

THE
MOUNT ALLISON GAZETTE

SACKVILLE, N. B., JUNE, 1863.

THE MOUNT ALLISON ACADEMY has continued in full efficiency, in all its departments, during the eighteen months which have passed since the publication of the last number of the *Academic Gazette*.

The commencement of the last Academic Year is to be regarded as an important epoch in the history of the educational enterprise in Sackville. At the annual meeting of the "Board of Trustees," held in May, 1862, arrangements were made for effecting at the commencement of the ensuing Term, the long-contemplated Collegiate Organization, and for the erection of a suitable College Hall. These arrangements having been brought under the notice of the "Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Eastern British America" at its session in Halifax, in July last, received its emphatic endorsement in the following words:—

"The Conference hereby gives its sanction to these arrangements, and furthermore pledges its cordial sympathy to this forward movement in the Educational enterprise, to which, as we have before solemnly declared, is our deliberate conviction that God in His Providence seems to be calling our Church."

The Collegiate Organization was accordingly effected, and the MOUNT ALLISON WESLEYAN COLLEGE has been in existence one year. Its first anniversary was celebrated on the 19th ult.

There is much which we should be glad to say to the friends of the Institution in reference to its past operations, its present condition, and its prospects for the future; but we think it better to devote what space is left in this number of the *Gazette* to extracts from an editorial article, entitled "Closing exercises of Sackville Academical Year," which appeared in the *Provincial Wesleyan* of the 27th ult.

Having been present at Sackville, N. B., during the Examinations and Literary Exercises with which the Academical Year of the Mount Allison Institutions was recently and successfully closed, we cannot withhold from our readers the expression of our great gratification at what we witnessed within their walls, nor refrain from testifying anew to the thorough and most efficient manner in which these justly popular educational establishments perform their noble work. We could have desired that all the heads of families attached to our Colonial Methodism, in a position to bestow a liberal education upon their children, had been at our side to note the facilities for imparting a genuine educational training possessed by these invaluable schools, to mark the excellence of the system upon which their operations are conducted, and to rejoice in the value of the results accomplished. Could this have been, sure we are that our many friends throughout these colonies would award to these Institutions a far more extended patronage than they have yet enjoyed, successful as they have hitherto proved. A young person invincibly stupid or incorrigibly lazy can by no educational appliances be transformed into a brilliant scholar; yet we should judge the case of that youth to be hopeless indeed who could fail to

profit by enjoyment of the mental advantages derivable from a sojourn at Mount Allison. We urge it upon our intelligent readers by an argument all-cogent with them—an enlightened and tender regard to the best interests of the children that are dear to them—to replenish to overflowing the ample halls and corridors of the Sackville Academies at the commencement of their next educational year. These Institutions can justly put forth the strongest claims upon the liberal support of Colonial Methodists—and they have also proved themselves worthy of the patronage of the general public. For while they have developed the intellect and watched over the morals of the youth confided to their care, they have, as we believe, in no case interfered with the denominational predilections of their students. They are worthy of the confidence which non-methodist parents have reposed in them, and they will scrupulously maintain their character in this respect. We cherish glowing anticipations of the prosperity that awaits them in the future. Let our friends unite with us to guarantee that prosperity upon the largest possible scale.

The closing exercises of the year just ended were of unusual interest from the fact that the attractions of the first anniversary of "MOUNT ALLISON WESLEYAN COLLEGE" were superadded to those connected with the annual exhibitions of the *Sackville Academies*. The examination of the College Classes began on Thursday the 14th inst., and were, as we learn from high authority, of the most gratifying character, yielding promise of decided excellence in the performance of College work. Up to this moment the College movement has in all respects been a marked success. But as we hope shortly to lay before our readers a detailed account of what has been effected in this direction during the year, we will not dwell upon the matter here. The Academical examinations commenced in both Branches, on Friday, 15th inst., and were resumed on Monday following—during which the respective classes in each Institution were faithfully tested on the various subjects to which their attention had been directed. While attending the examination in the Male Branch we were impressed with the belief that the Staff of Professors in that department was the most effective upon the whole, that the Institution has as yet possessed. The increase of teachers resulting from the new College organization has evidently been of great advantage, securing effective division of labour in the Classical department, enabling the respective professors of Greek and Latin to concentrate their attention vigorously upon one important branch of study. The work of the able and laborious Mathematical Professor was, as usual, well done; but we cannot suppress the hope that our over-worked friend may soon be relieved of a portion of his honorable toil by the appointment of an additional Professor—either of Mathematics or of Natural Science; thus securing further sub-division of labour. We did not wonder that the care-worn President, Dr. Pickard, to whose indefatigable attention and sound trust-worthy judgment the flourishing state of the Male Branch is so attributable, seemed well satisfied on the occasion; for although there was, of course, great diversity of acquirement manifested, and very various degrees of proficiency exhibited by the respective students, yet there was everywhere apparent unmistakable evidence of the energy, ability and painstaking diligence of his most effective staff.

Tuesday the 10th inst., was the great Exhibition day in Lingley Hall. The forenoon of the day was occupied with the *First Anniversary Exercises of the Mount Allison Wesleyan College*. We subjoin the programme:—