Asiatic mind their governors at variance, and thereby weaken authority, which, even arbitrary and despotic, is already in all ages most effectually governed the East. A dispute has occurred connected with land purchases in New Zealand, under which an imposed military of which had to proceed to the district, it is hoped bloodshed may have been avoided.

THE UNIVERSITIES.

(For Our Own Correspondent.)

CAMBRIDGE, May 10.

I PROPOSE in my communications to the "Literary Gazette" to take a superficial view of Cambridge life; to tell you about the students, about the colleges, about the University, without entering into speculations, or theories, or discussions upon questions of deep educational or social significance. My object always has been to write a letter written curent causum, the design of which is to make known to distant readers what is going on in a locality which they can never cease to love. The university is remembered in after years for many things besides the classics and mathematics which it instils into the minds of the undergraduates; it is the very home of collegiate life, and a long and good education can do no more to lift the student beyond the limits of academic work, and speak of pursuits and events which are as inseparable from the idea of Cambridge life as the Senate House Humanists. If I had been writing two or three years ago, I might have had a great deal to say touching the great changes going on in the character of our university system, under the Act of 1856. Considerable excitement and difference of opinion prevailed at the time, and alterations, some of which involved principles of great importance, stirred up warm feelings. So far as the university is concerned, little or nothing remains to be done. We are remaining a country, in the fullest sense of the word, after all the excitement of the education, the college arrangements, and the practice of the college. Mr. Darwin's speculations upon species, and his theory of natural selection, do not meet with much general acceptance here. Professor Sedgwick gave an address upon the subject before a large audience, at the Philosophical Society's Hall, on the evening of Monday last. He spoke in the strongest possible condemnation of the theory, as entirely without philosophical foundation upon facts, and as subversive of the idea of a great and continuous system of events, so that the theory itself is argued, and Christ and His Apostles are impotents. He spoke for about an hour and a-half with all the earnestness which used to characterise his addresses, but with but a marked diminution of physical power. I fancy that his views met with general approval in the audience to whom they were addressed. Professor Clarke was, if possible, more severe in his condemnation of Mr. Darwin's theory than his brother professor. He said that what struck him as most remarkable in the writings of many prominent men was the fact that few matters in "science," with which they set down all who do not fall in with their notions as antiquated blockheads. Mr. Darwin founded a generous defender, not of his views, but of his views and time, in Professor Henslow, who knows him well, and has had many conversations with him upon the subject of his book. The scientific gentlemen are entitled in every way to respect, who believed that his theory of natural selection tended to elevate our ideas of the Creator; he had, however, in the professor's opinion, only a scanty knowledge of those methods of investigation and reasoning, and his speculations were unworthy of acceptance. Nevertheless, his book had great value, and Professor Sedgwick calculates a very useful lesson upon the diminution of the number of species.

Whatever views may have been entertained by any of the audience in favour of Mr. Darwin's theory, I found no utterance. The only speakers were the three professors I have named; and their condemnation of it was complete and unhesitating. Professor Phillips, of Oxford, will probably deal with the same subject in the Senate House next Tuesday, when he will deliver the Rede's Lecture.

Irrespective of all educational matters, there is a good deal of action in Cambridge just now. The great attraction of Cambridge for artists and students of all kinds is the rifle movement. They are constantly at work with that formidable weapon, which confronts you at every turn. I suppose it is well known that in the University in the college buildings is an array of grey uniform, with white braid, silver ornaments, and shiny yellow leather leggings. It is an effective dress, but a little sorry in cut and appearance. The town uniform is dark green, with black leather belt, &c., and is the neater of the two. This rifle movement is rather an obstacle to the cult of the apple-tree, as many of the students who have taken up residence in Cambridge with energy and success. Boating, too, feels its effect in a minor degree, for a man cannot follow rifle-practice, and yet enjoy the advantages of boating. There are considerable differences in turning the minds and wishes of young men from the field of missionary labour. The eight-oar races for this year will be held on Thursday; and even whilst I write hundreds are preparing for an exciting run on the banks of the river, and a vigorous cheering of their favourite crews will be heard. The river will be crowded with spectators, and the river banks are closed. From the university, and the grounds of Trinity College, on the 24th; so that, upon the whole, we are at least as gay as usual during the university term.

For the spiritually-minded persons, excitement of another sort is provided. The Additional Church Society has had its anniversary in a quiet way. Next week the Church Missionary Society will make a more extensive display, with its series of lectures and three public meetings; and the week after that we shall be appealed to on behalf of the Central African Mission, which has been the occasion of one of the best meetings of the Archbishop. A gentleman well known in Cambridge, will be the episcopal head of the new mission, and he is coming on the Lincs. for the purpose.

An anti-proctorial agitation, springing out of the capture of some government and young ladies on their way in an omnibus to a dance got up at a public house a few miles out of the town, and fostered by unseemly spirits always on the look-out for some sore place between town and gown, has been going on for some time, and some marvellous rubbish has been written upon the subject in the London papers by gentlemen who know as much about Cambridge as they know about the internal arrangements of the Emperor of China's palace at Pekin. As the gentlemen whose publications were put into the spinning-house in the usual way, and they have been made use of as the signal of the plaintiff in seven actions for libel, it is left for them to take the law into their own hands.

The actions, it is expected, will be tried in Westminster some time in June, and Mr. Brough's intervention will no doubt put an end to the emancipation of the interested mischief-makers who are pulling the strings in this affair.

Raphael's famous picture, "The Archangel and Satan," has been replaced in the Louvre. The surface had begun to crumble away and had occasionally fallen off, but the work has been put upon a new canvas, and is said to be restored in an admirable manner.