

the owners were absent on this Sunday. The singing was confined to a couple of Psalms.

After Church we strolled up to College, where we remained until the time for afternoon service. I was prepared, as I have shewn, to look upon everything done by a student of King's College with awe and admiration, and I was particularly struck this afternoon by the appearance and sentiments of one of the students, who came into the room where we were sitting after dinner. He was arrayed in a gorgeous dressing-gown and smoking-cap to match, with a large meerschaum in his mouth. Taking his seat with easy dignity, he gave utterance, between the puffs of smoke, to various weighty observations, and at last made some remarks which seemed to call in question the doctrine of Divine Providence. No opportunity occurred for farther discussion, but I returned home with the impression that such were the ordinary subjects of conversation in the rooms of the Undergraduates. I was already familiar with Milton, and picturing to myself the effects of such conversation on the uninstructed mind, like those who

reasoned high  
Of providence, foreknowledge, will, and fate;  
Fixed fate, freewill, foreknowledge absolute;  
And found no end, in wandering mazes lost.

I felt the necessity of suitable reading before attempting to take part in such learned discussions. Under this impression, I carefully read Paley's *Natural Theology*, but I need hardly inform those familiar with College life, that I had not many opportunities for ventilating the knowledge thence obtained, in ordinary after-dinner conversation.

On the following morning I underwent the Examination for Matriculation, at the hands of the Vice-President, the President being absent, and found the ordeal much less severe than I had anticipated. I then bade farewell for a twelvemonth to my Alma Mater, filled with high aspirations and visions of future intellectual pleasures and triumphs.

And here I may be permitted a short digression on the subject of Matriculation. I do not think that parents and guardians are