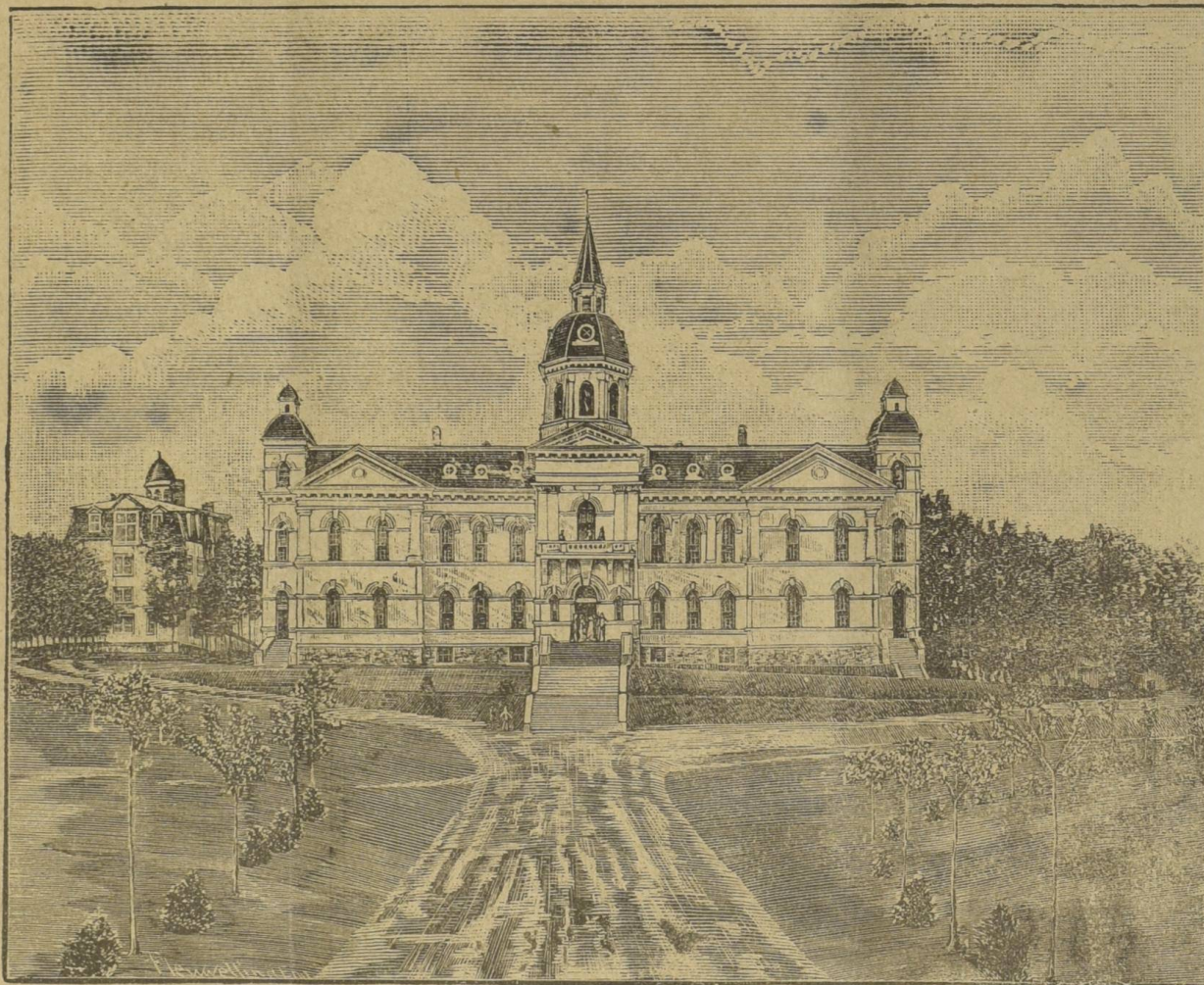


February, 1880.

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# The Acadia Athenaeum.



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# THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

TROS TYRIUSQUE MIHI NULLO DISCRIMINE AGETUR.

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No. 5.

GEORGIC III. LI. 108-112

Do you not see when in the rapid race  
The chariots have seized upon the plain,  
And, pouring forth, rush on with swifter pace :  
When youthful hopes, aroused, rise high again,  
And fluttering fear absorbs the wild heart's pain?  
They ply the twisted lash, and forward leant  
Fling free the rein and give the steeds their bent;  
How flies the axle glowing with the speed!  
As borne aloft thro' open air they seem,  
Or mounting on the winds—a living stream.  
No stop, no rest, is given the panting steed;  
But clouds of golden dust arise where'er they lead.  
So close the race, the fleetest there pursued  
With eager breath and foam-flecks is bedewed:  
Such mighty zeal does love of praise inspire—  
For victory so stirring a desire.

J. R. H.

## REMINISCENCES OF EUROPEAN STUDY AND TRAVEL.—No. 13.

BY PROF. D. M. WELTON.

My first look at Leipzig in broad daylight was from a window of the *Stadt Dresden Hotel*. I had now reached my journey's end, and felt happy in contemplating the new life and new experiences to which I had so long looked forward and which now lay immediately before me. I stopped a week in this hotel. Situated on *Grimmaische Strasse*, the most central, busy and important street in Leipzig, and in the vicinity of the principal public buildings, including the University, it served as a convenient point from which to sally forth to make the acquaintance of the city. I never passed this hotel without being reminded of this, to me, rather eventful week's tarrying within it. But as I now think of it, it calls up still more interesting associations. It was in this same hotel that Prof. Delitzsch,

the great Hebraist, met a *Gesellschaft* (society) of Semitic students—about 25 in number—once a week during the greater part of my stay in Leipzig. I had the pleasure and the honor of belonging to that *Gesellschaft*. We met on Tuesday evenings from 8 to 10 o'clock. The time was occupied in the study of the Old Testament Scriptures, and in the discussion of questions bearing upon their interpretation.

In the lecture room of the German University there is no conversation whatever between the Professor and Students. He simply lectures while they take notes of what he is saying. But in these *Gesellschaften* questions are asked and answered in the most familiar way. In the one under notice we sat around a large table in such way as most readily to catch the eye and hear the words of our teacher, who occupied a central position at its side. The discussions were conducted in German though all the members of the *Gesellschaft* were English speaking. Any student present might put a question in English, and if it was not clearly understood by Prof. Delitzsch, the person sitting at his right or left interpreted it for him; while on the other hand, if his replies were not understood by any persons present, they were interpreted for them.

The last meeting of the society I attended was in July of '78, just before my return home. I remember that Dr. Schaff, translator of Lange's Commentary, was present that evening. He was on his way home from the Holy Land, and had stopped at Leipzig to visit some of his old friends, prominent among whom is Prof. Delitzsch. I remember, too, that the subject for discussion on that evening was Hebrew poetry, and I never saw



Prof. Delitzsch more animated than when expatiating upon it. His Jewish soul—for he is a Jew by blood, though a Christian by faith—seemed to be on fire. He gave a description of the different kinds of musical instruments in use among the Jews in their worship, and recited as only himself could do, portions of the particular kinds of poetry adapted to each. The lofty thought of which Hebrew is the fitting vehicle, is acknowledged by all, but Prof. Delitzsch's recitation of certain passages showed that it is grandly rhythmical as well.

The permanent location of myself in as pleasant quarters as possible first received my attention. In a city as large as Leipzig, and in which the system of private lodgings so largely prevails, one may suit his taste in almost any direction. In the *Tageblatt* (daily paper) scores and hundreds of rooms are advertized *per vermieten* (to let) and if none of these suit, he may state in the *Tageblatt* just the kind of room he does want, and in 24 hours he will probably receive half a hundred letters, each informing him where and by whom he may be accommodated.

#### THE NORTH MOUNTAINS.

##### THEIR GEOLOGICAL FORMATION.

These mountains form the principal part of what is known to Geologists as the Trap District of Nova Scotia.

Visitors at Blomidon, or points near the other extremity of the range, would, upon examining the cliffs, observe and perhaps wonder at the fact that the trap rock of volcanic origin, hard and durable, rests upon beds of new red sandstone, a softer rock of aqueous formation. But such is the case; and from this and connected circumstances we learn the history of this region.

Geologists tell us that the North Mountains are of comparatively recent origin; that there was a time in the unwritten history of Nova Scotia when they did not exist. Then the waters of Fundy Bay washed the base of the South Mountains, the now fertile valley

between being under water. To the East, Minas Basin opened widely into the Bay; and Cobequid, much wider than at present, extended inland beyond Truro. Then the islands of Minas Basin—Two, Five and Partridge Isles—belonging to the same geological period as the North Mountains, had not appeared; nor had the Isle Haut, lifted its lone head above the waves of the Bay. The general outline of the rest of the Province was then very similar to what it now is.

How long ago this was man cannot tell. In the history inscribed in the "Stony Book"—"the manuscripts of God"—time is measured not by years or centuries, but by periods which were meted out by the hand of Him to whom "a thousand years is as one day." There is no doubt however, that it was long ages ago, thousands, probably millions of years before man was created.

But at that time deposition of sediment was taking place within the Bay and those stratas were being formed which are known as the new red sandstone. This accumulation continued for ages till the beds were of considerable thickness. Then at different points along the line of the North Mountains, began submarine volcanic action; and as is usual in volcanic eruptions, the first ejection consisted of scoræ and ashes, which, assisted in their distribution by the tides, overspread the sandstone, forming, when subjected to pressure, that vesicular variety of trap, full of almond shaped cavities known as amygdaloid.

At exactly what points these eruptions took place it is impossible to tell; but circumstances indicate that, as Dawson conjectures, the centres of igneous activity were in the vicinity of Sandy Cove at one extremity, and towards Cape Split at the other, the spur extending from Blomidon and ending in that cape marking the course of one of the principal lava streams. There may have been, probably were, other points of eruption; nor need we wonder that evidences of their existence do not now appear, when we consider the effects caused by denuding agencies of the Drift period.



After the ejection of volcanic ash came the lava stream which overspread the former to a great depth; and, on cooling, assumed a rude columnar structure similar to that of Fingal's Cave, and Giant's Causeway. These beds were as yet under the sea, and the water, percolating through them, dissolved a portion of their silicious substance and redeposited it in the cavities of the amygdaloid below; forming beautiful crystals, for the abundance and variety of which this region is justly celebrated.

The whole district was then upheaved, probably slowly, allowing the strong bay tide rushing over its surface to wear away its softer portions leaving it corrugated by valleys and rounded hills.

As the sandstone beds sloped towards the Northwest, the trap would have a like dip in that direction and under the Bay, thus to some extent protecting that side from the action of the sea; while upon the South side the swift current, acting upon the softer sandstone at the base, wore it away more rapidly, forming a more abrupt slope. These circumstances, together with the other denuding forces of nature, operating through succeeding ages, have brought the North Mountains to very near their present form.

And still the work of dissolution goes on. Every spring, all along parts of the coast, thousands of tons, loosened by the frost, fall from the cliffs in huge avalanches, opening a fresh and prolific field for the mineralogist, and adding new beauties to its wild and picturesque scenery.

#### THE THING.

Calculus is a junior study. Calculus tries men's souls. . . . Verily it is a cruel study and wasteth him who pursueth it, inch by inch, aye, marrow and bone doth it waste him, and leaveth him nothing instead but "a fond heart sickened, and a fair hope dead."

Let me say this, for I believe it. Let me say this, because I know whereof I speak.

I have studied this calculus, this *thing*. Hour after hour I have pored over its

pages till the *de's* and *dy's* seemed to glare upon me like fiends. Night after night hath this *thing* stolen from the golden hours "which I shall never get back to all eternity," giving me in their place dulled brain, wearied eyes, deadened ambition, saddened heart, utter despondency, complete discouragement, hopeless despair, ashes and myrrh and gall, bitterness upon bitterness, till my soul was crushed and I longed to go "Any-where, anywhere, out of the world."

But the longing was fruitless, and I suffer yet. All the day it haunts me, numbing my senses. Into my dreams cometh a death's head and cross bones, with differentials of secants and tangents and sines, flitting about it like evil spirits. All these things have I endured. Since the days of Newton many men have endured them. Some men have studied this *thing* and have even declared it beautiful, although I would fain hope that, in the marble over the beds of such is carved "*requiescat in pace*." For he who slanders all the beautiful things on this fair earth, by finding beauty in this calculus, this *thing*, must feel sadly out of place.

I believe in the sublimity of calm endurance. I worship the resolute, fixed purpose which suffers without complaining. Therefore will I remain silent. Why should I cry out? I can receive no aid. I have learned long ago that "no man is either able or willing to help any other man." Besides, have I not pride that would refuse aid?

I will possess my soul in patience. I will learn this calculus, this *thing*, though my brow grow furrowed, and my brain grow dull. I will teach my lips to say, though I believe it not, that there may be beauty in this calculus, that this *thing* may be useful, that it may be practical.—*Kansas Review*.

#### LECTURES.

On Friday evening, Jan. 23rd, the second lecture of the series under the auspices of the Athenæum, was given by Mr. Geo. Johnson, late editor of the *Halifax Reporter*, upon the subject of "Patriotism."



After adverting to sarcastic definitions of patriotism which have been given by some, influenced by contempt for those who affect great love of country for selfish ends, the lecturer defined true patriotism; and insisted that it existed as an ennobling principle, worthy of profoundest respect; that it ruled in the breasts of people of every nation and tribe. He deprecated internationalism in politics as "evil and only evil." In religion, and in enterprises which aim at the common good of mankind, representatives of different nations might profitably consult and act together; but in politics each man should have patriotic selfishness. The lecturer rebuked the folly of those who pretend to have no special regard for any country. He argued that, following such a principle, a man should have no special regard for his own family. But while exalting love of country, he condemned *sectionalism*, comparing it to a fiendish "key-hole sneak." The lecturer spoke of the size of Canada, its fertility and suitability for the extension of the British Empire; and urged that its people have reason to love their own country. He spoke sharply of the foolishness of those who dream of "annexation" or scheme for "independence;" and closed by an appeal to the young men of "Acadia" to cherish true patriotism for the land of their birth.

Concerning the lecture little but praise can be said. It showed careful preparation, considerable acquaintance with literature, and contained many pointed and witty passages. The speaker's delivery was most open to criticism. Probably this was partly due to a severe cold.

A lecture was delivered by Rev. C. B. Pitblado, of Halifax, in Borden's Hall on the evening of Jan. 26th, subject; "Canadian Patriotism." The lecturer dwelt at some length upon the vast resources, the great extent, and the unsurpassed beauties of the Dominion; and thought the citizens ought to be proud of their country, and instead of doing anything dishonoring to it, should contribute to its elevation. He

spoke of our present circumstances calling for thankfulness rather than complaint; and gave prominence to the fact that even though there may be a measure of adversity, it is adversity which nerves and strengthens nations as well as individuals. The future was pointed to as an incentive to action; for men should live for posterity and not be wholly wrapped up in devotion to personal interests. He saw in Canada the germs of coming greatness; and predicted that in the near future our country would in all desirable respects be greatly in advance of its present condition. He did not consider that material advancement was to herald the dawn of this brighter day, but the diffusion of a national sentiment, the moulding effect of high ideals, and especially the extension of the principles of Christianity—without which there can be no true patriotism nor real prosperity among any people.

The subject was designedly dealt with after a sentimental and not a logical manner. There were in the lecture many grand passages—in fact we seldom hear so many within such a narrow compass. The discourse inculcated noble principles, and could not but elevate men's views of life. It bore the unmistakable stamp of a Christian artist. All who improve the opportunity of hearing this lecture will feel repaid, or they may well be sceptical respecting their ability to appreciate a good platform effort.

#### HOMES WITHOUT HANDS.

(*Selected from the Pierian Portfolio.*)

In the present advanced condition of architectural science, we forget the rough abodes of our forefathers, which often consisted of nothing more than a secluded spot in a dense forest, or a shade of an overhanging cliff, or a cave, attended by none of our modern conveniences.

Man would not now, live under such inconvenient circumstances, and he has for the most part consigned Nature's edifices to the lower animals. The Creator of the world



has given to the lower animals a marvellous faculty to direct all their proceedings, called instinct. This is their guide in all things and by this they are kept from making mistakes, as the only animal with hands is continually doing. By this instinct they are taught various necessary things, such as the building of their houses and providing for their young. Insect races are said to have the most refined and perfect instincts. No bird, fish, nor beast of prey builds its home with such perfection as does the little spider. It has no need of practice in order to gain skill to build, nor does it have to imitate its neighbors. This uniformity of building goes on in the same way now as it ever has.

The houses are as far as we can determine the same as they were thousands of years ago. All men need do, is to sit back and enjoy the fruits of the labors of these "little busy bees." The cells these insects make are made with the most geometrical precision. There is not a line, or curve which is not mathematically correct.

"Behold a bird's nest!  
Mark it well, within, without,  
No tool had he that wrought,  
No knife to cut;  
No nail to fix, no bodkin to insert,  
No glue to join; his little beak was all.  
And yet how neatly finished!  
What nice hand with  
Every implement and means of art,  
And twenty years of apprenticeship to boot,  
Could make me such another."

Surely the poet could not have written such beautiful lines on a bird's nest, if he had only seen the rough nest of the Stork. But the Stork is merely one of the few birds which is careless about the form and comfort of its nest. Wherever this careless specimen of bird-architecture is found, it is simply a pile of dry sticks and twigs. The Grosbeak is gregarious, and the nests of a whole community are built together among the branches of a single tree, with a roof like that of a thatched barn projecting over them, so as to protect the entrances from the intrusion of tree snakes or other reptiles. Their nests are arranged on each side of a

gallery or corridor, about two inches apart, and Le Vaileant in one community counted three hundred and twenty.

Many others such as the Madagascar Weaver bird might be mentioned on account of the skill with which they build their nests. The nest of the Ostrich, or king of birds is nothing more than a hole in the sand. The Frigate bird of the Pacific Islands builds its nest on a tree overhanging the water, or on a crag covered with weeds and moss. We can exclaim in the words of a modern poet about the Eider duck of Greenland:

"And where those fractured mountains lift,  
O'er the blue waves their towering crest,  
Each salient ledge and hollow cleft,  
To sea-fowl give a rugged nest;  
But with instructive love is drest  
The Eider's downy cradle, where  
The mother bird her glossy breast  
Devotes, and with maternal  
Care, and plumeless bosom stems  
The toiling seas  
That foam round the tempestuous Orcades."

The Grebe lines her nest with the soft down from her own breast. Icelanders very often collect both nest and eggs.

We must not forget our own familiar bird, the Robin Red-breast, which builds his nest early in the Spring. It is made of decayed leaves, moss, and at the bottom, grass, with a velvet lining of hair and wool. The humming-birds are ingenious nest builders. Their nests differ greatly in form and size. The largest are about the size of a hen's egg. They are made of moss and very fine twigs, with fanciful decorations. The Black Bird, which is one of nature's favored choristers, builds its nest of moss and sticks, plastered inside with mud and lined with soft wool or down.

Moralists and Philosophers have received many a lesson from the study of the Beaver's "Home without Hands."

The remarkable ingenuity displayed in their construction has long been a subject of wonder and eulogy. Thus the study of nature in countless ways reminds us of the Great Architect, who gives his children promise of celestial mansions on high "not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."



# THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM

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WE would suggest to our subscribers that remittances for the ATHENÆUM are always acceptable. This is especially the case at present. Less than usual has been collected up to the present time, and our publisher, though very considerate, is beginning to talk business to us. The hard times are not respecters of persons; even editors are not exempt from their influence. Some may be waiting for our Treasurer to forward them their bills; but as we do not wish to put him to unnecessary trouble, we insert this gentle reminder. You may remit either in postage stamps or script. Send script if you can; but by all means send.

IN another column will be found a private communication from an honored member of the class of '69, which we take the liberty of

inserting in this issue. Such friendly words, accompanied by such tangible proof of goodwill are highly valued by us. The example is one that might be emulated by others of our patrons, with credit to themselves, and with peculiar advantage to us at present.

THE telescope, provided for Acadia College by the graduating class of 1871, has been received. It was purchased in Boston, by the Rev. W. H. Warren, A.M., acting as agent for his class, and brought to Wolfville a few weeks since, by the same gentleman.

The glass is an achromatic refractor having an objective of six inches in diameter with a focal length of about eight feet. It is provided with a diaphragm, or sun screen, a sun shade and six eye-pieces, two ordinary ones with magnifying powers of 150, and 200, and three Töllers' patent eye-pieces, with magnifying powers of 150, 250, and 400 respectively. These all give inverted images and are designed for astronomical work only. In addition to these there is a terrestrial eyepiece for scanning objects on this mundane sphere.

The instrument is handsomely finished and mounted, and will make a most valuable addition to our appliances for learning by observation, facts which we must otherwise have been content to receive on the authority of text-books.

Owing to the want of a good observatory, the capabilities of the glass have not yet been fully tested. Some parts of Orion have, however been examined with good results—using the lowest powers. The great nebula came out distinctly and the multiple star *Theta* showed four distinct points of light making the famous trapezium. *Delta* and *Zeta* Orionis also revealed their companion stars very clearly.

It is expected that when a proper observatory is provided, all the more remarkable phenomena of the heavens will be revealed by this fine telescope which will thus become a powerful incentive to the study of the wonderful science of Astronomy.



On behalf of our fellow students, we tender our sincere thanks to Mr. Warren, his classmates and the generous friends who assisted them in getting this valuable instrument, and hope that other classes may emulate their praiseworthy example.

IN consideration of the late Prof. DeMille's former connection with these Institutions, both as student and instructor, and of his being a man of distinguished ability and widely known as an author, we cannot pass by the sad event of his death without a brief obituary.

Prof. DeMille was the third son of the late Nathan S. DeMille, a leading merchant of St. John, N. B., for many years a deacon of Brussels St. Baptist Church, and a consistent member of the Leinster St. Church which was organized under the leadership of his eldest son, Rev. E. B. DeMille ('49). Mr. DeMille was a liberal contributor to the funds of Acadia College. Prof. DeMille studied at Horton Academy and Acadia College for two years. After spending a year travelling in Europe he was entered at Brown University. Just at that time, under the supervision of the late Dr. Wayland, an experiment was being tried at that University. Students were admitted directly to the degree of A. M. after five years of study without passing through the intermediate stage of A. B. Prof. DeMille passed through this course with honor, and was graduated A. M. in 1854 or '55. After that he was engaged for a time in winding up the affairs of the W. C. Mining Association at Cincinnati, and then went into business in St. John, having in the mean time married a daughter of the Rev. John Pryor, D. D., once Professor in this Institution. In 1861 Prof. DeMille was appointed Professor of Classics in Acadia College, and entered upon his duties in September of the following year. His inaugural address was an eloquent and forcible plea on behalf of Classical Studies, and the ideas and plans then enunciated, he fully carried out during his stay at Acadia. In 1865 he accept-

ed an invitation to a professorship in Dalhousie College where he has since remained.

In 1867 on account of some unfortunate denominational troubles he left the Baptist Church and united with the Episcopalians, with whom, ecclesiastically, he has since been connected.

Prof. DeMille began his career as an author some years ago. His first production was a little Sabbath School book called "The Martyr of the Catacombs." It is a little gem—tender and touching, vivid and life-like. Some of his best friends think that in many points it has not been exceeded by any of his subsequent productions. "Helena's Household," is a tale of the same period as "The Martyr of the Catacombs," and it also is a graphic picture of life in the first century or two of the Christian era.

Quite a number of novels, novelettes, and tales followed—perhaps the most artistic of which is the "Cryptogram," something in the style of Wilkie Collins. The B.O.W.C. books, as they are called, are stories about the boys of Horton Academy, and are founded on facts which many of the old boys now living can authenticate. These books are very fascinating to young people. About a year ago he published a Treatise on Rhetoric which has been very highly commended as an educational work.

From time to time Prof. DeMille delivered lectures on various subjects which were always received with enthusiasm by delighted audiences. It was owing to exposure to the weather after delivering a lecture on "Satire" in St. John, N. B., that he contracted the severe cold which resulted in his death at Halifax on the 28th ult.

In private life, Prof. DeMille had many attached friends. He was genial, friendly, and sympathetic. His attachments were strong and lasting. Though of late years not identified with our denomination, there are many of his oldest friends who feel his death as a great grief, and who will cherish his memory with fond affection as they look back to the "old times" when they stood to-



gether and together shared their joys and sorrows.

We tender to our sister Institution our sympathy in the loss which they have so suddenly and so unexpectedly been called upon to sustain.

Just as we go to press, we are in receipt of an anonymous note, the purport of which is as follows:—

"The spirit of chivalry is no longer shown among the students of Acadia. Last week their chief was stabbed in the back by H. H. Read, and yet they do not come to his assistance in the *Christian Messenger* of this week. If they do not espouse the cause of their chief, they are unworthy the name of students."

Verily the ardor of chivalry is not extinct, though it may be at Acadia, or if it is, there still remains some unknown Don Quixote who is anxious to have it revived and perpetuated. We fear that our very accommodating friend has been reading of some of the exploits of *Amadis de Gaul*, and has thus had his chivalric nature a little too much excited.

Now we do not wish to be severe on a person whom we suppose to be merely a misguided friend, but we have always had a contempt for anonymous scribbling, and must beg our readers' pardon for noticing it even thus briefly. We might merely suggest, as from the post office mark on the letter, our friend is evidently a near neighbor of H. H. R's, that he make a display of his knightly bearing by undertaking the case himself. We have no doubt but that, should he apply to the injured party, he would have no trouble in being "dubbed knight" and then we shall have a tournament. We will promise to lend our patronage by becoming the Scott of the occasion and writing a history of the tragedy, giving due prominence to the "nameless knight." Should he come out a "headless horseman," we will try and grow pathetic over his sad fate; and, although we have no authority for saying so, we think that the Seminary folks will go and sing a requiem over the last resting place of this martyr to their cause. As to the armor it need not be

very elaborate at all. Light lances are generally considered best in such engagements, though from the way our correspondent wields a pen, we might infer that one with "a handle like to a weaver's beam" would suit him better. We might further suggest that as our village barber is about clearing out his establishment, he might be able to supply our friend with a helmet.

This by way of advice which is given gratis. In regard to our delinquency in the matter, we have only to say that it was not from lack of interest in the reputation of our President that we did not rush into print with answers for his assailant—we speak of course for those who compose the staff of this paper, and no more. For our own part our medium of communication with the public is not through the columns of the *Christian Messenger*, had we been disposed to answer the charge. Our knowledge of the matter was little, if any, superior to that of those who had already attempted to write on this subject, and hence we would not have improved the state of things much by rushing thoughtlessly into print. Dr. Sawyer's statement of the case in the last *Christian Messenger* every body will accept. The statements made by "a member of the committee" would have had much more force had they been accompanied by the name of the writer; but, we have no doubt, they may also be relied on. If then these writers have given a correct statement of the case as it stands, we think that any further discussion of the subject will be altogether superfluous, except as it may supply a topic for some individual who must write, and has nothing else to write about. We apologize to our readers for taking up so much of their space in discussing a matter of which we know so little. Our ignorance on the point, however, need not be attributed to any lack of interest in Seminary affairs, for, though we are no longer chivalrous, this would be far from true; rather does it arise from a weakness which leads us to attend to our own business, and to leave such matters in the hands of the proper and responsible parties.



THE accounts of the Breakfast given by publishers of the *Atlantic Monthly* to Oliver Wendell Holmes on his seventieth birth-day, remind us that there is in the College Library, a volume which must have been one of the poet's text books when he was a member of Harvard College more than fifty years ago. It is a copy of Farrar's Lectures on Optics. On the fly-leaf is written in a neat hand, O. W. Holmes, 31 Hollis. The same name also stands on the inside of the cover. The volume probably found its way here many years ago among a number of second-hand books. It is still fresh and bears no traces of having been used except some faint marks on the margin at somewhat regular intervals, as if showing the length of successive assignments. The condition of the book indicates that the owner mastered the mysteries of abstruse science at a glance, or else that he did not trouble himself much about them. Remembering the development of his genius in later years, of course we must adopt the first conclusion.

## Gleanings from Acadia Seminary.

(Under direction of the Pierian Society.)

On Saturday January 24th the Teachers and Students of Acadia Seminary took advantage of the fine day and excellent sleighing, to enjoy a drive to the beautiful village of Kentville. The high spirits of the closely packed freight spread contagiously to the mettlesome steeds which vied with each other for the front rank.

The amount of oxygen consumed, and the development of the facial muscles were a practical illustration of facts which the Physiology class prefer to demonstrate on *runners*, rather than in the class room.

On Tuesday January 26th the Rev. C. Bruce Pitblado, of Chalmers Church, Halifax, was present with us during Morning Prayers, after which he addressed the School in brief but very suggestive remarks upon

a young lady's mission in life. The auditors only wished they could listen longer to the truths so tersely and pointedly expressed by the eloquent speaker.

## Things Around Home.

Our students are making a raid on the *American Book Exchange* for Dr. Geikie's *Life of Christ* and the *Library Magazine*.

The Seniors have got started with reading essays before the body of students. They are all to come on Wednesday mornings, it is said!

On the evening of Jan. 31st the Seniors and Juniors enjoyed one of those interesting affairs called receptions. They report favorably respecting it.

In the department of Classics great things may reasonably be expected of the Juniors, since they can boast an Andrews, a Bentley, and a Donaldson.

"*Regnat ubique fides*, is translated by an Hibernian Latinist into "Faith, it rains everywhere." —*Clip*.

The officers of the Athenæum for the current term are as follows:—

	C. E. Griffin, President;
	E. D. Webber, Vice President;
	F. S. Clinch, Rec. Secretary;
	H. R. Welton, Cor. Secretary;
	A. G. Troope, Treasurer;
	{ E. J. Morse, Chairman;
	{ F. W. Morse;
Ex. Com.	{ L. R. Shafner;
	{ E. A. Corey;
	{ W. C. Goucher;

On dit that our corpulent monitor is on the war-path just half an hour behind time. He is in quest of the Esther Cox of the Sem., to whose subtle influence, at the last reception, he attributes the derangement of his chronometer. Success, brother!

An interesting baptism occurred at the Baptist Church, Sunday morning, Feb. 1st. The candidates were, a son of Prof. Higgins, the only son of Mr. DeBlois, pastor of the church, and C. Williams of the Freshman class.

Skeptical student in Psychology, puzzling over some first principles—"Whatever is, is. A thing cannot be and not be at the same time. A is A; A is not not—A. A whole is a whole . . . A whole is not a (k)not—(w)hole. Eh! I thought the logic of the first truths would not invariably hold.



The officers of the Junior Class are as follows:—

H. D. Bentley, Convener;  
 F. W. Morse, Vice Convener;  
 E. D. Webber, do. do.  
 W. F. Parker, Secretary;  
 G. W. Gates, Treasurer;  
 Frank Andrews, }  
 E. R. Curry, } Ex. Com.  
 S. H. Cornwell, }  
 S. Welton, Orator;  
 O. T. Daniels, Historian;  
 A. C. Chute, Essayist;  
 C. L. Eaton, Poet;  
 A. J. Pineo, Scientist;  
 M. P. King, Chaplain;  
 J. G. A. Belyea, Humorist;  
 H. H. Welton, Chorister;

One of our Academicians has discovered that *continuance of time* is not a *synonyme* for eternity, offering as proof Georgics, Bk. 1st, line 60, "*Continuo* has leges, æternaque fœdera," which he translates into "Continuance has legs, eternity has feet." Verily philosophy is progressive!

Was the clock in the President's hall purchased for use or ornament? Much of the time it is dumb. The rest of the time it is too slow or too fast. Is the fault in the clock, or in the Prof. of Dust and Ashes?

If those who attend to the warming of churches, schools, and Colleges, need not be scientific men, they should have sound judgment, and be considerate of others' health. Nearly half of our students have recently had bad colds—the result of passing from class rooms excessively hot to those extremely cold. If this unevenness of temperature continues we fear that ere long some of our number may "sleep 'neath snow-clad mounds."

The regular meeting of the "Acadia Missionary Society" for the month of January was held on the evening of the 28th. This being the first regular meeting of the term, the following officers were chosen:—

M. P. King, President;  
 H. B. Shafner, Vice President;  
 I. W. Corey, Secretary;  
 I. C. Archibald, Treasurer;

The programme for the evening was not extensive, but was unusually interesting. A synopsis of missionary news, in concise form, was presented by Mr. F. L. Shafner, after which Mr. A. C. Chute read a very interesting paper on "The labors of Dr. Judson." The time usually consumed in discussing missionary topics was; on that evening, occupied by Dr. Sawyer, in an address; which, as might be expected, was full of interest, and was listened to with close attention throughout.

"A Home beyond the Grave."—Thus a wicked Soph. interprets rooming next door beyond that morose Senior.

A student in the Psychology class, who is inclined to doubt Porter's statement that the Centaur and Hippogriff do not exist in reality but only in imagination, suggests that Griffin on a pony might be an example of the latter.

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## Correspondence.

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*For the Athenæum.*

### EUPHEMISM.

"He affected a flank movement in order to improve his strategic position."

Such were the terms in which the official bulletin of the Federal army and its Northern press announced the retreat of General McLellan from before Richmond.

His "flank movement," made "to improve his strategic position," cost the Unionists fifty-one cannon, ten thousand prisoners and thirty-seven thousand small arms, besides an incredible quantity of commissary stores and military equipments, which were burnt or otherwise destroyed to prevent them falling into the hands of the confederates.

Before the "flank movement" was made, McLellan was five miles from Richmond, which he had gone to capture; on the completion of the "movement" he was thirty miles from the coveted prize; and he had spent several days in accomplishing it.

He had been routed, "horse, foot, and artillery," and had sustained a signal and mortifying defeat; but he had "effected a flank movement," and had done so to improve his "strategic position."

The "flank movement" of the Northern General suggests a famous question of the Bard of Avon and its equally famous reply.

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet." It would seem, however, that our modern warriors are not disposed to accept the dictum of even so eminent an authority as Shakespeare, and that they regard with far more favor the figures of Rhetoric than the language of poetry.

\* \* \*

Wolfville, Dec. 10, 1879.



BIMLIPATAM, INDIA, Nov 22, 1879.

To the Editors Acadia Athenæum.

SIRS.—It is with pleasure I acknowledge the kindness shewn in sending me THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM. Please continue. We will endeavor to make it mutual.

Rev. W. P. Everett will cash the accompanying order for six dollars, on presentation.

With my earnest prayer for the success of Acadia College in all her interests,

I remain yours, very truly

R. SANFORD.

## Literary and Educational Notes.

The largest University in the world is that of Berlin, with 3,608 students.

"Shakespeare" has been decided to be the correct spelling of the Bard of Avon.

Cannon Farrar's *Life of Christ* has reached its twenty-fourth edition in England. The *Life of St. Paul* is in its sixth edition. A cheap edition in one volume is nearly ready.

M. Ernest Renan is to deliver a series of lectures in London upon the interesting subject of the Deterioration of Christianity in percolating through the Roman Empire.

A revised edition of Harkness's "Latin Grammar" is to appear shortly. It will contain all the very latest results of the investigations which have been exercising the minds of the philological world for the past year or two.

Irwin Russel, the poet and dialect writer, died at New Orleans recently in destitute circumstances and among strangers. He was born in 1853. Since 1876 he has been a constant contributor of Scribner's. As a poet he gave promise of a brilliant future.

George Stewart, Jr., author of the Administration of Earl Dufferin, has been elected a member of the International Literary Society of Paris, of which Victor Hugo is President. Mr. Stewart is the first Canadian upon whom this honor has been bestowed.

Professor K. O. Kun Hiea has presented to Harvard Library a volume of Chinese poems, entitled "Verses composed in the Hall of Longevity." As it is written in the best Chinese it will not prove of much value to the ordinary reader.

*Studies of the Greek Poets*, John Addington Symonds, Harper Brothers, 2 vols. These volumes will form a valuable addition to the library of every classical student. The author gives a description of Grecian Literature, with a concluding chapter upon sculpture and the various systems of philosophy and art.

For the Cambridge Local examinations held last week there were entered 6,738 candidates—4,017 boys and 2,721 girls. There were eighty-five "centres". Thus the examination mania spreads apace. The time cannot be far distant when we shall consist of but two classes, examiners and examinees, the latter probably the happier, for how the shoulders of the former are to bear their increasing burdens is a curious problem.—*The Academy*, Dec. 27, 1879.

*Memoirs of Prince Metternich* 1773-1815. Prince Metternich's life may be divided into three periods, the first extending from his birth in 1773 to 1815; the second from 1816 to 1848; the third from the latter date to his death in 1859. The present volumes are occupied with an account of events which transpired during the first period of his career. They are taken up necessarily to a great extent with the official relations of Prince Metternich to the Emperor Napoleon I. The Memoirs were compiled from notes, memoirs and correspondence left by Metternich for his future biographer.

The largest endowed colleges with their endowments are as follows:—Columbia, \$5,000,000; John Hopkins' University, \$3,000,000; Harvard, \$2,500,000; Cornell, \$2,000,000; Princeton, \$1,000,000; Tufts, \$750,000; Brown, \$720,000; Lafayette, \$600,000; Yale, \$300,000.

## Scientific Notes.

An Intramercorial planet is reported to have been discovered by astronomers in California, during the last total eclipse. Particulars are wanting, but are promised as soon as sufficient time for careful examination of the observations made shall have elapsed.

By means of extremely delicate processes M. Violle has lately determined the fusing points of the more refractory metals. The following are given as the exact temperatures for five of these metals in their order of fusibility; Silver 1,749° Fah.; Gold 1,863°; Copper 1,890°; Platinum 3,195°; Iridium 3,510°.

Sheet iron covered with gum of the Euphorbia, common and luxuriant in tropical climates, was immersed in Chatham, England, dock yard,



where everything rapidly becomes foul, and when taken out was found quite clean. The gum is intensely bitter and poisonous; hence marine animals avoid it.

The Yale Museum has lately received remains of reptiles from the Jurassic deposits of the Rocky Mountains. These reptilian remains pertain to several distinct groups, and are interesting because they throw much light on the forms which have already been described from the same horizon.

The Journal of applied sciences draws attention to the substitution of paper for wood, in Germany; in the manufacture of lead pencils. The paper is steeped in an adhesive liquid and rolled around the core of the pencil to the required thickness. After drying it is colored to resemble an ordinary cedar pencil. The pencils thus made sell in London at about seventy five cents a gross.

A new explosive compound, known as *nitrolin*, is compounded as follows; from 5 to 20 parts of sugar or syrup are mixed with from 25 to 30 parts of nitric acid in a wooden or gutta percha vessel. Of this compound 25 to 30 parts are mixed with 13 to 35 parts of nitrate of potassa and from 13 to 15 parts of cellulose.—*Chem. Centralblatt*.

The problem respecting the temperature of the sun still remains unsolved. The French Academy in 1876 offered a prize for the solution of this problem; but has withdrawn the prize owing to none of the answers being satisfactory. The results given ranged from 15,000° to 3,600,000° Fah. The diversity of the answers shows the difficulty, when it is remembered that the contestants were men who have made such subjects a specialty.

### Personals.

'79. G. B. Healey has removed from Sibley to Sioux City, Iowa. He still continues in the study of law.

'61. Rev. W. H. Porter, pastor of the church at Brantford, Ont., has accepted the call of the East Av. church, of Rochester, N.Y., to become its pastor. He leaves the second largest Baptist Church in the Dominion, and will bring to his new field an excellent reputation as a man and pastor.—*Examiner & Chronicle*.

### Mosaics.

A principle is worth a thousand facts.—  
LORD LYTTON.

It is a wise rule to sojourn in every place as if you meant to spend your life there.

Suspicion—a sentiment which incites us to search for what we do not want to find.—  
MILTON.

Let well weighed considerations, not stiff and peremptory assumptions, guide thy discourses, pen, and actions.—BROWNE.

Entire candor and honesty regarding ourselves, instead of being the first, is one of the last and highest attainments of a perfectly fashioned character.—SHAIRP.

Every person has two educations—one which he receives from others, and one, more important, which he gives himself.—GIBBON.

The way to subject all things to thyself, is to subject thyself to reason; thou shalt govern many, if reason govern thee; wouldst thou be crowned the monarch of a little world? command thyself.—QUARLE'S EUCHIR.

### Acknowledgments.

G. J. C. White, W. Barss, Sydney Welton, F. W. Morse, E. D. Webber, S. P. F. Cook, H. W. Moore, Rev. E. N. Archibald, Rosie Archibald, Dimock Archibald, I. C. Archibald, A. H. McKay, A. B., \$1.00; Miss Emily M. Archibald, H. R. Welton, Rev. J. Chase, Sydney A. Burnaby, Rev. J. W. Bancroft, A. B., Miss Lucy Strong, Miss Clinch, Miss K. J. Miller, M. P. King, Mrs. Jenks, Miss E. M. Crowell, E. K. Poole, Mrs. DeWolf and Mrs. Blair, \$1.50; Miss Cassie Harris, W. J. Wallace.



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