

college circles generally. The most farcial performances imaginable are demanded of all who become members of it. On one occasion, when Sarah Bernhardt was playing in Boston, a novice was required to purchase a seat in the front row of the dress circle, and, when the play had reached its most dramatic point and the audience were listening spell-bound, to get up and say impressively with an air of supreme disgust as he moved out: "*I can't stand this rot!*" Imagine the effect! Another was required to go into Boston, and, walking along Washington street, to stop every horse-car he met, put his foot up on the step, tie his shoe, thank the conductor, and pass on to the next!

Not many of Harvard's societies, however, are fast or irregular. The students are, as a rule, orderly and well-behaved, bearing themselves as gentlemen should. Riots and disturbances are rare; class antagonism is scarcely known,—and a rush occurs once or twice a year, but more as a custom to be observed than otherwise; and hazing has almost disappeared. Of course we are not immaculate; Harvard has her sins, and grave ones; and to me, who knows what young men are, and remembers that nearly 3,000 are gathered in the halls of Harvard, it seems rather a naïve thing to say, as one of the College pamphlets does, that "any attempt to force a person of tainted character into the midst

of the University community is considered to be an act deserving of the strongest condemnation." Quite right, but with the false implication that none are to be found there. Yet it is said, and I believe it true, that there has been for years a steady spiritual growth in university life. Prof. Thayer, in an address before the Y. M. C. A. a few days ago, said that within the last generation there had been a great advance in the standards of moral rectitude and purity among students. Thirty years ago it was customary for a young man to sow his wild oats—nay, it was expected of him to do so! Now, men are growing more to the Christian ideal of manhood, holy in youth as in old age. There are several religious societies in the University, and various opportunities are afforded the students for cultivating their spiritual life.

Prayers are conducted every morning in Appleton Chapel; vesper services on Thursday afternoons; and preaching services on Sabbath evenings. The office of Preacher to the University is filled in rotation by prominent ministers of the various denominations, and the acting preacher is in attendance at Wadsworth House every morning to give advice or assistance to those who desire it. Until 1886 attendance at prayers was compulsory; since then it has been voluntary.

(To be concluded next month.)