

CHRISTCHURCH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL.

Staff.

Mr. C. E. Bevan-Brown, M.A.; Mr. B. K. S. Lawrence, B.A.; Mr. W. Walton, B.A.; Mr. R. M. Laing, M.A., B.Sc.; Mr. A. Merton; Mr. R. Speight, M.A., B.Sc.; Mr. T. H. Jackson, B.A.; Mr. J. H. Smith, M.A.; Mr. T. W. Cane, M.A.; Mr. J. Cook; Mr. S. A. Clark, B.A.; Mr. J. D. Davey; Mr. C. M. Bevan-Brown; Mr. W. S. Malaquin; Captain F. Farthing; Mr. T. S. Tankard.

1. REPORT OF THE HEADMASTER.

The school-roll for 1908 was as follows: For the first term, 220; for the second term, 218; for the third term, 201. These numbers include the Preparatory Form, which had on its roll 20, 23, 22 for the three terms respectively. There were 94 holders of free places—51 junior and 43 senior.

The expansion of the upper school continues—there were 98 as against 74 in 1906; but the total school-roll shows a shrinkage, owing to the numerous district high schools and the Technical Day-school.

The gymnasium was opened on the 7th August, and is large enough for school meetings.

The school is much in need of a physical laboratory and of a reading-room and library.

Mr. J. Hartley Smith has been away since May dangerously ill, but has made a good recovery, and hopes to resume next year.

Mr. R. Speight, M.A., B.Sc., has been appointed Lecturer in Geology at an increased salary, and Assistant Curator to the Museum, and will cease work at the High School on the 1st March next. His departure will be a great loss. He has been here nearly twenty years.

Messrs. J. D. Davey and C. M. Bevan-Brown filled the temporary vacancy caused by Mr. Smith's absence.

In the examinations of December, 1907, 63 boys presented themselves; this December (1908) there were 69; in 1906, 59; and in 1905, 32. It will be seen that the number of candidates for outside examinations has doubled. Of the 63 boys who sat in December, 1907, 21 sat for Matriculation, and 14 passed; 40 sat for Junior Civil Service or Senior Free Places, and 36 passed; 1 boy passed the Senior Civil; 2 obtained Senior Board Scholarships.

Six boys sat for the Junior University Scholarship Examination; 2 won Junior University Scholarships, one of them being first for the Dominion in Greek, French, and German; 1 won a Senior National Scholarship, 1 a Gammaack Scholarship, and the other 2 were on the credit list.

Of old boys, Mr. C. A. Cotton obtained his M.Sc., with first-class honours in geology; Mr. J. Bartrum, M.Sc., with third-class honours in electricity and magnetism; and Mr. D. Florance his M.A., with first-class honours in electricity; Mr. M. Gresson, the degree of LL.B.

Old boys won seven out of the thirteen exhibitions awarded by Canterbury College at the recent annual examination. Mr. D. B. McLeod won the Sir George Grey Scholarship.

The cadets have won the Snow Shield, and also the Victory Shield, given by the Defence Department for competition among secondary schools in Canterbury.

The Old Boys are setting on foot a memorial to the late Mr. R. G. Deans, one part of which will be a scholarship awarded similarly to the Rhodes Scholarship, to some boy while at school; when he leaves a medal will be given him. The first medal (for 1908) was awarded on prize-day to E. E. Crawshaw.

I am of opinion that free places are granted too easily—*e.g.*, those granted under 3c (certificates of proficiency under the age of fifteen), and those under 7b, where the restriction of age to under sixteen for the Junior Civil Service pass is omitted.

I think the study of history should be more encouraged. It does not pay to take it for Junior Civil Service, Matriculation, or Junior University Scholarships; and it is impossible to take it for Senior Board Scholarship with marks limited to 2,000. I think for all these examinations some knowledge of the great men and great deeds of the past should be compulsory.

C. E. BEVAN-BROWN, M.A., Headmaster.

2. WORK OF THE HIGHEST AND LOWEST CLASSES.

Highest.—Latin—Livy, Book I (Blackie); Virgil, *Æneid*, IV (Bell); Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius, by Rev. A. H. Wratistlaw (Bell); Myths and Legends of Ancient Rome; Bradley's *Arnold*; Bradley's *Aids to Latin Prose*; Kennedy's *Revised Latin Primer*; Gepp and Haigh's *Latin Dictionary*; Robinson's *First History of the Romans*; Rivington's *Class Book of Latin*, Unseen, Book VI. English—Romola, George Eliot (Warwick ed.); English Prose, from Mandeville to Ruskin (*World's Classics*); Henry V. (Pitt Press), Shakespeare; Palgrave's *Golden Treasury*; Nesfield's *Manual*; Nesfield's *Historical English*; English Literature, Laing (Collins and Sons). French—Molière, *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* (Hachette); Advanced French Composition, Duhamel (Rivington's); *Le Pêcheur d'Islande*, Pierre Loti; Longmans' *Advanced French Unseen* (Bertenshaw); French Grammar, Moriarty (Sonnenschein). Mathematics—Borchardt and Perrot's *Trigonometry*, Todhunter and Loney's *Algebra*; Elements of Applied Mathematics (Jessop, Bell); Hall and Stevens's *School Geometry*, Parts I to VI (Macmillan); Hogben's *Trigonometry Tables*; Pendlebury's *Arithmetic*. Science—Advanced Inorganic Chemistry (Theoretical) (Bailey, London, W. B. Clive). Gymnastics, Scripture, Greek.

Lowest.—Latin—Elementa Latina (to the end of active verbs); Scalæ Primæ; Shorter Latin Primer (for revision of verbs). English—Westward Ho!, abridged (Macmillan); Lyra Heroica (The Revenge, &c.); Nesfield's *Outlines*; parsing notes; dictation, composition, parsing, analysis (four forms of predicate and easy subordinate clauses); also one of sixpenny editions in Lower IV list to be read at home per term. History—First Book of British History (Tout); Longmans' *Historical Series for Schools*, Book I. Geography—Longmans' *Geography Series*, Book II; Mathematical and Physical Geography. French—As for Lower IV. Mathematics—Pendlebury's *New School Arithmetic* (Bell