

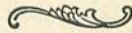
can eat at a meal, 1s. 6d. each. On the average I should say that things are six times as dear as they are in England; and yet some things are cheap, such as weigh little and are not bulky. It is the enormous cost of transport (30s. to 40s. a cwt.) that raises prices, and the deleterious effect of heat on so many classes of goods during the slow journey up in waggons.

I don't think that we hear nearly so much about the unquiet state of the country as you do in England. We get very little reliable news here; but as to the news you get in England we do not know where it is made up—*on dit* in Capetown!

Major Lanyon went to the northern border last week and brought back seventeen Bechuana prisoners; there were the most wonderful stories afloat while he was away. First, that he had been shot; then that he was surrounded by 100 natives, then by 1000, then it rose to 10,000, and suddenly it changed to news that he had surrounded

them all. It is a funny little State to have to govern; the people are fond of grumbling, but they are quite loyal. There is talk about risings of the natives around, but it only requires a little firm handling of them and all will go well. They are treated by us too much as though they were civilised, and are quite spoilt; on the other hand, I hear that on some farms—Boers and English—they are flogged unmercifully. It is difficult to arrive at the truth by hearsay only.

The Kafirs make a lot of money at the mines, and, as many of them come to work from places several hundreds of miles up country north of the Transvaal, they will soon know all about civilised life—but the worst side of it. The white people generally, in South Africa, have a strong feeling about the inferiority of black people. The blacks are not allowed to come into the white man's church; I suppose because of their odour.



## A Model Women's College

By Charles Ray

THE visitor to Egham on passing through the town and turning to the left, will come upon a high, red-brick wall extending along one side of the road as far as the eye can reach. After following this wall for about half a mile he will see, suddenly rising before him in the distance, a massive and ornate clock-tower; and a further walk will reveal, through an open gateway, a huge building, one of the finest monuments of architecture in the Thames valley. This building is the Royal Holloway College, an institution which, owing its existence to the munificence of the late Mr. Thomas Holloway, is doing a remarkable work in the higher education of women. Some idea of the size and magnificence of the college may be gathered from the facts that its cost was £800,000, and that the ground in which the college stands covers ninety-six acres of the prettiest and healthiest part of the

county of Surrey. It is by far the largest educational establishment for women in Great Britain, and probably in the whole world, and as no less a period than nine years was occupied in the erection, it will be easily understood that Egham possesses a pile of buildings of which not only Surrey but the whole country may be proud.

The college is built in the style of the French Renaissance, and is perhaps the best specimen of that school that we have in Great Britain. Before designing the building, the architect, Mr. W. H. Crossland, spent a long time in France, examining the most famous chateaux of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, especially that of Chambord, and the result of his studies and carefully thought out plans, though not brilliant perhaps in the sense that Wren's work is brilliant, certainly makes a valuable addition to the architectural treasures of the country. The college is arranged to form a double quad-

range. Two lofty buildings, 550 feet long, run parallel to each other, and are connected in the middle and at the ends by lower cross buildings, each divided into two parts by a central tower. The material used is red-brick with stone facings, and being far removed from the smoke of London and other manufacturing districts, the walls

founder, he formally stated that it was on the advice and counsel of his "dear wife, now deceased," that he founded the college "to afford the best education suitable for women of the middle and upper middle classes." The opening of the Royal Holloway College marked an epoch in the education of women, and no better way of indicating the high-



(Rischgitz, photo, London)

The chapel

look as bright and fresh as when they were first put up.

It has always been a matter for regret to those interested in the college and its work that the founder passed away before the completion of the building, and was thus unable to see the result of his munificence. The Royal Holloway College is the most important educational institution for women that has been established in the last quarter of a century, and it is interesting to know that it owes its origin to a woman, for although Mr. Thomas Holloway was the

water mark which civilisation has reached in this country could be devised than by directing attention to the college at Egham.

The institution is open to all girls over seventeen years of age, irrespective of nationality or religion, who can furnish certificates of good character and sound health, and who can pass an entrance examination. Those desirous of going through the college course need not study for university examinations, although in the case of girls who win scholarships it is

expected that they will work for an honours' degree for the sake of the college whose benefits they are receiving. The authorities are, at the present time, de-

their duty to God, and he expressed the desire that the domestic life of the college should be "that of an orderly Christian household." Every morning during the



(Rischgitz, photo, London)

The library

sirous of increasing the number of young women in the college not studying for any particular examination, provided, of course, that they are *bonâ fide* students with some specific course of reading in view. One thing the founder was very emphatic in expressing his views upon was, that the establishment should never develop into a mere training college for teachers and governesses, but that it should be open to all women anxious to pursue a higher course of education than is provided in the schools. Although no religious test is imposed upon those entering the college, the founder's wish was that the tone of the institution should be religious to the extent of impressing most forcibly upon the minds of the students their individual responsibility and

college session the students gather in the chapel, and Miss Penrose, the Principal, conducts a simple religious service, consisting of a psalm, a hymn, the reading of a portion of Scripture, and prayer. Should any student have a conscientious objection to such a service she may be exempted from attendance.

On Sundays a Church of England service is conducted at 11.30 A.M. by clergymen invited by the Dean of Windsor. These are often prominent ecclesiastics, and among those who have recently officiated are the Bishop of Southampton, the Bishop of Winchester, the Dean of Worcester, and the Principal of King's College, London. Of course, the majority of the students belong to the Anglican communion, but there are a considerable number of Nonconformists, and

for the benefit of these a service is conducted in the chapel on every alternate Sunday, at 10 A.M., by some prominent Free Church minister. Dr. Fairbairn attends from time to time for this purpose, and other famous Nonconformist preachers who have visited Egham are Dr. Dallinger and Dr. John Watson ("Ian Maclaren"). No difficulty is experienced in thus using the chapel for different kinds of services, as it has not been consecrated, it being the express wish of the founder that the college should never be associated with any particular denomination. Holy Communion is celebrated on certain Sundays at 8 A.M., and a service is conducted by the Principal every Sunday at 7 P.M. Arrangements are also made for students to attend the churches of their various denominations in the neighbourhood, and this is always done in the case of Roman Catholics, of whom several have studied at Holloway College.

The chapel, situated on the left of the

main entrance immediately under the shadow of the clock-tower, is a fine chamber very generously decorated. The ceiling is painted and the walls illuminated, whilst the stalls, arranged longitudinally on either side, are of richly carved oak. An interesting feature of the chapel is the stained-glass window presented by Miss Bishop, the first principal. In one of the lights of this is a portrait of the late Archbishop Benson attired as a mediæval prelate. The psalter has been arranged for use in the chapel with music to suit girls' voices by the Rev. Walter Marshall, formerly of Windsor, and Miss Emily Daymond, a former lecturer of the college, who recently received the degree of Doctor of Music at Oxford, the first woman to receive such an honour at that university.

Royal Holloway College was opened by Queen Victoria in 1886, and in the following year commenced work with twenty-eight students. Gradually the number has increased until in the present year the course



(Rischgitz, photo, London)

The picture-gallery

began with 133. The college can accommodate about two hundred students, but the full number has never yet been enrolled in any one year, although if the progress continues at its present rate, it will not be long before the institution is taxed to its limits. The resident staff of lady lecturers, including the Principal and Vice-Principal, now numbers fourteen, and there are three male professors, who live in the town and give all their time to the college, whilst in addition to these a large number of eminent professors go over from Oxford and Cambridge at certain times, so that from the point of view of efficient teaching no college could be better equipped.

The institution at Egham is unique among women's colleges in that it works for two universities, those of London and Oxford. Students are prepared for the degrees in Arts and Science at London, and for the Classical Moderations, Mathematical Moderations, and Mathematical Greats at Oxford. The successes have been phenomenal. Very large numbers have graduated, and one of the former students of Holloway College has just become a Doctor of Science of London University, whilst another has taken the Ph.D. at the German University of Göttingen, and a third has taken first class honours in Mathematical Moderations and Greats and B.A. Honours at London University.

So far as the scientific laboratories are concerned, Royal Holloway College is equipped as well as the best educational institution in the country. The chemical, physical, and botanical laboratories each consists of a suite of rooms with all the very latest appliances, and fitted up in such a way that nothing can be wanting to the students. These rooms, as indeed the whole college, are lighted by electricity made at the *dépôt* in the grounds, and they are so commodious as to provide ample accommodation for a full number of students. The chemical laboratory is situated in the grounds, some distance from the main building. For the botanical laboratory some of the specimens dealt with are reared in the grounds, and there is a special botanical garden in which plants are grown according to their classes.

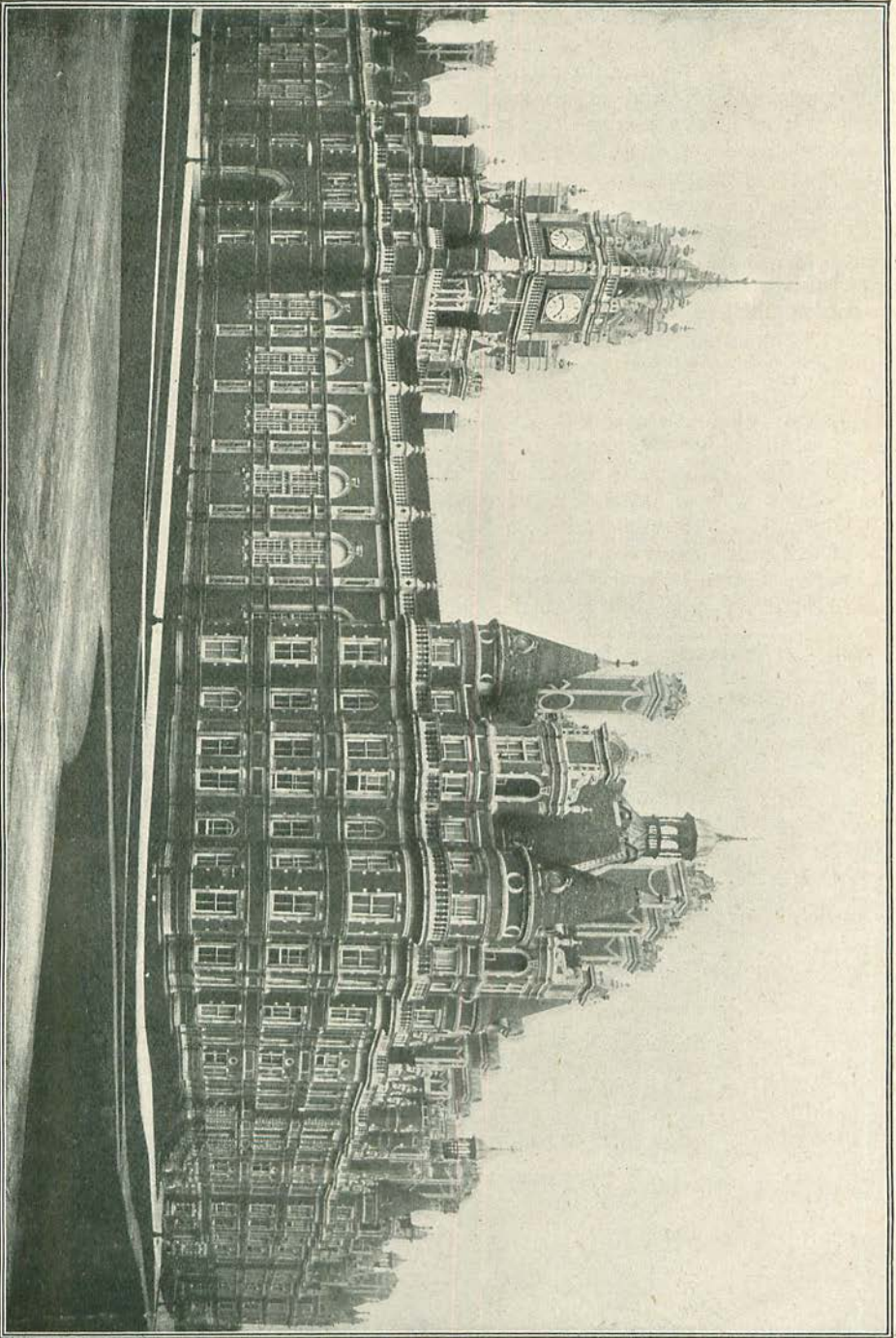
The college has a well selected library of

books, housed in a sumptuous apartment, and £150 a year is spent in adding to the stock of volumes. No fiction is purchased, although several series of standard novels have been presented to the college from time to time. A great feature of this library is the carefully selected and representative collection of German and French books, no great author of these nationalities being unrepresented. The regulations of the library are very broad and quite free from the petty restrictions which mar to a great extent the usefulness of such adjuncts to schools and colleges. Miss Guinness, the vice-principal, acts as librarian, and under her care this department of the college has proved an increased boon to the students.

But perhaps the most remarkable feature of the Royal Holloway College, though not the most valuable from an educational point of view, is the picture-gallery. The paintings were purchased for the college by direction of Mr. Holloway, and form as representative a collection of the English school as could possibly be got together. Turner, Constable, Morland, Long, Millais, are all represented, and some of the pictures are widely known. For instance, hanging on the walls of the gallery are Frith's popular painting "The Railway Station," Millais' "Princes in the Tower," and "Princess Elizabeth," and Landseer's "L'Homme propose."

The room in which these pictures are housed is a fine apartment over a hundred feet in length, with a lofty ceiling, and with a perfect system of lighting both natural and artificial. The gallery is opened to the public on Thursday afternoons throughout the year. This room is also used occasionally for concerts and entertainments. No new pictures are being bought at the present time, but the collection as it stands now is of immense value from an artistic as well as from a monetary point of view. The pictures are greatly appreciated by the students who are allowed to visit the gallery at all hours, and the curator's lectures on the paintings given from time to time are always well attended.

Only those who have been over Holloway College can have any idea of the comfort



*(Risograph, photo, London)*

The south-west front, Royal Holloway College

and advantages which the students enjoy. Certainly in no other girls' college can a course of study be pursued in such favourable circumstances, and at so small an outlay. The fees are only £90 a year, which includes the cost of living as well as the advantages of teaching. Each girl has a comfortable, bright, and well-furnished study to herself, with an equally attractive bedroom immediately facing the study, on the opposite side of the corridor. On each floor, too, there are common rooms, in which the girls can gather for recreation and discussion. Meals, with the exception of tea, are taken in the spacious dining-hall between the quadrangles, the kitchen being conveniently situated on the opposite side of the central vestibule. This dining-hall, which will comfortably seat over 200 people, is fitted and furnished in light oak. The students' tables are placed across the room from side to side, whilst the principals and staff sit at an elevated table in the middle of the hall.

The meals consist of breakfast in the morning, lunch at mid-day, and dinner at seven o'clock in the evening. Tea is served on each corridor in the students' own rooms.

Every care is taken by the Principal and her assistants of the students' health, and a trained nurse is on the permanent staff of the college, the best medical assistance being available at a moment's notice. The college stands upon high ground in one of the healthiest parts of England, and it speaks well for the situation that no epidemic has ever been known at the college, not even that universal complaint—influenza. A small sanatorium stands in the grounds where infectious cases can be isolated, but nothing more serious has occurred at any time than one or two cases of measles and a couple of mild cases of scarlet fever.

To guard against fire every possible precaution is taken, and hand-pumping engines, with hose attached, are stationed all over the building, the students going through



(Rischgitz, photo, Lonaon)

The dining-hall

a course of fire-drill at frequent intervals. The college is in telephonic communication with the Egham fire brigade headquarters. On two occasions small fires have broken

swimming-bath in which tuition is given regularly. No student is allowed to row upon the river until she has obtained from the college a certificate of proficiency in



(Rischgitz, photo, London)

A typical student's room

out and have been extinguished with the utmost promptitude by the well-drilled students, who set about their work in a most businesslike manner. All over the building printed directions are posted up telling students what to do in case of fire, and such a thing as a dangerous panic is practically an impossibility.

The college has never been troubled with burglars, and, indeed, there is little fear of any such annoyance for a watchman patrols the corridors all night, recording his rounds upon a tell-tale register.

The sports and recreations of the students include, hockey, tennis, cricket, and swimming, the college possessing a magnificent

swimming. At least once in the year dramatic representations are given in the grounds by the students, and these have proved increasingly successful. Scenes have been rendered recently from "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Pride and Prejudice." Royal Holloway College is particularly happy in possessing such magnificent grounds, which are kept in perfect order and with the best of taste. There is an old English rose garden, and on the extensive lawns the grass feels under the feet like a carpet of velvet. Some of the students take a keen interest in gardening, and for their benefit plots are set aside which they may cultivate in any way they



think fit. Perhaps the most historic gathering in the grounds since the opening of the college was that which celebrated the advent of Peace recently. A huge bonfire was lighted and a torchlight procession marched round the college. This was just before the close of the term, and the students entered into the celebrations with a zest only possible at "breaking-up" time.

All the old students of Holloway College cherish a deep affection for their *alma mater*, and there is an "old girls" society known as the Royal Holloway College Association which now numbers 300 members. Two gatherings of these former students are held annually, one at the college on the Saturday before Whit Sunday and the other in London during the winter. In addition to this there is a host of societies and clubs connected with the college, such as the Tennis Club, the Hockey Club, the Chard Society (dramatic), the Chapel Choir, the Choral Society, the String Band, the Political Society, the Literary Society, the Classical Club, the German Reading Society, the Science Discussion Society, the Botanical

Club, the Christian Union, the Lambeth Association which supports a club for the benefit of working girls in Lambeth, the Waif and Stray Needlework Society, and the Women's University Settlement at Southwark.

It must not be forgotten that Royal Holloway College owes its success in a very large measure to the ability, learning, and tact of its principals. The first principal was Miss M. E. Bishop, who, to the regret of the governors, retired in 1897. She was succeeded by Miss E. Penrose, Principal of Bedford College, who had a very distinguished career at Oxford and was for a short time a lecturer under one of the University Extension societies. Miss Penrose is a member of the Senate of London University, being one of the three women members of that distinguished body. The Vice-Principal, Miss E. M. Guinness, formerly a student of the college, in the second year, after finishing her course and distinguishing herself at Oxford, remained on at Egham as lecturer and librarian, and was recently appointed to her present post.



### An Idler

ALL the day though the finches flash and hover,  
And in farlands not a seed discover  
But sweet horns of growth are at the core;—

Though the king-gull call his clan to follow  
Over snow honeycombed along the hollow,  
Where rivals cloud the silver shore;—

Though the thrush, busy building, set a-tremble,  
Every white thorn-bush or scarlet bramble;—  
Remote in the wood, I hear a dove

(Through the haste of the year at rest and lonely),  
Mid the young leaves make a music only:  
"O Beloved, O Love, O my Love!"

LOUISE IMOGEN GUINEY.