

## Valedictory.

The time has now come, dear readers, when we shall have to lay down the pen and make room for another. Our little craft will have made one round trip when this number reaches our readers. The venture has been a successful one in many ways and we hope that those who have scanned our craft from top to bottom for seven months feel that she has fulfilled what we said we should try and make her when we started. There were, doubtless, many points in which she might have been improved, but all that limited time and means could do, has been done that she might carry her news safely to our subscribers and yet not swamp the projectors of the scheme. All the canvas has not been used that might have been used did finances allow it, but we have sought to make the very best possible use of that placed at our disposal. Standing on the shore and looking backward on the not trackless voyage we think that we have reason to congratulate ourselves that the voyage has been so successful. Yet, not to us is the credit due, but to the able support which we as a staff have received from friends, ex-students and students. With such an army of helpers to back us we could *not* fail, in spite of predictions that may have been made to the contrary. To all who have so aided us, the members of the staff owe a deep debt of gratitude, and in their behalf we thank you most heartily. In taking a last lingering look at the past it causes a feeling of sadness that we who have met and chatted together through the columns of the REVIEW during this college year must now part, but we hope that one far abler will fill the editorial chair next year and in years to come.

The present standing of the paper is quite satisfactory as to finances, and those who have charge next year will not have a bare treasury to start with, besides, they will have a year's experience to guide them. Where there have been weaknesses this year they may be strengthened next, and where we have lacked in ability, push and vigor we hope that those succeeding us will make an extra effort, thereby strengthening the position of our college paper, making it a part of the institution and dear to everyone who has dwelt inside her walls or takes an interest in the welfare of the farming classes. If properly managed it will be a power in the hands of the students and also do much to give the college a better standing in the eyes of those who are not as well acquainted with it and the work that is being done here as they might be.

Large oaks from small acorns grow, and so it may be expected that the acorn which has been planted by the classes of '99 will be the nucleus of a mighty paper, and that it will continue to grow until its branches shall have cast a grateful shade into nearly every rural home in the Dominion. "Think you that this is saying too much? Not at all. We hope that the time is coming when every farm will feel, more or less, the reviving and invigorating influence of the O. A. C. from some source or other; if not from direct aid given to the tiller of the soil which surrounds that home, indirectly through some of the many channels by means of which light and knowledge is being shed upon the hard-handed sons of toil.

Although difficulties may arise and hills peep o'er hills until it may, at times, seem almost impossible to carry on the paper, yet to those who may follow us, we say, be determined that nothing will prevent you from issuing, at least once a month, a paper that

will be a credit to this institution and to the class of men who attend it. The practice at journalism which you obtain will more than compensate for any trouble and seeming loss of time.

But we must hasten to a close. As the glimmering landscape fades and thoughts of future scenes with their many changes so different from anything we have experienced during the college terms, as thoughts of these rise up before us we would fain linger yet awhile but life's duties call us hence and we must obey.

And now, dear friends, farewell.

To Alma Mater too, we say farewell.

Where'er we wander boast of this we can,  
From raw material you can make a "man."



## Agricultural News.

## Forecasts of the Weather.

Meet an acquaintance of any profession or persuasion and ten out of ten times the first greeting will be closely related to the weather, either through the mother's side by way of Boreas or the father's in the person of old Sol. Women give it the first thought, if they are followers of fashion, because it makes or mars their pleasure or complexion; if not of that guild, they discuss it because it reflects their agreeableness or it may be influences the till or temper of the pate of the household; men give it precedence, if of great intellect, because it is a topic of common interest and affords an uncompromising way of showing their seeming condescension; men, if of small minds, do likewise, because it is a cheap and easy way to ape those of the greater; the youth of both sexes broach it first, if bashful, because the biggest foot that ever smacked the gentle earth couldn't be put into it; if self confident, because it is barren, the possibility of an argument thereby carrying out the similarity of animal nature for, as the epigram has it, canines will gladly play with a stick but quickly fight over a bone. I have taken this theme not through the home-pun excuse of being asked, but for the reason that it is a burning question, in many senses, when Leo clerks in the weather grocery, and further, it is a subject over which one may kick a free toe and not have it stubbed by scientific pegs.

The person who has not brooded over the weather until rewarded by the hatching of some sublime ideas is not a fit and proper candidate for parliamentary honors as some people would naturally think, but such a one would serve the interests of his country better holding a candle for a blind man. "Sunshine abounds everywhere," says that excellent essayist, Burroughs, who appears to be a chum of nature's, "but only where the rain or dew falls is their life." In its descent the rain purifies the atmosphere and enriches the soil not only by settling bacteria and gases, but also as we have verified tales to tell, by bringing from their celestial home amongst the clouds myriads of evergreen frogs and toads to fertilize the earth. We are told that in breathing we receive three-fourths of our nourishment and so much rain have we in our systems that as the essayist forementioned poetically says seven-tenths of the human race rained down yesterday, and as he further remarks it is much more probable that