

PUBLISHER'S CORNER.

THE ALMAFILIAN,

A Monthly 8-page paper,

Will be issued about the middle of each month during the school year.
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Educational Reports.

Why is it that the Minister of Education in his reports ignores to so great an extent the educational institutions of the Province other than the provincial schools and colleges. These schools are doing an admittedly important work and in many cases doing it under warrant of charter of the Provincial Legislature yet they are scarcely mentioned in the reports of the minister. These reports represent to the outside world the educational work of Ontario and are supposed to be concise and comprehensive, but they are quite deficient as complete representations of the full educational work going on in the province. This is a contrast with the exhaustive and complete reports issued in the United States where the Government officials carefully review the work of all schools and the outsider has thus before him a full and impartial statement of all schools.

Endowment.

That Alma College should be endowed is evident from the fact that all the great colleges have endowments and to their endowment is measurably due their prominence and power and from the great opportunities and the Canada college possible of successful improvement only with large resources at command. The equipment required in these times for the higher grade of college is very costly and would not be furnished out of fees charged the students. While Alma College is among the best equipped of the ladies' colleges in Canada yet there are many ways in which the efficiency and success of the school might be greatly increased. The library and museum could well use \$10,000 for further equipment. The department of philosophy and science \$5,000 at least. A music hall and conservatory with furnishings, \$20,000—a modest estimate when compared with what is being done elsewhere and with the opportunities at hand. A hall for the department of domestic economy and industrial life, \$10,000. Additional furnishings and models for the fine art department and improvement of the grounds with floral conservatory, etc., \$5,000. Then over and above this outlay should be furnished an assured income on endowment for the support of needy students, and of useful, indispensable subjects not in sufficient fashionable esteem to pay their own way. These are modest estimates and could be doubled and trebled and yet be within the lines of prudence and true economy. Alma will no doubt in course of time receive benefactions from liberal friends, but the opportunity to go ahead and take the high position that is possible in the near future would give her a commanding place among schools that will be secured after twenty years

only with a vastly greater outlay of money than would be necessary within the next five years.

An Evening with Moore.

The Friday exercises at Alma College last evening were styled an "Evening with Moore." The programme consisted entirely of Irish music, and essays on the life and works of the great Irish poet, Thomas Moore. Mr. C. Macdonald presided on this occasion. The programme was as follows:—Essay, "Thomas Moore's life and times," Miss Dixon; song, "Meeting of the waters," Miss Ellis; song, "Believe me, if all those endearing young charms," Miss Soper; reading, from Lalla Rookh, Miss Adams; trio, "The harp that once thro' Tara's Hall," Mrs. Kains, Miss Dawson and Master Kains; essay, "Thomas Moore's works," Miss Hume; song, "Flow on thou shining river," Miss Campbell; song, "Savournough deelish," Mr. Maurice Kains; trio, "Oh in the stilly night," Mrs. Kains, Misses Soper and Dawson. The essays showed much care and thought in their preparation, and the vocal selections were all very pleasing. At the close of the programme the chairman called upon Rev. Canon Hill for a few remarks. He responded by giving an Irish recitation, which was so very pleasing that he was forced to respond to a hearty encore. This closed the programme and all voted it an evening very pleasantly spent.—*Journalist*

Friday Exercises.

At the exercises of the 8th inst. the chair was occupied by the Rev. R. I. Warner. The programme was short but very interesting. It was opened by a piano solo, "Mendelssohn's songs without words, Vol. 1, No. 23, No. 4 A Major, Godollied No. 12 Con. Solo No. 9," by Miss Dawson. Rev. J. W. Annis, B. A., then gave a very interesting lecture on Christian evidences, showing that Christianity is the only religion of centres in a life. The students listened to this discourse with a good deal of pleasure and are anticipating the one next Friday evening. Miss Flo Ferry closed the programme with a piano solo, "Beethoven op. 199 Allegretto, Andante con moto, Cantabile and Allegretto." The exercises of Friday evening, January 25th, 1899, were presided over by Miss Baker. The programme was as follows:—Piano solo, "Rondo, Kuhlau," Miss Viola Fleury; lecture, "Christian ethics," Rev. I. B. Aylesworth, LL.D.; piano solo, "Schumann, G. Lange," L.L.D.; Lovedly Barrett; recitation, "Oss Traveller Parson," Miss Etta Saywell; piano solo, "Sonatina, Clementi," Miss Jessie Bell; recitation, "Little R," Miss B. Adams; essay "Motley and Macauley," Miss F. Derly; valse, "Schubert," Miss Bertha Ellis.

February Examinations.

The half-yearly examinations just closed were quite severe and some aspirants for advanced standing have suffered disappointment. However, when they get the standing they will appreciate it as something worth having. The Board of examiners seem settled on the principle that maximum marks shall be given to those who thoroughly master the subjects and to those only. We once heard of a college president who would take the reports to the examiners and change them as he fancied would be best suited to flatter the patrons of his school, actually giving so far as to give high marks to some students in subjects that they were not studying at all. The standing that Alma College students secure is on par with thorough and exacting as any set by any of the University examiners.

A certain school in the north of England announced as follows:—"Larkin" taught here, threepence a week, and then as learn markers, twopence more."

Alms.

(Contributed by Miss Eugenie Dupuch, Mus., '90, Nassau, Bahamas Islands.)

When the first ray of morning greets me,
When the last stroke of day's work frees me,
When the long looked for rest comes to me,

Thou alone art near.

When the chill shade of eve surrounds me,
When the weird joy of dream enters my veins,
When the sweet sleep of peace steals o'er me,

Thou alone art near.

When in the war of life to cheer me,
When amid sorrows' pain to soothe me,
When with the laurel wreath to crown me,

Thou alone art near.

When the strong arm of faith sustains me,
When the bright sun of hope allures me,
When the warm glow of love absorbs me,

Thou alone art near.

When the full life of summer leaves me,
When the short day of autumn flees me,
When the long night of winter claims me,

Thou alone art near.

Publisher's Notes.

This issue of the ALMAFILIAN has been mailed to a large number of lady teachers. We trust many of them will send in their names as subscribers.

Any person getting up a club of four subscribers to the ALMAFILIAN and remitting us \$1.00 for same, will receive a free copy of the paper for one year, and the premium. The premium will also be sent to each of the four subscribers.

Advertisers will please note that 2,000 copies of the ALMAFILIAN will be issued this year in place of 1,000 last year. The paper will reach every Methodist minister in Ontario and Quebec monthly, and be read by over 1,000 young women.

We shall be glad if teachers, ministers and others receiving complimentary copies of this paper, would send us on a post card a list of young ladies and the post office addresses. We shall gladly mail sample copies of the ALMAFILIAN to all names thus sent in.

We should gladly receive and publish short letters from old students. If unable to write for the paper, please send in to the publishers a card giving your present address, occupation success, &c. You have no idea how many of your old friends are anxious to hear from you and will be delighted to hear of your prosperity.

Send postal card to the ALMAFILIAN offices giving your address, and a prize list containing valuable books will be sent you. You can get some of these books with very little trouble and no expense and at the same time do a good work in the interests of practical and Christian education.

Anniversary.

The anniversary of the Alma Missionary Society promises to be of great interest. Rev. J. T. Gracy, D. D., of Buffalo, will preach in McLachlin Hall each Sunday, 24th inst., at 4 p. m., and will lecture on the same place on Monday, 25th inst., at 8 p. m., on "In Boat and Bush in West Africa." Dr. Gracy is one of the most eloquent preachers and lecturers of the day, and his lecture is a narration of his own experiences while travelling in the "Dark Continent" it cannot fail to be of special interest just now when Africa is commanding so much of the world's attention. The Missionary Society will be glad to welcome ministers and friends to these services. The friends from a distance will find themselves amply repaid for the trip.

We publish in this number Dr. Aylesworth's last lecture on ethics and feel confident that our readers will be pleased thus to have a chance of sharing in the good things contained in this able lecture.