

“Reading maketh a full man; Conference a ready man; and Writing an exact man.”—BACON.

THE

Elizabethan.

F A S T I.

THE CONCERT, DECEMBER 22ND, 1886. — Our usual Christmas Concert was given on Wednesday, the 22nd of December, and was a great success. Where all do their best to please the audience, and that audience is willing to appreciate the attempt and not conceal its pleasure, it would be strange if it were not successful. The season of the year also seems to send a glow through everybody. We boys were happy enough, for apart from the fact that the holidays were about to commence, we all looked forward to Christmas.

But now as to the concert. The hall was decorated very prettily, and was quite full. Our conductor, Mr. Columbine, was a host in himself, and the concert from first to last showed what pains he had taken to make it a success, and also showed that his teaching is not superficial. Why, however, that which it is said “never palls,” viz., “Winchester Domum,” was left out, is beyond our comprehension. We boys are proud of it, and if anything damped our courage in cheering for everything and everybody, it was that our concert seemed unfinished, and there was a void and we knew it; and although it cannot be helped now, let us hope it will never be omitted again.

Part I. consisted of carols, part songs, etc. :—(1) Carol, “In dulci Jubilo,” was well rendered, and the music

exceedingly pretty; (2) part song, "See how lightly;" (3) song, "The skipper and his boy," was well sung by H. E. Newby; (4) pianoforte solo, "Tarantelle in A flat," by one of our old boys, R. C. Pitson; (5) part song, "April showers," by G. M. Searle, E. R. Watson, Mr. Warren and Mr. Hodson; (6) solo and chorus, "The image of the rose," the solo by E. H. Morehen being very well done, and well backed up by the chorus; (7) Mr. Columbine next sang "The message." The gem in this part was (8) a vocal waltz, "Little sailors."

Part II.—The second part commenced with a part song, "The echo," which was followed by (2) "Sally in our alley," by E. H. Morehen; (3) a pianoforte solo (*a*) "Serenata," (*b*) "Si Oiseau j'étais," by Mr. H. Francis Gregg; (4) a part song, "The boats bound along;" (5) song, "Out on the deep," capitally sung by Mr. A. G. Josling; (6) Morehen then sang "Come away;" (7) the last piece on the programme was a carol, "Peaceful night." The concert was concluded by the National Anthem, and as usual hearty cheers were raised for the holidays, visitors, etc.

FIELD ACCOUNT.

BALANCE SHEET FOR 1886.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
	L.	s.	D.		L.	s.	D.
Donations and Subscriptions ..	8	18	0	Balance due from 1885 ..	9	13	7
Fines	1	1	6	Labour	1	10	0
Rent of Tennis Grounds ..	12	15	0	Stamps and Stationery ..	0	3	10½
Fees—Spring Term ..	10	5	0	Cricket and Football Materials ..	4	7	4
„ Summer Term ..	10	5	0	Rent	48	0	0
„ Michaelmas Term ..	9	5	0	Rates and Taxes	2	11	10
Balance due to Treasurer ..	14	7	1½	Repairs	0	10	0
	£66	16	7½		£56	16	7½

PAVILION FUND.

	L.	s.	D.
Balance due to Treasurer as per last No.	2	4	9
Anonymous Donation received	0	10	0
	£1	14	9
Still due			

“COYNED AND COUNTERFAIT CONCEIPTS”
OF YEAD MILLER.

Collecting foreign stamps and postmarks has always been a source of amusement and instruction to readers of the *Elizabethan*; and now that the coins in the School Museum have been classified, it was thought that a few remarks explanatory of the specimens in our cabinet might prove not uninteresting. In the study of coins we peer into “the dark backward and abysm of time”; we trace not only the history of a nation, but the history of the national art. In the Roman series we find the gradual decline of art contemporaneous with the fall of the Empire, in more modern times we can follow the wanderings and fluctuating fortunes of Charles I. by the mint-marks on the coins, and rude “seige-pieces” of that misguided monarch. Much has been learnt from coins that has never been recorded in books, many facts that might have been obscure have been verified by the legends and symbols on these speaking relics. The elegance of the Greek series vividly recalls the refinement of the Greek character, besides affording us glimpses of mythology and graphic records of the national games. At first we find Ceres symbolised by an ear of corn; Bacchus by a bunch of grapes; while a stag pourtrays the huntress Diana. Later, however, the deties of Grecian mythology were represented by heads equalling in elegance of design and execution the masterpieces of sculpture in the Phidian days of Grecian art. These “metallic monuments” also depict the public games; the torch on the reverse of some coins reminds us of one of the most interesting of these

national institutions, referring as it does to the races at nightfall in honour of Prometheus, in which the competitors held aloft a burning torch, the first to finish with his torch still alight gaining the prize. Passing to the Roman series, we are met by a gallery of authentic portraits, by what Addison has described as a “State Gazette,” recording triumphs in war and peace, graphic illustrations of the architecture, dress, implements and customs of the Roman people. The subjugation of Egypt is announced on some coins of Augustus; the capture of Judæa on those of Vespasian, whilst the numerous issues of Trajan all record the giving of a king to the Parthians, a race of roving warriors and skilful archers who dwelt in a district to the north of the Caspian Sea. Among the several Roman coins in our museum, one of the most interesting is a bronze Trajan; on the obverse the superscription is IMP CAES NER TRAIANO OPTIMO AVG GER, the legend is continued on the reverse—P M TR P COS VI PP DAC PARTHICO. (To the best Emperor Cæsar Nerva Trajan Augustus Germanicus Dacicus Parthicus, High Pontiff [exercising] tribunician power, consul for the sixth time, Father of the Country.) The large s.c. encircled by a wreath, shows that the coin was issued “Senatus Consulto”—by the decree of the senate. An inscription such as the above is no doubt very complicated; but the English coins of the four Georges are equally difficult to decipher. The following is from the reverse of a George II. shilling in our cabinet—M.B.F.ET.H.REX.F.D.B.ET.L.D.S.R.I.A.T.ET.E, 1745. (King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, Duke of Brunswick and Lunenburg, and Arch-treasurer and Elector of the Holy Roman Empire, 1745.)

The earliest form of the Roman “*as*” was square, and Pliny tells us that Servius Tullius nearly six hundred years before the Christian era caused the images of oxen to be stamped upon them; the historian thus derives *pecunia*

from *pecu*—large cattle. When the *as* assumed the circular shape, the bi-frontal God Janus was stamped on the obverse, and a ship or prow of a ship on the reverse. These circular coins were used for gambling. Can we not fancy Cicero's groom shouting "Capita: aut navim"—heads or tails—as he indulged in the inspiriting game of pitch and toss with Catiline's auriga; their masters meanwhile are waging wordy warfare in the Senate house, and the great ship of the State pitches and tosses in the troublous seas of treason and conspiracy. Speaking of pitch and toss brings us to another coin in our collection which has evidently been used for gambling; it is really two "Carolus a Carolo" farthings welded together, so that both sides should show heads. The "Carolus a Carolo," or Charles II. farthings and halfpence of 1665, were the first real copper coins positively issued in England. A copper coinage had been attempted in the times of the Commonwealth, the two Stuarts, and Elizabeth, but had become unpopular, and had so been discontinued. The half-testoons or sixpences of Elizabeth's reign remind us of the time when the middle aisle of St. Paul's Cathedral was a fashionable lounge; here it was that the dandies of the day would interview their tailors and express aristocratic approval of the lately introduced tobacco. Should the fop mount the steps of the choir during service, one of the choir boys would demand a fine. Drawing a half-testoon from a "perfumed embroidered purse," he would "quoit into the boy's hands, that it was heard above the first lesson, although it were read in a voice as big as one of the great organs." The Elizabethan sixpences in our cabinet are hammered coin; one bears the date 1573, and so was coined in the year that our school was founded; on the obverse is a well executed bust of the Queen, the "Rosa sine spinâ"—or rose without a thorn—being placed behind the head; on the reverse "*a shilde of silver white, a crosse endlong, and overthwart*

full perfecte”; with the motto “Posui Deu(m) adiutorem meu(m)” —I have made God my helper—a legend which had been introduced at the same time as “*Dei gratiâ*” in the reign of Edward III. The cross is the origin of the gipsy’s request for the noble lord or pretty lady to *cross* her hand with a shilling. In numismatics we discover the origin of many words and phrases in use to-day. To mention a few, the word *shot* in “paying his shot” is a corrupted form of *scattæ*, the earliest coins of the Saxon period; the same word is again traced in “scot and lot.” *Joey*, the street-boy word for a fourpenny piece, owes its origin to Joseph Hume, who was most energetic in getting these coins introduced. As they to a great extent superseded sixpences in the payment of short cab fares, they soon became exceedingly unpopular. *Bawbee* is the corrupted Scotch pronunciation of “bas-billon,” debased silver coins worth sixpence Scotch; the word is now only used of half-pennies. A second of our Elizabethan sixpences is dated 1561. In this year a new process of coining by means of the mill and screw was introduced by a Frenchman, Philip Mastrelle, who is said to have eventually been executed for uttering counterfeit money. Perhaps a more interesting coin still is that from which the whole of the inscription has been clipped. From the very earliest time we read of severe punishments against coiners and clippers; the Roman Emperor Constantine ordered coiners to be put to the sword, burnt alive, or to be punished with some such violent death, whether they were guilty of clipping the coin and diminishing its quantity, or adulterating its quality and passing it as good by manifest fraud and imposture. Our own Henry III. was “surprised and angry” that the Viscount Hertford should permit clipped money to circulate in his bailiwick. Through each succeeding period most vigorous measures were put in force against these lawless spirits, terrible examples were made, men and women were drawn on

hurdles to Newgate and hanged or burned for this pernicious practice; but the pursuit was too lucrative to be checked even by the most severe penalties. The milled money for a time prevented clipping, but before long the practice was as much in vogue as ever, the diagonal lines on the edge being reproduced by means of a file. The silver coins of George II. have a serpentine line very difficult to imitate with a file; but it is only more recent legislation that has to a great extent stopped the mutilation of the currency. Throughout the middle ages the coins even when first issued were much debased; we read that in some of the silver pennies issued in the reign of Henry VIII., the alloy was in the proportion of half copper to half silver; these coins having a full-face representation of the king soon began to show the base metal at the tip of the nose, which gained for the monarch the nick-name of "Old copper-nose." The series of the four Georges is exceedingly interesting, the improvement in each reign of the Britannia on the reverse of the copper coinage should be especially noticed. We have not space to dwell on the different Mint-marks, the initials of engravers, or the symbols indicating the various sources of the metal; but it might be well to explain the word "Lima" under the bust of George II. on the shillings. The coins on which this word occurs were minted either from the silver captured by Lord Anson, in the great Acapulco Galleon; or from the silver taken by the Prince Frederic and Duke privateers. Hawkins is inclined to think the former tradition more probable. Mention should be made of a twopenny piece in our cabinet; this coin has been hollowed and turned into a box; it is also interesting as being one of the early copper coinage issued on behalf of the Government by Messrs. Boulton and Watt, of Soho, Birmingham, in 1797. All coins issued by this firm are remarkable for the purity of the metal and careful workmanship. In 1816, when the Prince of Wales was Regent,

the same firm also issued silver coins; the specimens in our collection show the careful beading and milling, but also the coarse, harsh expression on the King's face, a defect which marred the issue. We have not touched on the many foreign coins, as they are chiefly modern and require little description. The Chinese coins are interesting, as preserving the tradition of ring-money; these coins do not bear the name of the emperor, but inscriptions such as “illustrious reign,” “happy reign,” etc. The very numerous coins issued for our colonies are worthy of attention, as also the bank and trade tokens, the token struck in commemoration of Lord Howe and the glorious 1st of June, and the 1813 token of Field-Marshal Wellington. The increasing interest and importance attached to the study of coins should incite our younger readers to a careful examination of the coins in our cabinet, as a means of initiating themselves into the study of this most instructive branch of archæology.

STUDENT LIFE IN GERMANY.

We take the following interesting account of German school life from the *Sutton Valence School Magazine*:-

"A former inmate of Sutton Valence, who spent a year in Germany, received, as far as I remember, rather an unfavourable impression of the Germans and their ways; this I can quite understand, taking the circumstances into consideration, and I believe that most of the English boys who attend German schools have also a low opinion of the German boys. At the German schools there are no real games, the school hours are very much longer than in England, and the masters stand usually in quite a different position as regards the boys. The boys are rather childish, and cowardly; and although many masters discourse at length about the honourable principles of all sorts that the boys have, I am assured by English here that it is not so; for example, 'cribbing' goes on *very* largely here.

"But it is quite another thing when one gets into a Hochschule, which is a sort of college. Then, with every imaginable freedom, one sees German life in a very altered aspect. The inmates of a Hochschule are the celebrated 'students,' so noted in England for their duelling propensities. I believe very little is known of student life, and so I propose to give a slight sketch of my experience as Verbindung's student in Stuttgart. Every Verbindung, or club, has a private room in some Wirthschaft, where we hold on stated evenings in the week our Kneipe, or convivial meeting, where we drink, smoke, and sing. On the average, on these evenings, each student drinks as much as fifteen of the Sutton beer glasses, or more. The room is expensively decorated with the shields and coats of arms of the

Verbindung; with banners, and valuable horns and drinking utensils. Each beer glass, with the arms engraved on the cover, costs 12s.; the pipes average 10s. each; and each member has an ebony stick with ivory handle, and the 'Zirkel' or monogram of the Verbindung carved upon it. Some Verbindungs carry little caps, and bands across the waistcoat, of the Verbindungs colours; others, mine for example, only carry the sticks and the Zirkel in ivory as a tie-pin. The newly-entered members are for a few months called Fuchs, and have to do what the old members, or Bursch, tell them to do. Students have to be extremely particular in everything; the drinking is attended with a very large number of rules. Every Verbindung has a dog, which is kept at the general expense; the principal thing is that he should be able to drink beer. Each has also its own serving man, who wears the colours in a sort of livery, and is paid out of the common purse. The friendship between the members of the Verbindung is very great, and I must here say, that coming as a perfect stranger amongst foreigners, I was received with a friendliness which a foreigner would generally look for in vain at an English school. The students attend much to the 'corpore sano'; riding, rowing, long excursions, and fencing, occupy much of their time. That they are cowardly no one could say after witnessing the scene I saw three mornings ago, in which only a mere chance prevented me from taking an active part. Early in the morning some thirty students, from different Verbindungs, set off by train to a distant village, where we went into the upper room of a lonely inn. Here some innocent looking bundles were unpacked, and revealed several pairs of sharp and long rapiers. When the spectators were supplied with pipes and beer, and scouts were posted to give warning if the police appeared, the first two combatants, breast and arms padded, face and head bare, except for a strong pair of spectacles, stepped into the

middle of the room, and stood six paces apart. 'One, two, three!' Each took three steps forward, and the blades flashed and crashed, and shot out sparks, till a jet of blood spurts from one's forehead. Halt! is called; the doctor examines the wound, and pronounces it not dangerous. Again they begin, and soon the other gets his cheek laid open from ear to nose, but in a few seconds retaliates by giving his adversary a cut that lays the whole of his cheek open, so that the teeth are seen through the gaping wound, and the saliva glands are severed. He falls fainting to the ground, and the doctor proceeds to sew up the wounds, while the next two take their turn. The next three duels are not very eventful; then comes the last, between a member of my Verbindung and another student, who pushed him on the street when he was in my company, and it was for some time uncertain whether he or I should fight the duel. This ends in my friend, who is a splendid fencer, getting a few scratches, while his opponent receives two on the face and five on the head, all deep cuts, the last one cutting some arteries, and putting an end to the duel. When the students' heads are bound up, we drive slowly back again in chaises to Stuttgart, and, passing all police dangers safely, the wounded are put to bed, and we all disperse. The parents must be very stupid to believe the usual explanation of a scarred face, *i.e.*, the explosion of something in a chemical laboratory.

I, or any other student, am bound in honour to challenge ^{ge} any student or military officer who purposely pushes or insults me. Officers generally fight with pistols or with the heavy sabel, the whole being exposed as well as the head, so it is much more dangerous than with the lighter rapier. To stand perfectly still, and be cut about like this, not even moving the head out of the way of a coming blow, certainly requires a considerable amount of nerve; quite as much as football!

**“OLD BARNET-ELIZABETHANS” ANNUAL
DINNER.**

To the Editor of “The Elizabethan.”

DEAR SIR,—As you were good enough to publish a letter from me last year in the *Elizabethan*, drawing the attention of “Old Boys,” and all readers of your magazine, to our Annual Dinner, I make bold to so far trespass on your kindness as to ask you to publish another this year, for the time of holding it is fast drawing near.

The Committee have decided to hold it on the same date as last year, viz., Tuesday, May 3rd, at Anderton’s Hotel, Fleet Street.

We have fortunately obtained the consent of the Rev. J. B. LEE, to take the Chair on this occasion.

The day fixed on is, as all “Old Elizabethans” know, the twelfth anniversary of the re-opening of the School under the new scheme.

The Committee do not intend to limit the dinner strictly to “Old Boys,” but will be only too pleased to see any friends present, but they must be introduced by “Old Elizabethans.”

I am glad to be able to say that last year’s dinner, as the first of these annual gatherings, was a grand success; as any of your readers, who were unfortunate enough not to be present, may have seen from the account you published of it.

Before closing this, I wish to draw attention to a paragraph in my last year’s letter, which I am very sorry to say has been altogether disregarded, for I have not received a single address. If you remember, Sir, I there requested all “Old

Boys" immediately on leaving School to forward to me, as Secretary to the Committee, their names and addresses; also to notify any after changes that might take place—by so doing they would greatly assist my efforts to keep a true and full list of "Old Elizabethans," which I regret to say is very incomplete.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

S. HUGGINS,

Isca House, Barnet,

Hon. Sec.

March 21st, 1887.

LIBRARY.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.—A new picture entitled "The Armada is in sight," can now be seen on the walls in the Library.

NEW BOOKS.—Chambers' Journal, 1885, presented by MISS ACASON.

Natural Pailosophy, 2 vols.; presented by Rev. G. STOTT, M.A.

Twenty-eight copies of the Journal of the Society of Arts, presented by H. KEMBLE, Esq.

The following have been added by purchase:—

Memoirs of Warren Hastings; 3 vols.

Life of General Picton; 2 vols.

Life of Sir W. Scott; 1 vol.

Life of Lord Harris; 1 vol.

Alexander's Transatlantic Sketches; 2 vols.

Turnbull's Austria; 2 vols.

Bremner's Excursions in Russia; 2 vols.

- Beechey's Voyage to Pacific; 1 vol.
 Victories of British Armies; 2 vols.
 Kolf's Voyage in New Guinea; 1 vol.
 Stephens' Travels in the East; 2 vols.
 Summer and Winter in the Pyrenees; 1 vol.
 Gleig's Germany; 3 vols.
 Malcom's Travels in Asia; 2 vols.
 Captain Marryat's America; 6 vols.
 Stuart's North America; 2 vols.
 Tennent's Belgium; 2 vols.
 Temple's Excursions in the Mediteranean; 2 vols.
 Barron's Iceland; 1 vol.
 Three Months' Leave; 1 vol.
 Chamier's Jack Adams the Mutineer; 1 vol.
 Punch, 1886; 2 vols.
 Cambridge Examination Papers; 1 vol.
-

NOTES OF NEWS.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.—At a General Meeting held in the Hall, on March 15th, the following boys were elected to serve on the Committee of the Athletic Sports:—Brittain ma., Gardner, Gooding, Leech, Nield ma., Tilden. The date at present fixed is Saturday May 21st. The Committee propose to add to the usual list of events an Old Boys' Quarter Mile, flat. The Secretary will be glad to hear as soon as possible from any O. E. who is likely to compete. The entrance fee will be 2s. 6d. Entries, with colours, must be made to the Secretary on or before Saturday, May 14th.

OLD BOYS' DINNER.—As will be seen from another page, this has been fixed for Tuesday, May the 3rd.

CRICKET FIXTURES—

May 28, 1st XI. *v.* Merchant Taylor's 2nd XI.

June 4, 1st XI. *v.* Park Wanderers C.C.

June 8, 1st XI. *v.* St. Alban's Grammar School.

June 18, 1st XI. *v.* Park Wanderers C.C.

June 29, 1st XI. *v.* St. Alban's Grammar School.

July 23, 1st XI. *v.* Merchant Taylor's 2nd XI.

June 15, 2nd XI. *v.* St. Alban's Grammar School, 2nd XI

July 6, 2nd XI. *v.* St. Alban's Grammar School 2nd XI.

BOYS WHO LEFT LAST TERM.—Cowing, L., Nield, J. E., Cox, A., Reeves, P., Howard-Ford, F., Rogers, S. C., Napper, W. J., Beazley, H. G., Beazley, J. H., Halsey, G. W., Phillips, F. S.

NEW BOYS.—Form V.—Adam, W. E.; Form II., Butcher, H. J., James, H., Eldridge, H. Lower School *i.*—Matthews P.; Lower School *ii.*—Smith, F. C., Kemp H. S., Francis, E. G., Nash, H. E., Halsey E., Clayton P., Turnbull, S. A. J., Veale, W.

THE HOLIDAYS.—These will begin April 22nd, and will probably extend to May 4th.
