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→* The Sanctum. *←

THREE years ago in one of our most flourishing maritime towns, a gentleman was heard to remark, "I don't see what use there is for that little college in Wolfville, any way; I think it won't last many years." At that time the number of our students was under *sixty*. To-day the number is above *ninety*. The friends of Acadia may well be pleased with such evident tokens of hastening dissolution. The fact seems to be that Acadia has just fairly begun her work as an educational power, and every year as her claims are pressed home upon the public by scores of enthusiastic supporters, her foundations are planted more firmly in the hearts of the people. That she has not a large and sufficient endowment, we deplore. But we are still confident that her large endowment of sympathy will to a great extent, perhaps entirely, counter-balance the seemingly fundamental defect. The lack of financial ability is most sorely felt when, as at present, increasing

patronage demands enlargement in various departments. Efforts have been already made to meet existing needs, but these must prove merely tentative if the people do not signify their approval and justify the course of our leaders by increasing their financial support. Among the recent progressive steps we have already had occasion to mention the provision made for training in the "Art of Expression." Temporary provision has also been made for Modern Languages, and a professor is to be appointed to this chair in June next. The increasing confidence of the public, as indicated by increasing attendance, but adds to our responsibilities. Advance must be made all along the line or we shall be defeated by our success. Surely the sons of the founders of these institutions are not the men to shrink from any praiseworthy act. Then let them give from their overflowing coffers and make the rapid expansion of Acadia in the near future a certainty. The gold and silver invested in a worthy educational institution, and there converted into trained intellect has found its way into the crucible of the true alchemist. Fifty thousand dollars is a small tribute to pay to an institution that has wielded such an influence in the land as has Acadia. Noble men have guided her destinies in the past. Noble men still guide them, and their many excellencies are fully appreciated. Among her graduates are many of the leaders of the land. Her increasing classes testify public approval. Students and teachers are working in full harmony as for a common object, and the indications are that the present prosperity is but faint promise of the coming days.

ANOTHER essay season has passed. The Juniors appeared on the platform on the 14th ult., and acquitted themselves creditably. But with this comes a sad reflection. There is a class of critics, usually of those with an unfurnished story, who will always retire from such a place making the air murky with their dark insinuations of plagiarism. The time has come that if a person presumes to read a creditable essay he will always find a chorus of kind friends to say—"Oh yes, it was good—too good in fact to be his