

1898.

Colleges which are open to her. The advantages of the education of women to society were considered. True education is never ornamental merely; it means service. The object of education is to make better men and women, fitted to exercise a larger influence for good in society. An unworthy but too common idea of education, the speaker said, was that it was valuable only as it could be used for the acquisition of money. Not making money, but making better manhood and womanhood is the supreme aim of education. The discipline of the faculties which education involves is necessary to the building of strong and noble character. Every graduate of these institutions must feel a pardonable pride in them in view of the influences they are sending forth. Every graduate going forth should carry a light into the world. The true aim of every school must be to give power to do and cultivate a disposition to employ power to noble ends. If such is the result of study, then indeed does a school become an Alma Mater, to those who enjoy its privileges.

The College Convocation.

The interest of Anniversary week culminates in the College convocation which this year as usual took place on Wednesday morning. Shortly after ten o'clock the usual procession was formed with Mr. J. Parsons of the class of 1867 as Marshall and marched into Assembly Hall. The morning was dull and threatening, and neither the condition of the weather nor the roads were favorable to a large attendance from the surrounding country, but the available seating room of the hall was fully occupied and the day though, not so bright as could be desired, was without rain and cool, thus enabling the people to sit out the long session without the discomfort and fatigue which a hot day on such an occasion involves.

President Trotter presided, supported by the Members of the Faculty. Members of the Board of Governors and the Senate, with a number of the Alumni, Ministers and other friends of College occupied seats on the platform. Prayer was offered by the Rev. J. A. Gordon, M. A., of St. John.

The programme of exercises, giving the names of the graduating class with the subjects of their essays was as follows:

PROGRAMME.

- Processional March.
Prayer.
Awarding of Honor Certificates
Orations by Members of the Graduating Class.
The March of the Muscovite.
Arthur S. Burns, Kingston, N. S.
Modern Reformers.
Martha H. Vanderpoel, Short Hills, N. J.
Britain in Africa.
Nathan B. Rogers, Springhill, N. S.
Was the United States Justifiable in Interfering for Cuba?
James A. McLeod, Brookfield, N. S.
Politics and Morality.
Frank B. A. Chipman, Kentville, N. S.
The Myth.
Elizabeth M. Churchill, Truro, N. S.
The Influence of Thought on Character.
Isaac A. Corbett, Five Islands, N. S.
The Decadence of Spain.
J. Ernest Forsyth, Wolfville, N. S.
The Canadian Banking System.
W. Lorimer Hall, Halifax, N. S.
Governmental Instability in France.
Charles W. Slipp, Sussex, N. B.
Milton's Views of Education.
J. Blanche Burgess, Dorchester, N. B.
The Permanency of British Civilization.
Leverett A. Fenwick, Apohaqui, N. B.
The Future of China.
Willard N. Freeman, Milton, N. S.
Shakespeare as a Teacher in the School of Life.
Ada M. Hayes, Wolfville, N. S.
Freedom as an Ethical Postulate.
Charles W. Rose, Port Maitland, N. S.
Matthew Arnold as a Poet.
E. Irene Burgess, Dorchester, N. B.
MUSIC.
The Bible as an Educator.
Sebra C. Freeman, Brookfield, N. S.
Brains and Character.
Isobel Eaton, Dartmouth, N. S.
Jingoism in America.
Fred L. Estabrooks, Sackville, N. B.
The Personal Element in Poetry.
Winifred H. Coldwell, Wolfville, N. S.
The Gold Standard.
Roland G. D. Richardson, Melvern Sq., N. S.
Is the Poet of the Nineteenth Century Degenerate?
Bertha M. Sangster, Sackville, N. B.
Tragedy as a Moral Educator.
Abner F. Newcomb, Bridgetown, N. S.
"The Welcome of its Heroes the Truest Test of an Epoch."
Evelyn F. Keirstead, Wolfville, N. S.
The Teleological Argument.
Stanley C. Dukeshire, Maitland, N. S.
The Present State of Astronomical Science.
Clement L. Vaughn, Grand Pré, N. S.
Canadian Poets.
Bessie Marion McNally, Fredericton, N. B.
The Study of International Law.
Norval B. Spinney, Meadow Vale, N. S.
Gladstone's Influence on the Century.
Arthur H. Whitman, New Albany, N. S.
The Newer Scottish School of Fiction.
Carrie W. Blair, Wolfville, N. S.
Epicureanism in Modern Thought.
Peter W. Gordon, St. John, N. B.
The Canadian Senate.
J. Clarence Hemmeon, Wolfville, N. S.
MUSIC.
Conferring Degrees.
MUSIC.
Addresses by President Nathaniel Butler, LL. D., Colby University, Me., and President Trotter, D. D.
National Anthem.

BENEDICTION.
President Trotter announced that Honor Certificates had been awarded as follows:

- SOPIOMORE CLASS.
Emerson L. Franklyn, French.
John A. Glendening, Classics.
R. S. Leonard, Classics.
Chalmers S. Mersereau, Mathematics.
S. S. Poole, Classics.
SENIOR CLASS.
Cassie W. Blair, French and German.
J. Blanche Burgess, Classics.
S. C. Dukeshire, Philosophy.
F. W. Gordon, Classics.
J. C. Hemmeon, Classics.
Evelyn F. Keirstead, English Literature.
A. F. Newcomb, Philosophy.
A. H. Whitman, Mathematics.
N. B. Spinney, French and German.
C. L. Vaughn, Classics.

Honor studies have been taken by a number of the Junior Class also, but owing to an important change adopted by the College respecting the subject of honor studies, mention of the honor work of the Class of '99 is deferred until its graduation. It was of course impossible that all the thirty-two orations should be heard on Wednesday morning, though the President assured us that the Faculty had enjoyed that privilege. Five members of the Class had accordingly been selected as representatives.

The first oration discussed the question, "Was the United States Justifiable in Interfering for Cuba," the speaker, Mr. James A. McLeod, of Brookfield, N. S. The question was considered in reference to two principles of international law bearing upon the subject. The first justifies interference with the sovereignty of another nation on the ground of self-preservation; the second when it is clearly demanded in the interests of humanity. On this latter ground the essayist held that the United States had good ground for interference, and the applause with which this conclusion was greeted seemed to indicate that Mr. McLeod's view was pretty generally endorsed by his audience.

The second oration was by Miss J. Blanche Burgess, of Dorchester, N. B., and discussed "Milton's Views of Education." This was a highly interesting critique of Milton's famous "tractate." The conclusion reached was that, while the views expressed by the great genius of Puritanism as to methods of education lacked practicality, they contained much that was valuable in the way of suggestion, and that in loftiness of tone and nobility of conception Milton's tractate is beyond praise.

The third speaker was Mr. Charles W. Rose, of Port Maitland, N. S., his subject, "The Freedom of the Will." This subject of perennial interest was discussed by Mr. Rose with much ability, his oration was well delivered and received much praise.

At this point in the programme music was announced, the song "Lord Nelson" was rendered by Mr. G. S. Mayes, of St. John, with fine effect, and the appreciation of the audience was unbounded. The piano accompaniment was played by Mrs. Woodworth of the Seminary.

The fourth oration was by Miss Evelyn F. Keirstead, of Wolfville, subject, "The Welcome of its Heroes the Truest Test of an Epoch." In developing this thesis the essayist glanced at the ages regarded as most illustrious in the world's history; the Greek, the Augustan, the Elizabethan, the Victorian. Most significant of all, it was shown, as to the character of an age, is the reception it accords to Christ, the transcendent hero of all the ages. This essay was marked by a very high degree of literary merit and received much well deserved commendation.

The fifth and last essay was delivered by Mr. Arthur H. Whitman, of New Albany, N. S., who was heard with great interest as he spoke of "Gladstone's Influence on the Century." This essay will be found on our first page. It has been selected for publication not because its literary merit is greater than the others, but because it deals with a subject of special interest at the present time. The essays delivered were of a high order, comparing most favorably with the best products of other anniversaries, and we fully accept the statement of President Trotter, that many of those which were not delivered were quite equal in merit to those which were presented to the public.

At this point again the programme was varied by a musical number, a piano solo, finely rendered, by Miss Annie Starr Chipman, of Kentville.

With the customary formalities the graduating class was introduced by Rev. S. B. Kempton, D. D., and received their diplomas at the hands of President Trotter. It is said that the sonorous Latin sentences in which the President has hitherto declared the pleasure of the University in reference to the candidates for the B. A. degree will henceforth give place to nineteenth century English. Twenty-one young men and nine young women were present to receive the degree of Bachelor of Arts. One of the class, Miss Blair, was prevented by illness from being present, and two others, Mr. Fenwick and Miss Vanderpoel, will receive their diplomas shortly, as soon as they shall have passed examinations which, owing to circumstances, they were unable to do before the close of the term.

The degree of M. A. in Course was conferred on Mr. Wiley Margeson, of Hantsport; Mr. J. W. Hilsley, of the United States, and Mr. W. G. Macfarlane, of St. John. President Trotter also announced that the honorary degree of Master in Arts had been conferred upon Rev. J. D. Freeman, of Fredericton, and the honorary degree of Doctor in Divinity on S. McC. Black, of St. John.

Next came the address to the graduating class. Dr. Trotter stated that as the class 1898 was rather the ex-president's class than his own, he had pleasure in saying that Dr. Sawyer had kindly consented, at his request, to deliver the address to the class. Dr. Sawyer reminded the class that the point at which they had arrived marked for them both an end and a beginning. They had come to the end of the College Course and were looking forward to new things. Anticipating this graduation day from the day on which they entered College, the time doubtless had seemed long. Looking back it seems short, and the results might perhaps seem unsatisfactory. But very likely some acquisitions that now seemed the least valuable would in years to come seem of far greater value than others which were now prized much more highly. Some lessons of value must

have been learned by all. He would call attention to two. 1. The sense of impotence—it might be said absolute impotence—in reference to the power to answer some question which the mind inevitably asks.—What is reality? What is matter? Do we say An intricate combination of atoms? But what are atoms? What is force which is supposed to reside in the atoms? What is the origin and ground of this Universe? How much of it is real and objective, how much the creation of the thinking mind? No answer comes to these questions or will come. With this perception of the impotency of the human mind must come a lesson of humility. A liberally educated person cannot be puffed up with conceit. There comes also a lesson of patience. These relations in which we bind ourselves to the Universe cannot be changed. We must be patient with the fixed order of things. Human impotency finds support in faith; and how much goes forward on the basis of faith! The wise man will seek a resting place for faith and distinguish between faith and presumption. Study the extent to which this principle of faith may be applied. The great mistake of life is to disregard this. 2. A second lesson learned is the power of the human mind in its proper sphere. This is noted in the lives of the great men of the present and the past. With faith in nature's laws, men of great minds have gathered facts and formulated systems, with great advantage to the life of men, so that one doubts whether to admire most the conditions which nature presents or the power of the thinking mind. Man is not out of harmony with the world in which he is placed. This force in the mind is so related to nature that men find here opportunities corresponding to their powers and their highest aspirations. But for what is this power given to men? Not for self alone nor wholly for others, but for self for the sake of others and for others for the sake of self. Finally, while congratulating the Class on the possession of power and the opportunity for its exercise, Dr. Sawyer begged them to consider that this power must be held subject to obligation to a Power which is Supreme.

The president announced that the Governor-General's prize, for the student who during the four years had made the highest average, had been won by Miss J. Blanche Burgess. This was followed by the singing, by Mr. Mayes, of "The Holy City," which was greatly enjoyed.

At this point Dr. Trotter introduced President Butler of Colby University.

On rising to speak, Dr. Butler said that he felt like giving the Colby yell. He did not however, but the College students evidently thought it might be a relief to Dr. Butler if they gave the Acadia yell, which they did with vigorous emphasis. No doubt they would have given the Colby yell too, if they could have done so. Education in the full sense, Dr. Butler said, was not the product of a college course. It is a life business. Beyond the College was the University. The College is for the under-graduate, the University for the graduate. The educated man needs to have a sharp axe and to know how to use it. The business of the College is to sharpen the axe, that of the University to teach some particular use of the axe. The main purpose of the College is education in the sense of mental discipline, not scholarship along special lines. The College should regard the student not as an intellectual being only, but as a physical, social and spiritual being also. College athletics are important, since the body at its best is a condition of having the mind at its best. There are many warnings against a one-sided intellectual culture. It puts into one's hands the power of doing something but does not determine whether that something shall be good or bad. It may be for the highest good or for the utmost evil. Hence the importance that education shall be under strongly Christian influences. Dr. Butler proceeded to point out two fallacies in education, that of the "short cut" and that of the "self-made" man. It is no gain for a young man or woman to hasten into the midst of the world's work, before prepared to do intelligently the work which the world needs to have done. Everywhere the trained man or woman is wanted and in every situation training is an important condition of success. While the world owes much to the men who are self-educated, and while the schools can never make a man, yet, when there is given a man, the schools by their training can greatly multiply his power.

At the close of Dr. Butler's address, President Trotter spoke briefly in reference to the Forward Movement fund. Of the \$60,000 needed to meet the conditions on which \$15,000 were promised by Mr. Rockefeller, \$35,000 had now been subscribed, making \$50,000 in all. Wolfville had subscribed over \$4,000 and would make it \$5,000 and subscriptions of \$500 had recently come from our Missionaries in India. Dr. Trotter felt confident that the whole amount aimed at would certainly be secured.

Mr. Freeman and Mr. Black, being called upon spoke briefly in acknowledgment of the honorary degrees which the College has been pleased to confer upon them.

Judge Johnston, of Dartmouth, a graduate of Acadia's first class, that of 1843, was called upon for a speech and spoke of the early history of the College, the wisdom and zeal of its founders and the self-sacrificing labors of those who wrought with them to erect the first buildings. The record of their work should be an inspiration for the present, since the continuance of the College was essential to the welfare of the denomination.

A Conversazione held in Assembly Hall on Wednesday evening, was largely attended by members of the Faculty and their wives, members of the Senate and Board of Governors and other friends of the College and a large number of the students. Some excellent music was provided, including solos by Mr. Mayes, choruses by the Seminary Glee Club and a piece by the Wolfville orchestra, all of which were very much enjoyed. In the course of the evening Dr. Trotter announced the result of the Athletic Contests held on Monday afternoon. The gold medal, for the highest number of points, was won by Mr. W. M. Steele, son of Rev. Dr. Steele, of Amherst, and a member of the matriculating class. The silver medal, for the second highest number of points, was won by Mr. Buchanan, of Sussex. The third prize fell to Mr. W. L. Hall, Halifax, of the graduating class. The informal character of the meeting gave the fullest opportunity for social intercourse and very appropriately and pleasantly brought to a close what was generally pronounced one of the most successful anniversaries Acadia has ever held.