

examples, when seen occupying their "stalls" of a Sunday, along the two sides of their magnificent chapel, unique in Europe for its beauty, a miracle of architecture, three hundred and sixteen feet in length and eighty-four in width. In 1851, however, King's College magnanimously surrendered its exclusive privileges; and now the *étèves* of that society go into the general examinations and take their chance with the rest of the students of Cambridge.

I find by the side of Willymott's book one similar, but superior to it, dated 1753, on the "Westminster Latin Grammar," by Charles Davies, B.A., "for the use of those schools (publick and private) where that Grammar is taught, particularly of the Lower Forms of Westminster School; and for the Ease and Benefit of Master and Scholar." I notice this manual for the sake of the Dedication prefixed to it. The Earl of Orrery, the patron addressed therein, is curiously told that the work is inscribed to him because the writer had observed in one of his Lordship's "most excellent Letters of Remarks upon the Life and Writings of the inimitable Dr. Swift, that he heartily wished his son, Mr. Hamilton Boyle, would think an attention to his native language as useful and improving a study as any that can be pursued." Therefore Mr. Davies presents a catechism on Latin Grammar, designed, he asserts, "for the benefit of the youth of the English nation in general, and, could he presume to say so, for the Royal Youths at the head of them, in particular." The dedication then proceeds and concludes in courtly strain thus: "To offer anything relating to Grammar to your Lordship, who shines so conspicuously in the higher orbs of Learning, will, I fear, be looked upon as quite out of character; but as Grammar is the foundation of all Learning, I hope that cir-

cumstance will, in some measure, plead my excuse for giving your Lordship this trouble. Besides, under favour, where shall an attempt for making Learning more easy and useful, hope for patronage but amongst the Learned; and where amongst the Learned, if not in an ORRERY?" In the Preface again the assertion is repeated that Latin Grammar is "the foundation of speaking, reading, writing, and conversing in the English tongue"—another instance of the overweening self-complacency of the Grammar schoolmaster of the period in regard to the one subject embraced in his curriculum.

CORDERIUS, ETC.

The aim of the old teachers of Latin was the familiar colloquial employment of that language by the young; and the desired result was, I suppose, actually attained in some schools aforesaid in Scotland, England and Ireland. But as the utter uselessness of the accomplishment when secured, except as a mere amusement, was manifest in the vast majority of cases, the effort in this direction was more and more relaxed, and the attention of teachers for the most part became confined simply to the production of facility in the employment of grammatical forms. In numerous schools on the continent of Europe the practice of speaking Latin after a fashion is still maintained. The famous Colloquies of Corderius, familiar to everyone, at least by name, were constructed for the purpose of cultivating the common use of Latin. They consist of dialogues supposed to be carried on between lads at school; sometimes between a master and his scholars. The talk turns, of course, on ordinary school matters, and occasionally on domestic arrangements; and we get in them momentary glimpses of contemporary home life in France. Corderius is