

gymnasium—and it is much to their skill and untiring energy that such physical vigour and strength has been developed and preserved at Acadia. We also contributed liberally to the strong sturdy line of forwards, the sure and faithful quarters, the nimble and reliable half backs of our foot-ball team which this year has brought honor to itself and laurels to Acadia by winning the championship of the Maritime provinces. In order to accomplish this feat continued and patient practice was necessary.

But it is principally intellectual culture that we as a class about to be graduated are supposed to represent. While it is necessary, then in the first place to secure a solid foundation of physical health it must also be observed that sustained application is the inviolable price which must be paid for mental acquisitions of all kinds, and it is as futile to expect them without it as it is to look for harvests where the seed has not been sown. The road to knowledge is free to all who will give the labor and study requisite to gather it; nor are there any difficulties so great that the student of resolute purpose may not effectually surmount and overcome them.

We place confidence in our motto and if reward has not yet come to us on our college course and does not await us in the future it must be because we have not been faithful to our trust. If we have not been thorough and accurate in our work we have neglected a sacred privilege. The student who works only to favour his professor with an occasional recitation or to save himself from being plucked; who has not cultivated the habit of continuous application to any subject for the sake of mastering it thoroughly; who has not given attention to the appositeness of a study to the purpose for which it is pursued, to the concentration of mind for the time being upon the subject under consideration and to the habitual discipline by which the whole system of mental application is regulated, has no right to claim the rewards of the faithful. Whether or not we have been faithful in our intellectual life is a question which each one will have to answer as a personal matter. We came here four years ago when we were forming our characters and the way in which we have spent our time and talents will largely determine our success or failure in life. Some, and I hope all, have gained strength from year to year and have developed characters and intellects which will insure a happy and useful life to themselves and reflect credit