

Not once, but often, have women distinguished themselves in its lists.

The efforts of Thomas Campbell the poet, of George Grote the historian, of Lord Brougham, and others, to found a metropolitan university in which the highest education should be open to all comers, without the imposition of religious tests, resulted in October, 1828, in the opening of a large pile of buildings in Gower Street, London, as "the University of London." This was seven years after McGill received its first Charter, but 24 years before this University began its career as an important educational institution. Eight years later, two charters were signed on the same day, 28th November, 1836, the one establishing this foundation under the name of *University College, London*, as a teaching body, preparing for degrees in Arts, Medicine, Law and Science, but not conferring them; the other establishing under the name of *The University of London*, an examining body to confer degrees but not to teach, whose abode is just off Piccadilly and Regent's Street, and in the same block as the Royal Academy.

This University founded a special examination for women in 1867, and in 1869, by a slight change in the wording of the constitution of University College, its sphere of labor was no longer limited to "young men." In the spring of 1869, the London Ladies' Educational Association organized two courses of lectures to women by University College professors at the Beethoven Rooms, Harley Street, and in 1871, two small Science Classes for women were held within the College, "for convenience of access to apparatus necessary for experiment." These classes were arranged to begin and end at the half hour, so that men and women students need not encounter each other in the corridors. Gradually all the women's classes were transferred to the College, and, finally, in the case of some very small senior classes, those for Political Economy and Hebrew, whose students could be trusted as sober and mature, they ventured to gather men and women in the same class room at the same time, as indiscriminately as if they had been at church or in a drawing room. According to the *Queen* of October 17th, 1874, there were then 300 women and 900 men students at University College.

In January, 1874, Parliament had been memorialized by 471 graduates of the University to admit women to its degrees; in January, 1878, the Senate laid a Charter for their admission before Convocation, which Convocation approved of by a majority of almost two to one. This Charter was finally granted to the University on March 4, 1878, and one result was a great impetus to the women's classes at University College, which had always been foremost in preparing for London degrees.

Later on still when I became a student there, the question as to mixed classes was working out to a very practical solution. For instance, a Greek class, meeting twice a week, consisted of myself and Miss Mary Robinson (now Madame Darmesteter), the well-known author. After a while, the professor gave us our choice between continuing this plan, or joining the men's class for the same books, which met thrice a week. Anxiety to learn as much Greek as possible carried the day, and we two young girls took our places side by side in the general class, and had no cause to regret doing so. Equally practical considerations divided some of the very large classes into two halves, one for men and one for women students. In class rooms and library, the women sat with the men, generally in little groups of two or three together; and they had their own reading room and their own common room for rest and refreshment between lectures, their whole department being looked after by a lady superintendent. Even more here than elsewhere, the rule that a girl who respects herself will always be treated with respect held good; and when a girl took a first place in the examinations that would in former days have been won by a man, the feeling seemed entirely generous; and the competition stimulated both men and women to renewed earnestness over their work. In case there are some left, however, whose ideal for and of the girl of to-day is low enough for them to fancy that a college career may hinder her "chances of matrimony," or that study in a men's college may lead to idle flirtation, I may mention that a very happy marriage took place between two of my fellow-students who attended the same lectures for the same degree during several years, but never actually spoke to each other till both had added "B.A. with honors" to their names.

Before turning to residential colleges for women working for London University, reference should be made to *College Hall*, Byng Place, London, opened in October, 1882, as a residence for women studying at University College, who were not like myself inhabitants of the metropolis; and of *Bedford College* as another non-residential college for women in London.

In October, 1882, was opened *Westfield College, Hampstead*, endowed by Miss Dudin Brown, to provide residence and instruction for women preparing for London degrees on Church of England principles. Like Girton, it has a *Mistress*, not a *Principal*, and Miss Constance Maynard, one of the first Girtonians who took the Moral Science Tripos at Cambridge, began her work there with Miss Katharine Tristram, B.A. Lond. (now Principal of the Bishop Poole Memorial School at Osaka, Japan) as resident tutor, in a private house containing five students. In a year or two they had filled the two adjoining houses