

IN HARVARD HALLS.

“CAMBRIDGE lies out of the way, on one side of the world,” —said Hazzlitt, in his *Pictures of Oxford and Blenheim*; why, then, should men care to seek it out, seeing it is not “a city set on an hill,” like the walls of Scotch *St. Andrews*, gray with half a thousand winters, or the pillared porches of her youngest sister on the slopes of Palo Alto, or even our little neighbor *Tufts* on College Hill, across the Mystic valley? And may not the *Journal* be justified of her ignorance, when, writing by the hand of her tax-gatherer for the yearly receipt of custom, she said: “We were asked yesterday where *Harvard* is, and answered that it is in Boston;” and naively adds: “*Was that right?*”

Not wholly; Harvard stands in Cambridge, a university town of 70,000 inhabitants, on the north bank of the *Charles*, a tidal river which stretches its winding length between the town and Boston. A Bostonian might have returned an impetuous answer that it *ought to be* in Boston; for that Cambridge and half a score other suburbs clustered about the skirts of the mother-city and functionally part of her, should become so in structure also, and make her in extent as she is in intellectual influence, a “Hub of the Universe.”

And a Cantabrigian might have retorted that Boston should rather be annexed to the little College town, to whose great University she owes much of that intellectual prestige which is her own glory and the Fortunatus Cap of her book-makers and spectacle-vendors.

But Cambridge has always preserved her identity and remained a university town since that old day—the 28th of October, 1636—to be memorable thenceforward through all the years of her history and on which, perhaps, some of those stern old Puritans—half prophets as they were:—

“Dipt into the future far as human eye
could see;
Saw the vision of the world, and all the
wonder that would be.”

As the outcome of their loyal care for the cause of learning in their community,—since that old day when the General Court of the Colony set aside £400 towards a school or college in Newtown, and appointed twelve of her worthiest men to the charge of it. The school was not yet *Harvard*, nor was the town *Cambridge*; that name it received in the following year, in loving memory of the university town in the old land where many of the colonists had received their education; and the year after, 1538, in honor of Rev. John Harvard, a young dissenting minister,