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→* The Sanctum. *←

THE number of students in college this year is unusually large. The Senior class, numbering 15, has more than double that of last year, and promises to be the largest ever graduated. There are 17 Juniors, 21 Sophomores and 28 Freshmen. This exceptionally large attendance must be encouraging to every friend of the Institution. It indicates plainly that she has nothing to fear as far as material is concerned, and should act as a stimulus on those who have hitherto withheld their sympathy and support. Solicitors may find in this fact a strong plea to urge in their endeavours to increase the endowment fund. It will furnish our preachers with material for a strong paragraph in a sermon on benevolence; and it cannot fail to fire the teachers with fresh enthusiasm. There is an inspiration derived from numbers, which, though its philosophy may not be easily understood, is, nevertheless, of great practical value. Again we assert that all Acadia needs is money. With more undergraduates in arts than any other college in the Maritime Pro-

vinces, her prospects in every other particular are bright. Her friends are not giving as largely for her support as their ability will permit. Is it the fault of the people or of the system, or rather want of system in giving? The hearts of the Baptists are loyal, and experience has shown them willing to respond to appeals in aid of any good cause. It is, it must be because the claims of our institutions are not placed before the people in their true light that the hope of the denomination is allowed to suffer. It is a question whether the right means are employed for the solicitation of funds. It is easy to see that the solution of the financial problem is a point at which the administrative and executive ability of the body need just now to be concentrated.

HOW much time do you spend in the Reading Room? This question we heard asked of a prominent student, and were surprised at the answer. The fact is that, while the Room is calculated, under proper conditions, to be one of the greatest educators on the Hill, so little use is made of it that it scarcely pays the trouble in connection with its furnishing. The difficulty does not arise from the want of suitable reading matter; for the Room is furnished with the best Canadian, American and English publications. It proceeds rather from neglect on the part of the students. This neglect is one of the most, if not the most inexcusable of their sins of omission. If one has to confess ignorance of ancient history or Greek roots, there is little humiliation in connection with such confession; but if he has not a more or less intelligent knowledge of current news, it may justly be considered an unpardonable offence. Even in those instances where a moderate amount of time is given to the subject, the results are far from being satisfactory. For no one may expect to familiarize himself with subjects of general interest by a hasty glance at the local department of a dozen papers. Better by far is the plan of reading thoroughly a few representative