

# The Acadia Athenaeum.

"Prodesse Quam Conspici."

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## A WILLOW AT GRAND PRE.

THE fitful rustle of thy sea-green leaves  
Tells of the homeward tide, and the free-blown air  
Upturns thy gleaming leafage like a share,—  
A silvery foam; thy bosom, as it heaves !  
O slender fronds, pale as a moonbeam weaves,  
Some grief through you is telling unaware !  
O, peasant tree, the regal tide doth bare,  
Like thee, its breast to ebbs and floods,—and grieves !  
  
Willow of Normandy, say, do the birds  
Of motherland plain in thy sea-chant low,  
Or voice of those who brought thee in the ships  
To tidal vales of Acadie, or words  
Heavy with heart-ache whence sad Gaspereau  
Bore on its flood the fleet with iron lips ?

McMaster University.

—THEODORE H. RAND,  
*in Canadian Magazine for December.*

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## SIMPLICITY A TEST OF THOUGHT.

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THE connection between thought and language is vital. It is analogous to that between soul and body. Thought precedes language in order of time. The latter could not exist without the former, as language is self-embodied thought or the outgrowth of thought. Such being the relation of thought to language, it is possible for us to compare and form quite an accurate estimate of the *thoughts* of men. We can judge thought by means of language just as we judge a tree by its fruit. Language abounds in a great variety of forms of expression, and at first sight it seems impossible to fix on any one form, as a standard, to which we can refer all others. Now this seeming difficulty is removed when we consider that these manifold expressions represent very many distinct thoughts. Each maintains its own individuality in both its ideal and real existence, and as a natural consequence this diversity must exist. But notwithstanding all this we find two styles of expression, one or the other of which characterizes every spoken or written sentence.