribable bluish light. This appears even when the lamp is held several inches away from any part of the coil. Now place the capped end of the lamp on one of the electrodes. Then thin blue sparks will jump towards your hand, but no shock is felt.

Different effects can be made by "connecting up" differently. This can be done by the experimenter who will undoubtedly produce many other strange phenomena.

THE DAFFODILS.

By A. GODDEN.

O Daffodils of shining gold,
Who dance and glow with gladsome spree,
Thy glorious radiance to behold,
Doth give to all a heavenly glee.
O Honour to thy maker great,
And round his footstool congregate.

We love to see you spraying gay
Amongst the gentle breeze.
And continuously throughout the day,
You wave like yellow seas.
So let your glory all behold,
You glorious cups of glittering gold.

Why haste you all away so soon,
Before the coming summer ?
You seem to be afraid of noon,
And you're like the sun's fore-runner.
So stay a little longer yet,
Thy beauty we will not forget.

So, when the leaves become bright green,
And flowers in myriads shine ;
Among the host you will be seen
For majesty is thine.
So, you above all flowers will reign,
So very soon return again.

FRETWORK.

By R. BROWN.

Fretwork is the art of cutting or fretting certain pieces of wood into various shapes and sizes, so that when they are properly fitted together, they form ornaments or useful articles for the home.

To help the worker to cut the pieces of wood to a shape that has some degree of art in it, design sheets are published by Fretwork firms. These designs are pasted down on to the wood and are cut out with a fretsaw. Naturally, there is a very large number of articles that will form subjects for these designs, and as each one is treated by numerous designers who have different ideas, the number of the finished designs is almost unlimited.

However, the average fretworkers' need is fairly covered by the following list : Bookshelves, boxes (handkerchief, glove, cigarette, etc.), brackets, calendars, clocks, mirror plaques, photo frames, pipe and letter racks and vase stands. For the more advanced worker, such pieces of furniture as a cabinet or an umbrella stand could be attempted.

The "flow" of the piece of work is often typical. For example, in an ecclesiastical design, such as a fretted hymn-board, the Gothic style is frequently introduced, with the principle features of the style, that is the long narrow points and the oak leaves appearing as the chief characters in the pattern.

The earliest fretwork was doubtlessly executed in the East. It is therefore not strange that the Eastern styles of decoration are well developed. The Japanese and Chinese styles are closely

related, the chief features being the bamboo, the Japanese lantern and figure work. Of course, there are other styles, which are, however, too numerous to describe fully, but the chief ones are nearly all included in the following list : Tudor, Elizabethan, Indian, Moresque, Arabic, Persian, Chippendale, and Russian.

The cutting alone of a model does not finish it. Obviously, the first operation after cutting is to remove the pattern. When this is finished, unless the work is to be stained or polished, it is ready to be fitted together. In the majority of models this necessitates a number of joints. These are made according to pressure that will be applied to them in everyday use. For example, in a cabinet one would expect to see a dovetail joint in certain places, for under ordinary circumstances this cannot be pulled apart.

It is now time to fix the actual model together. Although the joints should be tight enough to be fitted without using glue, it is safer to do so. When this is finished the model is really finished ; but it is usual to closely inspect it, and erase any small imperfections with a small fretwork file, by making all the edges that should be straight, as straight as possible.

Fretwork is thus an art which can be very highly developed by any boy who uses care and patience.

THE BLIND MAN.

By S. DAVIDS.

There is no joy for persons who are blind,
To them the day seems just the same as night,
They can't enjoy the beauties of the light
Or share the joys with others of mankind.
It's wrong to say there are no joys to find :
The gifts of God are always his delight ;
For, even if he should have lost his sight,
He often has such brains that he can find
Answers to questions others do not know.
So, ever thankful can a person be,
Should he possess the brains that hath such power
So that they would carry to him and show
The wonders of Heaven, like Milton could see,
That he may turn, like Milton, to a flower.

THE IRON AGE.

By E. A. BROWN.

One morning I awoke from a dreamless sleep
and stared about me dumbfounded. My once
iron bed had changed into one of wood, and an
ominous sagging beneath me, warned me that the
springs had also changed. Everything that had
once been made of iron had disappeared or
changed into a different metal.

I dressed, and having completed my toilet, went downstairs to breakfast.

I lit the gas-stove (which had changed to brass), but after a while the brass-top began to melt and soon the stove was rendered useless.

The fire-grate had also changed, and realising it was useless to light a fire, I breakfasted on beef, pickles, and milk.

Leaving the house, I walked along to the taxi-stand, and found all the taxis with brass wheels, brass bonnets, and brass engines. Perspiring "cabbies," with rolled sleeves, were squirting oil into the brass mechanism, or else turning nuts and screwing bolts. One engine had become overheated and had melted, and the driver was relieving his feelings by constant applications to a bottle of liquor.

The tramway posts had changed, and were bending under the strain of the copper wire.

All the mechanical conveyances had gone, so that I walked to my office.

Suddenly I thought that if my office was supported by iron girders like the American skyscrapers are, I might expect to find a pile of rubbish at the end of Liverpool Street; but my office was not supported by iron girders, and so I rejoiced to see it still standing.

The lift-boy was calmly sleeping under a notice of "Not Working," which was suspended from the lift gates.

I ascended to my office and found my typewriter had turned to lead, and after a few minutes use, the hammers bent and the machine became useless.

At dinner-time I strolled round to a Lyons' teashop and had my dinner. Then I went for a walk in the remaining half-hour. I did not see a vehicle anywhere.

As I passed under a tramway post it gave under the strain of the wire, and before I could get out of the way it fell on my head.

When I woke up I found myself pushing thin air in an attempt to raise an imaginary pole which lay across my chest.

Then I realised that it had been a dream, brought about, no doubt, by my eating too much watercress, and consequently too much "iron."

THE TALE OF A GHOST.

By G. KELLAS.

All closed round the fireside of the old village inn
For one rustic had said a yarn he would spin,
A shudder went through that simple host,
When old Davies said 'twas a tale of a ghost.
"Now, you must know," Old Davies began,
"That young Tom Quilpin was a man

Who would boast

That he feared now't from a 'maginary ghost.

Well, 't happened one night when Tom's work
was o'er

That his way home led across the dark moor.

He saddled his mare and off he did trot,

Saying, ' For ghosts, Tom Quilpin cares not a jot.'

Across the still moor he rode without fear,

Till by the oak something white did appear.

Tom Quilpin fell down, and his mare homeward
fled,

Never halting a moment till she reached her own
shed.

* * * *

At night the villagers with lanterns aglintin'
Searched over the moor for the young Quilpin.

But they found him not, though some said in a
low tone

That the moor that night smelt strong of brim-
stone.

And even to-day some whisper and say,

When the wind whistles cold on the moor of a
night,

Tom's ghost doth appear, ghostly and white.

A WIRELESS TRAGEDY.

By C. W. LANGFORD.

(All this, you must understand, happened in 1960.)

Jack Grace had been toiling hard at an incom-
pleted invention. It was an apparatus which, he
claimed, would disable and destroy any wireless
equipment in existence. This powerful apparatus
consisted of an alabaster box with familiar coils
of insulated wire projecting from minute discs in
the side of it. No aerial was required, and the
little compact thing viewed through amateur eyes,
closely resembled a modern electric camera. Such
was this invention.

Yet, one thing was needed, the power to recall
the destructive ether waves after their work had
been accomplished. In short, Jack had his new-
found power half-harnessed.

At last the invention was complete. Jack sat
in his wireless laboratory surrounded by eminent
electricians. He was about to test his apparatus.

Now, Jack possessed a powerful receiving and
transmitting set of his own, and as he sat in his
laboratory, he had completely forgotten its
existence, so obsessed was he with his invention.
He inserted a minute key into an empty disc and
turned it. A slight humming filled the tense
atmosphere of the laboratory. Then silence for
a minute. Then from his house close by came a
curious crackling, tearing sound. Jack jumped
from his seat and dashed into the drive leading

to his house. On rounding a bend in the drive he came face to face with the house. "Something looks wrong," he muttered. Then, "By Jove, it's the aerial," and two steps at a bound he leapt up the staircase and entered his room. Where his apparatus had been was ——— nothing.

But, then, all this happened in 1960.

THE PILGRIM FATHERS.

By S. SUNDQUEST.

Upon a bleak and barren coast,
The angry waves beat high,
And the seagulls in a host
Set up a piercing cry.

A band of outlaw pilgrims
Had landed on that shore ;
While still they sang the good old hymns
Amidst the tempest's roar.

To-day, where are those noble men
Who strived in that bleak land ?
America was formed by them,
And started by their hand.

And so let's honour those brave few
Who turned from out their land,
To make a tiny state that grew
Out on a foreign strand.

SPRING.

Come ! Come ! the dawn of the year is nigh,
And Winter fleeth before its face ;
No more harsh winds, whistling in the high
Tree-tops, or moaning, groaning o'er the
plain.

Nay ! Nay ! burst forth, O Spring, in a flood
Of colour, cover the Winter's death
With gay flowers of every hue ;
Tint the hills, the fields and the wood.
Let the flowers bloom out on the heath ;
The dainty snowdrop turn its face
To the sun, with its simple glorious hue.
On grassy banks by streams, and ponds and
plain,
Winter hath gone : 'Tis Spring again.

ROOM SIX.

By B. CORNES.

(With apologies to Oliver Goldsmith.)

Inside yon closed room that skirts the hall
With yellow door and light green wall ;
There in that class-room, always full,
The King of Clamour reigns, without a lull.
A dreaded room it is, and loved not,
I know it well and all the students wot.
Well have the busy scholars learned to know
The day's disasters when the wind does blow :
For then they hear the hinged partition creak,
And feel many a draught through many a leak.
Full well the busy cowley starts to moan
And nothing is heard but its dismal drone.
Yet anon the window starts its rattling,
And some outside workmen their hammering :
The scholars all declare its full of noise.
'Tis certain its hard to hear one's voice,
Even when the wind blows not severe
A voice through the partition do we hear.
While (words of learned) length and thundering
sound
Amaze the scholars placed around.
And still we hear, and still the wonder grows,
That one small room so many noises knows.

Humour.

TO THE OLD BOYS.

By W. BRAIN.

Quite a number of boys have now left the School
to make their names and fortunes in the world.

Any morning one can see these successful
business men walking to the station, giving on
their way condescending nods to the lowly
scholars of this School, and something less to those
few who dare to address them by name without
using the prefix "Mr."

Here is one of them approaching. For what
is he feeling in his pockets ? Perhaps for his
handbook or his note-case. No ! He is making
sure that he has with him his first-class season
ticket.

The future visits to the School of some of these
Old Boys should be quite noteworthy. They will
drive up in their cars, stroll round the School,
donate £50 to the Sports Fund, and as they step
back into their Rolls Royce, scatter a shower of
golden lucre amongst the humble scholars who

stand expectant by. Then at a word to the chauffeur, the car will glide up Scarbrook Hill. Perhaps!

* * * * *

Does Mr. Locke know that all seas and oceans are areas of "l'eau" pressure?—A.S.

* * * * *

A boy in one of the Lower Forms is reputed to have written the following in a recent examination: "The earth passes round the sun 365 times every twenty-four hours. This causes it to perspire. The perspiration is called dew."—W.B.

HISTORY GONE WRONG.

(1). Richard Cœur de Lion returns from the Wars of the Roses, and is welcomed by Henry VIII, who offers him his "kingdom for a horse."

(2). Thomas à Becket introduces the Reform Bill of '32, and is told by Napoleon the Great to "take away that bauble."

(3). Guy Fawkes, whilst employed in compiling the Domesday Book, is interrupted by the birth of the first Prince of Wales.

(4). With the assistance of Alfred the Great, Cardinal Wolsey obtains an audience with Oliver Cromwell, and requests his signature to Magna Carta.

(5). After his defeat at the Battle of Waterloo, Richard III stirs up the populace to revolt against the Knights of the Round Table.—S.J.

* * * * *

Master: "What complaint did the doctors say it was?"

Boy: "Something beginning with rheum, Sir."

Master: "Room for improvement, I expect, my boy."—D.B.

* * * * *

Teacher (to boy who had not been attending): "Tommy, what grows on the outside of a tree?"

Tommy: "I don't know, Sir."

Teacher: "Bark, boy, bark."

Tommy: "Bow, wow, wow; bow, wow, wow." A.A.

* * * * *

It was in a local Secondary School that the master asked the following question: "Where is Quebec?" The class remained still, until a small boy jumped up and said: "In Canada." The master then asked: "Where's Canada?"

Small Boy: "In America."

Master: "Where's America?"

Small Boy: "Well, Sir, if you don't know that, I think it's pretty hopeless."—L.G.T.

* * * * *

La jolie demoiselle: "Quel est le prix de cette paire de gants?"

Le commis (galamment): "Un baiser."

La jolie demoiselle: "Très bien; veuillez m'en donner trois paires. J'enverrai ma grand' mere vous payer cet après-midi."—L.S.

* * * * *

An Irishman was going out to sea, and when he got to the quay to board the ship, he found it already five yards away from the shore.

He ran and took a flying leap. He landed head first on the deck, and was dazed for about ten minutes. When the ship was a quarter of a-mile out to sea, he came round, and looking back he exclaimed: "Begorra, some jump."—C.B.

A CLOCK.

By C. BURTON.

I bought a clock not long ago,
To give me timely warning
That I must rise in time to go
To Ruskin in the morning.

But now I loathe its round, white face,
All marked with inky numbers;
And hate the gong upon its face
That shatters my sweet slumbers.

SEEN THROUGH A SCHOOLBOY'S EYES.

(Concerning pet actions and sayings peculiar to certain members of the staff at the John Ruskin School.)

By A. STACEY.

Mr. ---c-e.

Mr. L---'s pet saying is: "Personally this is my view of the case; but, mind you, I don't want you to take my ideas. You think for yourselves."

The same master, when he is tackling some difficult problem or other, places his hand in his jacket pockets, stands feet astride, and compresses his lips.

Mr. D-----o-d.

Mr. D-----o-d, a gentleman of artistic inclinations, when criticising any good work of art, invariably says: "Yes, it gives a pleasing effect—very pleasing." This he illustrates by a suggestive flourish of his right hand.

Mr. Gr--m.

This gentleman, whose abilities lie in the test tube and beaker line, when about to consider any problem, passes his right hand slowly from his forehead to the top of his cranium, from whence it returns to its normal position. When, after having been asked a difficult question, he is preparing to expound his views, he clears his throat with an audible "Hem-m." With regard to his vocabulary, I believe that the two words he uses most are "pedantic" and "hotch-potch."

Mr. H--m-s.

Mr. H--m-s belongs to that profession, the name of which, when heard by the average individual, is simultaneously connected with dirty hands and faces. (I do not refer to coal-mining.) During the frequent talks he has with his pupils I have never once known this gentleman to omit the following sentences: "If I did so, it would rob the work of its educational value," and "What you boys want is initiative—you must be original."

