

they are stirred up; and exalted genius, great worth, and the nobility of true manhood are asserted. The gem may lie hidden in the filth and mud, but the rushing stream washes it out to glitter beneath its limpid waters.

The poor prisoner of Bedford Jail could not see how his incarceration could bring aught but disaster to the cause he upheld. But that imprisonment resulted in a work that next to the Bible shall be loved and prized till the end of time.

Let us not then complain when troubles and dark disasters crowd thick upon us, but remember:—

"We see but dimly through the mists and vapors,
Amid these earthly damps—
What seem to us but sad funeral tapers,
May be Heaven's distant lamps." 20

OUR INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING.

THE condition and prospects of these at the present time are quite encouraging. It may be doubted if, at any time during their history, so deep and wide-spread an interest has centred in them. The Baptists of these Provinces have come fully to see that there is no incompatibility between true learning, and true piety—that their religious enterprises are bound up with the College, and so far from being hindered, must be greatly helped by its increased efficiency and growth.

This was foreseen by the fathers fifty years ago, and they prayed and wrought accordingly. The seed they planted was indeed of the mustard type, but it has already become a stately tree, and not a few have profited from the fruit it has yielded. The benefit the denomination has received from the College would many times repay all the money and sacrifice its sustentation has demanded. Our ministers, with few exceptions, were educated here—receiving a training which has fitted them to compare favorably with graduates from the best American Institutions. And how many, who have distinguished themselves in the legal and medical professions, in science and politics, both in our own and other countries, could testify to the worth of their Alma Mater. But other benefits than those which are direct and visible flow from every good Institution, and in yielding these it might be shown that *Acadia* fills no secondary place among the Institutions of the Provinces.

The location of the College is confessedly very fine, few spots under the sun could better serve the three-fold purpose of health to the body, pleasure to the eye, and inspiration to the soul. The objects coming into view from the College hill are of a kind and grouping to make the scene perfect. Nestling at

your feet you have first the neat village of Wolfville; then beyond, the Grand Pre, the Basin of Minas, and the Cornwallis valley; and in the distance, crowning the whole, old Blomidon. And if yet an additional charm were sought, it might be found in the rich historic associations which Longfellow has enshrined in his immortal verse.

The additions lately made to the staff of Professors show that the Governors are alive to the educational demands of the time and quite disposed to meet them. There are now seven Professors, good men and true, giving instruction in the College proper, so that every branch, properly included in the curriculum, receives its appropriate share of attention. True, the chair of Modern Languages has not yet been formally filled, yet for those desiring it, instruction will be given in French and German. The magnificent course in History, by Prof. Tufts, would of itself repay a sojourn in Wolfville, for the sake of passing over it. The Natural Science department is represented by Prof. Kennedy, who enters enthusiastically into his work. Professors Higgins and Jones are respectively devoted to Mathematics and Classics, for their proficiency in which and skill in communicating, they have long since been distinguished. The staff of Theological instructors has been lately enlarged by the appointment of Prof. Welton, whose lectures in Theology and Homiletics have already demonstrated the wisdom of the appointment. Dr. Crawley, the venerable Principal of this department, gives lectures in Hebrew and New Testament Exegesis. His power to hold and fascinate the learner seems as great as ever. Christian evidences are taught by the esteemed President of the College, Dr. Sawyer, whose successful oversight of the Institution shows him to be the right man in the right place.

The Academical Department was never in a more flourishing condition. About one hundred pupils, male and female, are now in attendance, and still they come. To meet the great demand for larger boarding accommodation the Committee having the matter in charge, are vigorously pushing forward the new Academy building. The frame will probably be raised by the time this appears in print. The building will be 40x80 and four stories high, with French roof, and an L. 30x40 in the rear. In the lower story will be a dining hall 40x40, in which it is proposed to introduce the club system of boarding, by which it is believed the price of board will be reduced to one dollar and a half per week. By the completion of this building additional boarding accommodation will be provided for seventy-five students, and judging from present appearances, it will not be long in filling

when thrown open. The careful and kindly oversight of the pupils by the Principal, may well warrant parents in entrusting their sons and daughters to his care. Thus on the whole the outlook is encouraging. As Education cannot be forced into sectional or sectarian grooves, as those who provide the best instruction for the youth of the country will have the most of them to teach, the friends of our Institutions are resolved to make them, if possible, the best in the Provinces. In this way the question of a Provincial university, which some are endeavoring to settle by legislation, they will settle by merit.

ELOQUENCE.

There is, perhaps, no word in the entire vocabulary of our language which has been so variously defined, and which has given lexicographers and critics so much trouble to define with exactness and precision, as the word eloquence. Among the many different interpretations of this word which have been rendered, we incline to the opinion, that we could scarcely do better than adopt that given by Campbell in his *Philosophy of Rhetoric*, which is: "that art or talent by which a discourse is adapted to an end." The speaker, in addressing an audience, must have either one of the four ends in view, to enlighten the understanding, to please the imagination, to move the passions, or to influence the will. And, so long as either one of these points is gained, we are aware of no just reason for refusing to predicate eloquence of any piece of composition, whether it be written or spoken, by which an author is enabled to gain it. It may be but a simple and perspicuous narrative of facts—an unimpassioned but convincing argument in proof of a controverted proposition in any department of moral knowledge—or a harangue, which, convincing our understanding of what is, or what seems to be an important truth, summoning before our fancy vivid images of its consequences, and kindling into flame the most powerful emotions of our nature, hurries us irresistibly to resolution and action; each of these exertions of the intellect may in its own sphere be deserving of the appellation eloquent, from the very fact that each may possess within itself all the essential qualities which fit it for producing its end.

We must, however, admit that, though this definition, so far as it goes, is quite correct, yet after all it gives but a vague idea of what true eloquence is. There seems to be a something in connection with the higher grade of oratory, which is, at least to a very great degree, inexplicable, and which, although we can comparatively easily detect the counterfeit or