

were, Bishops Andrewes, Dovo, and Tomson, three of the translators of the Bible; Archbishop Juxon, who attended Charles I. to the scaffold; Bishop Hopkins (of Londonderry); Archbishops Sir William Davies, Gilbert, and Boulton; Bishop Van Mildert, and eleven other prelates; Titus Oates, who contrived the "Popish Plot"; Sir James Whitelocke, Justice of the King's Bench; Bulstrode Whitelocke, who wrote his "Memorials"; Shirley, the dramatic poet, contemporary with Massinger; Charles Wheatly, the ritualist; Neale, the historian of the Puritans; Edmund Calamy, and his grandson Edmund, the Non-conformists—the former died in 1666, from seeing London in ashes after the Great Fire; the great Lord Clive; Dr. Vicesimus Knox, subsequently celebrated as the headmaster of Tunbridge School; Dr. William Lowth, the learned classic and theologian; Nicholas Amhurst, associated with Bolingbroke and Pulteney in the *Craftsman*; Charles Mathews the elder, comedian; Lieut.-Col. Denham, the explorer of Central Africa; and J. L. Adolphus, the barrister, who wrote a *History of the Reign of George III.* Also, Sir John Dodson, Queen's Advocate; Sir Henry Ellis, and Samuel Birch, of the British Museum; John Gough Nichols, F. S. A., &c.

## LXXIV.

## GRESHAM COLLEGE FOUNDED.

In the middle of the reign of Elizabeth, one of her merchant-princes—*Flos Mercatorum*, as he was deservedly styled—evinced his love of the higher branches of knowledge by the foundation and endowment of a College which considerably assisted the promotion of science in England in the early part of the seventeenth century. The founder was Sir Thomas Gresham, the originator of the Royal Exchange, the rents arising from which, together with his mansion, on the death of Lady Gresham, in 1597, to be vested in the Corporation of London and the Mercers' Company. They were conjointly to nominate seven professors, to lecture successively, one on each day of the week, their salaries being 50*l.* per annum: a more liberal remuneration than Henry VIII. had appointed for the Regius Professors of Divinity at Oxford and Cambridge, and equivalent to 400*l.* or 500*l.* at the present day. The Lectures commenced June, 1597, in Gresham's mansion, which, with almshouses and gardens, extended from Bishopsgate-street westward into Broad-street. Here the Royal Society originated in 1645, and met (with interruptions) until 1710. The buildings were then neglected, and in 1768 were taken down, the Exchequer Office being built upon their site; and the reading of the Lectures was transferred to a room on the south-east side of the Royal Exchange; the lecturers' salaries being raised to 100*l.* each, as an equivalent for the lodging they had in the old College, of which there is a view, by Vertue, in Ward's *Lives of the Gresham Professors*, 1740. On the rebuilding of the Royal Exchange, the Gresham Committee provided for the College, in Basinghall-street, at the corner of Cateaton-street, a handsome stone edifice, in the enriched Roman style, with a Corinthian entrance-porcho. It contains a large library, and professors' rooms; and a lecture-room, or theatre, capable of holding 500 persons. The Lectures, on Astronomy, Physic, Law, Divinity, Rhetoric, Geometry, and Music, are here read to the public gratis, during "Term Time," daily, except Sundays, in Latin and English.

## LXXV.

## RUGBY SCHOOL FOUNDED.

Our narrative has now reached that "critical epoch in the advance of civilization, when the discovery of a new world had opened space to the expanding intellect of the old one, which had just then been awakened from the long slumber of the dark ages by the restoration of classical literature; and a new life was thus infused into the sacred cause of education.

One of the first to seize this prevalent spirit was Lawrence Sheriff, a native of Rugby, who had accumulated a large fortune in dealing with the fruits and spices of the West Indies. He was warden of the Grocers' Company in 1566; and in Fox's Book of Martyrs he is spoken of as "servant to the Lady Elizabeth, and sworn unto her Grace," which seems to imply that he was "grocer to the Queen." He kept shop "near to Newgate Market." Sheriff died in 1567, and by his last will, made seven weeks previously, bequeathed a third of his Middlesex estate to the foundation of "a fair and convenient schoolhouse, and to the maintaining of an honest, discreet, and learned man to teach grammar;" the rents of that third, which then amounted to 8*l.* annually, had swelled in 1825 to above 5500*l.* The estate in Lamb's Conduit Fields (originally Close,) adjoins the Foundling Hospital, and comprises Lamb's

Conduit, Milman, New and Great Ormond, and other adjacent streets.

Immediately upon the founder's death, the school was commenced in a building in the rear of the house assigned for the master; it consisted of one large room, having no playground attached. The first page of the school register, commencing in 1675, shows that of the 26 entrances in that year, 12 were boys not upon the foundation, and one of them came even from Cumberland. The school now took a higher stamp; and early in the list we find the Earls of Stamford and Peterborough, the Lords Craven, Griffin, Stawell, and Ward, the younger sons of the Houses of Cecil and Groville, and many of the baronets of the adjacent counties.

The school buildings were from time to time enlarged; until the improved value of the endowment enabled the trustees to commence, in 1809, the present structure, designed by Hakewill, in the Elizabethan style, and built nearly upon the same spot as the first humble dwelling. The buildings consist of cloisters on three sides of a court; the Great School, and the French and Writing Schools; the dining halls, and the chapel; and the master's house, where and in the town the boys are lodged. The group of buildings cost 35,000*l.*, but are of "poor sham Gothic." A library has since been added. The only former playground was the churchyard; but Rugby has now its bowling-green close, with its tall spiral elms; and its playground, where cricket and foot-ball are followed out-of-doors with no less zest and delight than literature is pursued within.

The instruction at Rugby retains the leading characteristics of the old school, being based on a thoroughly grounded study of Greek and Latin. But the treatment has been much improved: formerly the boys were ill-used, half imprisoned, and put on the smallest rations, a plentiful allowance of rod excepted; and a grim tower is pointed out in which a late pedagogue, Dr. Wooll, was accustomed to inflict the birch unsparingly. Nevertheless, in Wooll's time were added six exhibitions to the eight already instituted; books were first given as prizes for composition; and the successful candidates recited their poems before the trustees, thus establishing the Speeches.

To Dr. Wooll (1) succeeded Dr. Thomas Arnold, the second and moral founder of Rugby. Of the great change which he introduced in the face of education here, we can speak but in brief. Soon after he had entered upon his office, he made this memorable declaration upon the expulsion of some incorrigible pupils: "It is not necessary that this should be a school of three hundred, or one hundred, or of fifty boys; but it is necessary that it should be a school of Christian gentlemen."

The three ends at which Arnold aimed were—first, to inculcate religious and moral principle, then gentlemanly conduct, and lastly, intellectual ability. One of his principal holds was in his boy sermons, that is, in sermons to which the young congregation could and did listen, and of which he was the absolute inventor. The feelings of love, reverence, and confidence which he inspired, led his pupils to place implicit trust in his decision, and to esteem his approbation as their highest reward. His government of the school was no reign of terror: he resorted to reasoning and talking as his first step, which failing, he applied the rod as his *ultima ratio*, and this for misdemeanours inevitable to youth—lying, for instance,—and best cured by birch. He was not opposed to fagging, which boys accept as part and parcel of the institution of schools, and as the servitude of their feudal system; all he aimed to do was to regulate, and, as it were, to legalize the exercise of it. The keystone of his government was in the Sixth Form, which he held to be an intermediate power between the master and masses of the school; the value of which internal police he had learned from the Prefects at Winchester. But he carefully watched over this delegated authority, and put down any abuse of its power. The Præpositors themselves were no less benefited. "By appealing to their honour, by fostering their self-respect, and calling out their powers of governing their inferiors, he ripened their manhood, and they early learnt habits of command; and this system, found to work so well, is continued, and with many of its excellent principles, is now acted on in most of the chief public schools of England." Dr. Arnold died in 1841, on the day preceding his forty-seventh birthday, having presided over the school for fourteen years: in the chapel at Rugby he rests from his labours, surrounded by those of his pupils who have been prematurely cut off. "Yet,"

(1) Dr. Wooll was small in stature, but powerful in stripes; and under his head-mastership Lord Littleton suggested for the grim closet in which the rods are kept, the witty motto:—"Great Cry and Little Wooll."—See the *Book of Rugby School, its History and Daily Life*, 1856.