

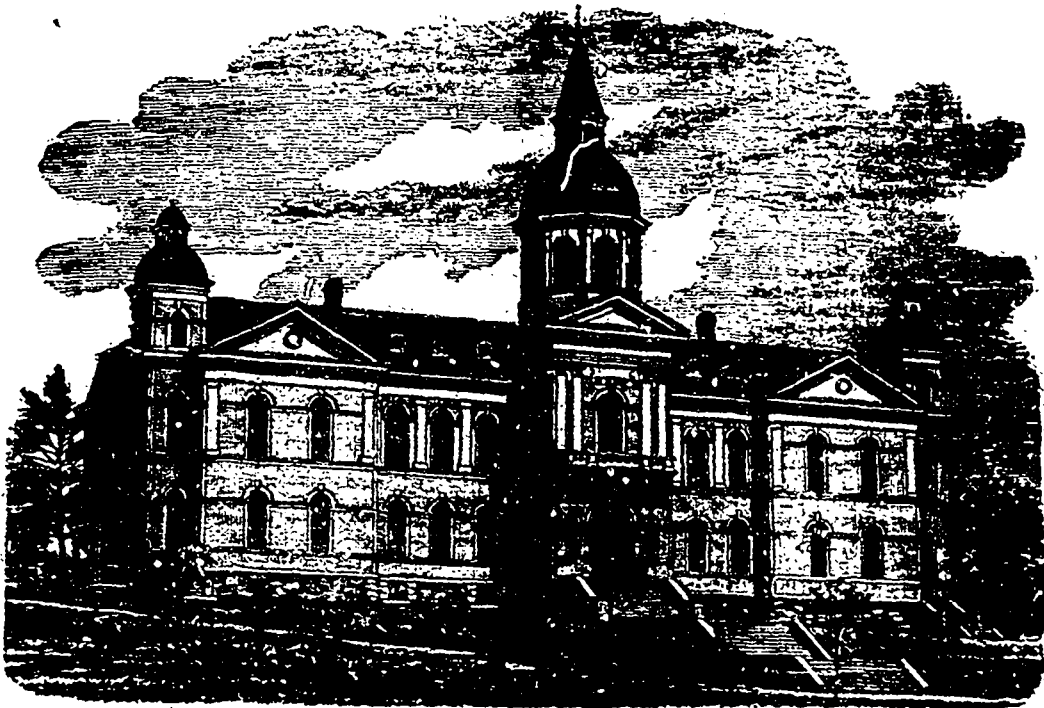
ACADIA ATHLETICUM

Prodesse quam Conspici.

VOL. XII.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., DECEMBER, 1885.

No. 2.



THE UNIVERSITY OF ACADIA COLLEGE.

FACULTY OF INSTRUCTION.

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THE ACADIA ATHENAEUM.

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WOLFVILLE, N. S., DECEMBER, 1885.

No. 2.

THE Acadia Athenaeum.

Published Monthly during the College Year by
the Students of Acadia University.

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Athenaeum.

→* The Sanctum. *←

THE number of students in college this year is usually large. The Senior class, numbering 15, has more than double that of last year, and promises to be the largest ever graduated. There are 17 Juniors, 21 Sophomores and 28 Freshmen. This exceptionally large attendance must be encouraging to every friend of the Institution. It indicates plainly that she has nothing to fear as far as material is concerned, and should act as a stimulus on those who have hitherto withheld their sympathy and support. Solicitors may find in this fact a strong plea to urge in their endeavours to increase the endowment fund. It will furnish our preachers with material for a strong paragraph in a sermon on benevolence; and it cannot fail to fire the teachers with fresh enthusiasm. There is an inspiration derived from numbers, which, though its philosophy may not be easily understood, is, nevertheless, of great practical value. Again we assert that all Acadia needs is money. With more undergraduates in arts than any other college in the Maritime Pro-

vinces, her prospects in every other particular are bright. Her friends are not giving as largely for her support as their ability will permit. Is it the fault of the people or of the system, or rather want of system in giving? The hearts of the Baptists are loyal, and experience has shown them willing to respond to appeals in aid of any good cause. It is, it must be because the claims of our institutions are not placed before the people in their true light that the hope of the denomination is allowed to suffer. It is a question whether the right means are employed for the solicitation of funds. It is easy to see that the solution of the financial problem is a point at which the administrative and executive ability of the body need just now to be concentrated.

HOW much time do you spend in the Reading Room? This question we heard asked of a prominent student, and were surprised at the answer. The fact is that, while the Room is calculated, under proper conditions, to be one of the greatest educators on the Hill, so little use is made of it that it scarcely pays the trouble in connection with its furnishing. The difficulty does not arise from the want of suitable reading matter; for the Room is furnished with the best Canadian, American and English publications. It proceeds rather from neglect on the part of the students. This neglect is one of the most, if not the most inexcusable of their sins of omission. If one has to confess ignorance of ancient history or Greek roots, there is little humiliation in connection with such confession; but if he has not a more or less intelligent knowledge of current news, it may justly be considered an unpardonable offence. Even in those instances where a moderate amount of time is given to the subject, the results are far from being satisfactory. For no one may expect to familiarize himself with subjects of general interest by a hasty glance at the local department of a dozen papers. Better by far is the plan of reading thoroughly a few representative

journals. If it be objected that it is useless to have so much matter lying untouched, the answer must be that knowledge obtained under the influence of such a motive will be of no service. It must be expected that the varying tastes of one hundred students will never be satisfied with a few publications; but it does not necessarily follow that any one student shall read all. In the main, it will be found the most satisfactory course for each student to select, besides a daily for items of local interest, some two or three standard sheets, and by a systematic apportionment of time read every inch of matter in them.

THANKSGIVING DAY was observed as a holiday by the institutions. If the object be merely relaxation from labor, a good dinner, or an opportunity for getting up special work, the day was not lost; but if the true idea is to cherish and exhibit a spirit of thanksgiving to God for blessings received, the purpose, by the body of students, can scarcely be said to have been attained. The Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians united in holding service in the village in the evening, which the students were at liberty to attend. Very few, however, were present. These general services may be well enough in their place, but have the institutions no special cause for thanksgiving, and therefore no need of special services? We think they have, and can conceive of gatherings in connection with them of a highly interesting and profitable character.

NOT least among the opportunities for culture on the Hill are those afforded by the Literary Society. The indications for a successful year at the opening of college were extremely favourable. The attendance has been unusually large, and a commendable interest in the transactions of business has been exhibited by the majority of the members. There is, however, one thing which has seriously interfered with the prosperity of the ATHENÆUM in the past, and which threatens at present to weaken its influence. We refer to the invitations students are liable to receive to attend social gatherings on the night of meeting. Nothing can be more disastrous to the best interests of the Society than for a dozen or more of its active members to be compelled to leave the meeting during

session. It is somewhat strange that the danger should come from a friendly quarter; but these invitations are no less an evil because they come from friends of the college. We have referred with great reluctance to the matter, lest we might seem ungrateful for the kindness bestowed. But there is, on the one hand, the possible danger of offence to our friends; and on the other positive harm to the Society, and duty admits of no choice. We would suggest to our friends the propriety of choosing some other evening in the week for requesting the students' company, and ask the students themselves seriously to consider whether or not they can afford to spend Friday evening anywhere else than in the Athenæum.

THE Governors and Senate met November 5th to consider the appointment of a new professor. The results of the meeting have already been given to the public. Ignorance of the right man and the want of money, it seems, combined to prevent a regular appointment. Temporary provision is to be made for the remainder of the college year by the addition of a tutor to the present staff. It is expected that by the close of the year both of the difficulties mentioned may be removed, so that the vacancy can at that time be permanently filled.

REFERENCE was made in the June number of the ATHENÆUM to the "satisfactory condition of the Exchequer" of the Literary Society. We are sorry to be forced to state that the Society found its financial affairs in a deplorable state. Not only has the search for the "respectable balance" been in vain, but bills to the amount of some eighty dollars have been received from various quarters. A great blunder has been made in allowing bills for papers to run. The condition of its finances is a good point for feeling the pulse of any society. Steps are being taken to set things right, and it is sincerely hoped those whose business it is to audit the accounts will not rest satisfied until they are able, at least, to indicate to the Society its exact financial standing. A public entertainment is already talked of as the best way of raising money to cancel the debt. The idea is a good one, and will no doubt, if acted upon, prove beneficial in more ways than one.

IN a late issue of the *Messenger and Visitor*, the Rev. J. W. Manning comes forward with a plan for raising the debt on Acadia Seminary. It may at first appear somewhat visionary, but we believe it practicable. The proposition is as follows:—The debt of \$10,000 is to be paid previous to June, 1888. The ladies are to do it. The whole amount is to be divided into shares six dollars each. Seventeen or eighteen hundred of these shares are to be taken by the ladies, who will pay one dollar half-yearly till the whole is paid. The plan appears feasible, and surely aims at a great desideratum. Female education is coming to be recognized as of equal importance with that of the other sex. And if this be true, what earnest efforts should be put forth in order to remove this encumbrance from our institution, and thereby insure its future success. It can and should be done. Moreover it is really too hard that those having tender sentiments in regard to the Seminary should have these cruelly and constantly invaded by the chilling thought of that dreadful nightmare—debt. An appeal to the ladies cannot fail when made in the interests of a worthy cause. Time for action has arrived. The cause is worthy. How soon shall we hear of the first instalment having been placed in the hands of the Treasurer of the Institution?

WILL our Subscribers please take a note of what is said this month concerning the finances of our Literary Society? It has been the aim in the past to keep the accounts of the paper and the society separate. Last year it was necessary to supplement the receipts for the paper by some eighty dollars of the society's money in order to pay the printer. This year we hope, through the promptness of subscribers in forwarding the amount due us, and the addition of the names of a large number of friends to the subscription list, to make the paper more than pay for itself.

IT is only fair that those who advertize in the ATHENÆUM should have the patronage of the students. Boys spend your money where you can get the best bargain.

THE VOICES OF THE WINDS.

The winds have voices for the various moods of man,
And utter thoughts that take no shape on mortal tongue.
Yet with an ear responsive to their slightest touch,
How thrill we with their notes in heart-vibrations rung.

I lay at noon-time in a hammock idly swung
Beneath the orchard blossoms sweet with breath of June,
Above, the fatted blue of heav'n lay on the leaves—
Lay on the flowers white and glorified their bloom.
Anon, the leaves were stirred as if by hands unseen,
That strove to usher in that of the infinite mind,
Whose boundaries seem ever placed beyond our grasp.
The breeze that entered scemed the breath of all mankind,
Peace, peace, be on the hearts of all the called of God:
To wait on Him is revelation of His mind;
His mind is in the wind as in the heart of man,
In knowing that is knowledge human and divine.

I stood at daybreak on a bleak and rockbound coast
And watched the waves still lashed to fury by the storm
Which last night made the sea and sky one sounding shout,
Whose echo now made music in the ear of morn:—
Sound forth the strength and power of our Almighty God;
Let earth and air and sea their meed of tribute pour;
Let all the ends of earth uphold His majesty;
Jehovah is our king and reigus for evermore!

BE BE.

JOSEPH COOK.

A large audience greeted Joseph Cook in Assembly Hall on 26th ult., and listened with evident attention and interest to his lecture upon "God in Natural Law." Rev. Dr. Sawyer presided. At the close of the lecture Prof. Jones proposed a vote of thanks, which was heartily passed. We hope Mr. Cook may visit us again.

Before entering upon his lecture the distinguished orator made some pleasant remarks upon his visit to Wolfville, in the course of which he stated that he could say of Acadia what Webster said of Dartmouth College, viz, that a four years' residence in the midst of such scenery is of itself a liberal education.

Proceeding to his subject he said: "The North Star hangs over Blomidon; what keeps it there? Suppose that to-morrow morning the sun should rise, inscribed across its face in letters brighter than its own light, and such as to be visible throughout the illumined half of the world, with the words: "Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God of Hosts, who was, who is, and who is to come." Let this inscription be made intelligible in all languages and among all nations. One would think that under that awful light, as it passed over the continents and seas, and from people to people, the dusky tribes of heathendom would quit their idols at once; that, in the high marts of civilization, avarice, malice and dishonesty, serpents writhing colossal in the hollow streets as in caves, would wither to ashes; that literature, politics

and art, on all their frozen hills, would feel the approach of a vernal season beneath this touch of supernatural fire; and that before the slanting rays had passed thrice around the globe, they would have peeled from off the burdened world something of the ulcerous growths of sin, and in time would turn into another channel the course of the dolorous and accursed ages.

To those who see with the secret eyes of science the sun is thus inscribed; and not the sun only but every natural object—the seas, the mountains, the forest arches, every lowliest violet, the human frame. Jonathan Edwards compared the relation of the material universe to the Infinite Will with that of the image of an object in a mirror to the rays of light flowing from the object and producing the image. As the reflected picture is constantly sustained by a flow of rays precisely like the rays which first caused it to appear, so the material universe is constantly sustained by a flow of omnipresent acts of the Divine Will precisely like the acts by which it was created. As the rays flow through and build and are the image, so God's will flows through and builds and is natural law.

As light fills and yet transcends the rainbow, so God fills and yet transcends all natural law. According to scientific Theism, we are equally sure of the Divine Immanency in all Nature, and of the Divine Transcendency beyond it. I am to speak on the proofs from science of the Divine Omnipresence, or in support of the propositions:

1. That matter cannot originate force or motion.
2. That all force in natural law originates outside of matter—that is in mind.
3. That natural law is simply the fixed, regular, stated method of the Divine action.

The first proposition, then, by which established Science proves the Divine Omnipresence is that only two things exist in the universe—matter and mind. The second proposition is that matter is inert, that is it cannot originate force or motion. The third proposition is the conclusion from the two propositions that only matter and mind exist in the universe, and that matter is inert, namely, that all force and motion in matter must have not only a past and remote, but a present and immediate origin in mind.

The constellations are matter. Matter cannot move itself. But they move. They do not move by our mind's agency. But since all force originates in will, they must be moved by a mind. It is reasonable to regard gravity as the present effort of a will.

“God is law say the wise; O Soul and let us rejoice;
For if He thunder by law, the thunder is yet His voice;
Speak to Him then; for He hears, and spirit with spirit may
meet;
Closer is He than breathing and nearer than hands and feet.”

Want of space prevents us from giving further extracts from this able address.

VARIETY IN COLLEGE LIFE.

With the exception of those cases where intimate acquaintances are formed with the students, college life presents little variety to disinterested parties. The public have a standard by which all are measured. Virtue is little sought for, and goes unrewarded; while vice is more readily excused than among any other class. A student is a student, a type, seldom more. Very little discrimination is made between the good and bad; a few whose habits are irregular, usually being taken as representatives of the whole body. The public, perhaps not without reason, are prejudiced against the students. Hence, they expect each year about the same number, with the same amount of mischief manifested in much the same way. They would be disappointed, no doubt, if the students failed to put in an appearance; but whether agreeably or otherwise would be difficult to decide. With all their faults they would doubtless be missed; but so long as the usual number come no variation is noted by the general public.

A little more difference is apparent to the teachers; for they are in a position to detect any departure from the ordinary, better than the public. As a master-builder inspects his timber before he begins to work upon it, the keen eye of the teacher scrutinizes the material that yearly comes to him for polish. Still there is a sameness about the years which must increase with his term of office. The same textbooks are used, the amount of work done by the classes so nearly corresponding that the assignments from year to year frequently agree. The public exercises, though differing in subject matter, are the same in form. So little does the work differ to the teachers that there is danger of it becoming uninteresting, and, hence, of their losing that keen interest which characterizes the first approach to a subject, and without which the best teacher is dull.

But to the students themselves the years differ in a marked degree. Their college life is divided into four well-defined periods, each of which is fraught with new and peculiar events. It is in the highest degree a life of expectancy. The relation between fellow-students, as well as that between student and teacher, is constantly changing, so that the atmosphere differs materially from year to year. In his inner life the distinction is more clearly seen. His views of life, his prospects and habits, his very sports, gradually change, so much so that if the difference of four years could be experienced in as many days, he would not be recognized by his friends.

It would be interesting to follow the average student through his entire college life, marking the stages of transition. As a Freshman he would be an object of special interest. Covered with matriculation honors, in blissful ignorance of what awaits him, thinking vastly more of himself than his best friends do of him, he enters the arena. It is a difficult thing, especially

if he has held the influential office of school-teacher, or preacher, for him to become reconciled to the position in which he finds himself in the first year of his college life. If he is a Freshman of the Tom Brown sort he courts distinction, usually with the success of those who take first the highest seat. The whole year differs from what he had conceived it to be. At the end of two months, if he does not get disgusted and leave, he settles down, resolved to make the best of it. He tells his friends he belongs to the first year, the title of *Freshman* being altogether too significant. But he is fresh, the quality becoming more and more apparent the more he tries to conceal it. When the fact is brought to his notice, as somehow it is sure to be, he is indignant, and it is not till near the close of the year that he is in any degree reconciled to his lot. When the period is past he looks back at it very much as a chicken might be supposed to regard the shell from which it had just been hatched. He enters the second year, in many respects, a different man, though he has not yet been given to see himself as others see him. He tries at first to be dignified, but finding that he is not appreciated, seeks to amuse himself by worrying the Freshmen. The sophomore-year is altogether the most unsatisfactory of the four, and from the derivation of the word, reminds one of that period in the theory of evolution, where the ape has too much man about him to be called an ape, and too much ape about him to be called a man. As a Junior, he comes back to college pretty well settled in the conviction that, in educational circles at least, "the mind's the measure of the man." Accordingly, he goes to work, and, usually dissatisfied with his previous course, sets about remedying the defects by striving to redeem the time. The junior-year is especially one of reformation. If it passes without the formation of good habits and the establishment of correct views of life, there is little hope they will ever be attained. Hence the close of the third year finds the average student pursuing a well-defined course of action. He has chosen his profession, in most instances, and begins to display tact in making the forces around and within him subservient to his purposes. He enters the fourth year with a better knowledge of his powers, and hence is characterized by becoming modesty. His reputation is made, or it is irretrievably lost, and hence he does not seek fame. He needs no spur; for the importance of time is fully realized and he seeks to improve every movement. On the street he is known by his thoughtful appearance, and his little concern for surroundings. In society the philosophical drift of his conversation is sufficient to identify him.

Thus, college life is seen to be a life of change; and in this fact, no doubt, lies the secret of the longing which is felt at times during vacation to return, as well as the true explanation of the loneliness and sorrow felt when the final adieu is taken.

A FABLE OF TWO LIVES.

THE Rose aloft in sunny air,
Beloved alike by bird and bee,
Takes for the dark Root little care
That toils below it ceaselessly.

I put my question to the flower:
"Pride of the Summer, garden queen,
Why livest thou thy little hour?"
And the Rose answered, "I am seen."

I put my question to the Root:
"I mine the earth content," it said,
"A hidden miner underfoot;
I know a rose is overhead."—*Scl.*

TEXT BOOKS.

Our fathers love to refer to their school-days by way of reminding us of our superior advantages. They speak with regret of their scanty libraries, and offer as an apology for lack of knowledge the want of books. They are apt to regard the boy who grows lean carrying around a huge pile of books as particularly favored, and to measure his knowledge by the size of his satchel.

Time has indeed brought great changes. The facilities for acquiring knowledge have for ages been multiplying, until, at the present time, the climax appears to have been reached. The present system of teaching, in many respects, stands strongly contrasted with that in vogue even a generation ago, and the contrast appears more striking in proportion to the remoteness of the period with which it is instituted. It would be a mistake, however, to make the improvement solely dependent on books. On the contrary it might not be difficult to show manifest disadvantages arising, not from the use but from the abuse of text-books. Leaving this consideration of the subject as foreign to our purpose, it is proposed to state and discuss briefly some of the qualities desirable in a text-book.

It should be a text-book, that is, according to Storemonth, "a book used as a standard book for a particular branch of study, for the use of students." The custom of introducing a popular series of lectures, as is frequently done, cannot be too strongly condemned. In such a case the student is obliged to spend the most of his time and strength in wading through a dozen pages of rhetoric for as many thoughts. Compare, for example, *Wayland's Moral Science* with *Chadbourne on Instinct*. The former is a model for the clearness with which the different subjects, with their sub-divisions, are placed before the student; the latter, though excellent for general reading, as a text-book is a failure.

It should be cheap. This quality will recommend itself to all, and especially to the College-student; for such a variety of books are necessary in every department, and so little care seems to be exercised in procuring cheap editions, that his book bill is one of the heaviest he has to meet. Of course, cheapness only in so far as it is consistent with real merit, is desirable. In cases where books are expensive, there is a tendency to use them only one term, and then sell them to in-coming classes. This is a grand mistake. A great loss is sustained in such a bargain; for one not only sells the book, but parts at the same time with certain annotations which serve as landmarks, and are invaluable for future reference. Not least among the evils of the National Policy is that it forces Canadians to pay twenty per cent. on American books. To impose a duty on articles that can be manufactured at home is bad enough; but to tax brains is barbarous.

It should be easily attainable. Difficulty in procuring suitable books promptly is often experienced by the students of Acadia in spite of improved means of transportation. Sometimes it is the fault of the student himself in not sending his order in time. Again it is traceable to the neglect of the bookseller to order promptly. Teachers frequently are not careful to furnish a list of the needed books and to impress on the student the necessity of obtaining them. And cases have been known where the book was either out of print altogether or, what is worse still, where a sufficient number of copies could not be obtained to supply an ordinary sized class. In truth, it is no uncommon occurrence for a fortnight at the beginning of a term to be lost by a class on account of the difficulty of obtaining some book.

In order to bring about a better condition of things respecting the matter of text-books, the following plan is suggested. Whether it has ever presented itself to the minds of the authorities is not known; but it is certainly worthy of their consideration. The plan is simply a book-room in connection with the Institution, carried on in some such way as this: Let a room in the College, or some section in the library, be taken for the purpose, and the oversight given to somebody competent for the work, whose duty it shall be to order all necessary books, to buy and sell second-hand books, in short, to do a regular business in furnishing the students of the three departments. No doubt, a man willing to take the position, provided the patronage of all were assured, could be found. In case the thing was run under the supervision of the Faculty, which would probably be the proper way, it could be delegated to somebody, who would be willing to do the work for a less profit than that charged by the regular booksellers, and hence a matter which is now everybody's business, and consequently nobody's, would become the business of one responsible person.

ATHLETICS.

AMONG the many subjects which engross the student's mind, the improvement of his physical condition should claim the attention due to it from its vital importance. For it is a fact well attested in every age and every race, that the *mens sana* can never or seldom exist without the *corpus Sanum*. It has always been found that the nations which paid the greatest attention to the cultivation of the physical powers, have excelled in the production of genius; while on the other hand, those who have neglected their bodily development have degenerated into a race of mental dwarfs. We find, for instance, that Greece, the whole pent of whose genius was directed towards the idealization of human form, has stood forth in modern, as well as ancient times, the model and teacher in literature and art of all the nations of the earth. Rome, too, while she gave heed to the physical education of her children, was like Athens, the mistress of the world. But when the desire for the improvement of the physique gave way to the luxury which "closed in behind the chariot wheels of the Cæsars," the halls of the senate ceased to re-echo with the eloquence of the orators; nor did her streets receive further embellishments from the hands of Roman artists.

Seeing then, that the strength and energy of the mind so far depend upon the proper development of the body, is it to be wondered at, that the Universities and Colleges of to-day spend such large sums of money for the erection of Gymnasias, and for the proper instruction of their students in Athletics? Yet, notwithstanding the thorough manner in which this subject has from time to time been agitated, there are still some who do not seem to be awake to the importance of physical training. And I am afraid that men of this character—men who think that the *sumum bonum* of their lives consists in being able to construe Heroditus and Demosthenes, or differentiate an equation of Calculus," may be found among the students of "Acadia College."

When I see, during the time given for recreation, students deeply engaged in study, I sometimes wonder if they are aware that, whilst collecting the gems classic lore, they are wasting that most precious of all treasures, health.

There are some here who derive great benefit from the different sports upon the campus, but many whose only physical recreation consists of a walk of a mile or two over the same course every day. This exercise may be very good, and in fact is the only resort at hand; but it does not meet the demand. Exercise to be truly beneficial, must have variety, and be taken at regular intervals to produce its full effect.

Since then the conditions are not fulfilled by the means at our command, would it not be well for the students to establish athletic associations, from which

all would derive substantial benefit? We have literary societies for the improvement of our mental faculties; but, since the work of the intellect is so far dependent upon the condition of the body, it is not unreasonable for us to ask that some steps be taken, which shall insure our students against the danger of leaving their *Alma Mater* possessing, to be sure, an excellent education, but so injured in health as to be totally unfitted to cope with the stern necessities of this sturdy world.

EXCHANGES.

Our table is covered by a heterogeneous mass, differing in appearance, as also in quality, from the pale chalk water to the rich, genuine cream. Ex.-Eds. have made their debut with the fierce roar of an engulfing tidal wave, each proposing to rise in majesty and overwhelm all presumptuous contemporaries. "On such a high sea are we now afloat." Yes, thank heaven, still *afloat*, nor rock, nor wave yet appears to disturb our mind's placidity.

We have noted the efforts in this department. Big guns, but blank cartridges, seem to be the order of the programme. The reports of many seem to be traceable to some undue pressure of interior gas resulting in an explosion of veritable nonsense, which could do no more damage than bespatter their neighbors with some of their own crudities.

Whilst not unconscious of our own faults—nor those of our visiting friends,—we propose a course of independent criticism. Our idea of criticism is not met by an indiscriminate melee in which the only weapons are abusive terms. But we forbear expressing ourselves farther on this point, lest we should find our ground for future operations unpleasantly circumscribed.

We first lay hands on a fine-looking paper—but there goes the—hush! hush!—half-way across the room, and we have only the outer garment left in our grasp. After a doubtful debate as to the profit or loss in travelling so far after the thing, we notice the name "Colby Echo," and hasten to recover it. The mechanical get-up is very good—only it ought to be fastened into its covers,—and it has some literary merit. It contains a readable article on "Samuel Johnson," but one wishes that a little less effort had been expended on depicting the personal defects of the great man. Why seek to preserve this decaying matter? The worth of the man should spare him. An Ex.-Ed. who disparages flaming criticisms on covers, should have a little more regard for consistency, and not follow with so many examples of the condemned articles. But this fellow is presumably a literary outlaw, not subject to the code

of laws laid down for others. The "Echo" is on the whole above the average college journal.

The "Dalhousie Gazette" has a look of becoming modesty; but the interior of it almost convinces one that that article is scarce around the University. Even the Freshies are so reckless as to indulge in "side lights," and do other rash things. The Ed. of "Dallusiensia" has only succeeded in trapping the ghosts of his jokes this time. Experience may improve him, and we can look for the realities next issue. The "Convocation Address" is worthy attention, but other matter is almost wholly of local importance, reducing "The Gazette" too nearly to the level of a mere advertising medium. The mention made of the Hon J. S. D. Thompson and Mr. J. T. Bulmer, is devoid that element of flattery which so often renders such tributes fulsome. "The Gazette" has a good record, and will, we doubt not, sustain it.

We take another journal, and first notice written on it in a plain, bold hand the words "Not Sold." Just so, we mutter, but if anyone ever happens to buy you, they will cut off that "not" and wear the other word graven deep upon their heart. This, however, was before we became acquainted with our contemporary. We soon found that "The Cadet" knew a thing or two after all. "State Education" is a fairly-written article, and presents the subject temperately. But certain assumptions made in it are open to criticism, e. g., "Why cannot this education be supported by denominational institutions? Simply because they have not the means." In this christian land, most men are the adherents of some denomination. Hence most of the country's wealth must be under the control of denominational influences. Where, then, is the pertinency of the above expression? The article on "The Acadians" might be read if one had nothing else to do. The paper ranks well.

We like the tone of the "University Monthly." Its articles are carefully written, although the expression "Vacation has glided away on the wings of Time into the regions of the Past, whence it can never be recalled," seems somewhat antiquated, as it has probably been on that particular feather of the "Wing of Time" known as the *Editor's quill* for some centuries past. The "Monthly" contains a beautiful tribute to the memory of the late H. B. Pickhard, and a spicy article on "The Geological Expedition of '86." The Ex.-Ed. gives promise that he will at last overcome his difficulties, but it seems hard work for him to get under way. Our friend should don a heavier *covering* at this season of the year.

There are a number of other exchanges lying around here just as if they were aching for a review; but we must let them pine for a time.

APOSTROPHE TO TIME.

ETERNITY'S lost child, who full of years
 And unbefriended, ever wanderest on,
 From age to age, through this dark vale of tears,
 Waiting for no man underneath the sun,
 But journeying onward with thy scythe in hand,
 Mowing down nations at one stroke, which are
 Thy harvestings!—how long on this dark land
 Wilt thou continue thus to lay life bare,
 In utter nakedness?—how long before
 My sorrowing soul shall triumph over thee?
 Not till the hour when thou shalt be no more!
 Not till the hour when thou shalt say to me,
 "Come! thou art called for in eternity!" —*Scl.*

OUR LECTURE COURSE.

THE second lecture of the course maintained by the students was delivered in Academy Hall, on Tuesday evening, Nov. 17th, by Rev. J. A. Gordon of St. John, on the subject, "Wit and Humor, Weeping and Laughter, their proper Use." The President of the Athenæum Society, Mr. F. H. Beals, presided. The attendance was unusually large, the Hall being filled to its utmost capacity. It would be well if the committee prepared for such an emergency, as it is extremely unpleasant to have seats brought into the room after the lecture has commenced. If it were possible also to have some music provided, it would add greatly to the attractiveness of these gatherings.

Mr. Gordon did not attempt to treat his subject philosophically; did not distinguish between wit and humor,—a distinction of which we confess we were glad to escape the reiteration; but he at once proceeded to illustrate the nature and causes of weeping and laughter. His description of the lugubrious countenance of the "gloomy man" was probably the best piece of word-painting in the lecture. Leaving this familiar friend, he next touched on the nobility of weeping: the modern Chesterfields restrain their grief, but Hector weeps as the bugle calls him from the arms of Andromache; and, noblest example of all, the God-man commemorates the death of his friend with a tearful, eloquently-silent *In Memoriam*.

Passing on to the subject of wit and humor, the lecturer gave many examples of irony, satire, burlesque, parody, etc., from the writings of such noted wits as Sydney Smith, Douglas Jerrold and Mark Twain, together with numerous unfathered jokes. Many of these, while exceedingly *apropos*, failed to interest as much as when they were newer. It is certainly not very creditable to us that those lyrics, which by reason of their Grecian simplicity and beauty have become endeared to every heart, should be deliberately rendered contemptible by the process of parodying. Whether a travesty on *The Burial of Sir John Moore* is to be ranked under wit or humor

we know not; but such performances, "though they make the unskilful laugh, cannot but make the judicious grieve."

Probably the best part of the lecture was that which referred to the practice, too common in these days, of scoffing at sacred things. The evil effect of this was illustrated by the case of Voltaire, whose *persiflage* resulted in the sneering infidelity of the French Revolution. The work of Cervantes in *Don Quixote* the lecturer regarded as parallel to this; but the question will arise in the mind of the student of history whether this incomparable humorist, while ridiculing the dead forms of chivalry, did not recognize and foster its true spirit.

On the whole the lecture was a very enjoyable one; and as the President said in closing, to students engaged in the study of Mathematics and Philosophy, an hour spent in the contemplation of these finer parts of our nature was a privilege to be highly prized and not soon forgotten.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"McMASTER AND ACADIA."

Messrs. Editors:—

I notice in the November number of the ACADIA ATHENÆUM a letter, signed "Amicus," in regard to recent changes in the curriculum of McMaster Hall. "Amicus" is laboring under misapprehensions, which, as a "friend," he will be happy to have me correct.

We have three courses of study:

1.—The first for Graduates in Arts. This course is three years, just as it is at Rochester, Crozer, Newton, and all the other Baptist Theological Seminaries in the United States. It never was a four years' course. We never even dreamed of making it a four years' course. Nor have we made any change whatever in it since last July, when our present catalogue was put into the printer's hands. And it is a three years' course for Graduates in Arts of any and all universities alike. If it be true, as "Amicus" states, that some of the Graduates of Acadia, "who fully intended going to Toronto," went elsewhere on the supposition that our course for graduates is four years, they went under an entire misapprehension of the facts. I deeply regret that there was any occasion for misapprehension, for the Acadia men we have already had are of such quality that we eagerly desire to have many more.

2.—We have a four years' course for non-graduates. In our experience we found a considerable number of men with a fair knowledge of Latin and Greek sufficient, say, for matriculation into the University, whose age and circumstances made both a University and a Theological course impracticable. As they have devoted their lives to the ministry, they needed a direct preparation for their life work. This

course for such men combines both the knowledge and the discipline needful for the ministerial office. We do not pretend that it is in any sense equal to a University course and a Theological course; and we wish no man to take it whose circumstances permit him to take both.

3.—We have a four years' course entirely in English. We found amongst those seeking equipment for the ministry a considerable number who had reached manhood before their conversion, and had developed in their church life preaching talent and power for Christian work. But they have not had an education in the technical sense. They have, however, the maturity of men. It would have been an absurdity to start them on the elements of education in a class of boys. We endeavored to meet their real wants, by combining with Biblical and Theological subjects, such training in Mental Science, Logic, and especially in the correct and fluent use of their native tongue as will make them wise, acceptable and effective preachers.

The increase of our staff was made necessary by these two latter courses. The sole purpose for which Toronto Baptist College exists is to prepare a ministry such as our Baptist Churches need, a ministry of varied talent and culture, but consecrated, trained, practical. A time may come when we shall have Graduates in Arts in sufficient numbers to supply the demand. But that day is yet far distant. In the meantime this question confronts us, viz: "Shall men enter the ministry without Theological training, or shall we do the best in our power to help men whose circumstances render a University and a Theological course impossible?" In the increase of its staff and the re-arrangement of its courses, McMaster Hall has given its answer to this most pressing and practical question.

In regard to "AFFILIATION" with the University of Toronto, permit me to affirm that we have surrendered no grain of our perfect independence, nor compromised a single principle, but we have gained a few important privileges.

I hope with these explanations "Amicus" will no longer "look upon Acadia's fair Sister with an eye of suspicion," for it is painful to be suspected by your friends when you are conscious of no wrong in thought or word or deed. In this case we were innocent enough to believe that our enlargement of facility for training ministers for the Dominion of Canada would be hailed with delight in every Province. We have been striving earnestly to reach that stage at which every Baptist in the Dominion would cherish an honest pride in his own Baptist Theological College, and in this I am not willing to confess disappointment.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN H. CASTLE,

Pres. Toronto Baptist College.

McMaster Hall, 7th Nov., 1885.

FOOT-BALL MATCH.

The morning of October 31st broke stormy, cold and dismal, but the students, as they wandered from room to room, or met in groups in the corridors of Chipman Hall in the early morning, presented if possible, a more dreary appearance than wind, rain, and sleet could furnish without. At length breakfast was over, and the football team met to consider concerning what had best be done. It was evident the day would be unfit for the football match to which all had looked with pleasure, both expectant players and spectators; therefore a despatch was sent to Windsor informing the King's team of the circumstances, and asking that the game might be postponed until the first fine day. After this the majority of Acadia boys settled to study, although anathemas were still poured forth by some on the raging elements, but these, although thus mightily condemned, did not slacken in their fury. In a short time, however, all was confusion again, the word passed like a flash that our worthy opponents were on their way. The boys considered they could undergo rough weather if their visitors could, and therefore prepared for operations. At twelve o'clock M., the two fiftens took their places in the field. Kings having the wind and Acadia the kick-off.

It was a fine spectacle, the Kings men in their uniforms of white, presenting an appearance of unity, which combined with their naturally good physiques, gave one very decidedly the impression of strength. While Acadia's men, though their costumes gave them a somewhat irregular appearance, looked ready to do or die. After a slight delay the word was given by the umpires: Whitehead and Eaton, and Prescott, captain of Acadia kicked off. The ball went low, but its progress against the wind proved the force of the kick, and Acadia's forwards rushed as one man. In a few moments the ball was over the side touch close to King's goal line, and being thrown out was immediately forced over their goal line and touched down. Whether the touch down was made by Acadia or not, was disputed, although Corey of Acadia had followed the ball in a very lively manner, and had been clinging to it for some time, the advantage of the doubt was given to Kings; but they gained little by the decision. For Professor Hammond bringing the ball out between the goal posts, was immediately

brought to the ground by Smith, while the ball was touched down by Wallace of Acadia. The try was made, and although the ball had been touched down directly behind the goal, and therefore gave the best opportunity possible for kicking a goal as far as position went, still the slippery ball, aided by the wind, went whirling to one side of the goal. The ball was brought on by King's. Professor Hammond sent it far up the field by a good drop-kick, and lighting very near the west touch line, it was soon over. This brought the King's men up above the centre of the field, but only for an instant, as the ball being thrown out was seized by one of Acadia's backs, and in a few moments man and ball were captured within a few feet of King's goal-line. Then ensued a scrimmage, and another scrimmage, which ended in the ball being touched by Acadia, and another try scored. The ball was again brought out by the King's men, and although they tried hard to force it up the field, the Acadia forwards were becoming more fierce and the ball again shot behind the King's goal-line with an Acadia man on it. This try failed as the others. Time was called, and the teams taking their lemons rested for ten minutes.

On resuming play Acadia began at once to use all the advantages the wind would give them by losing no time in disputes. The ball was only in the field for a few moments when Anderson, half-back of Acadia, captured it, and by a run, which all admired and for which the player was cheered again and again by the spectators, touched the ball down directly behind the King's goal, despite the efforts of at least a dozen of the King's fifteen to stop him. The game from this on presented very little variety. The Acadia boys were evidently shoving their opponents harder every moment. But although Acadia after this gained three touch downs, no goal was kicked. The last three touch downs were gained by another brilliant run from Anderson, a well earned touch down by Lovett, quarter back of Acadia, and a quick dash by Sawyer, forward of Acadia. Thus the game ended, and we leave our readers, having before them just what points were made to measure the qualities of the teams. After some college songs and dinner, at which the toasts were responded to in a manner that would satisfy the most crusty adversary of the game, that foot-ball promotes good feeling, our friends departed. They have left with Acadia students the knowledge that they are *jolly good fellows*, and better still, fair and honorable players. We therefore wish them success in their sports, and look forward with pleasure to another meeting, whether in foot-ball or some other sport.

AN AFTERNOON AT MOUNT AUBURN.

MOUNT AUBURN, one of the beautiful places for the dead, is situated on the Cambridge road, a few miles out of Boston. Taking a horse car at Cambridge station, we have a pleasant ride of one hour. As we cross the long bridge, we recall the 'Bridge of Sighs,' and the words of Longfellow fit through our mind:

"Yet whenever I cross the river
On its bridge with wooden piers,
Like the odor of brine from the ocean
Comes the thoughts of other years.
And I think how many thousands
Of care encumbered men,
Each bearing his burden of sorrow
Have crossed the bridge since then."

Passing through Cambridge with its magnificent trees, we see fair Harvard in her pride, a most beautiful place for a student. Through the trees we catch a glimpse of the home of Longfellow, that wonderful poet, and one of our party exclaims: "Who could not be a poet here, surrounded by trees, rocks and rills, each suggesting a poem."

We arrive at the cemetery, and presenting our pass, go through the entrance, and begin to seek the tombs of the illustrious dead. A holy quiet seems to pervade the place. The wind sighs through the trees as if to sing a sad requiem o'er the dead. We are arrested in our walk by a huge monument, having a lion's body, with a woman's head. Ah! it is the Sphinx. Tradition says this was a monster, having the head of a woman of great beauty. It proposed the following riddle to travellers, and tore in pieces those who could not answer: "What is it, which has at first four feet, then two feet, then three feet?" The riddle was guessed by Edipus, a mighty king, and the Sphinx destroyed itself. On one side of this monument, is the following inscription: "AMERICAN UNION PRESERVED, AFRICAN SLAVERY DESTROYED BY THE UPRISING OF A GREAT PEOPLE—BY THE BLOOD OF FALLEN HEROES." From these records of the past, we turn to the tower, a high building overlooking Charleston, and Boston and Salem Highlands. To climb a hundred steps is an unpleasant task, but we felt fully repaid by the view. Here in Mount Auburn rests the body of Charles Sumner, one of America's greatest statesmen. Here, also, lies the dust of Agassiz, his monument being a rough, unpolished block of stone. Our eyes next rest on the inscription "Charlotte Cushman." It is engraved on a pure, white monument, like herself, grand, great and simple. As I stood by her grave, I thought of her struggles with poverty, of her heart burnings, and that genius which would leap forth, and could not be silenced.

We have visited the graves of the great. They have played their part in life's drama, and the curtain has been drawn. From the stage of action they have

passed into a higher life; for the spirit returns to God who gave it.

"So live, that when the summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan that moves
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death.
Thou go not like the quarry slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon—but sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach the grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

J. D. H.

LOCALS.

ANTS!

COMMITTEES!!

FRESHIES!!!

FOOTBALL meeting after dinner.

A SENIOR's caustic remark on a Soph. runs thus:—"Yes he is a great friend of mine; he often comes in and stays an hour."

"NIL DESPERANDUM," encouragingly remarked a Senior whose sprouts still survive, to a despairing Junior whose side-lights appeared to have just fainted away.

A SOPH., discussing a late event of local importance, observed, "Doctor, it is currently believed that Mr. R. cannot see straight—applause—he is blinded by prejudice."

THE accidents on the foot-ball field have no longer any mystery connected with them. The last unfortunate on gathering himself up was heard to exclaim joyfully, "There boys, I'll not have to write any Junior essay now."

AN aspirant to the bar was gazing in admiration upon an ancient timepiece, when, a classmate dropping in, he exclaimed exultantly, "I've made a grand trade this time. That other thing never went five minutes, and this has gone a whole day."

IN the Science class the Prof. had occasion to refer to man under the name "Homo Sapiens."

Student:—"Is there any other kind of man?"

Prof.:—"Oh yes! yourself for example."

A DISCUSSION of pre-Adamite man was progressing fairly when a phlegmatic Junior sat on it decidedly, by the following query:—"How is it that Adam did not get a wife from among them and so save his rib?"

A LEGAL point. Student:—"If, in a landslide, one man's farm came down and rested upon another man's farm, to whom would the farm belong?"

Prof.:—"To the one who survived."

WE advise those voracious youngsters who find it necessary to devour tobacco and crackers during class-time, to add, in

addition to their late acquisition of cap and gown, a spittoon and tray to their college equipment.

AN accident occurred on the Campus a short time ago. During a foot-ball match Mr. C. H. Miller, of the Junior class, was thrown to the ground and had his collar-bone fractured. He is recovering from his injury quite rapidly. Mr. J. T. Prescott was also injured less seriously.

A SENIOR after the faithful discharge of his official duty on a recent occasion, hurriedly asked, "Say, boys, did I make an ass of myself this evening?" He seemed quite consoled on being reminded that that was a thing impossible, as nature had anticipated him.

A STUDENT rushed into a room with a great display of hilarity, when the occupant rolling off of the sofa with an elbow in each eye, growled out, "A fellow who will come in and wake one up like that ought to be visited by a missionary—one with hard fists and heavy boots."

A JUNIOR was commenting on the transit of Venus and at the same time gazing out of the window. A fair something crossed the path between his eye and the sun, changing his white cheek to crimson. He declares that if it was neither Venus nor Vesta, it was yet a V—.

A SENIOR was engaged teaching a Sabbath School class, when the good boy turned his attention to the following:—"Arise and go down to the potter's house, and I will cause thee to hear my word." The perplexity of the Senior probably arose from a mental questioning, as to why he had not heard the word on a previous call.

WE regret to state that Mr. W. B. Hutchinson, '86, is unable to return to complete his course this year. He has in consequence resigned his connection with the ATHENÆUM as one of the Chief Editors, and his place has been filled by the appointment of Mr. H. A. Lovett, '86. Later:—Mr. Hutchinson has since returned to Acadia.

CONSIDERABLE correspondence has been floating around lately, directed to Mr. To Whom It May Concern. The name sounds familiar, but we do not remember of meeting the gentleman lately, and it is said that he has for a long time been inquired after in vain. The Authorities should take the matter in hand at once.

THERE are a few young men (?) on the Hill who seem to take pride in disturbing lectures and other gatherings, by chattering, giggling, or rehearsing stale yarns.

"Oh, wad some power the giftie gie them,
To see themselves as others see them."

If the sight disgusted them as much as it does other people, we think it might work a cure.

A CERTAIN Soph. seems desirous of obtaining an unsavory notoriety by contaminating the air with blackguardism and profanity. If he would only surprise us some day by saying or doing something with a little sense in it, we might feel less

like blowing out that space where his brains ought to be. If he continues in his present course we expect to see him soon hemmed in by a legion of infernal spirits whom he by his assiduous efforts has entirely thrown out of employment.

We understand that the Freshies in classroom resolve themselves into a *Mutual Relief Society*. The result of this action among untrained youths may be noted in such scenes as the following:—

Freshie:—"Line A B bisects angle C B F."

Prof. (unconvinced):—"Does it?"

Freshie:—"Guess not. John says it don't, and I don't know anyhow."

An interesting session of the Acadia Missionary Society was held on Nov. 18th. Essays concerning China were read by Messrs. H. B. Smith and C. H. Day. Miss May McDonald gave a reading, and Rev. R. Sanford addressed the meeting. He displayed some articles brought by him from India, and explained their uses. Mr. and Mrs. Sanford also favored us with a sample of Telegu hymn-singing. Music was given during the evening by a quartette composed of Misses Hitchens and Wallace, and Messrs. Gates and March.

SOME thoughtless fellows whose brain-baskets are no better supplied than they should be, and to whom a real practical joke is an utter impossibility, have lately been amusing themselves to the extent permitted by their puerility, by secretly invading the rooms of their fellow-students, displacing the furniture, and creating general disorder. In our opinion they have mistaken their business. They ought to hire themselves out as first-class samples of lunatics, and travel round the country under charge of a police force, in order to enlist public sympathy in behalf of those unfortunates.

Those who cry out that Temperance as a platform subject can no longer be made interesting, would have been forced to change their mind had they listened to the late lecture in the Baptist Church by Lou. J. Beauchamp. For two hours he held the audience in wrapt attention. Temperance aphorisms were expressed in a novel and interesting manner, and many forcible illustrations were used:—e. g. "You can no more run the trade without using up boys, than you can run a saw-mill without using up logs." "When the hand of man can push back the lightning-bolt from the great crucible of the sky, then may that hand regulate this traffic." The lecture was just properly seasoned with flashes of true humor. Should Mr. Beauchamp return to Wolfville he will be greeted heartily.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

H. Vaughan, \$2; E. L. Gates, \$1; S. K. Smith, \$2; G. R. White, \$1; M. S. Porter, \$1; H. S. Shaw, \$1; F. F. Eaton, \$1; W. Chipman, \$1; G. P. Raymond, 50c.; A. B. Holly, \$1; J. F. Tufts, \$1; Fred. Brown, \$2; Jno. B. Mills, \$1; H. Ruggles, \$2; C. R. B. Dodge, \$1; W. H. Richard, \$1; Colin Roscoe, \$2; J. B. Calkin, \$1; F. H. Doull, \$2; O. C. S. Wallace, \$1; D. F. Higgins, \$3; G. B. Locke, \$3; Jos. S. Brown, \$2; B. H. Thomas, \$1.

R. W. FORD, Sec.-Treas.

THE CENTURY

for 1885-86.

The remarkable interest in the War Papers and in the many timely articles and strong serial features published recently in THE CENTURY has given that magazine a regular circulation of

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The "Recollections of a Private" and special war papers of an anecdotal or humorous character will be features of the year,

SERIAL STORIES BY W. D. HOWELLS,

MARY HALLOCK FOOTE, AND GEORGE W. CABLE.

Mr. Howell's serial will be in lighter vein than "The Rise of Silas Lapham." Mrs. Foote's is a story of mining life, and Mr. Cable's a novelette of the Acadians of Louisiana. Mr. Cable will also contribute a series of papers on Slave songs and dances, including negro serpent-worship, etc.

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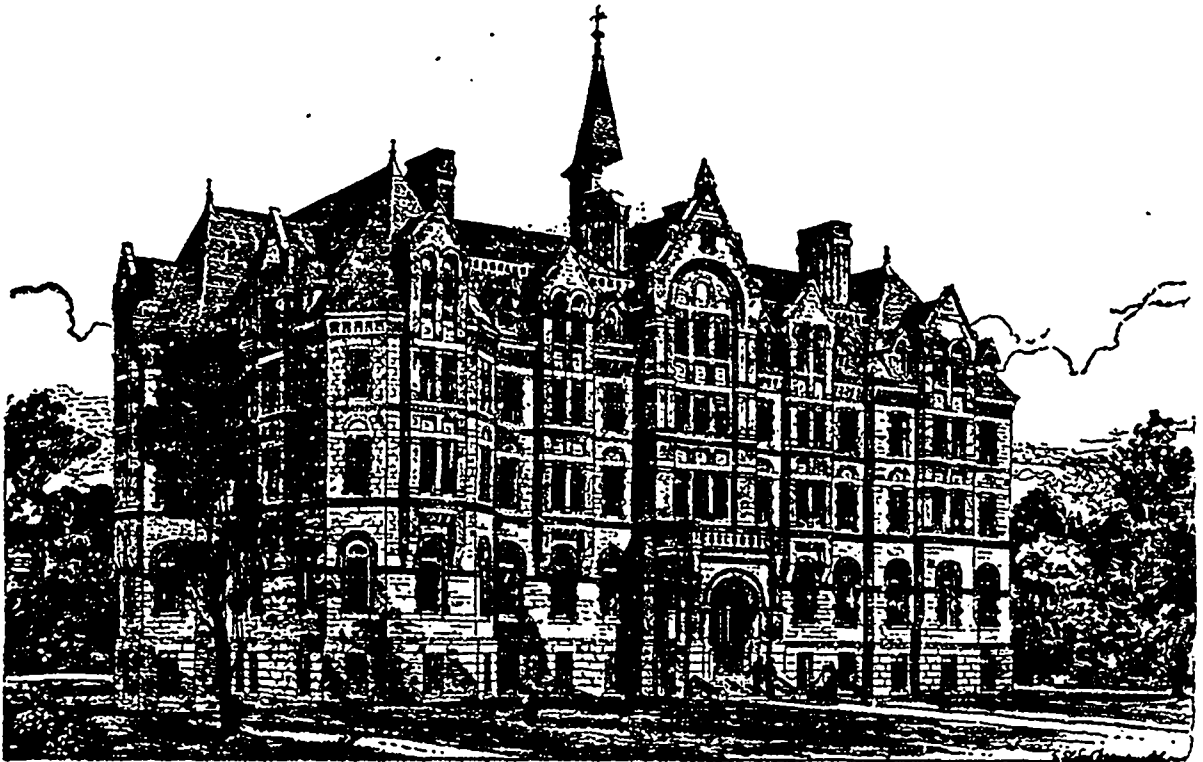
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