

*de corps* among themselves and express their views independently and intelligently on all such questions as concern them. The reading matter contained in the two issues before us—August and September—possesses an agreeable variety. Specially worthy of notice is the reprint of a paper by Professor Benoyendra Nath, Sen M. A., on 'In Memoriam.' We are also highly delighted with the Bengalee portion in which among other things Bengalee translations of several English poems appear. We have always thought that this kind of literary exercise should form the intellectual recreation of our educated young men as there is no more efficient way of enriching vernacular literature than the felicitous translation of masterpieces in English literature.

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Periodicals received since our last acknowledgment:—*Central Hindu College Magazine* for September, October and November; *The Student's Own Magazine* for August, September and October; *The D. A. V. College Union Magazine* for September and October (a double number) and for November; *The Student's Magazine* for August and September; *The Indian Student* for August, September and October; the *Utbodhana* and the *Sanjibani*. We are also glad to inform our readers that *Macmillan's Magazine*, *Indian Education* and the *Educational Review* are regularly taken by the College Library.

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### WALPOLE AND PITT.

Among the great statesmen who guided the fortunes of England, under whom the material progress of the country was such as England had never witnessed before and under whom England began that career which was to make it the

workshop of the world, we find Walpole and Pitt, the two ablest prime-ministers England has ever produced.

Both Walpole and Pitt were peace-loving men of industrious habits, despatched their business in good order and were skilful in debate and in finance. It was to their dexterous management and compact organisation, that the Whigs owed their long rule over England.

Walpole had many grave defects from which Pitt was free. Walpole liked to have power in his own hands and being jealous of others he parted by degrees with nearly all the best men in his Cabinet. He held his great power with a tenacious grasp and preserved it not very honestly indeed, but with consummate tact. Bribery was the secret of his long reign as Premier. He made himself the first Prime Minister by buying off the conscience of the people. To some he gave titles of honour, coronets, ribbon or stars; to others places of profit or of power; and among the general mass of members of the House of Commons he scattered gold without stint. Thus he had always at his command a majority of votes in the Houses of Parliament. Walpole was not a man of independence and of just principle as he had always an eye to his personal gain. He tried to lighten the Customs duties paid at the English sea-ports and to collect the duties on certain goods as excise or inland tax. The people did not understand this. The merchants set up a cry of ruin. The cry was loudly echoed by the Opposition who imagined that they saw in the measure a scheme by which the Premier intended to create a whole army of excisemen whose votes, always ready at his beck, would carry the day at every election. When the cautious minister saw the great agitation against the Bill, he withdrew the Bill altogether, content to lose his point rather than risk his power. The members of the Opposition were great in number; they were greatly indignant at him; so they stood

against him at the time when Walpole tried hard to keep peace with the Spaniards against whom the English declared war. Walpole was forced to resign and retired with the title of Earl of Oxford to his country seat of Houghton.

Now if we turn to William Pitt we find that when he, at the age of twenty-three, became Chancellor of the Exchequer and Prime-Minister, Fox laughed at him as 'a mere boy' and little thought that he would remain Prime-Minister for seventeen years. He had not even a majority in the House and five times he was outvoted; still he fought on, for he knew that the people outside the house were on his side and he hoped to break down the bribery and corruption of the great Whig houses by showing that he meant to reform abuses and govern well. India owes to Pitt's triumph a form of Government which remains unchanged to this day. As a statesman, he was distinguished for his hatred of bribery and his honest disbursement of the public money. There had never been so young a Premier and few have been so good. He did great things for the nation and his love for England was very deep. He was instrumental in passing the Union Act by which Ireland was united with Britain in 1800. This union was only part of the great plan which Pitt had conceived for the conciliation of Ireland. With the conclusion of the union his projects of Free Trade between the two countries came quietly into play. He had shown rare powers of administration and the foresight, courage, and temperance which mark the real rulers of men. He knew his power fully well and whenever he thought it advisable to do a thing at the cost of incurring displeasure among his fellowmen he did it without hesitation. The refusal in spite of pressure from the King to shelter Hastings when he became fully conscious that he (Hastings) was unjust, marked the character of William Pitt. In 1788 when George III became insane, the Regency Bill was discussed and Pitt maintained against Fox the right of

Parliament to settle the Regency. He was not only a peace-minister and financier but a statesman who saw that the best security for peace lay in the freedom and widening of commercial intercourse between nations and for this reason he grasped the part which industry was to play in promoting the welfare of the world and this helped him to pass the measures with success. The smuggling trade was greatly reduced. He then turned his attention to the improvement of the finances, reduced the National Debt, established a new constitution for the East India Company and got new laws passed for the relief of the Roman Catholics and the Irish peasants and adopted measures for the improvement of the national defences. Pitt tried to come to terms with the French Directory but he tried in vain as the French elated by their victories abroad, refused to give up all those countries, asked for and moreover they were planning a joint attack of the Dutch, French and Spanish fleets to sweep the English ships from the Channel; so England in this case, must either go on with the war or lose her commerce and power; but she was unwilling to adopt the latter course. The "Act of Union" received the royal assent in which the Irish Parliament was abolished and the inhabitants of Ireland were allowed to send a hundred members to the House of Commons and four bishops and twenty-four lords to the House of Peers. Unfortunately the king let himself be persuaded that it was against his coronation to allow Pitt to bring forward a Bill giving the Catholics the rights which he had promised. "I count any man my personal enemy," the king broke out angrily, "who proposes any such measure". Thus one great sore remained unhealed and Pitt, who felt bound in honour to keep his word, could only resign his post.

Thus we find the contrast between honest and independent Pitt and tactful and power-loving Walpole, both of whom held for sometime the helm of English administration. Besides



the rare qualifications which marked both of them as the greatest premiers England can boast of, Pitt possessed that moral strength which Walpole lacked.

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## THE CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS.

A writer in the November number of *Indian Education* calls attention in the following article to what appears to him to be some of the prominent defects of the regulations.

"THE promulgation of the New Regulations marks," in the language of the Government of India, "a notable advance in the movement for the extension and progressive development of the higher forms of education which was initiated by the Universities Commission." A careful study of these regulations leaves no doubt in the minds of all interested in the education of the country that the high expectations formed of them by the Government of India are likely to be fulfilled in time, if they are worked in a liberal and practical way, and the "loyal and hearty co-operation of all colleges and schools" on whose support the Government of India count with confidence fostered and developed by the University with a "judicious exercise of its influence and authority" in a true academic spirit. It is, therefore, in no mood of carping criticism but in a genuine spirit of "loyal and hearty co-operation" that I proceed to point out what appear to me to be the main defects of this otherwise most wholesome body of regulations.

### I.

The new regulations so far as they relate to the preparation and publication of text-books have a tendency to degrade the University into a publishing concern having the sole monopoly in the preparation and publication of certain text-books and selections which will be prescribed by the University for the several University Examinations. Considering that the number of candidates for these examinations is very large and that the purchase of prescribed books will be compulsory, the sale of such books is likely to bring to the coffers of the University a good round sum annually, and from a commercial point of view the provision, no doubt, is very wise indeed, especially in view of the prospective large increase in the