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THE
Acadia Athenæum.

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ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

The Sanctum.

ANOTHER change has come in this sliding scale of years. 1891 is behind us. Whatever good it had in store for us we have already tasted, as also of its ills. In this our first issue of the New Year, the ATHENÆUM wishes to all exchanges, patrons students and readers, a very Happy New Year, and the Compliments of the Season.

THE years which a man spends as a student are important ones. They are taken from the most active part of his life, and the results of those few years go more towards determining his position as a man among men, than the results of any other equal portion of his time. During his student life, a man is developing his mind, fixing his habits, building

his character; and on leaving college, not only should he be able to go forth with a cultured mind, but with good habits and a noble character as well. His time given to study and himself practically withdrawn from the influences of society, a student is in danger of disregarding the habits of conduct he is forming; and if neglected at college, good habits are rarely ever cultivated afterwards.

The education of the mind holds a place of prime importance, but the refining of the manners is also an important element in the character on which depends success in life. If the lawyer would have his statements appreciated, his skill and eloquence remembered, let them be associated with refined and inviting manners. If the clergyman would win the affections and hearts of his people, let him cultivate manners that bring associations connected with his person of a pleasant nature. In short, if a man would have influence with his fellows, or receive the highest praise which society bestows, let him merit the title, "a thorough gentleman."

The man whose advice we seek, whose opinions we regard, and whose character we respect, is not the man with whom we associate ungenerous and mean actions. Rather is he one whose honorable manners show forth the true manliness within. True, polite manners in themselves are valueless only as they are an index of the feelings within, but it is a fact that even these outward expressions of kindness have a tendency to cultivate in the heart the feelings of good-will. Here then is an aim especially worthy the attention of every man during his life as a student; striving not only to bring his mind under control, but to cultivate those habits of good-nature and cheerfulness, of respect for self and regards for rights of others, which fit us to take part in the activities of life.

"For who can always act? But he
To whom a thousand memories call,
Not being less but more than all,
The gentleness he seems to be."