

Little Baddow School Log Book
September 15 1876

The lessons have been disturbed this week. William Mulley passing the school while we at prayers, - a boy, by the way, who never will sing at school, shouted out at the top of his voice some vulgar song and made all the children laugh. He heard me complain of this behaviour in a boy of the British School. I observed that he took notice we were at prayers and that he was the more noisy when he perceived it and smiled with a sinister pleasure when he perceived it took effect... When he came in the school roughly I could see the immoral impression he had made on the children. I demanded of him the subject of his song that he had sung so bravely in the window... He was sent home ... was sent back and apologised properly and was readmitted.

Transcribed by Alan Ashford