

Removal to Dormitory.

Every thing has its advantages and disadvantages, and our dormitory is also not without them. To begin with its advantages. Besides its material conveniences, there is a peculiar advantage, of which but few are aware. In my view, ~~our dormitory~~ is nothing but a vast exhibition of motley people from every quarter of Japan. So I advise you, if you ~~are~~ wish to study your fellow creatures, to remove to it. For there you can easily see every phase of human nature, from gay, jovial fellows to retired, melancholy scholars. Students of highly frivolous nature, living together with grave, stern moralists; or shy delicate poets sitting side by side with dry bearish lawyers, may afford you an ample stock of observation.

On the other hand, there is no place so ill-suited as our dormitory for studying books. To understand me, you are only required to conceive a room eight yards by six, inhabited ~~with~~^{occupied} nine or ten scholars. You can easily imagine, their chattering, babbling, the clanking noise of their heavy boots, the tremendous jarring of the door. What is worse, you are deprived there of every thing which has an aesthetic touch in it. Turn wherever you ~~would~~^{will}, all is dry & tasteless. Live only for a few days in it, and if you do not find it insufferable, you are neither a man of taste nor a diligent scholar.

10/3/90

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1st Natsume.
2nd yr. Literature.

Very busy
by