

idealism. We believe that the proper relation of all men to politics is neither sufficiently perceived nor sufficiently emphasized. Moreover, we do not think that sufficient provision is made for the instruction of young men in the affairs of their country,—a circumstance which therefore renders self-instruction more necessary and imperative.

It is with profound regret that we record the death of the Rev. Stephen W. DeBlois, D.D., pastor of Wolfville Baptist church. In his death Acadia loses one of her warmest friends and wisest counsellors. For more than a quarter of a century he has been a member of the Board of Governors, and Recording Secretary of that body since the year 1859. Deceased had been in ill-health for many years, but until recently, had continued, with the exception of short intervals, to perform his pastoral duties. The funeral services took place Thursday, the 7th inst. The church was heavily draped in black, and appropriate music was rendered by the choir. Memorial addresses were delivered by Rev. T. A. Higgins, Dr. Crawley, Dr. Sawyer, and Dr. Pryor. A large audience, including a number of clergymen, was in attendance. The solemn and impressive service will be long remembered by scores and hundreds who that day mourned the loss of a faithful pastor and personal friend.

The late Dr. DeBlois was for 28 years the one preacher to whom the students of these institutions were wont to listen; and the ATHENÆUM as organ of the under-graduates of the college would heartily testify to the zeal with which he prayed and preached in their behalf. We know that all graduates will unite with us in expressing esteem for a life so rich in righteous endeavor and blessed fruit, and in extending their sympathy to those whom death has so recently bereft of husband and father.

IN response to an invitation from the committee of the "Ladies at Home," a number of gentlemen, chiefly college students, gathered in the Wolfville skating rink, on Tuesday evening, the 22nd ult., to enjoy the merry pastime afforded by this popular and pleasant resort. On this occasion, however, more than ordinary allurements were extended to those favored with a "bid." Usually one seeks with "bow profound and manner bland," the pleasure of skating with some fair maiden, but leap year has happily reversed this, as well as certain other irksome conventionalities; hence the guests no sooner arrived than they were captured by their fair entertainers, who were waiting to welcome them, and then each happy swain and damsel fair sped away over the sparkling ice, forgetting all else but the keen enjoyment of the hour, and feeling, doubtless, that though life may be earnest and real, it need not necessarily be sad and gloomy. The ring of the skates on the frozen surface, the murmur of conversation, broken by occasional bursts of merriment, the "bright eyes that looked love to eyes which spake again," the steady glare of the electric lamp which threw a brilliant light over the graceful forms of the skaters, all contributed to render the scene thoroughly inspiring. For nearly three hours the skating continued, and then refreshments were announced and disposed of in a manner that spoke volumes in favor of skating as a healthful exercise. Socially the "Ladies at Home" was a decided success, and many of the guests are enthusiastic in their praises. All its *results*, however, have not yet appeared; and while some of them are sufficiently evident to the observing, others will only be revealed by the slow process of *development*. Words were doubtless spoken, thoughts exchanged, influences exerted, and shall we say, *attachments formed* under the exhilarating freedom of the Leap Year's entertainment, whose effect no mathematician can calculate, and of which no prophet can predict what will be the end. We regret that such pleasant gatherings are