

Henry first arrested, and then permitted the completion of the ex-chancellor's vast designs; let us admire rather, as more in keeping with the scholarly spirit of Oxford, the veneration with which these great Colleges which they founded, (as indeed may be said more or less of all the Colleges), have preserved the memorials of their illustrious founders. When Oxford was most intensely Protestant—in the reign of George I., it erected the votive statue of the long departed Cardinal. Both Christ's Church and New College preserve with veneration original portraits of Wolsey and Wykeham—both very characteristic of the men. The Cardinal, of full habit, has a thin boldly marked profile, of which humor seems the predominant trait as the artist caught the expression: the full front face of the elder Chancellor bespeaks benignity and all goodness; the open eye of genius, under the calm broad brow of the saintly mathematician and architect. Goodness of every sort shines forth in Wykeham; but Wolsey's is a face far more human; I mean to say in which the passions are less wholly subdued; a face of power more than of prayer; a face to inspire love and fear; withal a good and kindly face, but with unmistakable indications of energetic severity and self-will, very near to the surface. Oxford, if not always the intellectual capital of England, at all times one of its main strongholds of light and learning, has been true to itself, in cherishing 'through all changes of opinion and worship, the memory of these two Prelates: they did great things for Oxford, for England, and for civilization.

It may be worth while to observe what a Statesman-scholar like Wolsey nearly three centuries and a half ago comprehended within the range of an University education. There was first, great prominence given to the knowledge of Law—both civil and ecclesiastical; that is to say, speaking more explicitly, the Justinian code, and the vast body of Ecclesiastical law, which, as the legislation of the Church, had accumulated in Europe, during fifteen centuries. The ranges of acquirement embraced under these two heads alone, were, one might suppose, sufficient for a life time; thorough proficiency in either, still more in both, certainly was hardly to be expected as the fruit of any man's youth. Yet all divines, statesmen, and authors of those days were expected to have a competent knowledge of both laws. Then passing over the special study of Medicine, there were the degrees in Arts and Humanity, which every scholar was expected to take before graduation. How far have we enlarged the sphere of that circle of science? very widely, indeed, during the last three centuries; very widely, thanks, in part to Oxford, and also to Wolsey and Wykeham.

One advantage to be derived from considering the history of an old hereditary place of learning, is, that you can mark the revolutions in systems of teaching, on the very spot. The annals of the University are richly instructive in this respect. In the thirteenth century, the division of the schools was into secular and claustral; the conventual students, and what we would call, the students intended for professions. In distinct rooms, occupying all School Street, and by permission, the upper stories of tradesmens' shops in other streets, both classes pursued their learned way through grammar and logic, rhetoric and sophistry. In those days professors harangued and students wrangled in the open air; disputation between students, being the favorite mode of study, on ordinary as well as on extraordinary occasions. However much we may deprecate, as inconsistent with our notions of order and decorum the mode of disputation, there can be little doubt that it had a strong attraction for those combative ages. The maintenance of a thesis