

(2) that oranges and lemons are a luxury for eastern consumption, which inevitably falls off in hard times.

Another unfortunate circumstance connected with the southern country is that it has been the victim of boom practices. Every town that has survived has many a tale to tell of its greatness in boom days, and there are many gaunt ghosts that mark the "cities" that did not endure the test. A humorous story of boom days comes from San Diego way. A certain tenant was paying \$45 a month for a little shack made of cheesecloth and boards, and finding the rent a little high for the "house," he decided to register a kick next time he paid his rent. But he was anticipated. His landlord met him thus: "Well, Mr. W—, I guess I'll have to raise your rent next month!" "Thank God!" replied the tenant, "I'm mighty sure I couldn't raise it myself!" The boom collapsed simply because there was in this case nothing to warrant it. If the proprietors of town lots had been able to bottle God's free air, there might have been something in it, but that was the only available commodity that was worth coming any distance to obtain.

Yet all these facts are no slur on the Southern country, as the average southern Californian seems to suspect. He is not satisfied that his land should be a very garden of roses and a goodly place for the eyes to behold: he would have you tell him as well that it is a land of a great mercantile and manufacturing business, which will one day be able to enter into serious competition with Northern houses in staple lines of trade. It is quite unnecessary to deny that such will ever be the case, although one would probably be quite right in so doing: for the present it is sufficient to assert that the industries so-called of Southern California impress the northern-bred man as being very much of the cream puff variety, very pretty to look at and finish a dinner on, but not very satisfying in times of real hunger. But though he must there join issue with the enthusiastic and thoroughly partial Southern Californian, he need never quarrel with him regarding the beauty of the land he dwells in; to the man of the North it will never matter a penny whether wheels move or chimneys smoke in the processes of industry, so long as he may flee from the face of January's chill blasts and here bask in the sunshine with the blue ocean waters rippling gently at his feet, while he gazes enraptured into the azure vision above him, and drinks in with dilated nostrils the odors wafted on gentlest breezes to his senses quivering with delight from the perfumed throats of the million flowers that bloom forever and a day in the land of the Lotophagi.

WILLIAM HARDY ALEXANDER.

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### EXAMINATIONS.

The chief end of a university should be Man. Every influence exerted, every enterprise projected, every regulation enforced, every aim, every endeavor should have as its Summum Bonum, its highest ideal, the development, the moulding, the exaltation of the aspirations of the individual students towards the perfecting of a broad, sympathetic, well-rounded manhood. While the student's intellectual life must be invigorated and quickened by implanting a desire for the attainment of truth and knowledge, yet every healthy well organized university must have within the student's reach opportunities for the development of his physical powers, for the quickening of his spiritual life. In a word that university, to whose care has been trusted the most formative

period of a young man's career, discharges well the sacred duties of that solemn trust if the graduates of her halls are *strong men*. By this high standard must be tested every regulation of all curricula. Those regulations which, when weighed, are found to meet all the demands made by such a lofty ideal must be scrupulously maintained; those whose test proves this inadequacy, must be abolished or amended.

"Examinations," says the young man, whose weeks of preparation may be enumerated on the fingers of the hand with which he writes them, "are an abomination, an abnormal test, an opportunity for self-display and savage cruelty given to lordly dons and dry old professors by a weak and misled Senate." "*Exagmen*," quoth the plugs whose pedantry leads them to utter sentiments all too Greek for this unappreciative audience, "*dulce et decorum est!*" "It depends," is the sentiment of the student, characterized by earnestness of purpose, to make the most of all college opportunities, "I really don't mind them. They are not the final test, but the only one under the circumstances. It's a fine thing to know just where a man stands. But I never work for examinations only, and the fun of it is I always make a good stand."

By an examination of these sentiments expressed, and a study of the spirit which prompted them we may be enabled to view with accuracy the evils and the benefits, and after careful thought decide whether after all examinations are an enormous ill in a festered system, or a healthy symptom of a progressive spirit.

The principle of examination is right. Socrates believed that only by his *elenchos*, his clear scrutinization, could the soul be freed from the conceit of knowledge without the reality, so necessary, for the attainment of truth. We are all conscious that only by strict and thorough examination can the errors which clog the workings of the intellect be removed. Misconceptions can be found to be such only by test. But we must not confound the means with the end. Examinations are properly only channels to truth and knowledge, and in so far as the student makes them his goal, so far has he fallen short of his true ideal.

If then the principle of examination is right what is the cause of the singular disrepute into which they are fallen? The explanation is not to be found in the examination *per se*, but in the attitude of the student mind towards them. One student, from a misconception that an examination in May, which in the nature of things cannot take an account of all the conditions, gives the successful candidate a prestige in everything, studies all day and slaves all night, not in the pursuit of knowledge in and for itself, but that he may head the class lists, and the broken down constitution is forsooth the fault of examinations, and the poor toiler is a martyr! Another student has a jolly time from the first of October till the first of April, while the frequency or rather infrequency of his attendance on lectures might justify us in calling him an "Occasional;" then through fear lest the report of the examination lists may mar a reputation he may have once enjoyed he crams, frankly acknowledging a week after the ordeal is over that he remembers nothing of the subject, but then "That's all owing to the iniquitous system of examinations."

The student who sees examinations in their true relationship sees no great evil in the spring test. Indeed he has through the year given himself many a self-examination to insure accuracy of work. He studies conscientiously from the opening of the term, and is almost as diligent in October as in May. He takes every holiday, to be sure, and has an interest in College