

"When his schoolboy days were over, and early manhood had found him fairly engaged in the great business of life—notwithstanding the numerous calls on his time, and the other sources of pleasure opened to him, did he not still feel that the truest source of happiness was found in the exercise of social affections? We need not enlarge upon those feelings, too sacred to be recounted and too deep to be expressed, when first in his heart was planted that image around which was entwined his warmest affections, and which henceforth became interwoven with his hopes and his fears, his joys and his sorrows through life. And when the new thought and the new joy of another home were his—when this new sanctuary of happiness was shared by one nearer and dearer to him than a sister, did he not feel that as he had ascended in the scale of existence, so he had in that of happiness? When the duties of the day were over, and the quiet of evening had come, did he not feel the reward of all his toil in the ministering attentions and fond endearments of his happy home? In difficulty had he not there a faithful counsellor? In trouble, had he not one to cheer and encourage him? In the hour of sickness and suffering, *she* did not forsake him—but all that affection could prompt to, or duty inculcate, was readily done to mitigate his pain, or to supply his wants. He finds none on earth so faithful, none so true, as she in whom his heart has confided. Of all the forms that friendship and attachment assume (unless it be that of a mother or a child), none is half so beautiful, half so true, as that of a fond and affectionate wife. How often has it been found proof against all the storms of affliction and adversity. Though fortune may forsake him, and former friends deny him,—when all else around him looks desolate and disheartening,—who still clings to him with unwavering attachment, and by every kind attention, every fond endearment, endeavours to assuage his sorrow and cheer his mind? When the voice of slander is raised against him, and the shafts of malice pierce his soul—who then comes forward as his constant defender, and loves him the fonder when the world contemns?"

When he bends to the storm
That gathers around him,
And the blast of the hurricane
Sweeps o'er his soul,
Who comes to the rescue?
Who keeps him from falling?
And with counsels of hope
Doth his spirit control?
'Tis the Wife and the friend
That never forsook him,—
Whom poverty, sickness,
And pain could not part;
'Tis the faithful companion,
The tender consoler,—
The pride of his eye,
And the gem of his heart!"

Of such home-pictures, and of the deep philosophy which may be drawn from them, Mr. Johnston's lecture consisted. A more touching, impressive and beautiful discourse we never heard in a Mechanics' Institute.

Educational Intelligence.

CANADA.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

A Convocation of the University of Toronto was held on the 1st inst., in the Hall of the University buildings in the College Park, for the purpose of conferring degrees, certificates, prizes, &c. The room was well filled by a highly respectable company of ladies and gentlemen. There was also a large array of Professors and Students in attendance, in their academical robes, which produced a very imposing effect. In the absence of the Hon. W. H. Blake, A.B., the Chancellor of the University, the Vice-Chancellor presided. The Students who attended, were presented to the Vice-Chancellor by the Rev. Arthur Wickson, M.A. Sixteen gentlemen were admitted to degrees; thirty-five received scholarships, and eighty-five certificates of proficiency and acquirements in the different branches of literature, were distributed to the Students. Five received gold medals, and one a silver medal; also, a number received prizes in books, some of them received so many that they were actually unable to carry them away. The Students who received prizes were urged, in encouraging terms, to continue in their laudable pursuit of knowledge. We subjoin a list of those who were admitted to degrees, and received certificates of honor and prizes. It will be noticed that many of those certificates and prizes were given for the previous year. But this is accounted for by the fact, that no Convocation was held last year, owing to the want of a suitable hall for that purpose. The following is the list:

ADMISSION TO DEGREES.

Hurlburt, (J.) B.C.L.—LL.D.; Clarke, (J. P.) Mus B.—Mus D. To the degree of M.A.:—Boyd, (W.) B.A.; Brown, (J.) B.A.; Marling, (S. A.) B.A.; McKewon, (S.) B.A.; Peterson, (H. W.) B.A. To the degree of B.A.:—Carnie, (C.) B.A., *ad eundem*—B.A.; Taylor, (T. W.) B.A., *ad eundem*; Catanach, (A.) 1855; Mathieson, (R.) 1856; Hodgins, (T.); Hume, (R.); Lister, (B. P.); Bowlby, (W. H.); Matheson, (T. G.); Unsworth, (R.) To the degree of M.A.:—Carnie, (C.) B.A.—Taylor, (T. W.) B.A.—*Colonist and Leader Report*.

UNIVERSITY OF TRINITY COLLEGE.

The following degrees have been conferred during the Easter Term 1856. Thursday, May 22nd.—Admitted "*ad eundem Gradum*," George Clerk Irving, M.A., St. John's College, Cambridge; John Butler, M.A., Bishop's College, Lennoxville; Thomas John Mark Willoughby Blackman, B.A., King's College, Windsor, N. S. M.A., Nathaniel Osborne Walker, John Thomas Mackenzie, Walter Lambert, Ralph Leeming Ball. M.A.

The Annual Dinner was given in the College Hall, on Thursday, June 26th. The usual toasts were given, including those of "The Chancellor of the University," and "The Visitors," which were very warmly greeted, and responded to by Sir John Robinson and the Bishop respectively, the latter speaking with great feeling of the satisfaction which the establishment and progress of the College had afforded him in his declining years. The name of Mr. George W. Allan, who is now absent in England, was welcomed with the applause to which his strong interest in the prosperity of Trinity College justly entitles him. "The Prizemen of the year," were honoured with the notice which their exertions so richly merited, and among them we would mention the names of the successful candidates for the scholarships, which are awarded to Freshmen, according to the result of the Annual Examination. They are as follows:—1. Jones, William, (Toronto,) Wellington Scholar; 2. McNeeley, John, (Carleton Place,) Burnside Scholar; 3. Badgley, Charles Howard, (Toronto,) Allan Scholar.—*Colonist Report*.

ST. CATHERINES' GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

After the close of the recent very satisfactory Examination, the interesting ceremony of presenting Mr. Hubbard with a silver Tea-set, by the Pupils, took place. We hail with feelings of pleasure such spontaneous indications of respect and gratitude on the part of the Students towards their worthy and well-deserving Instructor, and we trust that such mutual and harmonious feelings may long continue to exist towards each other. This part of the day's proceedings was extremely interesting. Every one present seemed impressed with the sincerity and importance of the subject, and the worthy gentleman to whom the presentation was made, could not, when at that moment taking a retrospective view of the many years he had been connected with the Institution, avoid being deeply affected. We do not remember of having ever witnessed a more touching scene than this unanimous outburst of gratitude towards one who had spent the better part of his days in that noble—truly noble—cause, of rearing up in the community a long train of well-educated and useful citizens and professional men to labor in our midst. After replying in appropriate terms for the compliment paid him, Mr. Hubbard remarked, "While the Government would give us pound for pound to enable us to procure maps, apparatus and a School Library, it would be folly to expend money for these even such important aids to a School, for we cannot protect them, not even the books of the pupils; and while the Board of Trustees are enabled, principally by the liberal patronage which the School enjoys to expend £525 per annum for instruction, and thus secure in substance, the essential element of a good School, yet we have none of the external circumstances that afford comfort, favourably impress at the first sight, and give prestige. Boys must respect the very *building*, as well as their teachers, in order to establish the higher moral influence over their minds. I had intended to speak to parents with respect to what I must term their too great indulgence in allowing irregular attendance, or giving excuses when their sons do not deserve them. I have only time to add that even one day's absence of any boy injures the whole school, and embarrasses his own progress for at least one week. The theory of education is too well understood to require remark, but how to put that theory into *practice* is the question. One thing is certain—it cannot be done without the cordial co-operation of parents with the teacher, and I now invite a free communication with the instructors of this school; it will, I am sure, be well received, although it embraces a complaint."