

THE 'CRICKET WEEK' CONCERT.

On Wednesday evening, July 24th, the Concert which has now become an established feature of the O.Bs' 'Cricket Week,' came off in the Large Hall, and as usual proved a success. The audience, though not so large as it might and ought to have been, was thoroughly appreciative and applausive; it was found necessary, indeed, to rule out *encores* entirely in Part II., or 'midnight would have come upon us still clamouring' as Homer saith. Our hearty thanks are due to the ladies who kindly sang and played for us. Miss Hedley's flexible and pure soprano was well suited with '*Come dance the Romaiika*,' '*The Guardian Angel*,' and '*The night has a thousand eyes*'; Miss Austin rendered '*A May Morning (Denzu)*,' '*Loch Lomond*,' and Molloy's '*Carnival*,' in pleasing and tasteful style; Miss May Pinney, who, as Mr. G. O. Allen, O.B., was unfortunately debarred from singing by illness, most kindly came down from London to appear in his stead, displayed her fine contralto in '*There are none like to thee*' (Hope Temple), '*Winds in the trees*' (Goring Thomas), and Chaminade's '*Little Silver Ring*.'

Mr. James Galloway ably executed two interesting pieces (by Sinding) on the Piano, and Miss Netta Goldsmith tastefully rendered on the violin a Fantasia on Gounod's Faust. Mr. Bernard Streatfield (O.B.) was enthusiastically received in his own New Song 'In my dreams,' 'The Yeoman's Wedding,' and 'My love is come' (Marzials). A quartette of violins, J. Maddox, G. Loos, R. Hooker, and H. Lushington, were heard to advantage in an *Adagio and Allegro* (by Burnett), keeping well in tune, and producing a very fair tone. The School Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Harding, successfully performed one of the numbers from German's incidental music to 'As you like it,' a melody by Elgar, 'Salut d'Amour,' and the arrangement of two Hungarian Volkslieder which had been so favourably received on Speech Day.

Great amusement was caused by the humorous musical selections of Mr Norman Stuart in Pierrot attire, and the encore accorded him was so insistent that in the second part Dr. Harding relaxed his rule for Mr. Stuart alone. Dr. Harding deserves hearty acknowledgment for his part in organizing and carrying through the Concert.

The O.Bs' Club.

The Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, July 25th, at the School, Mr. Donald Piper presiding. Mr. W. E. Smith, who has been Acting Hon. Secretary to the Club since the death of Mr. H. Cross in 1898, was elected Hon. Secretary, and the following Local Committee also was elected: Messrs. A. D. Piper, D. Piper, Harvey Goldsmith, M.B., A. Maclear, and R. Maclear.

In the evening was held the Annual O.Bs' Dinner, at the Swan Hotel, the Chairman being Mr. Bertram S. Carey, C.I.E., Deputy Commissioner in Burma, while the Vice-Chairman was the Headmaster.

There were also present: The Rev. S. B. Phillpotts, Mr. Coventry Tarbutt, Mr. Talbot Jarvis, Dr. J. More, Mr. W. W. Thurnall, Dr. P. Selby, Captain H. P. Thurnall, Dr. H. L. Richardson, Mr. J. D. Galloway, Mr. R. F. G. Chaldecott, Mr. P. Purdie, Mr. H. A. Hutton, Mr. Basil E. Carey, Mr. Rowland D. Carey, Mr. F. Kendall, the Rev. A. C. Briggs, Mr. E. F. E. Harrison, Mr. F. H. Palmer, Mr. H. C. Beadon, Mr. C. C. Tunnard, Mr. W. T. R. Beckett, Mr. P. B. Hudson, Mr. H. J. Hope, Mr. B. L. Peel, Mr. D. Piper, Captain C. Heathcote, Mr. H. A. Harris, Lieut. F. M. Ransford, Mr. G. H. Wells, Mr. J. H. Lyne Evans, Mr. C. R. Hoskyn, Lieut. W. A. Gover, Dr. Harvey Goldsmith, Mr. C. J. Crofts, Lieut. A. C. Gray, Mr. B. A. Holt, Mr. A. D. Piper, the Rev. H. S. Watts, Mr. R. Maclear, Lieut. C. G. Ransford, and Mr. W. E. Smith, Hon. Secretary to the Club.

The proceedings were of a most enthusiastic character throughout, and no more successful Dinner has passed in the annals of the Club.

'The King' was proposed by the CHAIRMAN, and the toast was loyally received.

THE CHAIRMAN said he was highly honoured when he was asked to preside, but he must say that his first inclination was to refuse. However, thinking he would be the oldest boy there, he consented, and now he found that he was not the oldest boy. Had he known that the Headmaster would be present, nothing would have induced him to preside, because he now felt exactly that cold feeling in his back and void under his waistcoat that he used to feel when Mr. Phillpotts came into the room at a time when he had not learnt his lessons (loud laughter). Having plucked up courage enough to come, he felt it was a great pleasure to come back to Bedford and see the School again. He was delighted to see so

many of the old masters there still who were at the School in his time. He need not mention them all. Their names were household words to the Old Boys. First, there were Mr. Phillpotts and Mr. Dymock, his old housemaster—(cheers)—there were Mr. Phillips, Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Septimus Phillpotts (cheers). It was a great pleasure to him, and to all of them to see them looking exactly as they were when he left, a matter of nineteen years ago (laughter and cheers). It seemed a long time ago; and of the Eleven they had that day played against, not one, he thought, was born when he left the School (laughter). This time he had been away sixteen years, and he found a change in the spectators. John More and others would remember the three figures which always appeared at the cricket matches, and it was with very great regret that he no longer saw Mr. Jackson, Mr. Piper, and Captain Glubb, and learnt that not one of those three was still alive. He thought the Old Boys who had played in the match would admit that the School had not gone back in cricket, very much the reverse. The batting exhibited by the School was in very much better style than it was in his day (cheers). In looking round the School and grounds, to see what improvements he could note, he was sorry to see that the photographs were not put up in the Cricket Pavilion. The photographs dated from long before he was at the School, and used to be viewed with very great respect. Now that 19 years had gone by since then, there must be a great many more that would be worth keeping. Nothing would encourage *esprit de corps* more than having portraits of boys who represented the School; and it was also interesting because many of those boys were now leading men, and one name that occurred to him at the present moment was the Headmaster of Winchester (cheers). He was a great believer in teaching the small boy the principles and methods of the games. The big boys ought to have had all that done by the time they were 12 or 14. He thought it would be a good thing to have a good ground for the small boys to practise on, and this they did not have at the present time.

Turning to O.Bs, the great question in politics and everything else was the war, and he was very proud to welcome amongst the heroes who had returned from South Africa a brother of his and two others, Basil Holt and H. A. Hutton (cheers). But he heard there were over 150 Grammar School boys either at the war or returned from it, and that to his mind was a very fine thing (cheers). There had also been a little trouble in China, and he believed 25 boys went out to put that matter straight (cheers). Of course, war inevitably involved casualties, and they were very sorry to hear they had lost so many old Bedfordians (hear, hear). Twelve boys from their School were known at present to have died either on the field of battle or from the effects of the war. Leonard Head and Alick England were among those he knew best. He was told that in the last ten years there had been a large number of Scholarships gained by the School. The only thing he could tell them about scholarships was that he never got one (laughter). When a man came from India they could not expect him to know much about the School and its affairs, but they would all admit that it looked very well when so many Old Boys came from a great distance—and some of them had not been there for periods of 15 or 20 years—to play in the match, and sit round that festive board (cheers). He was going to propose the health of one they all knew, who had turned them out to do their business in life (cheers). When Mr. Phillpotts (cheers) came to the School there were 250 boys. Now there were 890 (cheers). They came and went out into the world—yet Mr. Phillpotts knew them all, and took a deep interest in them (cheers). Of that he had had a vivid experience (laughter). No, they misunderstood him (laughter). He was going to say

that when he left he went to America, and when he came back war broke out in Burma. When he was trying for an appointment there, Mr. Phillpotts wrote out a letter, which was sent to India, and that got him the appointment (cheers). He felt now, as always, that Mr. Phillpotts gave him this chance of getting on in the world. He called upon them to drink the health of Mr. Phillpotts with musical honours.

The toast was received with loud cheers, musical honours, and cries of 'The Chief.' The Chairman added the health and success of the School, and this toast was received with the chorus of 'Floreat Bedfordia.'

MR. PHILLPOTTS said it was very pleasing to be received in this way, but he took the reception not to himself personally, but as representing the School which they all dearly loved (cheers). He was afraid that he could not profess to know every Old Boy, because many of them were ornamented with very military looking moustaches (laughter), but he could claim that he took a most hearty interest in the career of everyone of them (cheers). This he was enabled to do by the help of their able and excellent Honorary Secretary of the Old Boys' Club. There was a small moveable partition between the Secretary's room and his own, and anything that occurred to any Old Boy was at once chronicled and passed on from one to the other. Every list of promotions in the 'Gazette' was carefully looked through, and he found every Old Boy's name under-lined (hear, hear). It was delightful to him to see how many Old Boys, who in various lines of life had yearned for the Army, and for some reason or other had been unable to gratify their desire, had at last, when the moment of stress and strain came, found their place, and been duly recognised by their country (cheers). Passing away from that to what the present boys were doing—and he was one of them, seeing that he felt himself more or less a boy still—(cheers)—there had been six Scholarships won in the School, eleven had passed direct from School into Woolwich, and seventeen into Sandhurst (cheers). The Chairman had alluded to one distinguished honour in which he (Mr. Phillpotts) was particularly interested—the Headmastership of Winchester (cheers). He was unable to attend the Wykehamists' dinner the other day, to greet and congratulate his old friend, Dr. Fearon, the former Headmaster, and also the new one, Mr. Burge. But his nephew, Raleigh Phillpotts, told him that Mr. Burge made a most excellent speech in most excellent taste, and no doubt what he said spoke well for their School at Bedford. F. Carleton Greene got one of the Bell University Scholarships at Cambridge, and in the medical world, even Dr. Selby and Dr. Harvey Goldsmith would recognise that Walter Brown was doing very distinguished work, not only in organising a hospital out at Pretoria, but, in the intervals of business, writing the best thesis of the year at the University of Cambridge (cheers). He knew the interest of the Old Boys was not confined to mere scholastic matters, and they might know that the Football Team had been most successful (cheers)—notably in that eventful year, 1892, which was commemorated on the walls of the Mercantile Class by one of the best friends that the School ever had, poor Henry Cross, who pourtrayed the legend, '212 to 7.' In cricket the generous verdict of the Old Boys had already been given, and he thought they had two bats of whom more would be heard in the cricketing world (cheers). Their captain was as distinguished for his modesty as for his batting (hear, hear). In the shooting world he agreed with their Commander-in-Chief that shooting was not to be despised. His idea was that the only effective use of a

soldier was to shoot, and as a rule the only object of drill was to enable him to get into a position where he could shoot with advantage. The School had had to shoot under most tiresome circumstances. Owing to the long range of their bullets, every range in the county was closed to them until a fortnight before the competition at Bisley, and yet under these disadvantageous circumstances, when they had had to run off to Cambridge to get a shot at any target, the Bedford Eight were only one point behind the second for Bisley (cheers). If it had not been for the enthusiasm of two of the younger members, who got up on a hot morning at six o'clock to greet their Colonel, he believed the team would have been equal to the Eton winners. Mr. Phillpotts next read the names of Old Boys who had been mentioned in the dispatches from South Africa and China. Concluding the said allusion had been made to the cricket ground, and the difficulty was that they wanted two grounds. They must play football over the whole field, except on the sacred precinct of the First Eleven, and that interfered with the quality of the pitches. He had consulted with Mr. Rice, whom they might consider a professor of the art, and with Mr. Dasset and Cherry, as to how the difficulty could be removed. He did not see how it could be done without having more ground, which he had been trying to get. With regard to the increase in the numbers of the School, people in commercial life often judged by samples, and people could see samples of their School all over the world (cheers). When Sir Redvers Buller went to Natal, Neptune could not have come up out of the water at Durban but for the Harbour Master, a distinguished Old Boy, one of the great family of Crofts (cheers). When one of their friends, who was fond of wandering about the world, came to British Columbia, on his way from Vancouver to Revelstoke, he met three Old Boys; then went on to Nelson and met three more. When their Chairman went to Allahabad he found so many Old Boys at a garden party, that he gave them an Old Boys' dinner on the spot (cheers). The last authority who had taken his Doctor of Laws at Cambridge, and had written a thesis on purchase and sale, illustrated by matters connected with the Stock Exchange, was Dr. Richardson, an Old Boy (cheers). When a party went to Greece to explore Ithaca, and brought back valuable photographs, one of them was Dr. Harvey Goldsmith (hear, hear). If they went to Siam they would find that one of the Thurnalls had been tutoring the Prince. He had letters from all parts. He used to say that he should never have one from Patagonia, but a short time ago a letter came from that country. The other day a letter came from a man in the Argentine State, who said he should like to send his boy to the School, but he would also like a league and a half of land near the place where he could rear a little stock. He also had just heard from Buenos Ayres, and it was clear that there was a Bedford Football team out there (cheers). He need not pursue this theme further. The School had shown a most excellent spirit in the war which had called upon the citizens of this county to come forward, and the School had shown that athleticism was not merely a matter of football and cricket, for their athletes had done most excellent service for their King and Queen and country (cheers). They had sent men of spirit into every land, and in every land they had found a home. They heard with gladness that these Old Boys were doing good work manfully and pluckily under physical difficulties, whether ruling or being ruled, for their country and King (cheers). Before he sat down he had the pleasant task of proposing the health of one of the Deputy Commissioners of Burma, their Chairman. Knowing what there was in Mr. Carey, he wrote to the Chief Commissioner of Burma to say that he knew a man 48 inches round the chest, who had real pluck and good judgment, and who could be trusted

down to his shoes. He guaranteed from his experience of boys and of him that if Mr. Carey were given a chance in Burma he could make himself useful. He received a postcard from Sir Charles Bernard: 'Dear Phillpotts,—Send him out' (cheers). With that restless energy which always characterised him, Mr. Carey had gone off to the Rocky Mountains ranching, but a telegram reached him in the Rockies, and he was now present, after doing the excellent service for his Sovereign which he knew Mr. Carey would do (cheers).

The toast was heartily received, and the Chairman briefly expressed his thanks, asking the company to take what Mr. Phillpotts had said with the proverbial grain of salt. Mr. Phillpotts pointed out that on the walls of the room appeared excellent portraits of Dr. Brereton and Mr. Fanshawe, together with the Arms and a picture of the old School.

In response to cries for 'Mr. Septimus'—

The Rev. S. B. PHILLPOTTS said that if the Chairman had some difficulty in speaking from reminiscences of the past, he (the speaker) belonged to those who had some respect for their elders, and it might be truly said that in the presence of his elder brother he felt his genius rebuked. Still, as some of the Old Boys were kind enough to remember old Septimus—an outburst of cheers, the whole company leaping on the chairs, and singing 'He's a jolly good fellow'). Continuing, Mr. Phillpotts said he had stopped at home while the Chairman had been sojourning in foreign climes. Among the boys in South Africa there was one, Arthur Gover, whom he was proud to mention as having been in his own house (applause). He would also like to mention the testimony borne by one of the tutors of Hertford College, who said, 'The stamp of boy you ought to get more of is Walter James Carey' (cheers). In conclusion, the speaker said that when he had been to Haileybury, Rugby, Marlborough, and Winchester, he felt there was one thing that the Bedford School lacked, and that was a School Chapel. If a chapel should ever be built, he would endeavour to see that there was money invested to pay for his successor (cheers).

A lusty singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem brought the proceedings to a close.

Among the Batting Averages of the Beds. County C.C. for this season we note :

	No. of Inns.	Times not out	Total runs	Most in an inns.	Aver.
H. R. Orr (O.B.) ...	18	1	504	81	29'64
F. G. Brooks	14	0	386	133	27'57
B. L. Peel (O.B.) ...	12	1	150	40	13'63
R. F. A. Orr (O.B.)	6	0	66	38	11
F. B. Brooks	5	0	39	30	7'8
Capt. Fulton (O.B.)	1	0	4	4	4
H. V. Baumgartner	2	1	1	1	1
H. V. Baumgartner took 1 wkt. for 15 runs.					