

The Principal, the Rev. Mr. Pickard, then formally but briefly introduced the object and plan of the Celebration. He said it had a few days before occurred to his brother Officers and himself, that this, the tenth anniversary of the commencement of their labours, ought not to go by without some celebration in its honour, and that thereupon they set themselves upon devising what the celebration should be. The shortness of the time for preparation rendered it impossible to give the occasion that almost exclusively intellectual character peculiar to such anniversaries; and the winter was not the season to expect that their friends and former Students, residing at any great distance from Sackville, could favour them with their presence and assistance. Influenced by these considerations, they concluded to invite the attendance of such friends only as resided within a few hours' drive of Mount Allison, and in place of formal speeches, and the usual declamatory display, to entertain them with a short account of the Institution's progress, with such extemporaneous addresses as the gentlemen around him might be prevailed upon to deliver, and with the hospitalities of Academic "commons." The Rev. Principal then went into various statistics, illustrative of the Academy's history during the first ten years of its existence. The following are all I took particular note of:—The Academy commenced operations on the 19th January, 1843, with seven students; and by the end of the first term the number was increased to thirty-four, and by the end of the year to eighty.

In 1844—131 students received instruction.

1845—135	"	"	"
1846—140	"	"	"
1847—144	"	"	"
1848—108	"	"	"
1849—97	"	"	"
1850—79	"	"	"
1851—89	"	"	"
1852—128	"	"	"

Or an average annual attendance during the ten years of 110 students. At the close of the last year an aggregate number of 620 different students had attended, and remained in the institution, on an average 1½ years each. From the best information the Officers could obtain of the subsequent history of the 620 individuals who had thus been under their charge, Mr. Pickard stated that sixteen are now engaged in the work of the Ministry, or in preparation for it; ten in the practice or study of the Law; twenty in the practice or study of Medicine; twenty-eight employed as teachers; and that twenty-five had finished their career in time.

Mr. Pickard concluded his remarks by stating that preparations for the erection of the contemplated Female Academy were in rapid progress, and that those engaged in forwarding them, confidently expected it to be finished and ready for use early in the Spring of 1854.

The following gentlemen then, at the request of the Principal, delivered extemporaneous addresses, in the order in which I name them:—Rev. Messrs. Johnston, Beals, Hennigar Gaetz, Mr. Jos. L. Moore, a former Student of the Academy; and the Rev. Mr. Chesley. These unpremeditated speeches elicited very much to the interest of the occasion and the enjoyment of the audience. One Rev. Gentleman addressed himself particularly to the Students, on the pleasures and advantages of education; another followed, and enlarged upon the same subject; the next presented himself as the advocate of the Ladies, and in a very facetious speech urged the rights of his fair clients to a more liberal share of education and property than they have hitherto received. Mr. Moore, after congratulating the Founder and Officers of the Academy upon the success which had so far crowned his munificence and their labours, adverted to the responsibilities which the progress and requirements of the present age impose upon those engaged in the instruction of the young; and the Rev. Mr. Chesley ably, but rather speciously, contended that the "Fair Sex" have already as large a share of power in the social and public economy as it would be politic to entrust to them. All the speakers so happily mingled "the grave and gay, the lively and severe," that it would be hard to say whether their hearers were most instructed or amused by their eloquence.

The Rev. Gentleman who was so unfortunate as to be last called upon for an address had his very witty speech "broke off in the middle," by the summons to the tea-tables, to which the Students and guests, to the number of at least 250, promptly responded. The tables, covered with abundance of good things, occupied the principal school and recitation rooms; and the excellent arrangements made for the entertainment of so large a company, and the prompt and orderly supply of their wants, reflected great credit upon Mr. and Mrs. Trueman, the heads of the domestic department.

After tea, the reception rooms, the library and museum, and the lecture room, were thrown open, and till after nine o'clock, the Guests, Officers,

and Students amused themselves and each other as taste or fancy dictated. Some looked through the books in the library, and made choice extracts from their pages; some gazed and wondered at the curiosities in the museum. In one corner of the lecture room a numerous party were receiving shocks from an electrifying machine; while, in an opposite corner, the champion of "woman's rights" and his opponent were "fighting their battles o'er again," each surrounded and encouraged by those whose cause he advocated. Some peripatetic philosophers promenaded the ample halls, discoursing learned things to fair disciples on their arms; and some, lovers of the beautiful, turned over portfolios of drawings on the tables of the reception rooms.

So passed the time most pleasantly, till nine o'clock, and a long drive before me, compelled me very reluctantly to leave just as the enemy of "woman's rights" was re-ascending the platform, to finish the speech which had been interrupted by the call to tea.

I have since understood, that after an address from Chas. Dixon, Esq., of Sackville, the ceremonies of the day closed as they began, with singing and prayer. Thus ended a day not soon to be forgotten by any of those who shared in its enjoyments; and thus happily commenced a second decade in the history of the Mount Allison Academy. Throughout the occasion the Officers and Students were unremitting in their attentions to the comfort and entertainment of their visitors; and it is scarcely giving them their "meed of praise," to say that they dispensed their hospitalities with equal grace and kindness.

A few remarks upon some other matters that attracted my attention as I wandered through the Academy, in the course of the evening, and I shall not further trespass upon your space or patience. I was particularly struck with the spacious and airy dimensions of the School and Recitation Rooms, and with the air of systematic cleanliness and order that pervades the whole establishment. In looking through the library, composed of nearly three thousand volumes, I noticed some very valuable books. The Museum contains many fine specimens of Provincial and foreign minerals, and though the collection of other objects of curiosity and art, is not yet a very large one, I was told that valuable additions are yearly made to it. The apparatus for illustrating the principles of Philosophy and the Natural Sciences made quite an imposing display, on the late festive occasion; the Air Pump, the Galvanic Battery and Electric Machine, the splendid pair of Globes and the Telescope attracting admirers by their beautiful finish and operations.

To conclude this very hasty and rambling sketch, I think its friends and the country generally, may well be proud of this novel and admirable institution, which offers to all classes and persuasions the benefits of a sound and cheap education, and grateful to the noble-minded man whose golden wand called it into existence.

Westmorland, 25th January, 1853.

#### ANNUAL EXAMINATION.

We have deemed it but our duty, as journalists of whatever was occurring around us affecting any of the general interests of our Province, to present to the public through our columns such information as we could conveniently secure from time to time respecting the progress of the very important work which has been so successfully carried on in this favoured one among the higher educational establishments of our Province.

The academical year which has just closed, has, we rejoice to learn, from the statistics which we have obtained, been one of not only undiminished but increased prosperity. During the last term there have been in the three departments of instruction a total number of one hundred and five students of different ages and attainments, from the mere lad of twelve, in the primary, to the young man of twenty or more years, in the collegiate department.

We understand that the anniversary exercises, on Monday and Tuesday of this week, were of the most interesting and encouraging character to all who were privileged to be present on the occasion. They commenced on the former day at 9 A. M. with the simultaneous examination of classes in each of the four convenient recitation rooms of the institution. In the course of the day, classes, thirty in all, were examined in English Grammar, Geography, Arithmetic, Book-keeping, Algebra, Geometry, Mensuration, Land Surveying, Chemistry, Geology, Natural Philosophy, Astronomy, French, Latin, Greek, Rhetoric and Mental Philosophy, in the presence of the Members of the Board of Trustees and other friends of education from different parts of New-Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward's Island.

On Tuesday morning, the spacious Chapel or Lecture Room was filled to overflowing by a most respectable assembly, convened to witness the more public exercises, which began at nine o'clock with the reading by Masters Neille, Wood, McLeod, Olive, and King, from the junior classes,