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REMINISCENCES OF EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.

As the system of providing rooms within the college, so general in England, is altogether unknown in Scotland, the Scottish student's first duty is, a "search for lodgings." This indeed is a duty that calls into early and active exercise those qualities of shrewdness, caution and patient research for which the Scotch are so justly celebrated. Various elements must enter into a successful transaction of this description—locality, street, rooms, rent, and "landlady." The kinds of lodgings are as varied as are the steps in the social ladder of the old country. The son of the wealthy "laird," banker or merchant, can hire luxurious apartments in the new town of Edinburgh at a weekly rent of five or six dollars, exclusive of board. Middle life affects the new town, but contents itself with plebeian streets and upper flats. The poor student who is fighting his way, unaided, to a university degree retires to the old town where respectable lodgings, without board, can be had in narrow and dingy streets for one dollar per week. Some brave fellows, whose means are small, but whose thirst for knowledge is great, take to roost in the sixth or seventh story of the wonderful pile of masonry that crowns the High Street, where often soul and body are kept together for the six months of the college session at something bordering on a dollar and a half per week, including the luxury of a clean shirt once, it may be, in the fortnight.

As many often as 1300 students are matriculated in a single session at the University of Edinburgh. It is interesting to lounge on the steps of the noble portico that conducts into the plain but massive buildings of this institution, and to watch, thence, the new arrivals as they crowd into the matriculation office, kept then by a son of Professor John Wilson, and now, by Alexander Smith—author of "A life Drama"—secretary of the university. Alongside the Duke of Argyle, and towering above