

THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM

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VALE.

Now that another college year has passed away, it becomes our duty once more to say to our patrons, our associates, friends and foes alike, the sad word farewell. The work of the past year must now be left to stand or fall on its own merits. Again we have reached the period, at which marked changes are to take place in our numbers. While we say farewell to some we welcome others to fill their places, and amid all the sadness of parting, find one ray of comfort in the thought, that although many go out from us never to return, yet *Alma Mater* is not forsaken, but the recruit force invariably out numbers the list of deserters.

Those of us who have spent the last four years under the shade of Acadia, have witnessed important events in her history, the memory of which will remain fragrant throughout the remainder of life. Every

history has its culminating periods, like focal points to which all its forces are converged, and from which they are thrown off with a new vigor. We believe that we have witnessed collateral events in the history of our Institution.

What we have gained here, by way of discipline, we now take with us as capital to invest in the pursuits of active life. What we have lost, from lack of diligence, we shall find no time to lament over now. It is said to be as valuable a faculty in war, to be able to reap the fruits of a victory, as to be skilled in the carrying on of a conflict. This part of the work is now before us. If we have here gained a thorough knowledge of our selves, and the extent of our abilities, our time has not been spent in vain. We often hear of the possibility of a man being able to accomplish almost anything if only he aims high enough. We believe in the possibility of each individual being capable of doing what it is best, for him to do; but as well might the ostrich attempt to soar with the bird of Jove, and gaze unveiled at the sun, as a man who was intended for a hod-carrier, attempt to rule a kingdom. There is such a thing as grasping too much, and making a losing speculation of it. It is well to know how to conquer; it is better to know how to submit.

—Our course here has only been a preparation for work and for subsequent study. All we may have acquired will now be called into requisition. Have we learned the important lesson of application? There are many problems of life to solve in which this will be needed. Has mental muscle been strengthened; we shall require it all in the conflict which awaits us.

As editors we have endeavored, to the best of our ability, to discharge the duties imposed upon us by our fellows. We do not complain of being forgotten by those who have gone out before us, lest the same fault may be found with us when strangers occupy the *sanctum*. Our associations as editors, have all been harmonious,