

with his jolly laugh, "do you notice any likeness between our friend Bjorn here and his daughter, who poured out your coffee this morning?"

"What?" exclaim I, "your servant—that pretty little Thyra, who ought to have her portrait in the Stockholm Gallery?"

"She's my daughter," says the old Cyclops, with a gleam of fatherly pride lightening through the blackness of his gnome-like visage; "and, as you say, she'd make a rare picture.—Herre Pastor, shall I show the English gentleman over the mine?"

"Do, my good fellow, and I'll go too."

And away we go accordingly—onward, ever onward, beneath huge arches that yawn like the mouth of a sepulchre; between overhanging crags that seem already toppling to crush us in their fall; past the black mouths of subterranean galleries, like little embrasures in the great bastions of rock that shut us in; while, at every step, the light of our guide's lamp is reflected on all sides in a blaze of glory—green, blue, yellow, purple—like a dream of the "Arabian Nights." Not an inch of roof or wall but sparkles like a diamond; and with vista after vista of splendour ceaselessly opening before me, I am ready to imagine myself the veritable Aladdin, following his *soi-disant* uncle upon that memorable expedition to the enchanted cavern, of which we all know the result.

But at this point our cicerone interrupts us with a shout of warning, and hustles us by main force into a little shed in a cleft of the rock, with the satisfactory explanation that "we shall be smashed if we don't make haste."

"What, another blast?" ask I.

"Only one this time—that big rock up yonder," says the Cyclops, pointing to a huge pinnacle which projects far overhead, like the turret of some mediæval castle. "See—there it goes!"

And again the dead silence is broken by that tremendous roar, which, now that we are actually in the midst of it, sounds tenfold louder than ever. The great rock unfurls itself like the leaves of a book flying open, and explodes in blocks big enough to crush a house. One fragment, fully half a ton in weight, comes thundering down close to the shed wherein we are ensconced, tearing up the ice and gravel with a horrible grinding crash, that bears grisly testimony to our probable fate had we remained outside. The old miner laughs grimly.

"That came down pretty well, didn't it? We can come out now—it's all over."

And out we come accordingly. The pastor and my guide hold a whispered consultation, which ends in their announcing that they must show me one thing more before I go, and marching me through a long, low, gloomy corridor, in the crannies of which we catch an occasional glimpse of miners hard at work, for the most part in silence, but breaking out ever and anon with a snatch of some hearty old native song. At length, as we turn a sharp corner, there breaks upon us a solemn subdued light, like that of some vast cathedral, falling full upon a gigantic face that projects itself from the opposite wall—a veritable human face, vast with all the vastness of the elder world, fixed in a grand passionless calm.

"How came that here?" ask I, looking at the mighty figure with involuntary reverence.

"No one knows," answers the old miner in an awestricken whisper. "Men say it was here before ever the mine was worked, and will be here still when all is done and forgotten; but I can't tell how that may be."

And this (a fit pendant to all that had gone before) was the last sight which I saw in the mine of Dannemora.

NON-COLLEGIATE STUDENTS AT CAMBRIDGE.



WE cannot begin our subject better than by quoting from the prospectus, which is issued from time to time by the University (and which may be had on application from the Rev. R. B. Somerset, 31, Trumpington Street, Cambridge), referring to non-collegiate students:—"Students are admitted members of the University without being members of any college or hostel.

Such students keep terms by residing in Cambridge with their parents, or in lodgings duly licensed, and are entitled to be matriculated, examined, and admitted to degrees in the same manner, and with the same status and privileges, as students who are members of colleges. They are under the jurisdiction of the Vice-Chancellor and Proctor, and are required to pay due obedience to all academical regulations." These students are controlled and superintended by a Board appointed by the University, and consisting

of a certain number of resident graduates, one of whom acts as Censor. The Censor bears the same relation to non-collegiate students that the tutor of a college bears to the college undergraduate. To him the student goes for information and advice; and if he desires to present himself for any University examination, he must do so through the Censor.

We will suppose the case of one who comes up to the University as an unattached student. On his arrival at Cambridge, he first of all calls on the Censor, whose address he has previously obtained, and produces a testimonial as to character, with a reference to two respectable persons, and, if a minor, a statement from his parent or guardian that the student has his permission to reside in the University as a non-collegiate student. Should the testimonial and reference be deemed satisfactory by the Board, he is admitted by that body. He then immediately begins to "keep his term." This phrase means residence in a duly licensed lodging-house at Cambridge for a certain time (at least two-thirds of each term;

residence during nine such terms being required for the B.A., L.L.B., or M.B. degree). It is, of course, necessary that the Board should have some guarantee that the student is actually residing in Cambridge. This is effected by requiring him to repair to the rooms of the Board, and sign a book which is kept there during five days of the week. Unless there be five such signatures during the week, it is considered as lost, and counts for nothing. No student may select lodgings without the consent of the Censor, nor for more than one term in advance. The lodging-house rules prescribed for unattached students are the same as those for members of colleges. If the student intends to compete for honours in any of the Triposes, he may be a candidate for the previous examination or "Little-go" in his first term. If, however, he does not intend to compete for honours, he must wait until the end of his first year (June) before he is permitted to become a candidate for this examination. There is a fallacy abroad that a non-collegiate student is not eligible to degrees and to University honours generally as a member of a college is. This is a complete mistake. The non-collegiate student can offer himself for all examinations in precisely the same way as other students; he can compete for the same University prizes and University scholarships (the Porson prize and the International Law scholarship have been won by non-collegiate students), and he can attend the same lectures. In short, his relation to the University is precisely identical with that of a member of a college.

We now come to consider questions relating to expenditure. The principal reason that induces young men to become non-collegiate students, is the fact that the expense is much less than that incurred by the member of a college. A student, for example, who is studying moral science, and is a member of a small college, pays eighteen pounds per annum for tuition which he never receives, as all the lectures delivered in his college are on classical and mathematical subjects, with perhaps a divinity course each term.*

Dinner in hall is compulsory, and to a poor man this is a very considerable item of expenditure; there are also certain college dues which all members of colleges are compelled to pay. All these expenses have no existence for the non-collegiate student. He merely pays for those lectures which he actually attends, and has his dinners at the price he chooses to pay.

The University fees for a non-collegiate student are as follow:—On his entrance he pays two pounds as Caution Money to the Censor, at Matriculation fifteen shillings, and at the commencement of every term thirty-five shillings; and an annual capitation tax of seventeen shillings (these two latter fees are of course discontinued after the student has taken his degree). He pays a further fee of two pounds ten shillings when he enters for the previous examination, and a fee of seven pounds when he takes his degree. These are

all the University fees for non-collegiate students. The personal expense of each student will, of course, be determined by his personal habits and the length of his purse. But we may say, in order to give some idea of what the total amount of expenses may be, that there are instances of such students who have lived in Cambridge during term for fifty pounds per annum; while we should be inclined to fix the average cost at sixty pounds. None need go beyond that sum (unless he wishes to reside during the Long Vacation); any one may, if he will exercise self-denial, live on fifty-five pounds at the most. This, it will be understood, covers all expenses, excepting such luxuries as boating, football, or athletics generally.

The Clothworkers' Company have recently offered a scholarship of fifty pounds per annum, for yearly competition in natural science, to non-collegiate students at Cambridge. This affords an excellent opportunity for a young man to enter on a scientific career. By means of this scholarship, he can pass through the University and obtain his B.A. degree. It is to be hoped that these scholarships may offer a strong inducement to students of science to come to Cambridge. They will find there some of the ablest living teachers of science in this country. Should the student desire to make physics his *forte*, he will find in Professor Clerk Maxwell a true successor of the illustrious Faraday, and one of the first of living physicists. Should physiology be the branch of science to which he wishes to direct his attention, what better teachers can he have than Professor Humphry and Dr. Michael Foster? The latter indeed is generally considered to be the best teacher of physiology in England, and is doing very much for the cause of science at Cambridge.

But it may be said, "We quite admit that, so far as expense goes, the non-collegiate system is preferable to the college system, but is not the non-collegiate student isolated from others? Is it not very difficult for him to form acquaintances as the student in college can so easily do?" Formerly this reproach might be urged against the system, but it is not admissible now.

The non-collegiate students have a room to themselves, supplied with the London daily papers, the magazines and reviews. There they can meet with one another, can discuss the events of the day, and can form friendships. There are likewise a boating and a cricket club composed of non-collegiate students, and on every Saturday night during term, a non-collegiate Debating Society meets, at which social and political subjects are discussed; the president and secretary of the society being chosen from among the members. A valuable reference library for the use of non-collegiate students is in course of formation. It may be added that the number of students at present is about eighty; that is to say, a larger number than more than half the colleges at Cambridge can boast.

Such then is a brief outline of the non-collegiate system, as it at present exists in Cambridge. Its beginning has been small and little noticed by the public, but it is a seed which promises to bring forth abundant fruit after many days.

* This is not the case in large colleges such as Trinity, St. John's, or Caius; but even in these colleges the student has generally to depend ultimately on his "coach" or private tutor.