

of America with the exception of Princeton. Harvard has ninety organizations all tending to bring men of congeniality closer together. The societies were started before mingling of classes was made possible by the elective system and while class organization and class feeling were strong—thus we find at Harvard sophomore, junior, senior societies, and recently a few general societies. The basis of membership is sociability and general affinity. Among the older sophomore societies is the Institute of 1770, originally a debating club of seniors, but it has finally descended to sophomores. The oldest of senior societies is the "Hasty Pudding Club", organized in 1795 "to cherish the feelings of good friendship and patriotism." The name of the club was derived from a clause in the constitution which provided that a hasty pudding should be furnished at each meeting by some of its members. Debating was the main purpose at first, but they gradually gave way to mock trials and later to plays. In 1834 it became a secret organization and each year's membership chose their successors. The Signet, the last prominent senior society organized in 1870 is much smaller in size and is devoted to literary work of a high character.

The Porcellian Club was the first distinctly Harvard society to include members from all classes. Their aim was to establish the society "on some of the strongest principles of our nature; upon sociability, brotherly affection, and generosity; and upon those qualities of liberality and courtesy and that spirit of a true gentleman which are best expressed in the Greek motto of the society." This club has a strong organization. All business affairs are in the hands of graduate members. Among its Alumni have been men of talent and influence such as Wendall Phillips, Story, Adams, Charles Sumner and James Russell Lowell.

A freshman of Harvard, if ambitious, may become a high scholar, but the college offers him so much besides high scholarship, that he is content to be but a passably fair student, devoting considerable share of attention to the accomplishment of social ends. In his freshman year, if he has made himself conspicuous through athletics or college politics, or if he already has friends in the upper class societies, he is called upon by members of the sophomore society; if he makes himself agreeable, he is invited to become one of ten elected members of the Institute of 1770.

His social career is now started. In his sophomore year he is invited to join one of the small clubs composed of juniors and seniors who take in a few sophomores. This affords him the convenience