

But I must not forget to chronicle the marvellous effect produced on our youthful minds when these learned persons condescended to narrate to us some of their own experience. In compassion to our weaker intellects they generally spoke in the vulgar tongue, and while they told us of the Lectures they attended, and of the examinations they underwent, of their intellectual triumphs and superhuman *plug*, they occasionally relaxed their mood, and told us of their recreations also, of their cricket, their expeditions on the lakes, their Quintilian debates. And all this we received with becoming respect, having lately learned from our Homers that even the Immortals sometimes found it necessary to intermit their more serious occupations, and were occasionally not above giving way to "unextinguished laughter."

And so the time wore on, and the "black ship" carried off its yearly instalments, and I was drawing near the head of the school. In another year it would be my turn to present myself for Matriculation. How could I venture to hope that I should pass the ordeal successfully? Anxious to ensure success and to avert such a calamity as a *pluck* at Matriculation I devoted the next twelve-month to preparation under a private tutor, a proceeding from which I derived the greatest benefit.

It was long before the era of Railways in Nova Scotia, and the journey to Windsor had to be made by stage-coach. I have no wish to return to those primitive arrangements, but I have no hesitation in affirming that there was much more real pleasure in travelling then than there is now. What could be more delightful than the drive round Bedford Basin on a fine summer morning behind a team of six good horses in company with a few pleasant fellows? What could be more exhilarating, especially to the youthful mind, than the drive from Schultz's to Dartmouth behind Hyde's six splendid greys? Nor were these journeys entirely without adventure. Occasionally a fire raging in the woods would cause no little alarm as to the possibility of our passage through being hindered. On one occasion we had to traverse a considerable portion of forest which was on fire on both sides of the road. The horses were so terrified, that it was with great difficulty they