

ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

TROS TYRIUSQUE MIHI NULLO DISCRIMINE AGATUR.

VOL. 1.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., MAY, 1875.

No. 7.

Original Poetry.

LINES ON THE DEATH OF A STUDENT.

Life's joys are fleeting as the flowers,
That wither in the noon-day sun,
That fall from off our shady bowers,
And tell us that their work is done.

Acadia's sons are called to mourn;
The shades of death have o'er her spread;
A Brother has been quickly borne,
To silent mansions of the dead.

As fades the autumn leaf which falls,
And withered on the earth is found,
So from within Acadia's walls,
Our Brother sank beneath the ground.

We miss the happy smiling face,
Which used to greet us in the morn;
We look upon his vacant place,
And wonder why from us he's torn.

But God had need of him on high,
In realms of glory, peace and light;
Where Christ the Sun is ever nigh,
And dissipates the darkling night.

'Twas his delight to serve his God,
And to the world salvation preach—
Point out the path which Jesus trod,
And by example sinners teach.

No more his cheerful voice is heard,
To speak of Christ and of his love;
We hear no more the warning word,
Prepare to meet thy God above.

Our Brother Ross has left us now,
And joined th' angelic choir above.
There 'mid the ransomed souls to bow,
And sing of Christ's redeeming love.

His toil on earth is ever done—
His prayer will never more ascend—
His joy in heaven is just begun,
That joy which never more shall end.

There in the presence of the Son—
Who for the world his life did give;
He hears the joyful words "well done,"
"Come, in my glory ever live."

J. D. S.

CRISIS.

A CRISIS is a point of time when an affair is at its height and must soon terminate or undergo a radical change. The doctrine of critical periods is one that involves questions of the deepest interest to every thoughtful mind. It

deals with some of the most abstruse subjects of human investigation. It flings the plumb-line into many a dark depth, and tells us how far to the bottom. It streams upon the chaos enshrouding many an uncertain fact, and there is light. But whilst it unfolds many a strange and curious principle in the economy of nature, it also enfolds many a hidden mystery. It is a source of light to some standpoints, and a centre of darkness to others.

The greater our knowledge of the history of nations and individuals, the more clearly will we understand this doctrine. It has heights and depths, worthy of the steadiest heads and stoutest hearts. Its difficulty as well as the vast importance of its varied results, are seen in the same measure in which it is understood.

In the grand evolution of nature, there are periods—critical, marked and constant epochs, upon which we reasonably fix "as proper boundaries of particular seasons, and constituting eras, out of which to construct a narrative of events." There are seasons when the mightiest forces of nature appear to lie wrapped in slumber, and were their repose not broken by some resistless though unseen process, and they thrust in view, we could hardly become conscious of their existence and operation. Thus it is that earthquakes, famine, and various convulsions of the globe observe their allotted times and seasons. The paths of their revolutions are we doubt not regular and periodical, though no eye save that of the Creator, watches them, and no hand save His guides them. But by whatever means their occurrence is secured their appearance is critical.

Again we trace these critical periods in the condition of human beings. Periods of health, periods of violent disease, seem to alternate on the historic page. At one time some individual disease blasts a region, at another a complication of disorders hurries mortals into the tomb. One year cholera stalks abroad, and smites all classes; another, plague or consumption steals man's vital breath. The appearance, the rise, the maturity, the decline, the disappearance of diseases, are all periodical. These powerful assailants of man's

physical strength work, we doubt not, according to fixed laws. True, human brain has not traced their silent but deadly modes of operation nor ever seen them mustering for the onslaught. Yet no less surely do pestilence and plague acknowledge a controlling hand, than the blazing comet or flashing meteor. No shaft of death flies unseen by the eye of Omnipresence.

Again we trace critical periods in human history. The past is but a narrative of nations that have lived, flourished and died. Every century boasts of its ruins, splendid even in their desolation and decay. Why hordes of barbarians, linked by a common purpose have pressed on in the blood-red path of conquest, have swept away existing institutions and governments, and have built up a mighty nation, only to fall before the warlike prowess of more powerful foes; why it is that dynasties have shot heavenward, have for a few years sparkled in the sunlight of power, and have then tottered to their doom, is known only to the Infinite Mind. But doubtless the rise, progress, and decline of empires, kingdoms and republics are unalterably fixed, and are critical.

Was it not a crisis in the history of the Jews, when the imperial eagle was raised aloft before the walls of their city, and the grim war-hardened soldiers of Rome thundered at their gates? Was it not a critical time in the history of England and France when their armies met in deadly strife, on the slopes near Hougoumont and La Haye Sainte? Undoubtedly it was. In the events of commerce too we perceive crises. Behind the transactions of individuals and governing the intercourse of nations, there is an unswerving though undefined law. The prevailing species of commercial enterprise is continually varying.

One year sees some plan of business, very energetically employed. The next, sees it discarded, and forgotten. 1720 A. D. saw the inception, rise, and fall, of a gigantic scheme, that drove a nation crazy, and nerved many an arm with the strength of suicidal madness. 1847 A. D. saw the British people the miserable dupes of a crack-brained railway mania. 1849 A. D. heard the watchword "westward

ho" shouted from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and trade rocked upon the wild fantastic notions, sprung from diseased imaginations, and from heads hot with the fire of lust for gold, and filled with strange distorted pictures of the golden valley of the Sacramento. All these were crises in the history of commerce.

We note critical periods in the intellectual and moral world. The history of literature and religion proves beyond the shadow of a doubt, that there have been in the past periods of mental and moral darkness,—periods when ignorance like a long black shadow stretches across the nations, and shut out the light of knowledge—periods when superstition beclouded the minds and hearts of men,—periods when the torture-rack and thumb-screw were the great means employed to persuade men to believe a lie,—periods when the light of christianity shone but dimly, and when the march of human intellect was slow and uncertain. It also reveals the cheering fact that there have been interspersed between these seasons of midnight gloom—periods of intellectual and spiritual brightness—brilliant epochs, when men have traversed vast fields of learning, have pursued their investigation far out into the unexplored region of truth, and have planted the outposts of human discovery where man never trod before.

GEOLOGICAL EXCURSION OF THE SENIOR AND JUNIOR CLASSES.

The central feature in a landscape abounding in all the elements of the picturesque, Blomidon at once arrests the attention of the beholder, affording in the ever varying phases under which it appears an oft repeated source of pleasure and interest to the lover of natural beauty. Now clear and well defined in all its rugged outlines, it rises in grand proportions, the fitting guardian over the broad scene of vale and stream and flood which stretches away and afar from its base. Again beneath a sullen wintry sky, it looms defiant, forbidding amid encroaching fogs from the misty Atlantic: or at the close of a clear Autumn day, arrayed in trailing robes of cloud, it bears on its lofty brow a tiara of cumulus, gorgeously glowing in the sun's rays, as with fiery tread, "he burns the threshold of the night." But Blomidon becomes an object of interest not only as affording a striking and picturesque element in a beautiful landscape, but amid its frowning cliffs, and in every outline of its storm shattered battlements, there has been inscribed in characters clearly legible to the scientist

an important fragment of the tale of nature's doings in her distant youth, when in angry mood she hurled aloft the very foundations of the globe, or with subtle force formed gem and crystal curiously wrought with endless diversity in shape and tint.

With the view of more satisfactorily illustrating the principles of geology and mineralogy, and of determining by personal inspection the nature of the deposits concerned in its formation our respected Professor in the Science Department proposed to the members of his classes that an expedition to Blomidon should be undertaken for this purpose. This proposal meeting with the enthusiastic approval of all concerned, preparations for this trip were hastily arranged, and so it happens that the close of a fine breezy day, finds our little party gathered within the shadow of the loftiest peak of the majestic Cape. As the first and most necessary work a large brush camp is erected, and then a cheery fire of drift wood, kindled without, sends the thin clear smoke curling upward like an incense offering. Reclining upon the boughs of spruce and fir strewn within, we await with many a merry jest and song, the preparation of supper by our self-elected cook. Of this we partake most voraciously, with appetites marvellously sharpened by the unwonted exercise of the day. Several of our members have roughed it before, and during the ensuing night they slumber as contentedly as though tucked away in their little beds, but for others the novelty of the situation forbids sleep for a part of the night at least. A new sensation of pleasure is awakened while lying there upon the fragrant boughs, watching the stars as they look down upon the stilly scene, or idly noting the weird shadows which the flickering flames send dancing over the recumbent forms. The sleepy watch leans blinking and gaping over the fire, or seeks a safeguard against the insidious advances of Morpheus by burning his fingers in an artistic attempt at roasting a herring, or baking a potato. Now there comes faintly the distant laps, lapsing of the ebb, changed after an interval to the full rush of the flood, as it sweeps along at our very feet, tossing defiantly a handful of spray upon the crackling flames. The hushed whisperings of the forest leaves softly stirred by some truant breeze, fall on the ear, the felt presence of the mighty Cape pervades all, and mingling with the other voices of the night, there sounds on the ear, the familiar music of a melodious snore. Bright and early the following morning, after a hasty breakfast we are off to examine the shore to the east, a fine collection of crystals whose character and history are fully explained to us by the Professor, rewards our search, at times while hammering

away at the rocks, forcing them to disclose the secrets of their internal structure, there comes crashing down in our midst, a shower of earth and stones from some point far up in the dizzy heights. We hasten to discover if some new treasure has thus been rudely flung at our feet. As we turn a bend in the shore, and glance upward there starts out from some projecting cliff, the profile of a human face, brow, nose and mouth, clearly defined. At another point a lofty column stands isolated, or a broad wall of rock detached by some mysterious agency from the cliff behind, rises like massive frieze work in some grand gothic cathedral. So the day passed away, and at nightfall we turn campward, feeling as after a weary trudge, we lay our burden down at the door of our temporary abode, that a camp fire is a most cheery sight, and a more grateful couch for wearied limbs, than that afforded by spruce boughs could not be desired. One day of our stay is devoted to an excursion to Scott's Bay. First, a hot scramble up the cliff, followed by a long bewildered tramp through the woods sinking at every step in the snow which still lies thick beneath the forest trees, and then emerging into a clearer space we see before us the little village situated within a wide curve of the Fundy shore, terminating on the one hand in Black Rock, on the other in the storm shattered cliffs of Cape Split. Afar, in the dim distance, rise the unmistakable outlines of solitary Isle Haute. After a short rest, we march through the village, a martial looking band, armed with hammers, sledges, and a few fowling pieces, arrayed in diversified uniform, bearing the marks of our devotion to science, each household, as we pass, musters all its available force of cats, dogs and babies, at doors and windows, to witness the dignified procession. We learn that the place is chiefly remarkable for its fisheries, and there are two fine vessels on the stocks, but minerals are not to be found in the vicinity, so, after taking lunch at a hospitable farm house, we engage a guide, a bright eyed younker, whom an admirer of Twain, at once denominates Ferguson, and are led by a shorter route to the Basin shore, while we arrive safely, after a skeary scramble adown the only available place of descent for miles. This is our last extended trip from the camp, thereafter we confine our researches to the cliffs and shore of the Basin. Our time thus pleasantly and profitably occupied rapidly passes away, and the day for departure arrives. A final stroll along the shore, a last look at the giant cliff, and we bid a reluctant adieu to His Majesty, the Cape, with the pleasing conviction as we arrive again in classic shades, that our expedition, in every respect, has proven a grand success.

REV. W. J. JOHNSON'S LECTURE ON
JOHN HOWARD.

THE last lecture of the season was delivered before the ACADIA ATHENÆUM, on Friday evening April 30th inst., by Rev. Mr. Johnson. The members of the society and the students of the institutions were well represented; and if the rest of our readers had been favored with an opportunity of attending, we should be spared the impossible task of describing in a few lines the merits and the beauties of that highly applauded production.

The Lecturer first defined the true object of all biography. It held up to man struggling against contending fate in the pursuit of some noble purpose, the life of a fellow-man alike tempest-tossed, but alternately triumphant, or upon the sign-posts of enticing avenues it blazoned in fiery characters, as a warning to the weak and to the tempted, the fearful fall and the eternal shame of those who trod therein. For the imitation and encouragement of his audience, he would narrate the life and portray the character of John Howard, "an eighteenth century hero."

The condition of the prisoners, for whose amelioration Howard spent his life, was then described in a few telling words. Rapidly across the mental vision were flung scenes of woe and horror, unequalled even by the Black Hole of Calcutta; and then before this terrible background rose in colossal proportions the figure of the philanthropist—the friend of the felon, the debtor, the murderer.

The *matter* of the lecture was of an unusually interesting and instructive character. Dealing with such a subject, the writer must have labored against a tendency towards monotony; and the skill with which he successfully combated it was evident in the harmonious blending of narrative description and appeal which characterized the lecture. The story of his hero's life was well told. The delineation of character, though not profound, was eminently practical. Seizing upon two or three marked traits, and bringing fresh illustrations of their power from the domain of history, he produced an impression more powerful than could have been produced by any elaborate mental anatomy however ingenious. His appeals for the outcast and fallen, his well-timed attack on modern conventionalism, his plea for truth and unswerving honesty, whatever their effect upon his hearers showed plainly enough the intense moral earnestness of the author. The scintillations of wit, necessarily few from the nature of the subject, were dexterously managed. (We venture to surmise that the Rev. gentleman enjoys in no ordinary manner the proceedings of the Pickwick Club.) When he suggested that the managers of the States' prisons might make our institutional regulations a model for the

complete separation of the sexes the laughter was simply uproarious.

The *style* of the lecture would not be improved by our attempt to describe it. Throughout it was lofty and grand. Some of his descriptions were graphic as any we have read in Scott, while his denunciations of indifference and his plea for earnestness and effort, have not been far surpassed by the stately eloquence of Burke or Sheridan. The sentence in which he described the death of the great philanthropist was inexpressibly beautiful.

While we tender our hearty thanks to Mr. Johnson, we shall show our high appreciation of his lecture, by promising him an invitation for a similar occasion.

+ THE STUDENT'S REWARD.

EVERY pursuit of life has its reward. The man of the world struggling through years of toil and anxiety, secures wealth. The warrior abandoning the enjoyment of a quiet life rushes boldly into the battle field, and with the death knell sounding in his ears lifts high his proud banner, and urges on to victory—His reward is *fame*. The miser poring over his coffers counting his heaps of sordid dust—the votary of pleasure prodigal of life—the philanthropist eliminating the wants and woes of the unfortunate—the adventurers scanning the snow-capped mountains or labouring to penetrate the everlasting ice-built battlements of the north; all have their reward. The christian turning from the absorbing pursuits of the world, glorifies his Maker; and receives from him a crown of everlasting life. The youth leaves his much loved home, sunders the sacred ties that bind his heart to those most dear, and, sacrificing the pleasure of domestic refinement retires to the cloistered halls of learning. We review not his classic pilgrimage, we tell not his midnight dreams nor the complaints of wearied nature, as day by day he rises from obscurity to enter the arena of life, equipped with an intellectual power, which if used aright can move the world. But we raise him at once upon the very pinnacle of intellectual and moral greatness.

The scholar is the wonder and admiration of the world. His supremacy has been acknowledged in all ages, whether as the legislator of a nation a private citizen "a demonstrator of nature's laws," or "a preacher of righteousness." At his feet lie all the treasures of the universe. Penetrating the solid earth he sees inscribed upon rocks, by the finger of Omnipotence the unwritten history of the past; opening the book of nature he finds stamped on every page beauties that delight and elevate his soul; soaring aloft he explores the realms of space, hastens from world to world, from system to system, measuring their orbs and distances, defines with

precision their relations to each other and beholds with unmingled admiration the order and harmony of all.

The scholar holds converse with the great and good of all past time. He drinks deep from the fountains of classic lore; his soul is inspired with the songs and prose of ancient Bards; and he himself touching those sacred chords brings forth no discordant sounds. With the accumulated knowledge of preceding ages, aided by his own powerful perceptions, he enters far into unexplored regions of science and brings to light new and important truths. He penetrates the labyrinths of his own intellect and there feasts upon a thousand secret pleasures. Whether revelling amid the gorgeous palaces of nature, an exile on some secluded island or an inmate of a lonely dungeon, he can derive enjoyment from fountains of his own creation.

The christian scholar stands far above all others. He beholds enstamped upon all the works of creation the impress of the Deity, and sees in the events of time the development of eternal purposes. Standing between the Creator and the creature, he points out of life to fallen humanity. He is a light set upon a hill which cannot be hid. Moral darkness flees before him as midnight before the approaching sun. The law of love is written upon his heart, words of peace linger upon his lips. He engages while here below the approving smile of God and is rewarded at last with a crown bestudded with richest gems and that fadeth not away.

For the Acadia Athenæum.

THE NEW ACADEMY BUILDING.

AN APPEAL.

DEAR EDITORS,—Permit me to appeal to your readers on behalf of the above object. The Committee having the matter in charge are in great need of funds. Up to this point they have pushed forward the work with a view to its completion not later than Sep. 1st, and for this purpose have made themselves personally responsible for a considerable sum of money, hoping and believing that the friends of the enterprise would come to their assistance. But this money will be expended, and more than expended, by the 1st of June, or that, if additional help and a good deal of it does not come in by that time *the work will have to stop*. To prevent this—which would be calamitous indeed—will not every one of your readers send in at once a contribution of one dollar or upwards to this object?

Dear friends we await your reply. Let it be immediate and liberal.

For the Committee

D. M. WELTON.

Acadia Athenæum.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., MAY, 1875.

EDITORS.

W. G. PARSONS, '75, W. H. ROBINSON, '76,
G. E. GOOD, '75, G. A. SMITH, '77.

MANAGING COMMITTEE.

J. G. SCHURMAN, J. O. REDDEN,
H. J. FOSHAY, SIDNEY WELTON. X
G. E. GOOD, Secty.

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Subscribers who have not yet remitted the amount of their subscription will please remember that the Managing Committee is on that account, placed under financial embarrassment. The College year is speedily approaching its close, and all accounts must be squared by that time. The amount due is just what is required for that purpose.

THROUGHOUT the editorial tilt that has of late occurred between the *Athenæum* and *Gazette*, the latter paper most palpably proceeds upon the assumption that "to contradict" and "to disprove" are terms quite synonymous. We will be charitable enough to state that in our opinion, this lamentable fallacy is not the result of *ignorance*. It is rather a pitiful shift to which a blatant organ resorts when legitimate weapons fail.

Our contemporary in its last issue says: "The (ATHENÆUM's) reply consists of blunders and mis-statements, mingled with a few truisms and a good many falsehoods. We have neither *time* nor *space* to mention more than a few of these." It is the opinion of the public pretty generally that at least *one other* element besides "*time*" and "*space*" was wanted by the *Gazette* editors in order to construct a successful rebuttal to our proven statements.

The principal part of the turbid mass to which we have just been helped from the table of Dalhousie consists of a stale rehash of their previously proffered viands.

The *Gazette* thinks it flies quite a pretty piece of blue ribbon by stating that Mr. Hill, at Convocation, said,— "The whole course at Acadia is characterized and tinted by sectarianism." If this statement was really made, it is just at par with that paper's own threadbare assertions against us. The charge we have before successfully refuted. Dalhousie has not made out her case against us,—she cannot possibly do it,—nor will the assertions of any person, be he puppet or dignitary, succeed in establishing it.

The next out-crop is, further trouble evinced by the *Gazette* in understanding how the students "settle down" immediately after the arts course, as preachers. We told the obtuse little pedant that they never had taken a *regular* theological course at all, and we repeat it. The *Gazette* in pretending to re-produce our statements on this point ingeniously (and O, how ingenuously!) omits the word *regular*. We had admitted that they *could* and frequently *did* take theological extras.

As to the contradiction that the *Gazette* thinks we have made, we beg to say gently that we have not done so. We nowhere say that "many of our theological students have never taken a course in arts." We said, "young men have settled down as preachers without even an art's course,"—not referring to men who had taken a course at any theological institution.

With reference to the printing of examination papers, we may say that no particular *news* was communicated by the *Gazette's* informing us that "even Oxford prints them, just as Dalhousie does." The point on which we insisted still remains untouched. *Qui bono?*

In the course of the article to which we are now replying, a contemptible, cowardly lunge is made at our Professors which we will not readily pass over. The basis of attack is simply a series of mis-statements and unwarrantable inferences, paralleled in audacity and untruth only by previous "fabrics" from the same "factory."

Whoever states that the ATHENÆUM is in great part conducted by our Professors tells a direct falsehood; and we gravely doubt that the *Gazette* ever heard such

a thing from a source which it could reasonably consider reliable. If that paper wishes particularly to try its skill at rant and slur, we would kindly advise it to be more careful in the selection of its objects. We are quite willing to bear a portion of it, but resent with profound indignation the despicable accusations hurled by a smirking clique against our respected Instructors.

But three huge points made by the *Gazette* are unanswered and unanswerable, according to that paper. Verily! Let us examine them.

First.—The "denominational" Colleges have not plucked enough men on application for entrance during the last half-dozen years to give themselves a respectable position among such institutions as Dalhousie! Ye clouds, what an argument! The only thing thus shown is, that those who attempt to pass the low examination at Dalhousie are not as well prepared, on the average, as those who try the higher examination at Acadia. This is but natural. When men feel that a large amount of work is necessary in order to accomplish an object, they set about it with a will, and are much more likely to succeed than those who, feeling that they have little to perform, neglect to do even the small amount required. Men who apply for entrance at Dalhousie know before hand that the printed requirements of that institution are quite small. Seeing this they venture a test frequently, we have no doubt, with very little preparation, and are plucked. The same men would not make the attempt at Acadia without considerable additional work. In proof of this we assure the *Gazette* and the public generally that the Dalhousie freshman referred to in our last issue, remained eight months in our Academy before attempting to pass our board of examination for college. Probably the *Gazette* has something further to offer on this point (?).

Secondly.—"Sectarian Colleges cost \$20,000, more than they are worth!" Dalhousie's editors have been plunging deeply into the "exact Mathematics" during the past year, evidently. They come out on the heights, glance at our institution, and by the rule of thumb tell us just what we are worth. It would

certainly be convenient to have such men if they were good calculators; but failing in this, they cease to be public benefactors. To approach the point seriously, our opponents draw the above conclusion from unproven and even improbable assertion, viz:—that a central university fully equipped and able to do the work of the various “denominational” colleges could be erected and in every way furnished for \$20,000, less than the cost of said colleges. We have some speculations presented to us here, but no argument to answer whatever. It is very probable, as the Superintendent of Education notices in his report, that these would not be as many persons in attendance at a Central University as now attend the various colleges in the aggregate. From another point of view then the different colleges pay the country better than would the University, inasmuch as more men are educated yearly and to quite as high a degree. *The greatest good to the greatest number, is the principal that will pay.*

Thirdly.—“The support of Secarian Colleges out of the public fund is wrong in principal.” The *Gazette* claims to have shown this point, by asserting that, “while a law is on our statute book providing for non sectarian *public* education, the grant to denominational colleges vitiates the system.” *This flounce does not fit our dress*, is the remark we have to make in reply. Sectarianism does not prevail here—the government by its parsimonious grant to us does not support sectarianism, as the *Gazette* interprets the word. Our college is a public institution and supported as such, and it matters not to us that a few aspiring youths choose to raise a railing cry to the country.

The *Gazette* commences another twenty-line dribble by saying, “it is amusing to see how conclusively every charge brought against us by the *ATHENÆUM* and the *Argosy* has been disproved.” Is it? We do not envy it the amount of amusement secured in the contest, or the reputation it has won throughout the country. We have been obliged to yield none of our points during the struggle, and are prepared to stand by them throughout the ensuing year against our adversary; while the latter has by its silence on certain points after our replies,

shewn its inability to hold by its statements, and its obligation to let them stand out stark and bare to public gaze as glaring sophistry and unprovoked groundless aspersion.

THE following students from Canada are now pursuing Theological studies at Newton.

N. S.

W. C. CRAGIE, A. W. Eaton, J. F. Eaton, J. F. Kempton, W. A. Newcombe, N. C. Saunders, E. C. Spinney, G. E. Tufts.

N. B.

J. C. BLAKNEY, A. Estabrooks, E. M. Keirstead.

P. E. I.

J. A. McLEAN, H. E. Morrow, J. A. Gordon.

QUEBEC.

E. LEGER.

We may add that nearly a fourth of the regular students attending this Institution, are from the Lower Provinces.

CURIOSITY.

THE desire of knowing is an instinct not confined alone to the human race, although in the lowest animals it is somewhat bounded by the narrowness of their intellect. An ape is satisfied with his examination of an object, and contemplates its parts so thoroughly that he recognizes them when he meets them again.

This step in knowledge does not conduct him onward. When the immediate question is answered his enquiry terminates, and his curiosity flits away to other objects.

The same thing may be observed in some of the human species. The curiosity which pries into the affairs of these people, which pants to know the price of a bonnet, or the arrangement of a dinner is the same natural instinct neutralized for all good purposes by the same intellectual weakness. If it were capable of going further—of being led on step by step, from specialties to generals, and ascending to speculations on the moral status and destiny of species, then this kind of curiosity would be taken out of the category of vulgar instincts common to men and animals and become one of the great agents in the progress of the human race. It may be well enough to learn the most trifling affair of domestic economy if the use made of such knowledge is anything more than that of the ape. But in nine cases out of ten, the same use is made of the acquirement.

The information is only turned to mischief. The same weakness of mind which leads people to make such inquiries, leads them to make the most profuse distribution of it.

There is a kind of limited curiosity which seems peculiar to many of the human species. It is of a passive nature—a passion or habit which abstracts itself from persons and things of reality, and floats in the airy region of imaginary beings, grasping eagerly the thread of a fictitious narrative. It is true that some study such productions as works of art, or for occasional recreation, or as an innocent kind of dram-drinking in the pauses of the world, when their jaded minds would otherwise prey upon themselves.

There is yet another kind of curiosity which assumes a more important character. It busies itself with the courses of the stars, tracing the affinities of earthly bodies, or plunging into the depths of the human understanding. Probably the sciences all had their origin in mere curiosity, and that, too, of a kind that did not look to eventual advantage.

Accident often arouses curiosity which proceeds step by step with unwearying perseverance, till the little seeker of daisies and buttercups becomes in time a distinguished botanist; and the juvenile rabbit-keeper an enlightener of the world by his classifications of zoology. It may be that in these cases the individuals were impelled by a general strength of character not common to all men. Without this, doubtless they never would have stepped beyond the meadow or the rabbit-hut. Too much importance must not be laid upon general strength of character, for the soil that is rich enough to produce articles of taste and luxury will yield the useful and the admirable, and wherever the weeds are strong useful plants will grow. Nature, however wonderful is always simple. The great agent she employs in the human character is merely well-directed curiosity—a fact which must be familiar to intelligent parents, and the observant instructor of youth. The boy's tastes become the man's business, and woe to those who fail to mould and train the former when as yet they are soft and ductile enough to be acted upon by education.

TRUTH.

TRUTH is powerful in itself. It possesses all the inherent qualities requisite to prepare the way for its approach. “Quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword” has been applied to the highest of all truth. Truth is keen, it never haggles, it cuts slick. It is not noisy yet its percussive force is

great. Like a gun it "speaks;" like the bullet it passes noiselessly through the air, but when it strikes it *tells*.

The star does not ask the astronomer to admire it but simply winks at him and he yields with all his telescopes, so from the real beauties which it possesses in itself will truth continue, as it has done in the past, to draw men unto it, and mildly but none the less surely compel them to seek and love it too.

Words from the lips of a speaker who, while he labors to give power to his expressions only exposes himself to the ridicule of his hearers, fall upon the ear like the explosion of a blank-cartridge; while the well-directed utterances of the thoughtful, like the bomb-shells with which the enemy's fort is besieged, enter the very citadel of the heart, level the battlements raised by the traitors within against the standard of Liberty, and cause the banner of Truth to be planted upon the ruins thereof.

CRICKET.

THE good old English game of Cricket is still in the glow of a healthful maturity at Wolfville. The Cricket field on Saturday, 15th inst., presented quite a lively scene, it being the ground where the Wolfville (*Village*), and Saxon (*Academy*) Cricket Clubs were to measure their strength.

The Wolfville Club first taking the bats, the wickets fell in quick succession before the effective bowling of Freeman and Welton, the score amounting to 19 runs.

The Saxons in turn taking their stand were not disposed of till they had succeeded in securing 84 runs; Mann's bowling proving of material advantage to the village club.

In their second innings the villagers were more successful, making a score of 45 runs.

The match was thus decided in favor of the Academicians, they having proven themselves victors by one innings, and 18 runs. The fielding on the part of the Saxon Club was excellent.

We would recommend the practice of this healthful and interesting game to all our fellow-students that the honors achieved in former years by the *Acadia C. C.* may be still maintained, and yet more laurels gained.

Items.

It is generally understood that the cards are to be issued from the Seminary on the 5th of June, for the reception of the Collegians.

WHY is a porter (A. Porter) who has fulfilled his duty like a discharged general?

Because they are both *dismissed officers*.

"WHY is the earth like a Black board?

Because the children of men multiply on it"

UPON a Professor of Astronomy stating that Saturn had a ring six thousand miles broad;—a Soph. whose mind had of late been turned upon such subjects, jumps from his seat with the following exclamation: "By Jove what a finger she must have!"

A RECEPTION was given at the Seminary on Saturday evening to the young men who intend taking the next matriculation examination. One of them was heard quoting, at an *unknown* hour, Gladstone's first proposition, in a somewhat altered form:—"They have substituted for the proud boast of a *semper eadem*, a policy of tolerance and a change of practice."

PROFESSOR of Chemistry expatiating upon the discoveries in Chemical Science announces that snow possesses considerable heat.

Freshman innocently inquires how many snow balls it would take to boil a tea kettle.

ONE of our Professors commenting upon graduating orations remarked:—"Students generally think it a virtue to exhaust their theme, but it frequently happens that the *audience* is exhausted before the *theme*."

Personals.

R. G. MUNRO, A.B. '72, is now studying law in the office of L. S. Morse, Esq., Bridgetown.

Mr. Morse is Inspector of Schools for Annapolis County, and a graduate of Acadia in '66.

C. R. DANIELS, A.B. '69, has been obliged to relinquish all attempts at study. Soon after the completion of his college course he entered upon the study of the law in the office of Hon. J. C. Troop, Bridgetown. Compelled, by failing health however to abandon his work, he spent the following winter at Nassau, N.P.

In the following spring he went to Minnesota, where with health considerably improved, he remained till last August. Obligated again to relinquish his aim, he came to Boston, where he received Medical attendance and care at the City Hospital. We have since heard of his death, but believe that the report is incorrect. We sympathise with him and his friends in his severe affliction.

L. M. SMITH, A.B. '72, is engaged in commercial pursuits in Halifax.

JOHN R. STUBBERT, A.B. '71, has lately accepted a call to the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Suffield, Conn.

E. M. CHESLEY, A.B. '70, has been for some time Principal of the Liverpool Academy.

REV. G. F. CURRIE, A.B. '74, Pastor of the Baptist Church at Andover, N. B., arrived in Wolfville on Saturday by the P. M. train from Annapolis.

THE REV. C. H. COREY, A.M., President of the Richmond Institute, will please accept our thanks for a copy of the Annual Catalogue of that institution.

WE also tender our thanks to Mr. J. B. Hall, A.B. '73, for a copy of the Annual Year-Book of the Boston University. We are pleased to learn through it that Mr. Hall is pursuing the course in theology, and also the post graduate course in arts. In the former he will be entitled to the degree of B. D. in three years, in the latter Ph. D. in two years. We wish him success.

Locals.

THE terminal examinations of the College and Academy will commence on Monday the 31st of May. Judging from the way in which the Seminary and Academy have acquitted themselves on previous occasions, we feel confident that the exercises will amply reward any who may attend. Parents your presence will give increased interest to the Examinations! Only one young lady graduates *this* year. The Matriculants number 26. They have been under thorough discipline. We wish them every success.

WE are pleased to inform the interested public that the New Academy Building is daily approaching completion. The Master Builder is well qualified to carry into execution the plans of the Committee. The work however is not carried on without the "sound of a hammer;" what is most needed at present is *money*, in order that "blow on blow" may still continue.

OUR Anniversary will be held on Thursday 3rd of June. A concert will be given in the evening under the direction of the graduating class,—proceeds to be placed in the hands of the Committee of the New Academy Building, for the furtherance of their laudable enterprise and as a token of the interest of the class in the much-needed structure. We of course anticipate a full attendance.

MISS CURCHILL, the celebrated Elocutionist, will give several of her select Readings at our Concert on the evening of June 3rd.

THE College having lately received a coating of paint—we would caution all who frequent the Hill who are not particularly anxious to *make their mark*—and receive one in return to guard well their steps as they near its precincts.

While such improvements are being made we would suggest the propriety of erecting a new fence at the right of the College.

AN Address was delivered in the Academy Hall on Saturday evening, 15th inst, before the members of the several Institutions, by Rev. Mr. Campbell, Sec'y. of the Canadian Foreign Missionary Board, on the subject, "Missionary Labor among the Telogoos." The Rev. gentleman was sent as a delegate to the recent Special Convention at Amherst, and spent the Sabbath in Wolfville on his way home. He preached in the Baptist Church in the evening. We were pleased to form his acquaintance, and learn from him of the workings of the Canadian Literary Institute, Woodstock, Ont., of which he is a graduate, and which is represented in our exchange list by the *Tyro*.

G. J. KENNEDY, A. M. our Scientific Prof. intends returning to Montreal this week. His intention is to make further explorations in Science during the summer vacation. We trust that his brightest anticipations will be fully realized, and that he will be permitted to resume his professorial chair at Acadia in the autumn with improved health.

EXCHANGES.

WE have received a copy of the *Tyro*, a magazine of fifty pages, published by the students of the Canadian Literary Institute. The *Tyro* is issued quarterly, and its columns are replete with interesting matter, both original and selected. We welcome it to our list of exchanges, among which it stands in the first rank.

THE last issue of the *Dalhousie Gazette* for the past collegiate year is before us. It contains an account of the Convocation of Dalhousie College, with the Degrees conferred, and prizes distributed. It also contains the Valedictory Oration of the graduating class, which we are inclined to characterize as rather a school-boy production. The article on Patriotism will repay a careful perusal. The editorial on the controversy between the *Gazette* and the *Athenæum* has been attended to in another column, although but little satisfaction is found in arguing with those who evince such a striking similarity to the proverbial inhabitants of ancient Crete.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Amounts of subscription are duly acknowledged from the following subscribers:—

A. J. Seeley, J. A. Moran, Joseph Dimock, Rev. D. O. Parker, D. M. Kennedy, Rev. H. Morrow, A.B., \$3.25, J. A. McLean, E. M. Keirstead, A.B., C. Vesey, Miss Easty, J. D. Baker, I. B. Oakes, A.B., C. F. Clinch, A. A. Hill, David Stewart, J. W. Longley, A.B., O. S. C. Wallace, J. L. Murphy, Rev. C. H. Corey, Rev. C. Goodspeed, A.M., Rev. J. R. Stubbart, A.B., Thos. Smith, C. A. Whitman, Capt. A. Rood, Miss Irene Elder, G. A. Parker, J. A. Banks, J. Newcomb, Dr. Margeson, G. W. Woodworth, P. Paint, Jr., Mrs. S. March, T. A. Benjamin, Rev. E. O. Read, J. H. Webster, Avin Neily, C. R. Pineo, Rev. J. H. Robbins, A.B., Rev. S. B. Kempton, A.M., G. J. Creed, Chas. Eaton, A. T. Morse, D. Phinney, H. Baker, J. L. Morse, J. Shafner, W. J. Shafner, G. B. Shafner, Mrs. T. H. Randall, Miss Jessie Woodbury, J. N. North, Jas. Wheelock, J. F. Covey, A.B., J. R. Bradford, Rev. T. W. Crawley, A.B., Miss E. Loomer, Mrs. E. Smith, A. Hicks, H. Ryan, Austin Locke, Esq., \$1.00, W. H. Skinner, W. L. Jackson, W. A. Craig, H. H. Morse, R. G. Munro, A.B., L. S. Morse, Esq. A.B., E. M. Chesley, A.B., J. W. Healy, W. C. Healy, S. Brown, Rev. W. H. Warren, A.B., Mrs. W. H. Gindley, J. H. Cann, J. H. Haley, Wm. Haley, Alvin Haley, J. B. Kinney, A. W. Allen, J. O. Haley, G. F. Allen, J. Killam, Rev. G. E. Day, D. Archibald, S. Baker.

The remainder of the acknowledgments will appear in the next issue.

ERRATA.

IN consequence of hasty proof reading, some typographical errors were inadvertently left in the last issue of our paper. The following are the most important corrections to be made:—

Page 41, col. 3, line 26, for "Educationalists" read "Educationists."
 " 42, " 2, " 36, for "occur" read "accrue."
 " 44, " 2, " 20, (from bottom) for "cause" read "course."
 " " 3, " 34, for "applicable" read "inapplicable."
 " " " 35, insert "that" after the phrase, "it is plain."

We hope to guard against a similar occurrence in future.

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