

order of grovelling honor-seeking politicians than that by which all right thinking men were disgusted in the Province Building, at the commencement of Dalhousie. That the valedictorian of that occasion knew his statements regarding the study of Latin and Greek composition in Acadia College were false, can we think scarcely be doubted; but what object was expected to be gained by such contemptible means is difficult to perceive. But what *has* been the result? Another Haman hanged on the gallows which he prepared for Mordecai. Acadia resented the insult, not by merely declaring that the charge was false for that could easily be seen by referring to her Calendar. Not by affirming that Geology and Mineralogy were not touched on at Dalhousie, two most important branches to students of this age. Nor that the Calculi formed no part of their curriculum; which unlike their charges would have been true; but by a challenge from her Freshmen, to Dalhousie's graduates, to a fair test of the acquirements of each in Latin prose. It is needless to remark on the flimsy manner in which those erudite graduates passed off the challenge, but we hope that in future such lamentable departures from truth will not be followed by Dalhousie's students, or winked at by her professors. But we are not as yet quite done with the valedictorian. The public were again treated to a rehash of the "plucking" question, which, our readers will remember, was discussed pretty thoroughly during the contest of '75. Admirable way of testing the respective merits of college—by the number *plucked*! But near the beginning of that school-boy production, we are told why they are plucked. We quote his own words. "When we entered college three years and a half ago, we were twenty in number, the largest freshman class that had, up to that time, passed safely through the ordeal of matriculation. *During the first three or four weeks we studied very hard.* But as time passed, and we got used to the work, our *zeal began to flag*, we neglected to revise frequently, and occasionally went so far as to leave *undone or even untried* a mathematical exercise. This was a happy time. Examinations were *too far off* to trouble our thoughts very much &c." The italics are ours. If this

is true of other classes; and we suppose that the one above mentioned was no exception, it is not difficult to see why so many should be plucked at Dalhousie. Now we can safely affirm that no such falling off occurs at Acadia. Every recitation here is an examination for which the student must prepare or make a poor mark. We know that the daily marking system has its disadvantages, but this advantage more than compensates for all, in keeping students at work, who otherwise might fall into the error that so many of Valedictorian's classmates did, and share their fate. Plucking is not unknown at Acadia, nor are searching written examinations fewer, the latter being held twice a year on all subjects embraced in the curriculum. So that if any person thinks to find here, one of those institutions "within a convenient distance" where halcyon days continue the year round he will find himself sadly mistaken. We claim that it is very much to the credit of our Alma Mater, that so few of her students fail in their examinations; and on the contrary it does not speak well either for Dalhousie students or professors, that so many have to fall out of their classes on account of not being able to pass satisfactory examinations. But after all what does these boasted plucking's amount to? Simply nothing when the truth comes to be known. We never heard of any one failing to pass the matriculation examination. Every Tom, Dick and Harry, that presents himself for admittance to college is received, and it is not wonderful if some are entirely unfit to master the curriculum. Nor are those who are plucked except in very rare cases, delayed any longer in college by it. The student must pass through the form of a supplementary examination, and then may go along with the next year.

We are happy to learn that a large majority of our board of Governors are opposed to the idea of falling in with the *Halifax University*. Unlike the ruling bodies of Kings and Mount Allison Colleges, they wisely look before they leap. Acadia has nothing to gain by helping along this political dodge. We know of no surer way to forward the establishment of a Provincial Teaching University, than by countenancing and

supporting this immaterial fore-shadowing of it. Any one present at the Anniversary could easily see what were the feelings of the students whilst they received with perfect silence the views of the Hon. Provincial Secretary, and allowed their applause to know no bounds when Mr. Woodworth so powerfully *squelched* him. Acadia's students have no sympathy with the Halifax "Paper University."

#### VALE.

AND now the time has come when we must say adieu for a short time at least, to our subscribers, well-wishers, and if we are so unfortunate as to have any our foes. "Our peace with these, our love with those." We take this opportunity to thank the friends who have extended their sympathy and support to our paper.

Three of our principal editors have gone from us. Their names and alas we fear their contributed articles will no longer appear in our monthly gazette. Their voices will no longer wake the echoes along the classic corridors of "Old Acadia." A new staff of officers will take their place and with two years of experience the editorial banner will be nailed to the mast with the immortal inscription, "Tros Tyriusque mihi nullo discrimine agetur." It shall wave through the criticisms of friend and sneers of the ill-disposed; it shall be borne through the ranks of the unappreciative and over-refined who know equally little how to call the flowers or discriminate the weeds.

We offer the old complaint that our graduates with few exceptions do not remember us in our need. This though natural in one view of the matter is palpably undutiful to Alma Mater. We call upon the old veterans to rally around the standard that shall be erected on the old hill next September. May peace and prosperity rest upon all and to all—vale.

ONE of our Sophomores, will, we understand spend his summer vacation in lecturing against the use of *tobacco*. He intends asking all his converts to give him their stock in hand as a pledge that they are in earnest, we shall not be surprised if his room becomes a rendezvous of smokers next year.