

THE rooms in the new College which are intended for the use of the Academical department, will soon be ready for occupation. Certainly the change will be a pleasant one and ought to inspire the Academicians with the desire to improve their fleeting opportunities. A *good* foundation for a college course is the *summum bonum*. A thorough drill in and complete acquaintance with the Latin and Greek grammars, the principles of Mathematics, and especially English studies, are indispensable requisites to success and enjoyment in the after college course. Don't be lame boys when you enter College, or you will halt all the way through, and perhaps get wearied out with disgust. The pleasant accommodations call for deep gratitude on the part of the students of the Academy, to those who have contributed to the erection of these building. Let this be an incentive to study.

THE last number of the *Dalhousie Gazette* records the death of Dr. J. J. Mackenzie, Professor of Physics in Dalhousie College. We had received intelligence of this sad news before, and we deeply regretted the removal of one so eminently fitted to advance the higher education of our Province—one to whom the students of Dalhousie must have been closely attached.* "Born at Green Hill, in Nov. 1847, Dr. Mackenzie had but entered his thirty-second year of life, and was just beginning work when he was called hence—a striking reminder of the poet's regret,

The good die first

He graduated Bachelor of Arts at this College [Dalhousie] in 1869. . . . In '68 he was 'Young' prizeman (3rd and 4th years). He took his Master's degree in '72, and, after a brilliant four years, course at the great German Universities, received the honorable distinction, Dr. of Philosophy, in '77." We had noted with pleasure Dr. Mackenzie's efforts in the educational work of the Province. In the words of the Senate of Dalhousie College, "His work was well and nobly done." This is highest praise. To the students of

Dalhousie are tendered our heartfelt sympathies.

IT may be a matter involving some difference of opinion as to how far a College journal should go in its criticism of College affairs, especially those under control of the Faculty. Some of our contemporary sheets are very outspoken on these points, while others—ourselves included—have maintained a spirit of resignation and complete acquiescence in all such cases. This is an age of rapid advancement in the outside world, and particularly so in the line of mental and metaphysical research. Whether educational institutions in general have kept abreast of this progressive movement or not, we will not undertake to say at present; in regard to our own course, however, we fear there has been a falling short.

Now we believe in being conservative, but the history of the past amply shows that this virtue has been carried to excess oftner than neglected in collegiate institutions. So far did this tendency go at one time, in the old country colleges, that had it not been for the efforts of Bacon and Locke, they were likely to have become entirely fossilized.

The field of study is certainly widening, and if our colleges maintain a cast-iron course that is essentially the same as it was twenty years ago, they must of necessity fall into the background themselves, or by their restricted course retard the development of thought and study around them.

In regard to our own course we might say that much has been done towards adapting it to the spirit of the times, yet we are of opinion that much remains to be accomplished in this direction. In the first place, we think our course is too restrictive to suit the various capacities and inclinations of students in general. It is all very well to talk about culture and discipline, and about studying with these things alone in view, but while students are of opinion that they can receive quite as good mental culture in the pursuit of studies which they can put to practical use in subsequent life, it will only be by the sheer force