

pany have never raised the salaries fixed for the surveyors in 1602 at £4 a year apiece, while the expenses of the court of assistants in connection with the school have been kept under £250 a year. On the other hand, the nomination of the scholars has become a matter of patronage, each member of the court of assistance taking them in rotation. They have also jealously guarded their powers, so that the head master has less control than in other schools, not being allowed even the selection and appointment of his staff. This under Colet's ordinances consisted of a head master, a sur-master, and a chaplain, but has been enlarged to seven masters, with adequate salaries, the head master's being £900 with the rents of two houses at Stepney and a residence adjoining the school. There is no chapel attached to St. Paul's School, the original one having been burned in the great fire and never rebuilt; but Latin prayers, two of which were written by Erasmus, are read by the captain of the school twice a day. The whole of the head form (the eighth) act as monitors; but, as the school is practically a day-school, their powers and duties are limited. The school buildings still stand at the east end of St. Paul's Churchyard, fronting on one of the noisiest thoroughfares in the city. The suggestion of the Public Schools Commissioners for their removal to some more retired part of the metropolis, where a small playground or at least five courts and a gymnasium might be provided, is still under the consideration of the Mercers' Company. The exhibitions to the universities belonging to the school are (in the opinion of the late head master) too numerous and too easily obtained. No English school has a higher scholastic tradition than St. Paul's. William Lely, the grammarian and first teacher of Greek in London, was the first high master, and Camden and Leland among the earliest scholars, who have been followed by an illustrious succession from Milton to the present Bishop of Manchester. But of late there has been (the Commissioners remark) a growing tendency in the court of assistants to narrow the sphere of its operations, and convert it from a public school into a mere charitable foundation, useful to individuals, but of little public importance.

Shrewsbury School, which follows next in order of seniority, claims a royal foundation, but is in reality the true child of the town's folk. The dissolution of the monasteries destroyed also the seminaries attached to many of them, to the great injury of popular education. This was specially the case in Shropshire, so in 1551 the bailiffs, burgesses, and inhabitants of Shrewsbury and the neighborhood petitioned Edward VI. for a grant of

some portion of the estates of the dissolved collegiate churches for the purpose of founding a free school. The King consented, and granted to the petitioners the appropriated tithes of several livings and a charter, but died before the school was organized. It was in abeyance during Mary's reign, but opened in the fourth year of Elizabeth, 1562, by Thomas Aston, who soon drew to it not only the sons of citizens of Shrewsbury, but those of the gentry of Shropshire, and the neighboring counties. Sir Philip Sidney, Fulke Greville, and Robert Devereux, afterward Earl of Essex, were among his pupils. Discussions which at once arose as to the government of the school between the corporation of Shrewsbury and Mr. Aston, representing the Crown, were settled in 1577, temporarily, when the school ordinances were passed by which the Bishop of Litchfield was named visitor, the appointment of head master was vested in the master and fellows of St. John's, and the practical control and management in the town bailiffs and head master. There has been a long struggle over the foundation, the town contending for a practical monopoly of its emoluments and benefits, which, if successful, would have degraded Shrewsbury from the rank of a public school. It has ended by the adoption of the scheme of the Public Schools Commissioners, and the governing body now consists of thirteen members—three named by the corporation of Shrewsbury, three by the Crown, one by each of the colleges of Christ Church, Oxford, and St. John's and Magdalen, Cambridge, the remaining four being elected by the governing body itself. The right of gratuitous education is limited to forty free scholars. The thirty-four scholarships and exhibitions to the universities have been thrown open. The monitorial system is carried out by twelve præpositors, who, upon entering office, engage in writing on the part of the school with the head master to do and prevent certain things. They read the lessons in chapel, call over the names, and represent the school before the head master. They have the power of setting impositions within certain limits but none of caning. Four fags are allotted to the præpositors' room, who serve by weekly rotation, laying breakfast and tea and running messages; but there is no individual fagging or fagging at games. The revenues of the school amount to £3,100 a year, arising almost entirely from tithe-rent charges. The head master's emoluments, including profits of his boarding-house, are about £2,000 a year.

*(To be continued.)*