

On the platform sat the "grave and reverend Seigniors." Meeting the gaze of the "speakers of the day" was a sea of upturned faces—some smiling behind fluttering fans, some with anxious looks, some full of pride, some sage looking, some bewildered, but all, of course, attentive. "The orations were strong in thought, clear in expression, graceful in style, and forcible in utterance." In some such way as this are Commencement Orations generally spoken of when special comments are not made. This much may be added: the opinion is expressed on every hand that in matter and delivery they were excellent. The music was provided by a select choir from St. John and Fredericton; and was of a high order.

The degree of Bachelor in Arts was conferred upon those whose names appear above. It was expected last year that the class would number fifteen to graduate; and during the first term of the year just now closed it was but one less, but three others were obliged to leave before completing the course.

The President addressed these young men in weighty and well-chosen words. Dr. Sawyer is a man who performs most admirably everything to which he puts his hand. Never did we know him to give other than a *good* address, whether he had much, little, or no time for preparation. May he be long spared to Acadia College and the denomination! We subjoin a part of the Dr.'s remarks on this occasion.

Young gentlemen, it becomes incumbent upon me at this stage of the exercises to address you a few words of advice. I am always impressed with the conviction that no word which may be said now can make up for any imperfection in previous work. If the influence and example with which you have been familiar during the years you have been together in this institution, have produced no good effect, nothing can be done now to make amends for past deficiency. It is not without feelings of regret that we see members who have been together with us for the term, which is here brought to a close, about to retire from us to enter into other pursuits. I have but a single thought to which I need now call your attention. You have learned that all about you is under law. The great fact has been forced upon your observation, and as your knowledge widened and enlarged, your impression in view of this fact has become

more profound. You have learned that not only are these material bodies subject to law, but that the spirits which animate and guide them, are also subject to law. And while you have had in some sense, a feeling of freedom, yet in no sense is there freedom otherwise than in obedience to law. To do wrong, to act anything but the right, you are not free. You must act in accordance with right, for you can neither chose the laws nor engage in an education that is not connected with good. You came amongst us from different quarters, ambitious boys, barely knowing what was before you, putting yourselves into the current to be borne whithersoever it directed you. Here you are, having undergone a change, hardly aware that this change has been taking place; yet it has come, and has brought added obligations, from which you cannot escape. I specify but two or three. In the first place I remind you of the obligation which is upon you to retain what you have acquired. I do not mean that every precise fact of history, that every precise fact of mathematics should be so retained that it could be recalled at any moment; but I mean that degree of intellectual culture, moral power, the sense of your responsibilities, with these you are under solemn obligation that they shall never grow less. I remind you of another obligation. If education means simply the development of this physical frame, and has no higher aim it is important. If, in addition to this, education means the development of these minds, that they may do the work assigned to them in the intellectual departments of life, it is a great work, but not sufficient, unless the work of education has been so carried on that the emotional nature will respond to the call of duty, our work has been vain, and if we have not given due prominence to this we have been false to our trust. I wish you to bear witness, that we have not forgotten this important part of the work we had to do, that we have striven by admonition and reproof, by directing your minds to proper studies, to strengthen and sharpen your moral preception. You are to treasure this sense of your obligation, to keep yourselves as thorough as you leave us, and to make yourselves more than you now are. We are convinced that there is not sufficient encouragement given to generous, liberal, thorough study, even by those in connection with our colleges. You may soon be placed in circumstances where you will find many temptations, that draw you from the paths of the