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प्रणिपातेन परिप्रश्नेन सेवया

By Reverence : By Questioning : By Service

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THE MONTH.

Our College is expected to close for the Long Vacation in the middle of April and to re-open early in July. In accordance with our usual practice there will be no issue of the Magazine for the Vacation months of April, May and June; the July number succeeding the present number in due course.

We understand that the adjourned Matriculation Examination will be held on Tuesday the 2nd April and the following days. We further understand that the Intermediate Examinations commence on the 18th instant instead of on the 13th instant and the B. A. and B. Sc. Examinations on the 8th April instead of on the 4th April as announced before.

OUR KHAKI CONVOCATION.

We owe the following observations to a contemporary :—

"Saturday's was truly a "Khaki Convocation" as the Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor felicitously called it. A large portion of the auditorium was occupied by men in Khaki, being the graduates and undergraduates of the

University who form the Calcutta University Infantry, half a battalion strong, who are either in camp or awaiting their turn to go into it. Among them were one M.A. and twenty-four B.A.'s and B.Sc's as also a Captain of the Nepalese Army who had just achieved the B.A. degree. Outside in the Street, facing the Senate House was a guard of Honour from the University Infantry, 100 strong.

"A peculiar feature of this year's Convocation was that some of the recipients of diplomas, about 20 in number, came in "Khaki" and received their charge.

"The usual long and trying process of degree-giving and "charging" went on for about an hour, concluding with the sensation of the day which occurred when the detachment of men in uniforms and bayonets tangling from their belts, and academic rolls over all marched up to the dais with measured steps and correct military bearing and movements. On receiving their degrees and "charge" they retired to their seats. On arrival, departure and on the march back they received about an ovation far exceeding any that has been known within that spacious Hall for a long time."

We take great pleasure in quoting the following extracts from the second day's speech of His Excellency the Rector :—

"The first fundamental fact that stares one in the face is that in India all higher education is imparted in a language which is not the student's mother tongue.

"I may be wrong, but I should have thought that the boy who could translate, a column of a vernacular newspaper into good plain English would be far better equipped for the struggle of life than the boy who could give an answer to such questions as I have quoted—an answer which in nine cases out of ten probably, would be the mere repetition of a note committed to memory after having been dictated to him by the teacher who had coached him for the examination. By all means let those whose bent lies in that direction study the masterpieces of English literature ; but that is a very different thing from compelling all and sundry to study a literature which is not their own and which has no relation whatsoever to the daily experience of their own lives."

"What did surprise me was to learn that up to the B. A. Degree Indian Philosophy finds no place in the curriculum. It is western Philosophy only that is taught.

"That an Indian student should pass through a course of Philosophy at an Indian University without even hearing mention of, shall I say,

Sankarā, the thinker who perhaps has carried idealism further than any other thinker of any other age or country, or of the subtleties of the Nyāya system which has been handed down through immemorial ages, and is to-day the pride and glory of the toils of Navadvīp. does, indeed, appear to me to be a profound anomaly. I should have expected to find the deep thought of India which has sprung from the genius of the people themselves, being discussed and taught as the normal course in an Indian University; and the speculations and systems of other peoples from other lands introduced to the student at a later stage after he has obtained a comprehensive view of the philosophic wisdom of his own country."

We fully endorse the following appreciation of the work of our retiring Vice-Chancellor that fell from the lips of His Excellency the Rector on both the days of the Convocation :—

"Let me take this opportunity of expressing to Dr. Sarbadhikari, the retiring Vice-Chancellor an expression of our gratitude to him for the untiring zeal and the single-minded devotion with which he has discharged the heavy duties of his great office. That office is indeed no light one. For the proper discharge of its duties its holder must be prepared to sacrifice his time and his convenience. For four years Dr. Sarbadhikari has laboured with tact, with industry and with a courteous dignity for the honour and the interests of the University. And I should be guilty of doing less than my duty, if I were to fail to convey to him upon your behalf as well as upon my own, our grateful thanks.

"I tender him our grateful thanks for the unflagging and self-sacrificing zeal with which he has dedicated his time and his talents to its service."

OUR EXCHANGES.

Bikash (Rungpur Zila School) for Oct. Nov. Dec. 1917.

Aligarh Monthly for December 1917.

Jagannath College Magazine for January.

Presidency College Magazine for February.

Kayastha Samachar for February.

Mahamandal Magazine for February.

Pratibha for Phalgun.
