

LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE SCHOOLS MAGAZINE.

VOL. V. No.2.

NOVEMBER, 1890.

PRICE 1d.

ALTHOUGH nothing of great note has happened during the past month, yet a number of minor changes have taken place, some of which no doubt have, in one way or another, affected the majority of boys. The old system of marking has been entirely superseded, and an admirable one introduced, which gives the boy with the aggregate number of marks the superior position. This, of course, is entirely necessary; but to those boys who, with the possession of talent, are fond of taking half-holidays, it will not prove wholly beneficial.

The Harrier Club, which proved such a decided success last year, is again started, and runs are arranged by a committee consisting of High and Commercial boys. This incident reminds us strongly of the approach of winter, and, no doubt, recent changes in the weather have made us make an inspection of our skates. We feel sure, since the rule about "flannels" has been enforced, that the starting of say 100 or 200 boys for a long spin in the country would present a fine sight to an onlooker. Competitors for medals, this year, will have to look sharp, as some of the Harriers—or, at any rate, the High-Schoolers—will have extra training at the Gymnasium.

The Choral and Orchestral Societies still hold their practices, under the conductorships of Messrs. Bain and Bulmer respectively. From our knowledge of their proceedings, we can say that both give promise of becoming eminently successful societies. Although new clubs have recently been formed in this school, and a due amount of athletic training fully sympathised with, yet a most important adjunct to the proper carrying out of athletics seems to have been forgotten. We refer to the absence of a field, which should either be the property of the Institute, or else rented by it, and in which all outdoor games could be played. Such an acquisition would, we are sure, prove beneficial, not only to participators in the sports, but to onlookers as well.

The Football Club still shows some of the valour and pluck among its members which was thought to have entirely died out in a school where there were such awful—crams, and crammers, too. Although it is improbable that we should become the happy possessors of the shield, yet surely it is not dishonourable to come second on the list.

The Chess Club has once more started its course, and the assistance rendered by Mr. Eaves will, no doubt, prove valuable to those fond of this highly-scientific game.

The Association Football Club seems to be progressing rather

favourably, but we think some of its members are prejudiced, especially against foreign umpires. It should be distinctly understood that the peculiar function of the *Magazine* is not to openly insult people because of the blind zeal of a few unscrupulous persons, or the refusal of an individual to concur in certain opinions entertained by them.

Reducing the reports of all clubs down to a general statement, we should say that those which have been active this year have been credits to the school.

We sincerely ask pardon for leaving to the end of this article the mention of a most notable event, and one which could not happen too often—for small boys, at any rate—the half-holiday. No doubt these dreadfully grateful creatures will be on the look-out for their next holiday-gainer. It is our duty to refuse enlightenment on this point. Let next Oxford results tell the tale.

As this *Magazine* is vitally connected with the Debating Society, we are delighted to be able to tell of the steady increase in the number of its members, and also of the heightened interest Commercial boys are beginning to take in its development. The sale of last month's *Magazine* eclipsed even that of the preceding, a circumstance which is greatly dependent upon the way in which Mr. Bulmer has insured its sale in the Commercial, and on the endeavours of Mr. Brown in the High School. Readers will perhaps be surprised to see another change in the general formulæ at the end of this article—a change which has taken place because of the suitability of a number for the thorough distribution of work. We conclude by thanking all those masters who have in any way facilitated the *Magazine's* sale, and write ourselves,

H. C. HILTON, EDITOR.

J. H. ADDINSELL, }
W. O. JONES, } SUB-EDITORS.

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L.I.L.D.S.

OCT. 2, 1890.—A meeting was held on this date, A. J. Ewart presiding. After the transaction of some preliminary business, J. B. Dale (formerly Chairman of the Society) read a paper on "Speaking Machines." After a short account of all speaking generally, and the effect of vowel-sounds, etc. on the month, he divided speaking machines into two classes:—(1) those which emit vowel-sounds, and (2) those which reproduce sounds given to them. Under the first head he explained at some length the machine and method of a Russian professor, and gave particulars of another instrument, designed by Kemplin, reading an extract descriptive of it. He then described Faber's and Willis's machines respectively, and expressed it as his opinion that such constructions were of but little use. He next proceeded to treat of machines which fall under the second head; commented upon Edison and his work, and gave an exhaustive exposition of the phonograph, in which he criticised and explained its defects. After dwelling for a few minutes upon the gramophone and graphophone, the essayist closed his paper, amid much applause, with the hope that a bright future might be in store for the phonograph and kindred "Speaking Machines." A short discussion then ensued, the speakers being A. E. Ewart, Lyons, W. O. Jones, Wolde, and Creighton. After the Chairman, in a short speech, had thanked Dale for his excellent paper, and the latter had suitably replied, the meeting adjourned.

October 9.—A meeting was held on this date, A. J. Ewart in the chair. Wolde moved "That new members may, if they wish, for one month from date of election read their speeches," and W. O. Jones seconded. After some demur on the part of Wolde, Braham, seconded by Lyons, moved an amendment, viz.—"That all members may at any time read any speech whatever." On the matter being put to the vote, the motion was carried by ten votes to seven. Clark then

read a paper on "Sleep." He began by treating of the origin of sleep, the difficulty of obtaining a satisfactory definition of it, its primary causes, and its effect upon the wasted tissues of the body. He then spoke of the effects of narcotics and opiates, and the duration of sleep, and gave several startling examples of long periods of somnolence. He further treated of the healthfulness of sleep, and the absolute necessity of thoroughly obtaining and enjoying it, giving a most graphic account of the horrors of deprivation. He, from time to time, told several startling tales, illustrative of his remarks, which greatly entertained his hearers, and concluded his paper with the hearty applause of all present. The paper was then briefly discussed by Wolde, Braham, and A. J. Ewart. Clark then replied. Wolde then resigned the editorship of the *Magazine*, and proposed that two sub-editors be appointed to assist Hilton (the former co-editor). This having been supported, Hilton moved an amendment, "That there be two editors only of the *Magazine*." The voting resulted in a majority of ten for the motion. The following were thereupon proposed sub-editors:—W. O. Jones, Roberts, Addinsell, and Mohammed. Of these, W. O. Jones received 12 votes, Addinsell 11, Roberts 5, Mohammed 3. The two first were consequently declared elected. The meeting then adjourned..

October 16.—E. J. Clark presided at the meeting held on the above date. A. J. Ewart opened on the affirmative side in the debate, "Is Free Education desirable?" After dividing education generally into four heads, and defining each in turn, he turned his attention to our present system of education, which he accused of being incomplete. He classified his arguments for free education thus:—1. Why should we *not* leave education to the individual? 2. Why should the State pay for education? Having given arguments in support of these two, he demonstrated the good which would accrue both generally and individually on the adoption of free education, by the disappearance of vice, dirt, and ignorance. He closed his speech by dealing with various objections to the scheme. W. O. Jones replied. He combatted several of Mr. Ewart's arguments, treated of the various schemes of raising the required sums of money, condemning each in turn, and quoting the Rev. Canon Diggle in support of his facts. Having given various statistics bearing out his statements, he next contrasted the attendance of free and paying scholars, and demonstrated the futility of comparing England with America on this question. He closed his remarks by alluding to the ill-effect which the carrying out of the scheme would have upon the temperance cause. The subject was then debated, A. E. Ewart, Mohammed, and Jenkins supporting the affirmative; Wolde, Harvey, Lyons, and Baddeley the negative. The voting showed a majority of four for the affirmative. The meeting subsequently adjourned.

A meeting was held on October 23; A. J. Ewart in the chair. Kanthack (proposed by Roberts, seconded by W. O. Jones) was unanimously elected a member. The Chairman then called upon Wolde to read his paper on "Lord Macaulay." He traced the course of Macaulay's life from his birth in 1800, through his school, university, and political life, to his death in 1857. He commented upon various of his prose works, chiefly the History, which he charged with three defects—(1), Excessive diffuseness; (2), lack of generalised views; (3), deficient historical spirit. He further read a criticism on the "Lays of Ancient Rome," by Mr. J. Cotter Morison, quoting one or two passages. After treating of the religious side of Macaulay's nature, he closed his paper with three quotations—the first, the inscription composed by Prof. Jebb for the statue at Cambridge; the second, Macaulay's own words about Sir William Temple; the third, an extract from Carlyle's "Lectures on Heroes." In the discussion which followed, Braham, Harris, Roberts, W. O. Jones, Harvey, Addinsell, and the chairman took part. The meeting then adjourned.

—♦— CHAT ON THE CORRIDOR.

THE opinion seems to be gaining ground that the average schoolboy is too much crammed, that he is merely a machine, incapable of reasoning, and possessing a minimum of general knowledge. This idea we are compelled to repudiate, and advise people who put forward such so-called truths, to base their remarks on observation. O, that one of these sceptics had but visited a certain upper room in the Liverpool Institute the other day! There is no doubt that all such prejudiced thoughts would at once have been dispelled, and he would come

consideration was the poor, harmless ostrich. The youth's description ran in a somewhat similar strain to the following:—"The ostrich is a biped who eats nails. It is a very savage animal, tame, and kept for its feathers, of which a goodly crop is obtained each year. Its eggs are hatched by means of an incubator or oven."

It was rather a pretty statement which appeared in last month's *Magazine* ("Chat on the Corridor"), and no doubt many youths will have been affected by it. It was merely a comparison between the debater and the non-debater, painting, in rather flaring colours, the brilliant future of the former. It may not be out of place in this "piece of chat" to attempt a slight description of that learned assembly's proceedings. We shall suppose that it is a "paper" night. The minutes of the last meeting's proceedings having been read, and no objections put forward as to their being signed by the chairman, there is a general clatter when the subject and name of the speaker are announced. The article having been got through and treated, perhaps, in a very scientific manner, discussion on the various points is invited. Now is the time for observation—now the time for picking out those who are destined to achieve fame. The front row in that intellectual meeting remains silent; the second seems to be continually goading some fellow on—it may be to fame or extinction—at any rate to "spout"; the third seems never to dream of airing its matured opinions; and the fourth presents a scene of jollity. Giggling is here carried on incessantly, and aspirants to fame are quickly dragged to the less giddy level of the form, where they are received on the points of pins stuck in corks. After a few minutes have elapsed, a youth of "giant strength of conscience" proceeds to disentangle himself from the mass of "webs" on the floor. The clatter again commences, and this time with renewed vigour, especially on the back row. The youth is heard asking, after a few moments' deliberation, of the further knowledge of the individual, who already believes himself to have displayed a sufficient amount in the reading of the paper. This is really rather hard, and it would be much better if members would confine themselves to the subject under discussion. The youths who were spoken of were the active ones; but it should not be forgotten that a great number of this intellectual association lie dormant during the whole proceedings.

The other day we came upon a paper by Mark Twain, on examples of *household* exercises of pupils in public schools. We shall just quote a few of them. Under the head of "Grammar," a scholar furnishes us with the following entirely new and interesting information:—"Gender is the distinguishing *noun*, without regard to sex. It is sometimes used in the third person plural, and is then a verb." To enlighten us further, he tells us that a verb is "something to eat," and that "adverbs should always be used as adjectives, and adjectives as adverbs, except when a 'qualifier' comes in between." Under the head of "Mathematics" we get the following:—"A straight line is any distance between two points; parallel lines are lines that can never meet until they run together; a circle is a round straight line, with a hole in the middle; things which are equal to each other are equal to anything else." This youth also furnishes us with a hitherto undiscovered rule in mensuration. He says—"To find the number of square feet in a room, you multiply the room by the number of feet. The product is the result." I feel sure that if this youth had lived in Euclid's time, we should have had a far clearer system of geometrical measurements. Leaving mathematics, and Mark Twain as well, we come to the analysts of our own time. The following dialogue took place between a father and his son:—"Small boy (who is learning chemistry): 'Father.'—Father: 'Well?'—S. B.: 'I've found out what Sequah puts in his bottles.'—Father: 'Well, what is it?'—S. B.: 'Corks!' (and there was music in the heir.)"

The following boys have been elected to scholarships and exhibitions by the directors:—Cochran Scholarship: F. M. Baddely. Tate Scholarships: F. W. Harradine and R. L. Curphy. Institute Scholarships: J. H. Grace, E. B. H. Millard, J. J. Fletcher, P. J. A. Francis, C. M. Jones, A. P. Banks, A. E. Ewart. Institute Exhibitions: W. N. Frazer, D. Braham, H. C. Hilton. We must apologise to the following for the non-insertion of their names among the successful candidates of the Oxford Locals:—Clark (C. S.), 1st class; and Lloyd (H. S.), 2nd class.

Probably it will be already known that the Chess Club has re-started. We wish it every success throughout the season, and hope that boys, even if they know practically nothing of the game, will join. We hear that Mr. Pares, with his usual kindness, has promised to teach them.

The last triumph achieved by an old Institute boy has reference to our old schoolfellow Sampson. Most of us, I think, will remember that, in 1888, he attained the exceptionally high position of third wrangler in the mathematical tripos (Part I.), at Cambridge. In 1889 he was placed in Class I, Part II. This year he obtained one of the highest honours which it is possible for the University to bestow, viz., Smith's Prize. Only the very highest wranglers enter, and it is a proof of great ability to win the coveted distinction. We have to congratulate Mr Owen with all our heart on his old pupil's high success, and hope that many more of his "alumni" will do equal credit to his teaching.

Few events have proved of greater moment this month than the half-holiday. It would be awfully interesting, I am sure, to know of the doings of some of our schoolfellows on that day. For days before that Saturday morning excursions were being discussed. Some of the Sixth thought of taking a row on the Float; some of the Commercial of not taking the holiday at all, because they wanted to "stew" for a longer one next year. Needless to say, none of these ardent pursuers of knowledge turned up at the gates on that sublime morning; probably they, or their brains, were sailing down the river of imagination, dimly wondering of the uselessness of mathematics as applicable to weather forecasts, or else of the next fine holiday. I sincerely hope that all youths, however angelic their feelings were on the dawning of that morn, made profitable use of the little relaxation.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

A MATCH was played on Wednesday, October 1st, versus Merchant Taylors, and resulted in a win for the Merchants, the score being:—3 goals, 2 tries, to nil. Considering that this was their first match, the Institute showed very good form. Bredin played fairly well as three quarters. A. J. Ewart played an excellent game, as also did F. E. Marshall. Rogers obtained all the points for the opposing side.

A MATCH was played on Saturday, October 4th, versus Ashford House (2nd XV.), and resulted in a win for the Institute. Our tries were obtained by J. Gething and A. J. Ewart, the latter kicking both goals. The result was as follows:—Institute, 2 goals; Ashford House, 3 tries.

On October 8th, our team met Wallasey Grammar School, at Sefton Park. This match again resulted in a victory for the Institute. The score being, Wallasey Grammar School:—1 goal; Institute, 3 goals, 6 tries, which were obtained by F. E. Marshall, six tries; Littler, one; R. Nott, one; and J. Gething, one. Jenkins kicked the three goals.

A MATCH was played on Wednesday, October 15th, versus Birkenhead School, at Sefton Park. The ground was in very bad condition, owing to the severity of the weather. The result was as follows:—Birkenhead School, 4 goals, 3 tries; Institute, nil.

On Saturday, October 18th, our team played the Liverpool College (M.S.), at Fairfield. The match resulted in a win for the Institute by 3 tries to 1. The tries or the Institute were obtained by J. Gething and A. J. Ewart.

A MATCH against Liverpool College (U.S.), was played on Wednesday, October 22nd, on our ground. This match ought to have been scratched, but owing to a misunderstanding, the College team turned up. Consequently the Institute had to play four second team men. Up to half-time the College succeeded in scoring one try (Wilson), but in the second half they ran in four times and kicked three goals. Our forwards played remarkably well, A. E. Ewart, C. K. Wilson, and R. Ewart, showing out splendidly. A word of praise is also due to Macphail who played a full-back. If he keeps up to his present form, he is certain to obtain his place in the 'Schools' team. A. Marshall played well at half, as also did W. L. Ker at three-quarters.

ASSOCIATION.

Saturday, October 4th, Institute versus Waterloo College, at Waterloo. This match was the first of the season and resulted in a win for the Institute. Fulton and J. W. Jones showed out very well. The score was as follows:—Institute, 6 goals; Waterloo College, nil; the Institute goals were obtained by Carruthers, Powden, Morrow, Carmichael, and Fulton (2).

October 18th, the return match against Waterloo College was again played on the ground of the latter, with the result that neither side scored a point.

HARRIER CLUB.

THE preliminary meeting of the above was held on Monday, the 13th instant, in Mr. Eaves' room. There was a large attendance of boys, chiefly out of the Commercial School, and the following masters were also present:—Messrs. Bickerstaffe, Caldicott, Ewart, Lewis, and Snow. Mr. Ewart, in a short speech, expressed his pleasure at seeing so large an attendance, and kindly undertook to form a committee of six boys, three from the High School and three from the Commercial School. The meeting then dispersed. The following have consented to act on the committee:—From the High School—Wolde, Francis, W. O. Jones; from the Commercial—Harris, Watkins, Jones.

The first run came off on Wednesday, October 15th. The hares were Martin and Jones. The trail lay along Smithdown Road, over the fields in the direction of Beech Lane, and then Allerton way home. Shortly after the hounds had started some very heavy showers descended, drenching and chilling the runners. In Beech Lane some of the leading hounds determined, after a short consultation, to return. The pack arrived at the tent at about half-past four. The following masters were good enough to be present:—Messrs. Bailey, Bickerstaffe, Cowan, and Snow. The two first-named gentlemen very kindly acted as whippers-in.

It is sincerely hoped that more boys from the High School will become members. The club is entirely free to all who feel themselves equal to running, and the sport, while being of quite a safe nature, is undoubtedly most exciting.

RAMBLING CLUB.

THE first ramble during the Michaelmas term took place on Wednesday, September 17th. The place selected was Raby Mere. About 15 members, including Messrs. Reed and Eaves, left by the two o'clock boat for New Ferry. The route thence lay through Bebington, and after a very pleasant hour's walk Raby Mere was reached. After spending a very enjoyable hour on the water, the members had tea. At six o'clock the return home was made, the landing stage being reached at eight p.m.

On Wednesday, September 24th, a party of 28 left by the two o'clock boat for New Ferry, and proceeded to Messrs. Lever Bros', Sunlight Soap Works. After a careful survey of the works including the electric light engine, the furnaces, and the different stages of the manufacture of soap, a return home was made, the 8.30 boat being caught, after spending a most delightful afternoon.

THE ISLAND OF SARK.

SARK, as everyone knows (who has not been there) is the smallest of the Channel Islands; but those who are fortunate enough to have visited that charming bit of rock and soil, know that this is not, by any means, the case. Sark, or as it is more correctly spelt, Serq, is larger than, at least, three fairly large islands—Brecqou, Gethon, and Herm. In fact, it stands to Brecqou in the relation of the mainland, and the solitary family that inhabits the smaller island is said to regard Sark as the type of an advanced and somewhat dangerous civilisation; while the people of Sark consider their lonely neighbours as quite out of the world. But this is by the way.

Sark, then, is not so very small, being, in fact, some 1,500 acres, perhaps a little larger than Sefton Park. The coast line is about nine miles, and almost every yard of it, as you sail round, shows the opening of some vast cave, which penetrates deep into the island, and, indeed, in one or two places, goes right through to the other side; but that, of course, is only where the width of a headland has to be crossed, and not the whole breadth of the island. These caves are nearly all full of the most wonderful sea-anemones and jelly-fish, which you can gaze on without getting weary, even though you are up to your ankles in the iceiest of water. The whole of the coast almost is rock-bound, and the island would be most difficult for the whole British fleet to take, if there were an adequate

is no danger of Sark ever having to be besieged by a British fleet, and it will not be worth anyone's while to try to take it from us.

When you have climbed the rocks, and got fairly into the table-land, of which the greater part of the island consists, then, indeed, you realise the words of Swinburne. "The loveliest thing that shines against the sun." From the forbidding rock-bound coast it would be hard to anticipate the beauties of the interior of the island, though it should not be inferred from this that these said rocks are anything but the most perfect of their kind. But when you walk from the little harbour on the south-west of the island, up a long wooded valley, at first with wild moorland on either side of the road, and afterwards with tiny fields, each containing, as a rule, oats, barley, and wheat, as well as a small patch of ground on which is tethered a cow of the beautiful Channel Island breed, you feel that you have, at last, found the very gem of islands. You pass between these fields till you come to one of the two hotels that the island boasts, and then through an avenue, from which you can catch a glimpse of the sea on your left, with Jersey shimmering in the sunshine beyond, past the one ugly thing to be found, the church, until you come to Rose Cottage, almost in the centre of the island, the abode of the schoolmaster of Sark. Rose Cottage deserves its name; it is a mass of roses from the thatched roof to the tasteful flower-beds at the base.

Here it was my lot to spend eight of the most delightful weeks of my life one summer, in company with no fewer than eight others (for Mr. Robin has extensive accommodation, and no one can do better than spend a few weeks beneath his roof). Our purpose in retreating from the world for one-sixth of a year was, to prepare ourselves the better for an impending examination. Yet we found time for other pursuits—for instance, we played cricket on a pitch about as level as Mount Pleasant, but it was very good fun, and we never hit the ball into the sea, as seemed not impossible. Some people scouted cricket as unworthy of Sark, and spent the afternoon in lying about the cliffs, varying the monotony by an occasional roll into the sea. Yet I think the cricketers enjoyed their bathe all the more after their exertions. But, undoubtedly, the bathing was the best part of the visit, and he who likes diving may go to Sark and exercise his craft at almost any part of the coast, to his heart's content.

Did space allow, I could give a detailed account of our doings, which would, I am sure, have the effect of filling Sark next summer with the readers of the *Institute Magazine*, but as it is, I must content myself with trying to describe a sunset, as seen in Sark from the mill, the highest point in the island, and almost exactly in the centre. (The mill is three hundred and fifteen years old, and every inhabitant has the right of grinding his corn there free of charge). The sun is setting behind Guernsey, whose countless greenhouses are gleaming like burnished bronze in the ruddy blaze. The seven miles of sea between Sark and Guernsey, studded at low tide with innumerable rocks, which are hidden at high tide, is like a sheet of gold, and behind all this is the ever-changing sky, alive with the most wonderful hues that ever painter conceived or poet sung. Away to the east is the reflection over the far-away coast of Normandy, and Alderney to the north and Jersey to the south come in for a share of the glow, that, for a few minutes, seems to fill the sky. A few minutes only, and all is over; the red gets duller in the west, and the distant coast lines are dimmer. The air too is bitterly cold at the mill after sunset, and filled with prosaic thoughts of dinner, you race down the hill to Rose Cottage, to demolish the plentiful repast, which has been amply earned by the labours of the day.

Let anyone who wishes to know more of Sark than I could tell in this short paper, look at an excellent article in *Blackwood* for August, 1887, called "A Sermon in Stones," and take down his well-thumbed Swinburne and read again, if he has forgotten it, "The Garden of Cymodoce," and "A Ballade of Sark."

CHORAL SOCIETY.

THE Choral Society may now be looked upon as well under weigh, and if it receives the encouragement it merits, nothing should prevent it from becoming the most successful of all the recent institutions. Indeed, boys should take full advantage of such a privilege and shew that they appreciate the masters' endeavours for their benefit. Mr. Bain has taken a great interest in the Society all

along, and has now started a new selection of glees which would have a charming effect with the four parts; but alas! we are short of basses. Surely some of the Sixth or First Class fellows have voices! if they haven't, all I say is that they are physically deficient, and should be ashamed to remain so. Intending members should get enrolled at once, as vacancies are soon filled now that the Society is becoming interesting.

ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.

THE above Society continues to meet in the Lecture Hall, under the able tuition of Mr. Bulmer, and the increasing number of members shows how fully his kindness is appreciated. It is intended to give a performance soon, when the School will be afforded an opportunity of testifying to the marked progress the members have made since the Society was founded.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of the Liverpool Institute Schools Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,—Allow me to correct "Fiat Lux" on one or two points in which, if we are to go by his letter in your last issue, he seems to be mistaken. The nom-de-plume which is assumed, was *Hirudo Medicinalis* before. Several of the remarks which he puts into my mouth I never even dream't of uttering, and if I had uttered them, they would have indicated that I was a palpable idiot which candidly I do not think I am. The whole of the remarks I made were perfectly general and amounted to the statement that we devoted the whole of our time to intellectual education, and none whatever to physical education, which was manifestly neither healthy nor just, but which has now been remedied in an almost final manner. "Fiat Lux" may say what he pleases, but the fact remains that in spite of (I ought to say, *because of*) the time taken away during gymnasium practice, much more purely school-work has been done than under the old regime.—Yours &c.,

HIRUDO MEDICINALIS.

To the Editors of the Liverpool Institute Schools Magazine.

GENTLEMEN.—If the weekly visit to the Gymnasium has its pleasant side it has also its drawbacks; and it is in the hope of getting some of these remedied that I take the liberty of pointing them out in your columns. In the first place, of what earthly use is the wait of five minutes or so which has to be undergone in the yard? Would it not be just as simple to open the iron gate fronting the Hall and let us out that way? This is not an impracticable proposal, and, were it adopted, much time and inconvenience would be saved. As it is, a rush is made to the Gymnasium and we are hardly there before we are expected to fall in, dressed in our proper costume. This is an injustice to boys and parents alike; for what clothes can stand being dragged off and hastily flung into a corner? We are not millionaires at the Institute and cannot afford to wear out clothes prematurely. Can this be remedied, or can it not? I trust an answer will be forthcoming before your next issue; then I and others can make up our minds what to do. Again, the time allowed for dressing at the close of the hour is far too short, no one has time to cool down after his violent exercise, and is exposed in a very greatly heated condition to the cold. This too is not as it should be, and some remedy ought at once to be carried out. Lastly, the hour at which the Sixth and Upper Fifth Forms attend is utterly ridiculous. Many, I might say the majority, have to go some distance to their homes, snatch a hasty dinner, and hurry back to school; if they are late so much the worse for them; they are kept in. Surely on the face of it, it condemns itself; all the good obtained from the Gymnasium will be undone. Can no one be got to move in this matter? Trusting that this appeal will not be entirely without result.—I am, gentlemen, yours, &c.,

Z.Y.X.

[We do not in any way hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed in this column.—Eds. L.I.S.M.]