

U. C. COLLEGE EXHIBITIONS. [207]

Mr. Cockburn apparently justifies the insult which he at present annually offers to Grammar School Masters, in his Exhibition Circulars, by the following considerations: 1. The alleged assistance given to poor boys by means of these Exhibitions. 2. The alleged fact that U. C. College is "something more than a Grammar School." 3. The alleged fact that, in any case, the quality of the teaching done at U. C. College is superior to the instruction offered by Grammar Schools. These allegations we shall proceed to examine *seriatim*.

1. *How far are poor boys assisted in preparing for the University by obtaining U. C. College Exhibitions?*

These Exhibitions are awarded annually on an examination in the subjects of the 4th and the 5th forms. That is to say, a boy must have completed the most important part of his University preparation before he is assisted in preparing for the University! That the most important part of his preparation has been accomplished, is manifest from the following considerations. The "forms," through which U. C. College pupils pass, are six in number, and represent as many years of study. [208] It is, therefore, evident that boys who have completed the course prescribed for the 4th form have, *even in the contemplation of U. C. College*, completed also four-sixths or two-thirds of their University preparation. Now this is the lowest standing which boys must occupy who compete for these Exhibitions. But, as even the least advanced of the boys entering the fifth form, has completed two-thirds of his University preparation, it is manifest that a County Grammar School boy who obtains an Exhibition over all the other boys entering the fifth form, must have completed considerably more than two-thirds of his preparation for the University. Similarly, when a County Grammar School boy obtains an Exhibition on his entrance into the *sixth* form, he must have already acquired, elsewhere, considerably more than five-sixths of his University preparation. And it is from such boys as have respectively acquired in the County Grammar Schools considerably more than two-thirds and more than five-sixths of their University preparation, that the University Honor-men claimed by U. C. College, are chiefly recruited. Daniel Rylie, in this way, owed to the Toronto Grammar School, considerably more than five-sixths of his Classical and Mathematical training. On the whole, then, it appears that U. C. College defers assistance by her Exhibitions until assistance has become unnecessary. This is the first point. And the second point is the value to the recipients of the Exhibitions themselves.

There are, in the subjects of each of the 4th and 5th forms (tenable in the next higher form respectively), four Exhibitions, [209] the first

207 Mr. Cockburn, while on the Exhibition question, singles out, for his impotent malice, two of the Masters, and states that their pupils "have never carried off even the lowest of these eight Exhibitions." This statement is certainly intended to convey the injurious impression that the pupils of those Masters *competed* for Exhibitions, *which they have never done!*

208 *Vide* any of Mr. Cockburn's numerous vain-glorious circulars.

209 *Ibidem* !!