

meed of praise, and bless the memory of the founders of Acadia College.

I encourage the hope that you will persevere in this great work with increasing vigour and zeal. Having avowed your determination to sustain the object by voluntary effort, you cannot but be aware that many eyes are upon you, and that some are disposed to prophesy failure and defeat. It will be for you to falsify such predictions. Steadily upholding the Institution by the punctual discharge of obligations already incurred, and responding to those calls for enlarged resources which will not fail to claim your attention, you will be prepared to show that when you entered on this undertaking you fully counted the cost, and that you estimate the benefits to be derived from it as far exceeding in value the expense at which they may be acquired. The "price of wisdom is above rubies," and its "revenue" is better than "choice silver" or "fine gold."

A clear and comprehensive view of our present position and prospects will enable us to discern the path of duty. It is especially incumbent on us to bear in mind that the age is remarkably progressive, and that all institutions must keep pace with it, or sink in public estimation. The range of study is extending every year, as the boundaries of science expand, so that the instructor finds it necessary to incorporate additional branches in his course, and the student is compelled, if he would avoid the reproach of ignorance, to spend much time in making acquisitions for which there was no demand in the days of his predecessors; while the ancient standards of learning still retain, and must continue to retain, their place and pre-eminence. The endeavours made by the managers of various Institutions to secure a better adaptation to existing circum-