

THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM

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WE would suggest to our subscribers that remittances for the ATHENÆUM are always acceptable. This is especially the case at present. Less than usual has been collected up to the present time, and our publisher, though very considerate, is beginning to talk business to us. The hard times are not respecters of persons; even editors are not exempt from their influence. Some may be waiting for our Treasurer to forward them their bills; but as we do not wish to put him to unnecessary trouble, we insert this gentle reminder. You may remit either in postage stamps or script. Send script if you can; but by all means send.

IN another column will be found a private communication from an honored member of the class of '69, which we take the liberty of

inserting in this issue. Such friendly words, accompanied by such tangible proof of goodwill are highly valued by us. The example is one that might be emulated by others of our patrons, with credit to themselves, and with peculiar advantage to us at present.

THE telescope, provided for Acadia College by the graduating class of 1871, has been received. It was purchased in Boston, by the Rev. W. H. Warren, A.M., acting as agent for his class, and brought to Wolfville a few weeks since, by the same gentleman.

The glass is an achromatic refractor having an objective of six inches in diameter with a focal length of about eight feet. It is provided with a diaphragm, or sun screen, a sun shade and six eye-pieces, two ordinary ones with magnifying powers of 150, and 200, and three Töllers' patent eye-pieces, with magnifying powers of 150, 250, and 400 respectively. These all give inverted images and are designed for astronomical work only. In addition to these there is a terrestrial eyepiece for scanning objects on this mundane sphere.

The instrument is handsomely finished and mounted, and will make a most valuable addition to our appliances for learning by observation, facts which we must otherwise have been content to receive on the authority of text-books.

Owing to the want of a good observatory, the capabilities of the glass have not yet been fully tested. Some parts of Orion have, however been examined with good results—using the lowest powers. The great nebula came out distinctly and the multiple star *Theta* showed four distinct points of light making the famous trapezium. *Delta* and *Zeta* Orionis also revealed their companion stars very clearly.

It is expected that when a proper observatory is provided, all the more remarkable phenomena of the heavens will be revealed by this fine telescope which will thus become a powerful incentive to the study of the wonderful science of Astronomy.