

Hall, at the East end is the high table raised two steps, with a recessed window on each side. Behind the Dais, on the Eastern wall, is a panelled oak canopy. The Hall is lighted by a series of thirteen three-light traceried windows, and a four-light window at the east end. The roof principals are four-centred, and between the constructive lines the spaces are filled in with vertical tracery. The corbels supporting the roof principals are carved with the arms of various benefactors of the College. The east window and the windows at the ends of the High Table are blazoned with the arms of other benefactors. Conspicuous are the arms of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke of Bedford, the Bishop of Exeter, the Bishop of Salisbury, and Lord Coleridge. Similar shields are to be placed in the remaining windows of the Hall.

Since mention has been made of the celebrated College, it may not be amiss to glance at its history. John Balliol of Banard Castle, Durham, instituted it about A. D., 1264. Six years after founding the society which bears his name he died. His wife, the Lady Devorgilla, in compliance with her husband's earnest request vigorously prosecuted the work which he begun. She rented old Balliol Hall on Horcemonger Street as a place of residence for the students. The statutes of the foundation reach back to 1282, and are still in possession of the College." The Lady Devorgilla, in 1284, purchased Mary Hall of John De Ewe, an opulent citizen of Oxford, to which she added a refectory, Kitchen, &c., suitable for College buildings. These she settled on the scholars of the College for ever, to the honor of the Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary, St. Catherine, and the whole Court of Heaven, "Sir John de Balliol, afterwards King of Scotland, confirmed the Charter."

But the royal charter which the College now holds was granted in 1588, in Queen Elizabeth's reign. The title of the Charter is, "The Master and Scholars of Balliol College." The masters of the College were styled first "Procurators," then "Principals" or "Wardens," and thirdly "Masters" which now obtains. John Wicliff, the translator of the Bible was the fifth Master; Dr. Scott, elected in 1854, the forty-seventh. He, as many know, is one of the editors of a large Greek Lexicon.

But Dr. Jenkyns, Dr. Scott's predecessor, was the man in whose head the idea of galvanizing the College lodged. For even in Colleges animation seems sometimes to be suspended. Scholarships were thrown open to public competition. The competitors were the picked men of England's great public schools, and thus Balliol became a centre of life and influence while the other Colleges were apparently dead to sound ideas of progress.

The new life so timely infused would have become feebler under the mastery of Jenkyn's successor, Dr. Scott, had it not been for the vigorous efforts put forth by one of the Tutors of the College, Mr. Jowett. Mr. Jowett's career has been quite a distinguished one. In 1837 he won the Hartford Latin Scholarship; and the Latin Essay Prize. In 1839 he was placed "First class" in Classics. His essays on the Interpretation of Scripture, even though regarded as heterodox by some, are exceedingly able and learned. Perhaps no scholar of the age has studied with so much success the works of Plato, and his translation of that great Philosopher's works, published in four thick octavo volumes, is too well known to need commendation from me. Men of learning have long ago acknowledged the scholarship and critical ability therein exhibited. The following paragraph, bearing testimony to the kind heart and scholarship of the present master of Balliol College may be given without apology:—

"Mr. Jowett had not been a tutor more than a few years before he became a power in the University. He had a singular habit of winning the confidence of young men. Hardened reprobates used to seek him out of their own free will; own their faults, and promise to turn over a new leaf; and when they had done so they used to find the young Balliol Tutor a very *Shylock* in holding them to their bond. Dull or stupid or nervous men who mistrusted their own powers and wanted encouragement were inspired and consoled when Mr. Jowett took them by the hand, pointed out to them how promising their work really was, chered them with an expression of his good opinion, and so taught them to have confidence in themselves. Nor did he confine the range of his sympathies or his influence to his own College. Whenever he heard of an undergraduate really in need of assistance of any kind, whether in his work, or in other and more delicate matters, Mr. Jowett would inquire into the case, satisfy himself about it and give precisely that amount of help which was really needed. So in time he became a leader of Oxford thought and life, and as such had many enemies. Dr. Pusey denounced him as an Hegelian, and therefore by logical inference an Atheist. . . . . Through petty persecutions Mr. Jowett went steadily on. This is now some six or seven years ago, and ever since the prestige and influence of Balliol has been gradually extending, until she has become beyond all possibility of question the first seat of learning and education in Europe."