

(now Colby) Academy. In the autumn of 1869 Dr. Sawyer came back to Wolfville as President of Acadia College, and Professor of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy. He received the degree of D.D. from Colby University in 1867, and that of LL. D. from Acadia University in 1888, the jubilee year.

Steady and marked growth have characterized the institutions since. Twenty five years of unceasing and tireless effort have been devoted to their interests by their faithful president. All the strength of a high executive ability, and all the riches of a broad and liberal culture and high intellectual powers have been expended in their behalf, and the evidence of progress is seen on every hand.

Perhaps a brief comparison of the catalogue of 1869 with that of 1894 would prove most interesting in obtaining an idea of the progress made. Between these dates were many seasons of discouragement and periods of darkness, the most trying of which was experienced when on Dec. 2nd, 1877, the college building was burned to the ground. The faculty in 1869 consisted of five acting professors, now it is increased to eleven. The number of students in all classes was forty-two, while the calendar of the current year shows an attendance last year of one hundred and twenty-one. The standard of matriculation was then and is now placed well above the average, but hardly a vestige of the old curriculum now remains. A great change has been made in this respect. The optional courses of the present time afford a wide scope for free selection and the gaining of an intimate acquaintance with subjects suited to individual tastes, while their restriction to the last two years of the course secures a good all round development before special lines are open to choice. The whole curriculum has been enlarged and extended until now it has attained a very high degree of efficiency.

The endowments of the University have greatly increased, and large and graceful buildings have been erected. Of the seven buildings now to be seen, not one was in existence in 1869. These and many other improvements have been made under the watchful eye and fostering care of President Sawyer, and have required faithfulness, judgment, and executive ability which very few are able to bestow.

Before becoming president of Acadia University, Dr. Sawyer's contributions to the magazines and reviews, gave him a wide reputation among literary men, but his many duties since have forbidden any amount of literary work. It is to be hoped that he may soon be relieved of some of the burdens which he now carries, and be able to give to the world some of the fruits of a keenly discriminating mind.