

# Acadia Athenæum.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., JUNE, 1877.

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WE have reached the close of another College year, and it becomes our pleasant duty to address a few parting words to the readers of our ATHENÆUM.

With the printing of the present copy our paper finishes the third year of its existence. We have labored to fulfil the promises with which we began our editorial work. The burdens of our office have often oppressed, and sometimes wearied and annoyed us: but superior to all these has been the pleasure that came from the consciousness that we were doing our best under the circumstances. Thorns have pained but they have generally been covered by roses. If one mail has brought the surly—"don't want your paper"—the next has borne messages of kindness and sympathy. Across the storms that have shaken our sanctum the rainbow has flung its arch. Our relations with other College journals have on the whole been amicable.

With the exception of a single passage at arms with the "Argosy," our career has been crowned with peace. Our numerous exchanges have manifested uniform courtesy. The suggestions of

friends have been gladly received and duly considered. In the heat and fire of youthful blood we may have preferred our own notions, and perhaps have thus sometimes erred, but our intention has been to do the right thing, at the right time. The ATHENÆUM now stands on a firmer financial basis than ever before.

The opening year found us solicitous about money matters. The voice of the croaker was heard in the camp. Some said we will have to foot the bills out of our own pockets, and poured forth their jeremiads over our short though bewildering subscribers list.

Others struck a different but not less dismal note. Our list has swelled beyond expectation; our bills have been promptly paid, and if we have seemed to some a little too pushing in our mode of procedure, let them remember their own youthful inexperience.

We take this opportunity of thanking those of our graduates who have assisted us in our arduous toil. They have helped in a good enterprise and strengthened the bonds that bound them to their Alma Mater.

We now bid all our readers farewell. We trust that our successors will avoid our mistakes, and widen the reputation and so increase the power of the ATHENÆUM. We write these lines in sadness for the memories of College life even now are receding into the past.

No MEAN attainments are requisite to enable one to form an opinion on the tangled questions that meet us everywhere at the present day. Hence the necessity for a broad culture. The student who would turn in flight the legions of false hypothesis that swarm about him, must have a stalwart arm nerved by a well-balanced well-stored brain. Reasoning from the known to the unknown is a delicate operation, and one beset with peculiarly perplexing dangers. Fallacies infest all subjects. Sly errors may secretly snap the chain of argument. A faulty syllogism may explode a brilliant theory. Language may darken thought and palm off the spurious for the real. A fair exterior may hide a mass of hideousness. Many a blooming tree is rotten at the core. Ambiguous terms may lead into the desert of doubt.