LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT. INTRODUCTORY DISCOURSES DELIVERED IN MANCHESTER NEW COLLEGE, AT THE OPENING OF THE SESSION OF 1840

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VARIOUS

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LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.

INTRODUCTORY DISCOURSES

DELIVERED IN MANCHESTER NEW COLLEGE,

AT THE OPENING OF THE SESSION OF 1840.

- 1. ON CLASSICAL LITERATURE. BY F. W. NEWMAN, ESQ. B.A.
- 2. ON MATHEMATICAL SCIENCE, BY R. FINLAY, ESQ., B.A.
- 3. ON PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND NATURAL HISTORY,
- BY M. L. PHILLIPS, ESQ., 4. ON MENTAL AND MORAL PHILOSOPHY. BY JAMES MARTINEAU.
- 5. ON HISTORY. BY JOHN KENRICK, M. A.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

A SYLLABUS OF THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION

IN EACH OF THE CLASSES;

AND THE REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE ADMISSION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE STUDENTS.

LONDON:

SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, AND CO., STATIONERS' HALL COURT;
AND J. GREEN, NEWGATE STREET.

1841.

PREFACE.

In the year 1786, a number of Gentlemen of station and influence in the town and neighbourhood of Manchester, united themselves for the establishment of an Institution which should afford a full and systematic course of Academical Education for Divines, and preparatory instruction for other learned professions, as well as for civil and commercial life; and which should be open to young men of every religious denomination, from whom no test or confession of faith should be required. In pursuance of this plan, a set of academical buildings was erected, and courses of lectures were delivered till 1803, when circumstances connected with the Theological department occasioned the removal of the institution to York.

After an interval of thirty-seven years, Manchester New College has been re-established in the place of its foundation, with such changes in its organization as experience had shewn to be desirable, or were rendered necessary by the present state of science and literature, and by the rise of new institutions of education. One of the most important of these changes is the connexion in which it has been placed with the University of London. By warrant dated February 28th, 1840, Her Majesty empowered the officers of the College to issue certificates to those who should have completed the requisite course of instruction, enabling them to become candidates for the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, Bachelor of Laws or Doctor of Laws, Bachelor of Medicine or Doctor of Medicine, conferred by the University of London. According to the Regulations of the University, those who have matriculated and have subsequently passed two years in study in Manchester New College will be entitled to become candidates for the degree of B. A., and after the expiration of another academical year, of M. A. advantages to be derived from these degrees are not confined to literary and scientific honour and public distinction. "The candidate who shall most distinguish himself in Classics, and the candidate who shall most distinguish himself in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, at the Matriculation, shall each receive from the University an exhibition of £30, per annum for the next two years; and those who distinguish themselves in a similar manner at the B. A. examination, £50, per annum for three years, with the style of University Scholars; at the examination for the degree of A. M. the candidate who shall distinguish himself the most, at the first examination for honours, in Chemistry, and the candidate who shall distinguish himself most in Materia Medica and Pharmacentical Chemistry, shall each receive an exhibition of £30. per annum for the next two years; and at the second examination for Honours, the caudidate who shall distinguish himself the most in Physiology and Comparative Anatomy, the candidate who shall distinguish himself the most in Surgery, and the candidate who shall distinguish himself the most in Medicine, shall each receive an exhibition of £50, per annum for the next two years, with the style of University Medical Scholar." To young men designed for the profession of a Solicitor, the degree of B. A. has the additional advantage of abridging by two years the term of their service under articles of clerkship; so that a student may enter the College at fifteen, go through its course of three years, and having graduated at eighteen, may then commence his clerkship, and be ready for admission at twenty-one.

It may reasonably be anticipated that those public bodies which at present confine their privileges and facilities to graduates of Oxford and Cambridge, will at no distant time grant them equally to those of the University of London.

The course of study as pursued in the College at York appeared to the Ministers of the Crown sufficiently comprehensive to justify its admission into connexion with the University of London; by which it was placed on the same footing as University College, King's College, London, and the University of Durham. Several of its students have already appeared in the First Class, at the examination for the degree of B. A. in 1840. The Committee, however, have judged that in re-establishing the College in Manchester, it was desirable to enlarge the general scale of instruction, and subdivide its departments, in order to secure completeness and accuracy

in every branch. The professorship of History, which has been hitherto combined with that of the Classics, has been separated from it; that of Physical Science and Natural History, from Pure and Mixed Mathematics; and Mental and Moral Philosophy, with Political Economy, have been allotted to a distinct Chair. They believe that by this distribution they have provided for full and exact instruction in all the branches which their course comprehends; and they have endeavoured to fill the several appointments with men, whom, from their past experience as teachers, and from the testimonials which they have received, they have reason to regard as eminently qualified for the duties which they have undertaken.

Those students who enter the College, intending to graduate in the University of London, are required to go through the regular course of study as laid down in the subjoined scheme, course may be pursued by those who do not contemplate graduation. But any of the Classical, Mathematical, Historical or Philosophical Classes may also be attended by persons who have not the necessary time at their command for going through the complete course. In this way those who are engaged in the professional studies of Law or Medicine, and are obliged to devote to these the larger portion of their hours, may nevertheless be able to give some time to literary and scientific pursuits, which, from the very circumstance that they are not merely professional, are well adapted to enlarge the mind and prevent its habits from assuming a narrow and exclusive character. Even the engagements of business may not be found inconsistent with the devotion of some time to liberal studies, to natural philosophy and history, or the investigation of those principles and laws of human nature which are the foundation of personal and social duty.

The Theological department of the College is entirely separated from the Literary and Scientific. It was the condition of its establishment that no test of religious belief should be exacted from the students, and this condition has been observed, not only in letter but in spirit, in all its regulations. As the students do not live within the College buildings, the religious exercises and instruction of those who are not preparing for the ministry will rest entirely with their own friends, or those to whom they delegate the office. The Theological Professors will open their classes to any

who may desire instruction in Biblical Criticism, in the Evidences of Natural and Revealed Religion, in Oriental Languages, or in Ecclesiastical History: but such attendance will be entirely voluntary. Should the case hereafter occur, that any parties who support the College are desirous of the appointment of another Theological teacher, who shall expound their own views to students of their denomination, there is nothing in its constitution to binder the Committee from acquiescing in such appointments, provided that adequate funds are furnished, and that attendance on the lectures is not made compulsory. It is also one of the regulations of the College, that no part of the remuneration of the Theological Professors shall be drawn from the fees paid by students who do not attend their lectures.

In the case of students who may come from a distance to reside in Manchester, while prosecuting their studies at the College, the Committee offer their services in pointing out suitable places for lodging and boarding. A plan has been adopted, by means of which their habits in regard to the disposal of their time may become known to the Professors, and reports will be made at stated intervals to the friends of those who are under the discipline of the College, including, besides this point, their regularity of attendance on Lectures and proficiency in their studies.

Having thus made known their course of study and plan of discipline, the Committee of Manchester New College earnestly call on the public for their support. They appeal not exclusively to any one denomination or party, but to all the friends of Academical Education, conducted upon the comprehensive principle which they have assumed as their basis. The removal to Manchester and the increase of the number of Professors has rendered necessary a great additional expenditure; and the enlargement of the plan of study makes it expedient to provide a philosophical and chemical apparatus far exceeding in extent and costliness what the College previously possessed. The increase of the Library, especially in the scientific department, although not equally urgent, is highly desirable. The experiment which the Committee are making cannot therefore be fully and fairly made, or continued for such a length of time as will afford an accurate test of its prospect of success, without liberal support in the form of new subscriptions and benefactions. These will be appropriated exclusively to the literary and scientific department

in all cases in which the subscribers and donors express such a wish. Ultimate success, however, must arise from the conviction of the public, that increased facilities for academical education are needed, and that the College is competent to supply them. the latter point the Committee do not presume to anticipate the decision which will be formed by others. In regard to the former they observe that in towns not superior nor even equal to Manchester in population and wealth, Colleges have been established within the last few years, or schools founded on a plan so remodelled and enlarged, as to include what more properly belongs to academical instruction. Such has been the effect of modern improvement in rendering communication rapid and easy, that Manchester is now as accessible from distant parts of the kingdom, as it was from the remoter parts of the district in which it stands, at the time of the foundation of the College. To those who are resident in Manchester, the expence, consisting only in fees, will be very moderate; and even those who come from a distance, will find the united cost of residence and tuition less than they must incur in any other place at which academical education is to be obtained.

