

THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

TROS TYRIUSQUE MIHI NULLO DISCRIMINE AGETUR.

VOL. 7

WOLFFVILLE, N. S., NOVEMBER, 1880

No 2

ROSES AND SHEAVES.

The birds were singing, the flowers bright,
All nature with beauty crowned,
When midst the roses, in noonday's light,
A maiden walked o'er the fragrant ground
Glad the song she sung;
Clear the sweet notes rung:
And I thought of heaven with its songs of joy,
Of elysian peace free from care's alloy.

In the harvest-field a reaper bent
O'er the yellow, golden grain;
And the heavy arduous labor sent
Through his frame fatigue and a weary pain.
Dark his cheek was tanned;
Coarse and rough his hand;
And I thought how unequal the burdens of life!
How varied life's trial's, uncertain its strife!

In her hand a maid who sat alone
Held a withered, faded rose;
The joy of her smiling Spring had flown,
And its place was held by anguished throes.
Bitter were her tears,
Deep her woful fears,
And I thought of the ever setting sun,
And how dark falls the night when the day is
done.

A farmer sat by his warm fireside
And without heard the tempest roar;
And he sang of the merry harvest tide,
Of the field's increase, of his labors o'er:
Joy within his breast;
After toil came rest.—

And I thought of the golden morning light,
Which ever succeeds after darkest night.

The care-free idler sang but in vain,
For joy soon by cruel grief was slain,
Even thornless roses must fade and die,
And clouds soon will darken the fairest sky.

The weary reaper toiled not in vain,
For rich was the gift of the bearded grain;
As over the golden sheaves he bent,
He reaped with the sheaves a golden content.
In the garden, roses; wheat in the field:
O'er the roses, tears; rest and song toils yield.

—OMEGA.

DARWIN AND DARWINISM.

(Concluded.)

“Darwinism” and “Darwin theory” are terms that we hear almost daily, sometimes used in all seriousness, but more frequently by way of jest; and to the expounding and maintaining of the hypothesis to which they refer, the labors of the later life of this celebrated naturalist have been devoted. He is not the originator of the theory, however. His grandfather, Dr. Erasmus, though not a professional scientist, had devoted considerable attention to the subject, and held substantially the same views, which he probably received from his contemporary, Linneus; and indications of the theory may be observed in the classic authors as early as the time of Anaximander, six centuries before the Christian era. It remained, however, for the younger Darwin to develop the theory into its present proportions. This he has placed before the world by numerous publications, some in the form of volumes, others as papers contributed to the leading magazines or read before the several scientific societies of which he is a member. The first of these, published in 1859, was “The Origin of Species, or the Preservation of Favored Races in the Struggle for Life.” This book caused a considerable stir in the scientific and religious worlds. Scientists were divided in their opinions respecting it; many books and review articles were issued, some in support of the hypothesis, but the majority in opposition; while by those who, holding to a more literal interpretation of the Mosaic record,