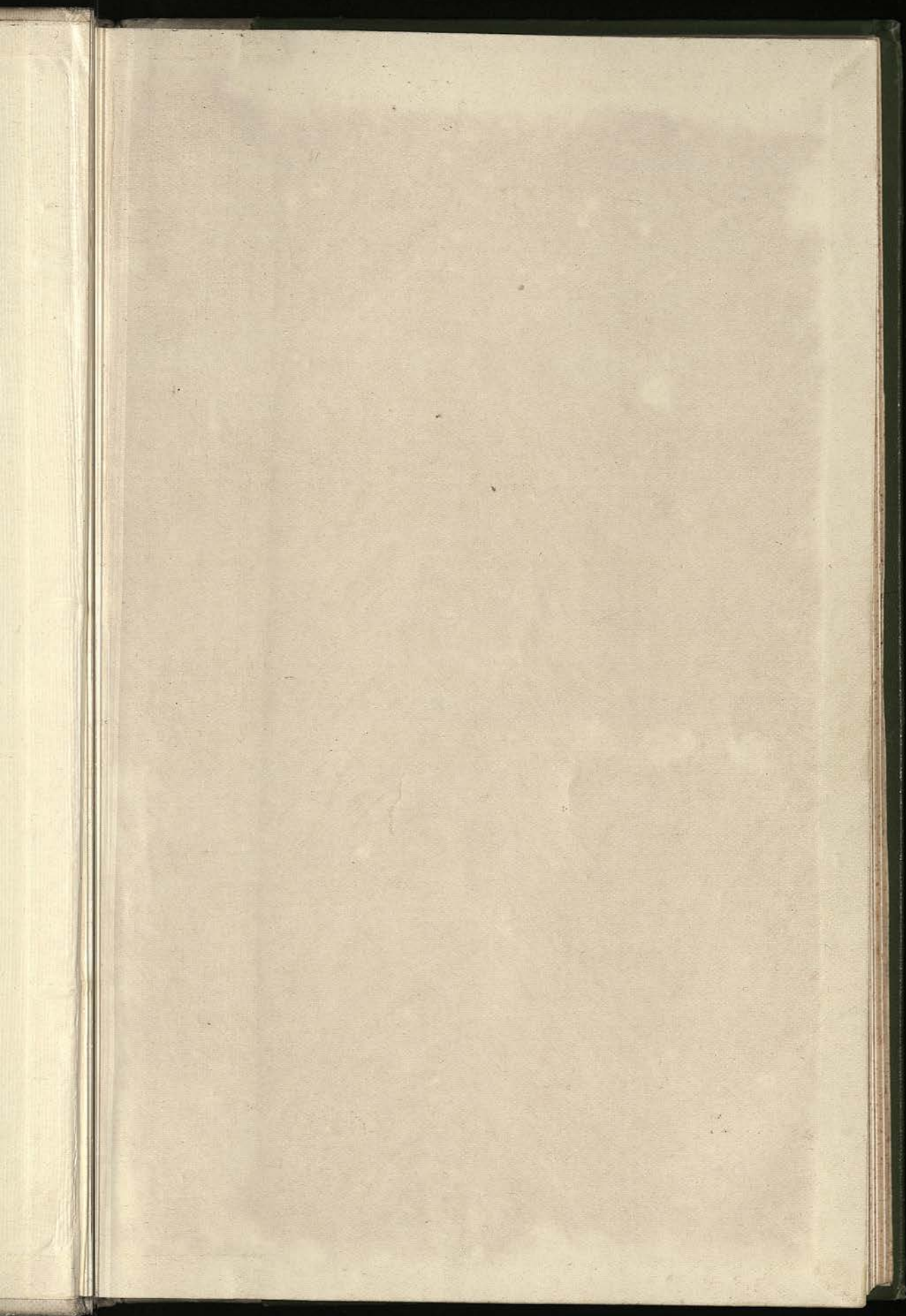
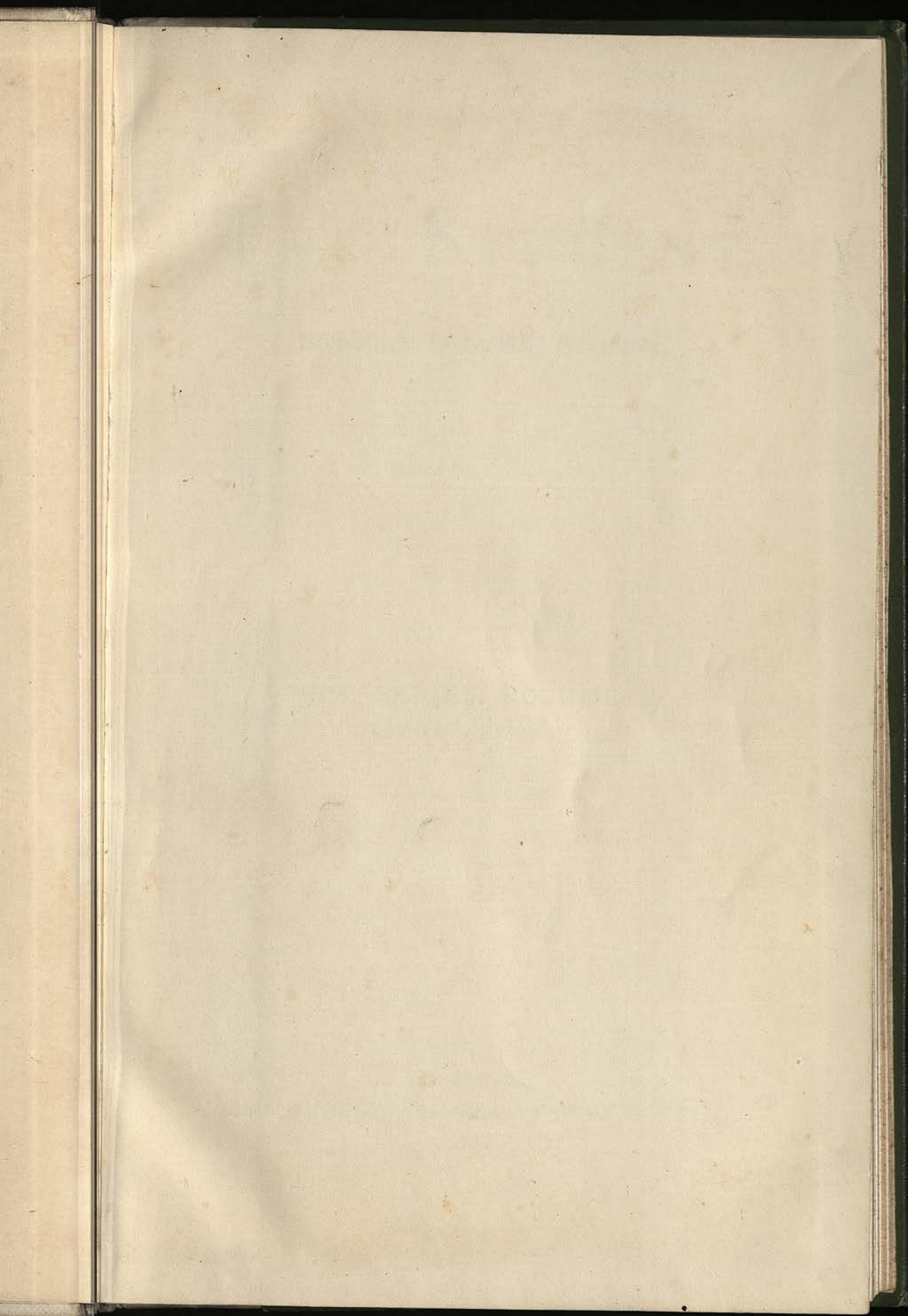


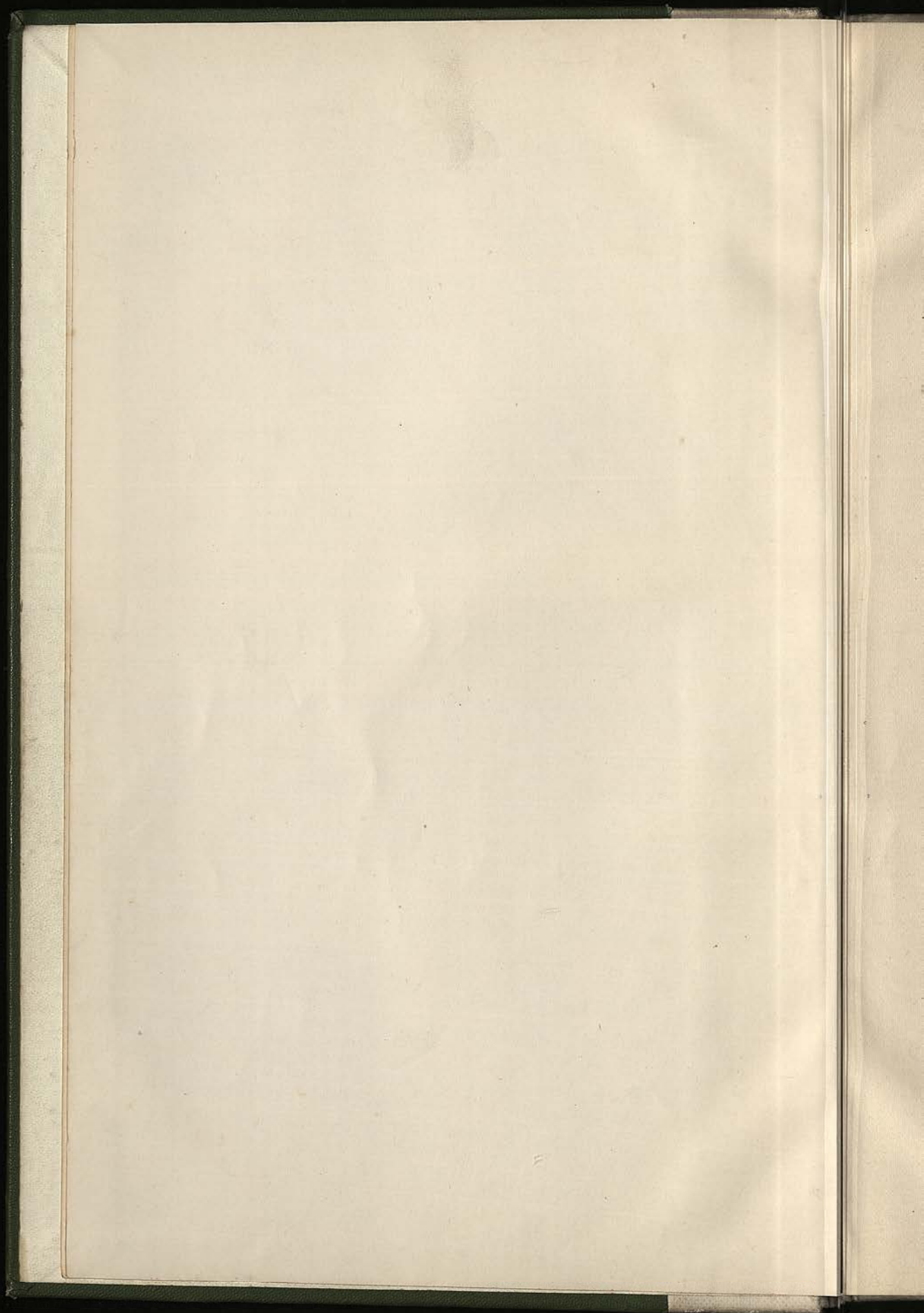


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THE STUDENT,

Edinburgh University Magazine.

NEW SERIES, VOLUME V.,
SUMMER SESSION 1891.

EDINBURGH:
THE STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL.
1891.

THE STUDENT
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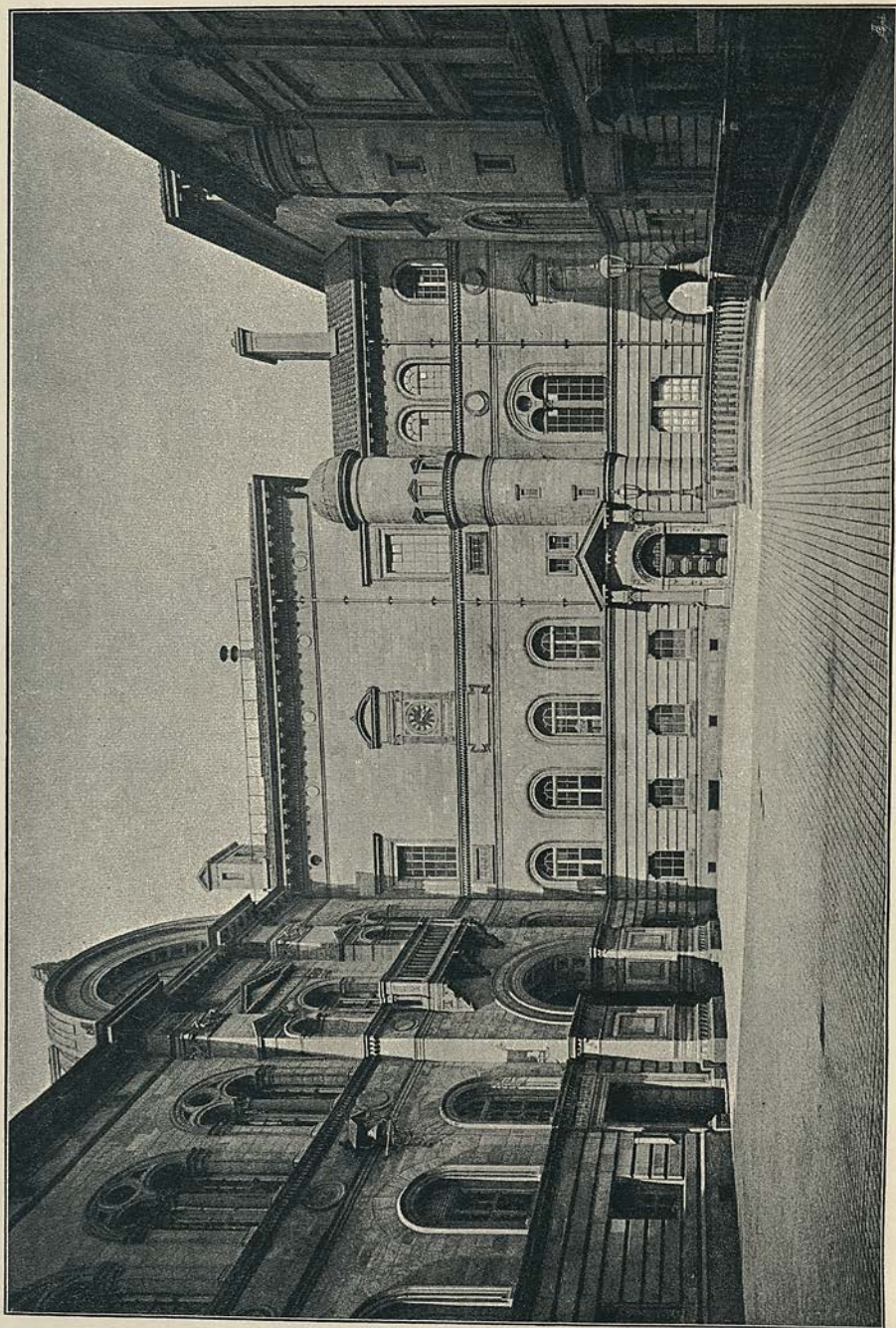
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THE NEW UNIVERSITY QUADRANGLE.

From a Photograph by John Patrick & Son.



The Student.

NEW SERIES.]

6th MAY 1891.

[VOL. V.—No. 1.]

The New University Quadrangle.

To the older graduates of Edinburgh University the picture of the New University Quadrangle, which we print this week, will appear with all the advantages of strangeness and novel interest. The buildings which make up the present Medical School are of recent erection, and the students of the years preceding the 'eighties knew them not. Their associations gather round the older and more historical College of King James in the Bridges. The erection of these later buildings marks the great strides which our University has made in recent years; and the nobility of their appearance seems to symbolise the greatness of the Edinburgh Medical School. A great leap must be made from the insignificant and almost parochial college of the preceding century, with its government by town council and bailie bodies, to the present magnificent institution of Edinburgh University. But only in later years has this great change been emphasised. Not till 1883 were the present buildings of the New University erected, to make conception of the old state of matters well-nigh impossible. We can scarcely realise now that in very recent days the old University buildings provided accommodation for students of all the four Faculties.

The site of this newer and medical portion of the University is in juxtaposition to that of the Royal Infirmary. The Middle Meadow Walk—that general highway of studentdom—divides the two. The buildings were first rendered possible and practicable through the magnificent bequest of £20,000 from Sir David Brewster. They were completed at a total cost of over £230,000. The architect was Mr Robert Rowand Anderson, whose “general treatment of the irregular piece of ground at the disposal of the architects was the cleverest of all,” and whose “elevations in the early Italian style were, on the whole, the most original and tasteful.”

A serious mistake seems, however, to have been made as regards the level of the Quadrangle. Its slope considerably destroys its utility and beauty. Both in this respect and in regard to its much smaller dimensions, it cannot compare with the greater and more classical Quadrangle of the old University. No doubt the Trustees

of the day did their best, but facts have shown since that even the great accommodation given by the present imposing building is utterly insufficient for the present Medical School. They had not sufficient thought for the possible vast increase in the number of students of Medicine in this University.

The complete design of the Medical Buildings comprises a great academic hall, immediately behind that portion of the Quadrangle facing the spectator in our illustration. Sir Alexander Grant concludes mournfully thus:—"But as yet a great gulf still separates the University from the fruition of its long-cherished desire for an Academic Hall—a gulf only to be spanned by a golden bridge of £70,000." The gulf has now been spanned, we are thankful to say, through the liberality and munificence of Mr William M'Ewan, M.P. The erection of the M'Ewan Hall will fitly mark the conclusion to the labours of many years, by the addition to our University of one of the finest halls in the United Kingdom. The student of the last decade, taking another peep at the haunts of his student days, will scarcely recognise in the present University, with its Medical School, its Academic Hall, and its Union, the college at which he studied, with whose cramped and scant assistance he qualified for the profession to which he belongs.

"Elopement."*

It is dusk !
And the gale
Doth exhale
Scent of musk ;
And the rain
Falls again,
Distilling sweets from blossoms of
vervain.

In moon-mist
She will pass,
O'er this grass
To her tryst ;
To this yew
Of sombre hue
She'll loiter from the lime-tree avenue.

A festive din
Comes from within,
A dancing tune,
Of violin
And deep bassoon ;
My horses champ
Their bits, and stamp
On turf that echoes hoof-sounds dull
and damp.

A figure steals
With lifted skirt,
To shun the spurt
Of mud from wheels
And 'neath her heels.
'Tis she, I vow,
Approacheth now,
Tip-toe, no crush of grass, nor crack of
bough.

"Love! art thou here?
On bended knee
Awaiteth thee,
Thy cavalier!
Thine arms around
My neck close wound,
Thus to the saddle I lift thee from the ground."

H. D'A. B.



IN once more making our bow before the critical readers of Edinburgh University we believe we are entitled to make some sort of a prologue. Even our distinguished local contemporaries now and then grace their columns with a leading article on "Ourselves," and take the opportunity to inform "their friends and the public" concerning the illustrious prints with which they are connected. We cannot, then, be wrong in following so brilliant an example. When the curtain rises it is best for us to assume the position taught by the veteran actors on the journalistic stage, such as—"You know who, and likewise, never mind." We trust that *The Student* may be as successful during the session which has just begun as it was during the winter session. We had no reason to complain of lack of support then, and we look forward to that hearty support being continued. The circulation of *The Student* should, however, be easily increased. On our part, we have done what we considered best towards that end. The magazine bids fair to become an illustrated University magazine; and we have been fortunate enough to have received contributions from several well-known artists. We have, in particular, devoted some attention to the encouragement of sculpture in the Scottish capital, and we shall endeavour to give practical illustration of the Fine Arts which are taught in theory in the little temple beneath the dome. It is to the adornment of the M'Ewan Hall that we have been looking, and we hope shortly to place before the readers of *The Student* some suggestions which, if acted upon, cannot but add to the beauty and interest of that noble edifice.

* * * *

THE Union is an institution worthy of all support, and we trust that the membership will be largely increased this summer. Students who come up now for the first time, and who have to look forward to many years' sojourn in the University, will find it to their distinct advantage in every way to become members of the Union. They will find as they go on that the social life of the University centres there, and that if they are beyond the pale of membership they are also out of the more agreeable part of student existence. Those of us who remember the pre-Union days know best the great good the Union has accomplished. Who that looks back on the dreary wilderness of Brahministic exclusion which then prevailed, will not be thankful that that is now a thing of the past? Under the old system the average student might possibly exchange words with the man next him, who periodically knocked over his note-book for him; he might know by sight or reputation the glee singer of the back benches, or the inevitable class wit who interrupts the even course of the professorial lecture; or

he might have occasion to hold conversation with the gentleman behind, whose knees pressed so closely and tenderly the small of his back ; but he seldom had opportunity of knowing his fellows. The dismissal of the class scattered the students, and they met no more till the class resumed. The Union has changed all this, and no student need suffer isolation now. He can dine, smoke, lounge, have his gymnastics, read his books, as he pleases, in the student club. Every one knows the immense advantage which the English University system has in many respects over our own. The Union has made, perhaps, as near an approach to bridging over the differences from which we suffer as it is possible for our Scottish method to allow. We have no colleges, but our various Societies, and the Union in particular, do a great deal to make up for the want of them. We hope that the student support which has never been wanting will be tremendously increased. The development of the magnificent idea which the Union embodies rests with the students, and particularly with those who are now coming up as freshmen. If they give their hearty and thorough support there need be no fear of failure ; it is both their duty and their privilege to support the Union.

Residents R.J.E.

SURGICAL.—Prof. Annandale—*W. C. Smith, M.B., C.M.; J. W. Dawson, M.B., C.M.* Prof. Chiene—*R. M. Horne, M.B., C.M.* Mr Duncan—*J. A. Menzies, M.B., C.M.* Mr Miller—*W. Carmichael, M.B., C.M.* Mr Maclaren—*C. B. Kerr, M.B., C.M.*

MEDICAL.—Prof. Grainger Stewart—*A. C. E. Gray, M.B., C.M.* Prof. Fraser—*R. M. Ronaldson, M.B., C.M., M.R.C.S.* Prof. Greenfield—*P. C. Evans, M.B., L.R.C.P. and S.* Prof. Simpson—*C. C. Douglas, M.B., C.M.* Dr Muirhead—*H. G. Melville, M.B., C.M.* Dr Wyllie—*A. S. Duncan, M.B., C.M.* Dr Affleck—*F. L. Brown, M.A., M.B., C.M.* Dr Brakenridge—*R. P. Mackenzie, M.B., C.M.* Dr Halliday Croom—*G. Aitchison-Robertson, M.D.*

General Column.

WE have inserted the following from a large selection of notices sent us. We cannot undertake to satisfy all our readers in respect of this column :—

MEDICAL STUDENT, of strictly temperate habits, wishes to meet with lady medical with a view to partnership—medical or matrimonial, or both. Address. M'Tavish, 17 Marchmont Crescent.

DIVINITY STUDENT, just through his exit, desires to dispose of "The Anxious Inquirer" (uncut and good as new), for which he has no further use.

R. A. H.—No ; never mind the change. Sorry you found place shut up. Try again.



It will at once occur, even at the most casual glance of these pages, that the gilded youth on the dome has at length taken a more comfortable position for the pursuance of his noble task of reporter. We trust that with the increased ease of his elevated situation he may "with keen and glassy eye" survey all the various doings of our University.

GREAT things have happened since our last issue—one of them a somewhat famous Divinity supper. Few of us could have believed our eyes when we read in the press that the Divinity students had applied for a special license *and been refused*. This to the Church! Verily, the coarse toe of the bailie is treading dangerously close on the heel of the parson. The bailie in this case, however, seems to have had a very lively time since.

DO parsons not thirst as other men? Have they not also stomachs even as the alderman? The answer from the honourable magistracy of Edinburgh is—No.

BUT the most galling point of it all must be the knowledge derived from the evening press lately that among the successful applicants was "a shinty club." That seems the unkindest cut of all. Anathema!

THE "Finals" in Medicine are running their weary course at present. Upwards of three hundred men are desirous of becoming M.B., C.M., this coming August. Some must be among the slain.

THE plucking in the "Second" seems to have been rather heavy—particularly to the men plucked. But the chance of "another shot" in July brings a comfort absolutely wanting in the case of the unfortunate "final" man.

STUDENTS who had returned to town before Saturday evening had a chance of hearing their old favourite Miss Alice Brickmann in the "Arabian Nights." The occasion was that of her benefit. Several new and original songs had been written specially for Miss Brickmann, to be sung in place of "the established article."

SHE appears this week in the Theatre Royal in "East Lynne." Her rôle is that of *Barbara Hare*.

WE observe that Miss Emmott Herbert, who acted the part of *Marjorie* in the Carl Rosa Light Opera Company, is to take the title-*rôle* in "Fauvette,"—a new opera, to be produced "for the first time in this country" at the Lyceum on 18th May.

"THE world went very well then" if we may judge from an interesting little notice to be found in Grant's "History of the University":—"The janitor, who had a paid office, was at first always a student of the fourth year or else a graduate who was studying theology."

WE have been again and again requested to open an "Exchange" column, but we have never noticed any special anxiety on the part of students for it. There can be no doubt it would be an immense advantage to numbers of students if some system of exchange of books could be laid down.

THE following circular has been addressed to and distributed among the foreign students by the *Comité de Patronage des Etudiants Etrangers* of the University of Montpellier:—"SIR,—You are aware that the General Council of the Faculties has organised a committee for the patronage of foreign students, and has instructed it to give to the strangers who are studying, or who desire to study, at Montpellier, all the information and guidance which they may need. In future the secretary will be at the service of foreign students who wish to put themselves in relationship with the committee, either directly, or through specially appointed delegates, and will receive them in his private room at the Botanical Institute on Mondays and Fridays from 9 to 11. Kindly receive, I pray you, the assurance of my wishfulness to be of service.—CH. FLAHAULT. I shall be obliged if you will show this letter to those of your compatriots who have not yet received it."

FINAL men will be interested to hear that the experiments of their Examiner in Surgery formed the subject of a question in the House of Commons last week. An honourable member asked the Home Secretary whether Mr Watson Cheyne was at liberty "to bore holes into the knee-joints of living rabbits." As Mr Cheyne held the vivisection license he triumphed, and the honourable member looked foolish.

PROFESSOR BLACKIE is at present sojourning in Constantinople. We may expect to hear more about modern Greek on his return.

THE "clinicals" have brought Professor Grainger Stewart back from a visit to Florence, where he has spent the last few weeks.

PROFESSOR CHIENE'S new theatre is nearing completion. Every detail has been executed under the supervision of its future owner, who has taken quite a fatherly interest in its growth.

WE are glad to report that Dr Rudolf, Senior President of the Royal Medical Society, has returned to Edinburgh completely recovered from his late illness. He has resumed his duties at the Sick Children's Hospital.

COLLEGE DES ECOSSAIS.—The first annual dinner of the Scots College was held in Paris a fortnight ago. Among the fifteen present were Professor Geddes, Professor Coats, and Dr Hunter Stewart; M. Paul Melon, secretary of the *Comité du Patronage des Etudiants Etrangers* in Paris; M. Léné, vice-president of the Students' Association; Baron Pierre de Coubertin, secretary of the French Athletic Union, &c. The report of the College said that twelve students had made use of the organisation in Paris and four at Montpellier. Toasts were proposed to the University of Paris, the Universities of Scotland, the Students' Association of Paris, and the Scots College. The old friendship between Scotland

and France was recalled. M. Paul Melon said that they were trying to show a little of the Scottish hospitality which was proverbial in France; that they would welcome all Scots who came to Paris whatever they might wish to study, and he hoped in the near future there might exist a corresponding organisation for French students in Edinburgh. M. Léné recalled the pleasant meetings they had had with the Scottish delegates in Paris in 1889, and again in Montpellier last year. Professor Coats and Dr Hunter Stewart expressed their satisfaction with the opportunities Paris offered to the student, and the way these were available to all.

ANY who may wish to study at Paris can get information before leaving, from the Scottish Professors named, or from Andrew J. Herbertson, University College, Dundee. The secretary in Paris this summer is Dr G. W. Thompson, 36 Rue des Ecoles.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—At the ordinary meeting on the 11th inst. the plan of alterations for the new rooms is to be discussed. A good attendance therefore is requested, in order that the details of the scheme proposed by the Committee may be approved of, or amended by, the Society, before operations commence. For place and time of meeting see notice boards.

UNIVERSITY GOLF CLUB.—The next meeting of the above club will be held at Gullane on Saturday next, the 9th, to play for the Challenge Cup and club prizes. Train to Longniddry at 9.27, and to Drem at 10.20.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of a very carefully prepared map of South Africa from J. & H. Lindsay, 31 Princes Street. Cape students should call at the Council Offices.

Professor Campbell Fraser.

WHEN Sir William Hamilton died, Scottish Metaphysics received a shock from which, in the estimation of many, it has not yet recovered. It seemed then as if a race of little men had succeeded, and the days of the giants were past. His immediate successor has just handed in his resignation to the University authorities, and a reign of pigmies is apprehended. It is always thus, for the old men become identified with their positions, and their absence occasions a blank not easily filled up. Not only so, but the appointments to a University chair are not unseldom unworthy of the institution. Things are believed to be better managed now-a-days than they once were, though strange sayings find circulation even among the University students of to-day.

There are few old students of Edinburgh University but will notice with sincere regret the retiral of the old man who for thirty-five years has maintained the cause of divine philosophy in the northern capital. He succeeded a great man, and the great man's mantle never descended on him; nevertheless he has become inwoven with University traditions, and he supplied a link to the mighty past. That link is now broken. The new Professor—whoever he may be—will be the successor of Campbell Fraser; he will not be the successor of Hamilton. That is no doubt but an obvious fact, yet it means a great deal. Our Universities are perpetually undergoing such changes. The new teachers never make up for the old. I can fancy the condition of things consequent on the retiral say of Professor Masson. The chosen successor might be a well-known man, or he might be a nonentity; he might be an incipient Hallam, or a belated Montgomery; but whoever he might be, he would not be Masson. He could never have been the friend of Carlyle who had seen and talked with Thackeray and Jerrold, De Quincey and Dickens. He would be an interloper—something disconnected—a person without a history

So it is with Campbell Fraser. We forget his dry, hour-long, and often tedious lectures; his wearisome battlings against all modern tendencies; his recapitulations of the work done yesterday, with the unfailing prefaces of the work to be done to-morrow. We remember only that he has been here for thirty-five years, that our fathers also were his pupils, and that a very well-remembered figure has vanished. A new god will reign in Olympus, and there will be other worshippers. They will not in all probability fall under the spell of Berkeley; they may scoff at that tar-water hero; they may even in their ignorance believe "that the table they see before them is an objective fact of separate and complete existence, independently of conscious mind." How the sleepy hour from one till two has to be filled in now I cannot tell, but I know that a well-remembered voice will no longer disturb the youthful philosophers, nor will the old battle (with no quarter given) prevail against "the so-called scientists of our day." Edinburgh students have been sadly disturbed of late. The death of Muirhead removed a name of European reputation from the Faculty of Law. Then Sellar died, and with him the old traditions that had clustered round him. And now Fraser has resigned. True, as cynics (most later students) have remarked, Logic may now be taught, and a knowledge of it be essential to a Scottish M.A.; but it may be worse taught, and its dry bones may well frighten the students to come. They will have to take notes, which we never had to do; for there were copies of them without number in circulation which our ancestors had taken before us. Psychology will scarcely be so entertaining to them as it was to us; they will never feel as we did the delightful insecurity of existence, nor suffer the doubts we suffered as to whether we existed at all.

It is well known that appearances go a long way, and I hope the new Professor will have in some degree a philosophic look. I should say that a long beard and a dreamy eye are essentials; for in Edinburgh these have been long associated with Philosophy. I may be wrong, but I am rather inclined to believe that a close-cropped Professor would work a revolution.

Professor Fraser has of late been failing in health, and seemed to feel keenly the thinning of the ranks of his old friends. Besides this a Universities Commission is sitting, and great changes are expected. May it not be most fitting after all that one who has been so long identified with the old should decline to enter on the new?

AN OLD STUDENT.

Opening of the Students' Union at Montpellier.

(CONTRIBUTED.)

THROUGH the munificence of the ancient University town, the students have been presented with a splendid Union building, which was opened recently by a grand fête. In the evening addresses were given by the President of the Students' Association, by the Rector of the University, and by Professor Lavisse, Secretary of the University of Paris. We give some extracts from the speech of Professor Lavisse, who, it will be remembered, is head of the committee for the reception and help of Scottish students in France. The discourse is interesting in itself, and also as showing the spirit of those who are helping as much as possible international and all other student movements.

After congratulating the students on having been presented with a building, a meeting-place for all students of all faculties and characters, he wished them in it a joyous and useful life, and said of their joyousness no guest of last May could doubt.

He then compared the condition of things in former days, with the newer aspect they are assuming, with the growth of association among all the members of the University, an association of individualities—for if the members be all zeros, the total cannot be anything else.

The old individualism was an isolation of the individual. Professors, faculties,

and students alike practised it. A professor taught a little, as if his chair were the only one in the world. Each played his part without hearing of his neighbour,—a concert with each of the performers placed several miles apart. But the students had always close relationships among themselves. Old schoolmates, those from the same district, associated; but the only common meeting-place was the café, where the intellectual exchange was the double-six and *la dame de pique*. There was no connection at all between the professors and students, unless when medicals met their teachers round the sick-bed. "The professor regarded the student from the height of the chair, or from the high end of the examination table. To look down from above, as the master did, or from below up, as did the students, is not to see things from the right point of view. It was the fulness of individualism." The results? "A limited intellectual horizon for master and pupil, the interaction of colleague on colleague, of comrade on comrade, reduced to a minimum, and coldness between professors and students; for the relation of examiner to examinee, of judge to accused—the examination being a charge of ignorance—is not by nature cordial."

A revolution has been made in our manners, and the students are not only the witnesses, but, better, are the convinced, energetic, and persevering actors.

We have inherited imperfections, and the two most important are a lack of philosophy and a want of actuality. It is true that philosophy is taught in the Faculty of Letters, and never was more, or more seriously, taught than it is to-day. But philosophy cannot be confined to the Arts Faculty. The prodigious work of analysis done during this century seems to announce a coming synthesis which will just be philosophy.

Our instruction is not sufficiently directed towards the present, towards the tasks of to-day and to-morrow. It is confined in too rigid frames, and has a certain timidity with regard to actual life. We have these two complementary faults,—we do not realise the whole, and we do not realise the present moment.

Is not this a break in the speech? Not at all. In the new buildings are a library, a tutorial room, and a large hall. There we shall apply our theory. Don't encumber your library shelves with the tools of your everyday work, but remember that there are libraries in the University. Give yours a special character. Give the preference to books of to-day; read these, and seek in them the spirit of the times. You do not believe in our intellectual decline; for though there be subtleties and coquetries, though there be incertitude about some of the great questions, anarchy in art as in philosophy, the spirit of our times is free, varied, and sincere in its doubts, strong in its researches, and, allowing for everything, powerful.

It is needful that you should know the spirit of your times if you wish to influence them. Most men live without knowing in what century they are. Their tomb should bear no date, for they have none. They render little service to the community. But from you, your masters, your University, your country, expect higher and better things. You have no right to ignore your date in the continuity of universal history.

It is difficult to keep in touch with the movements of great minds, and to understand by oneself the times, but here comes in the use of your Union and its conference rooms.

I do not know what you are going to do with it, but I have again some uneasiness lest you add to the "conferences" the words "preparatory to exams." I further fear that some, desiring to be orators, will prepare themselves there at the expense of their fellows. "Mon Dieu! all that isn't bad; but, believe me, don't abuse the professoriate. You have plenty professors, there are already a great number of us professors in France.* And further, don't be deceived by premature eloquence. I

* Would that could be said about Scotland!

am going to astonish you, and perhaps vex you ; and one would have astonished and perhaps vexed me, if he had insinuated to me at your age what I tell you in bald terms :—You have not yet got much to say. It is bad to hear the sound of a mill grinding nothing, or crushing the few small grains fallen from a green head before August.

Let me recommend to you an exercise, modest, serious, and useful.

Among the multitude of books printed each year there are some good books and a few great ones. First take those accredited by well-known names. Distribute them among those of you who will read them, to give an account of them to the others. It is difficult to read a book well ; to get to the bottom of it, one must open both eyes and be all attention, passive to receive all, active to hold all, to keep one's judgment, and at the same time let it act. Then meet to hear the report, and to discuss the matter. A dozen such conferences each year on books of all sorts will give you a glimmer of the philosophy, science, and art of your times. Afterwards, when they have read, worked, and thought much, the best of you will change the glimmer to the glow.

It is then you become fellow-workers with your University, to your own profit, in introducing yourselves to the actuality, for the books I recommend bear the happy label "just issued." Thus you supply the other lack of philosophy, for I mean by the great books that appear each year in France, in England, in Germany, those which attempt the explanation of the things of nature and of spirit.

I shall give you some advice, but between ourselves, and you must not go and betray me to your masters. As you find difficulties, go and tell one of your professors of it, and say how grateful you would be were he to aid you. "Sir, here is a book on philosophy, a book on science ; would you not come some evening, any night you are free, and talk to us about it, just as little as you like?" He will come. It is difficult to refuse anything to the goodwill of young people.

Emboldened by this first success, ask for something more. If it be impossible to grasp at present the philosophy of the whole, each man has in him more or less precise a philosophy of his science or his art. From time to time, then, go to some one and say, "Sir, we would gladly know the whereabouts of this or that science, and if you will have the kindness to make us understand, very simply, by what ways she has passed to reach where she is, we shall be very grateful, for then without doubt we shall begin to see whither she is tending and the direction of our intellectual progress?" On the days when your masters come—five or six times a year—you will open your large hall, which will be an annex, a free *aula* of the University, where by little and little you will construct your philosophy.

But I should be the first to blame you if you came here to do nothing but work. This house, given by the town of Montpellier to its children at College, the artists of Montpellier, its sculptors and painters, have willingly ornamented with their art. Science, art, and youth, it is an adorable trinity ; and I do not forget the third person—youth. I do not disdain your billiard rooms, and your halls for fencing and gymnastics, nor your baths.

I hope you will hold in horror sloven sedentariness, and that from time to time bands of you will start for the hills or for the sea. Go, then—walk, run, swim, and sail. Inertia in the young is an abdication of life.

Only guard against inertia of spirit and intellectual sedentariness. I call him inert and sedentary who studies but one subject, and whose curiosity is limited by the examination programme. I pity them, and fear for them, because I know that, later, an atrophied man will be within them. They are to be pitied who live *in solo pane*. They are to be feared, for they develop in the hearth of France a weight of dead ashes.

To quote from the address of your Rector : "What we lack is in the number of men placed above their professional tasks by reflection and study, capable of in-

fluencing their fellow-citizens by the height of their culture, and little by little to raise the whole nation to a clearer and surer view of truth and justice." I add,— Elsewhere man may be governed, here the citizen governs himself, and governs. But this honour has its penalty ; to the little daily duties he adds great obligations.

Prof. Lavisse then spoke of public duties, and of the philosophic ways of doing them, combining theory and practice. He then talked of social duties, which are more pressing than ever.

"In every country of the world social subjects are the questions of the day. The crowns, papal, imperial, and royal, incline themselves towards the little. With us there are neither great nor small. We are a brotherly democracy. Quite naturally the theory of social duties is transformed and enlarged in us. The sentiment of charity becomes the duty of solidarity. Young people, guard that sentiment, for charity is nought but love. You must love duty ; you must study it, too, for it is difficult, and I repeat, obscure ; yet that does not keep it from being imperious. You certainly have to do with it. Do not be beguiled. In your lectures, your conferences, your reflections, make a place for the study of social subjects. Begin to observe the facts at your doors. In short, search the saying of the sphinx. I do not know if you will find it ; I am convinced it is our duty to seek it."

A Freshman's Letters to his Kinsfolk.

NO. 1.—*To his Sister JANE.*

MY DEAR JANE,—I arrived in Edinburgh to-night. The train was thirty minutes late. On examining my bag I find that my thick flannels have been omitted. This is not as it should be. Mrs M'Gurk, my landlady, seems a very kindly lady. She tells me she has been a total abstainer for several years, but she snuffs. However, we can nowhere secure perfection, as Jones says. His landlady drinks, and he dines out.—Your loving brother,
JAMES.

NO. 2.—*To his Old Friend, TIMOTHY SMALLS, Farrier, Gilliesland.*

DEAREST TIM,—Arrived safe. Landlady as usual—distinctly successful in securing good rooms. She allows the Jews' harp on Sundays, with cards up to twelve on Saturday evenings. Jamieson called up on arrival with two friends. Jamieson very ill to-day.—Yours,
JAMES.

NO. 3.—*To his MOTHER.*

MY DEAR MOTHER,—I hasten to write to you concerning the great city which I have just entered. It is very large, but Jamieson has been very kind in showing me about. I am invited to a reception at Mr Rutherford's, the great University philanthropist, on Friday along with Jamieson. Jamieson says evening dress is not needed ; the people are very sociable. I get up every morning at nine for the Botanic Gardens, which are open every lawful day from ten till four. Then I look round to the R.B., a famous chop-house where Sir Walter Scott and Lockhart used to dine, and in which Christopher North had many a merry evening. In the evening the Professors give lectures in the Union, which are very enjoyable. Professor Tait, D.D., preached on "Golf" last Sabbath. There was a good house.—Your loving son,
JAMES.

NO. 4.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR MOTHER,—I am sorry to hear of the cat's illness, but had been expecting it. I had not, however, thought of the worst. It is very sudden. I thought you would have heard of Mr Rutherford, who is, I must say, very much spoken of in University circles. It was a bachelors' party. You ask me about the M'Ewan Hall. It is a very fine edifice, but incomplete. As a ruin it is noble ; but

I understand it is to be repaired. The statues with which originally it was adorned have been broken down by John Knox and his fanatics. Of the colossus of M'Ewan himself nothing now remains but the site, which is boarded round. Great notices are posted up on the boards, "Stick no bills." I rather like the Scotch, but I find they never wear knickerbockers nor kilts, save on Sundays, when they go to St Giles'. They look very funny on a windy day.—Your loving son,
JAMES.

NO. 5.—*To his Uncle JOHN.*

DEAR UNCLE JOHN,—I gladly answer your queries as to my progress in study. Firstly, we attend the Gardens, either the Botanic or Princes Street, where the beauties of nature are pointed out to us by our intelligent Professoriate. Fee, £4. 4s. Then we study "Human Nature" (*vide* Butler's Sermons) in Princes Street, making remarks and criticisms on the little world around us. No fee: this is an extra. Then we dissect skates (of comparative freshness) during the hot noon-tide hours. This is to test our nerves. Our Professor says that if we can stand this we can stand anything. I was very sick the first day, but Jamieson took me (to practise the business) to an old decayed oyster shop. That hardened me, and I never turn a hair now. A four-month-old dead frog never disturbs me. But I can't look at sweetbreads, of which I was at one time rather fond. By the way, I have entered for our great competition in the Union, and am rather hard up.—Your affectionate nephew,

JAMES.

(*To be continued.*)

(THE END.—ED. *Student.*)

Ourselfes through Vankee Glasses.

WHENEVER one attempts to pass judgment upon a whole class of persons, it seems it would be very convenient never to lose sight of the advice which Lord Chesterfield gave to his son, and in the present case double care and precaution are needed on account of the peculiar circumstances in which an American who has come to Scotland, studied along with Scotch students, and who undertakes to treat them justly, finds himself. If he praises them, Americans will most undoubtedly say it is shrewd policy which guides him, and that he sacrifices truth to convenience; if he censures them, why could not Scotchmen say, with equal justice, that all is due to national prejudice? Such reflections make the writer hesitate, and it is to be feared that the outcome will be similar to that which generally results from falling into doubt and studying over the spelling of a word—the more one thinks and reasons and chooses, the surer he is to take the wrong road.

A type of a student is to be chosen; by selecting a friend, the picture may result too favourably; if one whose lot it has been to displease be submitted to examination, it would be more than human if the sentence were fair. There remains, then, only the indifferent man, but, to confess the truth, one who neither pleases nor displeases, who fails to excite either envy or love, must surely have no character; he is the same great nothing the world over. What must be done, then, is to take a little of one kind and a little of another, sufficient of each to make a good average.

In the first place, if we know nothing of a man, we must judge him by appearances, by his treatment of others, his gait, his dress—in short, by his complete external make-up. Later we can study the stars which shine in the heavens of his ambition; we can examine the minute structure of the man, and thus make up our estimate of him in a broader, better way. In other words, we can follow him in his pursuit of an ideal, we can make ourselves acquainted with his aims and intentions, and then return to his motives—to the underlying principles which govern his actions, and which make the man what he is.

According to the superficial test, then, the Scotch student is a *plain* man. His gait is slow but sure. His treatment of others is conservative but rational. His countenance, too, although not that of a "Don Juan," is generally strong and expressive. His clothes—not the least factor in taking the superficial measure of a man—are plain, and the thought bestowed upon them must have used but little of his energy.

After one becomes accustomed to his ways he is liked. At first it is certainly hard for a foreigner to understand him, but after a time the ice breaks, and his true nature comes, not bubbling and effervescing, but oozing out. Enthusiasm is the last thing to be expected in a Scotch student. There may be occasional exceptions, and, at times, perhaps, general exceptions, but as a rule he is deliberate, calm, even indifferent to a fault. He loves his *Alma Mater* about as much as an oyster loves the sea. The sea has been to the oyster's ancestors what it is to the present representative of its kind, and will be to coming generations, so why need he disturb himself? In every department of student life this lack of enthusiasm is evident. In every Council Committee it must be patent to observing members. If an individual, more daring than the rest, suggests a change, he is promptly silenced by the sentiment:—"Our predecessors lived and were happy without this, so let us proceed in the ancient way."

Speaking of the Council suggests another, and an admirable, trait in the character of the Scotch student, and that is his perfect conception of the relations of men when in and out of authority. It is really refreshing to a man weary of the social plotting and scheming of his own country to see authority respected. Honesty compels one to say that courtesy such as that shown by members of the Council to their chairman is almost unknown in American assemblies.

One of the surprises which all outsiders get when they become a part of University life is, I imagine, the democratic feeling among students. When the elaborately organised condition of society in the country, as a whole, from the Queen down to the labouring man, is considered, it seems most natural that its influence should be felt more decidedly than it is in University circles. There seem to be no secret societies, fraternities, or social organisations of any kind, which are not open to all who care to take advantage of them. There are cliques, of course, but they are not organised, and are not recognised as such in the social world.

The quiet monotony, so characteristic of Edinburgh students' amusements, puzzles an American, and makes him feel that work would be a relief after the business-like amusement (?) which he has undergone. From his standpoint nothing could be less novel than a "Smoker," where the same singers and the same form of entertainment are to be expected year after year. He finds nothing entertaining in walking round and round a band and a few performing animals in the Waverley Market, and, even in his first year, he prefers a seat much farther down than the "gods" at the "Royal" or "Lyceum." He prefers, too, his "Greek Letter Fraternities" to the Union, and Pan-Hellenic Conventions to corresponding meetings in this country, but he knows that, theoretically, the Scotch way is better.

As to motives, selfishness in its general sense seems to be a prevailing one. The Scotch student works for examinations primarily, and if for knowledge it is with a view to his *own* professional, social, and financial success later on in life. To this rule, however, it may be needless to state, there are many striking exceptions.

Going still further, finer points in the character which is being dissected could be brought out. The amount of culture and refinement to be found among students could be discussed, but we are getting into deep water, and a certain text—something about a "mote" and a "beam"—is rushing in and drowning impressions which should never be recorded unless firmly fixed in the mind of the one who is impressed.

"MURANHEISEN."

A Ballade of Robers.

DOUBLE REFRAIN.

IN the greenest of meadows, by the bluest of brooks,
Surrounded by lambkins abnormally snowy,
Sit, masked by be-ribboned and garlanded crooks,
Strephon and Cloe.

While the half-whetted scythe and the overturned pail,
The blush on a cheek that is "brown as a berry,"
Betoken, as signs that were ne'er known to fail,
Robin and Mary.

From Claude-like scenes in romanticist books,
From songs like Lord Byron's conventional Ζώνη,
Peer out, with affected and simpering looks,
Strephon and Cloe.

While fresh from a Hardy or Blackmore tale,
A-singing a roundel of "Derry-Down-Derry,"
Come, breathing the odours of meadow and dale,
Robin and Mary.

We jeer at those creatures of tailors and cooks,
Sir Puppet of Padding and Dollikin Doughty,
Caught sheepishly courting in out-o'-the-way nooks,
"Strephon and Cloe."

But when honest Young Manly woos Happy-Heart Hale,
As frank as they're fond, though affectionate very,
A murmur of plaudits will always prevail,
"Robin and Mary."

ENVOY.

Prince, praise if you please those inanities showy,
Strephon and Cloe.
My choice of models is "quite the contry,"
Robin and Mary.

MARION M. MILLER.
(From Σ X Quarterly.)

Dramatic Notes.

ROYAL—"EAST LYNNE."

FEW plays have as much stirring interest and dramatic (or melodramatic) situations as "East Lynne." It seems never to fail in the way of attraction, and a good audience greeted its return to Edinburgh last Monday evening. The company is a good one, though not particularly strong. Miss Helen Cresswell gave a powerful rendering of *Lady Isabel*; at no time, in a part severely sensational, dropping into the hysterical. Messrs Courtneidge, Guinness, and Worthing were in every way satisfactory, if never powerful, in their various rôles. Considerable interest was taken in the *debut* of Miss Brickmann, who appeared in the part of *Barbara Hare*. Miss Brickmann should have a most successful career before her, if we are to judge from her late appearances. One can scarcely expect as yet the training and ease of the professional actress, but Miss Brickmann possesses a grace and

refinement unusual in a beginner. The play was well received, but the gods were somewhat hilarious. The farce entitled "The Spitalfield Weaver" was as good as the average farce is, and that depends much on the taste and fancy of the audience.

LYCEUM—"BOOTLES' BABY."

AFTER the run of opera and burlesque which the Lyceum has had of late, this clever military play comes as an agreeable change. John Strange Winter's pretty little story, which every one knows and every one likes, or ought to like, lends itself very well to stage adaptation; and from the strong company which produced it here on Monday night it receives very capable treatment.

The part of *Bootles* is entrusted to Mr L. Cory Thomas, who makes an excellent appearance as the good-natured and generous officer; while Mr C. F. Caravoglia, as *Captain Gilchrist*, is a sufficiently villainous villain, and displays considerable ability in the "scenes" with *Helen Grace*, especially, perhaps, where he leaves her for the last time. As *Helen Grace*, Miss Edith Ostler is charming, and alike in the pathetic scenes and in the more lightsome third act, where everything is unravelled and every one pleased, she does full justice to the part, which is by no means an easy one. As *Captain Lucy*, the butt of the regiment, Mr A. Courtenay is capital; as is also Mr Douglas Munro as *Private Saunders*, and Miss Philfair as the *Nurse*. Mr Harry Crouch as *Doctor Blantyre*, Miss Madge Ruskin as *Mrs Smith*, and Miss Gracie Robinson in the part of *Laura Norris*, leave nothing to be desired; and the parts of the subalterns receive good treatment. Not the least attractive feature of the performance is the appearance of Miss Maggie Bowman, who makes a very clever little "*Bootles' Baby*."

Athletic Column.

INSPECTION OF NO. 2 (UNIVERSITY) BATTERY E.C.A.V.—The first annual inspection of this battery took place in the Waverley Market on Wednesday, 20th March,—Colonel Thomson, R.A., being the inspecting officer. Sir William Muir, Sir Douglas Maclagan, Professor Annandale, and Dr Tillie were among the many spectators present. Lieutenant Cossar Ewart was in command, and Mr B. S. Lockwood, Battery Sergeant-Major. The battery paraded about sixty-five strong, in full uniform under arms, and presented a very smart appearance. At half-past four Colonel Thomson entered the market, and, after a general salute, he proceeded at once to inspect the ranks and the men's equipment. This over, the battery marched past in quick time and also at the double, and went through various company movements. Lieutenant Ewart next put his men on the guns, where the usual field gun and repository drill was gone through, the work being done with a smartness that speaks well for the chances of the battery at Barry Camp next July. At the close of the inspection, Colonel Thomson made a few remarks, complimenting the men on their drill and smart soldier-like appearance. He at the same time impressed on the men the necessity of coming down regularly to drill, lest the ignorance of a few should impair the efficiency of the whole battery. The battery was then dismissed, after having safely passed through that most trying ordeal—its first inspection. We are requested to state that all information concerning the battery can be obtained from Professor Cossar Ewart, or from any of the non-commissioned officers.

CRICKET.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY CRICKET CLUB.—The cricket season will open for us this afternoon with a trial match at Corstorphine, when it is to be hoped there will be a big turnout of new talent to fill up the vacancies in the 1st team. We shall suffer much by the loss of Thornton this season, both as a player and a captain, and doubly so as his successor Mapleton is unable to come up this summer, as he is now reading in London. It is to be hoped, however, that the "only 'Varsity fielder" will be able to turn out. The other loss is trifling. In a measure to make up for these deficiencies, it is to be hoped that every member of the Club will endeavour to uphold its reputation in the cricket field. The railway company have kindly consented to stop two extra trains at Corstorphine, in addition to those in the May time-table, viz., Edinburgh to Corstorphine, 1.55 P.M., and Corstorphine to Edinburgh, 5.21. There should be great competition for the vacancies, as we have back some promising bats in the 2nd, besides several new members with reputations. Lancashire is to furnish us with two more cricketers, one another Bolton blusher. The fixture card is out, and can be obtained from Messrs E. & S. Livingstone, Teviot Place, on payment of subscription. We wish our cricketers all success. May they all turn out players of the first rank.

The Week.

Wednesday, 6th May.

Trial Cricket Match, Corstorphine. Train, Waverley, 1.55 P.M.
 Lyceum—"Bootles' Baby."
 Royal—"East Lynne."
 Albert Hall—Dr Lynn's "Conjuring Entertainment."

Thursday, 7th May.

2nd Eleven v. Asylum, at Morningside.

Saturday, 9th May.

'Varsity v. Royal High School, at Holyrood.
 George Grossmith in Music Hall, at 8 P.M.
 Cycling Club run to Rumbling Bridge: Meet at Dean Bridge. Run to Kinross: Meet at Granton. 1 P.M.

Monday, 11th May.

Edinburgh Quartette in Music Hall.
 Lyceum—"The Solicitor."
 Royal—"The Black Flag."

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Copies of "The Student" for the summer session are sent weekly, post free, to any address in the United Kingdom on payment of a subscription of 2s. 3d.

NOTE.

Secretaries of Societies are requested to send in notices of the various meetings—as early as possible.

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