



GIRTON COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

COLLEGES FOR WOMEN.

HAVING in a previous paper* given some slight account of the various degrees and diplomas now within the reach of women, we propose in this article to devote our attention to the more important Colleges for women in Great Britain and Ireland, in which University teaching of the highest class is afforded. And in order that our subject may be sufficiently circumscribed, we must omit all notice of Colleges whose lectures are open to women and men alike, such as University and Trinity Colleges, London (the latter of which has recently opened special halls of residence for ladies attending its classes), and courses of lectures intended especially for women and organised by College authorities, such as the King's College Lectures for Women. These means for the advancement of the higher education of women may possibly form the subject of another paper at some future time. At present we would call attention rather to those Colleges which have been instituted solely and expressly to afford University teaching to women, and the majority of which provide for the residence of their students during the ordinary University terms.

Among these we propose to include the following, and to give some account of each, in the hope that the information may be of interest to many of our readers:—Girton College, Cambridge; Newnham Hall, Cambridge; Somerville Hall, Oxford; Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford; Queen's College, London; Bedford College, London; and Alexandra College, Dublin.

Girton College was first opened in October, 1869, finding temporary accommodation at Hitchin; and so great was the success of this early endeavour to provide University teaching for women, that in 1873 the College removed to a building of its own in the parish of Girton, about two miles from Cambridge. The position occupied by the College may perhaps be best explained in the words of the last report issued (July, 1879), which states that the College "is designed to hold, in relation to girls' schools and home teaching, a position analogous to that occupied by the Universities towards the public schools for boys." The memorandum of association under which the College was incorporated proceeded to state that the objects were—"To erect, maintain, and conduct a College for the higher education of women; and to take such steps as from time to time might be thought most expedient and effectual to obtain for the students of the College admission to the examinations for Degrees of the University of Cambridge, and, generally, to

* "Degrees and Diplomas for Women." October, 1879. See also *Educational Year-Book* for 1880

place the College in connection with that University." It is provided that religious instruction and services, in accordance with the principles of the Church of England, as by law established, shall be given or held in the College or in connection therewith, but attendance on such instruction or services is in no way compulsory.

Candidates for admission to the College are required to pass an Entrance Examination—the fee for which is £1—and to furnish a satisfactory certificate of character. Entrance Examinations are held in London in March and June of each year, and every candidate is required to satisfy the examiners in the following subjects:—1. Arithmetic. 2. English Grammar and Composition. 3. Physical and Political Geography. 4. English History (special period). 5. Scripture History (unless objected to by the candidate). And in any two, and not more than five, of the following optional subjects, of which *one* must be a language:—1. Latin. 2. Greek. 3. French. 4. German. 5. Algebra. 6. Geometry. 7. Trigonometry and Conic Sections (either Geometrical or Analytical). Candidates who have passed the Matriculation Examination of the University of London, or the Examination for Certificates of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board, or the Cambridge or Oxford Local Examination for Senior Students, or any one of two or three other examinations of equivalent standard, are excused from passing the Entrance Examination.

The course required in order to obtain the ordinary Degree Certificate of the College (corresponding to a Pass Degree of the University) occupies about three years, half of each year being spent in the College. For an Honours Certificate the time allowed is somewhat longer. The academical year is divided into three terms of about eight weeks each: Michaelmas, beginning about the middle of October; Lent, beginning about the end of January; and Easter, beginning in April. For students intending to read for the ordinary Degree Certificate, October is the best time for entering, while candidates for Honours may with advantage enter in April, thus gaining an additional term. Except in special cases, students are not received under the age of eighteen. The fee for board, lodging, and instruction is £35 per term, payable in advance. This sum is inclusive of all College charges.

The course of study comprises the following subjects of instruction:—Divinity, Modern Languages (English, French, and German), Classics, Mathematics (pure and mixed), Moral Science, Natural Science, History, Vocal Music. These are taught in the regular College course, but in addition arrangements are made for the attendance of students on courses of University lectures, and of lectures given in connection with the Cambridge Association for the Higher Education of Women. A certificate, called a Degree Certificate, is conferred upon any student whose proficiency has been certified to the satisfaction of the College, according to the standard of any examinations qualifying for the B.A. Degree of the University of Cambridge, provided

that such student has fulfilled, so far as in the judgment of the College was practicable, all the conditions imposed for the time being by the University on candidates for Degrees. A certificate, called a College Certificate, is also granted, the requirements for this being not quite so rigid as those for the Degree Certificate. It should, however, be clearly understood that no student of the College is *required* to try for a certificate, or to pass through certain courses of study. It is entirely optional whether the student tries for University honours or not, and in all cases a choice is allowed among the various subjects included in the course of study. Several valuable Entrance scholarships are offered annually: particulars of these may be obtained from the Secretary, Mrs. Croom Robertson, 31, Kensington Park Gardens, London, W.

Newnham Hall, Cambridge, partakes very much of the character of Girton College. It was opened in October, 1875, its special object being the reception of students coming from a distance to attend the lectures for women at Cambridge. The instruction is given by the Women's Lectures Association of Cambridge, and the students also attend the Public Lectures of the University of Cambridge, most of which are now open to women, and they may also avail themselves of the teaching of the Professors of Natural Science of the University, and have access at times to the Natural Science Museums and Laboratories.* No student is admitted under the age of seventeen. The charges for board and lodging, per term of eight weeks, are 20 guineas for ordinary students, and 15 guineas for students who are allowed by the Council to enter at reduced charges. These last are expected to give some evidence of intellectual qualification. The payment for instruction varies slightly, according to the line of study taken up, but rarely exceeds 4½ guineas per term. Grants on account of teaching are made from a special fund to promising students of scanty means. The academic year, from October to June, is divided, as at Girton College, into three terms, corresponding to those of the University of Cambridge. No examinations are compulsory on students, but the majority pass in two or three groups of the Cambridge Higher Local Examination, and then proceed to prepare for one of the University Honours Examinations, the papers being reported on informally by the University examiners. The students at Newnham Hall are not recommended to prepare for the ordinary Pass Examinations of the undergraduates of the University, but those who are not qualified, or have neither time nor inclination to prepare for one of the triposes, are commonly prepared for the Higher Local Examination—the most advanced examination provided by the

* The Newnham Hall Company and the Association for Promoting the Higher Education of Women in Cambridge have recently been incorporated as an Association not for profit, under the name of the "Newnham College Association for Advancing Education and Learning among Women in Cambridge." This new Association will own and manage the existing Hall, and a new one proposed to be built, and will organise the lectures and tuition, so that the whole work hitherto carried on by the two bodies will in future be under one management.

University for those who are not its own members. Several scholarships and exhibitions are open to students of Newnham Hall.

At Oxford two Halls have been established for the reception of students attending the Oxford Association for Promoting the Higher Education of Women, on the model of Newnham Hall, Cambridge, and themselves providing no lectures or instruction other than religious—Somerville Hall and Lady Margaret Hall.

At Somerville Hall no students are admitted under the age of seventeen years. The ordinary charges for board and lodging are 20 guineas per term, or 60 guineas for the whole year of three terms; the terms corresponding generally to those of University residence. The course of instruction is entirely in the hands of the Oxford Association, and the fees amount to about £15 per annum. In the conduct of the Hall, care is taken that members of different religious denominations are placed on the same footing. Instruction in Holy Scripture is, however, given to all those students who desire it, and special arrangements are made for private tuition in other subjects, when found necessary. There are six exhibitions in all attached to the Hall: an exhibition given by the Clothworkers' Company, of the annual value of £35, tenable for three years; the Mary Somerville Scholarship, of the annual value of £30, tenable for three years, awarded for proficiency in mathematics; and four exhibitions of the annual value of £25, tenable for two years, which must be held by students preparing to become teachers.

According to its prospectus, the object of the founders of Lady Margaret Hall has been to procure for those desirous of availing themselves of the "Association for Promoting the Higher Education of Women in Oxford" the protection and training of an academical house on the principles of the Church of England, but with provision for the liberty of members of other religious bodies. In this point lies the only material distinction between Lady Margaret and Somerville Halls. The charges for board and lodging at Lady Margaret Hall at present amount to £25 per term, or £75 per annum, for each student, exclusive of expenses strictly personal. There are no entrance-fees, but the expenses of each term must be paid in advance. It is hoped that, as the number of students increases, the charges may be lessened, and even now sisters or other ladies willing to share the same room are allowed a reduction of charge. Provision is also made in certain cases, by exhibitions or otherwise, for students whose resources are insufficient for the expenses of the course. As at Somerville Hall, the fees for instruction—amounting to about £15 per annum—are paid to the General Association, and are not included in the charges of the Hall.

The Oxford Association for Promoting the Higher Education of Women at present provides lectures in the following Pass subjects:—Latin, Greek, Modern History, Mathematics, Physical Science, Logic, and Political Economy; and in the following Honour subjects:—English, German, French, Mathematics, and Modern History. The fee for attending each course of lectures is one guinea and a half. The

Association holds periodical examinations, at which open scholarships of the annual value of £25, tenable for three years, are awarded. Full particulars of these and of the lectures may be obtained from either of the honorary Secretaries of the Association, Mrs. T. H. Green, 14, St. Giles', Oxford, or S. H. Butcher, Esq., Bradmore Road, Oxford.

Before taking leave of the four Oxford and Cambridge Colleges, it will perhaps not be out of place to mention that they are all comparatively new ventures, more or less unendowed, and that they are all in need of further funds, either for building or scholarship purposes. It is, we think, needless to add that they are all thoroughly deserving of help.

Queen's College, London, was established in 1848, and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1853, "for the general education of ladies, and for granting certificates of knowledge." The College admits students at the age of fourteen to what is termed the "Four Years' Course," during which term lectures are delivered and instruction is given in about twenty branches of knowledge. The classes are so arranged that the pupils may be competent at the end of the course to pass the Matriculation Examination of the University of London. The fees for classes meeting twice a week are 2 guineas a term, and for those meeting once a week 1½ guineas a term, but the fees may be compounded for as follows, it being understood that compounders may claim twenty-one hours' class-teaching per week:—Compounders under fifteen, 8 guineas a term; above fifteen, 10 guineas a term. There are extra charges for Drawing, Music, &c. Compounders pay an entrance-fee of one guinea.

A higher course of instruction is also provided at the College for students above eighteen years of age. Lectures are given in a variety of subjects by highly-qualified Professors, the fees being a guinea for each course of ten lectures, or 4 guineas for the whole of a term's lectures. It is intended that students preparing for the First or Second B.A. Examinations of the University of London should receive, through these lectures, the assistance they may require. Two scholarships of the value of 30 guineas per annum (or 18 guineas in addition to fees), tenable for two years, are offered for competition to students who are preparing for the London B.A. Examinations, and who have already passed the Matriculation Examination. Certificates of Associateship of the College are given to compounders and scholars of not less than six terms' standing, after examination in certain subjects. Full particulars of the scholarships, examinations, lectures, and classes may be obtained on application at the College, 43 and 45, Harley Street, W.

Bedford College, London, was founded in 1849 and incorporated by charter in 1869. Students are not admitted to the College under fourteen years of age, and they are required to pass an Entrance Examination in certain subjects, or to have previously passed some public examination held as equivalent. Students may become either "Regular Students," in which case they pursue a systematic course of study, or "Occasional Students," selecting any number of separate classes.

The work of the classes is so adjusted as to furnish due preparation and guidance for students desiring to matriculate and graduate at the University of London. Regular Students who are not less than eighteen years of age, and have conformed to certain regulations as to attendance and examinations, receive the diploma of "Associate of Bedford College." The fees for "Regular Students" are 8 guineas a term, with an entrance-fee of a guinea. "Occasional Students" pay separately for each course of lectures, the fees varying from 1 to 3 guineas. All particulars of the lectures, classes, scholarships, &c., may be obtained from the Secretary of the College, 8 and 9, Park Place, Portman Square, W.

Alexandra College, Dublin, was founded in 1866, "for the purpose of supplying defects in the existing system of education for women of the upper and middle classes—of affording an education more sound, more solid, more systematically imparted and better tested than was at that time to be obtained in Ireland." Students are admitted at the age of fifteen years, and the instruction given is principally in the form of lectures by qualified Professors. Students may attend at will any of the courses of lectures, or they may take the course of instruction recommended by the

Committee of Education, and they may reside in their own homes or in one of the two authorised houses. The charges for board and lodging in these houses amount to £55 and £50 per annum respectively. The College fees for such resident students undergoing the complete course of instruction amount to £21 per session of three terms. This charge includes attendance at five classes meeting twice a week, in addition to harmony, calisthenics, and instrumental music. Students not taking instrumental music pay £5 per term or £14 per session for five classes. The fees for single subjects vary considerably, but all particulars of them, and of the various scholarships and exhibitions, may be obtained from the Lady Superintendent at the College, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin.

At present the most advanced examinations open to students of Alexandra and other Irish Colleges are the Examinations for Women held by the University of Dublin and by the Queen's University in Ireland; but in all probability a short time only will elapse before the new Irish University will be in working order, when the women of Ireland will have the same opportunity of obtaining degrees that is now afforded by London University to students in England.

G. W.

CATERING FOR CHRISTMAS PARTIES.

PERHAPS the greatest difficulty at the present season with regard to Christmas cheer is, how to avoid sameness. Christmas Day has of course its old fixed traditions—the holly, the beef, the pudding, the little extra festivity, and above all, the irresistible feeling of "good-will towards men," that beams in most faces apparently from the simple cause of its being Christmas Day. Nor is there fear that these old traditions will ever fail. At the present time, even under the blazing midsummer sun at the Antipodes, will be found the chopped suet, the candied peel, the raisins, &c., for the pudding, in spite of the heat, simply because it is Christmas Day, and men feel that it is a sort of profanation to rob it of even one of its many old associations.

With Christmas parties, however, it is somewhat different, and Father Christmas will surely forgive me if I suggest a few additions rather than alterations to the well-known Christmas cheer. First with regard to evening parties. I think the chief cause of these pleasant gatherings being not more frequent is the expense. Is it necessary in the present day, when we all dine late, to sit down to a profusely laden table to supper, where too often more money has been spent on ornaments than on the food itself? It is an old grievance, the terrible expense of evening parties, and I cannot do better than quote one of the greatest, if not the greatest authority on the subject, M. Louis Eustache Ude, *ci-devant* cook to Louis XVI. M. Ude had mourned over the great waste generally attendant on big suppers, with the depredations of the

hosts of waiters who were generally too dainty to sup off the remains. As he justly observes—"This class of persons assimilate no little to cats, enjoying what they can pilfer, but very difficult to please in what is given to them." M. Ude says: "I ventured therefore to suggest to the nobleman whom I had the honour of serving, that a supper might be given which should suit the taste of everybody; which should satisfy at once the inviter and the invited—the guest by the novelty of the arrangement, and the host by the smallness of the expense incurred."

I think this admirable advice is none the worse for being more than half a century old, and I will give you a few of his suggestions adapted to modern times.

Ude's principal innovation was to have supper so that persons could help themselves without any trouble, and without formally sitting down to a large table. With regard to the supper itself, he recommends "things to be eaten rather than looked at," or, as an example, baskets of fruit are preferable to a triumphal car of barley-sugar.

In speaking of children's Christmas parties, I explained how nice sandwiches could be made out of tinned salmon, in which mayonnaise sauce is used instead of butter. In parties of grown-up people who have dined late, it is quite possible to make sandwiches the *pièce de résistance*, so to speak, of the supper, and yet, as Ude says, the supper shall satisfy both the inviter and the invited.

Remember, however, that sandwiches in one respect resemble oysters. A good sandwich, like a good