

THE YOUNG ACADIAN.

Vol. I.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., JULY 11, 1883.

No. 4.

Poetry.

Faith, Hope, and Charity.

Three golden arrows in the quiver,
Filled else with darts of strife;
Three sunny islands in the river,
The rapid stream of life.

Three stars in heavens gem-decked attire,
That never fade or dim;
Three harp-notes on the spirit-lyre;
Notes angels love to hymn.

Three blossoms from the land of flowers,
To cheer the wearied soul;
Three rays of beauty from the bowers
Beyond life's utmost goal;

Three rapturous strains of music swelling
Around the burial sod;
Three pillars in the holy dwelling
The temple of our God.

[For The Young Acadian.]

School Meeting Day.

BY HARL HARLEE.

SCHOOL-MEETING day is a day in which the members of every School Section in the world, meet in their respective school-houses, to exchange the greetings of an exhausted friendship, and transact the business required to maintain a school for the education of the young. It is a day much prized, on account of its scarcity.

One evening out of three hundred and sixty-five days is School Meeting day; it always comes in the evening, except in some few out of the way places where it comes in the daytime. The meetings on this day are always alike. The minutes of last meeting are read and approved, then a man is appointed to make minutes for the next meeting, then follows the election of trustees, every rate-payer present wanting to be elected, and so on.

I have often wondered what made people "hanker" after the office of trustee so. It pleases a man greatly to be elected. He feels honored as he thinks of how the public are beginning to take notice of him. He thinks, how true it is that nature never sends a great man into the world without confiding the secret to another soul. He believes now that fame does only come when deserved, and is as inevitable as road work. He knows that he, with

the other trustees, can now do as they please with the school money for a while. He sees through this office of honor and responsibility the inheritable office of secretary, with more honours, and more responsibilities and many more chances to make money. He knows that if he manages things right, he can make enough postage stamps during his term of office to last him through life; for when a teacher applies for a school and incloses a stamp for a reply, it is often not necessary to reply, and when it is, a post card is just the thing for it, just what they are made for.

I like trustees; I like to see them, especially when they are not begging; but I would not like to be one. I would rather be a college professor, or a constable, or a steam engine.

As I said, School Meetings are all alike; the one last year was just the image of the year before. The people fought just as cordially as ever. The taxes were too high! They always are.

I don't now exactly how low the taxes would have to be in order to keep people from fighting, but I guess they would be low; you could stand and jump over them I think. I do not believe that people can be kept from fighting at School Meetings.

There is a time for everything, and the time for fighting is at School Meetings. Some people think that when the millenium comes we will have a change in our School Meetings. They think people will not fight then; I wonder if they wont! If they don't there will be no trouble in telling when it comes. I imagine that a school meeting then will resemble some of our missionary meetings, at the close of which a silver collection is to be taken for the dear, uneducated heathen. It will resemble it in two ways: there will be about as few there, and what are will look extremely melancholy.

School Meeting day differs from every other public day. It no more resembles exhibition election, or circus days than the toothache resembles a Roman history.

On exhibition, election, and circus days, people try to see how much money they can spend, by getting drunk, and making themselves appear ten-fold more hideous than they usually do; while on School Meeting day every one tries to see how much they can save, by voting down the salary, and engaging the cheapest teacher. What a teacher needs of money these people cannot understand. They think a teacher should "lay up" money on a salary as small, as the treasures these people are laying up in heaven. Such people have no love for school or teacher; they would like them if it was not for the money required to keep them up; they would rather their children would have money than education.

(Continued on 4th. page.)