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No. 1.

CONVOCAATION.

The Convocation of the ninth Annual Session of this University was held in the College Building on Tuesday 31st Nov. at 3, P. M. The platform was occupied by the Governors, members of Senate and of the Faculties, together with several members of the Local Government, Clergymen of the City and other distinguished gentlemen from our own and the neighboring Province. A large and appreciative audience crowded the room to excess, and manifested the deepest interest in the proceedings throughout. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Principal, after which he referred, in a few brief and well timed remarks, to the past history, present position and future prospects of the University. He then called on Professor Johnson, who delivered an excellent Inaugural Address on "Universities" showing the origin and meaning of the term, tracing the rise and progress of such Institutions, and defining the character and aim of an University training. The learned professor also offered some valuable suggestions as to the best method of securing Uniformity in higher education, but we learn that the address will shortly be published entire, and will not anticipate by quoting any extracts from it.

He was followed by Dr. Farrell, Prof. of Surgery, whose address to the students of the Medical Faculty on the duties of their profession, and the responsibilities devolving on them as guardians of the physical well being of the human race was fraught with good, sound, common sense and contained many useful hints not only to medical men but to the public generally.

At the close of Dr. Farrell's address, brief practical remarks were delivered by Judge Stevens, of St. John, N. B., Hon. W. B. Vail, Hon. Wm. Garvie, Commissioner of Mines, and Rev. Allan Simpson. The unusually large attendance, the interest evinced in all the proceedings, and the increased number of students present this session, all shew that Dalhousie is gaining a hold deep and strong upon the minds of the citizens of Halifax, and the Province at large. And we hope and trust that the Session so auspiciously begun is but the prelude to brighter and better days.

We subjoin part of Dr. Farrell's Address, in which he referred more particularly to "State Medicine"—

"And now, gentlemen, I propose occupying most of the necessarily short time at my disposal in the consideration of a most important work that is certain to devolve upon medical men in the future; I refer to the subject of the Public Health, or as is now more commonly called, as a subject for study, *State Medicine*.

If we review the past history of medicine with pride and pleasure and feel satisfied with the gradual but steady onward progress of the science to-day, we may hope with a great degree of certainty for even a brighter career for it in the future, for in the subject of State Medicine there is opening up another and still grander field of usefulness than any which has yet fallen within the province of the science of medicine. To apply our knowledge of physiology, chemistry, pathology and the causation of disease, to the preservation of the health of the whole community, is the aim of State Medicine. Heretofore the principal efforts of medical men have been directed to the *cure* of disease, but study and research in medicine and its kindred sciences makes more and more apparent the fact, that a very large amount of the disease present among us in large communities especially, is preventable disease, and now we desire to prevent it, and we aim to do this, by showing that cause and effect in the production of disease are governed by fixed laws; and endeavoring to persuade governments and people that the old adage "prevention is better than cure" is nowhere more applicable than in the management of disease, and that, besides being better, prevention is a hundred times cheaper than cure.

It will become a most important part of your work, gentlemen, in your course of study to investigate carefully the causes of disease. You will find that typhoid or slow fever is developed and rendered more fatal in the bad air of confined rooms, and by the habits of those who allow noxious emanations to surround them continually. You will find that choleraic disease is propagated in its intensity, by bad water and poisoned air. You will find that constant sedentary employment in confined apartments, prepares the choicest soil for our most dreaded scourge—consumption. You will find that a vast amount of infant mortality is produced by improper food; and it will become your duty to learn, that your first step in treatment should be, to remove the cause of disease when it is possible. But your endeavors and mine as practising physicians mean only single handed effort, each in his own sphere of practise; it is now our desire, looking out into the wider field to apply this first step in treatment, to the whole community.

The population of towns is increasing every year in greater ratio, than the population of the country districts. By far the greatest proportion of the world's work is done in the crowded cities, and in them, life is surrounded by all the circumstances which produce disease and increase mortality. Ignorance of the laws governing the production of disease is doing its fatal work, especially in cities. The "fierce race for wealth" is man's occupation almost nine tenths of his time, and this desire for gold, and the luxury that comes of its possession, makes men dissatisfied with a fair day's work either for themselves or those whom they employ, mind and body are overtaxed, nature is denied rest and sleep and time to eat and drink, in order that a man may turn one dollar into two faster than his neighbor. Men of money are not satisfied with fair profits on money invested, the cry is for

more, there must be a sacrifice somewhere, and not the least part of the sacrifice is injury to health and the destruction of human life; for instance, the landowner and capitalist builds dwellings designed as tenement houses for the poor; as a rule he has but one object in view in the undertaking; that is, to make the money invested yield the largest interest. The law puts some restrictions on him, one or two loosely worded statutes in relation to the public health that are easily evaded, and one very stringent law compelling him to build of brick or stone to avoid the danger of fire. Such a house is built, it is cut up into small rooms, half of them unfit for continuous human habitation, every effort is made to economize space. There is a family in every room, the house is overcrowded, there is no provision for proper ventilation, bad and fetid air is breathed, and all the evil consequences of sickness in poverty are the result. If the law made some effort to compel the owner to make each apartment a healthy abode as well as a paying speculation, it would reduce the rate of mortality and considerably lessen sickness, discontent, and even crime; while it would have no little influence in diminishing the amount of that most costly attendant of modern civilization—pauperism.

We find the traders of the world, great and small, undertake to supply the people with their daily food and drink, and in their eagerness to become rich, they find ordinary profits do not make the money come fast enough; how easy to add to the quantity and deteriorate the quality of the articles of food and drink in which they deal, to adulterate them and thereby increase the magnitude of their gains. This most pernicious system of adulteration of food and drink, which I believe is much too common now-a-days, besides being grossly dishonest, is fraught with great danger to health and life.

Again the wealthy capitalists of a railroad company engage to carry numbers of human beings from place to place. The profits must be large, this is of the first importance, every change is made that will lessen the expense of running the road, all full of danger to the public. Among the rest the signalman or engineer or some other official on whose skill and knowledge the safety of the passengers depends, is obliged or allowed to work many hours over the ordinary day's labor, and the consequence has already been experienced. The signalman is asleep at his post, the signal is neglected. A collision, and hundreds of lives are sacrificed to satisfy the cupidity of employer and employed, who forget that no matter how eager they may be for gain, nature cannot be cheated of her rest.

This wholesale violation of the laws of life, is due in great part to ignorance of the results of their violation. In the production of disease and the destruction of human life by its agency, cause and effect are unfortunately not always apparent. Every one knows that a faulty chimney is liable to produce a fire, which may spread and destroy a large amount of life and property, and every precaution is taken against such accidents; while many a locality fairly protected against fire is left a prey to the most destructive effects of disease. It can be shown almost without a doubt, that *preventable* sickness and disease are more destructive of life and more expensive to the state, than fire; terrible and destructive as this agent is. Over crowded houses, bad drainage, unventilated rooms, insufficiency of air in workshops and factories, will produce fever, consumption, scrofula and wasting disease, all of which follow their cause as certainly as fire follows the faulty chimney.

This subject of the public health or prevention of disease is too vast a one to be compressed into one or half a dozen lectures. I will have to be satisfied to give you an outline of what the aims and objects of the study of State Medicine are:—

The first object is to investigate and note carefully the birth and death rate in the country, to record the various

causes of death, to be informed continually on the prevalence of various forms of disease in different localities, to note the occurrence of epidemics and consequently to be always in a position to judge of the evil influences at work increasing mortality in any place at any time.

This subject of Vital Statistics has been already wrought to a high state of perfection through the exertions of Dr. Farr of London, whose name is inseparably connected with the growth and development of this subject. A proper system of vital statistics is of the first importance in relation to all health legislation. It is the foundation on which we must build all laws for the maintenance of the public health. Vital Statistics enable us to determine when and where a fairly normal standard of health is lowered, enabling us thereby to remove preventable causes of death when they occur; and here I am pleased to state that Nova Scotia was the first province in the Dominion to organize a system of vital statistics, and I am sorry also to say that she yet remains the only province carrying on the system. It is not done perfectly, however, and requires improvement. No government at the present day fulfils its office unless it informs the people of the death and birth rate and the principal and prevalent causes of death in the country. The guidance of a department of Vital Statistics, should be always in the hands of medical men. The strange and anomalous arrangement of having the registration of death and its cause, under the control of those outside of the profession of medicine, should never exist. Medical men alone are qualified by their special education to register and classify disease. To them alone is given a knowledge of the difficult subject of the nomenclature of disease, and without the directing and controlling influence of medical knowledge, vital statistics would be of little value.

State Medicine aims again as far as is consistent with the principles of law and justice, to have some system of skilled inspection of the various kinds of food and drink used by people and especially such as are sold cheaply to the poor, and if possible to limit if not to prevent the dilution and adulteration of food, the terrible effects of which are plain to every one without a word from me. *State Medicine* has for its object also the inspection of the Water supply of cities. The study of epidemics has shown that communicable disease is carried about largely by water. Special investigation made in London and other large cities has abundantly proved that water is one of the most likely and efficient vehicles of disease. There are few subjects of more importance in the study of State Medicine than the water supply of towns and cities.

It aims to investigate all the causes which render the air we breathe impure and the relation that exists between the causation of disease, and the various kinds of impurities with which the air is likely to be fouled, either by the circumstances of life or the waste products of trades and manufactures in cities and large towns. This question of pure air in cities embraces a vast number of subjects, and many hours would be insufficient to deal with it. To enumerate shortly, it includes, first, supervision and direction as far as possible of all trades, occupations, or manufactures which discharge gas, smoke, or other noxious material into the air in sufficient quantities to render the air unfit for breathing; secondly, it embraces the chemical destruction or removal of all excreta, refuse food, sewage, waste animal and vegetable matter from cities, in such a way that the air would be untainted by them; thirdly, supervision over the erection and occupation of tenement houses, or the dwellings of the poorer classes, to prevent overcrowding, bad ventilation, and all the other evils rendering the air impure in these places; fourthly, the inspection of all workshops and manufactories where numbers of operatives are liable to be crowded together for many hours with an insufficiency of air.

Another of the studies embraced under *State Medicine*

would be the question of the care and treatment of the sick poor, by means of Dispensaries, Hospitals, Alms Houses, Asylums and other charitable institutions of this nature; the best method of giving relief, to whom it should be given, the best plan of government for hospitals and asylums, their construction, site and everything relating to their management.

State Medicine would also take into consideration the age at which young children may engage in continuous labor without injury to health, the subject of quarantine, the appointment of coroners, certificates of lunacy and all medico-legal questions involving skilled advice. The examination of those druggists and their clerks who are dispensers of medicine, the proper management of cases of accident and injury by the police of cities, and many other subjects relating to the disease-producing influences of cities.

It will be a long time before this subject is developed to its fullest extent, but I believe the time for its development is not far distant, and I but re-echo the opinion of an old physician and thoughtful observer of this city, when I say that we will yet see a Minister of Health taking the same part in the government of countries, as does now a Minister of Justice or a Minister of War, for (says Parkes, in the introduction to his work on Hygiene), "It is undoubtedly true that we can, even now, literally choose between health and disease, not perhaps always individually for the sins of our fathers may be visited upon us, or the customs of our life and the chains of our civilization and social customs may gall us or even our fellow-men may deny us health or the knowledge which leads to health. But as a race man holds his own destiny and can choose between good and evil, and as time unrolls the scheme of the world it is not too much to hope that the choice will be for good."

The *Lancet* in its annual address to the London Students this year, speaks of the subject of Public Hygiene and sees in the future "A State Medical Service which, ere long, will occupy the country like an army, holding stations at every populous centre of life, garrisoning the towns and throwing outposts into every point which seems menaced by disease. Already in three of our great medical schools have chairs for the qualification of such medical officers been instituted, and nothing is wanting but the support of Her Majesty's Government to put the mighty organization in motion and to open up a reputable career for thousands of young medical men."

It is on you, gentlemen, and on others, who are now at the threshold of their medical career, will devolve the care of the temple of medicine in the future, and it is your duty to come to your studies with the firm resolution to do a days work every day. Come to us with a deep sense of the responsible position you are to occupy as medical men; and I am sure I speak for my colleagues as well as myself, when I ask you to come to the study of medicine with a good preliminary education. The weak spot in medical education in America, is the admission of men to the colleges whose minds are not sufficiently trained to bear the strain of medical study. Depend upon it gentlemen, that the biggest half of the quackery existing outside of the profession is generated by ignorance within it. Take advantage then of a collegiate course, or at least be able to pass with ease the preliminary examination which this college demands, before you attempt to master the wide extent of knowledge which medical science requires of those who would be good practitioners of medicine; and most important of all, gentlemen, come to the study of medicine with the spirit of truth and honesty. You are to make your living by your profession, but never practice it for ignoble ends. See that you get well paid for your medical services from those who have a good share of the world's wealth, but never make money getting the object of your life. I need hardly remind you of your duty to the poor, it becomes almost a part of every medical man's life to give his services to the suffering poor without fee or earthly reward. Bright

and prominent and grand as every page of the history of medicine is made by scientific discovery, there is one page brighter and more prominent than the rest, and this is filled with the thousands of "God bless you's" that have followed the Doctor from the hovels of the poor and destitute for many a year.

In your daily round of work, both as students and practitioners of medicine, be ever on the side of charity, virtue and justice, that your lives may be in accordance with the Divine Will of Him who healed the sick to prove to the world his Divinity."

We take the following from the inaugural address of President Porter at the recent opening of Yale College:

"We urge in this connection that the higher education of this country ought in its forecast of the future, to contemplate a longer rather than a shorter period of time for its completion. Its guardians should see that no projects for shortening this period should be introduced under the plausible pretext of greater liberality in respect to the methods or the matter of study and instruction. It would be most unfortunate should the impression prevail that the highest general or liberal education this country should aspire after or furnish, must be given in the so-called college as distinguished from the graduate school, and no arrangements should be made for the completion of any of these liberal studies, after taking the first degree—most unfortunate indeed if the search and pressure of practical life should crowd itself behind that degree, and high culture in the college should be estimated by extraordinary proficiency in one or two specialties of science, letters or philosophy—after which comes the practice and application of what has been learned. The more rapid is this noisy tumult of life without, and the stronger its pressure against the doors of the college, the greater need is there that certain studies which have little relation to the life should be attended to, and the less occasion that those which are to occupy the energies of life should be anticipated. We prefer the theory of liberal culture which assumes that an increasing rather than a diminishing number of our choicest youth of leisure will continue their literary and scientific studies and thus continue to dignify and adorn their life by the habits of systematic research and of earnest literary activity—that some who are devoted to business will acquire the strength to withstand the absorbing cares and insatiable greed for money getting—that here and there a professional man may be saved from the narrowness which the exclusive claims of his calling must engender if science, and literature, and history are not actively attended to. What this country demands is a larger number of educated men who are elevated and refined by a culture which is truly liberal—men whose convictions are founded in manifold reading and comprehensive thought—men with the insight which comes only from a larger converse with history, a profound meditation on the problems of life and speculation, and a catholic taste in literature. The more such men mingle in the concerns of life, the more do they soften our controversies and dignify our discussions, refine upon our vulgarities and introduce amenities into our social life. They are needed in our politics and literature, at the bar, and in the pulpit—in our newspapers and journals. We have plenty of cheap glitter of tawdry bedizenment and showy accomplishments—plenty of sensational declamation and coarse argument, and facile rhetoric—much moral earnestness which needs tolerance and knowledge, and religious fervor which runs into dogmatism and rant. We need a higher and more consummate culture in some of the men whom we educate for the work of life, and for this reason the arrangements for university education should contemplate a prolonged period of study."

Dalhousie Gazette.

HALIFAX, N. S., NOVEMBER 17, 1871.

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NOTICE.

To avoid the expense of issuing circulars, we send this the first number of Vol. IV. of the "GAZETTE," to those of our friends who have favoured us with their subscriptions in the past, and to a number of others whose interest and attention we respectfully solicit. Those who do not wish to become subscribers to the current issue of the "GAZETTE," will please re-address to "Editors DALHOUSIE GAZETTE," the number forwarded, and it will return postage free. A prompt compliance with this request will save trouble and inconvenience, as we shall consider as subscribers, all those who do not return the paper.

THE labors of the editorial "sanctum" have begun once more. Arduous as these labors are, those who have undertaken to bear them for the present session, feel that they follow in the footsteps of worthy predecessors, and their best efforts will be put forth, to keep the paper abreast of the position, that it has taken in previous years.

With the present number, the Gazette enters upon its fourth volume. The history of the enterprise is an interesting and varied one. Two or three ingenious students conceived the idea of catching up and giving to the world what was best in the gliding stream of our college life and thought. Like very many new projects, this met with a storm of opposition. The spirit of the movement might be well enough; but the letter of its execution was galling and provoking in the highest degree. Professedly a student's paper, it was in reality a private speculation. Prejudice, and personal pique gave a keen edge to debate, and for a time our usually quiet college world was thrown into a high state of excitement. The opposition reached its height, when the first number of the Gazette appeared. Jeers were heard from all sides. Student-critics handled roughly the literary foundling. Parodies were abundant; while the typographical and grammatical errors, were for a long time the staple of all the cruel wit and cutting sarcasm, that was heard within the college halls. Opposition, however, soon died out. Gradual

improvement extorted the reluctant meed of praise; prejudice and ill-will gave place to earnest and hearty support.

In the second year of its existence, the Gazette passed into the hands of the students, and since that time it has made good progress in literary merit. The enthusiasm of the students has been growing every year, and reached such a pitch this session, that we were emboldened to make several changes in the external appearance of our paper, which will, we hope, gain for us additional favor in the eyes of the literary public. Such, in brief, is the history of this paper in its relations to the students.

The numerous friends of the University, have, in the main, heartily supported us with encouragement and counsel. The scalpel of the critic has often been freely, and sometimes severely used, but has always had the effect, we hope, of removing faults and blemishes.

There are still those, however, who either display no enthusiasm in our cause, or discountenance us altogether, some on the ground of utility, others from feelings of personal regard. The former—those who fling their vulgar "*cui bono*" in our faces, we answer thus: The truism that, in this age, when the author has triumphed over the orator,—when the platform has become the handmaid of the press, no man who has not the power of accurate and felicitous expression, can expect more than a local influence for his thought, is our strongest argument. The art of composition should assume an important place in our education. Not that we would have the seats of broad and liberal culture, degenerate into mere training schools for rhetorical declamation, as some so-called Universities seem to be doing, yet the student who wishes to become the author, or to communicate any knowledge to his fellow-men must begin his practice early. Here it is that the College paper fills a blank. Class-essays must necessarily be few, where the true aims of a University are carried out to any extent, and, moreover, the articles which are communicated to the *paper*, are under a heavier fire of critical artillery, and the writers are compelled to attend better to the fortification of their position.

There is another argument, which is above all considerations of "utilitarianism." The College paper has created an *esprit du corps*—an enthusiastic and generous rivalry among the students of the continent, which will have a beneficial influence upon the literary taste of the future.

The latter class—those whose opposition is the fruit of their feeling of personal regard for the students of "Dalhousie" (although it is almost *infra dig.* to consider the objection at all) we answer, by referring them to past numbers, which have not been altogether void of merit,—to the interest which is taken in the "only College paper of the Dominion," by students in the United States, and to the present volume of the Gazette, which we hope will win their sympathies, not only by improvement in external appearance, but also by decided progress in substantial literary growth.

FOUR New England colleges are now open to women, viz: Bates, Lewiston, Me.; Colby, Waterville, Me.; Vermont University, Burlington, Vt.; Wesleyan College, Middletown, Conn.

THE present Session of Dalhousie College is, in many respects, the most interesting and encouraging since the foundation on the present basis. It is interesting because the Governors are making a manly effort to increase our funds and place both themselves and the professors above the common necessities of living. No man, whether he be in favor of a Provincial University or not, can read the "Circular" issued by the Governors without giving it a hearty support. The press of the city have spoken of it in the highest terms, foremost among which was the "Reporter." And as this is a matter in which the Educated Public are all concerned, we hope a suitable, tangible reply will be given.

The encouraging feature of the present Session is the increased number of Freshmen. With only two Scholarships to offer—and those on stringent conditions—viz., keeping a first or second class position during the whole Collegiate Course, this year thirty-five young men have entered in all or some of the prescribed studies of the year. Any number of deductions follow from this condition of affairs, but we confine ourselves to two:—First the thoroughness of the education here imparted; and secondly, that the intelligent and better thinking portion of our population are fully awake, or at least are getting so, to the superiority of a non-sectarian Provincial University. Year by year we have been growing in favour and excellence. Quietly and with no show our professors have been doing their work, despite difficulties against which less resolute men would have made no resistance. With material often of the roughest nature, they have laboured and toiled, teaching beside the work proper for the class, the studies that should have been completed under the village schoolmaster. Our readers can fancy the position of the first prizeman of Ireland and Scotland holding a Professor's Chair, and forced to dabble at Greek roots, and give instruction in vulgar fractions. And such has been the case. All honor is due to the professors for their untiring industry. Yet a brighter day is dawning. Our most difficult work is over. Even if all the trials of the past should be repeated, we can console ourselves with the cheering fact that many of our graduates have made, even already, the superiority of our College felt. In view of all our Governors are doing, and the unprecedented accession of the present Session, we cannot refrain from heartily congratulating all concerned on the prosperous condition of our University.

WE embrace this, the earliest opportunity we have had, of congratulating Mr. J. G. MACGREGOR, B. A., of '71, on his success in winning the Gilchrist Scholarship. It is now more than two months since the news of this victory reached us, and since that time Mr. MACGREGOR, after having received the high eulogiums of the Halifax press, and the hearty congratulations of his numerous friends, has sailed for Britain, and is now, we learn, pursuing his studies in Edinburgh, with a view to taking the degree of B. Sc., from the London University. Our fellow-student and late editor of this paper has much reason to be proud of the success which he has achieved, in carrying off the prize from the students of the other Provinces in the Dominion, and not

only that, but in passing a higher examination than 600 of the 630 candidates, who went up from India, Australia, Canada and Great Britain to matriculate at the London University. It is now beginning to be a well-known fact, that the natives of Nova Scotia can compete successfully in any struggle, whether physical or intellectual, with those of any other part of the world. Mr. MACGREGOR may feel sure that Dalhousie is proud of him, as we well know he is justly proud of her.

Correspondence.

DEAR GAZETTE:—A few days ago, a desire which I had felt ever since I matriculated in "Dalhousie" was gratified. I had often heard of Oxford; I had read of Oxford; but I had never visited it. I have now done so, and feeling assured that many of your readers, are as much interested in this grand old University as I was, I have resolved to offer you a few of the mental notes which I made during my visit.

The University of Oxford is a wonderful institution. In its ancient and modern times unite to educate the British nation. From the Norman Conquest to the present day, each century is represented by one or more Colleges. The era of King Alfred gives the first; the year 1870 supplies the last. Kings and queens, princes and noblemen, the learned and the rich, have combined their efforts for its establishment, and their efforts have been crowned with success.

The date of the original foundation of the University has always been a matter of dispute. We have reason to believe that Oxford possessed a large seminary, even before the time of King Alfred. Ruin and destruction however had entered its halls. Perhaps the Vandalic hands of the Danes had been laid upon it. It was about to perish, and had almost passed away, when Alfred saved it, and by the foundation of a large hall and an endowment from the royal purse, became the restorer of the University. Until the thirteenth century it was but a collection of Halls, where men gathered from all parts of the kingdom, to learn from each other, and to study the precious books which were treasured up there. Towards the end of that century, however, Collegiate institutions were founded such as now exist. Students soon flocked in from all quarters; college after college rose, and when we come down to the time of the Reformation, we find thirteen, all of which were endowed. Six others were afterwards added, and these nineteen, with five halls, for a long time constituted the University. Last year the twentieth was added.

With twenty colleges, each of which has one, and many more than one building, with several other institutions connected with the University generally, Oxford presents very many objects of interest. It would require too much space, however, and would be more tiresome than interesting, were I to enter minutely into the history, and architectural peculiarities of each of the twenty collegiate institutions. I can refer only to a few of the most prominent, and point out only some of the most important points in connection with them.

I arrived at Oxford at twilight; and my first inspection of the buildings was made when darkness was descending upon them. The state of the atmosphere, however, was in keeping with that of the old stone structures. They were thus surrounded by a gloom that was appropriate to them. Indistinctness of vision made antiquity appear even more antique. Peculiarly gloomy, I might almost say sublime, was the appearance of Christ Church College, which, as to external grandeur, at least, is the finest of them all. To the wisdom and liberality of Cardinal Wolsey, Christ Church

owes its foundation. While he enjoyed his sovereign's favour he formed the project, and made preparations for carrying it out. After his fall, Henry himself undertook the work, and it became the *College of King Henry the Eighth*. He then connected it with the See of Oxford, and established a foundation, partly academical, partly cathedral, which has no precise parallel in the world. The main building, like those of most of the colleges, is in the form of a square with a quadrangle in the centre. It is of the early English style of architecture. Over the main entrance rises the Tom Tower, so called because it contains the "Great Tom" of Oxford, a bell weighing about 17,000 pounds. The quadrangle is the largest and finest in Oxford, having a length of 264 feet, and being 261 in breadth. In the centre is a fountain, and this is surrounded by well kept beds of soft English lawn-grass. Around the margin is an elevated walk built of granite. On the south side is the hall, one of the most magnificent refectories in England. It has a roof of carved oak, with elegant pendants and profuse decorations; and its walls are adorned by 120 portraits, many of which are excellent as works of art. Here the members of Christ Church dine. The kitchen is an interesting building. It is 40 feet in length, breadth, and height, and has undergone no material alteration since the time of Wolsey. The chapel, called in this case the cathedral, is built in the Transitional Style of the close of the twelfth century. It was originally the Priory of St. Frideswide,—was partly torn down by Wolsey, but is now being restored. The Library contains a very excellent collection of books, and a large number of exquisite paintings, chiefly by the celebrated Italian schools. It is a noble edifice, and was 45 years in building. Besides all this splendour in stone, moreover, Christ Church has beautiful and very extensive grounds. They are planted with long and broad avenues of fine old trees, and through them flows the river on which are held the famous Oxford races.

The richest of the Colleges, is that of St. Mary Magdalen. It was founded in 1480. The chief feature in its architecture, is the lofty stone tower which was thirteen years in building. On the top of this tower every Monday at 5 A.M., is chanted a hymn beginning with the lines:

"Te Deum Patrem colimus,
Te laudibus prosequimur."

The Chapel is indeed well worthy of inspection. It has recently been restored; and its altar-screen, oak seats, and stone organ-screen, are all executed in the best possible manner. The grounds of this College, however, are, to my mind, its chief glory. Its Botanic gardens are excellent. The avenues are not so magnificent as those of Christ Church, but they are more beautiful. Winding as they do around the extensive grounds, from every change of position one gets a new and beautiful view. The tower is always seen rising above the other buildings; and, having one side covered with a beautiful creeper, the contrast between frailty and power has a fine effect. Here Addison studied; and in one of these avenues he so loved to walk, gazing upon

"The spacious firmament on high,
With all the blue ethereal sky,"

that ever since it has borne his name, being called "Addison's Walk."

With excellence in buildings, the New College (which, by the way, is nearly five-hundred years old) combines beauty in grounds. I refer to these especially, however, because they are partially surrounded by the old wall of Oxford. The ramparts and embrasures remain as they were, when manned by Charles' army in the war against Cromwell. But Oxford's war days have passed away. What were once intended for martial purposes, now serve those of peace and education.

If pre-eminent for nothing else, University College is most

interesting, on account of its having been originally founded by Alfred the Great. It is true that of his building not one stone remains upon another, and that it was wholly rebuilt in the 17th Century, yet it is the same institution and its great age claims and receives the deepest reverence.

My letter is already too long. I must pass over in silence the fine tower of All Souls College, and the peculiarly beautiful Chapel of Merton. I cannot refer to Worcester College, or St. John's, or Balliol, or Trinity, or Wadham, or Jesus, or Exeter, or Brasenose, or Queen's, or Oriel, or Corpus Christi, or Pembroke, or Keble, or Lincoln, although each of these has some peculiar interest of its own. I have tried to tell your readers a few facts about some of the Oxford Colleges. At a future date I will give them some account of the institutions, connected more generally with the University.

MAC.

Edinburgh, Oct. 18th, 1871.

Dalhousiensia.

THE Judge in Equity yesterday delivered judgment on a petition from the Executor of the Will of the late W. K. Reynolds. It appears that Mr. R. left £500 for the Acadian School, and £500 for the National School, the interest of which was to be applied to the education of twelve poor children. The School Act having made all children alike in the eyes of these schools, the money could not be applied according to the Will, and the Executor sought the Equity Court for directions as to the disposal of the £1000. His Honor the Judge in Equity has decided that the money shall go to Dalhousie College, to be called the Reynolds Fund, and will arrange with the faculty as to the mode in which the interest shall be appropriated.—*Reporter Nov. 14th.*

WE are glad to see that the largest class room in the College has been assigned to the Professor of Chemistry. This class has always had the largest attendance, but the addition of the "medicals" last Session crowded the old class room to inconvenience. The Professor was also very much cramped in the manipulation of experiments; and Practical Chemistry at least for a large class, was an impossibility. The new room affords ample space for all the operations of the class. Students are not in uninviting proximity to dangerous experiments or unpleasant smells, while those who wish to become familiar with tests and dabble in crucibles can have their desires fully satisfied.

HEREAFTER the Juniors according to the highest authority, will be known as the "Three-Year-Olds."

UNTIL further notice all beavers and canes are strictly excluded from any part of the University. The following from the *Cap and Gown* we recommend to the attention of Freshmen, "In order to commend himself to the notice of higher classmen, a Freshman should affect an air of great consequence and dignity. He should be particularly careful to rebuke severely any student who may dare to address him as 'Fresh,' or 'Freshy.' By wearing a hat of the style known as high hat, stove-pipe hat, beaver, etc., he may make himself specially noticed by the Sophomores, and may attract remarkable attentions from them. A cane would add somewhat to the general effect."

THE Ethical Class of '70-'71 will hereafter be known as the "late class."

THE Student who so cordially embraced Prof. ———, and in the overflowing of his soul, exclaimed, "*How do you do Mr. ———,*" is requested to leave his card in the library.

Personals.

ISAAC SIMPSON, of Class '68, is studying at Princeton Theological Seminary.

D. K. CAMPBELL, a former student of this University is also pursuing his studies in the same institution.

J. J. RICHARDS, who left us in '70 has lately turned up at Princeton.

CHARLES and ALFRED HARVEY, Freshmen of '69-'70, have for the second time distinguished themselves at McGill, each carrying off a Scholarship and Exhibition, value \$205.

E. S. BAYNE and A. G. RUSSELL, of Class '71, are teaching, the former at Maitland, the latter at Sherbrooke—*"Semper floreat."*

W. B. ROSS, Freshman of '70-'71, is head master of Guysboro' Academy, S. M. McNaughton, M.A., the former Principal having resigned in order to pursue his studies in the Theological Hall.

College News and Exchanges.

A NEW Course has been established at Cornell. It includes literature, history and political science, and leads to the degree of Bachelor of Letters. The intention of the course is to train men to take a worthy position as journalists, and to rescue journalism from the contempt into which it has fallen in the hands of political demagogues and charlatans.

SEVERAL of the leading colleges in the Eastern States, have this year opened their doors to the ladies. This is an experiment, and those who are interested in the higher education will anxiously await the result.

THE English declamation and composition prizes at Trinity College, University of Cambridge, have been awarded to an American—George Lockhart Rives, of Virginia.—*Williams Vidette*.

A GIRL has won the Greek scholarship in the State University of Missouri.—*Ibid.*

SAYS an exchange: "At Heidelberg there is not a language, ancient or modern, without its competent professor to teach it to all comers. A Japanese student, unable to speak a word of German, found there, on his arrival, a teacher to converse with him and give lessons through the medium of his own language." Where is the man of race so remote or unknown that Chevalier Roehrig could not converse fluently with him, be he from New Zealand or Scandinavia, from Mexico or Japan?—*Ibid.*

A STUDENT of Yale attended a down-east camp-meeting, and asked the prayers of the assembly because he "could not sit down to a meal without eating three times as much as he ought."—*Ibid.*

A THEOLOGUE the other day while walking on the sidewalk, struck his foot against a plank and cried Hell, but finished it by saying *lehjah*.—*Madisonensis*.

THE Cornell Sophomores interfered seriously with the Freshmen when the latter were holding their election for class officers. The Sophs mingled with the innocents, and some of the more ambitious actually got themselves nominated for Freshmen offices. It slightly disturbed the dignity of the meeting, when the nominee for vice-president, who was discovered to be a Sophomore, was towed out by the ear.—*Era*.

THE overseers of the Charity fund of Amherst College, which now exceeds \$70,000, voted unanimously, at a recent meeting, that any student who uses intoxicating drink as a beverage, or tobacco in any form, shall forfeit thereby the right of assistance from this fund.—*Cap and Gown*.

"HAVE you got any copies of 'Prometheus Unbound?'" inquired a student at an Ithaca bookstore. "No," replied the proprietor, "but we will order you a copy of Prometheus, and have it bound as cheaply as possible."—*Cornell Era*.

EDINBURGH.—We clip the following from the *Edinburgh Scotsman*, kindly sent to us by J. G. MacGregor, B.A. Taken in connection with recent events, in some of the leading collegiate institutions in the United States, it appears interesting:

"It appears that a most extraordinary attempt has been made to stop the further progress of the lady students by refusing to allow several who have just joined them to pass their preliminary examination in Arts. It will be remembered that this point was definitely decided two years ago in favor of the ladies, with the assent of every one of the University authorities, and of course no change could legally be made except in some formal manner. It seems, however, that a majority of the Medical Faculty, without any previous notice to the ladies who had been for months preparing for the examination, and without any sanction from the Senatus, University Court, General Council, or Chancellor, took upon themselves on Saturday last to forbid their Dean to admit any ladies to the preliminary examination in Arts, and that this resolution was officially communicated to the ladies on Monday—the very day preceding that of examination. Had there been time, the ladies would no doubt have applied to the Senatus for redress; but as circumstances did not allow of this course, they determined to take the opinion of counsel as to the legality of the action of the Medical Faculty. The result was that they found the prohibition they had received to be entirely illegal; and, on their communicating the Opinion received from counsel to the Dean of the Medical Faculty, he at once saw that he had been forced into an untenable position, and immediately withdrew his prohibition, and admitted the ladies in the ordinary manner."

We have received the following Exchanges:—*College Courant, Yale Courant, Harvard Advocate, William's Vidette, Cap and Gown, Madisonensis, Cornell Era, Bowdoin Scientific Review, Iowa Classic, Lafayette Monthly, University Review, Simpsonian, Collegian, Irving Union, College World, McKendree Repository, The Acorn, The Cadet, The Owl, and The College Herald.*

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