

## TERMS PER ANNUM.

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| For Tuition in English Reading, Writing and Arithmetic, for Pupils under 12 years of age, - - -  | £4 0 0 |
| For Pupils above 12 years of age, - - -  | 6 0 0  |
| For Tuition in the above branches, together with Geography, English Grammar, Composition, the Latin Rudiments and the use of the Globes, - - - | 6 0 0  |
| For Tuition in all the above branches, with lessons in the Latin Classes, Greek or other Mathematics, - - -                                    | 8 0 0  |

All Fees payable quarterly in advance. A deduction of 25 per cent. is allowed on the Tuition Fees of Parents sending more than one scholar.

This department is under the superintendence of the Professors, and is visited by them as often as their duties permit. The course of instruction is conducted so as to prepare the pupils for entering with advantage the Classes of the College, By order of the Senatus Academicus.

J. MALCOLM SMITH, M.A.,  
Secretary to the Senatus.

The following is a copy of the Address delivered by the Rev. Dr. Machar on closing the Session which terminated on Thursday last:—

GENTLEMEN:—Those labours, to the prosecution of which a College life shuts you up, are now brought to a close; to-day you enter upon a season in which you are to be, in a great measure, your own masters. Not that your work here may not be in the fullest sense voluntary—may not possess all the advantage for its successful prosecution arising from its being performed with the heartiest good will, for this may be so; still, when you enter College, you surrender yourselves to the guidance of those who have been appointed to teach within its walls; and it is your duty as students, nor less your interest than your duty, to follow implicitly and with unwavering steadiness the course of study they point out. I refer to the relation subsisting between Professor and Student, which implies that the tract of the latter is necessarily clearly defined for him, not left to be determined according to his own option. This has been your condition during the last seven months, and by many of you, I have no doubt, it has been felt to be a privileged condition; but to-day it ends, and you are to have for a season, always indeed in due subordination to those whom God has placed over you, the direction of your own movements and employments. Do I advert to this with any degree of regret? Do I look upon it as a disadvantage to you that, according to the long established arrangements of a University Education, you have these recurring seasons, in which you become *sui juris*, and take the reins of authority over yourselves into your own hands? I am so far from regarding this as a disadvantage that I should look upon it as an evil of serious magnitude if, at your period of life, you were to be deprived of that large, though still limited, disposal of yourselves of which I speak; for it is necessary to the fostering of a vigorous intellect and to the formation of a manly character—things which, if ever you are to succeed in accomplishing them, must be begun betimes and on system, not left to a distant hereafter and to the evolution of accident. I feel, however, that I should be wanting in solicitude for your welfare if I did not now lift my warning voice in reference to this matter, and that under all the advantage for impression afforded by this season of parting and farewell—a season to you and to us of strong emotion, and also, if I mistake not, of unusually clear perception of what is right. The disposal of yourselves committed to you in your College vacations I would not take from you, neither would I abridge, if I could, for it is an important possession; still it ought not to be disguised from you that, while an important, it is a perilous possession. If wisely used, it may witness in you those firm resolves and those indomitable efforts in favour of the beautiful and the good, which shall tell most beneficially upon your whole future course; if unwisely used, it

may throw you hopelessly back in your career, and cloud with defeat and disaster a day which might otherwise have been bright with victory and blessedness. You will, many of you, remember the story concerning Hercules, told with such liveliness in the Memorabilia of Xenophon. When he had arrived at that period of life when young men become their own masters, having retired into a desert place to consider the course he should pursue, he was there approached by two female Divinities—the Goddess of Pleasure and the Goddess of Virtue—who each preferred her claims upon his favour and homage. At such a period, gentlemen, are you now arrived. In that retirement, into which you enter to-day, the two opposite influences, that are fabled to have tried Hercules, will try you; and need I remind you what destinies hang upon your determination as to which of them shall prevail—that they are the destinies not of a world that may pass away, but of a spirit created for immortality? A little reflection might satisfy you of the incalculable importance of your determinations at this point in your career; and yet I cannot hope that you will all be impressed with this as you ought to be. Those of you who have little love to your work, to whom the studies of a College are a painful drudgery, only to be submitted to because a certain progress in them is required for your having the way opened-up to you to some profession, will not be so impressed; and the coming summer may see you adopting a course which, if it lead not to worse evils, shall at the least go far to undo all the good accomplished by you during the past winter. But there are earnest young men now before me—students who love their work; and from you I may safely count upon very different things. You will be wiser than to yield to those blandishments with which indolence will ply you too at this season; you will not quit the vantage-ground you have painfully won; you will not let down those habits of vigorous application which you have succeeded in establishing; and, while you satisfy those claims which near and dear kindred have upon you, nor deny yourselves those recreations which health demands, the summer will see you, so far from intermitting your studies, prosecuting them with fresh ardour, and with a singleness of purpose and concentration of effort unsurpassed even on this scene of activity and competition.

My object in now addressing you is to induce you to ply your labour as Students as diligently in your homes as when you are assembled in College. The subjects of your summer studies, however important a matter to you, I may here be allowed to pass over with a slighter reference that it has been fully dwelt on by your Professors in their respective classes. The subjects, that are to engage you on your re-assembling in this place, should of course have a large share of your attention, that you may not labour under the disadvantage of their being wholly new to you when you come to enter upon them. The studies of the past Session, however, should occupy your attention yet more largely. Of all employments for young men in your circumstances, if I might be permitted to refer to my own experience, I would say that this is the most important. It seems to be going back; it is really to make progress, and that of the truest kind. None but those to whom it is a matter of experience can comprehend the amount of benefit to a student arising from a thorough and pains-taking review of the studies of the class he is leaving. Thus engaged, new acquisitions are made by him; new light is struck out on much that was before but imperfectly understood; and altogether the effect of it is such that it may safely be set down as a general truth that he will be the best prepared for the business of any coming Session who has given himself the most to that which immediately preceded it. But it is to be hoped that, besides those subjects which are taken-up by you under the spur and pressure of immediate necessity, others will be included in your course of study during the summer. I last year strongly recommended to you to enlarge

your acquaintance with books; it is a matter I would again urge upon you, and all the more earnestly that from the engrossing nature of your studies in this place, requiring your whole time to be given to them, general reading here is to most of you an impossibility, while the daily widening diffusion of instruction among the masses at the present day renders such reading indispensable if you are to possess that varied knowledge, and to be regarded with that respect, which are so essential to your exercising an influence for good among your fellow-men. To reading you should give yourselves largely, taking care that it embrace, along with those unrivaled productions which have been handed down to us from a remote antiquity, those standard works in our own language of which no person in these days, with any pretensions to be well informed, can be ignorant. But to reading you should join the practice of composition. It is an observation of Lord Bacon, that "Reading makes a full man; Writing an exact man." Like all the observations of that truly great man, it contains most important truth. Reading will only be of full advantage to us when it is accompanied by writing. He, who reads *only*, is apt to have his mind overloaded and weakened, and at length confused, by an ill digested and ill assorted learning; he only, who on all the great subjects of his reading writes down his own thoughts in his own language, escapes these evils, and reads to profit. We sometimes hear of persons being great readers. I would not have you to be very covetous of the reputation of being great readers as that phrase is commonly understood, for it is a very equivocal reputation; certainly that student errs greatly who does not betimes interrupt his reading to give himself to composition. The devourer of books is slow to believe this, but it is true. With stores of information lying before him, he deems it so much lost time, the being occupied with writing; but no time is so well spent, as it is thus that we get a real hold of what we read, and have clearness given to our views, and strength to our convictions, on the various subjects of our reading. Reading gives fullness; but what is fullness without the accuracy which writing communicates? Real knowledge is the fruit not of reading only, but of meditation combined with reading; and this is the great value of writing, that it is essentially an exercise of meditation, of deep and patient thought. But I revert to the object I have now especially in view—that of stimulating you to unflagging earnestness in your work as students.

Consider the dignity and importance of this work. You may know your happiness only when it is too late; but a more favoured lot than yours now is I know not—the being able to say to Wisdom, as you have it in your power to do, "Thou art my sister," and to call Understanding "thy kinswoman." The days which an earnest student passes at College are truly happy days, and he is laying up happiness against the time to come. The utilitarian philosopher, with an air which seems to say that he only can give forth practical wisdom, often asks concerning the pursuits of students at a University, "Of what advantage are they to be?" But the utilitarian philosopher is not so wise as he thinks himself. The importance of your present studies is not to be measured by the amount of *immediate* advantage. Though you should never have occasion to bring into practical use the branches of learning you now cultivate, you will find the mental training, which is the effect of their cultivation, of incalculable value. Your pursuits here draw out mind: when prosecuted in a right spirit, they do more than draw out mind; they make the heart better, refining and exalting the character, and raising it above what is ignoble and base. They moreover give occupation. The hours of a man of cultivated mind never hang heavy upon his hand; he has at all times sources of elevated enjoyment within himself; nor is he exposed to the temptations which beset those whose minds are empty and uninformed, to kill time in the haunts of silly amusement or low vice. And