1. “A few years ago, the University of Oxford...”

This is simply an allegory, and with a little attention it may be easily seen that it is not so much the University of Oxford as the University of North Carolina, which I undertake to describe.

But lest you should think that my introduction is altogether a metaphorical romance, I beg leave to refer you to the Edinburgh Review for June 1831, Dec. 1831, Oct. 1834, Jan. 1835, and especially to Appendix III (4) in Sir William Hamilton’s Disquisitions.

2. “The doors of the University of North Carolina are open to all comers...”

Since I have been connected with the University (July 53), upwards of seventy applicants were reported by their examiners as deficient in some important study or studies; and yet, they all were admitted, and multiculated enthusiastically. The Journal does not point out a single instance where any of them was removed or ordered to leave at any time thereafter, on account of his imperfect scholarship. Some left on their own accord, a few have been dismissed for drunkenness; a certain number graduated, perhaps with college honors, but most of them, whether good or bad, are still in our midst, enjoying the blessings of “mild” measures, and backing in the same shoes.

The ordinances of 1835 permit something of the kind, but...