

FREE EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

FIRST PAPER.



THE all-important question of where and how the boys are to be educated is one that presents itself very forcibly to the minds of parents as soon as their olive-branches are emancipated from the nursery, and the selection of a school involves much thought and consideration. Private educational establishments

abound everywhere, and many of them do good work in preparing children for their future course by teaching the three R's and the rudiments of Latin and French. The greatest importance ought to be attached to this stage of school life, for unless the foundation be good the superstructure cannot be satisfactory, and the thoroughness of primary instruction is rudely tested by the competitive examinations which are the portals of entrance to first-rate schools where higher education is almost if not entirely free, and frequently ends in a free or considerably assisted University career. With these advantages in view, it is wise to choose a residence within easy reach of a great school, and to train the youthful mind with the direct object of entering it. This is very easy to do in the vicinity of London, where the schools of the City companies and other endowed and foundation schools either exist under their original conditions, or under the modified and revised schemes which have of late years been adapted to meet the needs of the present day.

First and foremost, on account of the 153 Foundations who receive the best of instruction entirely free, is St. Paul's School, founded in 1509 by Dean Colet, the friend of Erasmus and Sir Thomas More. The present building is on the east of St. Paul's Churchyard, but a site sixteen acres in extent has been secured near the Addison Road Station, to which it will shortly be removed. It is one of the nine great public schools, and its advantages are absolutely first-rate. The vacancies on the foundation are filled up at the beginning of each term by competitive examination, and the scholarships, which are open to all boys whether already in the schools or not, are divided into junior and senior. The former are open to boys under fourteen, one or two being reserved for unusually promising ones under twelve, and are tenable till the age of sixteen; and the latter may be competed for by those under sixteen, and are tenable till the age of nineteen. There will be fifteen of these vacancies at

the beginning of the ensuing Michaelmas term, and the examination for filling them up will be held on the 4th of September and two following days at St. Paul's Schools, when papers will be set in—1. Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, and Geometry. 2. History, Geography, and English Grammar. 3. Latin. Candidates may also offer Greek, French, and advanced Mathematics, and for the senior scholarships some branch of Physical Science. The preliminaries to be complied with are, that candidates intending to present themselves must make application on a form to be obtained from the School Secretary, and deposit a certificate of birth; and, with the exception of boys already in the school, they will be required to pay a registration fee of five shillings on making the application, and £1 entrance fee in case of election. It seems natural to suppose that boys who are already in the school stand a better chance of success than outsiders; and it is not difficult to enter, since the examination is only in English, the rudiments of Latin grammar, and the first four rules of arithmetic, and the tuition fee is £20 per annum. Still, boys who have received a good foundation elsewhere do constantly succeed, and that without any difficulty. The Governors of St. Paul's devote £1,400 annually to establishing 24 exhibitions of from £40 to £80 a year each, that may be held at either University, besides which there are others of £30 and £36, and one of £60, which is open to scholars of Christ's Hospital and Merchant Taylors' as well as St. Paul's. The boy who by diligent and persevering improvement of his abilities wins a place for himself on the foundation of such a school as this, may well feel a glow of honest pride in knowing that his further education will be no expense to his parents; and if he be the pioneer of a family, the younger members will probably emulate his example.

A new scheme came into operation at Dulwich College at the commencement of the current year, which has the effect of placing all pupils on an equal footing. Those born in certain parishes previously had the privilege of paying exceptionally low terms, but the fees for all comers are now fixed at a uniform rate of £21 per annum; and the College Governors apply the sum of £1,000 a year or thereabouts to the maintenance of scholarships tenable at the College. These are of the value of £20 per annum, and are awarded on examination every year to boys between the ages of ten and twelve. Some may be retained as long as the holder remains at the school, and others are tenable only for three years. The school is divided into senior and junior sections and sixth form, and the entrance examinations, which are far from formidable, are graduated according to age. One of the advantages peculiar to Dulwich is, that eight exhibitions, of the value of £50 a year each, are open without restriction to the competition of all lads

who have been not less than two years in the College, and may be retained for four years either at one of the English Universities, or while studying some learned or scientific profession or the Fine Arts. Old Dulwich boys have been remarkably successful as artists, perhaps because their tastes in that direction are fostered by familiarity with the pictures in the Dulwich Gallery.

The Charterhouse, though no longer in London, is not at any great distance from it, as the new buildings are at Godalming, in Surrey; and scholarships are so numerous that 60 out of the 500 boys receive a free education, and ten more receive £20 yearly towards their expenses. The annual capitation fee is £5, and that for tuition £25, but the moderateness of these terms is to some extent neutralised by the charge of £80 for board and lodging in some of the masters' houses, and £70 in others, as well as by the fact that the value of the scholarship is diminished by one-half if the holder resides with his parents or friends. But even then sufficient remains of both the senior and junior ones to completely cover the school expenses. The former are worth £85 a year, and are open to all pupils between fourteen and sixteen who have been at least one year in the school; the latter are good for £65 per annum, open to all boys between twelve and fourteen whether in the school or not. The examination for them takes place in the latter part of each July, and the subjects are Latin, French, English, and Arithmetic. The exhibitions tenable after leaving school are twenty in number, five being annually vacant. They are of £80 per annum, and may be held for four years at one of the Universities, or elsewhere in preparation for any profession or occupation subject to the approval of the governing body. So

many great and clever men have been *alumni* of this ancient foundation, which ranks as one of the nine great schools, that the very name of Carthusian is in itself a title of honour, and boys as well as men are always the better for having traditions to live up to.

The Merchant Taylors' School is also one of the nine, and occupies the site formerly occupied by the Charterhouse in the square of that name. Boys are admitted when over nine and under fourteen by presentations from members of the Court of Assistants of the Merchant Taylors' Company, but unless they can pass the entrance examination the presentation is forfeited. There are 500 boys, but only a small proportion of them can receive free education, as there are ten scholarships awarded annually by competition to those who have previously been at least one year in the school. The four senior ones are open to boys under sixteen, are worth £30 a year, and tenable so long as the holders remain in the school; and the six junior ones are open to boys under fourteen, and are of the value of £15, tenable for two years, or till the holder is elected to a senior scholarship. The ordinary expenses are twelve guineas a year in the lower, and fifteen in the upper school, so that the scholarships exactly cover them. This school is very rich in good exhibitions for Oxford and Cambridge, no less than twenty-six of them being to St. John's College, Oxford, besides several others.

The only free education in the Merchant Taylors' School at Great Crosby, where there is accommodation for 250 not under eight years of age, is afforded by the Harrison Scholarships, which are in the proportion of one to every ten boys, are awarded by the results of the school examinations, and exempt the holders from the prescribed tuition fees for two years.

ALLIGATOR-FARMING.

BY C. F. GORDON CUMMING, AUTHOR OF "HOW THE STORMY WAVES WERE CONQUERED," ETC.



AMONG the many curious new industries which from time to time are brought into existence by some quaint freak of fashion, few are more remarkable than the recently devised scheme of breeding alligators in some parts of the Southern States, with a view to supplying the market with their hides, for the

manufacture of the various articles now in such great demand.

Hitherto the supply has been somewhat irregular, being chiefly dependent on chance captures by men whose ordinary avocation is that of fishing up turtles from their holes beside streams and pools; and, considering the danger and difficulty of securing one of the monsters, there is small reason to wonder that the turtle-hunters generally prefer their own simpler work, especially as they rarely receive more than from one and a half to two dollars (*i.e.*, six or eight shillings) for the hide of a large alligator, which has involved a long day of hard work in the mere act of skinning the great reptile, after all the risk involved in his capture.

His flesh, however, is not altogether wasted; for, though not generally appreciated, the fishermen occasionally eat parts of it; and they say that the tail especially is by no means to be despised, as it resembles veal in appearance, and pork in taste (as

these things we must see that it is absurd to suppose we can make both ends meet simply by locking up a few groceries and doling them out as required."

"But surely you would keep a check?"

"I would keep the strictest check, *by means of the bills*, and by comparing the quantities used each week. But chiefly I would try to let the spirit of economy rule the whole household, not the one servant alone."

"What would you have people do then?" said Mother.

"I would have them recognise the fact that they 'must look for seed of the same kind as they sow,' and give up hoping to buy one kind with another kind. If they wish to be dealt with truly and fairly they must behave generously; if they make unreasonable demands they must expect to have the performance shirked. That is all. Get an honest servant, deal liberally and openly with her—in short, trust her—and

she will respond, and practise economies you would never dream of."

"Molly had better try your way and see how she gets on," said Aunt Susan.

"Whether 'my way,' as you call it, succeeds or not, the other way fails often enough," said Mrs. Browne. "The people who adopt it are always in difficulties. They change their servants continually, and devote a goodly portion of their income to registry offices and advertising agencies. The mistress who 'trusts,' keeps her servant, and though wages are paid by the one and received by the other, the tie which unites the two is not mercenary. We hear complaints on all sides, but there are still in the world good servants and good mistresses, and it generally depends upon the mistress what sort of service comes from the maid."

"Take care you tell Molly all this," said Mother.

"So I will," said Mrs. Browne.

FREE EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

SECOND PAPER.



THE school of the Stationers' Company is in Bell Court, Fleet Street, and the sons of the Liverymen and Freemen are entitled to priority of admission in rotation, as well as to foundation benefits. The scholarships are six in number, and comprise free education in the school and the sum of £20

from the head master; and an entrance examination, graduated according to age, is held every Wednesday morning at 9.30 a.m. Ten per cent. of the scholars may, as the reward of merit, be exempted from the £8 per annum tuition fees, provided they are not the holders of Haberdashers' Exhibitions, which are worth £40 a year each and tenable, not only at the Hatcham Schools, but at any others approved by the managers and governors. The Hoxton Schools accommodate 400 boys, and the tuition fees are extremely low, only 17s. 6d. per quarter. Forty entrance exhibitions are given yearly, entitling to free education, as well as books and stationery—half of them tenable for two years, and the other half for one. Two-thirds of them are assignable to children educated at public elementary schools for at least three years, who have passed the government inspector's examination in a standard suitable to their age, and the remainder are open to candidates from any school between ten and fourteen years of age, who, at the end of the first year, may compete for any other exhibitions annually assigned to pupils in the schools. £600 a year is set apart for Leaving Exhibitions to places of higher education, or to enable deserving scholars to start in some profession or skilled trade.

a year for four years, either at any University in Great Britain, or with liberty, if the holder do not choose a University career on leaving school, to apply that sum of money in any calling he may select, conditional to his producing a certificate of good conduct from his employer, tutor, or guardian, on each annual payment.

The Aske Schools, at Hatcham and Hoxton, are governed by the Haberdashers' Company, and the exhibitions belonging to it are mainly intended for the maintenance and education of children and grandchildren of Freemen of that company, and offered, in the first instance, for competition among them. At Hatcham there are 300 boys who are admissible at eight, and may remain till seventeen years of age. Application must be made on the printed form, obtainable

The Mercers' School is situated in College Hill, E.C. The Mercers' Company are the governors; and every one of the 150 boys must be nominated by a member of the Court of Assistants of that body. The entrance examinations are very simple, and held by the head master, and graduated according to the age of the candidates, who are divided into those between eight and eleven, between eleven and twelve, and above the latter age. The annual capitation fee is £5 for each child, and twenty-five, being Foundation scholars, are entirely exempt from it, the places, as they become

vacant, being filled by competitive examinations, open to all under fourteen who are in the school, or are specially nominated for that purpose.

The Coopers' Company Grammar School, which gives a most valuable classical and modern education, is situated in that unsavoury sea-faring part of London known as Ratcliff. There is accommodation for 300 boys, and the smallness of the capitation fee is marvellous, as it is only 10s. 6d. per quarter, and the subjects taught include, besides the usual elements of an English education, Latin, French, German, Mathematics, Shorthand, Chemistry, and Natural Philosophy. The list is a most exceptional one. Low as the terms are, they are entirely suspended in the case of those who win the three Gibson scholarships, which are worth £20 per annum each, and are tenable for three years with free education in the school.

Trinity Square, Tower, is perhaps the most picturesque spot in London, and it is there that the school belonging to the Worshipful Company of Brewers has its local habitation. The number of scholars is limited to ninety; they are admitted between the ages of seven and fifteen, and may remain till they are eighteen years of age. All pupils are examined and approved by the head master, and the curriculum includes not only the dead but the most useful modern languages. The inclusive fees are £2 10s. per term, but twenty pupils are Foundationers, and educated free. Fourteen sons of respectable persons of the parish of Allhallows, Barking, and six from the neighbouring parish of St. John, are eligible for the latter privileges. All particulars may be obtained from the head master, or from the clerk of the Brewers' Company.

At Battersea there are two schools, which were founded in 1700 by Sir Walter St. John, and were remodelled about three years ago. The first of these is the Grammar School, to which boys are admitted on application to the head master, when they can read their mother-tongue fluently, write it legibly and correctly from dictation, and have mastered the first four rules of arithmetic. The course of instruction is very comprehensive, as French, German, Latin, Greek, and Mathematics, are all included. The full terms for tuition are only ten and twelve guineas per annum, according to age, and there are four scholarships entitling to free tuition. The other school, on the same foundation, is a middle-class one, the highest terms at which do not exceed 25s. a quarter, while the subjects taught do not embrace Greek or German, though Shorthand is added. Two Governors' Scholarships, entitling to all the benefits of the school for three years, are awarded annually in December.

The City of London School gives a very good education at a cost of ten guineas per annum, and there are a few scholarships which provide free education, and something more. Eight of them are named after John Carpenter, the founder, and are filled up as vacancies occur. Candidates may be between the ages of eleven and sixteen, but it is a *sine qua non* that they shall have been already at least three years in the school. The benefits are free education, and books to the value of £2 per annum, £25 a year towards

maintenance, and £50 on leaving school, provided the holder has remained there two whole years since his election, and obtained certificates of merit and good conduct from the head master during that period. If he proceeds to Oxford or Cambridge, or the London University, the allowance for maintenance is continued for four years longer. Then there is the "Sir David Solomons" Foundation Scholarship of thirty guineas per annum; two "Sir W. Tite" scholarships, one of £20 and the other of £25 a year; a "Jew's Commem." scholarship of £40 per annum, tenable for three years either at the school itself or at University College; and the "W. S. Hale Testimonial" scholarship of £43 17s. 6d. per annum. The "Sir A. D. Sassoon" entrance scholarships practically provide free education for four years for their holders, and go on in an ascending scale of £10 for the first year, £15 for the second, £20 for the third, and £35 for the fourth year. The examination is only in English, arithmetic, history, and geography, and it is open to all candidates, whether in the school or out of it, who are under the age of thirteen on the first of June. There are several exhibitions to the Universities for those who wish to go thither after leaving school; and as nothing succeeds like success, youths who have previously obtained school scholarships are more likely to have the pluck and ambition to go in and win them, than those who are making the effort for the first time for the greatest stake. Even as these particulars are being written, an effort is being made by Mr. Pearce Morrison to numerically enlarge the City of London School; but if two or three hundred more boys are admitted, it is to be hoped that new scholarships may be endowed, or the chances for those that exist already will be sadly diminished. There is also a project on foot of increasing the number of boys at the Brewers' School, and this is accompanied by one for increasing the number of scholarships.

Taken altogether, the opportunities of obtaining a liberal education, either entirely free or at very small cost, in London and its neighbourhood are wonderful, and ought to stimulate boys to exertion, as well as to influence their parents in the choice of residences. It is no longer necessary for the whole family to live in such a locality as Ratcliff or Hoxton, or near the Tower, in order that their boys may benefit by the Foundation Schools in these places. The railway companies offer such cheap tickets to students, and there are so many lines, and such numerous stations, that it is very easy to live in a suburb two or three miles away and send the youngsters to and fro by train; or even if they walk the distance on fine days, it only gives them the exercise necessary for the preservation of health, when so many hours must perforce be spent in study and preparation.

A future paper will deal with free education in schools all over the country; many of which are situated where house rent is cheap, and life very enjoyable. These considerations recommend themselves eminently to people who have fixed, yet moderate, incomes, and no business to which to apply themselves with the hope of increasing their resources.

doctors are not. I will find my wife, and ask her if you may see Winifred. Will you stay here a minute?" and he showed him into the drawing-room, where he sat down heavily and waited. At any other time he would have noted all the treasures of art and taste that lay scattered about the room, but as it was, he heeded it no more than had he been sitting in a waiting-room at a station.

"Would she die?" he asked himself a hundred times. Would that young life, so full of promise, be cut off in its bloom and beauty? Suddenly he knew

how much he loved her; all the old story of his sister rose up before him, and now it was her daughter. The door opened, and Mrs. Craven came in. There was a quiet, dignified sorrow in her face that seemed to realise his worst fears.

"Will you come and see her?" she said at once, after greeting him. "You must not be very shocked," she continued, "if she does not know you; she knows no one."

Silently he rose, and followed her up-stairs.

END OF CHAPTER THE TWENTY-SIXTH.

FREE EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

THIRD PAPER.



THE work of the Education Commission has now extended over several years, although it is by no means finished. There have been many difficulties and obstacles in its path; and its action has had to be guided and modified by circumstances. In some instances schools that were supposed to give an entire

free education to a certain number have been reorganised, and while many more have been accommodated, each one has had to pay a modicum, however small, of the cost of his instruction. In other cases the number of free or Foundation scholars has been increased, and a paying element introduced to share the advantages that accrue from the special form of discipline, or the avowed aims and ends, of that particular school. Some schools are still closed, pending the formulation of a fresh scheme, and others are allowed to go on in the old fashion until the moment arrives when all is ready for it to give place to a new one. These changes have been necessitated by the alterations in the value of the property wherewith the schools were originally endowed, but in all cases the Commissioners have endeavoured to read through the mists of time the real wishes of the founders, and have acted as nearly as possible in conformity with them.

St. Andrew's College, Bradfield, near Reading, has made for itself a very good position, though it is a

comparatively young school, only dating from 1850. The advantages offered to ordinary pupils are great, and the terms high; but there are sixteen Founder's boys, who must be either fatherless or sons of poor clergymen or gentlemen, and they are lodged, boarded, and instructed gratuitously, and upon terms of complete equality with the commoners. Boys under sixteen may remain on the Foundation till after they are eighteen, and they are eligible from the age of nine. There is an election for at least one of these fortunate boys every year by competitive examination, which is not very formidable as it only embraces a fair knowledge of Grammar and Arithmetic, and the power of writing correctly from dictation. All information, forms, &c., may be obtained by application to the Warden.

The Isle of Man has long been a favourite resort of officers and others who, with small incomes, large families, and a general desire to make the best of things, are obliged to invoke the assistance of Messrs. "Hook and Crook," and pitch their tents where rents are low and living cheap. To them King William's College is a boon; for not only is there a first-rate classical or modern education (the latter including German and French) to be had by day pupils at from £8 to £10 per annum, but there are ten scholarships giving entirely free education. Boys are eligible at eight years of age if able to read and write; and if they have previously attended any other school, must produce a certificate from it.

Parents whose boys are gifted with sweet voices and musical taste will do well to turn their attention to Magdalen College School, Oxford, where sixteen choristers receive free board, lodging, and instruction. Candidates must have their names placed on the President's list, and when a vacancy occurs will be admitted to compete for it. They are not eligible before nine or after eleven, and if successful a payment of one guinea per term must be made with each, which covers their school subscriptions and weekly allowance of pocket-money. Some few advantages are offered them when they cease to be choristers, but free education ceases as soon as their voices fail. Similar privi-

leges are given to choristers at Durham, Gloucester, and Salisbury.

Bedford Grammar School is one of the best in the kingdom, and its terms are moderate. There are certain entrance exhibitions to be competed for annually in the month of March, which give exemption from the payment of tuition fees throughout the school course.

King Edward's School at Birmingham has undergone great changes in order to adapt it to the requirements of modern times. Two-thirds of the pupils pay, but the remaining third are elected to Foundation scholarships which entitle the holders to all the benefits of the school gratuitously. They are awarded to candidates of greatest merit in examinations for admission, or in the half-yearly school examinations. There are also a few exhibitions of value in money over and above exemption from tuition fees.

At Bolton-le-Moors in Lancashire there is a Grammar School, founded in 1664, for which a new scheme has recently been under consideration, and may perhaps by this moment be in working order. There are, or were, thirty-six free scholars, admitted by quarterly competitive examinations for the vacancies. All particulars can be obtained from the head master.

Wales is not without its advantages, for in many parts of it prices are extremely low, while good fishing and shooting may readily be had in such a manner as to supply the family larder with what dwellers in towns consider luxuries, at a very moderate price. At a small place near Lley, Carnarvonshire, there is an endowed school, called Bottwnog, where fifty-six boys receive a perfectly free education. Another one is the Deytheur Grammar School at Llansaintffraid, Montgomeryshire, where the education embraces both classical and modern languages, and preparation for the Universities, and all in the Hundred of Deytheur who can read are admitted free.

At the Bristol Grammar School there are a few entrance and other scholarships, the holding of which is equivalent to exemption from school fees; and its governors have also the charge of Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, which, under certain conditions, provides free education to 160 Foundation boarders, who must have been born or resided for three years in the parishes of Congresbury or Netherbury, or within the bounds of the Parliamentary borough of Bristol. There is a good English education with elementary Mathematics, French, and Latin; but it ceases at the age of fourteen, though the governors will permit as many as ten at one time to remain another year as the reward of merit.

At the Perse Grammar School, Cambridge, where there are 140 pupils divided between the classical and modern sides, at least twenty-five boys are educated free, paying neither entrance nor tuition fees.

The King's School at Canterbury is of unknown antiquity, and remembers with pride many great and good men who were there taught and trained. Under the present *régime* it is a first-grade classical school. There are fifty King's scholars, divided into twenty-five probationers, fifteen junior and ten senior scholars. The election is solely by competitive examination, and for

the two former takes place twice a year, in November and July. All boys, whether already in the school or not, are eligible, and there are no restrictions as to place of birth or residence. Probationers are elected for two years, and receive £10 4s. 8d. per annum; junior scholars receive fifteen guineas annually for five years, or until they shall, within that period, have been elected senior scholars, when they receive £30 per annum for five years. Boys are eligible for probationerships up to fourteen, and for junior scholarships up to sixteen; and the examinations for the former are in Arithmetic as far as reduction, Latin, Grammar, Geography, and English History; and for the latter the Arithmetic must extend to decimal fractions, and there must be Greek and Latin Grammar, translation from English into Latin, and from unprepared Latin into English, or by giving a week's previous notice candidates may substitute some Euclid and Algebra for the Latin translations. The senior scholars are elected only in July from among the junior scholars, and without restriction as to age. As the ordinary tuition fees at Canterbury are £20 per annum, it will be seen that King's scholars are not exempt from them at once even if successful; but if they pass through all the grades, and are living at home with their parents and guardians, they have a perfectly free education in the long run, and stand a chance of University exhibitions, varying in value from £30 to £50 a year.

The King's School at Chester has a number of King's scholarships gained by competitive examination; the juniors are tenable for two years, but may be prolonged for two more to boys of special merit. These are open to boys between ten and twelve; the seniors are for boys between fourteen and sixteen, and both entitle the holder to exemption from tuition fees.

At the Chesterfield Grammar School ten scholarships providing free education are annually offered for competition.

Doncaster has a large and important Grammar School giving a first-rate classical and English education. Those who participate in it free of all charge are sons of freemen, burgesses, and residents in the borough, under twelve years of age, and chosen by open competitive examination.

Cowley's Grammar School, at Donington, in Lincolnshire, is a second-grade classical school, and gives an admirable education quite free to all parishioners.

Durham is a very ancient foundation, dating back to 1100, when it was the school of a Benedictine monastery. Henry VIII. re-founded it; in 1844 it was re-built, and it is governed entirely by the Dean and Chapter. There are eighteen King's scholarships, each of the value of about £40; they are tenable for four years, to which the Dean may add a fifth if he thinks well to do so. Besides exemption from classical fees there is £30 in money. The examination papers are set by the Dean and Chapter, and the election rests entirely with them. All boys under fifteen whose parents are not wealthy are eligible, but to have any chance of success they should have a tolerable knowledge of Latin.

FREE EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

FOURTH PAPER.

NEEDHAM'S School at Ely provides a good English education for 100 boys at the almost nominal sum of twenty-eight shillings annually. Forty scholars, however, are on the foundation, eight being elected annually by feoffees. They receive education and clothes free for five years, and a premium is paid for them when apprenticed to a trade.

At Exeter School there are scholarships provided, quite open, without any restriction, in such a manner that one in every twenty pupils receives his education free of charge.

The Fowey Grammar School has ten Vincent scholarships to offer, which provide free tuition for those who are so fortunate as to win them.

Grantham Grammar School offers six foundation scholarships open to all boys under fourteen, and tenable for three years at the school. Three more worth £10 a year, and three worth £15, which may be held for three

years at the school, are only open to boys under fifteen who have been in the school for the three years immediately preceding the examination. Two in each department are offered annually for competition.

The pretty country town of Guildford has a Grammar School which virtually gives free education to ten boys, as there are scholarships worth £10 a year for that number, and the lowest terms charged for day pupils are ten guineas per annum.

The Bridge Trust School at Handsworth is a large one, and offers six scholarships exempting from fees and supplying books.

At Kirkham, in Lancashire, there are ten foundation scholarships of £8 and £10 annually tenable at the school, and as the ordinary terms are £6 a year, they cover the expenses.

Free education at Leeds Grammar School is somewhat complicated, as some of the scholarships do not cover the fees, but four senior and four junior ones are of the value of £20 each; but all are restricted to natives of the borough or sons of persons actually residing there.

At Leigh, in Lancashire, the trustees of the Grammar School give eight scholarships entitling to free tuition.

The governors of the Louth Grammar School, in

Lincolnshire, devote a fixed sum annually to scholarships, half of which are open to all competitors, while the other half are reserved for boys from the public elementary schools of Louth. There are from four to six every year giving free education in the upper school, and eight in the lower.

The Ludlow Grammar School is very old, having been founded in the thirteenth century by the Palmer's Guild. The foundation scholarships exempt from all

tuition fees, and vary with the number of boys in the school. Some are awarded on examination for admission, and others upon the yearly report of the University examiner.

The curriculum of the De Aston Grammar School, at Market Rasen, is modern rather than classical, though it includes Latin and Greek. There are ten scholarships of £8 a year each, or exactly double the amount of the school fees.

The governors of the Morpeth Gram-

mar School apply £100 yearly in maintaining scholarships tenable at the school. They are about twenty-five in number, but only boys residing within the parliamentary borough are eligible.

At Newcastle-under-Lyme there are two foundations, one called the High and the other the Middle-class school. The former is a first-grade semi-classical public school, with a special leaning to science. There are a good many free scholarships open to all boys between the ages of ten and fifteen, whether already in the school or not, as well as close scholarships, for which only the boys of the Middle-class school are eligible. The latter is so well endowed that the funds frequently permit of about thirty-two pupils, or one-fourth of the whole number, receiving their education free. They may enter at eight years of age after a very simple examination in reading, writing, and the first two rules of arithmetic.

The Northampton Grammar School certainly has some valuable scholarships in which hard cash is paid to the holders over and above their privilege of free tuition; but there are so many "ifs" and "buts," and the arrangements are so complicated, that any one who has them in view will be wise in applying for particulars to the head master. The majority are only



LUDLOW.

open to sons of living or deceased freemen of Northampton.

Peterborough has a King's School, founded in connection with the Cathedral by Henry VIII. The education is not so comprehensive as in some similar schools, as French is the only modern language taught, and that exclusively in the upper forms. There are twenty King's scholars, who are relieved of the eight guineas a year school fees, and receive £4 per annum in money. These scholarships are in the gift of the Dean and Chapter, are open to all boys between nine and fifteen without limitation as to place of birth and residence, and are awarded by means of competitive examination.

At Churcher's College, Petersfield, there are twelve scholarships entitling to £20 a year and free tuition; and other scholarships are likely to be arranged for.

At the Reigate Grammar School, where the educational programme is a comprehensive one, there are already ten scholarships exempting from tuition fees, and more will be provided.

The Cathedral Grammar School at Rochester gives what are called King's scholarships, in the proportion of one for every ten boys in the school, by competitive examination without any restriction. Another local school, in the same city, which already has several free scholarships, and is likely to have more, is Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School.

At the Worcester Cathedral School there are forty King's scholars on the foundation, who receive a liberal education for four years in addition to an allowance of £2 13s. 4d. The candidates must be between nine and fifteen, and are appointed half-yearly by the Dean and Chapter after a competitive examination, without restriction as to place of birth or residence.

These are the principal English schools at which free education is given, but it is by no means an exhaustive list, as there are many others where the ruling powers offer complete or partial exemption from tuition fees, either as the reward of merit or according as the funds allow. Some of them can only be held for a single year, and some only by those who have been for some time previously in the school. Others again must be boarders with the head or other masters, and only the bare education is free of charge; and over and above these there are a few that come under the denomination of charity. Still there is plenty of scope for endeavour, and the truly gifted, who are also endowed with perseverance, are just as sure to rise as the cream is to come to the top of the milk-pans in the dairy. Boys, as well as men, who are unsuccessful have invariably some fatal drawback in their own mental or physical constitutions; and the proudest encomium that any one can receive is that of "risen from the ranks."

E. CLARKE.

CO - HEIRS.

A CORNISH STORY.

By JOHN BERWICK HARWOOD, Author of "Lady Flavia," "The Tenth Earl," &c.

CHAPTER THE TENTH. AT HER MERCY.



MR. SLEUTHBY, when Lord Malvern had left him, felt himself in strangely high spirits. His own thoughts, of course, supplied the stimulus that caused his heart to beat less sluggishly; but, at any rate, he was unusually brisk and alert when he sallied forth from his ogre's castle for

the customary business of the day. The handful of debtors whom he visited that morning on his way to the porcelain works, of which he was proprietor, found their dreaded visitor more chatty than usual; but none the less were they caused to remember that they were morally under the pressure of his cruel thumb. He trotted from house to house, pooh-poohing excuses, and

disregarding prayers for indulgent usage, as was his wont, but with a ghastly cheerfulness, unlike his usual grim sternness of manner.

"The master do look as though he were under the charm," was the remark of more than one woman belonging to the elder and more superstitious generation, as she watched Jabez go skippingly down the steep and evil-scented lane that led from her dwelling to a main thoroughfare.

Now, in Cornish parlance, to be under the charm is to be what Highlanders, fifty years ago, still called "fey," as implying the unnaturally high and confident spirits of a doomed person hurrying to his death, and all unaware that Celtic seers had beheld his efigy, with the white winding-sheet drawn breast-high around his shrouded form.

Jabez completed his usual round of business calls, and then turned his steps towards the hill whereon stood, in a conspicuous position, the porcelain manufactory whence the sources of his wealth had sprung, and which was still his property, though of late he had often seriously debated in his own mind the propriety of parting with it. A good name is, in these days of mild speculation and timid investors, a very valuable article for sale. Kirkman's Porcelain Manufactory, or Kirkman's Cornish China Clay, Limited,