

said of public lectures. In fact at the last lecture, there were only some five or six who wore the gown, while hardly a cap could be seen. It has been well said that a law which is not carried out is a disgrace to the statute book, and so in a sense almost the same is an unenforced regulation among us a disgrace. Let us either have the custom abolished, or have it carried out in a proper manner. There may be and doubtless are many objectors to college regalia, but while our rules require that they be worn, it is better that we obey them, especially as the majority of the students were to a large extent instrumental in having them made. Then again the wearing of the gown with the ordinary head attire does not, to say the least, present an appearance of congruity, and cannot fail to be remarked upon by strangers. If each one individually will take the pains to observe the custom himself, the desirable result will soon be attained.

THE poem on the death of Longfellow, which we publish this month, we feel sure will be read with interest. The writer, besides being a great admirer of the poet, evidently feels that he is more personally acquainted with him as one

"Who wreathed with deathless poesy
Acadia's sweet unstoried name."

The life of Longfellow is fraught with many a good lesson for all, but particularly so for students. Any account of it here, however, would be mere presumption, but the occasion seems to require some reference from us, who are made to realize how he has added to the interest of, we might say, the very spot on which our college stands, and we therefore take the opportunity to recall some interesting features of his highly successful student and professorial life. We are told that his college course was uneventful, his quiet humor never allowing him to run into wild hilarity of any kind. He was most genial and sociable, always ready to aid any needy student: steady and studious, always making the best use of his time, and hence popular with both students and faculty. One can easily imagine of what importance such qualities would be for a student, yet they are as rare as they are valuable. His career as a professor was marked by much the same characteristics. His intercourse with the students was perfectly simple and gentlemanly. While he never took pains to avoid popularity, he would least of all seek it. His delight seemed to be in having students question him

about, languages, literature and history. In fact, we are told that every member of his classes considered himself on intimate terms with Professor Longfellow.

It has been said that some graduates of Acadia have been abashed on different occasions when abroad at knowing so little of the historic land in which they took their degrees. This fact should be a lesson to us who are now here. We will probably be freed from many an awkward position if we make ourselves thoroughly acquainted not only with "Evangeline," which for its great literary merit is worthy of careful study, but also with its scene with which we have ample means to become acquainted.

THE question often arises how far the student should interest himself in political matters. But with us, if the matter goes beyond the bounds of speculation it usually rests in some incipient stage of development. Our students are not by any means to be censured for their too ardent interest in politics. But if the game is to be worth the candle, the graduates of this institution must expect to fill positions of influence and importance. And, though success is most apt to wait upon the concentrated energies in any given line of action, some acquaintance with subjects aside from those which are the immediate objects of pursuit is always desirable, and in many cases indispensable; for the complete man is many sided. Of this class of subjects is politics in its broader sense. Our President has expressed the opinion that, whatever the profession they intended following, a knowledge of politics would make the students better men. And with this sentiment we heartily agree. In fact, the one who neglects to inform himself concerning the mode of government under which he lives; the essential points of difference between it and other progressive governments; or the trend of current political events, is not true to himself, and less so to his country. So much of our well-being in society depends upon the nature of the government, that to neglect or refuse an interest in its principles is something of the nature of an intellectual and social suicide. There can be no doubt that with educated men on this continent there is a lack of appreciation of their true attitude towards politics. From this it results that the pursuit of politics is left with men not always over-scrupulous, and whose leading characteristics are often selfishness and partizan intrigue. And these are left to