

THE
Oldham Hulmeian.



· FIDE · SED · CUI · VIDE ·

"The Oldham Hulmeian."

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School Notes.

THE School will break up on Friday, December 22nd, and assemble January 16th, at 2 p.m. (New Boys, 10 a.m.).

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THE following successes have been gained by Hulmeians during the past year :—

G. C. Mort—Victoria University "Entrance in Arts," and "Preliminary" examinations.

Beaumont, Bunting, Cartwright, Hirst, Middleton, Taylor F., Whitehead, Whitmore—Oxford and Cambridge Joint. Board Lower Certificate.

Commercial Certificates—

Bunting, Taylor, Middleton, Tetlow, Whitehead.

Lancashire County Council Junior Scholarship—J. H. Beaumont.

Oxford Local Certificates—

Barratt, J. A. Brierley, C. Broomhead, H. Clough, Fletcher, Garfitt, Hulston, Moss, Nadin, Robinson, J. E. Wood, J. W. Stoddard, Waide.

S.K. Examinations—

Magnetism and Electricity, 1st Class: Whitehead, Middleton, Taylor, Hirst.

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THE following boys have entered the School :—

III A—Bentley, Bradbury, Clough, Heath, Holgate, Myatt, Thornley, Wild, Clegg.

III B—Brierley J. C., Hibbert W., Owen, Ormrod W., Stephenson, Stott.

II—Ashton S., Brooke, Broome A., Scholes W.

I—Ashton H., Bentley, Cooper, Hall G., Hall J., Littler, Lowe, Roberts, Viner.

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MEDALS presented by Mr. Greenhalgh and Mr. Pardoe were awarded to 18 boys who succeeded in passing a swimming test.

SENIORS.

Rountree, Beaumont, Bunting, Entwistle, Davies, Harrison, Johnson, Waterhouse.

JUNIORS.

Mellor R. O., Whitaker, Taylor N., Taylor W., Stoddard J. W., Wood J. E., Brierley J., Hulston, Fletcher, Robinson, T. Lee.

MR Cross, who since his return from Australia, has been with us again, has been appointed Second Master at the Crypt Grammar School, Gloucester, and begins his new duties next term. We wish him all success.

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Football Notes.

OUR School Eleven has so far this season had the most unenviable ill-luck, having lost all the six matches yet played. Undoubtedly we are on the whole a weaker team than usual, and in the matter of weight we are decidedly inferior to last season's eleven. We have had, moreover, extreme difficulty in filling satisfactorily several of the positions—notably that of goalkeeper.

We have never before had to fall back on so small a boy for that important position as E. C. Robinson, who, though plucky enough, is too weak in his throwing-out powers and too short in his inches to fulfil its duties satisfactorily. Again, it cannot be stated with certainty who is our left-outside forward. O. Mallalieu, who in the first few matches shaped very well at that position, has for some unfathomable reason suddenly given up football altogether—let us hope it is only for a time! Various other players have been tried, but the settlement is not yet made.

The most consistent and hard-working member of the whole team is undoubtedly G. H. Mellor, our gallant captain, at right-back. It would be difficult to suggest any improvement in his play, for he seems always to know what to do, and to do it. There might, however, be a little more combined movement between the two backs, as combination tactics need not, and should not, be left solely to the forwards. Lambert, the other back, who kicks well when left to himself and dribbles well when he gets the chance, is unfortunately unreliable at times of stress. Probably he would do better in goal.

Of the forwards Waide is the best, but it is doubtful whether his play has been uniformly as good, comparatively, as that of last season. He has, however, suffered somewhat from a strained tendon, so that both his running and kicking have been affected. Yet many times his fine centres from the right wing have aided the scoring of the few goals we have secured. His partner Hirst has improved on last season's form, and his passing is probably the most accurate of all the team.

The passing of the team as a whole is, however, too inaccurate—too much is given to the enemy, too little accepted by the one for whom it is intended. There is a lot both of direct kicking to the foe and of passing so far in front of a partner or so wide of him that he has no chance to get the ball. Now, considering that we have for the first time in the School's history had the advantage of practising on a level ground, this ought not to be. Herein we may see another of the causes that have contributed to our want of success, and it needs to be speedily remedied.

Reference to the field reminds one of a matter that may be deemed a palliation of this non-success. Owing to the lower end of the field being unready for use, we have had to set the ground crosswise, the result being a ground shorter by one-third and sometimes by a half than those we play on away from home. Thus in three of the out matches our fellows have found themselves at a great disadvantage.

To return to criticism of the Eleven—Thompson is very active at centre-forward, but unhappily his activity appears to bear little fruit. Why does he not shoot more goals? Partly, perhaps, he is too poorly fed (metaphorically); partly also his shots are so frequently too high or too wide. The left-inside, Childs, should do well enough with steady practice, but is hardly up to requisite form at present.

The great failing of the halves is that they do not properly feed the forwards. A. Broomhead at right-half does a lot of work, but not always of the right kind, though there was a distinct improvement in the match against Heaton Moor College. Booth, who has played both centre-half and left-half, has greatly improved since the beginning of the season, and seems to be rapidly feeling his way into the right kind of half-back play. We have still to urge against Bunting that he does not practice enough, with a result that he has not a proper command over his kicking, and is often at a loss what to do. This set right, his size and weight should render him invaluable at centre-half.

Of other boys who have been called upon to fill the eleventh place in the team, A. Rothwell has done best, playing forward on the left wing. In this connection it must be stated that there has been more difficulty than ever before in filling this eleventh place—a state of things which is deplorable, and which would be impossible if all the boys really had the welfare of the School Eleven at heart. Since, however, the passing of a resolution to this effect by the members of the First and Second Elevens, it is to be expected that the matter will soon be righted.

First Eleven colours have been awarded this

season up to the present to Hirst, A. Broomhead, Thompson, and Lambert. Mellor and Waide won theirs last season. Q.C.



Football Matches.

FIRST ELEVEN MATCHES.

Sept. 30th, v. BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL (home). Lost: 4 to 8. This was our first meeting with the Bury School, and a good game resulted. Play was fairly even at first, but the Bury men latterly had matters more to themselves. They perhaps had the advantage of weight.

Oct. 7th, v. WARRINGTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL (away).—Lost: 0 to 6. Playing one short, and on a very big ground, our boys fought a very plucky game, and seemed at one time to have a chance of winning. But they were played out before the end, and were unable to break through the opposing defence.

Oct. 28th, v. MANCHESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL, (home).—Lost: 2 to 4. As the School were playing one master, they had a good chance of coming out top, and at first it seemed as though we should win easily. But somehow as the game progressed the Mancunians turned it in their favour, and did much better than the School in the second half.

Nov. 4th, v. MACCLESFIELD GRAMMAR SCHOOL (away).—Lost: 1 to 5. Considering that our opponents had still three of the players who visited us in 1897—veritable giants at back and in goal!—the School perhaps did as well as was to be expected. Certainly we more than held our own during a great part of the play, but our comparatively light forwards found it extremely difficult to score. There was better combination with us than with our foe, but had our passing been all that it should have been, a different result would probably have had to be recorded.

Nov. 18th, v. HEATON MOOR COLLEGE (away).—Lost: 2 to 9. Two masters played on either side. The ground was coated with a thin layer of mud, which made it very slippery. Our opponents were rather heavier than we, and were undoubtedly able to stick up better. But in other respects also they were able to give us points, having one or two players whose individual play was much more effective than that of any member of the School Eleven. We did rather better in the second half, but failed to make the most of the down-hill.

Nov. 25th, v. BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL (away). Lost: 1 to 4. The School again went out one short, and as a result had not a proper goalkeeper, Robinson playing feebly at left-outside. Two goals were lost through the fact that the aforesaid unfortunate goalkeeper, being too far out of goal,

was unable to recover his position in time to avert disaster. On the other hand, this tendency to play forward and goal at the same time probably enabled our men to press more vigorously, though the pressure was unsuccessful in breaking through the enemy's defences.

SECOND ELEVEN.

This team, so far, have had a most successful career, only one match has been lost, and on that occasion several players had been "commandeered" for the First XI.

SUMMARY OF MATCHES.

PLAYED	WON	LOST	DRAWN	GOALS	
				FOR	AGAINST
6	4	1	1	33	10

SECOND ELEVEN MATCHES.

2ND XI. v. BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2ND (away), Sept. 2nd.—This match, the first of the season, was played at Bury, on a very unsatisfactory ground. The visitors, however, having got slightly wet, were the winners. Score: 6—3.

2ND XI. v. BOWDON COLLEGE 2ND (away), Oct. 28th.—Our boys played very well on this day, defeating their opponents after a very exciting game. Our backs played a splendid game, keeping the opposing forwards out of our goal excellently. The Bowdon boys also played a very fine game. Score: 4—3.

2ND XI. v. ST. JAMES'S CHOIR (home), Nov. 4th.—The visitors were very weak, our boys defeating them with ease after a one-sided game. The visitors only had the ball in our half about half-a-dozen times during the whole game. Score: 12—0.

2ND XI. v. SALE HIGH SCHOOL (home), Nov. 11th.—This match was played with a high wind blowing over the field, hindering play very much. The game was well contested by both sides, the resulting score being 1—1.

2ND XI. v. HEATON MOOR COLLEGE 2ND (home), Nov. 18th.—The visitors began very well, carrying the ball immediately into our goal. Our boys relieved, and then had the best of the game, the score being 9—1.

2ND XI. v. BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2ND (home), Nov. 25th.—This game was of a rough nature from beginning to end. Our boys had not enough rush with them, except when too late, thus losing the game by 1—2.

UNDER 14 MATCHES.

THE team has played 4 matches during the term. In all the games were very evenly contested, though we have only one victory to record. J. E. Lord

and Harrison in the back division have proved of great assistance to their side. Ormrod too, at centre-half, calls for more than a word of praise; he is always ready for the ball, and knows what to do with it when it comes to him. The rest of the team shew plenty of energy, but as yet are wanting in combination. This will come, no doubt, when the team has had more practice in playing together. and with it, let us hope, more victories.



Speech Day.

THE Annual Speech Day was held on November 24th. Principal Hopkinson, of Owen's College, presented the prizes. The chair was taken by Mr. Emmott, M.P. Amongst those present on the platform were Mrs. Hopkinson, Mrs. Emmott, Mrs. C. E. Lees, Miss Clark (Head Mistress of Girls' School), Canon Rountree, Mr. Hesketh Booth, Mr. T. Taylor. The reports of Mr. Andrew and Miss Clark were read. After the Latin hymn "Veni Creator Spiritus" had been sung by the combined choirs under the conductorship of Mr. Pardoe, Principal Hopkinson, in the course of a short address, mentioned the importance he attached to games as a means of establishing *esprit de corps*, and alluded to his own experience at Owen's College.

Mr. Emmott regretted the early age at which parents so often removed their children from school, and advised that specializing in a boys' school should be deferred until the boy had gained a good general education.

The prizes were then distributed to the successful pupils, and the meeting terminated with formal votes of thanks to Principal Hopkinson and Mr. Emmott, cheers for Principal Hopkinson, the Ladies, the Head Master, and the School, and the hearty singing of the National Anthem.



The Leonids.

A SHORT time ago the town—and, in fact, everybody, was aroused to a certain degree of excitement by the information that a grand shower of meteors, or shooting stars, would make an appearance in the heavens for two or three consecutive nights. One astronomer made the startling statement that the world would inevitably be destroyed. As we all know, neither of these predictions was realised. In the first place, there were not above 50 meteors seen anywhere, while, in the second, we are all living yet, neither has the earth suffered any material loss. But this is no reason to scoff at the eminent men who for once predicted falsely. They had reasons enough to convince even sceptics that

the Leonids would come, and if for once we have been disappointed, it must not be taken as the signal for laughter and scorn, for no doubt before long the mystery will be explained.

The streamers that should have been displayed during last month are known as the Leonids. They are so called because they appear to radiate from the constellation Leo. They are not in anywise connected with Leo: it is merely a coincidence that they appear to radiate from that constellation. Records and old manuscripts prove to us that for 10 centuries these showers have appeared at intervals of about 33 years. The first record we have of them takes us as far back as 902 A.D., when, on the death of an old Moorish king, "That night were seen, as it were lances, which scattered themselves like rain to right and left, and that year was called 'the Year of Stars.'" The Leonids consist of an immense swarm of solid particles, some of them no larger than peas, moving in an elliptical orbit round the sun. They did not always move round the sun. They were once members of some system comparable with our solar system. The reason why they are now relegated to ours is this. Part of their original orbit passed through our solar system. When they came to this point they would probably have dashed off into space again for millions of years but for one thing. Just when they were crossing the orbit of Uranus, he happened to be close by. The body of meteors came under the influence of Uranus. He pulled them out of their course. They received another orbit, in which for ever to revolve round the sun. Now this orbit is a large one, though nothing when compared with their original one. It takes them just over 33 years to move round it, although their velocity is over 25 miles per second. Now the orbits of the meteors and of our earth cross one another, though only once, as they are in different planes. Our earth will come to the crossing place once every year. But, as we have seen, it takes the Leonids 33 years to come round to this point, so that it is only every 33 years that we come in contact with them. Yes, but, it may be objected, the Leonids may arrive at this point when the earth is at some other part of its course, and pass off again before the earth comes round. This is impossible. The host of meteors is so long that it takes it over two years to pass the point, so that we must pass through them twice, and possibly thrice—once through the head of the shoal, once through the middle, and perhaps once through the tail. Thus we see that there may be three showers in three successive years, although we may not see them, for only that part of the earth which is turned "face towards" the shoal will have the benefit of them.

The Leonids are not luminous ordinarily. It is

the immense friction between them and our atmosphere which renders them luminous. They are moving 26 miles per second, and this, combined with the earth's velocity, burns them up. We see now how comparatively near they are, and yet how far, as only one in a million can reach the earth; and we see how impenetrable an armour against heavenly bodies proves this atmosphere of ours.

The most striking feature about the Leonids is this. They all appear to radiate from the constellation Leo, and the further from Leo they appear, the longer is the streak they leave behind them. This may seem extraordinary at first, but on second thoughts it is easily explained by the theory of perspective. Those who know something of perspective will remember that when a number of parallel lines have to be drawn they are made to have a vanishing point. It is thus in the case of the Leonids. The constellation Leo is the centre of radiation, corresponding to the vanishing point. The meteors seem to radiate from there, and we conclude they are parallel. But it is a fact that they are parallel. Therefore the theory has very strong evidence to support it. This does not quite explain why they should be longer the further that the starting point is from the Leo. We will take the simile of a train as being the meteor, and a station as Leo. The train starts from a siding nearer to the observer than the station, and goes to another station further on. If the observer is in the track opposite to the engine he will see the front of the engine only. Similarly with the Leonids. If the observer is in a direct line with the meteor and the constellation (i.e., with the siding and the station) the Leonids will appear to him as a spot of light, as he cannot perceive that it is approaching him. Taking the case of the train again, the further we go out at right angles from the track the greater will appear the distance between the station and the siding, and the greater will appear also the distance traversed by the train. So that we see that the further the distance between station and siding appears, the greater appears the distance between the siding and the stopping station. It is just the same with the meteors. The greater the distance between Leo and starting point (i.e., between station and siding) the greater is the line of fire left by the meteor (i.e., the distance traversed by the train). In every case will the train seem to "radiate" from the station. There is this one fact to be noticed. In the case of the train the observer moves; in the case of the meteors the observer is stationary, while the meteors appear at greater or less distances from him.

It is interesting to note that each separate particle has its own independent path round the sun. Now as the shoal is over 100,000 miles wide,

those that are on the outer edge of the eclipse will have a far larger route to cover, and they will get left behind. It follows that in years to come those on the inside will catch up the outer ones, and so we shall have a continual belt. We shall pass through it every year, and so shall have a meteor shower each November. But this, combined with the fact that thousands are being destroyed, will tend to make the shoal far less compact, so that the showers will decrease very much in their splendour.

And now a word or two about last November. I have not anywhere seen an explanation why the Leonids disappointed us, but to me the following explanation seems plausible. The time taken by the Leonids to traverse their orbit is a little over 33 years. Now, suppose they reached the point where the two orbits cross in the December before the specified year. The next time they made an appearance at the point would be 33 years later, but in a later month, say, January. Next time they would reach it in March, and so on. Now, we should see them at the specified date, for they would have been waiting for us. But after a number of periods of 33 years had passed, they would only arrive in October. We should see them, plunging into the head. But 33 years afterwards they would appear in December. We should just miss them, but as they take two years to pass the point we should see them the next year. This may be what has happened this year. Our earth may have been premature, and may have missed them by a month, by a week, or by even a day. But whether this happened or not, it must not for one minute be supposed the astronomers who predicted that the Leonids would appear do not know what they are talking about. They had reasons for saying what they did say, and very strong ones, too. The Leonids have appeared for upwards of nine centuries at regular intervals, and the sole conclusion to be reached was that they would appear again last November. This, however, they did not do, but, nevertheless, I have no doubt but that before much time passes over we shall have an explanation forthcoming, which will give very satisfactory reasons to console us in our disappointment at the non-appearance of the Leonids.

J.H.B.

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A Visit to the Horwich Locomotive Works.

A SHORT time ago I paid a visit to one of the largest locomotive works in the world, namely those of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Company at Horwich.

We were first shown through the boiler shop, which is a very large building where the boiler plates are cut and fitted together. The plates are cut by a sort of large shears, which cuts through quarter-inch plates like paper. Most of the plates are either rolled into shape or stamped in a hydraulic press when red-hot. The boilers are suspended over large pits while being fitted together, into which they can be lowered or raised, according to the part being worked on, by large cranes. The rivets, of which there are a large number, are made of copper, are pushed through the holes intended for them when red-hot, and are then hammered down by hand, two men getting inside the fire-box, or part which is being riveted, and hammering alternately till the rivets are quite flat. The seams are then hammered down with an electrical hammer held in the hand, which strikes very much quicker and harder than an ordinary hand one.

We next went into the foundry, where one has to be continually dodging red-hot and molten metal. There are several huge steel hammers in the foundry, and a red-hot piece of metal is very quickly flattened out by one of them. The rolling mill is a large one, and is worked chiefly by electricity, as are most of the tools. A red-hot lump of steel, about two yards long and eighteen inches square, was started in the largest roller, and pushed backwards and forwards by two or three men on moving trucks, till it reached the smallest roller, when it was several times as long as when it started, but much thinner. Large circular saws are used to cut long pieces of red-hot metal, the men who control them standing in little shelters with port-holes, to protect themselves from the sparks which fly from the saw. The furnaces are gas, I think, brought to the required heat by blasts.

We then went into the casting shop. The moulds are made of sandy earth, some being formed in the ground and some in large boxes. The metal is then brought in ladles on wheels of various sizes, which are tipped over and the molten metal allowed to run into the moulds. A sample of the metal is taken when in a molten condition and examined by an expert.

In one of the turning shops there are machines for bolt making. A long square rod of steel is carried in rings at one end, pieces cut off the required length one by one, they are turned, a screw is put on them (all done by one machine), and then you have a bolt ready for use. The erecting shed is a tremendous length, I think about two-thirds of a mile. We saw engines in various stages of erection and repair, among the latter was No. 1400, one of the most noted huge ten-wheelers. The clothing of the boiler of another of these big engines had caught fire in some way or other, and it was waiting to be repaired.

Last of all, we visited the painting shop, where the engnes are painted before going out. A sort of plaster is made and put all over the surface to be painted, and then this is rubbed with pumice stone to get a good smooth surface to paint on.

The joiners' shop is a huge building divided into two branches of work, one of which is the pattern making for the moulds, and the other the ordinary joinering for the railway, such as signal posts, railway gates, and fencing, all of which are made here.

The gentleman who took us over the works was very kind, and explained everything most fully, and at the close of the inspection I wrote my name in the visitors' book.

K.N.



Attempts to form a United England before the Conquest.

ENGLAND has not always been inhabited by people of the same nation, whose customs are more or less the same, and who speak the same language. It was, for hundreds of years, divided into separate kingdoms, each one hostile to, and in many ways different from the other. If we go back as far as we can in our history, we find that in 55 B.C., when Julius Cæsar invaded Britain, the inhabitants were of three distinct races, the Brythons, Goidels, and Ivernians. Of these, the Brythions were by far the most civilised, and so they were far readier to accept any new improvements or customs which Cæsar might introduce than were the other two nations. Consequently, the Brythions became far more powerful than the other two, and conquered and subdued them. Thus the Brythions were masters of the country. But unused to self-government, they, after the withdrawal of the Romans, soon split up into little states. This weakness was regarded as an opportunity for invasion by the Saxons, who came and made themselves masters of the land. Of the Saxons there were three divisions, Jutes, Saxons, and Angles. The Jutes settled in Kent (Cantium), the Saxons in Sussex, Wessex, Middlesex, and Essex; the Angles founded East Anglia and the Midlands as kingdoms. Now, it was evident that in such a small country as England so many different petty kingdoms, of different nationalities, could not exist, but that the smaller would be swallowed up by the larger. The first step towards unity was the absorption of the weaker states in the stronger. The second was the conversion of the English to Christianity. This second step had really the greatest effect. Ethelbert, King of Kent, had an overlordship over the South-East. When he died the power was transferred to Redwalt of East

Anglia. Thus the South-East counties and East Anglia became as one. In the North, Ethelfrith established a Northumbrian overlordship. Penda, the heathen king, founded the kingdom of Mercia. Thus, out of the many kingdoms, few were created. Religion, however, had a still greater effect. By Augustine's mission (597) Ethelbert, King of Kent, was converted, who in his turn, influenced Edwin, his son-in-law to be converted. Thus a religious "tie" between Kent and Northumbria sprung up. But Augustine failed to convert all England. Penda, as we have already seen, was a heathen, so that it was only natural he should rise against Edwin whom Augustine had converted. Penda slew Edwin at Heathfield in 633. Thus the Northumbrian overlordship collapsed. Later, however, Oswald restored Northumbrian Christianity, only to meet the same fate as his predecessor. But there came a time when Oswy slew Penda, and finally established a Northumbrian overlordship and Christianity (655). Now all the states of England were converted to Christianity, Scottish or Roman. Hence arose a struggle for the supremacy of the forms of religion. Rome conquered in the struggle. The Northumbrian overlordship was finally overthrown in 685, and by its downfall Mercia, whose chief ruler was Offa, became supreme. Offa, famous for his "Offa's Dyke" and many other works, did a great deal to improve Mercia. Amongst his famous reforms was the creation of an Archbishopric of Lichfield. The high status of Mercia declined at Offa's death, and in 821 A.D. fell into anarchy. It was finally subdued by Egbert, the first West-Saxon King, who also subdued the West Welsh (Cornwall and Devon) and North Welsh. The excellency of the West-Saxon supremacy was reached in Alfred's reign (871). Alfred's great work was against the Danes, to re-conquer the territories—East Anglia and North Mercia—which the Danes at previous times had conquered. After the Battle of Wilton, Alfred submitted to Guthrum, a Danish jarl, and all land north of the Watling Street was called the "Danelaw." But Alfred was not a man to give in. With his somewhat small lands, he determined to regain his lost treasures. So he prepared a navy, and restored his army. He spread education, and to encourage the universal usage of the English tongue, had the English Chronicle printed. Little by little he gained his lost treasures, and was progressing favourably when, in 901, he died, and Edward the Elder, his son, took his place. In his reign Edward re-conquered five Danish boroughs, and was recognised by Danes, Scots, and Welsh as "Father and Lord." In short, Edward the Elder was called "King of the English." Thus England continued the rule of English kings, weak and strong, among whom Edmund, Edwy, Edgar, and

Edward are the most famous, until 1017, when in Ethelred the Unready's reign the Danes again became supreme under Cnut (Canute) and Harold until 1042. In 1042 Edward the Confessor restored the English line, but there was much Norman element in it. Edward married a daughter of Godwin. But Godwin refused to help Edward against the Normans when called upon to do so, and was outlawed by the Witenagemot. While Godwin was away Edward received a visit from William of Normandy, to whom Edward promised the crown. This promise Edward could not legally make. But in the next year Godwin returned from exile, and Edward had to make terms with him. Soon after Godwin died, and his son Harold became Earl of Wessex. Harold in 1066 became king after many struggles. In 1066 William of Normandy, on some weak pretext, attacked Harold, beat him at the Battle of Hastings, subdued England at length, and so became first Norman King of England. And now my object is accomplished. I have endeavoured to show briefly how England, through many changes and fluctuations, and under foreign yoke, became what she is to-day, one combined Nation.

F. J. S. W.



The Conduct of an Army in the Field.

In order to command an army properly in the field, there must be efficient and experienced officers to command the men. Besides being experienced, the officers must be sufficient in number. It is also absolutely necessary to have a well-arranged system, so that the officers may know what they are doing, and in order that they may not give orders in opposition to the orders of other officers. A system of this kind saves the blunders which would occur in an army conducted without any such system.

The British Army is in this way probably ahead of the army of any other Power. In the British Army the unit, or the greatest body of men which works together, is the Army Corps, at the head of which is the General Officer in Command. The Army Corps is divided into three Divisions of Infantry, each with a Divisional Commander, who is a Lieutenant-General, in command. These Divisions are each sub-divided into two Brigades, whose commanders are Brigadier-Generals. The Brigades are again sub-divided into four Battalions, each under the command of its regimental officers. In this way there are twenty-four Battalions in an Army Corps. The Battalions are, of course, composed of companies, and two Battalions make up a regiment.

The Cavalry and Artillery are a separate part of the Army Corps. They are not brigaded with the Infantry, but are directed straight from Headquarters. The Cavalry in an Army Corps is divided into two Brigades, and the Artillery is composed of three Batteries, the Field Batteries, twelve in number; six Horse Batteries, and one Siege Battery. There are six guns in each Battery.

The food and supplies for the army when in the field are controlled by the Army Service Corps, which keeps in touch with an important town at which provisions can be obtained for the army. The army is connected to this place by Troops of Communication, by which the supplies are brought.

The giving of orders is an important detail in the conducting of an army. There are two kinds of orders, General and Special. The General Orders are those which come direct from headquarters, either to the Cavalry or Artillery, which receive orders direct from the General Officer in Command, or to the Divisional Officers of the Infantry. These orders are now always written, and signed by the Commanding Officer. They are then delivered to the officers for whom they are intended, by aides-de-camp, who are always waiting on horseback near the General, ready at a moment's notice to go with a message to any part of the field. If the General Orders were not written, mistakes such as the Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava might occur. The Special Orders, which are given by the officers commanding the Battalions, are given by means of whistles and signals with the hand. When an officer blows his whistle, it is a signal for a change of order. All the men stop immediately if they are advancing, or get up if they are "at rest," and await the definite order, which is given by signs with the hand or arm, but never by speaking or shouting.

H. H.



A Summer's day amongst the Wild Flowers of Cheshire.

ONE beautiful day during last summer holidays, finding nothing particular to do, I took myself from this clean, beautiful! (save the mark) town of ours. Taking a small box lined with some damp moss, I got on the train to Manchester, then rushing across Manchester, just managed to catch the train at Central. Arriving at Knutsford about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, I took Shank's pony to Pickmere. Crossing the Heath (seeing it is not over-ridden by highwaymen and other "gentlemen" of the light-fingered fraternity, I had no fear of being "lifted"), we come to a road which will cut off a

good hour's walk. We follow our nose (if it is straight). Keeping along this road, we do not notice any flowers, except possibly a bee-orchis, which so resembles a bee as to make one think it is one, we come to the Windmill. Crossing the Tabley road, we enter a veritable fairyland of flowers. We notice as we go along masses of beautiful meadow-sweet, justly named from the sweet perfume emanating from the beautiful flowers. Violets hiding their modest heads in the long grass next meet our eyes, and a little further on we come to the strong, sturdy spear-thistle. I would not advise anyone to sit on one of these, as the result would be painful. Next we see the beautiful, but deadly, nightshade, and the beautiful hare-bell, misnamed the blue-bell. Next the sweet perfume of the honeysuckle comes to our olfactory senses, and looking round we see its beautiful

yellowish coloured flowers high up amongst a hedge of thorns. We do not meet any fresh specimens from this point until Pickmere. We reach Pickmere in time for tea, to stay the inner man. Afterwards, if there is time, we walk to the lake, and see the beautiful white lilies with their pure white petals and broad leaves near the head of the lake. We now move off towards the train with regret, after spending a splendid day amongst wild flowers..

Q.P.



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