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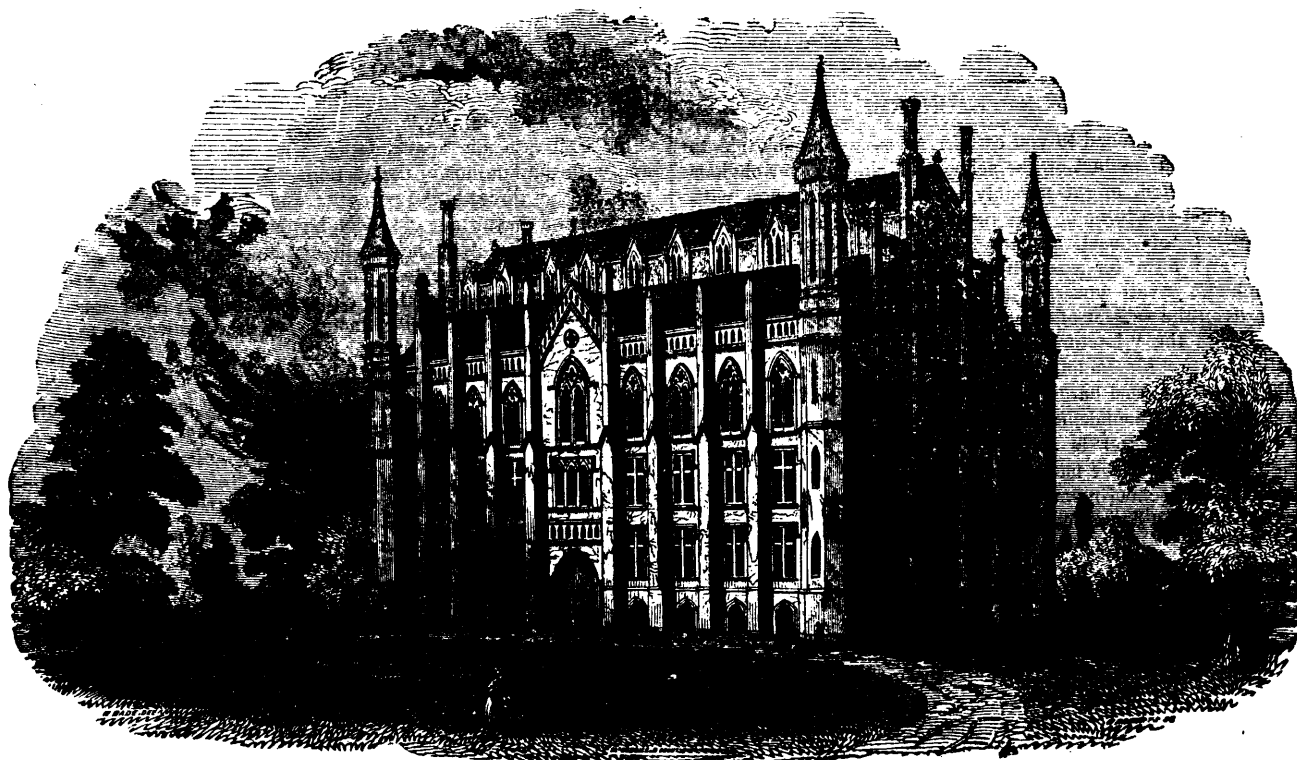
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FREE ACADEMY OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

This fine engraving presents a beautiful view of the *Free Academy of the City of New-York*,—an institution designed to impart, without charge to pupils, a scientific and practical education to those youth who have passed through the City Common Schools, but who do not go to a University. The style of the building is that of the Gothic Town Halls of the Netherlands—being, says the Architect, “at the same time the strongest, the cheapest, and the one best adapted to heat and ventilation.” The length of the building, exclusive of all projections, is 125 feet, and the breadth 80 feet. The height to the eaves 65 feet, and to the top of the globe 100 feet. The height of the towers 110 feet. The building is divided into basement, three stories, and a great hall under the roof. The basement is 9 feet in height, and is arched to afford ground for exercise in bad weather. In it are also the Porter’s lodgings, the Chemical Laboratory, and the closets for the hats and clothes of students. The first, second, and third stories are divided into four great rooms by two wide spacious halls, which are carried through the centre of the building longitudinally and transversely. Two of these rooms, on each floor, are again divided, affording smaller rooms for recitation, &c. Above these stories is the great hall, 125 feet long by 66 in breadth, divided by the king and queen posts of the roof (which are made ornamental,) into three aisles, the centre one of which is 40 feet in height, and the two side aisles are each 20 feet in height. The ceiling of this room is of wood immediately under the roof of which it forms a part, and it is ornamented with carved ribs of wood, in the manner of the old

English college halls at Oxford and Cambridge. It is lighted by windows at the ends and by dormers in the roof, and is probably the finest collegiate hall in America. The expense of the building, without the furniture, is \$46,000.

This Academy was established by the Board of Education for the City of New-York in 1847, in pursuance of authority granted by the Legislature on memorial of the Board, and on condition that the question of its establishment should be submitted to the people of the City, and should be concurred in by a majority of the votes given. The question was so submitted on the first Monday of June, 1847, and 19,904 votes were given in favour of the proposition to 3,409 against it. The act of the Legislature authorized the Board to erect a building at an expense of \$50,000, and to raise by tax annually for its support, the sum of \$20,000, exclusive of a proportion of the State Literature Fund, and any other means from other sources. Admission into the Academy is FREE, but is confined to those who have been pupils in the public schools of the City.

This noble institution was opened with impressive exercises on the 27th of January last; and the plan of instruction embraces a course of study between that usually pursued in American Colleges and that followed in the Polytechnique schools of Europe. Thus do the people of New-York provide for the highest English and practical education of the humblest of their youthful citizens. Would that their example were followed in all the Cities and Towns of Canada!