

**NEW COLLEGE,
1856-1906**

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New College, 1856-1906 by Hereford B. George

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HEREFORD B. GEORGE

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BY

HEREFORD B. GEORGE, M.A.

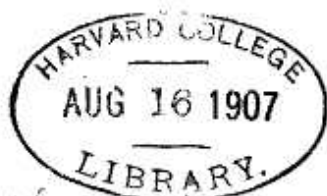
SENIOR FELLOW

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1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. This includes both traditional manual methods and modern digital technologies, highlighting the benefits of each approach.

3. The third part focuses on the challenges associated with data management, such as data security, privacy concerns, and the need for robust backup and recovery procedures. It provides practical advice on how to address these issues effectively.

4. The final part of the document discusses the importance of regular audits and reviews to ensure that the data management processes are up-to-date and compliant with relevant regulations and standards.

SECTION I

INTRODUCTORY

THE development of New College, which from the smallest has become very nearly the largest College in Oxford, is one of the most conspicuous facts in the history of the University since the first Commission. Moreover New College was able to take the lead in making many of the changes which in the aggregate have transformed Oxford. Thus its history ought to interest in some degree all who care to trace out the process whereby Oxford has renewed its youth. And its history ought specially to interest its own *alumni*, who have a patriotic pride in its success, and a good right to know how that success was gained.

My pretensions to tell the story rest upon the accident that I alone have been concerned in it all. I was a Fellow before the great changes wrought by the Commission took effect, and have been resident, save for a short interval, ever since. I have taken part in the deliberations which have led to every new step, and in the administration of the College under the gradually changing conditions. No one else, as it happens, has had this fortune; my colleagues in the earlier and more critical years went away to other spheres of duty: my colleagues in the later period entered the College after the chief difficulties had been conquered. I do not claim for

myself any conspicuous share in the credit due, whatever that may be, very much the reverse: all that I claim is to have had unique opportunity of knowing what was done, and when, and why. In truth I think that the College owes nearly all to its singular good fortune in never having had any serious dissensions among the resident Fellows. Differences of opinion on points of detail, on the best means of attaining a given end, there have necessarily been; but there have seldom been any as to the ends desirable, and those who have been overruled have always loyally acquiesced. One Fellow or another has originated something new, but once adopted it has become the property of the whole body. Hence there is no occasion to mention individual names in order to make the story clear, and I greatly rejoice that it is so. Personal references easily degenerate into gossip, and may still more easily offend: if such were necessary, I should leave this unwritten.

There are, however, three persons who in different ways form exceptions—the late Warden, Alfred Robinson, and Edward Charles Wickham, now Dean of Lincoln: and I wish to record here once for all what the College owes to each of them. Warden Sewell's own feelings were all against change; by disposition he was essentially conservative. Nevertheless he accepted every decision as binding on himself, not only legally but in spirit, and was always anxious, if a change which in itself he deprecated was resolved on, that it should be made in the best and most effective way. In reference to several such measures, he had the magnanimity to say publicly that he recognized after experience that he had been wrong

in his opposition. I believe that the College owes very greatly to him the continuity of its life. New men have joined its ranks, but they have fitted themselves into the old framework: new ideas have become dominant, but they have blended with the old, not expelled them.

Alfred Robinson became a Fellow after the great changes had been made, when the College was already growing in size and importance. The value of his services, both as a teacher and as an administrator, cannot be over-estimated. For the last twenty years of his life, cut short in 1895, he was the most important person in the College. He had an extraordinary power of working into practical shape new ideas, whether originally his own or not, and of seeing how to carry them out with the least friction. He attached to himself successive generations of undergraduates, scholars and athletes alike, who all felt that they could rely implicitly on his sympathy and judgement. Far more than any one else he assured and consolidated the success beginning to accrue when he first entered the College, success which without him might have been precarious. That he was capable of playing a more creative part still no one who knew him well can doubt: but, as a matter of fact, he only came in time for the later measures.

The real moving spirit in the all-important decade which began in 1860 was Edward Wickham. He did not of course originate every reform, but he did suggest many: more important perhaps, he aroused in others the spirit which to some old-fashioned Fellows of that date seemed abominable restlessness. He was never content with the existing state of things if he could see a way to