

## CORRESPONDENCE.

*To the Editors of the UNIVERSITY GAZETTE.*

DEAR SIRS,

Understanding that you are about to re-commence the publication of the Gazette, I take this opportunity of wishing you success, and at the same time of thanking you for thus affording a medium through which we, the undergraduates, may pour our grievances into the ears of the public, as well as into those of the Faculty. The particular grievance which I am at present desirous of bringing to your notice may justly be styled the boarding house nuisance. Already some complaints have been made respecting the absence of residences in connection with the College; but the authorities appear to be abouring under the delusion that the students are satisfied with the present state of affairs, and have made no move in the matter. Possibly they are deterred from taking steps in the matter by the thoughts, that it would be scarcely in place to solicit subscriptions for the erection of residences for the students, as long as those buildings, which were intended by the Founders of the University for the use of the Undergraduates, are occupied by officers of the Corporation; and that the benefactors of the Institution, whilst they would no doubt be willing to subscribe liberally towards any object calculated to promote the comfort of the students, would have a decided objection to furnishing the Professors and other Officers of the Corporation with dwellings, to which use, under the present regime such buildings if erected would certainly be applied. The clauses in the calendar under the head of Licensed Boarding-houses may have the effect of convincing some gentleman, unacquainted with the facts of the case, that here his son, residing in one of these model houses, will be constantly under the eye of the Faculty who will train him in the way he should go; but in one acquainted with boarding houses and their keepers, this attempt of the Faculty to check the student will excite merely ridicule. I am glad, however, that these restrictions have been made, even although they cannot be carried into effect, since they prove that the authorities are convinced, that, boarding in the city free from all restraint is not the thing for young and

impulsive students. When the license system has been demonstrated a farce residences must be built. At the opening lecture the Students were advised, above all things to secure comfortable rooms. With all due deference, I think the learned Professor must at the time have been speaking sarcastically, since comfortable rooms, in my experience at least, are rarely to be found in a boarding house. In a comfortable room the air should be pure and at the same time warm, but in the majority of instances it is destitute of either one or the other of these attributes. To secure warmth, pure air must be sacrificed, and if pure air is desired, one can obtain it only by being content to live and study in a room, the temperature of which approaches zero. Then it is of the greatest advantage to one to be constantly associating with the men of one's own class and with those of the more advanced classes. The benefits derived from such an intercourse are numerous. It engenders a good feeling and a clannish spirit among the students, who thus form a circle of their own and keep aloof from those individuals whose influence tends only towards a neglect of work. Again by constant conversation and discussion in reference to the studies which they prosecute, and by an exchange of opinion the undergraduates derive a great advantage and make much more rapid progress in their work. It is scarcely necessary to say that at present there is no opportunity for cultivating that good feeling and clannish spirit, or for conversation, discussion or an exchange of opinion; that the students are scattered and lose that influence which they would have as a body; and that, instead of associating with those of their class, become the companions of those very individuals to beware of whom they were cautioned in the opening lecture, viz: idle men; men whose influence tends towards anything but the cultivating of a taste for study and good morals. Here Mr. Editors, I cease, lest I weary you with complaints; but let me express the wish that when the Faculty become convinced of the inutility of the regulations concerning boarding houses, buildings will be erected on the College grounds in which the students may reside and pursue their studies apart from the noise, inconvenience and discomfort