

to allow girls to be examined upon the same papers. This request was formally granted in 1865. In 1864 they petitioned a Royal Commission, known as the School Inquiry Commission, to include the education of girls in the inquiry. It reported the 'girls' schools to be in a thoroughly unsatisfactory state, and recommended that girls have an equal share in the education endowments; and expressed sympathy with those who were endeavoring to provide opportunities for the higher education of women. Miss Clough, afterwards mistress of Clough Hall at Newnham College, Cambridge, then wrote a paper which she sent to the commissioners, in which she suggested some plans. Among them was a proposition that courses of lectures on higher subjects, to be delivered by University professors, be established in the large towns for the advantage of teachers and older pupils, and also for other women who felt the lack of proper guidance in higher studies. She wrote: "Some intercourse with university men who carry on the higher education in the country would be a great boon to many teachers who are doing their best under great difficulties. In carrying out this plan, the sanction and help of a high authority would be especially valuable, whether government or the universities." Such a plan was afterwards carried out.

In November, 1867, a course of lectures in astronomy was delivered by a Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, in four towns, Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield, and Leeds. And, in the same year, the North of England Council for Promoting the Higher Education of Women, was formed and held its first meeting at Leeds. This body included members of the universities, and educational authorities, and its formation insured the deliberation of the question of better education of women by those who could do something to bring it about. It was found that men as well as women sought the advantages of these local lectures, and out of the movement grew the system of university extension, to give the higher education to "those classes in great towns who are inevitably debarred from residence at a university." This the University of Cambridge took up as a permanent work in 1874, and the University of Oxford followed four years later. So this great movement that carries the direct university influence out among the people, grew out of the movement for the better education of women. This step in the progress of women was registered immediately in an advantage gained for the whole people.

In 1868 special examinations for women were instituted by the University of London. The next year a college for women was