

you some information of the college with which I was myself connected viz : the College of Engineering. This Institution was founded by the Minister of Public Works in the year 1873, and for its faculty he engaged a Principal, who was also Professor of Engineering, Mr. Dyer of Glasgow University, and five professors to teach Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Drawing, and English, and three assistants who had been all trained as practical engineers. With this staff the college was started, and, whilst teaching was begun in temporary buildings, the college proper was erected under the superintendence of an English architect according to the requirements of Principal and Professors. As all the lectures were given in English, it was necessary that the students should know this language, and to this end the matriculation examination (which was open to all Japanese subjects) included oral English reading and writing from dictation, translation from Japanese, into English, as well as arithmetic, geography, and the rudiments of geometry and algebra. These subjects were already being taught in elementary schools both in the capital and chief towns of the provinces. The students were all boarded within the college walls, a plan we found almost indispensable, for Japanese habits were so different from our own, that it would have been difficult for them to have taken full advantage of our teaching, did they not first acquire European ways of working. The curriculum extended over six years. The first two were called the general and scientific course, and during these two years the students attended classes in English, mathematics, drawing, physics, and chemistry. After passing an examination in these subjects they entered upon their Technical course which extended over the next two years. At this stage the students were divided

into sets according to the professions they intended to follow ; civil engineers, mechanical engineers, telegraph engineers, chemists, mining engineers, metallurgists and architects. In the third year of the college's history I should mention that the government had engaged additional professors of engineering, surveying, geology and mining, and architecture. During the technical course the students attended classes which fitted them for the several professions which they intended to follow, e.g. the civil engineers attended classes in engineering, surveying, higher mathematics, higher natural philosophy, technical drawing, and worked as much as possible in the engineering laboratory ; the telegraph engineers attended classes on telegraphy, higher mathematics, higher natural philosophy, technical drawing and surveying, and spent much of their time in the physical laboratory, and so on. The last two years formed the practical course, and during this period the students were sent to assist in actual works carried on by the government ; the civil engineers to assist in the construction of railways and bridges ; the mechanical engineers to work in the government dock-yards ; and so on. When I add that the college contained physical, chemical, and engineering laboratories, well supplied with apparatus, had museums for the study of geology, engineering, telegraphy, and chemistry, and further possessed a good library and a handsome examination hall, you will agree with me, that the present Japanese Government have adopted a wiser policy than that of their predecessors. And if they but overcome the fickleness of the national character there is doubtless a great future before them. The other colleges in the capital although perhaps not so completely equipped as that of the College of Engineering were nevertheless well supplied with