

OUR LECTURE COURSE.

ROBT. J. BURDETTE.

The lecture season opened early this year. On Monday evening Sept 5th, at 8 o'clock, the, "Hawkeye-Man" stepped upon the platform of College Hall, and was greeted with enthusiasm by an audience which filled the hall,—the press of people having made the opening of the galleries a necessity. Representatives of nearly every community in the county were present. Such an audience has never before greeted a lecturer on College Hill, and only once before in Wolfville,—the exception being when Joseph Howe addressed 800 people on one occasion. The large congregation manifested their appreciation of the lecture and the lecturer by a most attentive hearing, generous applause, and frequent outbursts of laughter. Indeed every one had to laugh. There was no possible escape. We observed men, whose every day face is suggestive of death and judgment, sitting there with shaking sides, mouths stretched to their widest capacity, and spasms of laughter succeeding each other in a manner which must have surprised their faces.

What shall we say of the lecture? Of its irresistible humor, quaint sentences, drolleries, occasional pathos, and passages of rare beauty and true eloquence? No description can approach the reality. Imagine a small man, keen-eyed, wiry and nervous, self-contained, with a thin but thrilling voice, standing quietly, for the most part, and pouring forth sentence after sentence with a volubility that would make a reporter gasp, and with a precision of diction which would compel a rhetorician to admire. Then you have pictured the smallest part. The genial, unaffected, humorous gentleman, whose wit is chaste and tender, turning from vulgarity and every roughness, exalting what is pure and true and kind, talks familiarly with those who sit before him, and all feel that he is *our friend*.

We had almost forgotten to give the subject of the lecture. It was named "The Pilgrimage of the Funny Man." The "Funny Man" was shown to be simply one who uses his eyes; sees the fun in the world; describes it, sometimes with embellishments; laughs

himself and grows kinder thereby; makes others laugh, and thus woees them from bitterness and discontent; smooths the wrinkles of care, and brightens the shadowed earth with the sunshine of harmless merriments.

Mr. Burdette has made many warm friends in Wolfville during his stay here. In the college and village alike are those who will long cherish memories of this visit; and their interest in him, and in his noble wife who bears her cross of pain and suffering with such patience and fortitude, as well as in their little boy, will not soon abate.

It will interest some of our readers to know that Mr. Burdette is a Baptist, whose earnest and unobtrusive piety is admired, by those who know him best, even more than his inimitable humor.

OTHER LECTURERS SECURED.

The following gentlemen are to appear upon our platform during the season. Seymour E. Gourley, Esq., of Truro, who graduated at Acadia in the class of '72; J. G. MacGregor, A. M., D. Sc., F. R. S. E., Professor at Dalhousie College; Archibald Forbes, the distinguished war correspondent, whose fame is world wide; Silas Alward, Esq., of St. John, N. B., a graduate of our college in the class of '60; and Wallace Graham, Esq., of Halifax, a graduate in the class of '67.

SENIOR CLASS.

One thing notable in the history of the class of '82 is the yearly decrease in its members. Although the class matriculated as one of the largest that has ever entered college, our numbers have been yearly lessened and but seven remain under the care of our Alma Mater. We regret that Mr. H. W. Moore, of Portland, N. B., has decided not to finish his College Course. Mr. Moore has distinguished himself as a student during his connection with the college. He has not only taken first place in his Class, but also Honors in Classics, in which department he has won special distinction. We wish him success in following out the *mysterious changes and twistings of the Law*.

We are pleased to know that Mr. A. J. Calhoun, S'side. P. E. I., who found it necessary to leave College last year on account of trouble with his eyes, has returned and takes his place in his class. **SENR.**

"Do you want an image of the human will or the self-determining principle, as compared with its pre-arranged and impassible restrictions? A drop of water, imprisoned in a crystal; you may see such a one in any mineralogical collection. One little fluid particle in the crystalline prism of the solid universe?"—HOLMES.