

BIMLIPATAM, INDIA, Nov 22, 1879.

To the Editors Acadia Athenæum.

SIRS.—It is with pleasure I acknowledge the kindness shewn in sending me THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM. Please continue. We will endeavor to make it mutual.

Rev. W. P. Everett will cash the accompanying order for six dollars, on presentation.

With my earnest prayer for the success of Acadia College in all her interests,

I remain yours, very truly

R. SANFORD.

### Literary and Educational Notes.

The largest University in the world is that of Berlin, with 3,603 students.

"Shakespeare" has been decided to be the correct spelling of the Bard of Avon.

Cannon Farrar's *Life of Christ* has reached its twenty-fourth edition in England. The *Life of St. Paul* is in its sixth edition. A cheap edition in one volume is nearly ready.

M. Ernest Renan is to deliver a series of lectures in London upon the interesting subject of the Deterioration of Christianity in percolating through the Roman Empire.

A revised edition of Harkness's "Latin Grammar" is to appear shortly. It will contain all the very latest results of the investigations which have been exercising the minds of the philological world for the past year or two.

Irwin Russel, the poet and dialect writer, died at New Orleans recently in destitute circumstances and among strangers. He was born in 1853. Since 1876 he has been a constant contributor of Scribner's. As a poet he gave promise of a brilliant future.

George Stewart, Jr., author of the Administration of Earl Duferin, has been elected a member of the International Literary Society of Paris, of which Victor Hugo is President. Mr. Stewart is the first Canadian upon whom this honor has been bestowed.

Professor K. O. Kun Hica has presented to Harvard Library a volume of Chinese poems, entitled "Verses composed in the Hall of Longevity." As it is written in the best Chinese it will not prove of much value to the ordinary reader.

*Studies of the Greek Poets*, John Addington Symonds, Harper Brothers, 2 vols. These volumes will form a valuable addition to the library of every classical student. The author gives a description of Grecian Literature, with a concluding chapter upon sculpture and the various systems of philosophy and art.

For the Cambridge Local examinations held last week there were entered 6,738 candidates—4,017 boys and 2,721 girls. There were eighty-five "centres". Thus the examination mania spreads apace. The time cannot be far distant when we shall consist of but two classes, examiners and examinees, the latter probably the happier, for how the shoulders of the former are to bear their increasing burdens is a curious problem.—*The Academy*, Dec. 27, 1879.

*Memoirs of Prince Metternich 1773-1815*. Prince Metternich's life may be divided into three periods, the first extending from his birth in 1773 to 1815; the second from 1816 to 1848; the third from the latter date to his death in 1859. The present volumes are occupied with an account of events which transpired during the first period of his career. They are taken up necessarily to a great extent with the official relations of Prince Metternich to the Emperor Napoleon I. The Memoirs were compiled from notes, memoirs and correspondence left by Metternich for his future biographer.

The largest endowed colleges with their endowments are as follows:—Columbia, \$5,000,000; John Hopkins' University, \$3,000,000; Harvard, \$2,500,000; Cornell, \$2,000,000; Princeton, \$1,000,000; Tufts, \$750,000; Brown, \$720,000; Lafayette, \$600,000; Yale, \$300,000.

### Scientific Notes.

An Intramercorial planet is reported to have been discovered by astronomers in California, during the last total eclipse. Particulars are wanting, but are promised as soon as sufficient time for careful examination of the observations made shall have elapsed.

By means of extremely delicate processes M. Violle has lately determined the fusing points of the more refractory metals. The following are given as the exact temperatures for five of these metals in their order of fusibility; Silver 1,749° Fah.; Gold 1,863°; Copper 1,800°; Platinum 3,195°; Iridium 3,510°.

Sheet iron covered with gum of the Euphorbiaceæ, common and luxurious in tropical climates, was immersed in Chatham, England, dock yard,