

On Wednesday evening

AN ORATION

was delivered before the Society, by the Rev. C. H. Corey, A. M., President of the Richmond (Va.) Institute.

His theme was *God's Training of Man*, or "the Perfection of Human Character the Final Cause of the Universe."

In explanation of his subject, the lecturer stated that ancient philosophy recognized in every action, four causes: the *formal*, *material*, *efficient* and *final*, the latter being the purpose subserved by a given result. Man's constant and continuous development he affirmed to be the final cause of the various processes that go to make up the created universe. All the causes simple and complex, exhibited in Nature, whether formal, material or efficient, have for their co-relative final cause the perfection of the human race. This outgrowth may be slow, as there is a sublime patience in Providence. God, seeing the end from the beginning, may provide centuries of causes to effect a given result, but that result is certain of accomplishment. The intelligence exhibited in all the processes of the natural world, incontestably prove the existence of a divine mind lying back of the Universe.

The Rev. gentleman sustained his positions by a variety and copiousness of illustration, a beauty of imagery and a gracefulness of diction that could not fail to carry conviction to the reflecting mind. Such lofty and noble conceptions, sustained by such force of logic and so many graces of rhetoric, we rarely hear from the platform.

On Thursday afternoon the Alumni and friends of Acadia College, to the number of 150, sat down to their

ANNUAL DINNER,

in the commodious dining-room of the Academy building. The managers of the boarding department deserve much credit for the very excellent dinner furnished on this occasion, and for the orderly and efficient arrangements made for serving it. Owing to the lateness of the dining-hour and a further session of the Board of Governors, fewer post-prandial speeches were made than usual, but these were exceedingly entertaining. Rev. C. H. Corey gave some very pleasant reminiscences of his student life at

Wolfville twenty years ago, and spoke of the beautiful landscapes surrounding the College abiding in his memory during all these years. He was delighted to renew his acquaintance with these scenes once so familiar.

William J. Stairs, Esq., Vice-Chancellor of the Halifax University, spoke of his early connection with Horton Academy, as a student, reaching back to 1832. This was his first love, and he had never been disloyal to it. He had differed from the Managers of the Wolfville Schools, in some respects, believing that secular Education should be entirely dissevered from theological, but he was free to confess that the Baptists had successfully worked out the problem they had undertaken, and that Acadia College and Horton Academy had become an indispensable educational force.

Rev. William Newcombe, of Hallowell, Me., spoke of the educating value of the surroundings of a College. In this respect Acadia possessed advantages over most Universities which no money could purchase. He had watched narrowly the educational work of Maine, and he was ready to say that in many respects that State was twenty-five years behind Nova Scotia. The more experience he gained, the more he was convinced of the value of the education obtained at Wolfville.

J. W. Longley, Esq., of Halifax, made one of his humorous and thoroughly enjoyable speeches.

THE PUBLIC EXAMINATION

of the classes in Horton Academy took place on Tuesday and Wednesday. The branches examined were Latin and Ancient History, by Prof. Tufts; Algebra, Arithmetic and Geometry, by Mr. Coldwell; British History and Greek, by Mr. Shafner; Rhetoric, by Miss Woodworth, and three classes in French, by Mlle. Huguenin. The examinations were very satisfactory, and indicated diligent and accurate studentship on the part of the pupils, and faithful and earnest work on the part of the teachers.

THE PRIZE READING,

held in the Academy Hall on Wednesday evening, was an entertaining part of the general programme. The selections were from Shakes-