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Good Manners

Last autumn at the inauguration of Miss Hazard, President Eliot congratulating her on the position she is to occupy as President of Wellesley College said that he thought the schools for women might be able to inculcate manners with more success than the old colleges had done. Dr. Eliot's remark presses home upon all interested, especially upon the students themselves, a fact all too manifest in schools established and maintained exclusively or primarily for men, the lack in some degree of the gentleness and true courtesy consonant with mental culture.

And manifestly something more is meant by the expression "good manners" than occurs in the little realm of the etiquettes of ordinary social life. Acadia though happily free from that incipient lawlessness that manifests itself by endangering life and wilfully destroying public property, is yet not wholly free from a possible charge such as is by implication made in Dr. Eliot's words above quoted. It certainly is not the truest gentlemanly sentiment that marshals college men in the entrance hall leading to the Chapel and subjects ladies as they pass out from the prayer service to stares and comments always offensive and sometimes even insulting. Can it be that they who thus stand gazing have never before seen women in public places. Have they no sisters or friends of the gentler sex whom they would gladly shield from the rude contact of the *canaille* that they carelessly expose women to treatment scarcely more courteous than would be accorded them in the more squalid parts of our large cities. Thoughtlessness may be urged to account for what to some appears deliberately disrespectful, but thoughtlessness is not wholly extenuating in this case.