

ANNIVERSARY EXERCISES.

NEVER did the little village of Wolfville look fairer than on the morn of commencement day. Shimmering like polished silver in the clear sunlight lay the basin of Minas. A quiet beauty reposed on the broad extent of Grand Pré. The gentle eminence leading to the college was resplendent with sparkling dew-drops. Trees and flowers shed a grateful fragrance on the air. Around the college all was life and activity. As the hour of eleven drew near, students with caps and gowns mustered for the usual procession from the "hill" to the Baptist Church. As the train entered the building and passed up the aisle, the organ pealed forth a joyous anthem of welcome. We here insert a programme of the exercises for the benefit of those who were not present.

OPENING PRAYER.

VOLUNTARY.

Orations by the members of the graduating class.

THE REALM OF LANGUAGE,
E. W. Kelly, Collina, N.B.

CULTURE A POWER,
J. O. Redden, Windsor, N.S.

GLAMOUR AND FACT,
Maynard G. Brown, Wilmot, N.S.

THE ETERNAL FRESHNESS OF GREAT TRUTHS,
F. D. Crawley, Wolfville, N.S.

THE FUTURE OF THE ANGLO-SAXON RACE,
D. H. Simpson, Cavendish, P.E.I.

THE THEOLOGY OF SOPHOCLES,
W. H. Robinson, Kingston, N.S.

These orations displayed a good deal of careful thought, and reflected credit both on the young men who delivered them, and on their Alma Mater. In another column will be found one of the essays printed at length. After some choice music from the choir came the distribution of prizes. These were awarded as follows:—

The Edward Young Gold Medal, for proficiency in the Higher Mathematics in the Honor Course was awarded to W. O. Wright, of N. B. The Governor General's Medal, to A. J. Denton. This Medal for excellence in extra classical studies was confined to the freshman class. The competition was very close; one of the competitors, Mr. G. B. Healy, was ranked as equal to the winner in the extra work: but as the decision of the judges was formed by taking into account the relative standing of these two gentlemen in the regular work of the classical department, Mr. Denton standing a little higher than his opponent in this respect,

obtained the prize. The first and second matriculation prizes for the freshman class of last year were respectively awarded to A. J. Denton, and C. K. Harrington. The prize of \$25.00 for the best series of monthly essays was awarded to Joshua Goodwin, of St. John, N. B.—Messrs Faulkner and Harrington, received honorable mention for their compositions.

Certificates of merit in classics were given to B. P. Shafner, G. B. Healy, A. W. Armstrong, and A. J. Denton. The interest of the occasion was greatly enhanced by the admirable address of the President to the graduating class.

Speeches were made by the Provincial Secretary of N. S., and by Mr. Elder, of the "Telegraph." Both these gentlemen spoke in terms expressive of their gratification at witnessing the proceedings of the day. The choir deserve great praise for the excellent music which was interspersed between the exercises. Altogether the occasion was one of the most enjoyable ever witnessed at Acadia. Never probably was there a larger or more brilliant audience in the church at Wolfville, than assembled on the morn of June 1st, 1876.

A CRUISE IN THE BAY.

A FEW weeks before the close of the term, the usual excursion of the classes in natural science took place, and proved a very enjoyable affair. Last year it will be remembered, the expedition was confined to Blomidon and its vicinity. Desiring a broader range, Prof. Kennedy on this occasion procured a fine yacht, accommodating comfortably our party of twelve. In this craft we visited the several points of geological interest along the Minas shores, including Two Islands, Five Island, with its Barytes Mines, Spencer's Island, Cape Dor with its copper, and finally Capes Split and Blomidon, with their familiar specimens of brilliant zeolites. Scientifically considered, the expedition proved a success, and the enjoyable adventure and hardy exercise that marked each day of the trip, will give to the excursion of '76 a very prominent place in the pleasant recollections of those who participated in it.

THE LAST MAN.

LONE, and lorn, and sad, a solitary editor sits within his sanctum. Dismantled walls stare at him, floor and tables are covered with a confused litter of chips, nails, hammers, pieces of paper, dog-eared time-stained textbooks, and all the other evidences of a hasty stampede, amid the ruin he sits like Marius in Carthage. A hurried foot-fall echoes along the hall. The scream of the approaching

enquirer falls on his ear. From the window he catches a glimpse of a solitary figure skurrying over the fields. A deep drawn sigh, coming from unknown depths, tells of his inward grief. Desolation, dreariness, the very quintessence of all loneliness, comes muffling down in thick folds upon his sad spirit. In short he feels blue—desperately, unmistakeably so. He turns to the past for consolation. The long seeming lapse of pleasant years spent beneath the fostering care of his loved Alma Mater lies disclosed before him. The recollection of many scenes of classic mirth, as centres around which numberless and varied associations cluster, recalls the melancholy smile to his lips. Now his eyes fill with tears as he remembers those old friends and classmates dear, the inheritors of bright hopes and joyful anticipations, whom the rolling years have swept away into the illimitable sea. Now the declamatory thunders of the First of June revive and in imagination's bright hues, he paints the future prospects of those who have just gone forth from classic shades, to enter upon the work of life.

From this picture he turns to the future of this institution, and with a firm faith in its growing prosperity and progress, resumes his quill and writes as the changeless emblem of its advancement.—
EXCELSIOR.

Items.

QUERY: Why was not John Smith allowed to try the matriculation examination? Was it because he was too dissipated or because he took a strange route to get in to the hall, or why?

THE Freshmen have had a class photograph taken. We would suggest the propriety of their sending a copy to Darwin, for in it may be observed some valuable specimens in all stages of development.

WE understand that a number of the members of the matriculating class have already selected rooms in college. Some have asked for scholarships, whilst others have already interviewed the professors with regard to taking honor work. A little too fast boys, plucking is practised to a fearful extent among matriculates. We hope you have done well though.

ERUDITE Senior about to smoke. "Pass me that implement composed of crystalized sea-froth, that after having applied some of the devouring element, and thus causing the oxygen of the air to unite with the carbon of the Virginia product, I may draw ambrosial nectar through the stem."