

Acadia Athenæum.

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THE first lecture of the present term was delivered before the Athenæum on Friday evening, March 15th, by the Rev. Joseph Coffin, before a large and select audience. Mr. Coffin, who is the pastor of the Methodist Church of this town, treated his subject: "William the Silent," in a manner not unworthy of his well-known reputation as a lecturer.

We do not attempt to give even a synopsis of the matter comprised in the fitly chosen selections from the history of that eminent man, a history identical with that of the Rise of the Dutch Republic. We presume the events of that crisis of the world's history to be well known to the majority of our readers, and merely take this opportunity of expressing our lively admiration of the noble effort made by the speaker, and our pleasure in listening to his stirring and eloquent sentences.

The lecturer regretted that the numerous duties of a large church made a thorough

preparation impossible at that particular time, yet we feel assured that all who heard him were impressed not only with the life-like descriptions; the just and vivid lessons drawn throughout, the warmth and energy with which Truth was advocated, but also with the scope and grasp of the subject displayed in the choice and grouping of the most signal events. We thus publicly extend our thanks to the Rev. gentleman.

Liberal Development.

DEVELOPMENT may be effected in man chiefly in three ways: his physical constitution, by means of nourishing food and seasonable exercise, may be rendered strong, healthy, and vigorous; his faculties of mind, by timely and wisely directed culture, may be brought entirely under his control, and rendered potent in grasp, comprehension and subtlety of thought; and his emotional nature, by judicious restraint and culture, by reverence for and observance of truth and honesty, by supreme regard for the person and revelations of God, and by the operation of divinity in him, may become assimilated to the likeness of the deity.

In so far as any individual attains to the harmonious development of these three chief constituents of his being, he reaches the condition of true manhood. He who develops one of his faculties, without any regard to the capacity and demand of others for development, does it to his own detriment.

He who paints a picture must give careful attention to outline and physical form, to the blending and arranging of color, light, and shade: to the expression, the sense, of each individual object; and to the harmonious arrangement of all these and their appropriateness. In so far as the painter neglects to do this, must his picture be defective.

Now, the faculties that constitute the personality of each individual form a *living* picture; and when the man is but partially developed, the picture lacks some of its important parts: it is less or more ill-proportioned. If there is symmetrical physical development, and no development of mind and soul, the man is incomplete: it is as if the picture consisted of mere outlines, and the forms of objects; it lacks coloring and expression.