THE ACADÍA ATHENÆUM.

we did not look upon the first paragraph as being so very much underdrawn after all, and were led to believe that their modesty is only equalled by their need therefor. It must have been a proud and happy day for Mr. S. when he saw his name blazoned forth in the *Gazette*. It was indeed a distinction worth a lifetime of literary toil, and we heartily congratulate our learned and esteemed friend.

And now we will turn from the preceding topic, and meditate for a moment or two on Dalhousie College, etc. What an inherent horror Dalhousie has of the word *Presbyterian*, and how fondly it clings to that spectral adjective *undenominational*. Sometimes even fancying that it can see the magic word *Provincial* glimmering in ghostly characters across the dingy College walls.

We cannot ascertain upon what grounds Dalhousie claims superiority over the other Colleges of the Province. The Gazette, which may be regarded as the mouthpiece of the College, is significantly silent · as to any real reasons for so elevating Dal-ⁱ⁻ housie. It is true that the editors manage very frequently to get off some high sounding platitudes concerning the lofty status of their College, etc., but we merely look upon this as an amusing and certainly a harmless recreation on their part. But when or where did they ever bring forth any facts or arguments to sustain their grandiloquent assertions?

It is also true that Dalhousie last year graduated three students, two, at least, of whom stood high in their class, and even took prizes. Now that is certainly praiseworthy, but it does not justify a proud or arrogant demeanor. Truly great minds are not unduly exalted by triumphs however great.

And then the advantages connected with studying in the venerable structure that overlooks the fresh and enchaating scenery of the Parade cannot be too highly prized. But even such advantages should not excite undue elation. Now we have kindly given the editors of the Gazette two rea sons for the present exaltation of Dalhousie. If they can think of any others we shall be most happy to hear them. But please don't inflict upon us any more mere empty braggadocio.

THERE are numbers to whom this paper comes, who look forward to entering Col lege. Some may be in the last stages of their preparation work. Perhaps a word of advice would be gladly received and used to profit. This we will venture to give.

Above all be thorougn. If a thing is only half known to day, a short time hence it is likely to be among the wings that are not known at all. What is well understood will stick like burrs. Make no promise to yourselves that "the deficiencies of the past will be supplied by the future." Each term will be found to have its appropriate employment. Love your work. Do not be "always looking over the edge of it, wanting the play to begin."

Lay a firm and broad foundation for your College course. This will do much towards enhancing the enjoyment of subsequent study; and ensuring large results from the four years work. In Classics, make sure of the familiarity of the grammars. No amount of text gone over loosely can compensate for deficiency of knowledge as to the construction of sentences and the relation of part to part. Given little grammar on entering, and the result, in the majority of cases, will be a hoodwinked march through the gardens of ancient literature.

In Mathematics, master the Arithmetic by all means. The ease or difficulty with which coming work will be performed in the room of blackboards and chalk, will depend materially upon the completeness or incompleteness of this mastery. If the students' mathematical examination papers show little margin, the General Geometry and Calculus is more than likely to prove his task-master, and a hard master it will

67