

THE CO-ED IN THE EAST.

I have heard several very energetic complaints lately from girls from the west who are students in Radcliffe college of the position in which practically all the women in that institution are placed. One of these girls, who is a graduate of a big coeducational university in the west, where women are on exactly the same footing as men, and who had never before come into any contact with a prejudice against women in schools, can hardly contain her indignation. "Several times," she says, "when I have been reading a book in the Harvard library, the book has been actually and literally taken out of my hands, because, as the attendant simply and gracefully said, 'a Harvard student wanted it.' Of course," the young lady went on, "I know we are in Cambridge only by sufferance, but I think they might not insist on the sufferance quite as much as they do. I'm not going to say any more, because you see I'm staying and taking it, since I have an object to attain by coming here. But nothing can prevent me from accumulating a big mad while I'm here!" Of course the young lady's future criticisms are disarmed by her submission; and now that she fully realizes, what she did not before she came, that she is living on the crumbs that fall from Harvard's table, her indignation may abate as her resignation increases. And for that matter, it is doubtful if there is a coeducational college, or one which is associated or affiliated with a "male university," in all New England, where the position of women is not more or less humiliating. To obtain frankly equal and quite cheering and humane relations with men students, women must go to the great western universities. And, if we may judge from the way in which these western universities are coming forward, the time may not be far distant when they will begin to attract students from New England. For that matter, they must have begun it already, for here is a University of Michigan catalogue which has the names of several students from New England states on its list.

Speaking of coeducation, I find this crisp paragraph on the subject in the New York Commercial Advertiser:

"Wesleyan university is threatened with a peculiar danger. Women were let in some years ago, and they multiplied so rapidly that the alumni fear that it will end in the transformation of the institution into a woman's college. The percentage of women rose from seven to twenty-three in ten years, a rate of increase which in about fifteen years from now would bring the number of women up to that of men. The same results are feared as

in the case of the English sparrows and of the gypsy moth in Massachusetts, and the only way out of the difficulty is the organization of a separate woman's college within the university. Coeducation is seen to be safe only within certain arithmetical limits, and the Wesleyan alumni have done educators a service in defining the danger line at twenty-three per cent. Above twenty-three per cent women become terrible to man. He begins to cut lectures and to blush furiously when he recites. The instructors all lose their virility, just as they came near doing at Harvard before Professor Wendell sounded the alarm. But on this principle is it not safer to let coeducation alone? You never can be sure that women will keep below twenty-three per cent. In going to college, as in shopping, they defy all numerical restraint."—Boston Transcript.

Yankton College at Yankton, S. D., has raised the money to pay a \$30,000 indebtedness and is now entitled to the endowment of \$50,000 which D. K. Pearsons offered as an inducement to the college officials to raise the debt before March 1, 1900.

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