

CONTRIBUTED.

THE ASCENT OF WOMAN.

"**T**HAT'S what it is to be a freshie nowadays," exclaimed a graduate, the other day, as in passing by the old familiar cloak-room, she spied a most unfamiliar object, right opposite the door. Despite the 3 x 6 proportions of the magnificent stranger, she could not help heaving a sigh for the old friend, who had been so unceremoniously laid aside. Alas! We must all remember that "one generation passeth and another cometh," and that as numbers increase so vanity increaseth with them. The very hooks on the hall tell their own silent story of progress. At first four were more than enough. Then, the wood-work shows where necessity added a few more, and finally where faith—or despair—placed them on every available spot.

The sixty chattering girls who frequent the halls to-day, can but with great difficulty conjure up the scene presented there ten or twelve years ago. Then, the number was small, the step quiet, the manner modest in the extreme, the purpose undoubtedly earnest, and the voice "soft, gentle and low, an excellent thing in woman." Then the two or three freshwomen who entered with bowed heads and beating hearts, meekly entreated their more experienced sisters to escort them to class-room or library. Then it was a capital crime for youth and maiden to communicate by look—much less by word. No peals of merry, girlish laughter burst from cloak or reading-room, and rats and mice held nightly discussions on the progress of woman, where now divines and angels reign supreme.

Now! Well, "The old order changeth, giving place to the new." With the increase of numbers, new elements have entered, and the problem is fast becoming so complex and serious as to demand the attention of all lovers of Queen's and women. Our university has led the way in many departments. Each year finds her extending her borders and bringing in reach of her sons, new means of knowledge and education. While with her strong right hand she toils for her sons, would that her left were as tireless on behalf of her daughters!

For mercies past and present we are duly thankful, but we are by no means satisfied. The past was good, the present is better, but we dare not regard them except as steps to that best, which we trust the future holds for us.

The question forces itself on us. It will not be avoided. Wide as our curriculum is, is there one course which offers to a young woman entering college, the means of a full development of her character—of her personality? Does our ordinary college graduate, on thoughtful self-examination, find that

her course has done for her all that, on entering, she rightly enough expected from it? Have excrescences of character and disposition been smoothed down, have sharp corners been rounded off, and good features strengthened and firmly established? Has the whole being, in all its phases, been working symmetrically towards the attainment of the greatest result?

We may, in almost every case, answer in the negative. The tendency is undoubtedly to emphasize the strictly intellectual to the neglect of all other phases. The girls are not being helped to realize that it is the combination of all faculties, of all our gifts properly and harmoniously trained, which gives us our best selves, and that "it is the presentation of this multiformed, many-sided whole which is the important factor in our success."

Such is the state at present and the causes are not far to seek. The complete remedy must evolve itself slowly out of the present, but with all due reverence for "the powers that be," we dare suggest some possible helps. First—A lady preceptress. Second—A course in Aesthetics. Third—Home life, in some form, for students from a distance. In a continuation of this article we purpose enlarging on these suggestions.

FROM W. J. HALL'S JOURNAL.

Dr. Hall, writing from Korea on Sept. 26th, gives a short account of what has happened to him since he wrote last, and thanks those who had sent him help for his hospital and other departments of his work. Now that the Japanese control Korea, there will be no more persecutions of the native Christians.

MISSIONARY WORK IN KOREA.

We remained at Pyong Yang until I received an order from our Consul to bring Mrs. Hall and our little boy to an open port. We felt anxious to remain with our little band, but under the circumstances were obliged to leave them under the care of our Great Protector.

We took the last steamer that came from Pyong Yang before the war. It was filled with soldiers, and upon reaching Chemulpo we found the harbor filled with men-of-war.

On the morning of July 23rd we were awakened at 5 o'clock by the Koreans, who were almost frantic with excitement. Detachments of Japanese soldiers were rushing to guard the city gates, and there was heavy and constant firing of guns on the palace grounds about half a mile from our home. The Japanese succeeded in taking the palace in about twenty minutes. Since that time they have been assisting the Korean government in adopting measures of reform.

The Chinese and Japanese armies met in their first battle at Asan, about 50 miles from Seoul, shortly