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THE

## Acadia Athenæum.

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### →\* The Sanctum. \*←

AT the close of October, reference was made by the President to the amount of work done during the month. From the reports of the various Professors he was pleased to announce, that the college record in this respect compared most favorably with that presented by the first month of any previous year. The statement implies that direct application to study upon returning was practised this year by the students. Such, indeed, was the case, as would be acknowledged by any one placed in circumstances for observing. With such a course of procedure comes its invariable attendant, good order. The spirit of restlessness which frequently is apparent gives place to steadiness and regularity of action. In reference to general deportment there comes to be more individual responsibility. Indeed, we feel, that if this last condition could be fully realized the little cause for being called to order would, in the majority of cases, be reduced

to no cause. That thoughtlessness is a fruitful source of actions unbecoming to the student is too manifest to be disputed; but that the fact implied in the second sentence shows a tendency to lessen its fertility by steady application is alike indisputable. A good report can be given of us at any time, and our duty is to deserve it.

IN view of the fact that there seems to be a tendency on the part of the majority of the students to neglect the advantages offered them in connection with the Literary Society and Reading Room, a few suggestions at this time, we think, will not be deemed out of place. Although these matters have been referred to in previous years, by former Editors of the ATHENÆUM, it is of prime importance to constantly keep before the minds of all the students the demands that these institutions make upon their time, and more particularly to urge their claims upon the new members who have just commenced the course. There can be no better time to begin to reap the benefit to be derived from these sources than in the Freshman year. To neglect this during the first year almost invariably means neglect in the second year; and so the time runs on with opportunities unimproved, until the close of the course finds the graduate with a deficient education, and a conscious regret of advantages lost that might have been improved. It is not necessary to enter into a detailed exposition of the benefits accruing from a systematic attendance to these very important parts of our education. They become at once apparent, to the thoughtful student. The testimony of many of those who have studied at Acadia, has been, that they regretted that more time had not been bestowed upon the culture and practical training which comes from prepared, as well as impromptu, combat with the mental vigor of fellow students. Certainly none are in a position to see the need of previous training in this direction better than they.