

# LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE SCHOOLS MAGAZINE.

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## A Plea for Classics.

WHILE looking over some old numbers of the school *Magazine* for last year, I came across an article entitled, "A Plea for Modern Languages," and as at the time I had undertaken to write an article myself, I thought that it would not be out of place to issue a similar manifesto on behalf of the Classics, and endeavour to show, in some small degree, what a debt we owe them. Time and space alike forbid me to enlarge upon many of the advantages of a classical education, so I will confine my attention to the one that especially seems to deserve notice from Institute boys—its advantages as an aid to commercial education in teaching us to write and speak English correctly. From the study of English History it is known that there was a time when fanaticism had so widely extended its influence over the minds of men, that all human learning was by many persons neglected for the cultivation of certain inward gifts and new lights, described by one writer as

"A liberal art, that knows no pains  
Of study, industry, or brains."

The Latin language, in particular, was an object of detestation, on account of its having been spoken at Rome, the residence of the Pope, whose designation in the apocalypse, by a particular number, was considered as placed beyond all doubt. There is a song of these times which begins thus:—

"We'll down with all the 'Varsities,  
Where knowledge is profess'd,  
Because they study and maintain  
The language of the *Beast*."

But since those days a change has come o'er the scene, and the study of Greek and Roman authors has for long been considered almost indispensable if one wishes to acquire a good style of writing and speaking English. Dean Swift, in his humorous composition, *The Battle of the Books*, typifies the ancient writers under the allegory of a bee, and the modern writers of his day, who disdained to be indebted to any aid from the classics, under that of a spider.

We all know how much our great historians owed their talents of writing to the classics, for do not Gibbon, Macaulay, Hallam, and Freeman let us into the secret of how they formed themselves

to become great writers? What a debt of gratitude do almost all our greatest poets owe to their Greek and Roman models? It has been said that the energy of the English language enables us to follow in the steps of the Greeks and Romans more closely than our continental neighbours, for

“The weighty bullion of one English line  
Drawn to French wire, will through whole pages shine.”

The advantages one gains from writing well cannot easily be exaggerated; it has been called “Nature’s chief masterpiece,” and, certainly, the art of writing or speaking English well is a species of intellectual power which, in our free nation, advances its lucky possessors to wealth and honours, and consideration from all classes of the community; further, it enables him to promote the prosperity of his country and the best interests of mankind. But should you think lightly of classical taste and of a classical style, you yet cannot dispense with the utility of studying the languages of antiquity, so long as you make use of the English language which is so indelibly impressed by them.

Suppose a Roman youth, like one of the seven sleepers, to awaken after sleeping through the middle ages, and suppose him to come and take his seat upon the same form as yourself in school: he would soon recognise a multitude of Roman words in your daily school business—*addition, subtraction, vulgar fractions, decimals*, etc. He would understand your masters where they inculcated the duties of *diligence, labour, attention, industry*, or when they held forth the prospects of *honour, emolument, fame, glory*, which were the ordinary *concomitants of merit*.

In the same way, if any old Roman were to walk in any part of England, arm in arm with an ancient Greek, whatever their ancient professions or trades may have been, they would affirm that our tongue was saturated with words which, either entirely or with slight modifications, the banks of the Ilyssus or Tibur had formerly resounded. *Commerce and agriculture, rents and dividends, military and naval armaments, the royal family, the ministry, the opposition, the Press, the public*, would all bring Roman factions and Roman words to recollection. The names of the month would be familiar—even several of their ancient gods and goddesses they would hear mentioned with respect, besides, among mortal names, many *Adonises*, and *Xantippes*, and persons of *Hectoring* manners, *Herculean* shoulders, or *Stentorian* lungs, and, perchance, some *paupers and lunatics*. In spending the current coin of the realm, he would notice the figure of *Britannia*, which he would immediately recognise, though he might be surprised at the deification of the genius of a country which he had thought to be divided from the whole world. On entering the Police Courts, the Roman would be at home with *alibis* and *aliases*; and, after a little thought, he would recognise the names of *judge* and *jury*, and the terms *verdict* and *ignoramus*. He would recognise the words *Habeas Corpus* and *mortgage*. He would know at the Bank and Stock Exchange what

was meant by *per cent., per annum, sum total, and insolvency*. At the Custom House, what was meant by *ad valorem* duties and deficits. *Theatres Royal, Philharmonics, Circuses, the Lyceum, the scenes and orchestras*—as well as their antitheses, *cemeteries, monuments and sepulchral urns* would be alike familiar to his ears. The *semicircles* of the mathematician and the *semibreves* of the musician would not perplex him. Time he would easily count by *hours, minutes and seconds*, and, though he might be perplexed at the different calculations concerning the proximity of the *millennium*, he would perfectly comprehend the extent of its duration. He would find that *Doomsday*, and all our ancient records and statutes are in Latin, and not only so, but that many of our legal customs there incorporated, are founded on those of his own country. To fully understand distinguished English authors, modern as well as ancient, he would immediately argue that a knowledge of his own tongue was indispensable, and he would further see that books in daily use, such as the translations of the Bible and the Prayer-Book, were thoroughly imbued with it.

Having thus far imposed rather a severe strain upon the attention of my readers, I will lay down as a conclusion to the foregoing remarks, that you cannot entirely dispense with the study of the languages of antiquity so long as you make use of the English language. And, further, it is to classical scholars, who are intimately conversant with the parentage of our English words, and the distinguishing shades of meaning which they have derived from their birth, that we must look for writing and speaking the English language with simplicity, precision and grace, with Roman dignity in matters where it is becoming, and in all matters with Attic perspicuity and propriety.

### An Enigma of the Last Generation.

PERHAPS a brief and, necessarily, imperfect sketch of the career of a singular man whose erratic genius caused much stir in the last generation may not be without some interest to the readers of this *Magazine*. The man who combines, with Classical and Oriental scholarship, the profession of manuscript-forging must, in order to distinguish himself, be an uncommon character; and such beyond doubt was Konstantinos Simonides.

He was born in 1820 in the Island of Hydra. His father’s family, which came from Stageira, the birthplace of Aristotle, was asserted by him to have produced as many as thirty-seven archbishops and bishops of the Greek church. Some years of his boyhood and early manhood were spent by him with his uncle, Benedict, sub-prior and finally superior of the monastery of St. Pantelemon on Mount Athos; and he first figures in history as patriotically plotting against the Turks, and killing a few in Macedonia. He next appeared in Athens, exhibiting a number of manuscripts, for which he claimed high antiquity, and which he

asserted he had discovered in the Libraries of Athos. The vigour with which he pressed the claims of his treasures, and apparently also his political writings, made it necessary for him to quit Athens. After this he, for some time, wandered through Palestine, Syria, Turkey, and Egypt, producing manuscripts of unknown ancient authors, and warring with nearly the whole learned world. His singular audacity, aided by great learning, led him usually to employ vigorous offensive strategy when assailed: hence, he brought a metaphorical sword, and one of the sharpest, wherever he went. In Prussia, where he next appeared, he was thrown into prison; but when in England, in 1863, he asserted that the Supreme Court in Berlin awarded him damages against his calumniators. In London, where he sold some manuscripts to the British Museum, the usual uproar soon arose. In July, 1860, he was in Liverpool, unrolling, at the request of the late Mr. Joseph Mayer, some papyri in that gentleman's collection, he produced from among them a manuscript of Hannon's *Periplus*, a Gospel of Matthew, and some fragments—which, in all human probability, he had previously inserted in the collection. The controversy over the genuineness of this find was terrific, and is yet remembered by many. But here, as in all other chapters in Simonides' career, suspicion finally got the upper hand; he eventually disappeared from the public eye, discredited, yet still not legally proved to be a forger, and the world heard no more of his extraordinary "finds" and his revolutionary views in classical and Oriental scholarship.

#### Literary and Debating Society.

A MEETING was held on October 11th, Mr. C. M. Jones presiding over an attendance of 14. After the discussion of private business, Mr. N. C. Miller took the chair, and called on Mr. C. M. Jones to open for the affirmative in the debate, "Was the impeachment of Warren Hastings justifiable?" Mr. Jones gave a short account of the life and actions of Hastings, and then asked the meeting to particularly notice his conduct during the time when he was Governor-General of Bengal. He pointed out that Hastings' first great crime was his complicity in the destruction of the Rohilla tribe. For a vast sum of money Hastings allowed the Vizier of Oude to seize the districts of Allahabad and Corah, and lent him British troops to put down the resistance of the former possessors—the Rohillas. The second ground for the impeachment was the undue influence used by Hastings in procuring the conviction of Nuncomar. The third illegal act of Hastings was the dethronement of Cheyte Sing, rajah of Benares, on the refusal of the latter to pay for the support of a force of soldiers. His fourth offence was the extortion of £1,000,000 from the Begum of Oude, on the pretext that she had abetted Cheyte Sing in his resistance. On these four charges, Mr. Jones contended that the impeachment was justifiable. Mr. C. H. Grimshaw then opened the debate on behalf of the negative. Mr. Grimshaw dwelt at

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Scholar of the University, Mr. L. D. Barnett, who is now at Trinity. And thus, when Mr. Jones goes up it will happen that amongst the brilliant students of that leading college, there will be found two of the foremost, one eminent in classics, and the other in mathematics, who were trained as boys in the Liverpool Institute.

*Contributed.*

### Chat on the Corridor.

THE most important event of the month is the approaching Prize Distribution, which takes place on Wednesday, November 21st. The prizes, which have been gained in the Oxford Local and other Examinations, will be distributed by J. C. Bigham, Esq., Q.C. Tickets may be obtained from the Office.

It gives us great pleasure to record the success of an old boy whose name has appeared so often in these pages. Mr. J. B. Dale, of St. John's College, Cambridge, has been appointed Lecturer in Mathematics at King's College, London. This is a fitting sequel to Mr. Dale's splendid University career, and we heartily congratulate him on his appointment. It is perhaps noteworthy that Mr. R. A. Sampson, who is now Professor of Mathematics at the Newcastle College of Science, also filled the post after he left Cambridge.

In accordance with the promise which we gave a month ago, we print in this issue an epitome of the paper which was delivered to the L.I.L.D.S. by Mr. L. D. Barnett, entitled "An Enigma of a Past Generation."

It was originally intended that the Debating Society Concert should take place this term. This has, however, been found impossible, owing principally to the Prize Distribution being held on November 21st. It will certainly take place next term, and due notice will be given to our readers.

We desire to express our thanks to all the Masters in the Commercial School, and to Messrs. Bailey, Balmer, and Thomas in particular, for the very kind and energetic way in which they helped the sale of the *Magazine* last month.

### Life in Germany.

IT has struck me, though fortunately not with sufficient violence to unsettle either my physical or mental balance, that it might be interesting, and even useful, to some of your readers at any rate, if I were to write to you a short account of what life is like in Germany. To commence with, therefore, kindly shut your eyes and imagine yourself to be in Strassburg, the capital of Elsass-Lothringen. Now, please open them again, or else you will not be able to read what follows.

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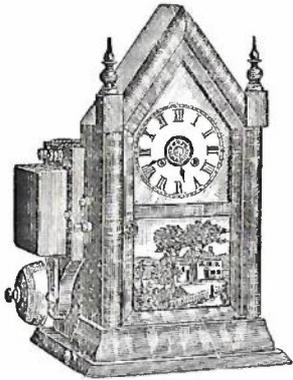
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Strassburg is one of the strongest fortresses on the German frontier, and has had a most interesting and chequered history. It contains about 100,000 inhabitants, and 20,000 soldiers, so that, adding to these the policemen, postmen, &c., one can safely say that, on the average, every third person one meets in the streets will be in uniform. The fortifications, with which the town is completely surrounded, though not so imposing as one would expect, are nevertheless of great strength. This is one of the very few civilized towns where the gates are still shut from sunset to sunrise, and I must say that it seems to be quite unnecessary, and extremely inconvenient. The town is divided into two parts, a new and an old town. The new town contains the university, King's palace, and many other fine buildings, but it is too modern to be interesting. The old town, though much of it has been pulled down and rebuilt, affords much that is interesting and instructive, for many of the buildings date back almost to the Middle Ages.

The Cathedral is certainly the most noteworthy building in Strassburg, and is one of the oldest and finest in the world. It is built of hard red sandstone, which was brought from the Vosges through a canal specially built for the purpose. The outside is decorated with many hundreds of statues, and is everywhere beautifully fashioned and sculptured. The tower is about 420 feet high, and whoever takes the trouble to ascend it is amply repaid by the magnificent panorama to be seen from its summit. All Strassburg lies at one's feet. The sloping tiled roofs, pierced with numerous windows, and the flat chimney tops, on which storks' nests may frequently be seen, give to the houses of the old town a very quaint and mediæval appearance. The larger and more modern buildings of the new town, though in reality magnificent and stately erections, look from the steeple of the Münster more like toy houses and dolls' cottages than great buildings.

The view afforded of the surrounding country is naturally extremely extensive. Strassburg lies in the middle of a great flat plain, through which and to the east the Rhine flows. Further to the east rise the dark crests of the Schwarzwald mountains. To the west and north-west the Vosges and Juras can be plainly seen, whilst smaller ranges complete the circle of mountains bounding the horizon on every hand.

The interior of the Cathedral calls for no special remark, but I cannot pass by the astronomical clock without saying a few words about it. This clock is certainly the most wonderful and remarkable in the world. It was originally built in the Middle Ages, but has naturally more than once been completely worn out, and has had to be remodelled. It now tells the seconds, minutes, hours, days, months, years, and centuries. The mechanism, by means of which the clock regulates itself for leap year, etc., is very ingenious and complicated. A model of the earth shows where the sun is setting and where it is rising, and there is also added a planetarium, showing the movements of the planets around the sun and of the moon around the earth. The first quarter of each hour is struck by

a figure of boyhood, the second by one of youth, the third by manhood, and the fourth by old age. Death strikes the hours, and at the stroke of twelve the twelve apostles pass bowing before Christ, who blesses them in turn, whilst the cock thrice flaps his wings and crows. Such an asthmatic crow, that one's first impulse is to laugh, but then when one remembers that the cock is the true historical feature of the work and has been retained ever since it was first built, a feeling of pity predominates. Poor old cock, no wonder it grows tired, for the whole life of the clock has necessitated roughly about 100,000 crows. It is quite time it was superannuated and allowed to retire with a substantial pension, say 1000 barley corns daily.

In the Franco-Prussian war Strassburg underwent a very severe bombardment before it was captured by the Germans, and the Cathedral suffered considerable damage. It has, however, been very carefully restored, and now the only signs of the severe treatment it suffered during the bombardment are several heaps of battered stones, images, and sculpturings, which, on being replaced, were laid at the back of the tower, and have remained there ever since. On many of these the marks of the cannon balls can plainly be seen, whilst others have been more gradually destroyed by the wearing action of time. One figure of a hunted deer, which is just being seized by a dog, is so worn by the frost and rain of several hundred years as to be almost unintelligible, whilst from the head of the deer a piece has been cut out by a cannon ball, and the clean fracture made over 20 years ago is as sharp and clear as if it had been made yesterday. The contrast between the two surfaces somehow brings home to one the venerable age of the block. Could that dog but speak what a tale he might unfold. As it is, however, he can do nothing of the sort, for the unsparing hand of time has worn his tail away. A most fitting conclusion. A. J. E.

### Club Reports.

#### RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB.

##### FIRST FIFTEEN.

##### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. MERCHANT TAYLORS'.

The above match was played at Crosby, on Saturday, October 6th. The Institute were outplayed from the start, the score at half-time being Merchant Taylors' School, 3 goals, 5 tries; Liverpool Institute, *nil*. After half-time the play was a little better, but the Merchants succeeded in running in four times more, the final score reading:—Merchant Taylors', 5 goals, 7 tries; Liverpool Institute, *nil*.

##### LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE v. BIRKENHEAD SCHOOL.

Played at Birkenhead, on Wednesday, 17th October. In the first half the play was mostly in the Institute's "25." About five minutes after the start our opponents scored a try, which was not

converted. Before half-time they ran in three tries more, one of which was converted. Afterwards the Institute played better, but the forwards again did not pack well, the ball rarely getting out to the three-quarters. The final score was:—Birkenhead School, 2 goals, 4 tries; Institute, *nil*.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE *v.* MR. GARDNER'S TEAM.

This match was played at Sefton Park, on October 20. The game started rather late. Towards the end of the first half Langdon scored near the touch line, but the place kick was a failure. On resuming the game, the Institute played much better, the forwards heeling out more; the passing also was better. About five minutes before call of time, Gardner scored a very easy try between the posts, the try being converted. Score: Mr. Gardner's team, 1 goal; Institute, 1 try. Mr. R. J. Ewart, kindly refereed for us.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE *v.* WATERLOO HIGH SCHOOL.

Played on Wednesday, October 31st, at Sefton Park. The School kicked off against the wind. After a series of scrums in the School's "25," Cato kicked over the Waterloo line, and Hawkes touched down. Hawkes took the kick but failed to convert the try. Several free kicks were awarded, mostly to the Institute, but nothing was gained by them. Final score: Liverpool Institute, 1 try; Waterloo High School, *nil*. Mr. Caldecott kindly acted as referee.

## SECOND FIFTEEN.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE *v.* PARKFIELD SCHOOL.

Played on the latter's ground, on Wednesday, October 31st. Parkfield scored 6 goals and the Institute a try. Purdy scored the try for the Institute. O. W. Jones also got over but the try was disallowed.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE *v.* MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL.

Played at Sefton Park, on Saturday, November 3rd. Score:—Merchant Taylors, 1 goal, 2 tries; Liverpool Institute, 2 tries.

## SWIMMING CLUB (HIGH SCHOOL).

The Annual Swimming Sports of this Club were held on Thursday, July 12th, 1894, at the Cornwallis Street Baths. First on the programme was the Championship Race, there were two entries only, F. P. Cox, and E. Gleave. Gleave led at first, but was finally beaten by half a length. Second was the One-length Race—1st, G. L. Knowles; 2nd, G. E. Shaw. The Two-lengths—1st, William R. Long; 2nd, W. E. Carter; 3rd, W. C. Thorley. The Four-lengths—1st, Cecil M. Long; 2nd, W. E. Carter; 3rd, H. G. Humphreys; but as no competitor was allowed to take more than one prize in the handicap races, W. E. Carter, who won both the second prizes in the two and four-lengths respectively, accordingly took the second prize given in the Four-lengths.

Neat Diving—1st, F. P. Cox; 2nd, H. Cottle.

The Squadron Race, the most exciting race of the afternoon, was won by the High School only by a few yards, but had it not been for the excellent swimming of F. P. Cox, the High School would certainly have lost this race. The High School team was:—E. Gleave (*Capt.*), H. T. Long, F. P. Cox. The thanks of the Club are due to all the masters who kindly helped us in managing the Sports. The Humane Society's Medal will be competed for on Friday the 5th.

## SWIMMING GALA (COMMERCIAL SCHOOL).

This event took place on Friday, July 13th. It was witnessed by a large audience. The results were as follows:—Ten-lengths Championship—1st, W. Waterhouse; 2nd, J. Shankland. Six-lengths Scratch—1st, A. Slater; 2nd, J. Dowson. Four-lengths Scratch—1st, Bayliss; 2nd, R. Dodson. Two-lengths Handicap—1st, E. C. Evans; 2nd, Bousfield. One-length for beginners—1st, Bromley; 2nd, Mason. Diving for Objects was won by H. Cheeseright. Long Plunge was won by A. May. Humane Society's Medal was won by H. Cheeseright.

## LACROSSE CLUB.

A general meeting of the Lacrosse Club was held on September , at which the following officers were elected:—*Captain*—W. H. Gem; *Vice-Captain*—J. A. S. Clague; *Hon. Treasurer*—Mr. J. H. Raundrup; *Hon. Secretary*—Mr. E. J. Kefford; *Committee*—H. Hurter, H. G. Thomas, H. M. Tayler.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE *v.* BIRKENHEAD 2ND.

The above match was played at Wavertree, on Saturday, Oct. 13th. The visitors pressed and soon scored from a scrum. The weight of their opponents told on the much lighter Institute Team. From a foul, Thomas got the ball and scored with a shot that gave the visiting custodian no chance. In the end the visitors won by 5 goals to 1. Fitzhugh and Jeffs showed good form for Birkenhead; while Gem, Hurter, Thomas, and Hvistendahl played well for the Institute.

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE *v.* WOODLANDS SCHOOL, MANCHESTER.

Played on the Liverpool ground at Wavertree, on Wednesday, October 31st. The first half of the game was very keenly contested, and the excellent defence of Gem, Hurter, and Hvistendahl, and Samuel in goal prevented the strong attack of Woodlands from notching more than two points. After half-time, however, in spite of the good defence form, and the renewed energy of Cattley and Thomas on the attack, Woodlands managed to score five times in succession; the final result being, Woodlands 7 goals, Institute *nil*. Hooper, Turner, Watson, and Asquith, all played pluckily on the attack, but being so greatly out-weighted, they were unable to

pierce through their opponents' defence. For the visitors Foster, Boyd, Ross, and Young, were all very good, Foster especially, who scored 4 out of the 7 goals.

### In Memoriam.

WILLIAM PERCY SMITH,  
DIED SEPTEMBER 17TH, 1894, AT CALLAO,  
AGED 27 YEARS.

### Events for November.

Wednesday,	November	7th—Lacrosse, v. Hulme Grammar School.
Thursday,	"	8th—Debating Society—Paper, "The Conversion of Niagara."
Saturday,	"	10th—Rugby Football, v. Ellesmere College (away). Lacrosse, v. Liverpool Old Boys.
Wednesday,	"	14th—Rugby Football, v. Liverpool College (M. S.) (away). Association Football, v. Farnworth Grammar School (home).
Thursday,	"	15th—Debating Society—Debate.
Saturday,	"	17th—Rugby Football (1st Team), v. University College (home). Rugby Football (2nd Team), v. Liverpool College U. S. (away). Lacrosse, v. Manchester Grammar School.
Wednesday,	"	21st—Rugby Football (1st Team) v. Merchant Taylors' (home). Rugby Football (2nd Team) v. Waterloo High School (away). Association Football, v. University College (away) Prize Distribution.
Thursday,	"	22nd—Debating Society.
Saturday,	"	24th—Lacrosse v. Birkenhead Juniors. Rugby Football (2nd Team) v. Merchant Taylors (away).
Wednesday,	"	28th—Rugby Football v. Birkenhead School (home). Association Football v. Liverpool College (away).
Thursday,	"	29th—Debating Society.

### Editorial Notices.

We acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of an annual subscription from Mrs. A. Holt.

We have received the following *Magazines* since our last issue: *Liverpool College U. S. Magazine*, *Ruthin School Magazine*, *Kelly College Chronicle*, *St. Edward's School Chronicle*, *Ardingly Annals*, *Sphinx*, *High School Record*, *Plymothian*.