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Visit to Harvard College

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A Visit to Harvard College.

During this last April vacation, I accepted an invitation that I had received a long while ago, to visit Harvard College. Although it was the beginning of vacation at the college, I had the privilege of visiting certain places, where visitors are not generally allowed to go.

The college property extends over a large tract of land, but the most interesting departments are at the main buildings at Harvard Square.

I entered the grounds at the nearest entrance and first visited Lever Hall. This building has been added to the group recently. It is built somewhat in the Queen Anne Style, of red brick, with trimmings and roof of the same color. The trimmings look very much like terra-cotta work, but they are made of powdered red brick.

This very conspicuous building is used for recitations and lectures. In the basement of Lever Hall is the wonderful fan, for sending the heat all over the building more evenly. It looked to me, like a very large wheel revolving, but as it

was moving so rapidly, I could not distinguish its shape exactly. The place was so very warm I did not stay there long enough to ask questions about it.

Near the fan, or, I suppose, in the engineer's room, is one of those gas burners, which I have often heard of. It never has to be lighted. A little cap or cover shuts down over the flame, and by turning a screw this cover opens and shuts.

Standing in the doorway of Scovell Hall, at your left is a large granite building. This is the library of the College. I was just allowed to look in here and get a faint idea of it, as it is not a public building. At the left of the library is another granite building, the chemical laboratories. I stopped here only long enough to see a few specimens of the different minerals, for I am not a great lover of chemistry. Near the laboratory is a small brown stone building where Edward Everett had his study.

The rest of the buildings situated on the triangle are dormitories, each one called by the name of the person who ^{has} donated it to the college. One of these buildings, Massachusetts Hall, is the oldest of the corporation, and one of the corner corners of this building was General Haven's.

I next crossed Howard Street and reached the Gymnasium. Connected with this building is a physician, who examines each student as he enters and tells him what muscles are the weakest. If the student wishes he can practice and develop his weakest muscles.

At the right of the Gymnasium-room are shower bath departments. Up stairs ~~is~~ the foot-rising and the sewing room, where they exercise in winter for the summer races. In the basement are the bowling alleys, dumb-bell, base-ball, and boxing rooms. The Professor in boxing was there and very kindly showed me the different things, although he could not speak English very well.

I went to Memorial Hall next, the most beautiful of all the buildings. This was erected in memory of the graduates of the college, who fell in the late war. Around the top of the building, on the outside, in brown stone, are busts of distinguished men. At the end of the building opposite Howard Square is the large dining hall. The walls are hung with portraits of historical and poetical characters, with the names of each accompanying. The windows of the hall are very large, and it is the

intention now to have each class that graduates give a stained glass window. There are now, I believe, four beautiful ones.

The other end of the building is Lauder's Theatre. This is not a very large theatre¹ but ^{is} very pretty in design. Above the platform is a long inscription in Latin. It was very cold in the theatre, the day of my visit, so I did not stay long enough to translate it, for fear that it would take too long.

At the right of the platform is a life size statue of President Quincy, in the act of presenting a diploma. The president now at graduations dresses in the same manner as represented in the statue.

Between the theatre and dining hall, in the hall-way¹ are tablets erected to all the slain graduates, giving their names and the battles in which they fell.

The most interesting place I left until the last. This is the Agassiz Museum, but this is always open to the public, certain hours in the day, Sundays included. The museum, with the Trinity School, is quite a distance from the other buildings.

It would be useless to undertake to describe anything that I saw in the Museum, for indeed I saw almost everything that belongs to the vegetable, animal and mineral Kingdoms.

The most interesting to me were the bird and curiosity departments. By my visit, I formed a clearer idea of the manners and customs of the Indians. I should think that anyone seeing specimens of the Indian's handiwork and inventions would be almost convinced that the Indians, with teaching, would excel many white-people in genius.

very well done.

(91)
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