

THE ACADIAN.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., JUNE 3, 1887

The Anniversary.

Acadia has just closed the most successful year of her history. The growth of her various departments during the last decade has been a subject of wondering comment. Her misfortunes have been her strength. When the old College Building lay in ashes the friends of our Institution trembled. Ten anniversaries have been numbered since the occurrence of that calamity. Progress has been the attendant of these years, and to-day Acadia prospers. During the present week the College has sent forth its largest graduating class, and has welcomed its largest entering class. The number of students in attendance at each of the three Institutions has been greater than ever before. A new professorship and a new building are in course of erection, while the "Old Sem." decayed and discreditable, has most happily been removed. These evidences of prosperity, with weather that was perfect (during Wednesday at least), and beauty of scenery unexcelled, combined to render '87's commencement season unusually interesting. On Sunday morning the

BACCALAUREATE SERMON was preached by President Sawyer in the Baptist church. The immense audience which assembled was more than repaid by the characteristically thoughtful and earnest words of Acadia's noble President. The subject, as suggested by the text (John 18th chapter, 37th verse), was The Kingdom established by Christ. The character of this Kingdom, the grandeur of its King and Founder, the success of its laws and government, were treated in a masterly and eloquent manner.

The closing exercises of THE ACADEMY took place on Wednesday afternoon. After prayer by Rev. S. T. Rand, D. D., L. L. D., the following programme was carried out:

- ORDER OF EXERCISES
1. Music, Chorus.
2. Essay.....The Newspaper, J. E. Barnes, Wolfville.
3. Essay.....The Golden Fleecce, W. B. Burnett, Sussex, N. B.
4. Essay.....Beneath the Surface, Edgar Chisham, Wolfville.
5. Music, Solo, Ring, Blue Bells, Ring, Miss Nelson.
6. Essay.....Chinese Gordon, H. P. Whidden, Antigonish.
7. Essay.....The Nile, J. E. Tiner, Musquash, N. B.
8. Essay.....The Civilizing Effect of Commerce, D. B. Hemmison, Wolfville.
9. Essay.....Rise of Patriotism in Modern Greece, George E. Day, Yarmouth.
10. Music, Quartette, Bitter Sweet, Misses Fride, Loader, Simms, Buderherman.
11. Essay.....Sir William Wallace, L. H. Morse, Paradise.
12. Essay.....The Jesuit Missionaries, W. M. Smallman, O'Leary Road, P. E. I.
13. Essay.....Look well to the Foundation, Z. L. Fash, Bridgetown.
14. Music, Solo, The Flower Girl, Miss Day.
Addresses.
National Anthem.

The first essay was well written, and thoughtful in character, but there was a manifest lack of animation in delivery. Burnett carried the fable of the golden fleecce into the life of to-day, showing the search after truth to be alone worthy of our endeavor. Chipman displayed a fluency of language that was highly creditable. He spoke of the secret forces and changes in nature, and in application referred to the grand though hidden powers of the human mind. The next speaker related the story of the heroic Gordon in a pleasing manner. The skillful modulation of his voice was particularly worthy of commendation. Mr. Tiner's only fault was in the management of his sentences, which showed tendency to fall, producing a monotony of tone. The sixth essay was in substance good, in delivery capable of improvement. Day spoke in a particularly clear and distinct voice, and treated a hackneyed theme in a manner not discreditible. The next paper, though biographical, was well treated, and showed evidence of careful preparation. Smallman is the largest man in the class. He presented a fine figure on the platform, but spoke in a tone rather too pompous for the occasion. The literary excellence of his paper was especially noticeable. Fash described the elements of a successful foundation for our lives. Though his illustrations were time-tattered, the quality of his original work was first-class. As a whole the essays were good. The most note-worthy feature was in the matter of elocution. Since last year a great advance has been made in this regard, owing no doubt to the thorough drill of the teacher in this department. Mr. H. N. Shaw. The matriculating class consists of 41 members, one of whom is a young lady. The music, furnished by the young ladies of the Seminary, was well received. The solo by Miss Day was finely rendered, and won words of praise in all directions. At the close of

the programme addresses were given by Atty-Gen Longley, Rev J. A. Gordon, Rev C. Goodspeed, Dr. Day, Dr. Rand. As the glorious day drew to a close, crowds of people in summer costume were seen wending their way in the direction of the college, their purpose being to listen to the graduating exercises of

ACADIA SEMINARY. These took place in accordance with the following programme:

- PROGRAME.
Processional Marche des Trombadours, Roulier.
Misses Clerke, Wood, Henderson, Rice.
Prayer by the Rev. E. M. Saunders, D. D.
1. Essay.....Queen Elizabeth, May J. Bishop.
2. Vocal Duet.....On the Moonlight Stream, Geibel.
Misses Lovett and Simms.
3. Essay.....Music, Harriet M. Eaton.
4. Piano Solo.....Rhapsodie Hongroise, No. 2, Liszt.
Laura E. Sawyer.
5. Essay.....Holland House, its inmates and guests, Ella A. Pudsey.
6. Vocal Solo, La Stella, Ariditi, May H. Vaughan.
7. Essay.....The Vanity and Inanity of Greatness, Lila P. Williams.
8. Piano Solo, Polonaise in A b, Chopin, Harriet M. Eaton.
9. Essay.....A Merry Heart doeth Good like a Medicine, Minnie W. Long.
10. Concerto, Don Juan, Mozart-Lyaburg, Lila P. Williams.
11. Essay with Valedictory.....Social Life in the Eighteenth Century, Annie F. N. Smith.
Presentation of Diplomas.
God Save the Queen.
Prayer by Rev. J. E. Hopper, D. D.

Miss Bishop gave a fair outline and criticism of the life and traits, the faults and foibles of the haughty Queen Elizabeth. Miss Eaton traced the development in the science of music, from the days when Pythagoras pondered o'er "the music of the spheres," down to its latest and highest attainments in Germany, its present home. Thought, language, delivery, were in this essay alike worthy of praise. Miss Sawyer's piano solo was beyond the mental reach of the reporter, but by a competent critic whom he consulted, was pronounced "grand." The paper that followed was well arranged, and accurate in form and diction. The vocal solo, to quote again from the musical friend above-mentioned, was "in a high degree artistic and commendable." Miss Williams elicited much applause by both her literary and her musical effort. Her essay showed a charming freshness of style and beauty of expression. The subject was the only one in the entire programme which could be characterized as new or original. Improvement in this respect is suggested. Miss Long gave a number of practical observations, worthy the attention of all. The paper by Miss Smith gained much favorable comment. Enunciation, tone, gesture, commanded attention and admiration. At the close of the exercises Dr. Sawyer presented to the members of the graduating class, eight in number, their diplomas. Misses Williams and Eaton received two each, having completed both the literary and musical courses.

A gentle criticism will here be in order. As the reporter, secure in his reserved seat, looked placidly down upon the surging, seething, sweating crowd which filled the Hall as soon as the doors were open, he felt that some change was necessary in the matter of accommodations. Assembly Hall is altogether too limited in its seating capacity. On such occasions as that of Wednesday evening there is discomfort and absolute danger to all comers save those who are fortunate enough to obtain reserved places. An enlargement of the Hall, or the obtaining of a new one is absolutely necessary.

Yesterday dawned with abundance of beautiful earth-refreshing, graduate-discouraging rain. At 11 o'clock THE COLLEGE commenced its Anniversary exercises. Following is the order of the intellectual feast with which the audience was favored:

- The Student as a Patriot, Colman W. Corey, Havelock, N. B.
The Rational and the Empirical in Medicine, Jesse T. Prescott, Sussex, N. B.
Government by the Majority, Oliver S. Miller, Bridgetown.
The Future of Japan, William E. Boggs, Wolfville.
Music.
The Commercial Route of Hudson Bay, J. Allan Sharpe, St. John, N. B.
*What is Literature? Samuel K. Smith, Milton, Queens Co.
*William Prince of Orange, Henry Vaughan, St. Martins, N. B.
The Relation of the Professions to Labor, George R. White, St. Martins, N. B.
*Civilization as affected by International Relations, Edwin L. Gates, Melvern Square.
The Influence of one Thinker on his own and succeeding Ages, illustrated by Plato, Ernest R. Morse, Paradise.
*The Uses of Mythology in Art, Thaddeus K. Freeman, Milton, Queens.
The Gradual Advancement of Learning, Israel W. Porter, Deerfield.
Music.
*The Moral Benefit of Science Studies, Charles H. Miller, Clarence.

*Conservation and Radicalism in Ancient Greece, George A. Whitman, New Albany.
Conscience as seen in the Plays of Shakespeare, John B. Morgan, Fredericton, N. B.
*The Popular Element in the English Constitution, Ernest M. Freeman, Newport.
The Reign of Victoria, Robie W. Ford, Milton, Queens.
Music.
Presentation of Honor Certificates.
Conferring of Degrees.
National Anthem.
Benediction.

*Excused.
Mr. Corey took the ground, that the men who are to defend our country's interests and forward her growth in the highest degree are those who look upon her condition and needs with a scholarly eye. The speaker was well worthy of first place on the programme. Though at times rather hesitating, his voice and action in the main were good. Mr. Miller delivered his oration in an easy and forcible manner, appearing perfectly at one with his subject and his audience. His eloquence was however rather "long drawn out." He maintained that true freedom, and the rightful advance of civilization could be secured only through government by the majority. This form of rule secures 1, Equality of power; 2, The greatest good to the greatest number; 3, The general good of the public; 4, The prevention of corruption. The prevailing system was shown to be radically wrong in all these respects. Some assertions made were decidedly "cheeky," but the audience was fortunately in a good humor. Mr. Sharpe is no advocate of repeal. He gave a flowery description of the advantages and possibilities of our great sister Province, and claimed that the establishment of a commercial traffic during at least five months of the year between Europe and Hudson's Bay would result in every kind of blessing to ourselves, our Dominion, and our friends across the water. The lack of elocutionary power was the chief point of criticism in this speaker. The complaint that the professions consume without producing was quoted by Mr. White. The growlings of the laborer, that he has not a fair share of produce, that his advance is disproportionate to that of the professional man, and that his condition is now one of virtual slavery, were granted in great measure true. The remedy will consist in the exertion of full power and helping influence by the professions themselves.

Thus concluded the strictly political portion of the programme, and a sigh of relief was universally indulged. By all odds the finest oration of the day, was that of Mr. Morse. He commenced by affirming that speculation is peculiar to the Greek mind. Though in Plato there is much that is questionable, the evil is far out-balanced by the good. He appears first as a critic and rejecter of previous systems, then as an independent philosopher, with his famous Doctrine of Ideas. This is the band that binds the sheaf together. By it he constructs a universe, sees a God. He discovers to the thought of that day the soul of the world, the human soul, and the immortality of both. Thence he proceeds to Politics, and, as his philosophy is an absolute monism, his theory of government is an absolute monarchy. Thence onward his system goes to anthropology and ethics. The results of his thought are seen in the fact that the Scholastics and later philosophers have worked on the marble which his power first outlined. The accuracy of a critic must be laid aside, in studying Plato, for the veneration of a worshipper. Too much can hardly be said in praise of Mr. Morse's oration.

Mr. Porter dwelt for fifteen minutes in a cloudland of metaphor. He conducted his hearers through a maze, flower-strewn path of imagery, which reminded one forcibly of lang-syne Sophomore Exhibitions. His claim was that Learning, though gradual, was steady and continuous in its advance. Superior literary excellence characterized the address of Mr. Morgan. Conscience, in the works of Shakespeare, is dealt with as a universal endowment, not engrained externally, but born within. It is looked upon as impossible of dethronement at the option of the possessor. The boldness of innocence and the timidity of guilt are everywhere instanced. Some portions of Mr. Ford's oration held the elements of true poetry. An inspiring subject and wide scope for the exercise of every imaginative power were at hand, and they were creditably used. There was room for ample improvement in the manner and gesture of the speaker.

Honor Certificates were next awarded as follows: In the Senior Class to J. B. Morgan, in metaphysics; E. R. Morse, in moral philosophy; I. W. Porter, in moral philosophy and history; G. A. Whitman, in history; L. D. Morse, of the Junior Class, in logic; O. H. McIntyre, Sophomore, in physical science; J. E. Eaton and C. B. Freeman, of the Freshman Class, in classics.
The degree of B. A. was then conferred upon the seventeen young men who

constitute the Graduating Class, and that of M. A. in course, upon P. M. Kelly, B. A., '84. Also, the degree of B. A. was conferred upon Stephen H. Cornwall, and that of M. A. upon J. H. Robbins, B. A. President Sawyer addressed a few earnest words of counsel to the graduates of the day. Rev. Dr. Rand read an original poem, written in Latin and English, and dedicated to the class of '87. Further remarks were made by Rev. I. E. Bill, D. D., and Atty-Gen Longley. The exercises closed with the National Anthem and Benediction.

ALUMNI.
Some sixty members of the Alumni Association met in the Acadia Hotel at the close of the Anniversary exercises. After a successful dinner had been consumed various items of business were transacted. It was voted that a manuscript record of the alumni be prepared and submitted at the next annual meeting of the society; the same to serve as a companion to the memorial volume, published some years since.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:
President—J. B. Hall, Ph. D., of Truro.
Vice President—A. J. Denton, of Hfx.
Sec. Treas.—S. W. Cummings, of Truro.
Executive Committee—Prof. F. H. Eaton, W. F. Paiker, Prof. A. E. Caldwell, Rev. Dr. Hopper, E. W. Sawyer, Prof. C. Goodspeed, H. T. Ross.

The following resolution was moved by Mr. A. J. Denton, and passed:
Inasmuch as we have learned that the board of Governors are about to establish a chair of Modern Languages, therefore resolved that in case such a chair be established, this society agree to raise \$500 during the coming year, to be paid the Board toward the support of such chair.

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