On the Cam. Lectures on the University of Cambridge in England

Everett William
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Author: Everett William

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ON THE CAM.

LECTURES
ON THE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
IN ENGLAND.

BY WILLIAM EVERETT, A. M.

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TO THE

REV. JAMES WALKER, D. D., LL. D.,
EX-PRESIDENT OF HARVARD COLLEGE,

MY CONSTANT MODEL OF CHRISTIAN ELOQUENCE AND ACADEMIC CULTURE, AND THE BELOVED FRIEND OF TWO FORMER HOLDERS OF THE SAME HONORABLE POSITION, WHOSE EXAMPLE WAS MY BEST INSTRUCTION IN COLLEGE, 
AND WHOSE MEMORY IS AMONG MY CHOICEST TREASURES.
PREFACE.

The following twelve lectures were delivered in the hall of the Lowell Institute in Boston, in the months of January and February, 1864. In preparing them for the press, it could not escape my notice that much of the matter they contained was of an essentially rhetorical character, better suited for a lecture than an essay. It was no less evident, however, that any attempt to change their tone to something more didactic would be to re-write them entirely, and as they form a connected whole, the result would probably be that the facts and theories brought forward would be made less interesting without any gain in perspicuity or accuracy. They have been therefore submitted to the public exactly as delivered.

For the emphasis with which certain views are advanced, I trust no apology is needed. A residence of seven years and more in two Universi-
ties can hardly fail to generate strong opinions on such topics as the value of College studies; and between three and four years passed in a foreign country is apt to leave the mind in a very different disposition to its inhabitants from those contracted by occasional and short encounters with them. The pages in which a sentiment of the most cordial good-will towards England is advanced were written and spoken at a time when our relations to her were most apathetic, if not antagonistic; I can see no reason to change them now, when recent events, glorious or sad, have brought the countries so much nearer. No class of men appears to me less truly patriotic than those whose only idea of upholding our own country is to run down others; there are such everywhere, and whether Americans or English, they will find little satisfaction in these pages.

It may be proper to say that all statistics with reference to the present condition of Cambridge are taken from the Cambridge Calendar for 1863; the architectural and antiquarian notes from Le Keux's "Memorials of Cambridge"; the reminiscences of the early Puritans from Young's "Chronicles of Massachusetts."
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Lecture I.

**General View of Cambridge University.**

Introduction. — Old and New Cambridge. — American Ignorance of English Universities. — Cambridge and Vicinity described. — Connection and Distinction of University and Colleges. — Analogy of the Union and the States. | 1 |

## Lecture II.

**History and Objects of Cambridge Scholarship.**


## Lecture III.

**Methods of Instruction and Study.**

Competitive Examinations. — The final one described. — University and College Lectures. — College and Private Tutors. — Vindication of the Competitive System, and of the Pursuit of College Studies generally. — "The Wanderers." | 64 |
LECTURE IV.
INCENTIVES TO STUDY, AND NON-STUDENTS.

College Examinations. — Prizes of Various Kinds. — Commemoration. — Scholarships and Fellowships. — The "Poll" Degree. — Professors’ Lectures. — Shifts to avoid Study. — Generosity between Students and Non-Students. — General Discussion of the Cambridge System. . . . . . 97

LECTURE V.
LIFE OF AN UNDERGRADUATE. — REGULAR.

Trinity College selected as the Type. — Dinner in Hall. — College Kitchen and Courtyard. — Union Society. — Vespers on a Saint’s Day. — A Student’s Evening. — A Breakfast Party. — Treatment of Younger by Older Classes. — Private Tutor. — A Walk. . . . . . . . . . . . 139

LECTURE VI.
LIFE OF AN UNDERGRADUATE. — EXCEPTIONAL.

Length of the College Course. — Vacation. — Taking the Degree. — Discipline. — Sundays. — Clubs and Associations. — Cricket and Rowing. — Description of a Boat-Race. — Trinity Boat Song. . . . . . . . . . . 163

LECTURE VII.
SURVEY OF THE DIFFERENT COLLEGES.