

Isis Idols.

No. CCCXLVII.

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O.U.A.C., O.U.L.C.

ON Nov. 9th, 1884, the bells of Oxford rang not to celebrate the birthday of our present King but to announce the result of our Idols' first race, C. M. having won his first and greatest victory by twenty minutes.

The names of our Idols have given rise to much speculation. The seemingly foreign origin of their surname has compelled admirers to seek an English substitute, whilst the christening of the Twins marked the beginning of the end of grave ecclesiastical controversies, conjoining the names of (Canon) Christopher and (Father) Noel in a truly Christmas like harmony.

We may not rudely tear the seemly veil that shrouds our Idols' nursery exploits: suffice it to say that at the early age of two they together overcame what promised to be fatal blood-poisoning, and justified their existence by falsifying Science's gravest predictions.

In 1895 the Twins entered Magdalen College School, where they continued their athletic rivalry in desperate races on the track and acquired a distaste for the river that has never forsaken them.

In 1900, in obedience to Powers not under their control, our Idols were exiled to Liverpool, and here at the College they soon found places in both XI and XV, won a scandalous number of pots, and did everything but distinguish themselves in scholarship. However, with them as with others, early promise has been belied, and there are strong rumours of two coveted Firsts going Liverpool-way.

In 1904, Oxford welcomed back her Twins, who of course matriculated at Trinity to preserve the geminal tradition. Here Christopher, owing to his brother's illness, had a clear field in the Freshers' sports, but as a surplus of senior talent barred progress he with his brother adopted the most brutal of pastimes, Lacrosse, and their advent in no small measure led up to Oxford's initial success last March *v.* Cambridge.

Next year "Push," despite his most earnest efforts for the "Bro," alone appeared at Queen's, where he paced Cornwallis to a fine victory in the Quarter. Their conjoint triumphs in the Hundred and Quarter at this year's Sports, still too green in the public memory to need more detailed record, did nothing to solve the vexed problem of athletic supremacy, and we can only hope that neither next year's Sports nor Championships nor Olympic games will supply the final solution. Pausing awhile from the triumphs on the track and in theologic controversy, our Idols have returned to Rugger and are now proving themselves prolific try-getters for Trinity.

A word must be said as to their varied accomplishments in private life, ranging from "Push's" expert driving of the episcopal motor at unepiscopal speeds to "Bro's" minute knowledge of comic opera, the poorer for his absence. Twenty-three years' patient endurance of the inevitable and time-worn jest concerning their twinhood, and the daily insult of each being mistaken for the other, have somewhat soured their naturally optimistic view of things.

It only remains for their many friends to wish them individually and collectively as much success in their long distance run through life as has attended their speedy dashes on the track and playing-field.