

The Acadia Athenæum.

VOL. XVII.

WOLVILLE, N. S., MAY, 1891.

No. 7.

THE Acadia Athenæum.

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The Sanctum.

AS our patrons have no doubt observed, the ATHENÆUM has this year been very mild in its financial demands. Our Secretary-Treasurer's last and only request, through these columns, in several cases received a prompt response. There are others of our friends, however, who have apparently forgotten that money is necessary even for our existence. We trust that they need only be reminded that we are subject to obligations like to those of other men, when they will render us the assistance necessary to fulfil those obligations.

THE subject of elocution is not new to our columns. But we think that it is about time that present and intending students were becoming awake to the fact that Acadia possesses superior advantages in this department. The study of expression has been made altogether too much a side issue

by the majority of our students; yet the difference is most marked between the present deportment of speakers on the platform and the varied, not to say grotesque performances frequent some years ago.

The regular course of lessons for the year having been completed, the Seniors from the different grades have been formed into a class for the especial study of oratory. Meeting semi-weekly in Assembly Hall, recitations are given by the pupils, the class criticizing freely; and the teacher, of course. This practical work is a thorough test, and nails effectively the theories and principles of the term's work. The large hall, also, is much better for the purpose of accustoming the reader to public speaking than an ordinary lecture room. That this is gratuitous to pupils, and not prescribed, is sufficient evidence of Mr. Shaw's interest in his work and its results.

AGARICUS (PLEUROTUS) COLDWELLI? (New Species) is the euphonious name with which the *Educational Review* heads a description of the odd fungus which has sprouted from a whalebone in the museum. We do not here intend to enter into a detailed description of its features: for that let the reader consult the learned pages of the *Review*. But we may incidentally remark that mushroom growths are rather novel at Acadia, which may account for the phenomenal interest this has excited. It has been classified by Prof. Peck, State Botanist of New York, and the name "Coldwelli" provisionally attached by the *Review* in honor of our Natural Science Professor.

THE Juniors are busily engaged making preparations necessary for the successful carrying out of the time honored Junior Expedition. It looked not many months since, as if this excellent plan of gathering scientific knowledge fresh from the fields of nature was doomed to become a thing of the past, only to be pleasantly remembered by Juniors who had the privilege of being so called previous to '90.