University Control

BOLOGNA and Paris are the archetypal universities from which all others have descended and from which they have in some measure inherited their present organization and methods. In the first decades of the twelfth century Irnerius lectured at Bologna on the civil law, and Abelard at Paris on philosophy and theology. There were at the same time other eminent teachers in those cities, and students were attracted from all parts of Europe. The students in a foreign city organized themselves into guilds for mutual protection and assistance in accordance with the custom of the time. These were the first universities. The lecturers, who had previously taught as the sophists at Athens and the rhetoricians at Rome, or as masters of music, dancing and gymnastics teach to-day, also organized themselves into societies or universities. There were no endowments; no academic buildings. The professors lectured at their homes or in