

that the language we use will not long be kept in bondage by an orthography totally void of rule, method and system. And "yet there are people who honestly believe there is something peculiarly sacred about the present orthography of the English tongue, who look upon the creation

of type-setters as the crowning mercy to our race of an All-wise-Providence, and actually shudder when a new spelling is employed as if the fountains of the great deep were breaking up and the civilization of the world were threatened with a second deluge of barbarism."

HIGHER EDUCATION OF WOMEN.*

BY PRINCIPAL SIR J. WILLIAM DAWSON, C.M.G., LL.D.

(Continued from the November MONTHLY.)

THE arrangements at Girton are in the main similar to those at Newnham, but Girton is at a greater distance (about two miles) from the town, and has a finer building than that of Newnham with somewhat more luxurious accommodation for the students, most of whom have two rooms; and it is considerably more expensive.

Owens College, Manchester, has now definitely provided separate classes for women in the junior years, and admits them to the College lectures only after passing an examination equivalent to our Intermediate.

With reference to the relations of the sexes, the principles of all the colleges and halls connected with the English universities seem to be—(1) the separate residence of the women in their own colleges. (2) The supervision and tutorial help of lady-principals and tutors in the colleges. (3) The employment of lecturers sanctioned by the universities to conduct separate classes for the ladies in their own colleges. (4) Permission in the senior years and for special subjects to attend the public lectures of Uni-

versity lecturers, with or without a chaperone. (5) The preparation of the students for the University examinations, and as far as possible for honour certificates.

It is evident that education on these principles is different, practically, from the system of "co-education" introduced in University College, London, and in some colleges in the Western States and in this country. It combines much privacy and seclusion, and separate study under female influence of a high order, with permission under certain conditions to attend public lectures; and it is to be observed that the student of Girton or Newnham can, if she so pleases, complete her whole course of study without attending any mixed classes. It seems to me that this is quite as far as we should venture in the matter of mixed education; and I think we could venture so far, provided that, at the end of the second year, we find a number of lady students prepared to go on with the work of the third and fourth years, and that endowments sufficient to continue the whole work in separate classes are not provided.

*A Report presented to the Corporation of McGill University, October, 1884.