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By Reverence : By Questioning : By Service

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NOTES.

THE College closed for the Long Vacation on Thursday the 9th April along with the Easter Holidays, and reopened on Monday the 6th July. It was, however, closed immediately for two days as a mark of respect to the memory of Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das whose unexpected and untimely death is felt as a terrible calamity by the whole country. Work commenced on Thursday the 9th July in the old classes, and on Wednesday the 15th July and Monday the 20th July in the newly formed First and Third year classes respectively. We take this opportunity to accord a hearty welcome to our teachers and students, especially the 'freshers,' at the commencement of the new Session.

Important changes are likely to take place in the Matriculation curriculum of the University of Calcutta, if the proposals of the Senate are sanctioned *in toto* by the Government. The teaching and examination of all the subjects except English, are to be conducted in the vernacular. This is as it should be. Much of the student's energy is wasted when he is called upon to learn things through the medium of a foreign tongue, and it is gratifying to note that our veteran Senators have ultimately realised this difficulty after an age of profound indifference, and are now actively engaged in removing it altogether. Better late than never!

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In the proposed new regulations Bengali finds herself in the position of a *real* language—a position which she rightly deserves. History and Geography will once more be compulsory. Candidates, moreover, will be required to produce a certificate to the effect that they have been trained in at least one of a number of technical subjects which include spinning, weaving, carpentry etc. There will be two papers in English ; two papers in the Vernacular ; one paper in Mathematics ; one paper in History ; one paper in Geography ; and one paper in a sixth subject chosen out of a group where the number of subjects is pretty large. A candidate will, besides, have the option to choose one more subject from out of this group. In order to qualify for a First Division a candidate will have to obtain at least 60 p.c. of the total marks ; he will have to secure at least 50 p.c. of the total to qualify for a Second Division. All this is very well. But one is painfully surprised to find Sanskrit in the list of optional subjects. We do not know how one can boast of Indian culture without at least a rudimentary knowledge of this ancient Indian language ; but we understand the Senate in its eager desire to meet present-day requirements had no other alternative before it than the sacrifice of Sanskrit. One redeeming feature, however, is the *proviso* that no one will be allowed to graduate in Arts without passing the Matriculation Examination in Sanskrit. The much-condemned age restriction, too, is going to be removed, but successful candidates desirous of prosecuting their studies further in the Colleges will be required to produce a certificate from the Principal that they are not less than fifteen!
