

pened fortunately as far as those were concerned who are not familiar with its history of the past four years; for the casual reader might not know that articles commendatory of the College have found a place but seldom in its columns. Its conception that the breadth of an educated gentleman should include fictitious statements is characteristically erroneous;—in truth the breadth of any gentleman will not extend beyond fact. Our objection to the communications to which in our May number we took exception was simply that they were lacking in a basis of fact. The article occasioned by our editorial in the last *ATHENÆUM* was characteristic of its author and is of the style which would naturally be expected. If the editor of the misguided paper referred to has a serious thought that we have not voiced the feeling of all the students, a visit to the hall of the *ATHENÆUM* Society under whose auspices our journal is published upon any occasion when the sentiment of the body is expressed would refresh him exceedingly. Every charity, however, should be exercised, for the columns of the weekly must be filled in some way. It would be commendable for the weekly of this College town to make its attitude toward the University in the future, what it has been in the past. This is our last issue of the year and the expression of the reasonableness that the town's weekly should heartily support these Institutions which are contributing so thoroughly to the welfare of the community is our last word on the subject.

The Resignation of Professor D. F. Higgins, M. A., Ph. D.

Dr. Higgins has resigned the chair of Mathematics in Acadia College, after a period of more than 30 years as professor. He will retain the position of lecturer to advanced classes in that subject as Professor Emeritus. For an extended period Dr. Higgins has been engaged in the service of Acadia. For some years prior to his appointment as professor, he held the position of tutor. He was the senior professor in the University, having been appointed to the Chair of Mathematics and Physics in 1864. Since the founding of the Alumni professorship in Physics and Astronomy he has confined his class-room duties to the subject of Mathematics.

Dr. Higgins was graduated from Acadia with the Class of '59. From the same Institution he received the Degree of M. A., in course, in 1861, and in 1882 Acadia conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy, in recognition of the eminent services he had rendered his Alma Mater.

Acadia's Mathematical Professor for so long a period took no second place as a scholar and Mathematician. He is a linguist of remarkable knowledge, thoroughness and fluency, being master of Hebrew, Greek, Latin and French, while in the use of his noble mother tongue, Dr. Higgins has command of language of unusual strength as well as grace of diction. Especially does the doctor wield a most able and facile pen. But it is to the Mathematical department that the professor has given the preponderance of his thought and life and he has been for many years a widely recognized authority on Mathematical subjects.

In the class room Dr. Higgins has never failed to impress succeeding classes with the comprehensiveness of his knowledge and his thorough grasp of every detail of his subject. There were no intricacies in the realm of Mathematical science which the professor could not make clear to the student. Having himself an intellect of keen analytical insight, he could take the most difficult and perplexing problem and not only make its processes luminous before the enquiring mind, but also unfold the interesting stages and transitions in the development of proof or deduction of theory.

For many years the Council of Public Instruction has recognized the superior qualities of Dr. Higgins as an educationist by retaining him as examiner in Mathematical subjects in the Provincial system of examination for teachers' certificates.

Acadia appreciates the eminent qualities of Dr. Higgins and the prolonged service of his active life, the value of which it is impossible to estimate. The *ATHENÆUM* congratulates the Doctor upon the eminent