

a huge underground sewer. A good deal of the quaint old masonry was removed in later years to form an entrance gateway to the magnificent new university on Gilmore Hill and the old college was entirely obliterated; but it served its day well, and from its halls went forth many distinguished men.

At the time I speak of, Dr. Surlington was the new professor of Greek in succession to Sir Daniel Keyte Sandford and was my lenient examiner; he had a very brilliant career. His predecessor was even more distinguished. He was a son of Bishop Sandford of Edinburgh and was a very eminent scholar and litterateur. He died at the early age of 40 years, February 4th, 1838, and was buried in the old kirk-yard of Rothsay where his wife and four daughters were laid beside him. Three of his sons, as I have already said, were my school-mates at the Grange Academy and came to occupy prominent positions.

The students were distinguished from the other citizens by the bright scarlet gowns with open sleeves which they wore on all occasions and not infrequently brought them into collision with the "keelies," or street arabs, between whom and "colly dongs" as the students were called, there existed a perpetual state of warfare. Their usual salutation to us was this—"colly dong, lift up your lug and let the gentle by ye." Sometimes pitched battles took place, when stones and clubs were freely used, and the ringleaders marched off to the police office.

Politics ran high in Glasgow College. Sir Robert Peel, leader of the Conservative party in the House of Commons had been elected Lord Rector of the University in 1836, and the grand victory of the Tories was signalized by the institution of "The Peel Club." But in my year (1838) he was defeated at the polls by Sir James Graham, the equally noted leader of the Whigs in Parliament. The election was carried on with tremendous vim. For this purpose the students were by statute divided into four classes called "nations." (1) The Natio Glottiana, all those born in Lanarkshire. (2) Natio Transforthana, all born north of the Frith of Forth. (3) Natio Rothseana, including Bute, Renfrew and Ayr. (4) Natio Londoniana, the students not included in any of the other nations.