

"Grecian" than Porson. But it would scarcely be a paradox to say that the reason why Englishmen have edited and commented upon the classics less is that they have read them more. If perfect familiarity with the classics and a thoroughly classical taste are enough to constitute a scholar, much of the best scholarship of England would be found among amateurs. Many are the instances of statesmen and proconsuls who through life have kept up their classical studies in the intervals of business, and have turned to them as an intellectual haven in their old age; while the political sentiment of the ruling class has had in it, for the last three centuries, a strong ingredient drawn from republican antiquity.

4. It became clear at least thirty years ago that a measure of university extension would be needed, especially in the interest of a large class in the north of England, generated by the marvellous growth of commerce, which desired a high education, but shrank not only from the expense of Oxford and Cambridge and the sacrifice of time, but still more from the contagion of aristocratic extravagance and the complete interruption of all business connections and ideas. A plan was framed at Oxford by those who recognized this exigency, but at the same time wished to preserve the great historic centres, the purity of the national system, and the standard of national degrees. It was proposed to affiliate local colleges, of which there were several already in existence, and to permit the junior course to be gone through and the lower degree taken at the local college, the university prescribing the curriculum and holding the examinations; while those who desired to go through the senior course and to take the higher degree would be required to come into residence at the university. It was thought that the junior course and

degree would meet the wants of men destined for business, and that a local college might provide an adequate staff of teachers and apparatus for that purpose. The plan was tabled at the time, richly endowed bodies being rather slow in their movements; but it has now been called up again, and is likely to be adopted. In the meantime, however, circumstances have changed. Owens College, Manchester, which would once have accepted affiliation, has grown to what it deems the dimensions of a university. It has claimed university powers, and, after a long controversy and much hesitation on the part of the government, it has carried its point. The resistance, which found sympathy even among the trustees of Owens College, and the hesitation of the government, marked the aversion of the friends of high education in England to the multiplication of universities which they know will be followed by a lowering of the standard.

It remains to be seen whether England, having once got upon the dangerous slope, will be able to prevent herself from sliding into that "one-horse" university system which is the bane alike of Canada and the United States, and, like some other things among us—the state of the municipal franchise, for instance—seems to be at once deplorable and past remedy, since the weaker a college is the more certain it is to cling to its isolation. If the English need a warning example, several of our one-horse universities will furnish it to them with a vengeance. Nothing can be more patent or more flagrant than the inadequacy of some of these institutions to the functions which they pretend to discharge. A primary school convicted of anything like a proportionate deficiency of teachers, books, and apparatus would be at once closed. A small university must of necessity be