

Oxford. No other professor could have achieved that. The road was made, but was also soon washed away, and, of course, Ruskin was laughed at, though the labour undergone by his pupils did them no doubt a great deal of good, even though it did not benefit the inhabitants of the village for any length of time. It was sad to see Ruskin leave Oxford estranged from many of his friends, dissatisfied with his work, which nevertheless was most valuable and highly appreciated by young and old. His spirit still dwells in the body and if anyone may look back with pride and satisfaction upon the work which he has achieved, it is surely Ruskin.

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"Another though less frequent visitor at Oxford was Tennyson. His first visit to our house was rather alarming. We lived in a small house in High street, nearly opposite Magdalen College, and our establishment was not calculated to receive sudden guests, particularly a Poet Laureate. He stepped in one day during the long vacation, when Oxford was almost empty. Wishing to show the great man all civility, we asked him to dinner that night and breakfast the next morning. At that time almost all the shops were in the market, which closed at one o'clock. My wife, a young housekeeper, did her best for our unexpected guest. He was known to be a gourmand, and at dinner he was evidently put out at finding the sauce with the salmon was not the one he preferred. He was pleased, however, with the wing of a chicken, and said that it was the only advantage he got from being Poet Laureate, that he generally received the liver-wing of a chicken. The next morning at breakfast, we had rather plumed ourselves on having been able to get a dish of cutlets, and were not a little surprised, when our guest arrived, to see him whip off the cover of the hot dish, and to hear the exclamation, 'Mutton chops! the staple of every bad inn in England.' However, these were but minor matters, though not without importance in the eyes of a young wife to whom Tennyson had been like one of the Immortals. He was full of interest and full of inquiries about the East, more particularly about Indian poetry, and I believe that it was then that I told him that there was no rhyme in Sanskrit poetry, and ventured to ask him why there should be in English. He was not so offended as Samuel Johnson seems to have been, who would probably have answered my question by 'You are a great fool, sir; use your own judgment,' while Tennyson gave the very sensible answer that rhyme assisted the memory.

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"It was generally after dinner, when smoking his pipe and sipping his whiskey and water, that Tennyson began to thaw, and to take a more active part in conversation. People who have not known him then, have hardly known him at all. During the day he was often very silent and absorbed in his own thoughts, but in the evening he took an active part in the conversation of his friends. His pipe was almost indispensable to him, and I remember one time when I and several friends were staying at his house, the question of tobacco turned up. I confessed that for years I had been a perfect slave to tobacco, so that I could neither read nor write a line without smoking, but that at last I had rebelled against this slavery, and had entirely given up tobacco. Some of his friends taunted Tennyson that he could never give up tobacco. 'Anybody can do that,' he said, 'if he chooses to do it.' When his friends still continued to doubt and to tease him, 'Well,' he said, 'I shall give up smoking from to-night.' That very same evening I was told that he threw his pipes and his tobacco out of the window of his bedroom. The next day he was most charming, though somewhat self-righteous. The second day he became very moody and captious, the third day no one knew what to do with him. But after a dis-

turbed night I was told that he got out of bed in the morning, went quietly into the garden, picked up one of his broken pipes, stuffed it with the remains of the tobacco scattered about, and then, having had a few puffs, came to breakfast all right again. Nothing was ever said any more about giving up tobacco.

"He once very kindly offered to lend me his house in the Isle of Wight; 'but mind,' he said, 'you will be watched from morning till evening.' This was in fact his great grievance that he could not go out without being stared at. Once taking a walk with me and my wife on the downs behind his house, he suddenly started, left us, and ran home, simply because he had descried two strangers coming towards us.

"I was told that he once complained to the Queen, and said that he could no longer stay in the Isle of Wight, on account of the tourists who came to stare at him. The Queen, with a kindly irony, remarked that she did not suffer much from that grievance, but Tennyson, not seeing what she meant, replied, 'No, madam, and if I could clap a sentinel wherever I liked, I should not be troubled either.'

"It must be confessed that people were very inconsiderate. Rows of tourists sat like sparrows on the paling of his garden, waiting for his appearance. The guides were actually paid by sightseers, particularly by those from America, for showing them the great poet. Nay, they went so far as to dress up a sailor to look like Tennyson, and the result was that, after their trick had been found out, the tourists would walk up to Tennyson and ask him, 'Now, are you the real Tennyson?' This, no doubt, was very annoying, and later on Lord Tennyson was driven to pay a large sum for some useless downs near his house simply in order to escape from the attentions of admiring travellers."

Convocation Notes.

EDITORS.

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In consideration of a grant of \$100.00 a year this space is set aside for the use of the Convocation of the University. Copies of the REVIEW are sent free to associate members who are not graduates, and to Headmasters of High Schools and Collegiate Institutes.

The usual monthly meeting of the Executive Committee was held on Tuesday, 20th inst. There were present the Chairman (Mr. Cumberland), the Provost, Professors Jones and Cayley, Messrs. J. A. Worrell, D. T. Symons, K. Martin, N. F. Davidson, W. H. White, C. S. MacInnes, Rev. H. B. Gwyn and the Clerk.

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A communication from the convener of the Lecture Committee was read, resigning his position upon the committee. The resignation was laid over for the present, and it was decided to request Mr. Montgomery to act on the committee.

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The advertisements of Trinity decided upon have been published in *Acta Ridleriana* and the *U.C.C. Times*. We understand that arrangements have been made to present a framed photograph of Trinity to each of the three boarding schools, T.C.S., U.C.C., and Ridley.

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It is hoped to take steps immediately for a campaign to push the Sustentation Fund. Books have been provided for canvassers and the movement ought to result in definitely increasing our annual income. Nothing further has been done with regard to the establishment of a Lecture-