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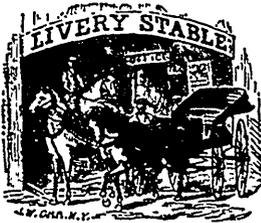
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THE LATE G. P. PAYZANT

The Acadia Athenaeum.

"Prodesse Quam Conspici."

Vol. XXIII. No. 1. ACADIA UNIVERSITY, WOLFVILLE, N. S. Nov. 1896

An Island.

ONE rock, left isled anear the Fundean shore,
Receive me into thy unvoiced retreats;
Among thy piney heights and vacant seats;
To be as lost in the long rushing roar
Of falling seas; or wrapt in sound no more
To be with silence like a breast that beats
New concourses of life;—a soul that meets
My soul with language never heard before.

Yon melancholy moper of the night
Is alien here. Now all my strength expands
Beside the altitude of base and cliff,
Thick-veined with amethyst and zeolite.
I take new freedom from thy patient hands,
The sea's anointing fresh upon my face.

Minas Basin.

J. F. HERRIN.

The Late Godfrey P. Payzant

ACADIA has once more to mourn one of her benefactors and well wishers. On Wednesday, July 1st Windsor and its vicinity were grieved to hear of the sudden death of Godfrey Payzant Esq., who for so long had been one of her most prominent citizens. The shadow of death had at last settled upon one whose eventful career was the pride of his native town and the boast of his many associates. The familiar face, the genial voice, the kindly hand had passed forever from their midst.

Commencing in early life with but little capital and influence, but with a clear head, a strong arm and an indomitable resolve to make the most of every opportunity, the late Mr. Payzant succeeded in winning a position in the commercial world that was worthy of his laudable efforts. When he died he was considered one of the wealthiest men in Nova Scotia, and a prominent figure in business circles. Slowly and surely, in spite of misfortune and adversity, never undone but always undaunted he completed at last the task to

which in youth he had aspired. At no time could it be said that Chance was the keystone of his prosperity, but an accurate knowledge of all the immediate accessories of business transactions and a character that was conspicuous for its sterling worth and integrity accomplished all that was necessary to make his name a synonym for success and his fortune a representative achievement of his generation. His eventful career affords an excellent example to young men who are still at the bottom of the proverbial ladder of destiny since whatever distinction he eventually won was the outcome of perseverance and the happy tact of adapting himself to all the circumstances of life.

Mr. Payzant had always taken a deep interest in the religious welfare of his Province. His generosity and liberality are too well known to need any further comment. The church of which he was a member had long relied upon his foresight and support to fulfill its divine mission and to advance its denominational prestige in the land.

Though not himself a graduate, Mr. Payzant always had the greatest concern for educational institutions and particularly for our own Alma Mater, Acadia College. The formation of his will was fully in accord with those principles of true christianity that people had so often observed in his character. Philanthropy was plainly the one great motive of his being; Charity and Benevolence, the source of his enjoyment. Besides numerous bequests to churches, missions, and other religious institutions, he endowed Acadia with the princely gift of \$100 000.00 to go towards forming a Chair in Theology and to the support of needy students. Coupled to this legacy was another of \$1000 to be divided into prizes and other inducements to good scholarship. These conscientious endowments coming at a time when sufficient means were needed to take advantage of the educational opportunities of the day and to extend the curriculum of the principal Baptist College in the Maritime Provinces, will be gratefully remembered and appreciated by both students, faculty and friends. Acadia will never forget her benefactor; Acadia will never be unworthy of her fortune. Time may yet tarnish the outward memory of a noble deed, but the inward reverence for the philanthropist will exist forever. True it is that the brevity of men's lives is a tribute to their greatness for their deeds live after them.

The Advanced Woman

THE Congress of the Association for the Advancement of women, which met at St. John, N. B., in September last, was especially interesting in that it revealed the progress of women on this continent during the last quarter of a century. This Association was formed in 1873, at New York, by a band of American women. The first paper of the first Congress was read by Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, who said :-

“How can women best associate their efforts for the amelioration of Society? We must come together in a teachable and religious spirit. Women, while building firmly and definitely the fabric they decide to rear, must yet build with an individual tolerance which their combined and corporate wisdom may better explain. The form of the Association should be representative in a true and wide sense. Deliberation in common, mutual instruction, achievements for the whole better and more valuable than the individual success of any,—these should be the objects had and held constantly in view. The good of all, the aim of each. The discipline of labor. Faith and sacrifice is necessary. Our growth in harmony of will, and in earnestness of purpose will be far more important than in numbers.”

In these sentences the aim of the Association was contained. It has always been designed to further the interests of women and thereby of the whole race. Humanitarian in its views, the Association has instituted reforms which have benefited the whole American nation.

In reading over its history the first impression one receives is that of the catholicity of thought shown in the papers read before the various Congresses from year to year. From “Dress Reforms” to “The Comparative Mental Power of the Sexes, Physiologically Considered,” from “Physical Culture” to “Legal Position of Married Women,” hardly any subject of interest to women seems to have been omitted. A second impression is that no trouble or inconvenience has been thought too great if thereby the work might be furthered. From the North to the South, from the East to the West, these women have gone holding their annual congresses. Time and money have been freely spent in obtaining desired legislation.

But, though to trace its development would be both interesting and profitable, we must pass to the Association as

it is to-day, its member, their ability and views as represented at the recent Congress and the public opinion of their work.

In the appearance of the ladies what naturally impressed one most was the strong intellectuality of their faces. The elder ladies were dressed with a marked disregard of fashion, a privilege of age. Among the younger ones while the same strength of purpose was written on their intelligent faces, their dress showed them to be not entirely oblivious to such matters. From caring everything about dress, many of the women to take the Higher Education, went to the other extreme and cared nothing about it. The cultivated women of today seem to have reached the golden mean.

The voices of the ladies were clear, their articulation distinct. Their words were well chosen and their replies to addresses of welcome that were delivered by prominent men of the city, were in advance of the welcomes themselves. The honored president of the Association for the Advancement of women, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, has been at its head about sixteen years. Though advanced in years, being the same age as our beloved Queen, Mrs. Howe shows a remarkable intellectual strength. Her opening address was inspiring, thoughtful and practical.

Mrs. Kennard's paper on "Housekeeping as a Profession" lacked system. In places the remarks were not relative to the subject. In the discussion which followed, poor or "chance" housekeeping was principally attributed to the fact that it had no money equivalent. This point was well made and the discussion was unusually interesting.

The paper on the "Bicycle" by Miss Channing was one of those that showed the difference between the older and younger women. In it we could see and follow a plan. In many of the others there was no plan. This difference may I think, be ascribed to the fact that the training of the younger women is different from that of their mothers. Systematic literary work is required in our Colleges and hence a systematic mode of thought and writing becomes habitual.

The first impression made by Mrs. Kate Gannet Wells was unfavorable. Her voice was shrill and unpleasant, her ideas were disconnected and unpractical. Her second address was very much better, when she spoke on "Arbitration" and she was heartily applauded.

Mrs. Bray's paper on "Value of Habits of Early Observation to Women" was excellent and very suggestive. Her gesticulation, however, was poor. In one place mentioning the "starry heavens," she pointed to the lowest part of the

house, and immediately afterward, in referring to the earth, pointed to the ceiling. Here we saw revealed the need of elocution in all training.

The best papers presented were those on "Literature a Precursor of Reform," by Mrs. Ednah D. Cheney and "Rudimentary Art in Relation to High Art," by Miss Fletcher. Scarcely too high praise can be given these. A knowledge of the subjects, careful preparation and a good delivery marked these speakers.

Another valuable address was that of Dr. Moody on the "Use of Anaesthetics." She rather discouraged their use and provoked a lively discussion.

The most pathetic paper was on "The Condition of the South after the War." The style was graphic and dramatic, while the incidents and illustrations were intensely pathetic.

The Symposium on "International Amity a better Protection than Standing Armies" showed plainly a desire for peace on the part of the Association. They wanted arbitration or almost anything, except war. Many of the speakers advocated the hanging together of the Union Jack and Stars and Stripes, and teaching school children to salute them both.

The discussion was admirable and showed the cleverness of the ladies in extemporaneous speaking.

At the closing session, Mrs. Howe's address on "Women the Guardians of Social Morals" touched on one of the most prominent reforms of the day, and was admirable in design and execution.

Fifty years ago a congress of this nature would have been ridiculed as "unfeminine, unworthy of a true woman." Now the large and intelligent audiences show the complete revolution in the idea of Woman's Work. As one woman of the A. A. W. writes: "It is rather amusing to notice the desire of the press to have the public believe that they have always been willing to accord a generous recognition and encouragement to the sex." All the leading papers of St. John gave a full report of the Congress and one even devoted editorial space to it.

One of the noticeable features was the entire absence of invective against poor, abused man and his privileges. The whole spirit of the Congress was broad and tolerant even in this particular. One of the speakers said in effect,—“Whatever our brothers have which has proved helpful and good for them we want too.” But the theory that women's clubs do nothing but complain and clamor for their "rights" was broken down by this Association.

Those engaged in promoting these reforms believe that

“The woman’s cause in man’s, they rise and sink
 Together, dwarfed or godlike, bond or free;
 For she that out of Lethe scales with man
 The shining steps of nature, shares with man
 His nights, his days, moves with him to one goal,
 Stays all the fair young planet in her hands—
 If she be small, slight-natured, miserable,
 How shall men grow?”

—E. F. KEIRSTEAD, '98.

The Class of '96.

A RETROSPECT

A dissertation on custom is the usual precedent. Indeed it has so often preceded writings of this kind, that its omission would cause as much consternation as the omission of a prologue when the prologue constitutes at least three quarters of the entire composition. No adequate reason can be brought forward why custom should thus have dynamic force unless it be that all unimportant things by reason of their unimportance, should necessarily occupy the most conspicuous places. This wilful perversity then must once again dominate in discussing the eminent career of an organization that has but lately passed from our midst, lest they, like the superstitious Cæsar, should herald an omission of this sort somewhat in the light of an unfortunate omen.

The Class of '96 was phenomenal. That is—phenomenal—in the ordinary use of the word. Its singularity was noticed with no little gravity in the Freshman year, commented upon in the Sophomore year, the object of much discussion in the Junior year, and finally the curious if not unique ‘bone of contention’ in the Senior year. From the very start it was evident that the Class of '96 like all other geniuses separately or collectively had a ‘forte.’ A forte is a very nice thing as an ornament, it may possibly be admitted as an eccentricity, but as the sum and substance of all things it never has been and perhaps never will be an underlying principle that would commend itself to a devotee of primeval tranquillity. The forte in this particular case was authority. The Class of '96 was an authority on all things temporal and most things spiritual. The Oracles of Delphi never had a

rival more worthy of its notice. The flesh pots of Egypt never had a morsel more dainty.

It seems the fate of all celebrities to incur the dislike and petty hatred of other mortals probably less distinguished and certainly less esteemed. Indeed it is an old and well known maxim that "no man is without honor save in his own country." The poet or maker of these lines would not have stretched the truth had he added that even then the reproach is far in excess of the honor. This proverb is faintly but effectually applicable to the Class of '96. The position they occupied on the stage of human action was undoubtedly odd. The individuality of the class as a whole, the personality of the class as composed of factors was also undoubtedly odd. No organization yet established for mutual benefits or mutual dislikes has ever received so little blame and at the same time so much praise. The inevitable meddling of Fate in the affairs of men has always been a source of much regret to mortals as well as to immortals. Why a totally disinterested party should take a fiendish delight in tampering with something that is neither obstructive or destructive is a question that has never been answered. If the class of '96 was unique in its requirements and vague in its movements, it was neither the concern of the many or the calling of the few to fathom the startling peculiarity. If the wisdom of the fathers is too profound for the comprehension of the children it is plainly the duty of the minor editions of the human race to 'grin and bear it.'

This natural oddity and condition of things presented itself at the beginning of a short and illustrious career. The oldest habitants of the college will remember with what relish the Sophomores and others interested in character study assembled at the station to welcome the incoming Freshmen. Expectation in this case certainly failed to surpass the realization. The stale and somewhat hackneyed expressions that usually greet the inoffensive freshman were received with the *sans froid* of a senior. The slight inconvenience caused by a descending bucket of water in no wise marred the serenity of his countenance or tainted the sanctity of his presence. The innocence and simplicity of his existence was the byword of strangers and the compassion of intimates. At last, however, the preparatory immobility was broken; and resplendent in the glory that generally follows in the wake of recklessness, the class of '96 bowed to a delighted and expectant audience. From that time onward this remarkable organization was decidedly *de trop* for other organizations of

similar character. Indeed it is well known that even the learned professors were a little in doubt as to how to direct such quantities of intellect in their proper channels. No extensive change was made in the curriculum, for in the course of time the Freshmen became Seniors, and consequently reached that progressive period when all students discover to their surprise that there is still a little something worth knowing in the world that in the eagerness of the lower years they had overlooked.

The beneficent eye of Fortune always rested most favorably on this unwearied and undaunted class. The capriciousness of Fate already commented upon here showed itself in its greatest capacity. No word has yet been coined that will convey explicitly to the reader the watchfulness and commiseration of the protecting Spirits. The writer would not impress the meaning that the Class of '96 was especially in need of protecting Spirits, but merely mentions this fact to show in what esteem the organization was held by the Invisible. Their aspiring motto "Sapere Aude" neither indicated that the class, individually or collectively, was dedicated to Jupiter or seriously intended wooing the pedantic Minerva. As they said themselves their motto was more of an impression than an expression. It has always been proverbial that audacity is the antidote of danger. In this light we can see how a class with a motto of such modesty was permitted to traverse the thorny and undeniably devious 'paths of life' in comparative safety.

No accidents or incidents of a serious nature ever hindered their rapid and somewhat startling evolution. The laws of humanity and nature are after all only laws, and completely at the obedience of a greater impelling force. As their guiding star has never been found, and as there are those who hold that it was a maxim in disguise, no explanation of their course can be given. Let it suffice to say that the affluence of Time and Peace that '96 enjoyed so perpetually was never once broken by the cruel hand of Adversity, and to this day is as fair and indestructible as it ever was.

The quaintness and the humor of life is only dimly comprehended by even the best of us. The local coloring that gives each person or thing its distinguishing characteristic is clearly "a child of great promise." That is: it is a "child of great promise" to one who has a psychological insight or some other peculiarity only found in abnormal nature. To us consequently, in our rough and untutored condition, the passing of the Class of '96 but faintly aroused our latent spirits

to a proper appreciation of what was beautiful and good. "Brevity is the soul of wit," yet they possessed an individual whose brevity of statue, if not of temperament, made him an object of envy; and none of us can remember any brilliant *repartee* that can be attributed, by fair means or foul, to his genius. Their class yell, though affording a combination of guttural sounds only found in rare and extinct heathen communities, signally failed to impress their linguistic companions with any degree of importance. Perhaps this deficiency may be ascribed to our lack of ability in reading character and deciphering unintelligible combinations. We would rather, however, impute this imperfection on our part to the surprise and want of sufficient control that always proves so fatal in similar cases of emergency.

The "foot-prints in the sands of Time" that all illustrious personages are compelled, according to a recent law of nature to deposit, were in this instance carelessly, if not hurriedly, left in the gravel that surrounds a beautiful and extensive building "across the way." The absence of sand we presume, presented no difficulties to an indomitable will when a substitute of a much more pleasing character was so conveniently near. The arenaceous element being thus at a premium, no apprehension was felt, though the numerousness with which the foot-prints occur, and their closeness to the sacred edifice plainly demonstrates the truth of an old but often repeated proverb "only the brave deserve the fair."

Cupid, so seldom popular, though so extremely intimate with college students in general, gazed long and fondly on the sturdy ranks of '96. As a direct or indirect result of this unforeseen occurrence several individuals were soon arrayed in an air of indifference that puzzled even the phrenologists of that day to account for. The unfortunate habit that Narcissus was addicted to and which eventually proved fatal, was once more the cause of sorrow and tribulation. Though the clear, quiet water of Mud Bridge may have possessed excellent medicinal properties, it never completely mastered the secret of transformation that made the enamoured youth a flower. No reader of mythology can imagine with what earnestness the followers of this romantic custom persisted in their vain efforts to accomplish a metamorphosis that would secure them a place in a bouquet. Either the unsuspecting maidens or the suspecting instructors had something to do with the meagre results, for it was frequently noted with considerable satisfaction that those whose gaze was fast becoming habitual were treated with studied politeness. On Reception committees

these ardent disciples of a forgotten art were never at their greatest advantage. The curious perversity of human nature that makes one of us the other's keeper, here endeavored to produce as much publicity as was possible, considering the convenient windings and twistings of the Hall. The "sounds of revelry by night" were often preceded by no little degree of trepidation, and no small amount of harmless intriguing. The spice of life, however, is said to be hidden in disappointment. In this light then, we can see how even the most frail of hearts may not be bruised by the "thousand natural shocks that flesh is heir to" but be sustained in the positive glory of its own failure.

The Class of '96 has gone, but it has left many pleasing recollections. The spoils of the Campus, the rewards of the College are theirs and rightly theirs. The jovial voice of the companion, the whole-hearted generosity of the neighbor, the profundity of the scholar are indestructible factors of a willing memory. We as their sincere debtors pardon their human frailties and extol their many virtues. No cankerous musing will ever discolor out trite remembrances: no envy will ever mar the naturalness of our congratulations: but from memorial promptings of gratitude, they, like the hymeneal slipper, will follow them into the New World of Experience that lies beyond the shadow of the Corridors into the undefined Future-land of Man.

Rondeau

JENNIE kissed me when we met,
 Jumping from the chair she sat in :
 Time, you thief, who loves to get
 Sweets within your list, put that in ;
 Say I'm weary, say I'm sad,
 Say that health and wealth have missed me,
 Say I'm growing old, but add
 Jennie kissed me. LEIGH HUNT

THE utmost excellence at which humanity can arrive, is a constant and determined pursuit of virtue, without regard to present dangers or advantages; a continual reference of every action to the divine will; an habitual appeal to everlasting justice; and an unvaried elevation of the intellectual eye to the reward which perseverance only can obtain,

SAMUEL JOHNSON.

The Relation of the Study of Literature to the Study of Philosophy

Notes of the Opening Lecture at Acadia College Oct. 9, 1896

BY PROF. E. M. KEIRSTEAD, D. D.

Among the subjects in our curriculum you will find Literature and Philosophy. These subjects, however, are more nearly related than the mere fact that they are thus associated would indicate. Their most interesting connection for us springs from their common relation to life. The unity of studies in the thought of the time comes more from their common relation to life than from any artificial standard or even from any speculative relation on the basis of cultivating what we call the faculties. In current thinking, man is not so much an orderly arrangement of separate qualities as he is a function, an activity, a force, a life. Whatever therefore comes into this activity to strengthen and complete it is of high value; and, as the life of the time is the collective force of these separate lives, whatever affects them will be proportionately valuable. So it comes to pass that a high estimate is placed on life and it becomes a determining standard of values. This estimate is due to many causes. The growth of science and its ameliorating effect on the conditions of livelihood; the increased means of transportation and communication making the race almost one family; the great power of modern democracy in which government is in the hands of all the people—all these have made the solidarity of the race so evident that each shares in the life of all and so values his own life the more. Then the influence of christian civilization tends to the same result. The power of medical science to relieve pain has made pain more intolerable and so, life more precious; the philanthropy of the age has shown how much may be made of the fragments of life, the waifs and wrecks of humanity; and the spread of popular education has made each life capable of a wider range of enjoyment. Then the effort to distribute the best life by christian missions; the power of christianity to reveal the worth of man as man and what he may become, and the increasing conviction of the relation of this life to a life to come—all these have helped to increase the meaning of life and to broaden and deepen its currents. And so it comes to pass that studies like other things are prized, not for themselves alone, but for the degree to which they help us to solve the problems, to bear the burdens, to increase the power and sweetness of

what is called the life of the people. This view is higher than that of mere utilitarianism which would ask for what contributes to the lowest elements of life. This spirit looks upon truth as related to human souls; it desires the knowledge that is power, but a power that is in every way helpful, enlarging, uplifting.

This current of thinking which has grown especially since the days of Kant, will, it would appear, be the determining force in education. Studies will be cherished not for their age but for the food they can furnish to the millions perishing for lack of knowledge. It is this element of life in our thought that gives perennial interest and permanent place to philosophy and to literature. In addition to whatever value they possess as means of mental discipline they have this great claim that they seek to explain the meaning of life and to contribute directly to it; the thoughts of the poets and philosophers "enrich the life-blood of the world." We shall look into these subjects for a few moments to see how each helps the other. We shall thereby see, also, how both add to man's welfare.

Let us note:

- I. *The Study of Literature as helpful to the Study of Philosophy*, and
- II. *The Study of Literature as helped by the Study of Philosophy*.

Before these points can be discussed we must briefly indicate the nature and scope of literature and of philosophy. Literature is variously defined, but it will be enough for our purpose to consider it as "the artistic presentation of the fruits of reflection on some of the more obvious problems of the world and of human life." It sets these problems before us in the greatest variety. It leads us into them in the most subtle and charming ways, it shows what they are and stimulates the feelings that arise therefrom. The artistic element is a source of power in presenting the great facts of suffering and enjoyment. From Homer to Chaucer and from Chaucer to Tennyson what a presentation of the heights and depths of human experience; what pictures of the passions, the hates and loves, the struggles and aspirations, the concords and conflicts of nations, of tribes, of individual souls! What nearness to the supernatural is depicted and what depths of the brute; what fierce questioning of nature, what demands for the divine; what a search into the mystery of human life!

All this we have portrayed in this literature of the ages.

now in "swallow flights of song," now in mournful elegy now in scenic effect and dramatic exhibition of the real life, now in the epic that mingled the human heroic and the divine inspiration. All this is set before us in the glowing pages of poetry and prose, and in the character sketches of fiction. It is presented in every form adapted to interest, instruct and transform.

But literature can deal only with a part of the problems that beset us, for only a part of these will lend themselves to the artistic treatment which forms a large element of literature.

Here accordingly appears Philosophy which may for our purpose be defined as "The systematic and scientific presentation of the fruits of human reflection on all the problems of the world and of human life."

It is easily seen from this definition that the field of enquiry is extensive. Philosophy asks: What is man? Whence is he? Whither does he go? What are his relations to the world and to God? It asks what the world is and what God is to man?

"Philosophy aims to furnish us knowledge of ultimate reality. It aims also at a kind of knowledge that reaches some degree of certainty as to its assumptions, limitations and possibilities."

Philosophy tries to unify experience. Science is said to be a partial unification of knowledge, while philosophy is a complete unification of knowledge.

It will be seen from these statements that the sources of philosophy are in all nature, especially in human nature. It will also be seen that literature and philosophy are, in the first place, closely related. "The poet" for instance, "like the philosopher, is a seeker for truths and we may even say for the same kind of truth." (Caird). But this is only in their highest issues.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Resentment is a union of sorrow with malignity, a combination of a passion which all endeavor to avoid with a passion which all concur to detect.

—SAMUEL JOHNSON.

The Acadia Athenæum

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The Sanctum.

WITH this number the ATHENÆUM enters upon the twenty third year of its existence. As a publication its faults may have been as glaring as its merits, but as a College Journal it has undoubtedly compared most favorably with the average academic efforts in the line of literary edification. At no time during its history has it ignominiously failed to maintain that standard by which it was first constructed and with which it was launched into the troubled seas of journalism. Its editors have always strived to rid themselves of any pedantic notions that might have tinged their early aspirations and endeavored to make the ATHENÆUM, if not newsy, at least breezy and fresh. College papers and publications in general are usually distinguished as being either 'literary' or 'scientific.' The ATHENÆUM, however, has never laid claim to any such distinction, being contented with a sort of cosmopolitan coloring and a pleasing-everybody utility. With much trepidation, therefore, the present editors take up the mantle so graciously thrown upon their shoulders, painfully conscious of the fact that as their standard is neither "literary" nor "scientific" any mistakes will not be treated by the reading public as eccentricities of Art.

Once more the fated passing of the months has ushered in another autumnal-tide and with it as an almost necessary accompaniment the opening exercises of the various Institutions of Learning. Among this fortunate number is our own Alma Mater—Acadia College. It indeed seems but a very short time since at least some of us stood upon the Hill on another bright October morning, ready and willing to encounter all the perplexities of university life for a cherished draught of the Pierian springs. Perhaps the immortal couplet of the poet Pope—"a little knowledge is a dangerous thing"—was our chief incer-

tive, but undoubtedly the splendor and the dignity of our new academic costume as we walked across the commons no longer "cads" but undergraduates, attributed in a no small way to our determination. How well we remember every detail of that auspicious morning. The old world was never in a gayer mood. The beauty of one's existence was never felt more keenly or unconsciously. But that is all a dim chapter of the past; the reveries of a world-worn graduate. Harassed and baffled in the tempestuous tide of experience the memory of one's boyhood but faintly serves to freshen the jaded vitality or garnish the ever-varying inclinations of the present. Time in its undying monotony has no regret for the past, no greeting for the future. Once again after the example of those before us we welcome the new awakening. Freshmen in the first flush of a worthy ambition see that the prestige of good scholarship is yours. Undergraduates of the other classes persevere in your calling. What is done can never be undone. Each and all may yet for the last time pass from under the shadow of the familiar corridors. When that time comes may our reward be the reward of one whose life has been a benediction to his fellow students and whose ways are "ways of pleasantness and peace."

It is our painful duty to announce that subscriptions to the ATHENÆUM should be paid now and not at the end of the year. We say painful because a certain amount of pain is necessary on the part of the receiver as well as on the part of the giver. Everything that is painful is immediate, but the opposite is not implied. Why it should be easier for a person, especially a subscriber, to ward off the inevitable in preference to paying promptly, is a conundrum that was perplexing to the Egyptians themselves when their publications were delivered in the form of bricks. No characteristic is more worthy of a man than that which prompts him "to do unto others as he would that they should do unto him;" yet no characteristic is more disregarded by humanity in general. It is undoubtedly the prerogative of the race that is the present generation of the race—"to do as you please," but it is not the prerogative of the race to enter into an obligation without any sense of that obligation. One is as much a member of the college twenty years after he graduates—provided he lives that long—as he was in his Freshman year. For these reasons then we exhort you, O Ancient Subscriber, to remit your subscription immediately that men may see your good works and do likewise.

Acadia has started upon a most favorable year. The Freshman Class which is sometimes the gauge of a College's prosperity is as large as any of the preceding years. The Football Team, another indication, perhaps more unmistakable, is also as strong as those of other times. Among the many changes the absence of the president from the office of the presidency is much regretted, but as Dr. Sawyer still retains his chair of Psychology and Metaphysics and is chairman of the Board the loss is to a great degree compensated. The other members of the Faculty are in their familiar places, each fulfilling his duties as enthusiastically as of yore. The curriculum, always a synonym of good scholarship, is now still more so by reason of important additions and arrangements. Chemistry hitherto a subject of the Sophomore course has been added to the Freshmen studies, thus giving members of the three upper classes the advantage of having all the principal foundations laid at the commencement of their educational career. Another needful change was the alteration of the optional system. Previous to this reform students proficient or deficient in either literary or scientific attainments could choose his electives to suit his convenience. Under the new *regime*, however, both courses must be properly represented. The other institutions—the Academy and Seminary also share in the prosperity of the College. In the former, several new teachers have been added to the already efficient staff, thus making a *coterie* of instructors worthy of the highest praise. The new building is of course full, while many of the rooms in the old wing have occupants. The Academy, which with the Seminary has been open a month, has fairly settled down to a good year's work. All parts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island are represented in the resident pupils, and the showing of the first "Excelsior List" does great credit to the students and teachers. Mr Oakes is still in his familiar place, greatly to the pleasure of those who at one time or other have been inmates of the "Home," and who can always testify to his ability as an instructor and his carefulness as a Principal.

For any personal references to the members of the Class of '96,
see the De Alumnis.

Among the many indications of a prosperous institution is the "Students Hand Book" issued by the Young Men's Christian Association for the year '96 and '97.

This little publication, besides containing all matters of interest to the theologians of our College, is also capable of imparting practical knowledge to those who are not numbered among the active members of the Association. In striking contrast to the issue of other years the binding, printing etc are above correction. Great pains were undoubtedly taken by the committee who had the work in charge, and under the management of Mr Todd have achieved a success worthy of our sincerest congratulations.

NO sounds of labor vexed the quiet air
 From morn till eve. The people all stood still,
 And earth won back a sabbath. There were none
 Who cared to buy and sell, and make a gain,
 For one whole day. All felt as they had lost
 A father, and were fain to keep within.
 Silent, or speaking little. Such a day
 An old man sees but once in all his time.—ANON.

IF evils come not, then our fears are vain ;
 And if they do, fear but augments the pain.—ANON.



The Month

THIS month in harmony with the first four weeks of every year has been full of events. The new students are beginning to realize, and rightly so, that they are an essential part of the institution.

The College Y. M. C. A. held on October 2nd an informal reception for the incoming students. Presidents W. I. Morse and Dr. Kierstead on behalf of the Association and the Faculty welcomed them to the college, after which the audience settled down to an evening of social enjoyment.

Rev. H. H. Hall, of Portage-la-prairie, under the auspices of the Christian Association, gave a full and interesting account of Manitoba and North-West missions, in the Wolfville Baptist Church on the evening of October 11th.

The first reception of the season was held on Friday the 16th by the Y. M. and Y. W. C. A's. Although the opening reception of the year is intended mainly to further the acquaintance of the students of the different institutions and few outside guests are invited, yet quite a large number spent a very enjoyable evening in College Hall, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion.

Miss Mary H. Fitch, teacher of violin in Acadia Seminary, assisted by the Misses O'Key and Barker, from the Seminary, Mr. B. P. Wallace of the College and the Wolfville orchestra, gave a violin recital in College Hall the 23rd inst. With such performers the programme could not have been otherwise than enjoyable and interesting to the large audience which congratulated itself upon its presence.

A meeting of more than ordinary interest was held in the Hall on Tuesday the 27th under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., Vice-Pres. L. A. Fenwick occupying the chair, when the Misses Harrison and Newcombe and Revd. and Mrs. R. E. Gullison, missionaries elect for India, held their farewell service which was largely attended. After short addresses by the missionaries, Rev. Thos. Trotter on behalf of Wolfville Church and Rev. Dr. Sawyer for the institutions eloquently delivered their messages, assuring the friends who are so soon to leave for the foreign field of the loving remembrance and continued support which they should always receive from the Baptist Church of Wolfville and Acadia University.

The inaugural address which marks the opening of the college year was delivered on the 9th inst by Rev. E. M. Kierstead D. D. A full report of the able and eloquent address upon the Relation of Literature and Philosophy will appear in our columns at an early date.

D. Alumni

CLASS OF '96

- J. Archibald is teaching at Lunenburg.
- A. H. Armstrong is taking a training course preparatory to teaching in the West.
- T. E. Bishop makes his headquarters at Somerset.
- Minnie M. Brown is taking a teachers course at Lynn, Mass.
- Mabel E. Coldwell is teaching at Oxford, Col. Co.
- G. B. Cutten is taking a course in divinity at Yale.
- L. M. Denton is teaching at Chester, Lunenburg.
- W. E. Dimock is in Windsor.
- Sadie P. Durkee is at her home in Digby.
- F. M. Fenwick is acting private secretary on the Pacific coast.
- C. H. Freeman is taking a medical course at McGill.
- F. O. Foster is teaching at Granville, Anna. Co.
- C. Clark Gormley is teaching at Port Hawkesbury, C. B.
- Ernst Haycock is taking a graduate course at Harvard.
- C. W. Jackson is engaged in Journalistic work in Boston.
- G. W. Kempton is at his home in Milton.
- W. C. Margeson is at Harvard.
- H. Moffatt is at St. John Business College.
- Frank S. Morse is taking a classical course at Harvard.
- A. H. C. Morse is pastor of Bridgewater Baptist Church.
- G. H. Parsons is studying law in Halifax.
- Alice M. Power is teaching in Kentville.
- H. A. Purdy is taking the law course at Dalhousie.
- W. I. Rutledge is pastor of Baptist Church at Woodstock, N. B.
- Laura M. Sawyer is at Albany, N. Y. engaged in literary pursuits.
- Matilda Stevens spent a pleasant Summer at her home in Newport Hants Co., N. S.
- Hattie B. Strong is teaching Stenography and Type-writing in Acadia Seminary.
- C. A. Tufts is studying law at Dalhousie.
-
- M. A. McLean '95 is taking a theological course at Chicago University.
- E. A. Read '91 is taking the graduate course at Chicago University.
- M. H. McLean '92 is studying in the department of History at the University of Chicago.
- In a recent tennis tournament at Waverly, Mass., F. Coldwell, '95 and J. Cahoon '95 easily carried off the prizes.

Exchanges

ONCE again our literary friends, the exchanges, have revived from their summer's lethargy and again enter upon the vicissitudes of another year's work with all their old-time doubts and trepidations yet determined to fight a good fight, and to come out victors, too! To one and all we extend a hearty welcome. The various introductory numbers before us are all well filled with interesting matter, and judging from these samples we anticipate a goodly feast of wit and wisdom from this department of Student work among our Colleges.

From the McGill Fortnightly, as representing the interests of our largest University, we always expect much and the two copies before us abundantly testify of progress. Typographically the Fortnightly has been much improved over previous years, being now printed with very legible type upon a superior quality of paper which renders it most pleasing to the eye. In its contents it is replete with the events of College life among the Faculties and Societies and on the Campus, making the Fortnightly in all respects an ideal student's paper. We all join in asking—"What's the matter with old McGill? She's all right! Oh yes, you bet!"

We are glad to report among us for the first time the Prince of Wales College Observer and trust it may have before it a long and honourable career. Acadia has received some first class representatives from Prince of Wales and will always observe its progress with interest.

The Argosy has also been thoroughly refitted and sets out on a new voyage with all parts bright and new. The Class of '96 receives a breezy writing up and a letter to the Freshmen contains much valuable advice which these verdant culprits would do well to take to heart.

The Dalhousie Gazette presents its working maxim in these words—"We look past the good and better to the best, and are the supporters of the old only when, with due regard to existing and unavoidable limitations, the old is the best. Along such lines faithfully and fearlessly we seek to serve." Success, Gazette.

Other exchanges to hand are Varsity, The Owl and Colby Echo, of which more anon.

Collis Campusque

ONCE more the College is filled with Student life and good resolutions, while over the Campus hangs a *lively* atmosphere of activity, which at intervals is punctured by the joyful howl of the Freshman, as he untangles himself after running against an ungentlemanly Sophomore in the scrimmage.

It is with regret we bid farewell to our departed brethren of '96, whose obituaries may be found in another part of this issue. Though gone, but one or two are likely soon to pass the intermediate state between college life and earthly bliss, and these will shortly join the angels said angels averaging one hundred and thirty pounds avoirdupois. None of your abstract, ethereal beings but very tangible angels.

For a short season we will still have '97 with us. This class is chiefly noted for possessing among its numbers the foot-ball captain who is a very important factor at this season. He returned this year with a beautiful pair of long flowing whiskers, the envy and admiration of the Freshmen. But alas, they interfered with his movements on the foot-ball field to such an extent that they had to be sacrificed, and where once they were long flowing, now they are long fled.

The Junior class is very much to the front again, having returned to us bringing with them their old time odour of originality and new-mown hay. They have taken up their quarters in Chipman Hall where they pleasantly pass the time running things, incidentally dropping into the dining-room three times a day where they fluently eat pie with their knives.

There have been more or less additions to all the classes this year, but '99 has suffered most in this respect, still however, retaining their *hardy* nerve. The most of its new members are from the Island, or as one of them originally remarked the "Garden of the Gulf." We know not whether the Island is a "Garden," or a "Farm" or something else, but in this instance it has turned out something besides farm produce, it has sent to us Scientists, or rather Chemists. During the first lecture in Chemistry, their knowledge of the subject struck the Professor and their class mates with a dull heavy thud, one especially brilliant remark causing a deathlike silence to fall upon the room in large chunks, during which a member of the class innocently asked, "How many professors of chemistry are there here anyway? This constant display of phenomenal wisdom has resulted in the class by a chemical process giving off these Garden chemists, and they have been raised to a higher plane, from which they occasionally condescend to step down and give the professor and their less learned classmates a few points on chemistry.

Lastly we pay our respects to the Freshmen who like Chip. Hall apple sauce, are always with us. It is with feelings of pleasure we give to them the glad hand of welcome. This year they are distinguished by two large round O O's, which correspond well with the expression of their faces as they look around in their innocent wonder and realize that for the first time they are out without the knowledge

of their mothers. They are very much exercised at present over the composition of their class yell. The following is respectfully suggested as appropriate.

Naughts, naughts, naughts,
Of Verdure we have lots.
We are the class of naughty naughts,
We're hot stuff,
We get lots of bluff,
We're young and tender, do not use us rough.

Acknowledgements.

Miss Jennie S. Walker, \$1.00; Fred E. Bentley, \$1.00; S. R. McCurdy, B. A., \$1.00; H. H. Roach, \$2.00; W. B. Burnett, \$1.00; Max Bowlby, \$1.00; S. C. Dukeshire, \$1.00; Hall's Book Store, \$2.20; J. W. Vaughn, \$1.00; Dr. Barss, \$1.00; Dr. Mulloney, \$1.00; C. W. Slipp, \$1.00; Rev. H. P. Whidden, \$1.00; A. V. Dimmock, \$1.00.

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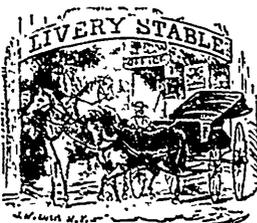
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