

Society for the Collegiate Instruction of Women

CAMBRIDGE, FEB. 22, 1883.

FOUR years ago, in 1879, a circular was issued offering Private Collegiate Instruction to Women at Cambridge, the instruction to be given by professors and teachers of Harvard University.

This scheme, more generally known as the "Harvard Annex," was organized by a few persons desirous to meet a wish often expressed that women should share, in some way, the educational advantages of Harvard College.

With the help of friends the sum of \$15,000 was raised in order to give the plan a trial during a term of four years. The experiment (for so it was considered by those who projected it) is now in its fourth year. It has encountered no difficulties either from within or from without. Far from exciting opposition or prejudice it has worked so simply and easily that its success has hardly attracted attention. Probably few persons are aware how closely the courses of study given in the Annex correspond in character, though not as yet in number and variety, with those of the University itself. The same examination papers are used and the same tests of proficiency applied in both. The instruction is given exclusively by officers of Harvard College, without whose generous co-operation the attempt must have been abandoned at the outset.*

The annual number of students, since the first year, when the Annex opened with twenty-seven pupils, has been from thirty-five to forty. Some of these students have been themselves teachers, desiring fresh information on special subjects, others have been young women fitting themselves to be teachers, while not a few have been brought by the simple love of study without other object. All have found in great degree what they sought.

* A course is offered corresponding to that required in the Freshman year, and courses corresponding to those of the other college years can be formed from the studies which are open to more advanced students, (*Annual Circular*.)

Their appreciation of the opportunities offered them has been shown by the high average standard of their work no less than by its exceptional excellence in individual cases.

Thus encouraged, the undersigned feel justified in appealing to the public for the support of a scheme which is of such evident value to women and has proved so practicable. Its means are, however, very nearly exhausted and it lacks the stability which an assured income and a recognised connection with the College alone can give it. The one advantage is dependent on the other since Harvard College has no means applicable to the support of such an addition to its work. It is true that her professors have liberally aided the enterprise thus far, but it has no official, and consequently no certain, claim upon their services. Without some definite relation to the University a college for women in Cambridge would have no distinctive character, and would be superfluous and inexpedient.

We therefore ask all who wish that University education should be placed within the reach of women, to help us in raising a sum of not less than \$100,000 toward this end.

MRS. LOUIS AGASSIZ (*President*), Quincy St., Cambridge, Mass.
MISS ALICE M. LONGFELLOW (*Treasurer*), Brattle St. " "
MRS. E. W. GURNEY, Fayerweather Street, " "
MRS. J. P. COOKE, Quincy Street, " "
MRS. ARTHUR GILMAN, Waterhouse Street, " "
MISS LILIAN HORSFORD, Craigie Street, " "
MISS ELLEN F. MASON, Walnut Street, Boston, Mass.

Ladies of the Executive Committee

Subscriptions may be sent to any of the above addresses or to Henry Lee Higginson, Esq., 44 State Street, Boston, Mass.

The subscription as it now stands amounts to \$36,400, given in the following sums:—

Executors of George O. Hovey	\$5,000
Miss Marian Hovey	1,000
Mrs. Augustus Hemenway	5,000
Miss Ellen F. Mason	5,000
Mrs. Quincy A. Shaw	5,000
Mrs. J. Malcolm Forbes	300

Mr. Thomas G. Appleton	5,000
Mrs. Louis Agassiz	500
Mrs. Walter C. Cabot	500
Mrs. E. W. Gurney	2,000
Miss Annette P. Rogers	1,000
A Friend	1,000
Mrs. William A. Tappan	100
Miss Mary Tappan	100
Mrs. J. L. Gardner, Jun.	200
Mrs. George Putnam	100
Mrs. Charles T. Paine	1,000
Mrs. Charles Hemenway	100
A Friend	500
Mr. George Higginson	2,000
Mr. C. C. Jackson	1,000