

SIBFORD OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION.


1905.


SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.



RICHARD AND REBECCA ROUTH.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
SIBFORD
OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION.

INAUGURATED JUNE 19TH, 1903.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT, 1904-5.

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SIBFORD OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION.

TWO VIEWS OF THE SECOND ANNUAL GATHERING.

I.

"BANBURY CAKES." That was the old familiar cry that greeted our ears as, after a pleasant three hours' ride over the Great Central we alighted at the station, bound once more for Sibford School.

Our memory is busy with thoughts of the long ago, so busy that we should not have been startled by the loving Quaker-like greeting of our master, Richard Routh (of revered memory), "Well Joseph, how do thee do? I am pleased to see thee." We are old boys now, and we never realised it more than we do this hot June afternoon, as we tramp the eight miles to the old School. But after walking with anything but a boy-like stride as far as Broughton Castle, we are glad to take advantage of the offer of a lift by a friendly farmer, who brings us within measurable distance of the School gates.

A large flag flying in the breeze—there was precious little breeze that afternoon—indicates that this is the Annual Meeting of the Sibford Old Scholars' Association, and a red-letter day in the School year. It is a day that we have looked forward to for months, almost counting the days as we did before the annual School holiday in our boyhood.

A hearty welcome is given us by the headmaster, Robert

B. Oddie (an old friend of ours of long standing) and his wife. The identification cards with ribbon attached are laughingly donned, and soon everyone knows everybody else. No need for introductions here—all ceremony is dispensed with, for are we not all members of the same old School? For three whole days we are to be boys, merry, merry boys again, and we decline to be looked upon as old fogies.

You look round in vain for your contemporaries of the 'sixties. Alas! not one. What has become of the home-sick small boy with whom we retired to the hayrick and cried our eyes out at the dismal prospect of a whole year away from home? There is an old grey-haired man of the forties boasting of his perennial youth (he is now seventy-three), and a grey-haired boy of the fifties, and with this youth you are near enough on common ground to talk over old times and the old régime. Our old friend Joseph Spence Hodgson is here, there, and everywhere, and evidently in the best of form and quite at home.

After tea all settle down to a programme of music and songs by the present boys and girls. Music and songs did I say? Shade of Rebecca Routh! Surely time brings about its revenge, for was not the writer once given more lines than he cares to recollect, and promptly sent to bed, for daring to sing "Cheer boys, cheer" amidst the encouraging shouts of his

schoolfellows, who did not, by the way, participate in his punishment. But in spite of early tradition the programme is gone through very creditably. It is the youngsters' night out, and they make the most of it, and, in the closing hymn, everyone feels the divine influence of music. A social reunion of Old Scholars at 10 o'clock shows that they are not without talent, and augurs well for their entertainment on the Monday. To bed in the small hours, after a delightful day.

We cannot resist the calls of the cuckoo on Sunday morning, and are up betimes. The Sunday morning meeting is looked forward to by old and young alike, and all wend their way over the valley, past "the decent church that tops the neighbouring hill," to the meeting-house; but before entering, pause awhile, for "the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." Here sleep those whom "we have loved long since and lost awhile." The associations of the place are so sacred to us old boys that as we bow in reverent adoration before our Heavenly Father, we almost hope that no word will be spoken; but acceptable utterance is given to the feeling that pervades the meeting by two of our friends, and all feel that it is indeed good to be here. Paley says that everything has its compensation, and the rain that poured down in the afternoon, while it interfered with the programme of walks, gave us a very enjoyable time with J. Spence Hodgson and his poetry.

In the evening an address was given by A. Neave Brayshaw of Woodbrooke. He reminded Old Scholars of the debt they owe the Society for their early training, and exhorted all to do something towards leaving the world a little better than they found it. A simple and earnest address that all could understand.

Monday opened auspiciously, so far as the weather was concerned. The usual cricket match between the past and present takes place, every chance hit is applauded lustily by the

young voices, and yells of delight greet the contact with mother earth of some old favourite in his frantic efforts to overtake the ball.

The Business Meeting of the Association was held at 12.15, ably presided over by Charles E. Brady, an old, but not a very old scholar. Interesting letters are read by the energetic Secretary, E. Percy Kaye, from many old Sibford Scholars. Amongst others, from Joseph Collins, of Liverpool, perhaps the cleverest mathematician that the School has sent out. Margaret Clarke, an old and much respected teacher, whose kindly influence many of those present had experienced, wrote that it would be impossible for her to leave her busy life in Constantinople, much as she would like to be present. An interesting address was given by R. B. Oddie, grown quite eloquent in reminiscence of his twenty-five years' mastership of the School, reviewing the changes that had taken place during his régime. How long he would have gone on reviewing these changes, if his coat tails had not been pulled by the Secretary behind him, we do not know, but we are free to imagine.

The photographing of the various groups after dinner always affords, as the street hawkers say, endless fun and amusement, and this and tennis takes up the afternoon. At 5 o'clock, Old Scholars and visitors are entertained to tea by the President of the year, Dr. Routh, after which all adjourn "in a body" to the School. It is the old fogies' night, and a grand programme is provided by the Old Scholars. A high tone is given to the meeting by the Presidential Address of Dr. Routh, an address which will long live in the memory of those privileged to hear it. The origin and past history of the School are dealt with in an interesting manner, and many quaint customs of the old agricultural days of the School are

referred to. It was natural for the Doctor to touch upon the lives of his father and mother, Richard and Rebecca Routh, the former Superintendent and Governess of the School, and we felt that it was indeed true that—

Lives of great men all remind us,
We can make our lives sublime,
And departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.

But the Doctor is too modest, and many Old Boys remember with gratitude his geography lessons and science lectures when he himself was a teacher in the School, as J. S. K. P. sings (with no fear of punishment now)—

And now dear friends I have come down South
To support our President, Dr. Routh,
And give my testimony by word of mouth,
As I did when a boy at School.

He was the first to train my mind,
And in all his teaching he was always kind ;
He is the very best President the School could find,
And I wish I was a boy at School.

Song succeeds song. Miss Gladys Blake sings like a prima donna, J. Spence Hodgson out-Irving Irving, and the ball is kept merrily rolling until it is time for the present Scholars to go to bed.

Then one more social reunion, and Auld Lang Syne at midnight reminds us that it is the beginning of the end. The next morning, at 9 o'clock, this happy and successful gathering is over. All are reluctant to go, but R. B. O., having welcomed the coming, now speeds the parting guest, and, amidst loud cheers, the curtain is rung down on this glimpse of Paradise for another year.

J. S. K. P.



CHARLES E. BRADY.

II.

It was Friday, June the 9th, 1905. Drip, drip, came down the rain in London and the horses splashed along dismally. Nevertheless the Old Scholar felt cheerful. For nearly twelve months he had looked forward to this and the next few days as the finest and best of good times in the yearly round. As he wiped away a huge splash of mud from his neck he thought of the glorious time everyone had at the first Annual Gathering last year. He hurried to the railway station, and the train rushed him away from town. About twenty miles out there was no rain! Thirty miles out few clouds and a bright sun! He knew it. As they drew near Banbury the whole country looked delightful. Arrived at that quaint old-fashioned town he was about the first out of the train. He met another Old Scholar on the platform, one famous for her work with the camera and her predilection for the "dark room." At the other railway station were a dozen or so more of us, mostly from Birmingham. Then into the brake with Old Scholars and luggage. On the front seat two Old Scholars' heads could be seen peering over huge boxes placed with small regard to owners' comfort. But who cared? Were they not going to the old School? Through Banbury drove the brake, the happiest load that had passed by Banbury Cross that day. Through Broughton with its famous old castle. Through villages awakening pleasant memories of football matches and walks which Old Scholars (some of them very young scholars then) had years ago enjoyed. And then Sibford and the good old School with the great flag floating over it. There at the front entrance is the kindly, courteous Mother of the Family for the next few days; smiling, and happy to see us again—the Superintendent; Gulielma M. Oddie, who has been work-

ing hard assisting to make arrangements for the billeting of Old Scholars in the village, the genial Secretary and others. A big cheer from all concerned, and we tumble out of the brake. Hurrah ! the good time has commenced.

We adjourn to tea ; knives and forks and tongues are soon in evidence. Then to the Lower Schoolroom, tastefully arranged as a sitting room. Some good songs and a game or two of musical chairs and soon after ten (as we are in the country, where people go to bed early) we depart to our lodgings. We will secure keys so that we may stay out later other nights. And so to rest in this quiet village, where in about twenty years a couple of new houses have been built, but otherwise no change ever seems to take place. Just one or two kindly faces are missed. One or two kindly hearts have ceased to beat. But with these exceptions no one seems to have departed, no one seems to grow older. One or two of the Old Scholars are lodged in quaint little rooms. The following morning one Old Scholar feels called upon to explain that such is the size of his apartment that when he shaved he had to open the door and window to make room for the lather upon his chin. Saturday morning some Old Scholars are out in the village at 6 o'clock. They indulge in tennis, cricket, and football, with additions to their ranks as the time draws on to breakfast at 8.30. A real good Sibford Old Scholars' breakfast. Do not talk to Sibford Old Scholars' of dining at the " Cecil," or " Princes," or " The Carlton," or " Devonshire House." Give them these meals in the gymnasium of the school, tastefully decorated and fitted up as a dining room, with the Mother and Sister of the Family, the servants and others, attending to their wants, and with the pleasure of looking after each other.

At ten o'clock all start for an excursion to Compton Winyates.

The mid-day meal is taken in a conveyance which later on will render assistance to the weaker brethren—which includes the weaker sisters also. Through dreaming fields and pleasant country. There is the ubiquitous Ex-President, Joseph Spence Hodgson, full of anecdote and humor, there is the oldest Old Scholar present, trudging cheerfully along—seventy-four tomorrow and making the pace like a boy. J. S. Hodgson points out quaintly that the days of a man's years are three-score and ten, and after that—he does overtime. The Oldest Scholar, buoyed up by his belief in a marvellous specific, which evidently contains amongst other things the elixir of youth, walks the whole way. In happy groups we arrive at one of the most beautiful of the stately homes of England. The glory of age is in its walls, the beauty of flowers is round about it ; it is rich in historical memories and traditions. The day is gloriously fine. Dinner ; a rest ; inspection of the grounds and walks, and we wander contentedly back to the school.

Arriving back about 3.30 p.m., some Old Scholars play tennis (no one tires at Sibford), then bathe in the swimming bath. J. S. Hodgson gives a swimming and diving exhibition to the girls. " Age cannot stale, nor custom change his infinite variety " of movement in the water.

At 6 o'clock the Superintendent and his wife hold a reception and give us tea, with that geniality and kindness which helps to make our gathering so successful. More and more Old Scholars arrive, and make us still happier with their presence.

At 7 o'clock the Teachers and Present Scholars give the Old Scholars a rattling good entertainment, our well-beloved President for the year taking the chair. The following was the programme :—

PART I.

1. TRIO "Wedding March" *Mendelssohn.*
M. LEWIS, E. CHENEY, D. PEACE.
2. SONG.. .. "The Vicar of Bray" BOYS.
3. SELECTIONS, "Phonographic Waxworks" F. TOZER, W. ROBBINS.
4. PART SONG.. .. "Sweet and Low" GIRLS.
5. VIOLIN SOLO .. "The Last Rose of Summer" D. PEACE.
6. ACTION SONG, "Paddy Blake of Ballyblarney College"
Mr. WHITLOCK and BOYS.
7. VOCAL SOLO .. "An Irish Lullaby" D. VANDER VORD.
8. PART SONG "The River" SENIOR GIRLS.
9. PIANOFORTE SOLO .. "Irish Airs" F. GOODHEAD.
10. RECITATION .. "Little Orphant Annie" N. HARRISSON.
11. SONG "Lorelei" GIRLS.

PART II.

1. TRIO "Marche des Tambours"
F. GOODHEAD, D. CHARMAN, M. LEWIS.
2. SONG "Coo" GIRLS.
3. DIALOGUE from Vice-Versa .. W. G. AUSTEN and H. O. DAVIS.
4. VOCAL SOLO .. "Japanese Love Song" .. D. VANDER VORD.
5. SONG .. "I am a Friar of Orders Grey" BOYS.
6. RECITATION .. "The Owl Critic" .. G. W. PHILLIPSON.
7. ACTION SONG .. "Pinafore Song" JUNIOR GIRLS.
8. RECITATION .. "Karl the Martyr" K. O. NAISH.
9. VIOLIN DUET .. "Forget-me-not" D. PEACE and M. LEWIS.
10. ACTION SONG .. "Joan and Darby" D. VANDER VORD, K. NAISH.
11. CHORUS "Homeward Bound" BOYS and GIRLS.

Every item was well rendered. The Old Scholars consider it the best entertainment they have heard given by the scholars. Though everyone was good, special mention should be made of the "Phonographic Waxworks" and "Paddy Blake of Ballyblarney College."

After the entertainment came supper. At 10 o'clock we are all again in the public sitting-room. Some very fine songs were

given at an impromptu concert, and J. S. Hodgson was as good as ever with his recitations. Gladys Blake, Gulielma M. Oddie, Frank Whitlock, Percy O. Whitlock, Ernest Wells, Joseph Parsey, and others were in particularly fine form on this and other evenings. Once again through the streets of the quiet village, and to bed. It rains in the night.

All the Old Scholars and the School are in the quiet old meeting-house in the morning. The Yearly Meeting Epistle, which seemed to the Old Scholars to be excellently expressed, was read. Alfred Neave Brayshaw gave an address, which was very interesting and instructive, and much appreciated. Michael Graveson, an Old Scholar, also took an effective part in the meeting. Back to the School to dinner, with the rain commencing to fall.

After dinner extended walks could not be taken, as the weather was too bad, and in the evening it rained heavily. So the meeting for worship was held at the School, being attended by the present scholars, Old Scholars, and Friends and others from the village. Alfred Neave Brayshaw, B.A., LL.B., of Woodbrooke, gave a stirring, sensible, well-thought-out address, full of vigour and helpfulness, marked by great breadth and practical teaching. The Old Scholars are under a debt of gratitude to him for giving up what might easily have been considered a more important engagement, and coming to Sibford with them. After meeting, hymns were sung by the present and Old Scholars for some time, and then the Old Scholars for an interval walked in the quiet streets of the village. More sacred music, and another day well spent was over.

Monday morning came. Again it had rained in the night, and the day opened with threatening weather and more rain; but after breakfast the weather cleared up, and the rest of a busy and happy day was spent under most favourable atmo-

pheric conditions. About thirty-five Old Scholars had come into Sibford, and residents and other arrivals brought up the Old Scholars to seventy-two in number, and the Visitors to twenty-two—total ninety-four.

At 10 o'clock the cricket match, Old Scholars v. Present Scholars and Masters, assisted by Edgar Oddie, was started. The Old Scholars, who were rather strongly represented—P. Hodgetts being a strong bowler, and E. P. Kaye, performing well with the bat—won the match. The full score is appended:—

PRESENT SCHOLARS.		OLD SCHOLARS.	
P. Whitlock c and b Hodgetts	15	H. Dearden c Mansfield b	
Digwood c and b Hodgetts	2	Whitlock	2
E. Wells b Absolam	2	E. P. Kaye c Wells b E. Oddie	35
E. Oddie lbw b Brady	7	C. E. Brady not out	13
Mansfield st Dearden b Hod-		P. Hodgetts	} did not bat.
getts	1	J. K. Absolam	
Whiting b Hodgetts	4	W. Farrington	
Davis c and b Hodgetts	1	J. Tyler	
Russell b Kaye	2	F. J. Whitlock	
Austin b Absolam	8	H. Whitlock	
Pugh b Kaye	0	A. Goode	
Morley not out	0	J. Handy	
Extras	4	Extras	5
Total	46	Total	55

After the cricket match, the annual Business Meeting was held, and is reported elsewhere. There was, as may be judged, a very large and goodly company at dinner. After dinner, photographs were taken by a professional photographer (an Old Scholar, and once a member of the celebrated School Football Club) and by many amateurs. A tennis tournament and generally happy time followed.

At 5 o'clock, the Old Scholars all went by special invitation

to the house of our President for the past year, Richard Laycock Routh, J.P., L.R.C.P. There, on the fine lawn, under a brilliant sun, we had tea, played bowls, and wandered through the beautiful Alpine garden,—one of the best in England,—for many years the hobby of our host. Again the Old Scholars were photographed. The whole time spent at this reception was one of unalloyed pleasure.

In the evening, the President for the past year gave his address to the School and the Old Scholars. It will be many years probably ere we hear again such a wealth of reminiscence, touched with humour, kindly expressed, and racily given. We give the address in extenso on another page.

This was followed by the Old Scholars' Concert.

PROGRAMME.

1. PIANOFORTE SOLO .. Overture .. JESSIE E. HALL.
2. SONG "When I was a boy at School" JOSEPH S. K. PARSEY.
3. RECITATION "The Bishop & the Caterpillar" HENRY DEARDEN.
4. SONG .. "Father O'Flynn" FRANK J. WHITLOCK.
5. SONG .. "A May Morning" .. GLADYS BLAKE.
6. RECITATION "How we chose our Parson" J. SPENCE HODGSON.
7. SONG .. "Solweig's Song" .. ERICA SPENCE.
8. RECITATION E. WELLS.
9. SONG .. "I dreamt that I dwelt" EDWIN ROLLASON.
10. RECITATION .. "I vant deux fly" .. W. FARRINGTON.
11. SONG .. "The Old Trombone" .. E. P. KAYE.
12. RECITATION .. "How we hunted a Mouse" J. SPENCE HODGSON.
13. SONG .. "Comin' thro' the Rye" .. GLADYS BLAKE.
14. RECITATION .. "The Groom's Story" .. E. WELLS.
15. SONG, SELECTED J. TYLER.
16. SONG .. "Jock o' Hazeldean" .. GLADYS BLAKE.

The Old Scholars are proud of the efforts of those of their number who gave this entertainment, which was splendidly rendered to an appreciative audience. It was impossible, owing

to the limited time, to break our rule, and allow of encores.

A collection was made amongst the Old Scholars, and a substantial sum realised to pay the expenses of an excursion for the present Scholars. The Superintendent returned thanks for the same. As will be anticipated, R. L. Routh was warmly thanked for his address. Charles E. Brady occupied the chair, at the request of the meeting.

A vote of thanks to the Superintendent and his wife, and those giving their assistance at the gathering, was moved by Joseph S. K. Parsey, supported by Miss Graveson, and carried with acclamation.

Supper over, the Old Scholars met for the last social reunion of the gathering. We had again a really fine time. Song followed song. J. S. Hodgson recited. A trio, entitled "Johnny Schmoker," was splendidly given by Ernest Wells, P. O. Whitlock, and E. P. Kaye, and a duet by Ernest Wells and P. O. Whitlock, "The Orphans," was also very amusing. Gladys Blake, Edith Oddie, Gulie Oddie, Erica Spence, and other Old Scholars charmed the audience again with well-rendered songs. The oldest scholar showed that advancing years had made but small inroads on his vocal powers. Jessie Hall was the accomplished accompanist on this, as on other occasions, for which the thanks of the Old Scholars were duly rendered. We closed the re-union in good style with "Auld Lang Syne."

In keeping with our tradition (of last year) Old Scholars were all up in good time on Tuesday morning and punctually attended breakfast. In accordance likewise with the tradition of last year we complain that the time goes so quickly at this last breakfast. A collection for the servants who had so admirably and cheerfully waited upon us was made. The Old Scholars rose from their seats at the breakfast table and sang

the Doxology. At 9.30 came the brake and wagonette. Cheers and handshakes, the snapping of cameras, a whirl of good wishes, and the Annual Gathering of the Sibford Old Scholars' Association ceases as a Gathering, leaving only remembrance with "all her busy train"—and the Secretary and Treasurer, ready to plunge into the accounts and one or two Old Scholars who are leaving later.

And now to gather up the threads left hanging out. The arrangements as to lodgings, meals and conveyances were admirable and the prices charged extremely small. We thank most heartily Mabel E. Peirson, Gulielma M. Oddie and E. Percy Kaye for their efforts which were so successful; we thank Mrs. Oddie and Mr. Oddie for their great kindness; we thank indeed most heartily all those who helped us.

The photographic record, splendidly illuminated on the opening page by J. S. Hodgson, was much appreciated. It was of very great interest. This book and a smaller one of snap-shots taken by Old Scholars last year were much in demand and eagerly scanned. Arthur B. Oddie was responsible for this effective addition to the interest of the Association and has our warm thanks.

Have we not three Mothers?
Even the Mother who bare us,
The Mother School who taught us,
The Mother Earth who keeps us,
Who will take us to her bosom
When we have learnt our lessons.
Mother School we sing thy praises,
Thou who came unto our aid,
Making our first Mother proud,
And our Mother Earth to reap
Something useful from our labours
Ere we sleep.

C. E. B.

124 154 92 218 145 144 227 90 54 205 46 228
 76 15 158 70 5
 116 143 127 243 238 244 232 53 239 174 149 168 230 204 206 221
 167 231 26



22 151 73 110 169 141 140 1 108 153 85 75 84 111 74
 66 137 30 220 91 146 79 159 17 21 16

GROUP OF OLD SCHOLARS—WHITSUNTIDE, 1905.

HEADMASTER'S ADDRESS.

Before the Chairman called upon me to speak, the Secretary kindly came over and in effect told me to cut my speech short. I do not think there is any need for such a caution. I do not think there is need to add anything in the way of welcome to the Old Scholars. My wife and I did duty as hosts on Friday evening, and we had the pleasure of shaking hands with everyone at the formal reception in the gymnasium on Saturday.

Recently, a book has been published by Wilfrid Whitten, entitled "Between the Cupolas." It is mainly an account of Ackworth School, as known by the author, but it is of interest to us inasmuch as the writer was a Sibford Scholar before he went to Ackworth, and he makes one or two references to Sibford in the book. The dedication is perhaps the wittiest bit of it all. It is as follows: "To my old Schoolmasters I dedicate these *two thousand lines*, with respect, affection, and forgiveness." Well, as to the *two thousand lines*, they are in this case self-inflicted. It is certainly pleasant to an "old Schoolmaster" to have the respect and affection of his pupils, though probably he does not advance any strong claim to that forgiveness which in "Between the Cupolas" is so freely and generously offered.

I think the few minutes I have at my disposal must be taken up in a retrospect. In December, 1880, we arrived at Sibford on a snowy day, with a crying baby! We received a very warm welcome to Sibford. Our predecessors, Richard Routh and Margaret Ann Clark, were living near, and paid us a very early visit. Richard and Hannah Lamb, were in the house a very few minutes after we arrived, and John Wells, who has been

connected with the School as Secretary for thirty-four years, from the first day of our coming here to the very day on which we are now assembled, has been a good friend and kind neighbour. I ought to mention the name of Thomson Sharp. (Cheers) All Old Scholars will remember him with pleasure, and with no little gratitude. I am proud to think that on no single occasion have I put any obstacle in the way of Thomson Sharp's coming to this School, and some of the Old Scholars will remember that he came somewhat frequently. It is such a splendid thing for children to think of, and to meet, a man approaching eighty years of age, who was so unassuming in his life and conversation, and so simple in his tastes. I am sure it was an inspiration to all of us to have him amongst us. We remember how he used to collect boys and girls on the lawn, and how he tried to instil into us (for we older ones liked to join) a taste for the poetry of nature. Thomson Sharp was really a helpful character, a grand companion for children, and a great exemplification of the simple life.

On coming to Sibford School, from Ackworth, I think the one thing that struck us more than anything else was the restricted character of the appliances for the recreation of the children. An effort was made to form a tennis court at the top of the paddock, but one Friend said he had no sympathy with anything of that sort, as he thought there was too much disposition towards recreation. Another said, "Is not tennis a game that only *gay* people play at?" However, means were found for carrying out the project which has in no small degree contributed to the healthful enjoyment of life at Sibford. The

next step, which was approached very cautiously, was towards the acquisition of a cricket and football field. I remember the trepidation with which I first mentioned this to Richard Lamb, the owner of the coveted field, who with his usual caution, asked for a few days to think the matter over. About a week afterwards, he told me that he had full sympathy with my request for the use of that beautiful field, which has ever since formed so valuable an adjunct to the School's equipment.

Then came the formation of a workshop, and the travels of that workshop would furnish an interesting account. It was first at one end of the shed, then at the other end, and finally it was located in the old cow shed. I suppose few would remember the farm premises as they used to be when that now beautiful grove was a farm yard knee-deep in manure.

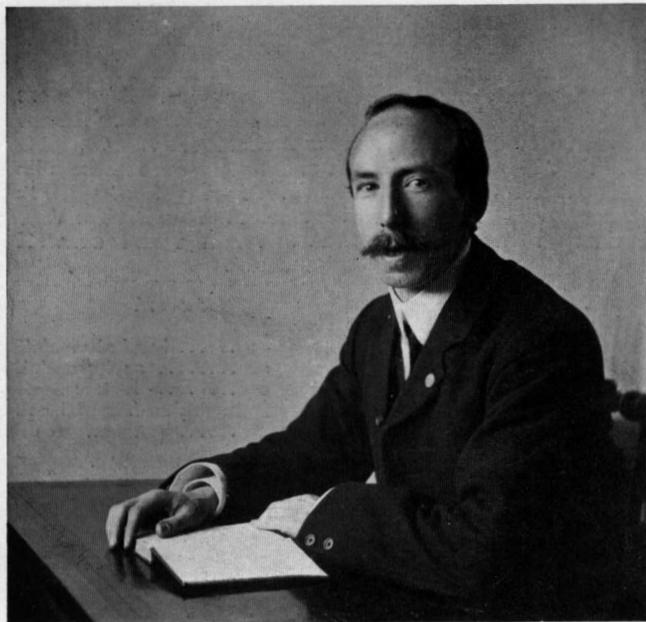
We have now had for a number of years organised games of cricket, football, etc., and they appear to have taken the place of the walks of the olden days. Of late we have encouraged the introduction by the children of bicycles, and this enables them to see more of the beautiful country by which we are surrounded than they otherwise would do.

The Library has from time to time been revised and replenished, but I am sorry to say that in common with other schools we find that there is not the prevalent taste for classical literature and good reading that there used to be in by-gone days.

For many years the swimming-bath has been a valued adjunct of the School, and we ought in connection with this to think with gratitude of the names of George Sykes, William Reason, John Wilkinson, Philemon Land and others, whose generosity from time to time has added to usefulness and comfort.

Class-singing is another innovation, and it gives me pleasure to mention this because a friend of mine of over thirty years' standing, Joseph Parsey, who was an old Sibford scholar, was the first to introduce singing into Ackworth School. Coming to modern times, the last revolution is the institution of mixed classes, mixed meals, and mixed games. After a year's trial of these we consider that we have reason to be satisfied with the result of a change, which at its inception was by many regarded with dread and doubt. But I am reminded that I have already much exceeded the time allotted to me. These Old Schotars' Gatherings are, believe me, times of great heart-searching and humiliation, as well as of pleasure to the Schoolmaster. Boys and girls are generous creatures. "The letters from distant lands; the unexpected remembrance; the gratitude for a forgotten word or deed, making one feel as if one had played Androcles to a lion of unsuspectedly tenacious memory; the after-life of boys in many fields as valiant men and true—these are the ends that crown the work, and in these the Domina Scholæ has her share and her joy."

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.



EDWARD PERCY KAYE.

Charles E. Brady in the chair. The minutes of the first annual meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary read letters from Joseph Collins, Liverpool; Lewis Howard Brooks; Thomas A. Blogg; Christopher Martin, M.B.; Mrs. Simpson, Devizes; Mrs. Wood (Emilie Waddington); Sarah E. Lee; Ethel M. Harrisson; John William Proud, B.A.; John Lawrence, M.A., D.Litt.; Wilfrid Whitten, London; C. T. Reeve, India; Margaret Clarke, Constantinople, and others, all regretting their inability to attend and sending kindly and warm-hearted greetings and interesting news.

The Headmaster was then called upon, and gave a very exhaustive address on the progress of the School and matters of interest in connection therewith. We are able in another part of the Report to give members a fairly full report of this speech, from notes taken by Miriam J. Pitt during the meeting.

E. Percy Kaye, as Secretary and Treasurer, then presented his report and accounts for the year, which were received and adopted unanimously, the Secretary being thanked for his past efforts. The Report was as follows:—

In presenting the Second Annual Report it is very gratifying to be able to state that our membership has increased from 186 to 244—an increase of 58, or 31 per cent. This is indeed much in excess of expectations. The Treasurer's report, unfortunately, does not show a corresponding increase in subscriptions. This is due in great measure to the fact that last year's members who have not sent in their subscriptions for this year still have their names on the books, though they will not, of course, receive the Report. The First Annual Report was

unanimously well received, and many Old Scholars wrote to express the pleasure they had had in perusing its pages. Percy Edmund Dain (scholar 1894-6) hoped there would be a group-photo published each time, but suggested that a key would make the group more interesting to those who were unable to attend the gathering. I have received from two Old Scholars the hint that the Report was somewhat extravagant in that it swallowed up all the surplus funds of last year. In answer to that I should like to quote from the February number for the present year of that excellent magazine for Friends' schools, *Past and Present* :—

"We venture to express a hope that neither at Sidcot nor anywhere else will the Old Scholars be too particular about the cost of its Annual Report. We are aware that expense in this direction lessens the sum available for direct benefit to the School, but that is not by any means the only, nor in our opinion the main, object of an Old Scholars' Association. To many an Old Scholar, whose school days are almost forgotten in the dim past, and whose business cares make attendance at the annual gatherings impossible, the yearly arrival of the Report forms a link in a chain which still binds them to the good old school, which would otherwise have long ere this been severed. No! Ye Old Scholars' Associations! Whatever else ye may do, do not curtail the fulness of your reports. On the plains of Colorado, in the tropical forests of Burmah, in lovely New Zealand, in Australia, Tasmania, Cape Colony and elsewhere, there are those who eagerly await this particular production, and who will devour its pages from cover to cover."

However, in face of all this, it may be pointed out that the Report belongs to the Association, and its members determine its composition; and in connection with that, some of our members who are in foreign parts, are heartily invited to send short articles of general interest for insertion in the Report or for our reunions at the Whitsuntide Annual Gatherings. There are still several copies of the First Report for sale, and we shall be pleased to let applicants have them at cost price, *i.e.*, 9d. each.

We have room in the Report for a very interesting page, entitled "Notices of Old Scholars," which would include marriages, examinations passed or distinctions gained, &c., &c. For the establishment of such a page we request Old Scholars to drop a line to the Secretary when such events take place. This request applies in a still stronger way to change of address.

In thinking over the splendid time we have so far enjoyed and the pleasure we are anticipating for the remaining portion of the gathering, it would be very ungrateful if we did not make mention of the tremendous amount of work so successfully carried out by those who have willingly taken the place of Miss Annie Wells, our local secretary, who was quite unable, owing to business pressure and circumstances over which she had no control, to perform the duties, though we are all glad she has been able to snatch a day off to come amongst us. I refer to Miss Gulielma M. Oddie and Miss Mabel E. Peirson, and I here, in the name of the Sibford Old Scholars' Association to thank them for their labours, though they will, I think, regard the success of the gathering, which is so much due to them, their best thanks. The same, in a somewhat different degree though none the less sincerity, must be said of Mrs. Oddie.

Last year the members of the Committee went from our gathering to their several homes, happy with the thoughts (1) that we had had a record happy time, and (2) that we had not had a financial failure, in fact that there had been a gain of £1 8s. 4d. on the gathering. Unfortunately, number two has had to give way to a clearer light as to the true state of affairs and we had to record a loss of 10s. 8d., which had to be made up out of the General Funds.

Our Photographic Record deserves special mention in this Report, as being one of the chief features of the year's history.

Here our thanks are due to the untiring efforts and unparalleled enthusiasm of our honorary member and first President—Joseph Spence Hodgson. The appeal for funds for this purpose was most liberally responded to, the work has been handsomely carried out, and the interest which attaches to it will grow unceasingly. Nevertheless one would like to see more photographs of the ancient worthies whose names stand out clearly in the Sibford History, and whose efforts have done so much for the School. Any photographs of this character will be welcomed, taken care of, and safely returned if sent to Arthur B. Oddie, 4, White Rock Gardens, Hastings, to whom also all amateurs are requested to send the products of their labours at the gathering, for insertion in our Annual Record.

The Statement of Accounts is as follows:—

EDWARD PERCY KAYE, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE SIBFORD OLD
Dr. SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION. **Cr.**

INCOME.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance in hand	10 3 10	Three Blocks for Annual Report	1 18 0
Subscriptions	22 6 10	500 Circulars	1 10 0
Reports Sold	0 6 0	Stationery and Carriage	1 8 3
Special Subscription (programmes)	0 10 0	300 Reports	9 14 9
Balance from Photographic Record Acct.	0 12 4	Report Covers.....	1 4 6
		Brakes for Banbury (Whitsuntide)	1 19 0
		Postage	3 3 9
		Programmes and Slips	2 1 9
		Sundries (Cyclostyle Paper, &c.)	0 5 3
		Balance in hand	10 13 9
	<u>£33 19 0</u>		<u>£33 19 0</u>

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD.

INCOME.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Subscriptions	4 1 6	Enlarging and inserting 61 Photographs	3 9 2
		Balance in hand	0 12 4
	<u>£4 1 6</u>		<u>£4 1 6</u>

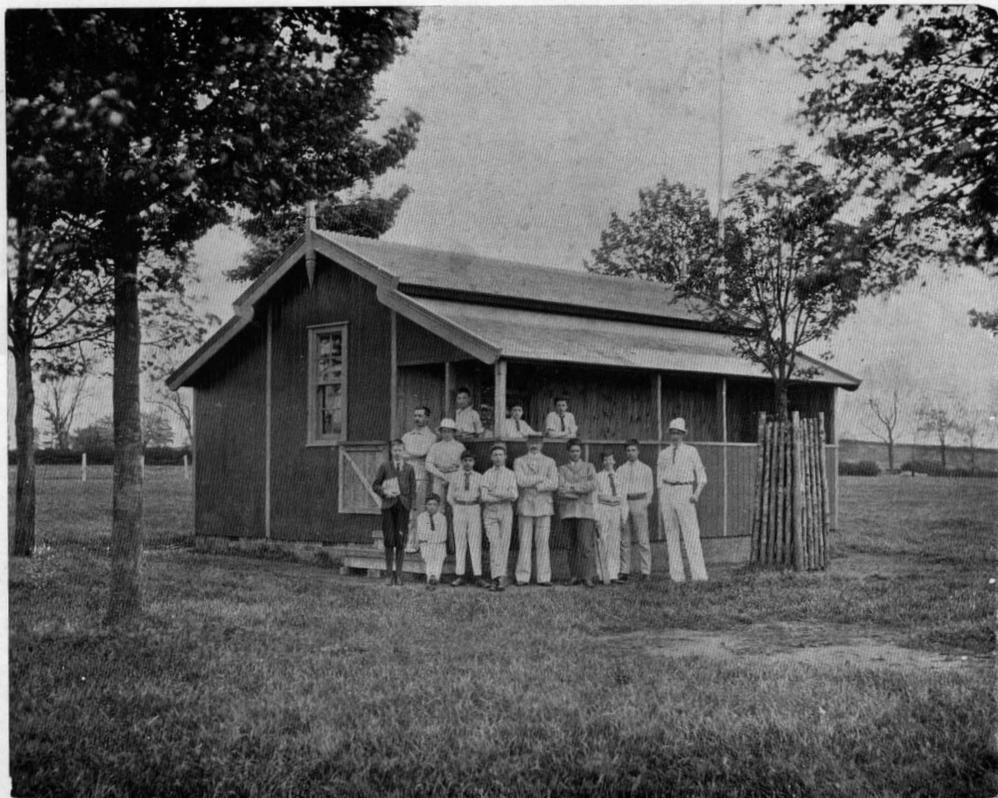
Audited and found correct,
 C. E. BRADY.

After a few questions on the accounts, J. S. K. Parsey proposed, and Edwin Rollason seconded, that Michael T. Graveson be elected President for the coming year. Carried unanimously. Michael Graveson thanked the Association for the honour in a very neat and happy speech.

The following officers were also elected unanimously:— Secretary and Treasurer, E. Percy Kaye; Local Secretary, Gulielma M. Oddie; London Secretary, Elizabeth Foster Brown; Committee, Annie R. Wells, Charles E. Brady, J. W. Proud, B.A., Arthur B. Oddie, Percy O. Whitlock, B.A.

A recommendation was moved by the Chairman, and seconded and carried unanimously, "That this gathering of the Old Scholars, whilst recognising collectively and individually the kindness of its many friends in the village, recommends that no invitations to meals away from the Old Scholars' Refectory be accepted, in order that the Old Scholars shall meet all together at every meal time."

The following resolution was moved by the Chairman, in the unavoidable absence of the President for the past year, seconded by E. Foster Brown, and carried unanimously:—



THE CRICKET PAVILION.

“The Sibford School Old Scholars' Association, assembled at its annual gathering, respectfully wishes to urge upon the Conference, to be held shortly, its hope that it may be found possible to continue the School upon much the same lines as it has been conducted during the past sixty-three years. Friends' Schools always have been regarded as being essentially connected with the social and religious life of the Society. The tendency of present-day legislation is to weaken this denominational character. We believe that Sibford School has justified its existence in providing a distinctly Quaker education, and we willingly and gratefully testify to the benefits we ourselves have received under the present system. We regard with grave apprehension any scheme which shall stamp the School as being reserved for,

or restricted to, any particular section of the community. In Friends' Schools, as they have been conducted hitherto, the children of rich and poor have had equal opportunities, and this arrangement, in our opinion, should be maintained, as it appears to us to embody an important and indeed fundamental principle of Quakerism.” Dr. Routh and E. Foster Brown, who were representatives to the Conference, were requested to bring the resolution before it.

A suggestion by Arthur B. Oddie that the voices of the Presidents should be preserved in phonographic records was agreed to unanimously, and left under his supervision.

After a vote of thanks had been accorded to the Chairman, the business of the meeting was declared at an end.

MARRIAGE.

WOOD—WADDINGTON.—22nd September, 1905. At All Saints' Wingerworth, Chesterfield, Thomas Alfred Wood, of Nairobi, (late of Calthorpe,) to Emilie Waddington, (Scholar, 1889 to 1892), eldest daughter of Booth Waddington, of Bole Hill, Wingerworth, near Chesterfield. Present address—N'gongo House, Nairobi, British East Africa.

LINGERING BEAUTY.

LINES WRITTEN BY MARGARET ANN CLARKE AT SIBFORD, 1881.

THE autumn shades are falling now
On wood and dale and hill,
And beauties that the summer brought
Have changed, but live on still.

The tender leaf of wheat is past,
And sheaves of tasselled gold,
With joyful shout of "Harvest home!"
Are garnered from the cold.

And where the orchard's huge bouquet
Stood as for festal guests,
The pearly bloom has passed away,
And the dower of fruitage rests.

Red corals of the bryony
Hang in their mantling green,
While ruddy, brown, and yellow leaves
With lingering flowers are seen.

Soft moss in emerald green and brown
Rich velvet pile displays;
It robes the old walls gracefully,
For chilly winter days.

Down in the valley lies the mist,
That settles round the trees,
Then rising upward to the hills,
Is scattered by the breeze.

The birds pipe out their plaintive songs
In glorious morning prime;
The grass is tipped with dew-drops,
Or pearly with snowy rime.

And stars at night like diamonds bright
Peer through the fir-trees tall;
The wind sweeps by with ocean's sigh,
The leaves whirl off and fall.

Sweet sights and sounds of Autumn!
Yet somewhat sad are you—
You speak of waning hours and days,
Of years now waning too.

You tell us too of restful calm
When eventide is light,
And lessening days of ageing man,
With heavenly love are bright.

THE YEAR'S CHRONICLE.

We reassembled August 19th, with numbers on each side about the same as last "Half." Percy O. Whitlock, B.A., returned, "with honours thick upon him," from his three years' sojourn at the Flounders Institute, Leeds, in place of D. S. Darkin. Ernest Wells succeeds H. M. Kirby, with altered work, having more out-of-school supervision, secretarial duties, &c.

Co-education has been adopted throughout the School. It is as yet too early to make just comparison of old and new systems.

September 6th—Advantage was taken of the presence, as visitors, of J. W. Proud, B.A., and E. P. Kaye, B.Sc., to improve with the Staff an Entertainment of recitations, songs, &c. E. Wells at once established a reputation as raconteur, by his clever rendering of Conan Doyle's "The Groom's Story." Other favourite items were "Johnny Schmoker," a part song; "Blow, blow, thou winter wind;" "The Last Shot;" "Sweet and Low," &c.

The following day we enjoyed, through the bounty of the Old Scholars' Association, a glorious day at Edgehill. The pleasure of this was enhanced by our having the company of E. P. Kaye, the Secretary of the S.O.S.A. The delightful drives in well-appointed brakes and char-a-bancs to and from the "ever charming, ever new," the rambles in the woods and to well-known view-spots, the sandwich and pasty lunch with its copious draughts of lemonade, the rounders and bowls on Mr. Griffin's lawn, the merry tea table, and the crowning game of *terza*, made up indeed a memorable if fatiguing day. On reaching home we found that Arthur S. Eddington, the Senior

Wrangler, had arrived per cycle from Norwich, and when he appeared at supper, he was accorded a most enthusiastic and uproarious reception.

September 17th.—Our late schoolmate, Ernest C. Russell, took up his abode at Leighton Park School as the holder of a Scholarship. Our best wishes for a thoroughly successful three years' residence and work are his.

September 26th—Cricket and flannels were supplanted by football equipment, a change justified by the weather that immediately ensued.

Recent walks have had the added interest of blackberry-gathering—two expeditions to Swalcliffe Common, Traitors' Ford, and Oatley Hill, having furnished 150 lbs of ripe, luscious fruit.

An event of importance was the visit of three Friends, Theodora Lloyd Wilson, Lena Cheal, and Bessie Midgley. They intended going to all the Friends' Schools, and Sibford happened to be the first on the list. We had two very helpful gatherings with them, besides having their company at our mid-week meeting.

October 14th—This was the day of the big Committee. It passed off very satisfactorily, and the members seemed pleased with the way in which the mixed teaching was progressing. In the morning the classes were visited, but time was found for a short devotional gathering, as is now usual. At the Business Meeting in the afternoon many improvements were suggested and sanctioned. Notable among these was the order for seventy chairs in place of forms in the dining-room, and the re-decorat-

ing of the teachers' studies. A suggestion was made, and is now being carried into effect, that the system of Co-Education should be extended by the playing of mixed games. Hockey of course is the only one at present that lends itself to this idea. Frank Dymond, who came as a member of the Committee, gave a lecture on "The Evils of the use of Alcohol."

October 18th.—Mr. Oddie showed us some of his lantern views of the Continent, and Switzerland in particular. Much interest was added to the lecture from the fact that we had just been over much of the ground through the medium of William White's letters to his Severn Street Class, which had been read to us in our Evening Readings.

October 29th.—The visit of the Swarthmore XI., bringing with them some ten to fifteen visitors from Birmingham. The visit, as usual, was a great success. After the match and the post-prandial oratory, the day's enjoyment culminated in an excellent entertainment. Arthur Little, Robert Woodhead, William Cope, Daniel Roy, Leonard Jones, and Mr. and Mrs. Ward are particularly remembered for their exertions. As some set-off against the thrashing we received, the visitors presented us with a barrel of apples, which were much appreciated.

November 1st.—The first practice of the Sibford Choral Society was held at the School. Most of the staff are members. Last year the banner for competition amongst neighbouring villages was won by Sibford, and great efforts are being made to retain it.

November 7th.—"Actually wet, so we all stayed in all day." (I quote from the Girl's Diary). This reminds the writer of the exceptionally fine and bright weather we have had this term. Autumn seemed to last right on to Sunday, November 20th. The next day—

"There came both mist and snow
And it grew wondrous cold."

During the next week all available time was given over to tobogganning, which was the best we have ever had. Fortunately we escaped with only two slight accidents.

November 20th.—As we were unable to attend a lecture on Pemba in the Mission Room at Sibford Gower, Herbert Armitage kindly consented to come to the School and give us a talk on the work of the Friends' Mission in that island. His lecture was illustrated by splendid lantern views. A collection was made among the children for the purpose of buying a football for the boys and dolls for the girls connected with the Mission. A sum of one pound was contributed, and we now have the pleasure of thinking that in a short time a football, with the name of Sibford writ large on it, will be kicked about by native, shoeless Pembans.

November 26th.—Everyone received from Herbert Armitage a picture postcard, with views of Chaki-Chaki, Banani, &c.

November 29th.—Football and Hockey resumed after ten days' inaction, owing to frost and snow. In the evening we enjoyed a lantern lecture by A. G. Cleminson, B.A., on the work of Dr. Barnardo's Homes.

However difficult it may be to associate the word "invalid" with our Superintendent, he is for the present entitled to this distinction, having taken a severe chill. This has terminated a spell of 42 years, during which period he has not required medical attendance. Dr. Routh is now seeing him several times a day.

December 5th.—The Staff of the School gave an Entertainment in the National Schools at Hook Norton, in aid of the local Fire Brigade. This was repeated a week later at home, when several of the Hook Norton freemen were present. The

platform had been tastefully decorated, and an imposing array of helmets made the *tout ensemble* very effective. There were good attendances at both performances, and we were enabled to hand over a cheque for four guineas to the Brigade Building Fund.

December 19th, the Christmas Breaking-up Entertainment, which was a very great success. By those competent to judge it was agreed that the children had surpassed all previous endeavours. It would be invidious to make mention of items for special commendation in a programme of such uniform excellence.

December 20th.—Vacation Day.

January 20th.—We re-assembled with about the same numbers. We were all sorry to lose Miss Ethel Harrison, who has gone to Polam. Miss Jean Davidson, of Penketh and Polam, takes her place. In the dining room we found numerous alterations, chief of which were chairs instead of forms, and the widening of the tables. After much rumination on the part of the staff, the plan of co-mastication was decided on. As was to be expected, for the first few days there was a decided feeling of constraint amongst the children; this has now entirely disappeared, and the change seems to be fully appreciated.

January 21st.—After unpacking and other preliminaries connected with the beginning of the term, we enjoyed some fine tobogganing, which was made much safer by straw being placed in front of the palings at the bottom of the field. Unfortunately the snow lasted only a few days, but we were happy in the thought that we had had more and better sport in one year than any of our predecessors had.

February 22nd.—The School attended William Noble's lecture on "Temperance Leaders I have met."

February 25th.—Edward S. Prout, M.A., addressed the School on behalf of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

March 23rd.—The boys had an enjoyable walk to Brailes, and went over the Church, one of the largest village churches in England.

March 24th.—The School family and a few friends greatly enjoyed a delightful concert given by the Staff.

April. Good Friday.—In the afternoon the whole School was divided into parties, each of which went a long walk.

Easter Monday.—Only a few visitors came, most of the usual ones probably reserving themselves for the Old Scholars' Gathering at Whitsuntide. In the afternoon an exciting hockey match took place between the Girls' xi. and seven visitors. The result—a draw of two goals—hardly reflected the state of the game, the xi. having hard luck in not winning. The usual concert was given by the pupils in the evening to a crowded room.

April 11th.—We attended the final rehearsal of the Sibford Choral Society.

April 13th.—Great demand for towels, etc., and an exciting race to be the first in the Swimming Bath this season, that distinction falling to Mark Clark.

Mabel E. Peirson, having recovered from her temporary illness, returned, and her sister, who had been filling her position as music teacher, departed, with many regrets on both sides.

GAMES SUMMARY.

At football we cannot account for many wins for the simple reason that we have not played a team of our own size once. Our backs have been fairly strong taken as a whole, but we have been weak in goal and at forward.

Oct. 18th.—*v.* Banbury Wanderers; lost, 0—6.

Oct. 22nd.—*v.* Hook Norton; won, 6—2.

This the first match on our ground this season was well won by the School. From the beginning we pressed, and from good centres by Pugh we scored twice, in one case a Hook Norton

back kicking through his own goal. At half-time the score was 2—1 in our favour. Mr. Whitlock scored twice directly after the restart, and after this we were always better than our much heavier opponents, who somehow or other could not get together. Special mention should be made of the goal shot by Mansfield after a fine individual effort.

Oct. 29th.—*v.* Swarthmore; lost, 0—5. The score here does not represent the game as our opponents were quite ready to admit. We really had nearly as much of the game as the Birmingham team. Last year the Swarthmore team lost by a goal, and they were very intent on wiping out this defeat, and to this end they had got together a very strong team. In the first half we pressed severely; but the fine goal-keeping of Arthur Little prevented us from scoring. A rush away by the Swarthmore forwards ended in Pratt, an old Sibfordian, shooting a very fine goal. Swarthmore scored again before half-time, and they led at the interval by 2—0. We experienced the same bad luck after the restart, and though at times we bombarded the goal, we could not score. On the other hand everything seemed to go right with our opponents, and they piled up five goals before time was called. This match is always looked upon as the pick of the season, and this year's was no exception to that.

Nov. 9th.—*v.* Magdalen College School, Brackley; lost, 0—7.

Nov. 16th.—*v.* Municipal School, Banbury; lost, 1—11.

Team:—Hall; Mr. Wells, Davis; Lamb (ii.), Blake, Russell; Mansfield, Vander Vord, Mr. Whitlock, Fearnshides, Pugh.

HOCKEY—BOYS.

Several matches had to be scratched at the end of last term, owing to frost and snow. The only one that we have played since the last issue is December 7th, *v.* Ark House School; draw, 1—1. These are our oldest opponents, and for this

reason we were sorry that they played two outsiders. However, a good game resulted, although with Mr. Wells we should have probably won. The boys, especially the halves, showed great improvement, perhaps due to the fact that they were playing against a team nearer their own size.

HOCKEY—GIRLS.

Our First XI. is rather weaker than last year, as our "invincible" back, Miss Gertie Peirson, left last half, as also did Nellie Tozer, our goal-keep. Consequently we were defeated by Oxford Lodge School, Banbury, on November 19th, the goals being 4—5. The game was a very fast and even one, and greatly enjoyed by both contestants and spectators. Miss Oddie and Miss Harrison scored our goals.

Perhaps the most valuable feature of our play this season though, has been the starting of mixed hockey. We generally set apart one day or more for this each week, and some very enjoyable games have been played. The first time the boys played, the referee's whistle was kept busy in response to appeals for "fouls." However, by dint of practice and exhortations they are becoming somewhat conformable to the rules of the game, and have already given the Girls' XI. one or two beatings, greatly owing though to the fast play and strenuous efforts of Mr. Whitlock and Mr. Wells.

Dec. 7th.—*v.* Oxford Lodge School, Banbury; won, 3—2.

As we had been beaten on our own ground, we hardly expected to win at Banbury. The sides were very evenly matched, although our opponents were the older and heavier team. However, their strong play was overcome in the second half of the game by the combined quickness and determination of some of our players, notably Miss Harrison, Ada Westlake, and Dorothy Vander Vord. Miss Oddie acquitted herself very creditably at back, especially as it was a new place to her.



RICHARD LAYCOCK ROUTH.
PRESIDENT THIS YEAR.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

BY

RICHARD LAYCOCK ROUTH.

It is with much diffidence that I address you this evening, because I feel how impossible it will be for me to maintain the very high level of the addresses to which you have listened during this Old Scholars' meeting. I may emulate but cannot attain to their high tone, and indeed the subject matter of any remarks of mine is more narrative than suggestive—more descriptive of the past than suggestive of the future.

I think that perhaps but few in the present company know very much about the exact circumstances under which this School was founded, and I must take you back to about the year 1840. It was about the year 1840 that J. J. Gurney paid a religious visit to this Quarterly Meeting. He was a brother of Elizabeth Fry, and it is interesting to know that the last connecting link with that generation of Friends is yet living among us, that is J. B. Braithwaite, who accompanied him as companion on that journey. It was an eventful one for him, for when they arrived at Banbury these Friends were received at the house of Joseph A. Gillett, and there J. B. Braithwaite met his future wife, then Martha Gillett, jun. Well, on this visit to the various meetings of Berks and Oxon Quarterly Meeting, J. J. Gurney found a very large number of people who had married out of the Society, and had been in consequence disowned. Their affections were still with the Society, but they and their children were non-members, and appeared likely to drift away rather than be drawn closer to their old faith. The question took deep hold of his mind—probably was

brought before the Yearly Meeting; at all events, in the following year it was pretty much decided to establish an agricultural school for non-members as well as members. Funds were raised, and many places were inspected with a view to purchase. I cannot remember them all, but I know that the decision lay at last between the Old Manor house at Sibford and an ancient hostelry named Chapel House near Chipping Norton. Ultimately this house was bought from the late Joseph Harris, and some twenty-five acres of land with it. The friends who in these earliest days had most to do with the establishment of the School were Samuel Beesley, Henry Beesley, Joseph A. Gillett, William Collins, William Albright, James Cadbury, and others. All these have long since passed away. The next thing was to get a suitable master and mistress. The mistress had first to be secured, as there was much to be done in the way of preparing linen, &c., so the School was first of all opened for girls only.

Now I must digress for a moment, and ask you to accompany me to one of those beautiful remote valleys of north-west Yorkshire, which are known as the Dales. In Garsdale, one of the wildest of these valleys, there had been ever since the days of George Fox a colony of Friends. Winns, Handleys, Thistlethwaites, and others lived and died, attending their little meeting through the ages; and there my mother, the granddaughter of Edmund Winn was born, and in due time was sent off, as all the other members of the Society were sent, to that

great seminary of the Society, Ackworth School. It was a formidable journey in those days, long before railways existed. By carriers, wagons, or some such means, they went. With such difficulties of distance to contend with, it is no wonder that when children were sent to Ackworth, there they had to stay till their schooldays were ended. I have often heard my mother tell how, after six or seven years there, she was utterly unrecognisable by her own parents when she returned home; and her descriptions of Ackworth School life in those days would stagger present-day friends.

I don't know how many applications the Friends here had for the post of Mistress to this School; but no doubt they sought to be guided aright, and they asked Rebecca Thompson (*née* Laycock) to undertake the post. The year 1842 found her, after a short married life, left a widow in Liverpool. She had been associated with friends there in business, and they, having made plenty of, money, were anxious to retire, and equally anxious for my mother to succeed them in their profitable concern. But she hesitated; there was a little misgiving in her mind lest this tempting offer might not be just the niche which God wanted her to fill. In this state of uncertainty, the wants of the Sibford School Committee became known to her, and she believed herself called on to relinquish affluence, and offer her services here. How few of us, I fear, would so readily have relinquished so much; yet it was the keystone of her character—the desire to do God's will, and not her own will—and she made the sacrifice. So in 1842 she came here, with Martha Braithwaite—then Martha Gillett. The two ladies came to the bare old Manor House, and worked early and late at getting it into order. A month or two later it was opened as a School, and one or two of the first batch of girls who arrived are yet living; one of the very first, a poor woman who lives in this

village to-day, has in a most remarkable way exhibited those traits of self-surrender, self-denial, patient endurance, which only those who have known her can ever half appreciate. You may find scores of old Sibford Scholars who have accumulated wealth, achieved distinction, and gained the applause of the world, but you will find none in all the School's annals who has shown more true heroism than this dear old lady.

After three or four months, things were ready for the admission of boys, and a Master had been selected in the person of my father. He too was from the Dales of Yorkshire, but he came from Wensleydale. There he had a little endowed school under his charge, and daily for years he trudged in all weathers across 2½ miles of rough mountain road, to a little village called Countersett, overlooking the Lake of Simerwater; there he taught, and under his influence boys grew up who became great men. Henry Tennant, for many years the manager of the North Eastern Railway, was one of his pupils. William Thistlethwaite was the master of this little school before my father, but he had been appointed to the head-mastership of Penketh School, and when he heard of Sibford wanting a Head Master, he said, "You can have the very man you want in my old friend, Richard Routh," and Richard Routh was appointed. There was great excitement among the women folks here on the day that the new Master was to arrive. Mistress and girls all went to meet him at the top of Swalcliffe Cutting, to give him a welcome, and soon the School was in full swing.

Now, perhaps, I had better take up your time for a few minutes in describing the premises as they existed in those days. The present Entrance Hall was used as a dining room, where all the meals were served for many years, and a very tight fit it was, for there were quite fifty to sit down to every meal. Where the present library is was then a kitchen, with a

back kitchen which looked out into the passage. There the girls were taught elementary cooking. A row of white rails ran along where the Lower Schoolroom abuts on the road, then came a wide gateway, and beyond that the stable, barn, &c., and a farmyard where the present green is. The present dining room was the schoolroom for boys and girls, with a wooden division which could be partially removed, so as to throw the two rooms more or less into one. Over it were the boys' bedrooms. The range of buildings now used as boys' schoolrooms was then an open thatched barn, with the wash-room and store-room at one end, and the apple room above. That wash-room is a vivid spot in my memory to this day. It had a stone floor, and a small window looking out into the orchard. It was very narrow, and all along the orchard side ran a long leaden trough, with a pump at one end. Into this the boys were turned every morning, in batches of six or eight. The trough was pumped full, and the six or eight lads did their ablutions in the open trough. This went on for years. Now and again more thorough ablutions were thought desirable. These were great occasions. Two huge tubs, which were used for scalding the pigs after they had been killed, were carried into the washhouse and filled with water, and relays of boys were brought in, well soused from head to foot, and turned out clean as pennies. But every Saturday afternoon every boy was bound to wash his feet, and every Saturday night just before bedtime the boys took their places in a long row on forms, and "show feet" was called. Then my father would go along, carefully inspecting every pair of feet, and if any did not pass muster, the owner of these feet was sent off to the washhouse, and had the unpleasant task of re-washing them in cold water by the light of a tallow dip. In winter this was a very cold, unpleasant business.

Occasionally, in summer, the boys went to bathe. The bath was the mill dam at Temple Mill. How these memories come up of the long line of boys, with their heaps of clothes in the grass, and the glorious summer sun making everything beautiful, and the shouts and laughter as they took their headers into those muddy waters. But once there was nearly a calamity. One boy took an extra big dive, and not only went to the bottom, but got his head so jammed in the mud that he was stuck. I remember seeing a pair of feet and ankles kicking wildly above the water, but no owner to them came up. Suddenly one of the teachers, I think Frederick Richardson, dashed in and dragged up the lad, who was nearly suffocated; it was a near go. After that we were not allowed to bathe in the mill dam, but had to have our bath in the little pond where to this day they wash the sheep. One of the finest swimmers I ever saw used to show the boys how to swim in those days. This was Edward Warrulan, he was an Australian aborigine, and as black as you like, but he was a good, nice fellow, and very popular. He grew up into an excellent young man, but one day, travelling by train, he found the wind piercingly cold, and begged the man who was sitting by the window to close it. The wretch rudely refused. Edward Warrulan took a violent chill, pneumonia set in, and in a few days he was no more—killed by an Englishman. I often think of his fate when I hear someone ask for a railway carriage window to be closed.

Order was kept in the bedrooms by monitors, who had to report every morning as to the behaviour of the lads, in the following formula, "Please Master, no boy has talked, half-talked, signed, whispered, hummed, or motioned." Mornings were always spent in School, afternoons were a good deal taken up with farm work. The sewage farm below the orchard,

still called the dug field, used to be all hand dug by the boys every year, and what crops it bore ! There was the biggest crop of oats on it one year that I ever saw anywhere. "Squitching" was a field job we used to hate. The boys were arranged in a long row, with a basket between every two lads, and then slowly marched across the field,—either Cubbs or Boyer,—and every particle of squitch had to be picked up. My father would say, "Now boys, you have to pick up every bit you see, however small, so long as it has two ends to it." Potato planting and potato digging were much more popular, but nothing ever came up to the joys of the harvest field. The older boys had their sickles and went to reap. It was a matter of great emulation as to who could reap the most. Some boys would do five or six dozen sheaves in a day, others would do twice this amount. I expect we liked it chiefly because of the coffee and bread and butter which used to be sent up in great clothes baskets, and it was the proper thing to suck up this hot coffee through long straws. Gradually, times changed. Less field work was done, machinery was beginning to come in ; all the countryside flocked down to near Temple Mill to see the first mower which ever came into these parts, and very badly it did its work.

But you must not think that the intellectual side was neglected either ; in those early days the School was blessed by some of the very finest teachers who ever influenced the lives of boys or imparted instruction to them. Frederick Richardson, the most popular and genial of teachers, was for years their friend, teacher and daily example of all that makes for good ; keenly interested in natural history, he imparted his enthusiasm to all around him. He was a grand man, he loved the boys, and the boys adored him. Another splendid man followed him, this was Joseph Collins, he was a superb teacher. In

mathematics he was simply a genius. I never came across anyone who could teach arithmetic and algebra like Joseph Collins. He took his B.A., and became tutor at the Flounders Institute. He is still living at Liverpool ; how I wish he could be present to see again perhaps some few of us who owe so much to him ; his memory will always be bright and dear to his pupils. And there were many good teachers too on the girls' side of the house. Ann Grimes, Mary Drewitt of Luton, one of the sweetest women whom I ever knew, too good for earth—Margaret Clarke, Mary Hannah Lamb, and many others. I remember Margaret Clarke's coming to school, it must have been somewhere about 1853. Those were the days of coaches. I remember father taking me down to the turn-pike to meet the coach with a man and wheelbarrow to bring her box. Presently the great coach with its four spanking horses came tearing along on its way from Banbury to Shipston, deposited the young woman into my father's care and we trudged back to school. Margaret Clarke remained from that day associated with the school as scholar, teacher and after my dear mother's death in 1868, as head mistress till 1880. Hers has been a life of which one can hardly venture to speak. A life of absolute, utter self-denial ; of simple trust in God's guidance from day to day. My dear Friends, if any of you do not already know Margaret Clarke then may you know and reverence her name as one of the most splendid characters which Sibford School has ever produced.

But I was talking about the days when the children used to come by coach. When the school was opened there was no G.W.Ry. at Banbury ; the branch of the L. and N.W. from Bletchley had only just been opened. What days those were when the school broke up for its one holiday of just four weeks at midsummer—and how patriarchal it all was ! Father would

go with a string of boys and girls to the station and there would ensue a regular set-to at bargaining between him and the fat, genial station-master as to how much should be paid for the fares. "Now," father would say, "here are seven boys and five girls—all going to Euston—some of them thou sees are quite small; now what canst thou take this lot for?" Then a price would be quoted for the lot. "No, that is too much," father would say, "thou sees some of these children are none too well off, thou must take five shillings less"; and so at last the bargain would be struck, much to the advantage of the little passengers. Some of the children who lived very far away would remain at the school during the holidays. This was a great mistake, it was bad for the children who for four weeks romped the neighbourhood unchecked, and bad for the superintendents who were tied to the premises on their account. I need hardly say that long before this time, about the year 1845, my father and mother were married. My mother had always such a very—what shall I say—superior air of authority that I always thought father felt just a little bit in awe of her. One day Samuel Beesley was over at the school and father accompanied him part way back to Banbury. During a pause in their conversation Samuel Beesley suddenly said, "Richard Routh, doesn't thou think it would be a good thing for thee to get married." "Well," father said, "I really haven't thought much about it, I don't know of anyone at all likely." "But why not ask Rebecca Thompson?" "Oh I am sure Rebecca Thompson would never regard me with any favour." "Oh thou doesn't know till thou tries—just think it over." And so he did, and I am sorry I can't furnish any further details as to what transpired between them, only I know it ended in their marriage in July, 1845, and the late Richard Lamb was the best man on that occasion. They didn't go abroad for honeymoons in those

days, besides, they were both extremely careful people and didn't spend a shilling where sixpence would do, but they got an invitation to go to some friends at Stourbridge for a few days, and they went for their honeymoon trip in a canal boat, drawn by an old horse, through the delightful scenery of Dudley and the Black country! I believe the whole show lasted three days!

At Sibford we have lived through an age of desecration. Sentiment has always been throttled down and utility has taken its place. This is greatly to be regretted, for dear old landmarks have been effaced which would be worth anything had they been spared. In an unfortunate moment it came into the minds of Friends that the sweet old Meeting-house, in which George Fox had preached, was no longer big enough for the meeting. It was such a quaint old place with its panelled sides of worm-eaten oak, and its lobby and gallery—a lobby in which you could hardly stand upright—and its benches with upright backs and seats so narrow that a big man could hardly sit on them; they *were* uncomfortable, I could forgive anyone who could go to sleep when sitting on them. Well, it had to come down when the present Meeting-house was built—ah! it was a pity. Funny old people used to come to meeting in those days, one of them used to go to sleep regularly. I fancy he got a comfortable corner somewhere. It wouldn't have mattered his going to sleep, but occasionally he would talk too in his dreams. One day he sent the boys into fits, "The wind sounds very hollow, I think we shall have some rain," he muttered. There was not much preaching then. Joshua Lamb, the grandfather of the present Joshua Lamb, used to be at the head of the meeting, a dear, good old man, but extremely deaf. He had a repertoire of about six sermons. These were delivered, quite unconsciously to himself, in pretty regular order and in abso-

lutely the same words, so that one knew exactly what was coming. But he was a good, saintly man, and even his failings, if he had any, leaned to virtue's side.

In the early days, General Meeting day was the red letter day of the School year. And what assemblages they were! Schools were the pet hobby of Friends in those days, almost the only outlet for their interests and generosity. Adult and Sunday Schools, Foreign Missions, and Home Missions were only just beginning to attract their thoughts, and so they crowded to the School General Meetings literally in hundreds, from London, Reading, Birmingham, and even more distant places they came, and as many as thirty carriages would be seen standing all up the road. Then the children were "examined." Not that it amounted to much; the boys and girls read a few sentences, spelt a few words, did some mental arithmetic which was always pronounced to be marvellous, answered a few catch questions, and the examination was over. It is a pity, I think, that the Society seems to have had its interest in the schools rather crowded out by the pressure of these other influences which I have just alluded to. Legacies and donations used to be a matter of yearly occurrence; now they seem utterly diverted from schools to the mission field.

I have always thought that games were sadly neglected in those early days. Everything was so utilitarian that there was no room for games. Such as there were,—“I spy!” “leap-frog,” “hi-cock-a-lorum,” &c.,—were not the most desirable amusements for lads' leisure hours. Cricket hardly existed; football was unknown. How enormously these manly games tell upon the real life of a school, and no one knows how important they are in helping to form character; it is one of the very best features of this School to-day that cricket and football, tennis and so forth, occupy the place they do, and I regard them as

almost as important as studies which are purely academic.

I only remember two very serious epidemics in the School. One was when diphtheria broke out in the autumn of 1859. Many of the children were attacked, and two died. I do not remember much about it, but I do very well remember the awful outbreak of scarlet fever in 1878. The whole place seemed turned into a hospital; boys and girls fell with it, and it was simply an awful time. Two of the children died, and several only just pulled through. It was by far the worst epidemic that it has ever fallen to my lot to witness.

Well, now I ought to be drawing these remarks to a close. They are but a sketch, but perhaps they may assist you in forming some idea of the evolution of the School from its primitive origin to its present condition. Are there no lessons for us to learn by contrasting the past with the present, and from the study of some of the lives of those I have mentioned? Indeed there are. There may well be a feeling of thankfulness for you of the younger generation, that you have had here far greater advantages than those who were before you: that times have changed, that education is carried on on broader lines, that it is no longer thought sinful to sing or play music, but that they are rightly regarded as elevating and refining. Far be it from me to speak in criticism of the past. No one can do more than their best, and I am very sure that those who had the care of the children here, sixty years ago, did all they knew for the right upbringing of those entrusted to their care. Some of these children have become successful men,—some have risen to eminence, some of us have been more or less failures; but if we have failed in being what we might have been it has been through unfaithfulness on our own part, not for lack of instruction or example. When I think of the devoted lives of some of those whose names I have mentioned, I see in them such a

sacrifice of self, such humble following in the path of duty, such a desire to walk not in their own way but under Divine guidance, as makes me feel how utterly unworthy I am to even bear their name.

As time goes by, and the middle milestone of our lives is left far behind us, and the awful failings and shortcomings of the past at times almost overwhelm us, we must all of us feel that our lives, whatever others may think, have been more or less of failures. Do not mistake my meaning. A man's life is not a failure because he has not amassed wealth; a man may

die a millionaire and yet have been a failure; and another whose influence in the world has been for good may die a pauper and yet have been a success. But if we remember that Latin motto, "Carpe diem" (seize the present day), we may, perhaps, be encouraged to more earnest effort, more self-denial, to some real endeavour to let our influence among our fellow-men be cast on the right side, so that if we are spared to meet again at another annual gathering, we may be able to realise that we have made some little progress in the better way.

LIST OF OFFICERS.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

WHITSUNTIDE, 1905, TO WHITSUNTIDE, 1906.

President:

MICHAEL T. GRAVESON, J.P., Banks Road, West Kirby,
Cheshire.

Secretary and Treasurer:

EDWD. PERCY KAYE, B.Sc., Pembroke College, Harrogate.

Local Secretary:

GULIELMA MARY ODDIE, Sibford School, Banbury.

London Secretary:

ELIZABETH FOSTER BROWN, 43, Devonshire Chambers,
Bishopsgate Without, E.C.

COMMITTEE.

ANNIE R. WELLS. JOHN WM. PROUD, B.A.
CHARLES E. BRADY. ARTHUR B. ODDIE, L.D.S.
PERCY O. WHITLOCK, B.A.

OFFICERS OF THE SCHOOL.

SIBFORD FERRIS, NEAR BANBURY.

Superintendent: ROBERT BREARLEY ODDIE.

Mistress of the Family: ELIZABETH M. ODDIE.

Girls' Teachers:

First Class: KATHLEEN NORA O'NEILL.

Second Class: JEAN DAVIDSON.

Boys' Teachers:

PERCY O. WHITLOCK, B.A. ERNEST WELLS.

Music Mistress:

MABEL E. PEIRSON.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE SIBFORD OLD SCHOLARS' ASSOCIATION.

ESTABLISHED 19TH JUNE, 1903.

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, 244.

s signifies Scholar. *t* Teacher. *c* on the School Committee. * present at Whitsuntide Gathering, 1905.

1	ABBATT, ANNA MARY* (<i>sand c</i>)	Sibford Gower, Banbury.	15	Bishop, Arthur* ('95-'00)	71, Station Road, King's Heath, Birmingham.
2	Abbatt, Mary Ann (<i>née</i> Enoch '76-'82)	Braeside, Fulworth, Preston.	16	Blake, Gladys*	Tbe Hawtbornes, Duxmere, Ross-on-Wye.
3	Absalom, Charles E.	74, Adelaide Street, Coventry.	17	Blake, Edith* ('98)	c/o Captain Weaver, Summer Hill, Newport, Salop.
4	Absalom, Mary Hester	2, Cottingbam Villas, Melksbam, Wilts.	18	Blacklee, Wilfrid	Manor House, Grendon, Northants.
5	Absalom, John K.*	Acacia House, Boulevard, Weston-super-Mare.	19	Blacklee, Frederick (-'03)..	Ditto, ditto.
6	Albright, John (<i>c</i>)	Hazeldean, Charlbury.	20	Blogg, T. A.	Cardiff School of Commerce, 54, Charles Street, Cardiff.
7	Amos, Ethel E.	Stoke Bruerne, Towcester, Northants.	21	Blunn, Jessie* ('98-'99)	High Street, Alcester.
8	Andreason, Mary Ann	11, Hilton Street, Commercial Road, London, E.	22	Boote, Alice E.* ('97-'98)	8, Church Lane, Banbury.
9	Appleton, A. Winifred	Poplar Cottage, Rednal, near Birmingham.	23	Boyce, Leslie P. S.	Upper Welland, near Malvern.
10	Ash, Annie May ('93-'95)	10, Bredon Terrace, Evesham.	24	Braithwaite, William C., L.L.B. (<i>c</i>)	2, Dashwood Road, Banbury.
11	BEALE, SEYMOUR H. (<i>t</i>)	Banbury.	25	Brady, Mabel* ('86-'88)	2, Hawthorn Villas, High Road, Wealdstone, Harrow.
12	Benstead, Lilian Jane	Alliance Hotel, Oxford Street, Southampton.	26	Brady, Charles E.* ('82-'87) ..	Ditto, ditto.
13	Bird, James	Sidmouth.	27	Bramfitt, Una M.	Wesley Manse, Thetford, Norfolk
14	Bird, Albert	Winscombe, Somerset.	28	Brooks, Lewis Howard	Post Office, Winscombe, Somerset.
			29	Brown, Elizabeth B.* (<i>née</i> West) (<i>s and c</i>)	62, Broughton Road, Banbury.

- 30 Brown, Elizabeth Foster* c/o Edward Grubb, M.A.,
(s '89-'92 ; t '96-98) 43, Devonshire Chambers,
Bishopsgate Without, E.C.
- 31 Burrows, Annie E. 27, Lake Street, Leighton
Buzzard, Beds.
- 32 CADBURY, CAROLINE (c) Pendle Hyrst, Bristol Road,
Birmingham.
- 33 Carter, Wilfrid Cyril (t '02-'03) Whaley Bridge, near Stockport.
- 34 Castle, Horace Faulkner Woodside, Coalbrookdale, Salop.
- 35 Clarke, Margaret Friends' Mission, c/o British
Post Office, Constantinople.
- 36 Clark, Mark C. 1, Gordon Road,
Wellingborough, Northants.
- 37 Cleaver, Richard L. ('95-'96) . . 30, Selborne Street, Prince's
Road, Liverpool.
- 38 Colgrave, Sarah (t) Little Tew, near Enstone, Oxon.
- 39 Collins, Joseph Marshall, B.A. 145, Kingsley Road, Liverpool.
(s and t '49-'60)
- 40 Crosland, John Arthur 11, Upper Rice Lane, Egremont,
Cheshire.
- 41 Curtis, Luther ('03) Hillcrest, Highfield Road,
Malvern.
- 42 DAIN, PERCY E. The Villa, Dunley, Stourport,
Worcestershire.
- 43 Darby, William (c) Ashleigh, 5, Westbourne Road,
Birmingham.
- 44 Darkin, Douglas S. (t '00-'04) Westgate, Gloucester.
- 45 Davidson, Jean S.* (t '05) Sibford School, Banbury.
- 46 Dearden, Henry* 36, Warriner Gardens,
Battersea Park, S.W.
- 47 Dearden, John William Ditto, ditto.
- 48 Dudley, Robert Clevedon Lodge, Warwick.
- 49 EDWARDS, CAROLINE LOUISA 82, Etnam Street, Leominster.
('03)
- 50 Evans, Gwladys Elen Trewylan, Sarnan, Heullon,
('93-'95) Cardiganshire.
- 51 Evans, Mary Harle ('03) . . Allendale, Trafalgar Road,
Moseley, Birmingham.
- 52 Evans, Ethel Margaret ('03) Ditto, ditto.
- 53 FARRINGTON, ETHEL* 367, High Street, Cheltenham.
- 54 Farrington, Walter* Notting Hill Gate, London, W.
- 55 Fearnside, Joseph T. 6, Cannon Hill Road, Balsall
Heath, Birmingham.
- 56 Fisher, Robert E. 39, Great Sutton Street,
London, E.C.
- 57 Fowkes, Hannah (née Busby) Rainbow Villa, Fosse Road,
Leicester.
- 58 Francillon, George 5, Stroud Road, Gloucester.
- 59 Francillon, Paul ('80-85) 3, Moseley Villa, Barnwood,
Gloucester.
- 60 GIBBINS, WILLIAM B. (c) Ettington, Stratford-on-Avon.
- 61 Gibbs, Alfred ('03) South Africa.
- 62 Gibbs, Edwin ('03) Ditto.
- 63 Gibbs, Winifred ('02-'03) Cowpasture Farm, Hook Norton.
- 64 Gibson, Samuel ('99-'03) 68, Dufferin Street,
St. Luke's, E.C.
- 65 Gill, Jessie M. (s and t) 40, Oxford Avenue, Southampton.
- 66 Gittins, Nellie* ('97-'03) Institute, Selly Oak, Birmingham.
- 67 Glaisyer, Thomas 1, Landridge Rd., Fulham, S.W.
- 68 Glaisyer, Edmund C. Ditto, ditto.
- 69 Goffe, May* Nill Farm, Hook Norton, Oxon.
- 70 Goode, Alfred* ('97-'00) Barnt Green, near Birmingham.
- 71 Goodley, Ada C. Jennings . .

- 72 Goouch, Benjamin (c) Ettington, near Stratford-on-Avon.
- 73 Graveson, Michael, J.P.* Bank Road, West Kirby, Cheshire.
- 74 Graveson, Agnes A.* Ditto, ditto.
- 75 Graveson, Bertha B.* Ditto, ditto.
- 76 **H**ANDY, JOHN* 9, Frankenwell Street, Newtown, Montgomery.
- 77 Harrisson, Ethel Mary Polam Hall, Darlington.
(t '01-'04)
- 78 Hamlin, Carl E. ('02-'03) The Friars' Lodge, Black Friars, Gloucester.
- 79 Hall, Jessie E.* 9, High Street, Stony Stratford.
- 80 Hall, Percy W. Newtown Villa, Ashfield, Ross, Herefordshire.
- 81 Harlock, Arthur J. (c) Parson's Street, Banbury.
- 82 Harris, Annie Maria (*née* Payne) Grasmere, Holy Road, Northampton.
(74)
- 83 Harris, Septimus ('63-'64) Victoria Street, Morecambe.
- 84 Harris, Alice Mary* ('83-'86) .. 32, Cavendish Mansions, Clapton Square, N.E.
- 85 Harris, Sarah Eliza* ('57-'60) The Cottage, Sibford Ferris, Banbury.
- 86 Hill, Harold ('03) 6, Newbridge Crescent, Wolverhampton.
- 87 Hill, Sydney ('03) Ditto, ditto.
- 88 Hills, Joseph Francis Stanley Villa, Sudbury, Suffolk.
- 89 Hodgetts, Edith ('97-'01) Dorland, Bournville Lane, Bournville, Birmingham.
- 90 Hodgetts, Percy* ('97-'00).... Ditto, ditto.
- 91 Hodgson, Joseph Spence* 26, Hesketh Avenue, Didsbury, Manchester.
(*Hon. Member*).
- 92 Homan, George Henry* 19, Culcombe Road, Denmark Hill, Camberwell, S.E.
- 93 Howitt, Francis ('85-'90) 14, Stuart Street, Luton.
- 94 Howitt, Thomas Henry Holwell Bury Farm, nr. Hitchin.
(85-'90)
- 95 Hunt, Amy J., L.R.A.M. c/o Miss De Witt, Lansdowne Crescent, Bath.
(91-'93)
- 96 **J**OHNSON, ELIZABETH ('62-'65) Bynghurst, Springfield, Chelmsford.
(*née* Payne)
- 97 Johnson, Ann (s and c '70-'73) 45, Victoria Road, Northampton.
- 98 Johnson, Mary (s and c '75-'78) Ditto, ditto.
- 99 Judge, Arthur W. ('87) c/o Cooper, Logan & Co., East London, South Africa.
- 100 **K**ANE, H. SOPHIA 32, Kelvin Road, Highbury Park, N.
- 101 Kaye, E. Percy*, B.Sc. Pembroke College, Harrogate.
(t '95-'97)
- 102 Keen, Anne Sibford, Banbury.
- 103 Kirby, H. M. (t '03-'04) Friends' School, Sibford, Banbury.
- 104 Knight, Alice (s and t '83-'91) Laurel Bank, Sea View, Leigh-on-Sea.
- 105 Knight, Hubert G. Laurel Bank, Seaview Road, Leigh-on-Sea.
- 106 Knight, May ('03) Hornsea House, New Street Kenilworth.
- 107 **L**ADE, DONALD R. Housedean, Falmer, nr. Brighton
- 108 Lamb, Adeline Jane* 14, Bath Road, Banbury.
- 109 Lamb, Edith Eliza c/o Charles B. Lamb, Sandy Mount, Loughgall, co. Armagh.
(s ; t '96-'03)
- 110 Lamb, Lucy Sophia* (*née* Binns) Sibford Ferris, Banbury.
(s '66-'71 ; t '71-'82)
- 111 Lamb, Rachel Jane* Rye Hill, Sibford Gower, Banbury

- 112 Lamprey, William ('89-'92) ..
 113 Lawrence, John, M.A., D.Litt. 72, South Hill Park,
 Hampstead, N.W.
- 114 Lee, Sarah Elizabeth (t'92-'98) Station House, Leyburn, Yorks.
 115 Lee, Josephine 46, Market Place, Doncaster.
 116 Legge, Walter* 67, London Road, Derby.
 117 Littleboy, Margaret (c)..... Woodbrooke, Selly Oak, near
 Birmingham.
- 118 Lindley, Grace 16, Clifton Road, Winchester.
 119 Linney, Albert Gravely (t) .. Bootham School, York.
 120 Lovegrove, Robert S. ('03) Co-operative Stores, Bloxham.
 121 Lower, Arthur Percy ('95-'97) 57, Gillingham Road,
 Gillingham, Kent.
- 122 MADDOCKS, SYDNEY ('03) Grassmere, Selly Oak,
 Birmingham.
- 123 Martin, Christopher 35, George Road, Edgbaston,
 M.B., F.R.C.S. Birmingham.
- 124 May, Harold Robert* 239, Gooch Street, Birmingham.
 125 Megirian, John Jay ('98-99).. Y.M.C.A., W. 23rd Street,
 New York.
- 126 Megirian, Joseph J. ('98-'01) Ditto. ditto.
 127 Megirian, Nevdon ('00-'03)*.. c/o A. J. Harlock, Parson's
 Street, Banbury.
- 128 Mellanby, Mary Jane ('82-'87) Greta House, Barnard Castle.
 129 Milnes, Annie Eliza (t) Queen Mary's School, Walsall.
 130 Millard, Nellie Fairfield Lodge, Hitchin, Herts.
 131 Mitchell, Walter..... Plantation House, Cloughfold,
 Manchester.
- 132 Morrey, Percy ('00-'03)..... 6, Butcher's Row, Banbury.
 133 Mold, Susannah ('89-'92) ... 27, Downleaze, Stoke Bishop,
 Bristol.
- 134 Mold, William ('95-'98)..... Nursery Rd., Ringwood. Hants.
 135 Morley, Mrs. (née Adkins) .. Brailes, near Banbury.
 ('42-'43)
 136 Morley, Edith ('71-'73) Ditto, ditto.
- 137 Morley, Margaret* ('97-'99).. Brailes, near Banbury.
- 138 NEWALL, DOROTHY N. 806, E 13th Street, Eugene,
 ('-03) Oregon, U.S.A.
- 139 Newall, Edgar C. (-'03) .. Ditto, ditto.
- 140 ODDIE, ROBERT BREARLEY* Sibford School, Banbury.
 141 Oddie, Elizabeth M.* Ditto, ditto.
 (née Shout)
- 142 Oddie, Major Sidney..... 48, East Street, Brighton.
 143 Oddie, Arthur Brearley* 4, White Rock Gardens,
 Hastings.
- 144 Oddie, Edgar Mason* 3, Grosvenor Villas, Bath.
 145 Oddie, Edith Rebecca* Ackworth School, Pontefract.
 146 Oddie, Gulielma Mary* ('92-'97) Sibford School, Banbury.
 147 Oddie, Elizabeth Brearley .. Ackworth School, Pontefract.
 148 Oddie, Helen Muriel..... Ditto, ditto.
 149 Ogilvie, Margaret ('96-'00)*.. Sibford Ferris, Banbury.
 150 Oliver, Richard ('89-'94) Fisdale P.O., Saskatchewan,
 Canada.
- 151 O'Neill, Kathleen Nora* Sibford School, Banbury.
 (t'03-)
- 152 PARRY, ELSIE c/o Miss Watson, Great Bourton
 near Banbury.
- 153 Parsey, Joseph S. Knight* .. 81, Hough Lane, Bramley,
 Yorks.
- 154 Parsey, Walter J.* ('67-'73).. 7, Osborne Road, Nether Edge,
 Sheffield.
- 155 Patching, Alexander W. (c) 481, Moseley Road, Birmingham.
 156 Peirson, Mabel E.* (t'02-) Rosedale, Dorking.
 157 Pettipher, J. Salmon..... Woodway House, near Banbury.
 158 Phillips, Robert B.* Mayhurst, Metchley Lane,
 Harbourne, Birmingham.

- 159 Pitt, Miriam J.* ('97-'01) Manor Cottage, Northfield,
Birmingham.
- 160 Pratt, Gertrude 1, Porchester Street, Summer
Lane, Birmingham.
- 161 Pratt, Walter 337, Farm Street, Hockley,
Birmingham.
- 162 Proud, John William, B.A. (t) Penketh School, Warrington.
- 163 R **RAPLEY, HAROLD** (-'03) .. 64, Norfolk Road, Dalston,
London.
- 164 Reeve, Charles F. Poona and Indian Village Mis-
sion, Nasrapur, Bhor State,
Bombay Presidency, India.
- 165 Rickatson, Caroline 18, Westbourne Park,
Scarborough.
- 166 Rickatson, Phillip Ditto, ditto.
- 167 Robbins, Elizabeth* Fylton, Furze Platt, Maidenhead.
- 168 Robbins, Lucy* (-'03) Ditto, ditto.
- 169 Rollason, Edwin* ('45-'47) .. 5, Rockville Terrace, Much Park
Street, Coventry.
- 170 Rosevere, Helen May (-'03) Abbenhall, Mitcheldean,
Gloucester.
- 171 Routh, Richard Laycock,* J.P., M.R.C.S. Sibford Ferris, Banbury.
- 172 Routh, Rebecca* Ackworth School, Pontefract.
- 173 Routh, John Sibford Ferris, Banbury.
- 174 Roy, Edna* 220, Merry Vale Road, Bourn-
ville, Birmingham.
- 175 Roy, John Ditto, ditto.
- 176 Roy, William J. Ditto, ditto.
- 177 Russell, May c/o A. J. Harlock, Parson's St.,
Banbury.
- 178 Russell, Ernest C. 9, Bloemfontein Avenue, Shep-
herd's Bush, W.

- 179 S **SABIN, MARIE L.*** ('89-'93) .. Douglas Villa, 4, Willes Terrace,
Leamington.
- 180 Sabin, L. Annie Temple Mills, Sibford Ferris,
Banbury.
- 181 Sabin, Jane* Ditto, ditto.
- 182 Sargent, Philip A. Bancroft, Hitchin.
- 183 Selman, William N. ('00-'01) 41, Dagnall Park, Selhurst, S.E.
- 184 Selman, Joseph Newton Ditto, ditto.
('02-'93)
- 185 Shuker, May (-'03) 140, Penn Rd., Wolverhampton.
- 186 Shuker, Doris (-'03) Ditto, ditto.
- 187 Shuker, Henry (-'03) Ditto, ditto.
- 188 Simms, Lucy (*nee* Godson) 42, Market Place, Devizes.
('70-'73)
- 189 Simms, D. Rutter (c) High Street, Chipping Norton.
- 190 Simms, Charles Price (c) Chipping Norton, Oxon.
- 191 Simms, Herbert R. 13, High St., Chipping Norton,
Oxon.
- 192 Simms, Percy Ditto, ditto.
- 193 Smith, Annie Alma Terrace, Banbury.
- 194 Smith, Sophie ('89-'90) Pittville, 234, Iffley Rd., Oxford.
- 195 Stokes, Edgar E. Loughborough, Moreton-in-
Marsh.
- 196 Stimpson, Louisa ('90-'92)* .. 20, Shipston Road, Stratford-
on-Avon.
- 197 Stimpson, Sibley* Ditto, ditto.
- 198 Swann, Mary Elizabeth (*nee* Wood) '55-'58 c/o Swann, Green & Co.,
Solicitors, 103, Cannon St.,
London.
- 199 Sykes, George (c) Bernard's Road, Olton,
Birmingham.
- 200 T **TAYLOR, AGNES** (*nee* Goundry) Locking Road,
('86-'89) Weston-super-Mare.
- 201 Taylor, Mary Jane 25, East Parade, Rhyl, N. Wales.

- 202 Thorp, Emily (*née* Ashby) .. 321, West Front Street,
('44-'48) Plainfield, New Jersey, U.S.A.
- 203 Toyer, Nellie E. 25, Langley Street, Luton, Beds.
- 204 Trethethan, Perrin* Westcote, Chipping Norton.
- 205 Trevethan, Samson* Brockhampton, Andoversford,
Cheltenham.
- 206 Tyler, Joseph Henry* ('88-'91) 27, Pavement, York.
- 207 VANDER VORD, HENRY S. . . Holly Lodge, Shefford, Beds.,
R.S.O.
- 208 Venables, E. (*née* Jackson) .. 1, Rose Cottages, Doxey Road,
Stafford.
- 209 WOOD, Emilie, (*née* Waddington) Nairobi, British East Africa.
- 210 Waite, Herbert ('03) 10, St. Swithen's Lane, E.C.
- 211 Wallace, Margaret 19, Chestnut Road, Moseley,
Birmingham.
- 212 Watkins, John William ('70-'73) 48, Crawford Street, Warner Rd.,
Camberwell, S.E.
- 213 Ward, Lily M. A. 9, Mintern Street, New North
Road, N.
- 214 Ward, Jane (*s* 51-'57; 86, Summer Road, Edgbaston,
t '57-'59) Birmingham.
- 215 Warner, A. Louise Kothi Bazaar, Hoshangabad,
India, C. P.
- 216 Wells, Louisa (*née* Hutchinson) Hillcroft, Burdrop, Banbury.
- 217 Wells, Ernest, B.A. (*t*) Ashford, near Petersfield, Hants.
- 218 Wells, Ernest* (*t*) Sibford School, Banbury.
- 219 Wells, Samuel A. ('73-'78) .. 24, Port Street, Evesham,
Worcestershire.
- 220 Wells, Annie Rebecca* (*t* '90) Prospect House, Sibford Gower,
Banbury.
- 221 Wells, Arthur* Ditto, ditto.
- 222 West, Anne (*c*) 12, Parson's Street, Banbury.
- 223 West, Fanny Manor House, Horton, Banbury.
- 224 Westlake, Ada Shute Lane Villa, Long Sutton,
Langport, Somerset.
- 225 Whiting, William Rollo 6, Hastings Street, Lamboers
('02-'03) Kloof, Cape Town.
- 226 Whiting, Nancy A. c/o Mrs. Duche, Ashleigh,
Dacre's Rd., Sydenham.
- 227 Whitlock, Frank J.* Grasmere, Avenue Road, Leam-
ington Spa.
- 228 Whitlock, Ernest E.* High Street, Brackley.
- 229 Whitlock, Arthur J. 65, Bridge Street, Banbury.
- 230 Whitlock, Edith Emily* 12, Parson's Street, Banbury.
('90-'95)
- 231 Whitlock, Percy O.,* B.A. .. Friends' School, Sibford,
(*s* and *t*) Banbury.
- 232 Whitlock, Harry H.* ('98-'00) Westbourne Grove, Bayswater,
W.
- 233 Whitlow, Alice (*t*) 417, Walton Breck Road,
Liverpool.
- 234 Wilks, Nellie ('03) .. Sibford Gower, Banbury.
- 235 Wilkinson, John (*c*) Oakfield Lodge, Selly Park,
Birmingham.
- 236 Wilkinson, Louisa Polam Hall, Darlington.
- 237 Williams, Alfred (*t*) Hook Norton.
- 238 Wilson, Harry* (*s* and *c*) ... 34, Warwick Road, Banbury.
- 239 Wilson, Winifred* Ditto, ditto.
- 240 Wilson, Mary (*née* Harris) . West Bank, Stafford.
- 241 Wilson, Rose V. Bartholmew Buildings,
Sivard St., St. Luke's, E.C.
Ditto, ditto.
- 242 Wilson, Florence M. St. Edwards, Bournebrooke Rd.,
Selly Oak, Birmingham.
- 243 Wilson, Frank* Ditto, ditto.
- 244 Wilson, Annie* Ditto, ditto.

