

# THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

TROS TYRIUSQUE MIHI NULLO DISCRIMINE AGETUR.

VOL. 6.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., OCTOBER, 1879.

No. 1.

## POETRY.

As when the laboring sun hath wrought his track,  
Up to the top of lofty Cancer's back,  
The icy ocean cracks, the frozen pole  
Thaws with the heat of the celestial coal;  
So when Thy absent beams begin to impart,  
Again a solstice on my frozen heart,  
My winter's o'er, my drooping spirits sing,  
And every part revives into a spring.  
But if Thy quick'ning beams awhile decline,  
And with their light bless not this orb of mine,  
A chilly frost surpriseth every member,  
And in the midst of June I feel December.  
O how this earthly temper doth debase  
The noble soul, in this her humble place,  
Whose wingy nature ever doth aspire  
To reach that place whence first it took its fire.  
These flames I feel, which in my heart do dwell,  
Are not thy beams, but take their fire from hell;  
O, quench them all, and let Thy light divine  
Be as the sun to this poor orb of mine;  
And to thy sacred spirit convert those fires,  
Whose earthly fumes choke my devout desires.

—BROWN.

## THE EXPULSION OF THE ACADIANS IN 1755.

A very important addition to the early history of our country has lately been written by James Hannay, of St. John, N. B. The period included within the author's researches comprises all the events in the history of Acadia, from its discovery and earliest settlement until the Treaty of Paris in 1763, when it came under the complete control of the British. The writer, in his preface, states that nearly fifteen years of preparatory labor, in research and compilation, were necessary before he felt sufficiently confident of the reliability of the results of his toil, to place them before the public. The great fire in St. John in 1877, by de-

stroying his manuscript, printed copy and library, threw upon him the necessity of re-writing half of the book, and delayed its publication some months. Of the pains that have been taken to secure accuracy, we may infer something from the author's prefatory remark that: "My aim has been to trace every statement to its original source, and to accept no fact from a printed book at second hand where it was possible to avoid doing so . . . The first and principal object I have kept in view has been to tell the simple truth, and for the sake of this I have been willing to sacrifice mere picturesque effect and all attempt at fine writing." That this aim has been kept in view throughout with unswerving fidelity, and accomplished, is clearly evident to any one who has given the book an attentive perusal, and this very fact will give importance to the work, not only as a very readable account of the early history of the Acadians, but also as an authority for future laborers in the same field.

Of the style and general scope, however, it is not our purpose at present to speak; we wish particularly to refer to an important event which took place during the British acquisition of what is now Nova Scotia; an event which, in its causes, has never, until recently, been fully understood or inquired into, in the persons involved, has been greatly misrepresented, and that in the most dangerous way, by appealing to our common sympathies through the medium of one of our greatest poets, and in its attendant circumstances misunderstood and exaggerated—the expulsion of the Acadians by the British in 1755.

While few have an intimate authoritative