

THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM

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SINCE the *New Star* has arisen in our neighborhood it has been made a medium for quite a spirited discussion of educational affairs, as connected with the Institution. In regard to such matters the ATHENÆUM has for the most part deemed it best to hold rather a neutral position. We have been cautious about presuming beyond our proper sphere, or entering into any of those proscribed precincts which it is not lawful to enter but for the Faculty alone. Yet we reserve the right, as the organ of the students, of speaking plainly and independently on any matters connected with the Institution which may in our view seem to demand reform.

As to the present discussion, however, we are glad that it is being carried on through

another channel. Concerning the merits of the questions discussed, we prefer to withhold our opinion at present. The discussion can, we think do no harm at least, and if any special changes in the order of things are necessary, we feel sure that those in authority will be ready to receive useful suggestions, independent of the source from which they may spring. We have every confidence in the governors and officers of the college. We believe that they study our interests, and while we remain of this opinion, we shall not withhold our confidence and co-operation from them, although some minor discrepancies may appear. We only hope that those of the students who engage in the above mentioned discussion, will do so from a sincere desire to promote the welfare of the Institutions, and not from any such base motives as a desire to "appear out in print," or to have regulations so adjusted as that they may obtain admittance on special occasions to the Sem.

THE Theological Department of this Institution is, we understand, making good progress this year. This course has formerly been much crippled from want of pecuniary support. Now, however, it seems to be established on a more solid footing, and we will expect to see it grow and flourish in the future as it has never done in the past. Persons wishing to take a course of study in this branch, who do not feel inclined to enter on a full college course, would do well to patronize this Institution, selecting from the regular arts course whatever may suit them. Some persons are taking such a course here at present, and we understand, find it very satisfactory. We are assured by persons who have had an opportunity of judging, from observation, of this matter, that such persons would receive much more benefit from such a course, than by attempting to work with college graduates at regular theological institutions. Dr. Welton is indefatigable in his endeavors to promote the interests of this branch of the Institution, and deserves the sympathy and co-operation