

# The Acadia Athenæum.

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7.

## THE Acadia Athenæum.

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ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

## The Sanctum.

THE time is drawing near when the class of '90, will go out from the halls of "Acadia" for the last time. For several years we have looked forward to the closing exercises with a considerable degree of pleasure, but after the celebration of the college anniversary on the first Thursday in June of this year, we go out, to resume our places no more as students at "Acadia." It is this last thought that contains the element of sadness and takes the sweetness out of the thought of leaving. Many are the pleasant associations that cluster round a college life. All are knit together by class ties which, when severed or about to be, make us feel that this union that has existed so long is now at an end. We do not expect, much as we may hope to see it realized, that the nineteen will ever again meet on the "Hill" together. The institutions will be dearer to us as

we are now able to say that the men in charge are in every way worthy of the esteem and confidence which the denomination has placed in them. We are personally acquainted with them and can affirm that their greatest desire is to keep the college, not up to any fixed standard, but continually on the advance, so that it will rank first-class as an educational centre. Friendships have been formed with others than the members of our own class. All are noble fellows and to the different tastes some appear more genial and warm-hearted than others.

WHAT is the good of the Sophomore recital? This is one of the unsatisfied questions that has long existed among the students. The answer given is, It leads the student to commit to memory a piece of good English literature, and trains him to speak in public. No one can find fault with two such worthy objects. But we cannot see that they are in any way accomplished by the Sophomore recital, which seems to be a crude form of a common school custom, that has escaped into the college curriculum and established itself in just the wrong place. It seems a little absurd to require a student to recite before the students and faculty, some piece that he has known for years, and we cannot believe that this one piece is any great test of the student's familiarity with English literature.

Neither can we rank the stage-training received as of the highest order. A few from the other classes wander in with books in hand to see what the recital will amount to. Other individuals arrive a quarter of an hour late and settle into an earnest study of monthlies or reviews till the time for recreation on the campus arrives. With such intelligent training and such an attentive audience, our careful observation for a number of years has led us to believe that the Sophomore who has poor powers of expression

will not be helped by the recital, and he who has been awkward and diffident before will be awkward and diffident still. The Junior and Senior essays and theses are highly esteemed by the student, and are most efficient in developing his power, but the Sophomore recital is equally as efficient in developing his disgust.

We would not say, however, that the work which the Sophomore recital aims to do should have no place in the college. The Professor of English might, with profit, according to the sound educational principles, require the students to commit to memory a greater number of the gems of English literature as a part of the class-work. This part comes completely within his domain, the other, should be resigned to the teacher of elocution, who could most intelligently correct the faults and develop the student's powers of expression in both voice and manner. In addition, the ATHENÆUM Society affords the student excellent opportunity for speaking in public. These means we believe would accomplish the good results aimed at by the Sophomore recital, with which every one will admit there is something wrong.

WE are pleased to learn that John B. Morgan, B. A., '87, who was one of the ablest and most respected students of that year has fully recovered from his sad illness.

THERE is one feature of the college work we would like to speak about; it is the examination known as "Special English." It would seem to us a better time for such a test when the student is passing the matriculating examination. Every one who enters this college should be able to pass the English examination for grade B License, and after two years stay be quite in advance of that. If this is not required we would think it only fitting that any young man holding such license be exempted as a recognition of work done by him previous to coming here. The teacher who comes here and takes two years of college training feels somewhat humiliated, to say the least, to be informed that he is to be examined in a branch of study that he has been teaching in the seventh and eighth grade of the common school. He begins to feel that all this time

he has made but a small advance in *book learning*. Now we believe the examination to be needed and the more searching the better, but we also believe the time for such a test, is not after the student has devoted two years of his time in the pursuit of the higher studies. Make this examination a positive requirement in the Matriculation examination, and let every one be given to understand that he will not be permitted to proceed with college studies without a good knowledge of English. This is the most essential branch for all in this enlightened age. If a student does not possess a good command of his mother tongue he has no right to attempt and hope to receive a college certificate.

AS four years have passed since the introduction of our present arrangements for the study of Elocution, a word on that subject will be in order. We ask what is Elocution, and what place does it hold on our Curriculum? By Elocution as taught at Acadia to-day, is meant the science and art of expressing *thought and feeling* correctly. A merely arbitrary and wholly mechanical system of emphases, inflections and movements, learned, parrot-like by rote, and applied without regard to law of any kind, is *not* Elocution. Elocution, as a science, demands thorough and long study of being and its modes of manifestation through the voice and body. As an art it demands that the voice and body shall manifest or express the subjective nature with ease, precision, and in perfect harmony with physical law. Four years ago Mr. Shaw outlined a comprehensive course of Elocutionary study and one well worthy a student's time and thought. Now we hold that this department, though making considerable progress, has not achieved the success it so well merits. This is neither the fault of the instructor nor his subjects. The blame, if blame there is, attaches to other causes. In the first place Elocution has never had a fair chance among us. The authorities, recognizing its importance in any system of education at all comprehensive, decided to give it a trial. It has not had a fair trial, for the following reasons. In the first place it was introduced as an experiment, but the experiment has been constantly surrounded by conditions decidedly neutralizing in their effects. It was left entirely optional. It was taken up purely as an extra and nearly always by

men who, however much they would desire, could not possibly give to it the time and faithful practice it deserves, since their regular course demanded their whole attention. While those who take honours receive an honor certificate, those who take Elocution, though working equally as hard, receive no such reward. A man must study his honours or miss his certificate. Under the present arrangement he has no such incentive to expend effort on Elocution. Moreover the course has been upon the worst financial basis of any study in all the curriculum. Again the course has been misjudged and misunderstood as to what it undertakes to do. It does not agree to straighten fingers crippled by base ball, nor to make muscles of iron flexible as elastic, nor to make a man, naturally the personification of awkwardness, as graceful as a gazelle, nor does it furnish a man with lungs, and voice, and presence, and brains, who has none of these things at the start. A man, who has been in the past in blissful ignorance of the science and art of expression, but who has studied Elocution fifteen minutes a week outside of his class work when he was too tired or sleepy to do anything else, gets up to read in public. Having "*taken Elocution*" he is (most inconsistently and unjustly) expected to read as well as a professional. If he fails to do so the verdict of the general audience will be that "Elocution is no good." Now, no student because he has taken the classical course is expected to read Greek as fluently as does his professor, nor even so fluently as he himself can read English. Then why judge by a different rule these two exactly similar cases? Such inconsistency and unfairness can only be the result of prejudice or misconception. In charity we accept the latter as its cause. We believe that the man who intelligently and faithfully gives time and hard work to the study of Elocution will receive as much benefit intellectually, as from equal time and work upon any other subject, and far more physically. It is notorious however that under the present system no man can possibly give such time and study to this work, and therefore, to the extent of his loss, is he suffering an injustice.

That the time for a change has come, is evident. We hope that the study of Elocution will this year be made a part of the regular college curriculum having the instructor appointed by the governors and paid a stated salary from the funds of the College.

Be the action of the authorities what it may, one thing is certain, future Acadia students *must* have at least *equal* advantages in this department, with those who in the past four years have been fortunate enough to receive the instructions of Mr. Shaw.

THERE is an old saying that goes something like this "Music hath charms to soothe the savage, melt a rock or split a cabbage." This may be true of Music, but there is a lot of *Composition* usually passed off labelled the "the genuine article," which has a tendency to make one feel rather savage toward the performer who is quite unconscious of the effect upon his hearers. He is doing his best by way of entertaining those who listen to him, and if we take the *will* for the *deed* no blame can be attached to him. It is not so much his fault as his misfortune that he is not more successful. He has never had any vocal training and consequently can only serve up the treat for his guests in the crude state. Nature may do a great deal for an individual, but if she has been sparing in her gifts we cannot expect much, as to quality, from either a trained or untrained voice. We are now supposing the individual has the ability to sing and needs only the calling into action of these uneducated energies. In the average country place the facilities for acquiring a musical education are extremely limited, if any at all can be had, the only opportunities for cultivating the voice being in the blacksmith's shop or some other general resort for the congregating of the crowd. The sentiment of the music to which they have access is neither for edification nor instruction, the chief object to be attained is to elicit the applause of the rabble without the slightest regard for self-improvement. The stripling wishes to attract attention and to this end accommodates himself to the necessity of singing out-doors, thus ruining his chances of being able to retain even the lowest plane as a singer. It is surprising also to note the numbers of city lads who are unable to make the proper use of this most enviable gift although their advantages are far in advance of the former class. What a pleasure it is to sit and listen to a good singer or instrumental performer! How the blues vanish before the enlivening and uplifting strains of music! On the other hand how uncomfortable one feels under the infliction and torture of a piece of

“music murdered.” From the surrounding country and towns our schools receive their supplies of students and these raw recruits (in the musical line) begin to have a more aesthetic view of this study and the great longing is for an opportunity to develop their latent powers. We do not mean in this classification to include those who attend the Seminary as they have ample opportunity for developing the musical talents they possess. We would like to see some change brought about by which the students of the College and Academy would be placed in a position to pursue this department of study if they had any desire to do so. We believe the time has come when these institutions need a Professor of Music, one competent to give the young men a first class drill. Music and Elocution should go along together hand in hand and if the teacher of Elocution could be secured to take charge of the two subjects the long felt need would be most suitably filled. May we not reasonably expect that the day is not far distant when the student who comes to Acadia with a love for music may have it gratified to its fullest extent in the pursuit of a most refining and cultivating study.

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#### JUDGE HALIBURTON.

“GOOD borderers against the English are they and men honest, true and leal.” Such was that ancient family from which have stood forth two authors of worldwide fame, the pride of each *Scotland*—Sir Walter Scott of the *Old*, Thomas Haliburton of the *New*. When the British flag waved no longer on the New England shore, the grandfather of our author to his king still “leal and true,” abandoned his old home and commenced life anew in the loyal Acadian land. And here whilst yet tarried the last century on his journey to the past was born our Scotian novelist and humourist, well known the world over as Judge Haliburton.

From the Grammar School at Windsor, his native town, he entered the halls of Kings College, where with others of Scotia's well known sons his college days were spent. Then laden with honours he went forth from his *Alma Mater* to fight the battles of life, and justly proud is she of the success of this her famous son. Soon after we hear of him as an able and successful lawyer at the old town of Annapolis

Royal, where he established an extensive and lucrative practice. But new duties await him, for in him were recognized that rare but happy union of talent and integrity. Of such a man the country felt the need, so he was sent to purge the halls of her law-makers and there covered corruption at his earnest burning words, whilst his playful humour and keen-edged sarcasm, were powers which held and entranced the House.

Scarcely had he known more than thirty years, when first he was saluted Judge and for over a quarter of a century he ably performed his duties administering justice impartially and well. Old England was his next abiding place and here he resolved to live in retirement, but being urgently requested by his friends he finally entered Parliament, where he agreeably surprised the English who expected not such an able scholar and fluent orator from a small colony beyond the western waters. But Isleworth on the Thames was not long his home, for ere he reached the allotted ten and three score a faithful beacon light was lost to mortals for Haliburton was no more.

To excel as a lawyer, legislator, and judge, to be honest, unmindful of self and just, are not his only claims to fame nor his greatest. 'Tis as a humorous and instructive writer and as the creator of that inimitable character, Sam Slick, that he is best known to the world and fame. The leisure of his busy life was devoted to his ready pen, so thus did the world receive his twenty cherished works, which delight not the English reader alone for many a foreigner is charmed by their drollness and sly humour, as he reads them in his native tongue. It is interesting and gratifying to us that his first appearance as author was as the historian of his native province. Well received and widely circulated was this work; it was noted by the *N. A. Review* as a production “which was a credit both to its author and his country.” A standard work is it still considered though since first our historian wrote sixty years have flown onward into the past.

Other than humorous his chief remaining works are two, one historical, the other political. In the first he sheds new light upon his subject and gives us an interesting and lucid account of the rise and progress of the American Union, whilst in the last we behold what potent and deadly weapons argument and ridicule become in the hands of a master.

Among his many humorous novels, *The Letter Bag of the Great Western*, *Wise Saws*, and *The Clockmaker*, are popularly known as his best. 'Tis the last that interests and concerns us most, for here Judge Haliburton sent forth Sam Slick to teach the Bluenose the true economy of human affairs. 'Twas in the columns of the *Nova Scotian* that Sam first appeared with his pithy sayings, as the mouth-piece of a creator whose object was to preserve the old stories of colonial life, and to arouse his countrymen from a condition of carelessness and lethargy. Though this verdant but keen Yankee has everywhere been greeted with peals of laughter, yet *The Clockmaker* is no mere jest-book. All this humour is but the means to an end, the candied coating of the physician's pill. So at least the Bluenose found it so, whom alone the book was meant.

But the Yankee pedlar with his "soft sawder and human natur" was a character too amusing to lead a local life, so ere long he became famous abroad and scored a great triumph in the American Press. But Jonathan also found the bitter pill beneath all this sweetness, for though the author goaded his own countrymen by the contrast between their inertness and narrowness, and Yankee energy and enterprise, yet his was indeed a two-edged sword which fell not upon the Provincial alone, but, gave many a keen thrust to the evils of American customs and institutions. Ere it was known that Sam was travelling abroad, to the surprise of Judge Haliburton came the news that *The Clockmaker* had made all England merry with laughter. But Sam was unsatisfied till he had passed over to the Continent, where in the chief lands of Europe he was hailed with much delight.

To most mortals the unsavoury truthfulness of an honest friend is less pleasing and desired than the varnished words of a skillful flatterer. 'Twas even so with the Bluenose and *The Clockmaker*, thus for some time in our province the faithful words of the author were less popular than elsewhere. But the pebble upon the beach stays not the rising tide. These faint murmurings were unheard in that grand applauding shout of the world, which greeted the appearance of *The Clockmaker*, and ere it had subsided, these inhabitants had learned wisdom, for at last they appreciated their truest friend. Thus was it welcomed, and nobly has it held its place having passed into literature as the equal of Dickens' *Pick-*

*wick Papers* and Sterne's *Tristram Shandy*. Two colleges at once recognized the worth of this work. Our sister at Windsor was the first to appreciate its value, and heartily she added her honorary M. A. to the degrees of the author, whilst soon followed the praises and the envied D. C. L., of old English Oxford.

If for naught else this novel would be famous for exceeding all others in the number of expressive idioms, forcible words, and striking similes, which preserve to us the true picture of provincial life, five and fifty years ago. The rich, sparkling narrative is but excelled by the quaint, genuine humour and keenness of wit, whilst the racy New England dialect gives to the whole a fit and attractive setting and of itself is no mean charm.

For accuracy and completeness of description *The Clockmaker* has but few equals. Though mingled with ridicule against the indolence and lack of enterprise of the inhabitants, yet here the smiling beauties of Acadia with her great natural gifts and advantages are vividly set forth in bright and glowing colours. Not only were laughed out of existence those stupid customs and prejudices, which hinder industry and prosperity but for the people were secured many great and valuable lessons, each pregnant with instructive moral and sound practical wisdom. Well indeed does *The Clockmaker* deserve its reputation of being without a peer for good common sense, and well does Judge Haliburton deserve his fame not only as an excellent author and renowned humourist, but also as a truly great moral teacher, the pride of his country and the admiration of the world.

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### BROWNING.

He sits at last among his peers,  
While we stand chilled with eyes grown dim  
In looking over life's grey fields,  
And feel the heart light folded in.

A great soul! entered in to know  
The fullness of the Central Life—  
A giant leader of the race!  
Who never with the world made strife,

But led it surely, grandly on,  
Scaling clear heights with leap and bound,  
Then beckoning with a strong man's hand  
He kept his way to higher ground.

No maudlin cry he gave the world :  
 "Behold my grief, pity my pain,"  
 Strong as the breath of Alpine hills,  
 Sweet as the sound of summer rain,

The songs he gave us. Evermore  
 The deathless might of English speech  
 Shall sound their notes from shore to shore,  
 And to the coming nations teach

That it is nobler to endure,  
 And smother back the cry of pain,  
 Shall call our young strength to the heights,  
 To press ahead and bear the strain.

He wore no caste-bound fetters here,  
 A man of men, he "proved his soul,"  
 The mighty pulse within his words  
 Beat full and free above control.

The illumined edges of his thoughts  
 Have drawn the world's face after him,  
 As one would follow clear flute notes  
 Heard in cool aisles of forests dim.

With loving face of child and friend  
 To look on as the last of earth,  
 God wrapped him in a robe of light  
 And gave him strong, immortal birth.

He looks again in the clear eyes  
 Of her, the love dream of his youth,  
 The moonlit side of his great heart,  
 To whom he gave his manhood's truth.

Perfect conditions of new life  
 Are vibrant to his being there,  
 Gone in to feel the wider thrill,  
 Gone in to breathe the purer air.

IRENE ELDER MORTON.

The Chalet, Wilmot.

#### OUR LECTURE COURSE.

"A LOCOMOTIVE on Legs" was the subject of the third lecture of the Athenæum Course, delivered on April 18, by Rev. S. B. Dunn, of Granville Ferry. The substance of the address was a comparison between locomotives and men, which was drawn with many droll hits interspersing the solid common sense of the lecture.

By way of introduction, a short history of railroads was given, with diagrams illustrating the evolution of

the locomotive from the embryonic Rocket of Stephenson to the highly developed six-coupled freight engine of the present day. The audience was initiated into the mysteries of "camel-backs," "moguls," and "consolidation engines," together with various other terms occult to the non-mechanical.

"To the poetic eye," said the speaker, "the locomotive is poetical." As it stands on the track, a concrete manifestation of force, while the hissing steam-cloud leaps away toward heaven, it gives an idea of life and power latent but irresistible. Man and the locomotive have much in common. Man has been variously defined. He is "anthropos"—up-looker, "an animal that laughs," "a pendulum between smiles and tears," "a locomotive on legs." The biped locomotive and his cycled brother have much in common. Both are intricate in their mechanism; the average life of both is thirty years. "An iron constitution—not too much brass" is necessary to the welfare of both. "A sick man is more than half a sinner," for bad health predisposes to disease. Consecrated education is our headlight, available and necessary for all occupations. But too often there is "far beneath a low, grovelling cowcatcher of a sordid lust for gold." Culture should be universal, for "educated thought holds the throttle of the world's progress." The sun is the source of the engine's strength; ours, too, is of celestial origin. Christ is our Prometheus, setting coldness in a flame with His love. Power of adjustment is needed. The springs and buffers of the locomotive break the force of shocks, and have their counterpart in a yielding temper, and an elastic disposition. The locomotive needs a bell, and his relative a *belle*, to regulate their movements. Mind your flanges, and keep on the track—"heed and nourish the divinity within you." Brakes are necessary only on the down-grades, but there they are essential to safety. Switches lead off the sidings on to the main line. "Life is like a crooked railway." Watch the danger-signals in drink, bad literature, skepticism; and if all is well when Death puts on the brakes you will bring up safely in the grand central depot of Heaven.

The lecturer received hearty applause from the large number of locomotives present, who pulled out on to the main line with approving snorts; and each giving a strong tug at his bell(e) started auspiciously on the home run.

## OLD ACADIA.

## II.—LITERATURE.

IN the lovely valley of Minas, that Blomidon guards from the mystifying fogs of Fundy, have sprung some of the fairest flowers of Canadian Literature. There sprang that grand creation of the Micmacs, the Glooscap mythology. There sprang some who were first among Canada's poets and prose writers. Acadia has contributed prose principally, promises to add to Canada's literature in after years some sweet singers.

First let us look at economic literature. Two chiefs in the bureau of statistics of the United States, two authorities in industrial research, two founders and leaders in the economic literature of Canada, two of Acadia's former students, such are Edward Young, Ph. D., ante-collegiate, and J. L. Bishop, M. A., '43.

Dr. Young has written several works on industrial subjects, prominent among them his "Information for Immigrants" and his "Labor in Europe and America," which latter gives a complete history of labor from the earliest times upward. Both of these show a great amount of research and a thorough acquaintance with the subject treated. They had each a very extensive circulation in America and Europe, and received the encomiums of many who have power in politics and the press.

J. L. Bishop, who gave his services to the United States as surgeon in her army as well as statistician and author, compiled a "History of American Manufactures 1608-1866." This voluminous work is considered an authority even now, and has been the object of the praise of the leading London journals.

Fancy portrays a venerable old man seated in his arm chair surrounded by his numerous and valuable books. Thus many will think of Dr. Cramp, who, though not a student here, identified himself closely with Acadia as president from '51-'69. In Dr. Cramp we have the inception of Canada's theological literature. Possessing a thorough knowledge of theological history the products of his pen are standard authorities and are indispensable to the student. His "Council of Trent," "Reformation in Europe," "History of the Baptists from foundation of Christian Church to close of the 18th Century," and his "Text-book of Popery" are widely read on both sides of the sea.

Another ante-collegiate Silas T. Rand, D. D., L.L.D., D. C. L., devoted himself to ethnology. A true self-sacrificer, he gave up his whole life to ameliorate the condition of the native races of the Maritime provinces, and, though he was with little success in the prime object he had in view, he has indirectly done a great work, a work, not sufficiently appreciated now, but will be in after years when Micmac and Milicete have passed away, and the only monument left of them will be his records of their language, customs, and mythology. Canadians with a poor care of their own, it was left for Americans to preserve most of Acadia's writers and Acadian history in the minds of men. Leland has incorporated into his "Algonquin Legends," Dr. Rand's large collection of Micmac mythology, while the Smithsonian Institute has published his "Micmac Grammar" and "Micmac Dictionary." In addition to these works are his translations of a large part of the Bible into Micmac and Milicete. A thorough and rapid student of language, he was versed in several of the European, but he will be remembered especially for his knowledge of the Micmac, Milicete, Mohawk, Seneca, Tuscarora, and a now extinct language of Newfoundland, the Beothic.

With the name of Prof. C. F. Hartt of the memorable class of '60, is associated all the present thorough knowledge of Brazilian geology. While yet young he acquired a reputation in geological study, and was appointed by Emperor Dom Pedro to a task, fit only for a master scientist, but not too difficult for Hartt, a geological survey of Brazil. He published a book describing the results of his various expeditions to Brazil, "The Geology and Physical Geography of Brazil." Ethnological pursuits were a diversion with him. He knew several languages almost as well as his own, and he was versed in legendary lore. He himself contributed to ethnologic literature in his "Brazilian Antiquities" and his "Mythology of the Brazilian Indians."

Acadia has fostered also a brilliant novelist, Prof. Jas. DeMille, who showed considerable genius as a writer. He dashed off his novels rapidly, and yet they were very popular, as the fact of their publication in *Harper's Magazines* will of itself declare. Among the numerous works of this first Canadian novelist may be mentioned "The Dodge Club," "The American Baron," "The Cryptogram," "B. O. W. C." which tells of old academy days, the "Mysterious

Manuscript Found in a Copper Cylinder' and his "Rhetoric." DeMille is said to resemble Thackeray, and the "Dodge Club" will represent very accurately this phase of his character, the jolly, good-natured, overflowing. The "Mysterious Manuscript" represents the other phase of his character, when he indulged in the weird and fantastic. DeMille has since his death been almost forgotten, but now that a greater interest than heretofore is being taken in Canadian literature, we predict for a him speedy return to popularity. As the author of the "Mysterious Manuscript" lately published anonymously he should soon rise again above the literary horizon.

In addition to these there are others whom space will not permit to more than a mere notice. Samuel Elder, '44, is the author of a pathetic poem on the expulsion of the Acadians. T. A. Higgins, D. D., '54, wrote a "Life of Dr. Cramp." His description of Dr. Cramp's library is very realistic. C. H. Corey, D. D., '58, wrote an "Historical Sketch of Richmond University," and J. E. Wells, '60, a "Memoir of Dr. Fyfe of Woodstock College." Prof. A. E. Caldwell, '69, is the author of a valuable "History of Acadia College." F. H. Eaton, '73, has written a work on "Practical Mathematics." B. Rand, '75, Harv. '79, edited an "Economic History," a book of considerable value. B. W. Lockhart, '78, almost our only poet, in conjunction with A. J. Lockhart has written the "Masque of the Minstrels." J. G. Schurman, matriculant, '73, wrote "Kantian Ethics and Ethics of Evolution." V. F. Masters, '86, is the author of a work on the "Intrusives of Nova Scotia." J. R. Hutchinson, '88, in addition to several boy's stories has translated into English a unique Hindoo tale entitled "Fortune's Wheel." To this list another will be added soon in the shape of a book of poems by E. Blackadar, '92.

Acadia's literature has no place in our library. Not more than half the books mentioned here are on its shelves. Why is there not some corner in the library where all the productions of Acadia's men might find a resting place and be preserved?

URD.

The longest distance over which conversation by telephone is daily maintained, is 750 miles—from Portland, Me., to Buffalo, N. Y.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITORS OF ATHENÆUM:

The January number of your paper contained an editorial on "Love of Country," which I'm sure must be interesting to every loyal son of Acadia and inspiring to every true, Canadian heart. The principles which it advocates are certainly important and its tone of thought cannot fail to quicken those latent feelings which bind us to our native land. In this short space, however, it is not my purpose to enter into any extended eulogy of Canadian interests and people. Indeed they need none, for they carry the necessary recommendations on their very face. My object is rather to present as clearly as possible to any intelligent young man of a Canadian college, the many advantages for post-graduate study at Harvard. Of course this will apply mostly to those who think of taking such a course, and is not designed to introduce any inconsistency with their chosen profession. Nor is the attainment of the most thorough knowledge in any branch of study now offered here, at all injurious to cherishing native sentiments or the fostering of true patriotism.

And first a passing word may be said on matters of religion. There is a very common impression abroad that student-life at Harvard is decidedly detrimental to the healthy development of religious life, and that the excessive wealth together with other evils seriously enervate the morality of the ordinary young man. Now I am far from denying that Harvard has its evils as well as every other institution, but such beliefs seem to me nothing less than sheer superstition, and I believe that this statement can be borne out by the testimony of many men whose integrity of character we would not doubt for a moment. During my six months' residence here, I have found nothing that would deter a person from holding *any* belief religious or otherwise, untrammelled and unhindered. Even granting that such forces are at work, it must be admitted that the view which is unable to stand a test is worthless, and that to the man who is driven about by every wave and wind of doctrine, it is immaterial where he resides, for his creed would be as flimsy in one case as in another. Environment certainly influences, but just here the popular metaphysics often gets badly mixed, and I think it can be fairly said, that the environment at Harvard is neither more vicious nor less contributory to a decent and sober or even a



religious life, than the every-day surroundings of our ordinary college. These are no exaggerations but living facts. They are something which can be amply proven to any one who will mingle for a half-year among the various forms of student life here. It must however be borne in mind that Harvard is a place for men rather than boys. The students as a rule are older and more dignified than those of the smaller Colleges. Of course there are exceptions, and every new class adds to the number of the youthful and erratic, but the spirit of men pervades the daily work of the institution throughout. Every person who intends to study here can expect to be treated as a gentleman and in turn is bound to conduct himself accordingly. The school-boy tricks find no shelter and the hurrahs of fellow-workers are converted into the quiet yet effective manner with which the class work is performed. To a keen observer, there is an individuality of interest which is no less interesting than unique. This is no doubt due very largely to the present system of elective study, and which probably presents one of the most valuable elements in any higher course of education.

It is true that the system is accompanied with many evils in a small college, but its wonderful success at Harvard, is a striking proof of its adaptation to large institutions of learning. If a man has any decided powers for a certain line of research, it commands them for his respect. If he seeks for development, it holds out the golden opportunities and invites him to become a man. For the dabbler and the dilettante it can do no more than any other, but for him who would cling to a chosen line of action, it offers his greatest reward and highest realization. The details of study I need not mention; suffice it to say that a liberal training is given in almost any branch of study with the best methods which the ordinary American student may desire. The immense advantage of well-equipped libraries can hardly be overrated. To one who has been accustomed to ill-adapted libraries it is impossible to say how invaluable is the reserved-book system, and other reforms now in vogue at Harvard. Many of the departments have separate libraries for themselves, and in the reserved system the books are arranged for individual courses. To the student of limited means these are among the greatest helps, and enable him to do a large amount of parallel

reading which otherwise could not be done. The pamphlets of the several departments contain more detailed information than can be given here. The best and surest way of doing things is to obtain descriptive pamphlets of courses in the department of your proposed study, or if there be no descriptive pamphlets, then get the advanced sheets of the catalogue. All of these can be obtained free of cost upon application to the Secretary of the University.

Financially, there is probably no institution in America to-day that is doing the work for students of limited means but of good character, that is being accomplished at Harvard. A comparative study of college finances is needless to support this view, for it has now become a well-established fact. The amount that can annually be given by the college to proper persons is about \$45,000 in the form of Fellowships, Scholarships, loan funds, aids, etc. To obtain aid during the first year of attendance, the student must be well recommended by his instructors and must have done good work throughout his course. With such a student there would be a very good chance of obtaining \$150 or even more. After his entrance, as elsewhere, to one who is largely thrown upon his own resources, an untiring industry is the most essential element in student-life at Harvard. For those who are inclined to athletics the privileges in connection with the gymnasium, grounds, boat-house, etc., are superb. There he will find full scope for his physical powers, and can cultivate to his heart's content the much lauded *corpus sanum*.

Before closing, however, I must briefly speak of two matters of great importance to students of limited means, and to Canadians intending to enter Harvard. This year there has been organized what is known as the "Foncraft Dining Club." Partially supported by a college fund, the object of this club is, to furnish meals to a limited number of students at the lowest possible rate and without aiming to make profits. Thus far it has proved a success and food has been supplied at a cost of less than \$3 per week, which a college officer recently told me, was the cheapest living that has been afforded in Cambridge for the past thirty years. With the prospect for enlargement during the coming year, it will undoubtedly become one of the greatest boons to student in narrow circumstances. The other matter to which I have done, is, the formation of a *Canadian Club*.

Its importance to new-coming Canadians cannot be estimated, and already it has done lasting service to Maritime colleges. Heretofore there has been considerable trouble with students entering Harvard from these institutions; the regular graduates of a three years course being admitted to the Sophomore, and those of a four years' course to the Junior class. Again, not much attention has been given to honor-work done in provincial colleges. Now, however, it has been so arranged that any regular graduates of Mount Allison, Dalhousie, University N. B., or Acadia, can enter the junior year, and any honor-work that he has done will be taken into consideration for the possibility of higher admission. The Upper Canadian colleges of similar grade would of course obtain the same privileges and some of them probably more. This certainly has removed one of the many stumbling blocks in the past. In the way of making students feel at home here, the club can also do very much, and bids fair to become one of the most potent influences in drawing Canadian students and assisting them while at Harvard. Either its President or Secretary would be glad to furnish information upon any point connected with the University to any student coming to Cambridge. But I have already overstepped the bounds of a correspondent, and can only hope that this homely message may enlighten all those desirous of extended research, as to the splendid opportunities at hand.

C. H. McINTYRE.

Cambridge, Mass., April 5th, 1890.

### Personals.

H. A. Lovitt, B. A. '86, has been dangerously ill with diphtheria at his home in Kentville. His many friends will be glad to know that he is now convalescent.

W. H. Hutchins of the class of '91, is slowly recovering from a recent attack of pneumonia. Hurry up, Hue for we want to see you back.

H. E. Harris of class of '90, is very low with pneumonia at his home in Wolfville. His illness is doubly trying as he is only a month from the end of his course.

Blanche M. Bishop, B. A. '86, has lately returned from Germany where she has just completed a two years course of study.

Charles D. Rand, 79, who has been in Real Estate business in British Columbia since '84, is now a millionaire.

### Exchanges.

*The Argosy* announces progress and good times at Mount Allison. The town ladies delight to entertain the students, while the lively movement of intellectual and social life between the ladies' and mens' colleges is unabated. The new Conservatory 90 x 37 ft., with an extension 37 ft. wide, is soon to be built at a cost of \$9875. The building will be three stories high with a stone basement. Fitting reference is made to the lately deceased Dr. Packard, first President of Mount Allison.

*The Thielensian* contains a number of good articles. Its literary articles of which "The Men who rule the State" is one of the best, are short and of practical interest. In some ways the editorials partake too much of the character of those of a general newspaper.

*The University Monthly* for April, opens with a good article on "Imperial Federation Movement." The Federation movement attempts to show, "first, the necessity of some modification in the ties between the mother country and the colonies; secondly, the kind of modification; lastly, the degree of modified union." The writer closes with these words: "Perhaps after all that love for the Union Jack which brought the Loyalists to Canada, will decide the question of "Imperial Federation." The Monthly will issue a double number in June giving a sketch of the history, attractions and opportunities of the college. "The President's report" is full of interesting statistics.

We would especially mention the article on "Novel Reading," in the April number of *The Seminary Bema*.

The exchange column of one of our most valued exchanges is, generally, almost entirely filled with commendatory notices of itself, copied from its exchanges. Leaving modesty out of the question, we cannot believe that the only worthy paragraphs of any of our exchanges are those in praise of any particular paper, no matter how high that paper may stand, or how pleasing such paragraphs may be to its editors.

During the year, we have read the *Niagara Index* with some pleasure. It is distinguished by a great

devotion to Roman Catholic interests and the style of its articles is quite vivid. But the *Index* is nothing, if not dramatic, and the drama generally reaches its height in the exchange column. We fancy the editor sitting in his pandemonium while the various exchanges pass in mazy dance before him. Some, whose greatest sin seems to be that they have criticised the *Index*, he consigns to eternal oblivion; others, he rates with more lurid vengeance for having ventured remarks on a paper of such high standing. As a work of Art, we must say the *Index* is worthy of careful study, but in calm judgment or intelligent sympathy it does not excel.

MARRIAGE.

At the residence of J. M. Putnam, M. D., Chelsea, Mass, April 16th, by Rev. W. S. McKenzie, D. D., Rev. Edward Hickson, M. A. '64, to Amelia E. Hamm of Grand Bay, St. John, N. B.

Locals.

"Oh come off!"

For confectionery, apply at Room 3.

A new feature.—Written examinations are now conducted in "Tiffology by the First Hand."

A market has been found for old clothes, caps, &c, if the following report be true. The Juniors (it is said), having washed their caps and reduced the size, held an auction. The Freshmen invested and are now as happy as the day is long.

Base Ball is still holding its own this season, although it has to contend with two new rivals, Lacrosse and Lawu Tennis. Two very interesting games were played lately. The first, a hard fought game, was played on the 18th ult., between the Sophomore and Freshman teams, the Freshmen winning. The second, Juniors vs. College was played on May, 2nd, to the discomfiture of the Juniors.

Some hints, in reference to the art of sausage making, may be obtained between Deuteronomy and Judges.

Scene.—A group of students watching the tedious movements of one of their number climbing a tree.

1st Student—"Look out there! you'll fall and your fawther will have a funeral *dill* to settle."

2nd Student (well acquainted with the climber)—"No fear of that. He'll be so slow about coming down it won't hurt him."

The age of chivalry is not past nor tender solicitude for the enjoyment of the fair ones extinct. Everyone will declare, save a cynic, *real manly* feeling to be exhibited by the following. A cad at a recent reception, having been introduced to a young lady, retired with his companion to a sequestered corner and whispered, "Now don't introduce me to any young lady to night, I've got a bad cold and can't talk."

The Acadia Missionary Society held its last regular meeting on Sunday evening, April 13th. The programme was as follows:—

- Music ..... Double Quartette.
- Essay—"Missions in China" .. Miss Dixon.
- Essay—"The Jews" ..... E. A. Read.
- Music ..... Double Quartette.
- Address ..... Prof. Jones.

Mr. B. "Are Diamond dyes poisonous?"

Prof. "No, I don't think so. Why?"

Mr. B. "Well, I saw at the druggist's that all the womea are dying with them."

Prof. "We will consider that joke, Mr. B., and get the fun out of it at leisure."

It is not difficult to determine in which way a young theologue's sentiments run, when he makes the defence of the English dude a personal matter. He might be more successful in his defence, if he acquired that branch of elocution he mentioned as being so difficult, the other *day*, *viz*: Homiletic poise.

Student reading.

On my *dun* coloured steed as I galloped away  
Through the fresh fragrant air of a morning in May,  
When I glanced to my right to my left, it was seen  
That the corn all around was resplendently green.

Teacher.

Sir, will you pardon my mention to you of a fact;  
No matter how potent your presence may act,  
Or whatever the colour your glances between,  
If you were not there *still* the corn would be green.

We do admire the man who forgetful of all else save one absorbing topic thoroughly *masters* his subject. We have heard of a great scientist who would become so absorbed in his studies as to think he had dined, upon noticing the plate which a waggish friend had emptied for him; but never before did we know that photography was so absorbing a study as to make a man forget himself far enough to carry his apparatus to the performance of a sacred rite. We have not heard it stated as a fact, but if we did, should not be surprised to hear that nightly the amateur perambulates the ridge pole of his boarding house with a camera obscura and tripod securely packed under his arm. But persevere: nothing great is lightly won.

"Fame is no plant that grows on mortal soil."

Our social life has been brightened by the reception held by the ladies of the Seminary on March 29th. The Athenæum Society also held a reception in college hall, on April 25th. Both were enjoyed immensely, and all seem to think that such things should occur oftener. A man who develops one portion of his body and neglects the others will become a monstrosity. To have a perfect body he must develop all parts. So the student, while cultivating the intellectual side of his nature, should not forget the others, especially the social.

The youth no longer strays through quiet park or scene of sylvan beauty, lest his enchanting smile ensnare some trusting fair one. He has taken the veil.

*Student* (who feels himself somewhat hemmed in by the requirements of the professor)—“Why, we'll have to get up before daylight to learn 'all those questions.”

*Prof.*—“No, you need not get up before daylight, but it may take you till after dark to answer them.”

SCENE.—After chemistry hour, two students discussing organisms and impurities in water.

*1st Student*—“I know P—s well isn't affected in that way.”

*2nd Student*—“Well, I never got any good water there.”

*1st Student*—(Expressing his opinion very emphatically)—“I guess you couldn't have been around there very much.”

The third recital took place on Friday evening, April 4th. The programme was as follows:—

Piano Solo—“Rondo Brilliant” Eb. Op. 62... Miss May Prat.

Ladies' Chorus—“The Little Bird,” Solo.... Miss Bill.

Reading—“Echo and the Fairy,”..... Miss J. Brown.

Piano Solo—“Valse Stryienne,” Op. 27, No. 2. Miss M. Bligh.

Solo..... Miss Bill.

Readings—(a) “The Low Backed Car,”.....

(b) “My Love,” (Musical accomp't) Miss B. Burnett

Piano Duet—“Fantasie Brilliant, Oberon,”

Misses Bill and Corning.

Solo—“La Fioraja,”..... Miss C. King.

Reading—“The Ferry of Gallaway,”..... Miss A. Tilly.

Male Quartette..... Messrs. Shand, Dimock, Curry and Rice.

Reading—“Soldier's Joy.” (Musical accomp't) Miss J. Brown.

Solo—“Anchored,”..... Mr. L. Rice.

Piano & Organ Duet—(a) Reverie du Soir.....

(b) Aie Varie de la Serenade.

Misses Newcombe and Harding.

God Save The Queen.

The Chaldaean has been outdone. His music must forever be a thing of the past. For hours, forty and more Juniors labored over a Logic examination paper, and next morning it was announced that there was “a new coon in town.” Whether there is any logical connection between an exam. and a “coon” we have not sufficient knowledge of either subject even to venture an opinion; but in this case one seemed to follow the other as the night succeeds the day. The Logic continued three long hours, and the coon remained three short days. The one furnished amusement for the Faculty, the other fun for the boys; the one had the power to pluck, the other pluck

to meet the powers that be even at the very gates of the Sem. There was music in both, that of one still fills the air while the other is hushed forever. One came to the Hill clothed in the chaste garments of Jevous and Mill; the other retired from the campus in the gayest spring attire, fresh from the wardrobes of Byebent, Jimpass, Tiffawd and others. Should he e'er come back again, it would be a greater kindness to initiate him to the order of the bath.

Oh why should spirits, those of middle air,  
Who watch o'er boards and guard each single hair,  
E'er need to sleep, relaxing vigils stern,  
And wake to find their care away is storn.  
Romorse then lacerates their inmost heart  
To find that sidelights from the cheek could part,  
Their weeks of watchful care all spent in vain.  
The steel's unsparring edge has fallen amain  
And smote, with unresisted force, the hair  
That graceful hid the cheeks now shining bare.  
How futile man's declaring what shall be!  
Fate aye comes in and says leave that to me.  
The rabbits useless bob across the plain,  
The steel descends and clips the tail again.

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