

Hastings, Ninth Duke of Bedford, Knight of the Garter.

John Govett.

Thomas Barnard.

Samuel Whitbread, Member of Parliament and for 22 years Chairman of the Governing Body of the School.

Frederick Howard, Knight, a Governor of the School.

James Surtees Phillpotts, Headmaster.

Septimus Buller Phillpotts, Assistant Master and first Chaplain of the School.

Francis Thomas de Grey, Seventh Earl Cowper, Knight of the Garter, Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire and Governor of the School.

John Edward King, Headmaster.

Thomas Cecil Fitzpatrick, sometime scholar and a Governor of the School, President of Queen's College and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge.

Percy Tarbutt.

Ida Effie Grevelink.

George Turnour Atchison, Assistant Master.

Ellen Millicent Fuller.

Frederick Lewis Brandon Siddons.

Reginald Carter, Headmaster.

Who, of their bounteous liberality, enlarged our endowments, erected and adorned our buildings, founded prizes, endowed scholarships and in divers other ways advanced the well-being of this our ancient foundation.

These are the chief but not the only Benefactors to our School. Many others have shown their love and loyalty towards it, as well by gifts as by services, which are duly recorded and remembered with becoming gratitude.

### Winter Sports.

The party from the School, taken by Captain R. V. Proudlock left Bedford on Thursday, 20th December, and reached Chamonix at 5 o'clock on the next afternoon. It was intended to arrive in

Paris in time to catch the ten o'clock special winter sports train from the Gare de Lyon, but, unfortunately, the train from Boulogne, which was the Rapide to Marseilles, Monte Carlo, Nice and Ventimiglia, arrived seven minutes late, and necessitated the catching of the 10.20 p.m. train to Turin, which meant that we had to change at Aix-les-Bains at about 8 o'clock on Friday morning. This slightly more devious route gave us the opportunity of passing along the shores of those most beautiful lakes of Annecy and Bourget, and to see Aix-les-Bains, which is on the shores of the latter. Here the party had a four hours' wait, where they had breakfast at a restaurant and the opportunity of looking round the town. Aix-les-Bains, in winter, of course, is very empty, the high season being in the summer months, when a very large number of visitors of all nationalities stay there to take the waters.

The train from Aix-les-Bains left just before noon for St. Gervais-les-Bains. The sky was very blue and the sun shining brightly and the temperature somewhere below zero, which was very exhilarating. We had lunch at a wayside station, where the train halted for about forty-five minutes. The route was most picturesque, the train passing through the valleys, which were covered in snow from anything between one and two feet in depth, and one could see the surrounding mountains very clearly, including Mont Blanc. It was just dusk when we reached St. Gervais-les-Bains, where we changed into the narrow gauge electric mountain railway; on the left of the line, just past St. Gervais-les-Bains, we saw the aerodrome from where the Mont Blanc air trips start. The scenery (as much of it as was saw before it got quite dark) was grand—the railway passing through tunnels and vast gorges, and wherever there was an overhanging cliff, large icicles hung. We reached Chamonix-Mont-Blanc at five o'clock, and were met by the hotel porter, to whom we handed over our luggage and ourselves walked to our abode, a distance of about 250 yards. That same evening we could see Mont Blanc clearly; a most impressive



THE SKI-ING SLOPES AT CHAMONIX.



*Photo by kind permission of]*

[Monsieur A. Rawdin, 32, Rue de Ménilmontant, Paris, XNe.

DR. W. H. B. BOK, W. R. PLUNKETT, W. W. DEANE, T. T. S. COOKE, S. J. S. FOSTER, CAPT. R. V. PROUDLOCK, A. N. OTHER, G. F. McDONALD, F. J. W. DYER, M. D. EDNIE, J. I. DAVIES.  
(Front Row) C. R. S. GRAHAM, J. F. ROBINSON, D. R. BELL, T. H. W. CAIN, E. N. OLDREY.

sight by night, but it is rather overshadowed by the nearer mountains which tower, on all sides, above the town.

The next day boots and skis were hired and fitted, and we all went to the slopes at the back of the hotel, a distance of only 200 yards, where excellent ski-ing was possible. After a very large number of falls, most of the party were fairly proficient in about three or four days. Some of us had skied before, and it was only a matter of finding our legs once again—although it took us a day or two to do this.

The skating rink is the largest in the world. It was in very good condition, and a number of us went to it either in the morning or during the afternoon.

Trips were undertaken by a few of us to a point halfway up the Glacier of Bossons, and to a point opposite Montanvers up the Mer-de-Glace, from where a very good view of the valley towards Chamonix was obtained. Another interesting and picturesque outing was by train to Les Tines, and then on skis to Argentière, a picturesque village at the foot of the Col de Balme, which is the dividing line between France and Switzerland; in summer time the trains run into the Rhone Valley at Martigny by this route.



*Photo by]*

[E. N. Oldrey.

D. R. BELL AND G. F. McDONALD.



CHAMONIX.

From Argentière we had an excellent view of the Aiguille Sans Nom—the peak which was traversed for the first time by Mr. A. E. Field. It lies between the Aiguille Verte and the Aiguille du Dru, and cannot be seen to advantage from Chamonix itself, as the Dru blots out the greater part of it.

We had the privilege of seeing some of the finest ski jumpers in the world at Les Bossons, including Petersen, the Norwegian, who on this

occasion jumped a distance of 54 metres; and Kleber Balmat, the French champion, a descendant of Balmat the guide who made the first ascent of Mont Blanc, jumped 52 metres. Most of the ski jumpers are guides, and one can have ski-ing lessons from them for the small fee of 20 francs an hour.

One morning, a large party took lunch, and went to Planpraz by the funicular railway to a height of 6,000 feet. This is a mountain overlooking Chamonix, where one can get some excellent ski-ing on snow, which is very deep at this time of the year. Here we were photographed by Pathé's cinematograph operator, who marshalled us in proper form for this undertaking.

Christmas and New Year Eves were celebrated at most of the hotels, and the Casino by a dinner and a dance, which gave us a good opportunity of seeing continental life. New Year's Eve was a much bigger function than Christmas Eve, and jollifications went on everywhere into the early hours of both Christmas and New Year's Day.

It was with great regret that we had to pack up and go to the station at 5.17 p.m. on the 3rd of January. We reached St. Gervais-les-Bains and got into the winter sports train for Paris at about 7.30. A good dinner was served on this train, after which we rested as best we could until we reached the Gare de Lyon at 7.10 a.m. the next morning. We went in taxicabs to the Gare du Nord, and left at 8.25 by the non-stop train to Boulogne. The crossing was uneventful, although it was not as smooth as some of us would have liked. At Folkestone a hasty Customs examination took place, and soon after we left for Victoria, arriving at 3.15 p.m. The party



Photo by]

[E. N. Oldrey.

J. F. ROBINSON.



E. N. OLDREY.

broke up here, and those who were returning direct to Bedford caught the 4.30 train from St. Pancras.

We all hope that a similar party will be taken next Christmas to enjoy the thrills of winter sports.

### Mr. Clarke's Recital.

The "Musical Recital"—the distinction between this and a concert is something subtle, but Juliet's philosophy suffices—which came off in the School Hall on Friday, December 7th last, was perhaps conceived, and certainly served with great success, as a sort of introduction of Mr. J. Laurence Clarke to a Bedford audience wider than the School. With great success—for no one can have gone home without recognizing that in Mr. Clarke the School has been fortunate in securing the assistance of an accomplished musician. Indeed, on a retrospect of over a quarter of a century, one realizes how fortunate the School has been in its "musical directors." From the veteran Dr. Harding, through the hands of Mr. Colson (1919-23), Mr. Salmons (1923-4), and Mr. H. R. Clark (1925-7), the torch transmitted has not lost its brilliance.

In many different styles, both as soloist and in concert with strings, Mr. Clarke showed his mastery of the pianoforte and in the selection of the programme, a catholic taste, but also a lofty standard. His rendering of Chopin's A flat Polonaise, a *cheval de bataille* as well as an acid test—pardon the clichés—was a sound and satisfying performance of what is too often torn to tatters by the febrile sentimentality which fancies itself to be passion. His other solo item (he too modestly rationed himself to two) was far

less worthy of his metal. Liszt's "cheap" travesty of Schubert's charming "Lark" might surely be left to the school-girl as a modern successor to Thalberg's Variations on the Maiden's Prayer.

In the well-known but ever-welcome Schubert Trio, Op. 99, Mr. de Reyghere and Miss Dorothy D. Choules joined forces with Mr. Clarke. The violinist's name is his hall-mark, but were not criticism of interpretation rebuked, nay almost gagged, by the beauty of the music, one might hint that the 'cellist might have asserted herself a little more. A quality of tone quite suitable for "chamber" music in its proper home does not always "get over" in a very large hall. In her solos, Miss Choules let herself go more; and Arensky's Chant Triste (it is indeed triste!) and another piece unintelligibly entitled, were given with spirit, taste and force. In Beethoven's Sonata for 'Cello and Pianoforte (Op. 5, No. 2), a work very rarely heard, not the great Beethoven, but a very interesting specimen of his early style, both executants were equal to the occasion; rhythm was excellently preserved and justice was done throughout, from the impressive Introduction to the sparkling final Rondo.

The vocal numbers of the programme were provided by Mr. Topliss Green, who is to be congratulated on his selection. "The Two Grenadiers" is never hackneyed, and Korbay's splendid arrangements of Hungarian melodies, with their curious native rhythms of *antispastus* and *amphibrachys*, are too seldom heard. His enunciation was exceptionally clear, his voice of fine quality, his delivery excellent, and his dramatic power, save for one single flaw, admirable. Stanford's pretty Irish melody, "My Love's an Arbutus," and quaintly pathetic, "Monkey's Carol," were welcome items; and two other more robustious nautical songs were also worth hearing, once. Mr. Green was encored with reiterated rapture, and among other items gave "The Lawsuit," a modern version of the epigram in the Green Anthology xi. 251, of which the curious will find a translation in Ousel No. 566 (1922).

Altogether, an entertainment in which Mr. Clarke has set a very high standard to live up to.

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### Football.

#### The School v. Rosslyn Park.

This match was played on Saturday, December 8th, at Bedford. It resulted in a win for the visitors by 14 points to 8. The ground was fairly hard owing to a frost overnight.

At the start the School started off with a rush and were awarded a penalty near the halfway line. Cook took the kick and scored a penalty goal (3-0). Rosslyn Park then pressed, and one of their men broke clean away and scored an unconverted try (3-3). After a bit of even play Owens got across our opponents' line and scored a converted try (8-3). Almost immediately afterward the Park scored again. The try was converted (8-8). An attack was staved off by a kick by Grose.

After an interval of even game in the beginning of the first half the visitors scored twice but converted neither try (8-14). The game was