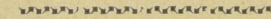


enough West to enable her to shape her course for the North. The line was crossed on the fourth of October, and on the fifteenth of December the Columbia River bar was safely passed, and the voyage of six months and a half was over.

J. A. G.
'00.



A True Ideal of Life.

The editors of the ATHENÆUM have asked me for a contribution. I know what they would like, and what they will expect—something that would tickle the popular fancy and evoke the current interest of the masses ; a gushing homily on Canada's part in the South African war ; a florid description of enthusiastic scenes at the departure of contingents ; a dream of all-powerful British Imperialism in which Canada and all others are part and parcel, or even an unfolding of some political move which was likely to awaken the fervor of party conflict.

Of these things you shall not have a word from me. I don't consider them worth thinking about, still less worth writing about. They represent nothing but the product of materialism, the outgrowth of human selfishness and pride. That every person, even what we call the model people of the world, should find nothing else to do in this year of 1900 than to hula-baloo over the shedding of blood and all the miseries of war, not alone the physical miseries but the spiritual degradation of the impulses of hate, bitterness and selfishness which war inevitably involves, is an awful reflection upon the age.

Let me ask the interest of your readers for a moment or two upon a matter which will be deemed of infinitely less importance and yet, if properly reflected upon, is of inconceivably greater moment—a true ideal of life. With a true ideal of life, no person would glorify war. With a true ideal of life, no one would ever suffer from the yearnings of an ignoble ambition.

Acadia University is a denominational one and under religious auspices. Prayers are said night and morning ; Professors are selected from men of the highest religious character ; in the midst of the Athenæum debates and literary ventures, time is found for prayer and missionary meetings. No one would venture the remark that Acadia was behind the standard in ideals. Its friends would claim that it was in the very front rank.

Yet, look the problem straight in the eyes. Nearly every student has dreams of a worldly career, in which creditably fulfilling the highest ideals of life is not the regnant thought. He may deceive himself, think it is, but it is not. There are students who are proposing to adopt law for a profession. The yearning desire is