

# Acadia Athenæum.

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B. W. LOCKHART, '78 }  
W. O. WRIGHT, '78 } *Editors.*  
A. W. ARMSTRONG, '79 }  
G. E. CLOSCUP, '80 }

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THE old year has gone; it is dead for the whole cycle of Time; but, like all other years, it lives through eternity in influences. The social pendulum has swung to and fro, not without violent vibrations, which thrill, yet ominous of future disturbance. Whoso wishes may read the written scroll which has recently been folded up and laid away among the world's archives; but where are our infallible "Science of History" men to unroll the future records ere it be written, prophetically decipher what shall be? What is to be, the issue of vast struggles, the solution of knotty problems which the dead year has bequeathed to the living one? Probabilities are the utmost we can essay, and few arrive even at them. Certes, we know that human pride and passion will furnish their quota of suffering and sin; that war and pestilence will garner their harvest of blood and despair; to some it is likewise given to know that the Angel of Providence hovers over us all. It is a consummation devoutly to be wished, that the Eastern Question

will, this year, receive a satisfactory solution, and cease to disturb the world. Doubtless some wild Habbakuk sees Europe about to be drenched in blood, and out of the awful universal ruining, the Age of God arise, fortold in Divine revelation. Some visionary Bull sees England revindicating her title as Queen of the Seas, and doubling her weakened prestige in the Cabinets of Europe. Go up in a balloon, and in the solitudes and hush of the Infinite, look down on human weal and human woe, and moralize a little. But not only the European world loads the Argosy of grief which drifts away; the Provinces have been severely taught at the hands of adversity; many are the mounds of ashes which mark the places of former wealth and prosperity.

It was in 1877 that St. John and Acadia College were burned. In 1878 Acadia College is to be re-built. It is to be built where the ashes of the old now lie; the genius of heroic self-sacrifice and undaunted faith has already laid the corner stone, and will surely lay the key stone of the topmost arch. Whatsoever is founded on a great people's love is founded on a rock. The brains and hearts which brought forth the old have not perished. The sinews which toiled to erect that which now lies in ashes have not grown weak. What was sown in tears and faith is yet to be reaped by a people who have a heritage of great achievements for God. Calmly and hopefully we look forth into the future. Let every one help in building the temple on our fair hill. While the men heave up the stone pillars let the children carry bricks.

In the meantime it may be news to a few that Acadia College still exists in vigorous life. Acadia is not a perishable structure of pine timber and board nails; the ethereal structure which still stands, must even stand, so long as spiritual greatness is transmitted to the future. The calamity which has befallen us has infused new enthusiasm into the student, new energy and self-sacrifice, if possible, into the Professors; and, judging from the spirit displayed thus far, new devotion into the friends and supporters of our Institution.

Two temporary but commodious buildings have been erected to serve as class-rooms for College and Academy. In them as good work may be