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## THE Acadia Athenæum.

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## The Sanctum.

THE rapid increase in numbers of students at Acadia within the last few years is remarkable. When we consider the few pecuniary inducements in the way of scholarships, bursaries &c., her growth is marvellous. There has been no tremendous effort made on the part of the governors to boom the institutions. The college has no array of millionaires at its back to endow chairs and lift it beyond the chilling regions of want. But quietly and surely a growing popularity is pushing the institutions to success and crowding the boarding halls and class-rooms with young men and maidens athirst for knowledge. And yet our numbers could easily be doubled in four years. Were there but half the enthusiasm manifested in talking up the college which its merits warrant, law, medical and theological departments would spring to view here in properly equipped edifices as did by magic the gilded tents of the Caliph in Lalla Rookh: and whoso says that this is not the destiny of the hill is a prophet of evil.

The work however should not be left to the Professors alone. It is true that they by attending the denominational gatherings, the educational institutes and science schools may press upon the public the claims of higher education and be in a large measure successful in directing students hitherward; but the graduates ought also to be potent factors in the same work. Every man who goes forth with a diploma of graduation disgraces the college if he attain not to superior influence in whatever community he is placed. And they fail in common gratitude who neglect to use this influence in sending young people here. The students as well have during their vacations great opportunities. How they may hunt out those who are anxious for education! How inspire the hesitating and clean away prospective difficulties! Acadia has not yet reached the summit of her greatness. Her future is what her supporters choose to make it.

IT is gratifying to know that a feeling even distantly akin to compassion has taken possession of the faculty. We recollect the time when the juniors had scarcely a breathing space between the Terminal Examinations and their Rhetorical exhibition. Through some means a happier era has dawned. The juniors of this year had two whole days to recuperate. We are glad that better and wiser counsels have prevailed. To grind the very life out of a student and then compel him in an exhausted and nervous condition to face an audience is simply as heartless as it is unwise. The juniors of the future are to be congratulated on the prospect of more considerate treatment being extended to them.

THE particular aim of the founders of the Academy at Wolfville was to provide training for young men entering the ministry in our own denomination, and although the old Grand Pre Academy has developed into a flourishing university with a healthy feeder, and an institution for the general education of young ladies, the original purpose