

stane the Saxon at the battle of Haddington. This untoward event, which happened while Varno was still a mere boy, induced his mother, who was of the royal line, to remove to Abernethy, where he was soon placed under the care of the College of Culdees, then eminent and famed for literature and piety. In a short time his progress in learning was the boast of his teachers, nor did old warriors refuse commendation, when, with youthful compeers, the young chief of Castle Clatchart threw the spear and wielded the battle-axe in mimic warfare.

Abernethy was then the chief seat of regal sway, and the only town in Caledon where literature and the arts found friends and a resting place. Were old chronicles worthy of half credence, and did tradition deserve belief to even the twentieth part of its assertions, the capital of the Picts must then have been a city of vast importance. See yonder, where the Earn stretches with sudden bend through wood and corn field; viewed from hence you would think it almost watered the green base of the Ochills. There tradition says the stately walls of Abernethy marked her western boundary. From thence, and stretching north and east along the river's banks, true to all its fantastic sinuosities, the unbroken line of massive battlements ran, till their shadows darkened the nobler Tay; then striking south to yon green hill, and westward along its base, o'ertopping craig and spanning glen and watertract, they held their course, enclosing in wide embrace, before reaching again yon shining landmark, the Castle Law, a hill of princely magnitude, on whose eastern summit rose in majesty the castellated palace of the Pictish kings.

*(To be continued.)*

#### ART EDUCATION.

THERE are three principal departments of human thoughts, Philosophy, Science and Art. It is to the credit of our university that the two first-named subjects are so well represented in our curriculum and so fully and so ably taught in our lecture rooms. We are in this respect superior to many, and the equal of any university upon the continent. It is to be regretted that the same cannot be said of our position in Art. Here there is humiliating deficiency. With the exception of the slight attention which is paid to composition as a branch of Literature, the whole department is entirely neglected. It is not to be expected that a University should attempt the functions of an Art School and descend to extremely practical and technical details. It is not desirable that an Arts course should train for any special profession. We wish to graduate neither teachers nor artists; but the aim should be to give the best possible general education, descending to particulars only when necessary to elucidate or enforce a system of controlling laws; thus using facts only to establish truths.

It is perfectly in accordance with such an aim that a certain attention should be paid by every cultivated student to the understanding, if not also to the appre-

ciation and pursuit of Art. It engrosses a large part of the conversation of all polite society. It affords one of the most excellent means of purified and cultivated enjoyment. For Art is essentially a recreation, and is only possible to the free and untrammelled activity of the mind. It therefore tends to develop such a mental state. Moreover, it is adapted to all of ordinary faculties, and requires, contrary to what is commonly supposed, no special taste or genius.

In the words of J. D. Harding: "Yet, if correctly learned, who is there among the numerous classes of men daily leaving our public schools and universities, with leisure and fortune at their command, who would not feel Art to be an acquirement? It has been called a sixth sense, from the gratification it affords and the power it gives of fixing scenes, persons, and events to which the memory can refer. Who is there to whom in future life such a pursuit would not be very delightful, if not eminently useful? To the clergyman, who perhaps passes much or most of his time in the country, could we mention a pursuit at once more natural or more compatible with his sacred character? It will be found highly important, if not absolutely indispensable, in the profession of surgery. If the student derives his most valuable knowledge from a progressive series of anatomical plates, during his attendance upon the lecture and the hospital, how much more would delineations, founded upon his own experience, in after life, with observations on the cases, form an invaluable storehouse of surgical facts, applicable to new accidents and presentations, and always ready at hand to assist the uncertainty of memory? To the lawyer who can draw it is an additional language, assisting him in the eliciting or affording explanations where every other language fails. To the mechanician it is enough to say that it is absolutely necessary; in short, there are few conditions of life in which it would fail to prove a useful, illustrative, and powerful auxiliary, and one applicable to many purposes not contemplated until its powers are required. It is no small part of its recommendation as an accomplishment that it is a sure resource under all the varieties and vicissitudes of fortune. The experience of numbers has proved the correctness of this estimate of its value."

It is to be hoped that Queen's will not be long behind in this matter. Old country universities have long recognized the necessity of such education, and many American colleges, among them our near neighbors, have followed their example. The establishment of a chair in Art, such as exists in Oxford, is by no means an unimportant question for the consideration of all those interested in the efficiency and advancement of our own Alma Mater.

#### OPENING OF THE WOMEN'S COLLEGE.

THE Women's Medical College was re-opened on Monday, the 12th inst., with much enthusiasm. There was a large audience. Dean Lavell presided. Eleven lady students of the college were present. A contem-