

professors, arising largely, no doubt, from the fact that only those are appointed to instruct who have given evidence of their own ability to advance their department, but little weight being laid on the mere "talent for teaching." Many of the universities repudiate attachment to any particular school or creed, professing only to follow the interests of science and learning. There is hence no obstacle to the discussion, in a scientific spirit, of any scientific question whatever by either student or professor. Roman Catholic and Evangelical (Lutheran) Theology may be taught in the same building, as witness Bonn, Breslau, and Tuebingen.

Another very noticeable feature is the dignified behaviour of students in the lecture room, conduct which would necessitate a reproof being an unheard of thing. No student could possibly so disgrace himself. The same statement holds true in their intercourse with each other. Even in their convivial gatherings contraventions of the strict requirements of etiquette are severely dealt with.

A regrettable feature at all German universities is the great lack of out-door athletics, so inseparably connected with English and American institutions. Exercises in the gymnasium and in fencing by no means form an adequate equivalent, and especially so, as they are indulged in almost entirely by the corps, or color-wearing students, belonging to either the "Landsmannschaften," (societies composed of students of the same nationality), or to the "Burschenschaft," which has for its aim the encouragement of good fellowship irrespective of nationality.

These societies are national in character, pertaining to no one university more than to another, and it is largely through them, especially the former, that duelling amongst the students has been maintained. The great mass of the students, however, belong to neither of these.

Having studied faithfully three, four or five years, as the case may be, the student finally arrives at the conclusion that he is

now ready for examination. He applies hence to the dean of his faculty for permission to present himself, handing in at the same time manuscript notes of practical and original work which he has done in his chosen department during his student course, together with the book (given him at the beginning of his course) containing a complete list of all lectures attended by him, names of the lecturers, and also of the different universities he may have attended. If everything is satisfactory, and his thesis deemed of sufficient merit, the desired permission is granted. A day is set, the examiners duly notified, and then for the first, and we will hope the last time in his university career, the student, attired in conventional dress suit, with silk hat and white kids, is confronted by inquisitors, whose lectures perhaps he may never have attended, and for a space of some hours put through a sweating process, the like of which he has never before experienced. The examination throughout is oral, thus enabling the examiners to flit about rapidly from one topic to another, and to cover what, to the suffering candidate for a degree, appears to be an enormous extent of territory.

Having, we will suppose, happily passed through this ordeal, there follows in due course the public defence of the student's thesis against opponents, who now-a-days are usually chosen by the candidate himself, but who must, however, be satisfactory to the faculty. These, in turn, attack certain of his statements, which it is his duty to defend, and by his defence to give evidence of a thorough grasp of the subject. Not a very pleasant task for a foreigner, I can assure you, even though the whole process is more of a formality than anything else, the real examination, the rigorosum, being the first one.

During this defence the student stands on a platform one step higher than his opponents and two steps above the spectators, and at its conclusion he calls upon the dean to grant him an entrance into the ranks of the doctorate, which is duly done by reaching him the right hand of