



**Rev. Thomas Trotter, D. D.**

Acadia's New President.

# The Acadia Athenæum.

"Prodesse Quam Conspici"

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## *The Rainbow.*

WELLINGTON JEFFERS DOWLER.

Liquid feet are dancing  
Across the summer lawn,  
Upward light is glancing  
As in the early dawn.  
Every blade is gleaming  
Enamelled by the shower,  
Every bloom is beaming  
The glory of the hour.  
The parting clouds are flying  
With fleecy wings on high,  
The thunder-peal is dying  
Adown the steeps of sky.  
From out the gloom impending  
A mighty arch appears  
Prismatic colours blending,  
Pledge of the coming years.  
Arch of the ages past, of æons yet to be,  
Vision of light and beauty, crowning land and sea.  
—The Canadian Magazine for October.

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## *Rev. Thomas Trotter, D. D.*

ACADIA'S NEW PRESIDENT.

On the resignation of Rev. A. W. Sawyer, D. D., LL. D., our revered and time-honored President, Rev. Dr. Trotter was chosen as his successor. The new president assumed the onerous and responsible duties of his office August 1st, 1897. The formal inauguration into the presidency took place in College Hall on Thursday evening, October 14th. It is with much pleasure that we present the portrait of Dr. Trotter as the frontispiece in this first number of the year, and place before our readers a biographical resume.

Thomas Trotter was born in England in 1853. At the age of 17 his father removed to Toronto, Ontario. Early led to become a

Christian and feeling called to preach the Gospel, he entered Woodstock College for preparation to meet the duties of his high calling. At an early stage in his student life the death of his father imposed heavy responsibilities in connection with the maintenance of the home. Yet native ambition and fondness for study united to an indomitable perseverance found the means for the gratification of his thirst for knowledge. In the excellent preparatory school at Woodstock he came under the instruction of such men as Rev. Dr. Fyfe and Dr. Wells. After finishing the course with credit to himself and satisfaction to his teachers, Mr. Trotter became a student in Toronto University. At this Institution a specialty was made of philosophical subjects, and after a successful career of four years, he received the degree B. A., with honors in philosophy. After this, three years were spent in taking the theological course at McMaster.

During these student years, the vacations were not employed as periods of rest, but were rather occupied in making valuable contributions to the cause of Christ and to the churches which he served as pastor. One year was spent at Shelburne, N. S., where Mr. Trotter won for himself a large place in the esteem of the people by his wise counsel, genial bearing, ready sympathy and faithful preaching. Even to-day the Shelburne Church is strong in attachment to the leader of our educational work because of the exceedingly helpful associations in Christian labor during the year 1876-'77. At this place, Mr. Trotter was ordained to the ministry in 1877.

Immediately upon the completion of his Theological studies in 1885, Rev. Mr. Trotter was called to the pastorate of Woodstock Baptist Church. In this sphere of service abundant evidence was given of the possession of those rare powers and qualities of head and heart, which have contributed so generously to a brilliant record as pastor, preacher and teacher. Dr. T. H. Rand, who was principal of Woodstock College during Mr. Trotter's pastorate in the town, thus writes in the *McMaster Monthly* of April 1896: "No pastor of Woodstock Church was ever more beloved or loved his people more. It was never my privilege to sit under a pastor whose ministrations I more highly prized. I was much impressed with his unflinching exegetical instinct which enabled him to discover the truth of the Divine Word; while his warm spirit and fine imagination ministered that truth convincingly to his hearers."

While pastor at Woodstock, Mr. Trotter came into intimate relations with the educational life of the Upper Provinces. When plans for a Christian University were first proposed by Dr. Rand, no one was more responsive to the suggestion than the subject of this sketch, and no one labored more zealously, nor with more wisely directed energy, to effect this realization. Mr. Trotter, who was a member of the committee which formulated the charter of McMaster University,

preached an educational sermon before the Convention of Ontario and Quebec on the occasion when the undertaking of new educational enterprises was being pressed for consideration. The text was Romans 14 : 8 and 9 ; the theme, "The Lordship of Christ in the higher education." The sermon was described as a masterful effort and served in a marked way to mould the sentiment of the denomination. During the discussion which followed, Mr. Trotter took a decisive step by offering the following motion : "Resolved that the Convention affirm its judgment that McMaster University should be organized and developed as an independent school of learning." At a subsequent session, the resolution was enthusiastically adopted with the simple addition of one word.

In 1888, the severe strain of pastoral and denominational duties rendered a rest of nearly a year necessary. At the close of this short period of recuperation, he became pastor of Bloor Street Church, Toronto. After a very brief season in this relation, a pressing invitation to become professor of Homiletics and Pastoral Theology in McMaster University was accepted and thus ties again were severed. We quote again from the words of ex-Chancellor Rand in the article to which reference was made above : "The carrying out of this decision was a severe strain on Bloor Street Church into whose affections his life had entered with exceptional fervor and strength. I need not speak of his careful and laborious discharge of the duties of his professoriate. Students and Professors felt the fine enthusiasm which clothed him as with a garment. A good scholar, a good teacher, a good preacher, a good man ! He is all these. He has head power, heart power, soul power. Life lives in him, and has its richest expression in a warm and biblical preaching, luminous with the gospel of the Son of Man who is the Son of God. He is a safe and wise man, quick with interpretive sympathy, loyal and true, incapable of betraying a trust, and delighting in open and manly thinking and living. As the recent head of the University, it may be permitted to me to say that no member of the Faculty responded more quickly and continuously to considerations involving the welfare of every side and phase of our complex organism than did Mr. Trotter. Nor was he quicker to perceive than willing to do."

Professor Trotter occupied the Theological chair for five years, until, in view of his strong attachment to the work of the ministry, and the urgent solicitations of the Wolfville Church, he was led to accept the call to our University town and to become pastor of the Baptist Church in this place. One thoroughly qualified to speak has well said that his retirement was a great loss to McMaster but a great gain to Wolfville and Acadia.

To the excellence of the services rendered by Professor Trotter, the McMaster Faculty gave emphatic testimony in the words of the

following resolution recorded on the pages of their minutes: "Resolved—That we place on record our personal esteem for Professor Trotter, and our appreciation of the excellent service he has rendered during the past five years. His genial manner and unflinching courtesy made him a very delightful companion; whilst his clear views and sound judgment, his fine candor and genuine manliness rendered him a most useful member of the Faculty. We admired the hearty and conscientious interest which he took in every department, and in the general life of the University. Of his work as Professor of Homiletics and Pastoral Theology we have heard only words of praise. It was marked by painstaking thoroughness and a contagious enthusiasm that made his lectures a delight as well as a profit to the students. He enjoyed in a large measure the esteem, confidence and affection, not only of professors and students, but also of our people generally. Now that in obedience, as he believes, to the will of God, he has re-entered the work for which his heart always yearned, our prayer is that the Holy Spirit may crown with large blessing his pastorate in Wolfville—a pastorate for which he is eminently fitted."

The esteem and appreciation of the students of McMaster is indicated by the spirit of the following address:—

"To the Rev'd Prof. Trotter,

Dear Sir,

"It is with feelings of the deepest regret that we, the students of McMaster University, have learned of your intended departure from our midst to resume the work of the pastorate. We cannot allow the occasion to pass without placing on record our very high appreciation of yourself and of the service you have rendered to the University during the time of your professorship.

"Our intercourse with you has led us to recognize the sterling worth, the genuine manliness and the thorough consecration of your Christian character. Your gentlemanly bearing and untiring devotion for the welfare of others, have been to us both an example and an incentive. No student has come into contact with you without feeling that in you he possessed a warm personal friend.

"Those of us who have been privileged to attend your classes will ever remember the enthusiasm and inspiration that have characterized them. The instruction we have received there will influence in no small degree our future ministry.

"We feel, too, that in your intercourse with the churches you have done much to gather the interest and affection of the denomination around our beloved University.

"Whilst we regret the loss McMaster University sustains in your removal, we rejoice that the field to which you are going is one of such a character as to afford opportunity for the exercise of those rare gifts with which you have been so richly endowed. That heaven's

choicest blessings may attend you and that abundant success may crown your labors is the prayer of the McMaster students."

During the years of pastoral service in Wolfville, marked progress was manifested in all the departments of Church life. The financial receipts largely increased, a handsome parsonage was built and constant additions were made to the Church's strength and membership. To the students, these years of ministration were especially valuable as was evinced by an enlarged appreciation for the Word of God and increased interest in the exercises of Divine worship. The conferring of the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon Rev. Mr. Trotter by McMaster University in May of this year, was a graceful act on the part of our sister Institution and a source of gratification to all the friends of Acadia; for as preacher, pastor and friend, Dr. Trotter has greatly endeared himself to the people of Wolfville, the graduates of Acadia and the students in the several departments of these Institutions. His ministrations have been conducive to spiritual development and earnest Christian living. At the same time they have been thoroughly educative, thus in the truest sense contributing to genuine culture and growth. The students feel that in Dr. Trotter each has a warm personal friend. For him there is the most cordial feeling of esteem and confidence. It was therefore but natural that when the announcement was made that he had been chosen as the new President of Acadia, the declaration should be received with pleasure and satisfaction.

Dr. Trotter has made a most favorable impression upon the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces. He has their confidence in no small degree. He was the preacher of the Convention sermon at the last annual gathering in St. John, the unanimous testimony in regard to which is that it was an exceedingly able and eloquent address. Already President Trotter is becoming well known to the constituency of the University. In fact he was not really a stranger when he first came into our borders as pastor. On several previous occasions he had visited the Provinces and spoken before Conventions and other assemblies. On one of these visits—May 5, 1887—he was united in marriage to Miss Freeman, daughter of the late Rev. David Freeman, M. A., of sainted memory. Mrs. Trotter is a graduate of Acadia Seminary, has studied at Wellesley Ladies' College, and has held important positions on the staff of instructors in the N. B. Seminary in St. John and in Woodstock College. Possessing a trained mind, a ready sympathy, and untiring devotion to the interests of Religion, Mrs. Trotter has been able to contribute generously to the President's successful pastoral career and professional service.

In an article in the issue of February 17, Rev. S. McC. Black, M. A., the brilliant editor of the *Messenger and Visitor*, has these words

to say of our President : "Mr. Trotter has reached a period of life at which the unimpaired vigor of youth unites with experience and mature judgment to form conditions out of which the best work of his life may be expected. Because of his love for pastoral work and a sense of the great responsibilities connected with the presidency of the College, he has hesitated before accepting the important position to which he has been called by his brethren. But now, having accepted the appointment, we are assured that he will put his whole heart and energy into the work. His aims will be high, his powers of leadership will be devoted to the realization of noble Christian ideals. With the hearty co-operation of those who, in the Faculty of the College, have so long and faithfully served its interests, with the generous support of the denomination, and, above all, with the guidance and blessing of God, we shall confidently expect that our educational work, under the presidency of Mr. Trotter will move forward to large and increasing results."

Rev. Dr. Trotter enters upon his duties as President of Acadia University at a time when all the powers of his resourceful nature will be severely taxed. Professorial duties will not be assumed this year, but instead, an effort is to be made to raise \$75,000, to meet the immediate need of these Institutions. He stands in the line of illustrious names—Crawley, Cramp, Sawyer. An inspiring record has been made by our beloved University, under the efficient leaders of the past, whose names will ever be fragrant with sacrifice and devotion. Now, through renewed interest on the part of every friend of these Schools, under the leadership of Acadia's new President, a bright and noble future is predicted and confidently expected.

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### *International Y. M. C. A. Convention at Northfield, Mass.*

It was the privilege of five delegates from Acadia to attend the International Y. M. C. A. Conference at Northfield, June 25 to July 4. The far-famed beauty of the place, the excellence of the programme of meetings, the inspiration of fellowship with 600 College students from different parts of the world, the devotional uplift of the sunset gatherings on Round Top—all these considerations contributed to make the stay in Northfield a period of peculiar pleasure and satisfaction, as well as spiritual profit.

The Conference was a benediction to every attendant. It is greatly to be hoped that the contribution to the individual religious life may have been so real and so considerable, that in addition to the delivery of reports, the delegates, as they have returned to the peculiar conditions of their own College life, may be able to aid in making the

year before us, one of blessing to the schools and of triumph for the Leader of the hosts of truth.

It may be interesting to read a few statistics as to the attendance. There were 590 students present, representing 27 races and nations. Delegates came from the British Isles, from Germany, France, Switzerland, Norway and Holland; from Syria, India, China, Ceylon, Corea; from Japan and Australia; from Cape Colony and Transvaal; from Chili, Venezuela, Central America and Mexico; besides numbers from the United States and Canada, not to forget the representatives of the Negroes of the South and the Indians of the West. The largest number from any one State was 171 from 20 Colleges in Pennsylvania. New York came next with 97 from 9 Colleges; and Massachusetts followed with 73 from 5 Institutions of Learning. Canada sent 14 delegates from 7 Colleges; and of these, 5 went from Acadia.

Denominationally also there was great variety. There was at least one delegate from each of 36 religious denominations. There were 109 Presbyterians, 98 Baptists, 80 Congregationalists, 78 Methodists, 23 Episcopalians, 21 Friends, 19 Lutherans, 13 Reformed Lutherans and smaller numbers from 28 other religious bodies.

The meetings were full of interest and enthusiasm throughout. Plans for the Conference had been carefully made and their successful execution will mean new life and inspiration to men engaged in Christian work in Educational Institutions the world over.

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### *Our Friends—the Class of '97.*

Years pass, classes are matriculated and graduated, anniversary seasons come and go, yet all the while the educational interests centred at Wolfville are becoming strengthened and more thoroughly in touch with the expanding life of the times. Year by year Acadia University makes valuable contributions to the intellectual and religious life of the country and the world. For nearly sixty years have these streams of influence been flowing forth from the Hill to bless and gladden the people. The life of the world is the richer, truer, nobler, because of the men and women who are numbered among the Graduates of our College. Acadia has abundant reason to be proud of her graduates, and her sons are placed under a heavy debt of gratitude for the benefits of their College course.

The years spent in the associations of College life are fruitful in ties of friendship closely cemented by congenial tastes, united efforts and mutual sympathies. When the day arrives on which the relations of years must be severed, mingled with the hearty expressions of good-will and best wishes, there is the feeling of sadness occasioned by the necessity of separation.

The time for parting has come. The associations of years must be broken. The students, who four years ago entered these halls as freshmen, have steadily and persistently climbed the steep and rugged hill of Knowledge, until now, from the hand of the justly honored President of these Institutions, they are to receive the parchment which marks an important and honorable stage of their progress. I see before me many friends of Acadia. They are gathering from near and from far. In particular I notice a large number of persons who are specially interested in the Class of '97. Of this class they are thinking. It is of this class they speak. The town is looking at its best in the beautiful robes of Spring. The verdure of the fields finds its counterpart in the rich green of tree and hedge. Holiday garb seems to have been put on for some special occasion. College Hall, too, presents an attractive appearance. On the platform there are the varied tints of the flowers. Class flags adorn the walls. Conspicuous among these, occupying the prominent place, is the banner of the class which is to receive its formal acknowledgement of University service and is now to step forth into public life.

As the people are assembling in College Hall on this eventful morning to witness the graduating exercises, a stranger sitting by my side, evinces much interest in the proceedings. He desires especially to obtain some information concerning the class that to-day is saying farewell to these familiar scenes. The time is very limited; it is altogether too brief in which to give an adequate description of our worthy friends. Yet in the few moments at command, it is a pleasure to enlighten the stranger as far as possible.

The first item of information I have to communicate is that the class is large—numbering 30, and that it has an interesting proportion of young ladies. These 3 gifted aspirants for baccalaureate distinction are not simply an annexment to the class but a real factor of its life. They have always taken a lively interest in the debatable subjects which came before the class organization, and in all the departments of study they have taken high rank in scholarship and in marks as well; though the stranger thinks "the marks don't amount to much anyway."

The class of '97 is a company of good students. In class work and in general attainment they stand well. There are the weak points in the line certainly. But it should not for a moment be assumed that the reason to be assigned for any weakness in the essential work of a student is to be attributed in any case to a lack of devotion, application or natural ability; rather indeed, the cause is to be found in a superabounding devotion.

During the days of their College sojourn, the members of '97 were extremely devoted—to each other. As a common experience each seemed to find in another member particular attractiveness.

It was no remarkable occurrence for "two" and "two" to wend their way together from the room of entertainment—or in the early hours of Wednesday evening. Much advantage, and inspiration also, was a certain result of the doubly helpful method of preparing recitations together. It was considered that decided gain inevitably accrued from a prevalent system of comparing notes. As a consequence of this loyalty and devotion, fellow Collegians who had the advantage of observing the practical operation of these theories of study in frequent application, entertain felicitous expectations.

The stranger does not understand the meaning of the words "comparing notes." The following explanation is given for his benefit.

With the possible exception of one or two competitors, the most expert operator in this department was a certain generous admirer of the doctrine of selection, some of whose class-mates, as well as a favored few of another class, became fully cognizant of his plans just before exams. His system of "comparing notes" consisted in friendly visits to others' rooms on the evening before an examination, on which occasion he would quietly jot down a few casual statements relating to the work. When a sufficient number of visits had been made to ensure success in mark receipts, a gracious "good night" was said and with happy reflections upon his effective social instincts, the stately scribe went home to dream of the good time on the morrow or of the ease with which a religiously literary production could be transcribed.

It is a pleasure to inform the stranger that not only is the class of '97 as a whole, good students but a number are more than ordinarily proficient in regular studies and in selected departments. With credit to themselves and honor to the College they have pursued their onward course taking high rank and securing generous development. Others have followed the foremost doing as successful work and receiving as efficient training as can be expected from books and classroom exercises to the practical exclusion of participation in the general life of College societies and sports. The stranger whispers that "it must be a serious loss to a student not to mingle freely in the companionships afforded in a College community."

The stranger is an adept at asking questions. It is almost impossible to satisfy his rapid interrogations. In response to his numerous enquiries I answer: Yes, one of the class did exceptionally clever work and took the Governor General's medal for the highest standing throughout the four years' course.—Another in the department of letters attained enviable proficiency and gives much promise of a brilliant future in the study and practice of literature.—No, all the appreciation of attractiveness has not been confined within class limits. Cases are not wanting in which the lines of magnetic influence take other directions.—Chipman Hall will indeed be a place of comparative quietude until new vocal ability makes itself heard—pos-

sessing in a measure equal to that of the past, the powers of feline and avian mimicry.—I believe there is one (or more) who with some seriousness, yet with unexampled generosity, accepts the doctrines and conditions of Easter tide.

Comparatively few entered the arena of sports, but those who graced the campus by their presence, acquitted themselves like men and contributed all that they could possibly effect, to secure an athletic reputation for their class. They will be remembered as worthy champions of the cause of athletic effort, so significantly suggested by A. A. A. A.

In the midst of debates on the Athenæum floor one voice was sure to be heard—and heard with pleasure and credit to himself. Frequently others joined in the “counsels of the wise.” There were some, however, who seldom or never ventured across the threshold of the Athenæum room. The loss sustained was divided between themselves and the debating society, the latter suffering from the lack of a laudable degree of enthusiasm in the objects for which the society exists, and from the failure to derive benefit from a lecture course conspicuous solely by its absence.

Four years ago the class of '97 entered the College as typical freshmen. Year by year natural diffidence and a retiring disposition gave place to generous impulses and popular interests. The years of College life were attended with much profit to every member. The noble ideals constantly held before them will continue to beckon them upward now that they are going forth from our midst. It was a pleasure to have them with us. Our heartiest wishes follow them as they engage in further preparation for life's responsibilities and in the prosecution of duties already in prospect. It is the united wish of the students to whom the class of '97 now bids farewell that the path of each of our departing friends may be a bright and pleasant way, strewn with flowers of encouragement, fanned by exhilarating breezes of expectancy and abounding in the choicest fruits of honor and success.

As the graduating exercises are beginning I am obliged to bring my words to the stranger to a close. (I am unable to give the stranger's name, as, owing to his extreme inquisitiveness and the distraction of the surroundings, I omitted to make enquiry). He gives me hearty thanks for the information he has received; and as there fall upon our ears the opening remarks of the President, who for the last time addresses to the graduating class his words of weighty admonition clothed grand and noble thoughts, I hear the stranger pronouncing happy prophecies for this class in whose members are now mingled so strangely the feelings of joy and regret. To '97 a signal honor is given in the fact that it is the last class to sit at the presidential feet of him who for so long has directed the affairs

of this Institution with foresight and devotion. Acadia will remember the graduates of '97 and at the same time trusts and believes they will ever cherish a green spot in memory for their kind and beneficent Alma Mater. Go forth, '97, fulfil your mission and generous and joyous be your rewards.

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### *Problems and Inspirations in the Future of Acadia.*

Inaugural Address delivered by Rev., T. Trotter, D. D., at his installation as President of Acadia University, in College Hall, Oct. 14.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen of the Board of Governors and Senate, Gentlemen of the Faculty, Ladies and Gentlemen :—

I should be wanting in sensibility if I did not feel at this moment that a signal honor was being put upon me by my brethren. That I should be deemed worthy to follow in the line of those noble men whose careers, as presidents of this College, have been so strikingly sketched by Dr. Saunders ; that a body of men so experienced as I see about me should have confidence in entrusting me with this position ; that it should be my privilege to be presented to this audience by the two venerable and distinguished men who have just led me to this platform—this is an honor for which I can find no adequate explanation either in my person or my qualifications. I can but attribute its bestowal to a very generous estimate of my attainments and character, and to the hopes entertained of what I may become, rather than to the recognition of what I am. If, however, I am sensible of the honor conferred, equally sensible am I of the greatness of the responsibilities imposed. Indeed, so preponderant is the latter feeling over the former, that I stand before you in no spirit of elation, but rather in that of humble hopefulness that my brethren have made no mistake in calling me to this service, and that, if God's will has found expression in their action, He will make manifest the fact by the bestowal of abundant grace for the discharge of the duties I now assume.

In selecting a subject for presentation at this time, it has seemed appropriate that I should speak rather from the presidential than the professorial point of view, and should deal with practical rather than theoretical topics. The subject of my remarks will be

#### PROBLEMS AND INSPIRATIONS IN THE FUTURE OF ACADIA.

To say that there are problems in the future of Acadia is not to say that she has not already solved, and that in noblest fashion, problems of the hardest sort ; it is not to hint at weakness, or to insinuate that her life and efficiency are in peril ; it is but to suggest that she aspires to an expanding future, that with the growth of her attainments there has come a growth of her ideals, and that in the

future, as in the past, progress must be made against difficulties which only thoughtfulness and resoluteness and patience can overcome.

One of the problems of the future will be

THE PROBLEM OF EDUCATIONAL EFFICIENCY.

This is a problem common to all educational institutions. The great Universities, with their splendid equipment and centuries of inspiring tradition, feel it not less than the smaller colleges, though, of course, from different causes. The elaborate equipment of the great Universities almost invariably implies a curriculum which invites the undergraduate to enter upon specialized courses too early for his highest advantage. The numbers in attendance, and the largeness of the classes, while generating spirit and enthusiasm, necessitate the adoption of lecturing rather than teaching methods in the class-room—a change by no means the best for the student at the undergraduate stage of his development—and make personal intimacy with the students and proper supervision of them on the part of the Faculty, an impossibility. In the smaller colleges, while the limited number makes the Socratic method possible in the class-room, gives ample scope for the personal influence of the professors, and creates conditions all around favorable to thoroughness and reality, so far as the work goes, there are often the disabilities which come from lack of numbers, prestige, and inadequate funds. Thus this problem of educational efficiency is, as I have said, a problem common to all educational institutions.

It has been a problem at Acadia from the beginning, a problem which has constantly engaged the governing bodies, and the succession of able men who have constituted its teaching staff. It must continue to engage the attention of the Governors and teachers who shall control the future.

In justice to those who have gone before, and for the guidance of the future years, it may be well to note some of the circumstances which make the problem peculiarly difficult of solution in an institution like our own.

The men who promoted the founding of the College were Christian men in a pronouncedly evangelical sense. Their thought was to secure for the successive generations of young people the advantages of a liberal education under vital Christian conditions. Experience, however, has proved that, if it is vitality and positiveness of Christian teaching and influence that you are after, this element can be secured only by the control of a body of men who are at one in respect to all essential Christian truths and aims. A governing body, composed of representatives of essentially varying schools of thought and belief, and habitually compromising and trimming out of deference to mutual prejudices, must inevitably be weak and nominal in its Christian in-

fluence. It has come to pass, therefore, that Acadia, like most of the Colleges which openly assert the Christian claims, and make the Christian element real and dominating, is a denominational College. Not denominational in the sense of prescribing denominational tests for the students, not denominational in the sense of inculcating denominational tenets, but denominational in the sense of being governed by a body of Christians, who are organized on the basis of a common faith and life, and who because of their unity can project the Christian claims into their educational work without compromise or apology, and give Christ His seat of pre-eminence in the temple of learning and intellect. In this sense, Acadia is a denominational College.

But see now what this means as affecting the problem of educational efficiency. In the first place, a college which is avowedly Christian, not to say denominational—a college which purposes to handle the great subject of religion with freedom and independence—is, in the nature of things, cut off from all rightful expectation of state support. It must depend upon the voluntary gifts of its friends. This is an elementary principle in Baptist faith and polity. If a college is not only Christian, but denominational in the sense which I have described, though its doors be thrown open ever so widely without prejudice to any on the ground of their denominational alliances, the constituency from which it may expect to receive patronage and means will be still further limited.

Such is the case with Acadia. She receives not a dollar from the public exchequer for the prosecution of her work. Did the state proffer its aid, she would be bound to decline it. And seeing that she is the property of the body of Christians called Baptists, and that other bodies of Christians have colleges which more fully command their sympathies, it is inevitable that her dependence both for students and for material support should be chiefly upon the Baptist people of these Provinces.

You will see at once that the limitation in the sources of supply means corresponding limitations in the plans that may be entertained, in the number of instructors that may be employed, and, as some may think, in the quality of service that can be secured. It renders the problem of educational efficiency a very difficult one.

And then apart from the fact of a limited constituency and meagre resources, there is another feature in the government of Acadia which will seem to many still further to complicate the problem. I refer to the ultimate government of the University by a popular Convention. The Board of Governors is, as you are aware, not a close corporation; not a self-perpetuating body, not a body with no obligation but to satisfy itself, or to fulfil in a general way the terms of a time-worn trust deed. The Governors are chosen from time to time by the vote of the Baptist Convention of these provinces, a body representative of

the Baptist Churches of the country, and embracing in its delegation the old and the comparatively young, the rich and the poor, the learned and the unlearned, the broad-minded and the narrow-minded. To this Convention, every serious proposal must be submitted for ratification. Year by year the Board must report in full concerning the life and work of the institution and submit to a popular discussion and vote at every point. Imagine the amazement of Carlyle at such a democratic conception. Nor must we be surprised if many another shakes his head with an air of apprehension. It must be admitted that, in some respects, this government by a popular body heightens the difficulty of the educational problem.

From this I pass to a second problem, a problem of a more particular sort, a problem which for some years has been in abeyance, but is now again demanding consideration, and at least a working solution. I allude to

#### THE PROBLEM OF THEOLOGY.

The design in the educational effort seems to have been from the first to give to the young people of the denomination, whatever their purposes in life, a liberal education under positive Christian influences. Interwoven, however, with this general design has been a special solicitude that the rising ministry might be profitted by the provision made, and might bring to the leadership of the churches informed and disciplined minds as well as devout hearts. The leaders have rightly felt that fundamental to a true culture was the discipline furnished by the general course, and there the emphasis has been put. The desire, however, to do the best possible for the ministry has inspired repeated efforts to add to the general course some distinctly theological work. Besides other less important efforts, there was in the fifties and sixties a period of 15 years when instruction was given in various theological subjects by the late Dr. Gramp. In the seventies and eighties for a period of nine years theological work again assumed very respectable proportions under the instruction of the late Dr. Crawley, and Dr. Welton now of McMaster University.

In the year 1883 Dr. Welton was invited to a professorship in the Toronto Baptist College, now the theological department of McMaster, and an overture was made by the Toronto brethren with a view to making the Toronto College the Theological School for the Baptists of the Dominion. Under that proposal, theology was abandoned at Acadia; though not forever, as after events have proved. Some students for the ministry have gone to Toronto for theology; more have continued to go to Newton, Rochester and Chicago; some have gone nowhere. A section of the denomination has never been happy that theology was thus dismissed, and as a result of a growing demand for its restoration, a theological course was elaborated six years ago, was ratified by the Convention, and inserted in the calendar. It was the best proposal that seemed likely to prove practicable. It has been

called the B. Th. course. It assumes that the theological instruction given should be part of a definitely prescribed course. It assumes, moreover, that as the University may give the degree of B. A., or of B. Sc. at the close of a four years' course, in which the ordinary college studies or the Natural Sciences have predominated respectively, so with equal propriety may it grant the degree of Bachelor in Theology at the end of a four years' course in which the theological element has predominated, provided that the entrance to this course has been equally high, and the requirements of it equally exacting. This course, I say, was inserted in the calendar six years ago. It has stood there, however, as the record of decisions reached, and the prophecy of good things to come. The lack of funds has made it impracticable to put the course into effect.

But once more the unexpected has happened, and the handsome bequest of the late Godfrey P. Payzant is found to be a bequest for theological purposes. Actual work in this department is again made possible. The problem is what shall that work be? What is the wisest expenditure of the funds at command? Well, it is always best to conserve the wisdom and work of the past if possible, and build thereupon, and the Governors have decided that the typical course in theology shall be substantially the B. Th. course already on the pages of the calendar. Something of a modified type also may be introduced temporarily for the assistance of special classes of men; but the B. Th. course is to be the type. It is not desired that the men who are young and free should elect this course in place of a full arts course and a full course in theology elsewhere. They should hold themselves loyally to the largest and best preparation that is possible. But it is believed that for a considerable body of men it will be the best course that they can take.

The efficient teaching of the theological subjects of the course will demand the time of three men. Mr. Payzant's bequest, since half of it goes to found a beneficiary fund for theological students, will not provide for more than the salaries of two professors. Other personal gifts must be forth-coming, or the churches, in addition to what they are now doing yearly for the arts department, must furnish the salary of the third professor, whenever the time comes for his appointment. It is not proposed to begin theological work for two years at least, and only then on condition of such a measure of financial enlargement as shall firmly secure the other departments, as well as give the new undertaking the guarantee of success. This is the problem of theology briefly stated with some hints as to its proposed solution.

A third problem is

#### THE PROBLEM OF FINANCE.

This problem is but an element in the great problems already dealt with. It is susceptible, however, of being abstracted and considered by itself, and just now such distinct consideration seems to be

demanded. What then are some of the facts in finance upon which the future of the University is conditioned? I shall, of course, confine myself to the University to-night, leaving out of view the wider financial problem of the Board, which embraces the other institutions. The general fact of importance is that the financial resources of the University have not developed in equal ratio with its development in other respects. The debt upon the University is not large, comparatively, but without an increase of resources it is bound to grow larger and larger. An annual deficit of even a few hundred dollars soon piles up a burdensome debt. Then there are demands which have been before the Board already, which an empty treasury has made it impossible to meet; the renewal of the building within and without, for example, the revision of the heating system, the enlarging of the supply of apparatus for the scientific department, the founding of a course of lectures by distinguished educators from abroad, who, coming to us for a brief period from a larger world, would stimulate intellectual life, and give us immediate touch with the great thought movements of the times. It is inevitable, also, that new demands will assert themselves. Growth is the law of all living organisms. We shall encourage patience and the spirit of self-sacrifice, but one wonders whether we may hope indefinitely to retain first-class men on the staff at the minimum salaries now paid. Moreover, with the growth of numbers which is bound to come, a larger teaching force some day will be needed; present accommodations also will be taxed, and larger space must be provided. Besides, there is the demand in connection with theology to which I have alluded.

To meet the financial necessities of the future, the University has three sources of income. The income from about \$100,000 of investments, the fees of the students, and the annual gifts of the church through the Convention fund. The increase of funds must come from one of these sources. The Board might increase the fees for tuition. This would not be unreasonable. Last year it cost the Board not less than \$90.00 for the tuition of each student in the University. Many of the students, having at their command scholarships, paid to the college nothing towards this amount. Even those who paid tuition fees, paid less than one-third of the amount named, and considerably less than was paid by students in any other college in Canada. Out of sympathy for the hardly-pressed students, however, the Board will be loth to increase its income from that source if it can possibly be avoided. The annual gifts of the churches will, we believe, grow to more generous proportions. Just now, however, the Board are appealing to the denomination for an increase of the college endowment to the amount of \$10,000.00. This will afford very substantial relief and give new heart to the administration.

That this sum will be raised I do not doubt for a moment. . Indeed I am hopeful that before the new century dawns we shall have not only this additional endowment yielding interest, but shall see upon the grounds, as the gift of some generous friend or friends, a solid and spacious stone building in which the treasures of the library and museum may find safe housing, and by which valuable space in the college building, urgently needed for other purposes, may be released.

No one will imagine that these two good things combined will be an absolute and final solution of the financial problem. Each decade will develop its own needs, and create its own demands, even as it will also replenish the resources of our people, and multiply that Godly and generous seed who will rejoice to minister to the world through this God-honored means.

Such I regard as the leading problems of Acadia's future. It will be admitted, I think, that they are sufficiently serious to tax the wisdom and courage of whoever may be called to the task of administration. There may be persons who have doubts as to the possibility of finding a sound solution for any of the problems named. The conditions, they may think are lacking, and must continue to be lacking, for the effective handling of these various questions. With such a view I cannot agree. I believe the problems to be solvable. Not that I have any ideal or absolute solution to propose at any point. The problems described do not admit of such a solution. They are in their nature persistent problems. Like the poor they are bound to be always with us in one form or another. The solution given to them to-day but creates conditions for the recurrence of them in new and higher forms. I have this, however, to say, that if two years of intimate fellowship with the life of the University, and some months of earnest study of its circumstances and prospects, have revealed to me future problems complex and difficult, they have also revealed to me conditions full of inspiration, and which guarantee a future of growing efficiency and influence. It is of these

#### INSPIRATIONS IN THE FUTURE OF ACADIA

I propose now to speak.

1. I have said that the peculiar aims and organization of Acadia make her problem of educational efficiency peculiarly difficult in some respects. This is true. But as one addresses himself to this problem, he enjoys, first of all, the inspiration of the thought that however difficult of attainment,

THE IDEALS OF THE UNIVERSITY ARE SOUND AND TRUE AND NOBLE. They are sound on the educational side.

Belonging as she does to the category of the smaller colleges, as distinguished from the larger, like Yale, Harvard and McGill, she makes no attempt at specialization in a large sense. A wholesome

range of electives is provided in the Junior and Senior years, but Acadia's purpose is to furnish a broad, liberal culture, which will open to her students most of the leading departments of knowledge and investigation, which will condition them in a broad and generous sense for the specialization of the graduate Universities or professional schools, or which will send them into active life with a training at once thorough and many sided. To perfect, not radically to modify, this ideal will be the duty of the future. Did the wish exist materially to modify it, the prospective resources of the college would give no encouragement. The fact is, however, that for nineteen undergraduates out of every twenty, a general course, under an adequate teaching staff, with a combination of the lecturing and recitation systems, with a demand for quality of work every day of the year, with provision for the development not only of the receptive faculties, but of the thought power and the power of expression,—I say that for nineteen graduates out of every twenty a general course of that kind is very much more advantageous than the specialized work of the larger Universities. Specialization can proceed to the highest results only when conditioned upon a broad underlying culture.

The ideals of the University are true also in respect to the Christian element. She openly avows the supremacy of Christ over all life. In their belief that moral and religious culture should go hand in hand with the culture of the intellect, the Baptists are at one with the Roman Catholics of this country, the difference being, that while the Romanists would tax the public exchequer for the religious teaching, the Baptists believe that religionists should pay for their own privileges. I have pointed out that the claim to give Christianity its rightful place forces Acadia back upon the voluntary principle; and that her denominational relations make her work a ministration primarily to the Baptist section of the country. I have admitted that the Christian contention heightens the difficulties of the situation. But infinitely better is it patiently to wrestle with difficulties however great, than to find an easier path by casting away the chiefest good. Is any one so bold as to question the superiority of the Christian ideal for a University, as against the non-Christian? Does anyone think of the Christian ideal as hide-bound and narrow, while the non-Christian is independent and free? Such thinking is fallacious in the highest degree. Can that be the truest type of breadth and freedom in education which finds no open place for God, for His Son Jesus Christ, for the supernatural revelation of His will, for the claims of the soul? Which ignores the great facts of sin and redemption and spiritual renewal? Which studies nature, history and morals without duly recognizing the Creator of the one, the central figure in the second, or the supreme authority in the third? As well talk of an ideal astron-

omy which ignores the sun, or of an ideal physiology which ignores the existence and functions of the heart.

That ideal is also true which links Acadia with a body of Christian Churches and puts her under their control. The Christian element, in order that it may be maintained in vitality and power, must be safe-guarded and nurtured with all vigilance and care. The natural tendency of educational institutions is to drift into a frigidly speculative and rationalistic spirit, if not to become indifferent to the higher moralities. This tendency shows itself not only in State Institutions, but in those professedly Christian Colleges, whose organization makes of them close corporations, and relates them but remotely to the churches. I could name so-called Baptist institutions upon this continent, of the latter type, which, with the drift of years, have become Christian only in name. It is the churches which are the true conservers of spiritual life and reality; and the more fully and freely the warm blood of the churches can pour itself through the veins of these educational institutions, the more will they be enriched with true spiritual life and power.

Nor are we afraid of the control of the people in a popular assembly. Whatever may be true of others who have had no experience of Congregationalism, this conception is no ghostly apparition in the minds of intelligent Baptists. The Christian commonalty which composes the Baptist churches of these provinces may, in the end of the day, be intrusted with any interest that has to do with the betterment of men and the increase of light and truth. They may be trusted in the management of this University. Mistakes will sometimes be made; ignorance may outvote wisdom for a day; liberty may sometimes be abused; but in the end, the truest measures find acceptance, the people become disciplined by the management of these high concerns, and the University finds behind it a host whose intimate acquaintance with its life, and whose devoted love, are the guarantee not only of permanency, but of expansion and increasing usefulness. We rejoice that the Christian churches of the Baptist denomination own this university, that they control it, that they insist that its professoriate shall be composed of Christian men, that they maintain the right to watch and shape its life, that they stand pledged to its generous support. We would not have it otherwise if we could.

And so I say the first inspiration of which one feels the thrill as he faces the future is the inspiration of a true and noble ideal, which may be proclaimed from the house-tops without qualification or apology, and in the maintaining and perfecting of which no cost of toil or patience should be counted too dear

To be concluded in our next.

# THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

PUBLISHED BY THE ATHENÆUM SOCIETY.

*Composed of Undergraduates of Acadia University.*

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ronise our advertisers.

## The Sanctum.

Again in the progress of the recurring years, the time has come for a new editorial staff to assume responsibilities in connection with our College journal. Mindful of the high standard which our predecessors have held in view, the present editors take their places before the readers of the ATHENÆUM with no inconsiderable degree of trembling lest the excellence already reached should not be commendably maintained. Yet as we consider the generous interest of our constituency and anticipate the hearty co-operation of all our friends—both Alumni and undergraduate—we enter upon our duties with courage and hope. The present management earnestly desires that these columns shall reflect our College interests accurately and thoroughly. Our pages are open to any student or graduate for the discussion of any matter that may legitimately be given a place; and not only are our pages open for such discussions but a hearty invitation is extended to present pertinent subjects from the view point of the contributor. Toward this end generous space will be devoted to the presentation of the various departments of University life. The December number will be a special issue in which articles relative to the different societies in operation in our midst, and to other matters will be presented. These papers are being carefully prepared, and it is hoped our patrons will find particular interest in their perusal.

The ATHENÆUM extends to every member of our College community sincere greeting on this new occasion of re-assembling. To our new friends,—the additions to the several classes, and the incoming class—our welcome is especially hearty. We congratulate you, members of 1901, upon the opportunity for a thorough course in Arts which now opens before you. Wise indeed is he who proceeds to make the

most of each day as it passes ; who, at the very first of his College residence, identifies himself with the several interests of our student life . We would especially urge the value of hearty participation in the general life of the College. No one can afford to deprive himself of the helpful and suggestive thought, the stimulating criticism, and the cheering sense of fellowship which are to be found in contact with others and in mutual endeavor. United effort in the agencies that make for our advancement, will contribute to large and commendable success ; while isolation can mean only ignominious failure. Be advised, therefore, not to fall into an error that has ensnared others—the error of supposing that when preparation for the class-room has been effected, your privileges have been fully enjoyed. Rather consider this as simply a part of the programme of College duties. We are but echoing the admonition of former students when we urge the new men to make constant and judicious use of the Library and Reading Room, and to become regular attendants at the meetings of the Literary Society and thoughtful participants in its exercises. Enter into right relations with the purpose of the Y. M. C. A. and partake freely of the rich benefits afforded by the prosecution of its enterprises. Remember the location and meaning of the Campus and Gymnasium. And lastly, but by no means of least importance, allow no consideration to deter you from becoming a subscriber to our publication. By entering conscientiously into these avenues of thought and effort during these coming years—and only thus—will the best development be secured. As we glance into the past we are compelled to admit that “a noble heritage is ours.” As we survey the gracious benefits of the present we are admonished to enter joyfully into the fulness of our possession. And as we look to the future we can but determine to make this year, a potent factor for good in the life of the individual and of the entire Institution. Thus shall we ensure the brightest success for each day and find a certain path to the Elysian riches of wisdom and culture and the abiding treasures of character.

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A Committee of the Y. M. C. A. was on the ground early and gave the students as they arrived, a hearty grasp of the hand. To those coming for the first time, the Committee furnished valuable information—just how valuable only a new student could fully appreciate. From the first, the Y. M. C. Association has gone forward with vigor and encouragement. The new men have been made to feel at home, and efforts are being made to enlist the sympathy of all in the objects of the Association. The beginnings promise well for the year's work. The new hand book is excellently printed and contains the information that every student wishes to carry in convenient form for reference. The Committee having the publication of Hand Book No. 4, in charge,

of which Mr. P. W. Gordon was chairman, deserve much credit for the ability and thoroughness with which their duties were performed.

Acadia College and affiliated schools have opened auspiciously. In the several departments there are encouraging indications of prosperity and growth.

Horton Academy has a large attendance. Principal Oaks reports that the Academy home is full. There are 74 students enrolled. Mr. C. E. Morse, B. A., of the class of '97, takes the place of Mr. S. J. Case, M. A., as instructor in Mathematics and English. Mr. G. D. MacKinnon, B. A. Sc., of McGill University has charge of the Manual Training department and already has over 20 under his direction.

In the Ladies' Seminary there are 55 resident students, besides those from the town. With the College ladies who reside in the Seminary, and the teachers, 77 residents meet thrice daily in the dining hall for mutual edification. Some changes have taken place in the teaching staff. Miss McLeod, B. A., of Fredericton, teaches French and German. She is also a graduate of the University of New Brunswick, and for two years taught in St. Martin's Seminary. Miss Mabel Hall, of Halifax, who has charge of the Elocution department, is a graduate of the Toronto School of Expression. Miss Freeman conducts the work in Painting and Drawing and has charge of the Art Studio. Miss Freeman comes to the School from Michigan, but latterly, both as student and teacher, spent a number of terms at the Cooper Institute, New York. The Principal speaks in the highest terms of the ability and enthusiasm which these ladies have brought to their work, as also, indeed, of the devotion and admirable qualifications of the entire teaching staff. Miss Træ is greatly encouraged by the cheering indications. The gratifying condition of the Seminary, as well as the hopeful outlook, is due in no small degree to the wise management of the school and to the eminent endowments of the devoted Principal.

The Freshman class in the College numbers 50 regular students, of whom 10 are young ladies, besides a few who are taking selected studies. They constitute a grand reinforcement to our ranks. The other classes have maintained their numbers well and all have taken up the work with earnestness. Class-room exercises have begun with purposeful energy. Athletic enterprizes are being carried on with spirit and zeal. The debating Society is commendably fostering its interests. The Y. M. C. A. has entered upon its year's mission with gratifying enthusiasm. All the indications give promise of a prosperous year for Acadia.

The members of the Faculty are in their accustomed places. Dr. Trotter takes the responsibilities of the presidency and undertakes heavy financial burdens. Mr. Everett W. Sawyer, B. A., (Harv.), has

been appointed Assistant Professor of Latin and English. Professor Haley, who left us in May to spend some months on the Continent of Europe—mainly in Italy, Switzerland and Germany—has returned from his travels bringing to his department of Physics and Astronomy, the benefits of his research and extended observation of University methods, and renewed vigor for the conduct of his classes in the lecture-room and laboratory.

Dr. Sawyer, who is now relieved of administrative duties, is bringing to his class-room exercises the magnificent fruits of his varied scholarship and ripe experience. They may indeed count themselves extremely favored who have the privilege of receiving instruction from him whose profundity of thought and marvellous powers as a teacher have won such wide recognition. The students of Acadia, past and present, unite with their feelings of the deepest veneration for Dr. Sawyer, sincere gratitude for the training and largeness of view secured at his hands. All are hearty in the wish that these days of relief from severe executive responsibilities may be the Doctor's brightest and richest seasons, that the fulness of the Master's presence may be his joy and that he may long continue to be a tower of strength to these Institutions to which he has given so much of his life.

And now we look to the future. The installation of a President has always been an auspicious event in Acadia's history. Few, indeed have been such occasions, for long and faithfully have the leaders of the past served her interests. The present is a critical period in the history of our Institutions. The warm and practical allegiance of every friend is imperatively needed. Never, possibly, was there a grander opportunity for protestations of friendship to take tangible shape. A forward movement has been inaugurated. The only alternative is retrenchment. The plans for raising \$75,000 and for the establishment of a Theological department at an early date are clearly presented in Dr. Trotter's inaugural address which will repay a careful perusal. Men of large means and generous hearts are coming to the front. Many more, it is assuredly expected, will remember Acadia by munificent gifts. Great faith is placed in the wisdom and enthusiasm of the leader in this movement. Now as the work of the new College year—1897-98 begins, there arises from all the friends of Acadia University—student and graduate alike—in token of our right hearty welcome to the new President, the united cheer, "Rah, Rah, Rah, Yah, Yah, Yah, Hurrah, Hurrah, Acadia."

As we go to press we are able to give the inspiring intelligence that Mr. John D. Rockefeller has signified his intention of donating \$15,000 to Acadia through the American Baptist Educational Society, upon the condition that \$60,000 is raised by Provincial Baptists.

### *The Month.*

The opening month of the Academic year 1897-98 at Acadia, has been unusually full of incident. The weather has been magnificent, the football interest good, the social events numerous, and the meetings of the different societies well attended and interesting. Besides the regular daily football practice on the campus some exciting match games have been played. On Oct. 16 the Academy team defeated a team from Chipman Hall by a score of 11—0; and on the following Saturday won from the Freshmen after a hard game, score 6—0. The intercollegiate games are looked forward to with a great deal of interest.

On the evening of Friday, Oct. 1st, the young ladies of the Seminary gave a very pleasant "At Home" to the students of the Academy. Barring a little unpleasant incident at the close of the evening, which caused some of the guests to suffer from severe colds, the evening was pronounced very enjoyable.

On Saturday evening, Oct. 2nd, the new lady students were given a reception in the library by the college Y. W. C. A., and a most cordial welcome to the Institution was extended to them.

On the following Monday evening the College Y. M. C. A. gave a reception in College hall to the incoming male students. The Cads were out in force and the Freshmen were present in all the glory of their fifty odd, and the majority of the members of the upper classes took advantage of the opportunity to make their acquaintance. With speeches by Pres. I. A. Corbett, of the society, Dr. Trotter, and C. W. Rose, the football captain, singing of college songs, apple eating, and conversation, the evening was passed very pleasantly.

The formal installation of Dr. Trotter as president of Acadia University, took place in College Hall on the evening of Oct. 14, in the presence of a large assembly. Promptly at eight o'clock the Board of Governors headed by Drs. Saunders and Trotter, and followed by Collegians in cap and gown, entered. Prayer by Rev. J. W. Manning opened the ceremonies of the evening. Dr. Saunders, chairman of the meeting, introduced the new President, in a brief but eloquent and comprehensive address. After mentioning the onerous and responsible duties of the presidential office, he sketched the early history of the provincial Baptists, and the founding of the Institutions at Wolfville. He spoke of the sterling character and immense influence of the former presidents of the University, of Dr. Trotter's qualifications for continuing their grand work, and in introducing him to the audience hoped for him a career as useful and distinguished as had his predecessors.

Dr. Trotter's inaugural address which was a carefully prepared and masterly exposition of the "Problems and Inspirations in the future of

Acadia," is printed in full on another page and demands the careful perusal of every friend of the University. Dr. Sawye, the retiring President, was next called upon by the chairman for an address, and the prolonged applause and cheering with which he was greeted, witnessed the deep regard felt for him by every student in the Institution. In a few well chosen words he expressed his congratulations and good wishes to his successor. He anticipated great progress and a great future for Acadia, and impressed upon the students that upon their future life depended in a great measure, the success of their Alma Mater. Hon. J. W. Longley eulogised the outgoing, and welcomed the incoming President in a few graceful remarks. Dr. McKay, Superintendent of Education, also spoke briefly, and the meeting closed with cheers for the new President and the Board of Governors.

The general reception given by the Y. W. C. A., and Y. M. C. A. to the students of the College, Seminary, and Academy, took place in College hall Friday evening, Oct. 15th. The hall and library were tastefully and artistically decorated. The attendance was large.

On Sunday afternoon Oct. 17, under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., the service was held at which the delegates to the World's Students' Conference held at Northfield, Mass., made their report. Mr. Corbett opened the meeting by giving a general outline of the nature of the conference. He was followed by the other delegates, Messrs. Freeman, Newcomb, Harris and Slout, who gave more detailed accounts of the work. Much interest was manifested in the service, and it is to be hoped that in the future Acadia will continue to send such large delegations to these conferences.

The B. Y. P. U. of the village gave an enjoyable social in College Hall, on Friday evening, Oct. 22nd. The refreshment tables in the library were well patronized and found not the least enjoyable feature of the evening.

Rev. E. O. Taylor of Chicago, a noted expert on on sociological and temperance reform, lectured on Saturday and Monday evenings, Oct. 23 and 25, to large audiences in College Hall.

Under the auspices of the Athenæum Society Mr. Geo. B. Williams of New York gave a Shakesperian recital in College Hall, on Wednesday evening, Oct. 27. His rendition of "Much ado about nothing," in which he impersonated the entire cast; with equal facility portraying the serious and humorous characters, won for him the applause of his audience.

A call has been extended by the Wolfville Baptist church to the Rev. J. M. Grant of Springfield, Mass., to fill the pulpit vacated by Dr. Trotter. All who listened to the earnest eloquence of the Rev. gentleman on Sunday, Oct. 10, will hope that he may see his way clear to accept.

*De Alumnis.*

## GLASS OF '97.

Miss L. E. Andrews is to be congratulated upon the advantages she will enjoy while spending the winter in Cambridge, Mass.

A. C. Archibald has entered Newton Theological Seminary.

Miss Emma J. Best is teaching at her home, Somerset, N. S.

Burpee Bishop is at his home, Greenwich, N. S.

Max Bowlby remains for the winter at his home, Port Medway, N. S.

J. D. Campbell is taking a course in English at Harvard.

Miss Statira P. Caldwell is at present at home in Wolfville, N. S.

Miss Jennie Cobb will spend the winter at her home, Greenwich, N. S.

W. W. Conrad is catechist in one of the Cape Breton churches. At his first service he was honored by the presence of their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Aberdeen.

Miss Lizzie McH. Crandall has taken the public school at her home at New Canada, Lunenburg Co.

Avard L. Davison is in Wolfville, engaged in journalistic work.

Miss Isabel Davison remains at home this winter, in Wolfville.

C. L. Freeman has entered upon the second year's work of the Law Course at Dalhousie.

D. E. Hatt retains the pastorate of the Hantsport Baptist Church.

Stanley L. Jones is at Winnipeg attending Normal School.

W. E. Jonah is studying medicine at Bowdoin College, Maine.

R. K. B. Knowles is taking a medical course at Harvard.

Miss Lisbeth DeN. Mann is at her home, Calais, Me.

G. A. Martell is studying at Harvard University.

C. R. McNally is attending Newton Theological Seminary.

Charles E. Morse has been appointed to the position of instructor in Mathematics and English in Horton Collegiate Academy.

W. I. Morse is attending the Episcopal Theological School at Cambridge, Mass.

W. Reginald Morse is at his home at Lawrencetown, N. S.

Howard A. Morton is a student at Harvard, taking a course in Mathematics.

F. W. Nichols is taking the second year's work in Dalhousie's law course.

S. H. Rogers is teaching at Nictaux Falls, N. S.

C. D. Schurman has a position in Chicago.

Simeon Spidle has been ordained to the pastorate of the Homeville group of churches in Cape Breton.

H. C. Todd is pastor of the church at Elgin, N. B.

Miss Etta J. Yuill has accepted a position in the public school Wolfville.

Rev. A. C. Kempton, '91, M. A., '94, had an extended trip in Palestine and other Eastern countries during the past summer. He has entered with renewed vigor, into his work as pastor of the Baptist church in Eau Claire, Wis.

Miss Harriet E. Morton, '94, holds the mathematical chair in Leland University, New Orleans.

S. J. Case, '93, N. A., '96, who for two years past, so satisfactorily filled the position of instructor in Horton Academy, Wolfville, is Professor of Mathematics and instructor in Greek in New Hampton Literary Institution, New Hampshire.

L. H. Wallace, '94, was ordained in September to the pastorate of the Baptist church at Lawrencetown, N. S.

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### *Personal.*

In the notices of weddings during the past summer the names of former Acadia students have occupied conspicuous places. In addition to those named in these columns of the June issue are:—Rev. F. E. Bishop, '96, Rev. D. B. Hemmcon, '91, Rev. A. F. Baker, '93, Rev. W. L. Archibald, '92, E. Haycock, '96, Rev. C. B. Freeman, '91, Rev. W. J. Rutledge, '96. '99 has also figured prominently in this regard. We refer to J. O. Vince and Rev. J. W. Keirstead. To all of these the ATHENÆUM extends hearty congratulations.

The members of '98 regret very much that ill-health has prevented Miss Bessie Colwell from continuing her work with the class.

'99 has lost a good student in losing Everett McNeil. He took a high standing as a student and his success as principal of the high school, Montague Bridge, P. E. I., is assured.

J. Hardy of the Freshman class expects to leave for the mission field in India early this month. Mr. Hardy has been associated with the Institutions for two years as an Academy student and is known as an earnest Christian worker. As he enters upon this great work he will be followed by the deep interest and the strong sympathy of the entire student body.

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### *Exchanges.*

It is with feelings of considerable pleasure that we welcome back to our desk, the College exchanges, which have now become so familiar to us.

The number this month is not large, as many of our contemporaries, like ourselves, issue no October number.

The Owl comes to us this month in a new dress, which adds greatly to its appearance. The cover is of an unique and artistic design. The contents of the magazine, as usual, reflect a great deal of credit upon the contributors.

The Varsity contains among others, a well written article "On University Examinations," which well repays the time spent in its reading.

Trinity University Review has several editorials, upon live subjects, which we recommend to every reader, especially the one upon "Professionalism in Football.

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### *Echoes.*

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Once more at Acadia ! The same familiar spot ! And yet not just the same. An indescribable air of freshness lingers about her halls and corridors. Not that this has not been true of past years. By no means. Most of us remember the day when we landed at Wolfville with the burdocks in our hair. But this year is marked by a peculiar freshness of its own, such as has never been known in the history of the Institution. It is as though one were transported to the realms of hayseed and gum. We understand that the governors contemplate the insertion in one of the college windows of a green memorial glass in honor of the year.

The Doctor's remarks about bell-ringing seemed to gravitate toward the east side of the Chapel. It is hoped that they will have their due effect.

"That electricity is funny stuff, ain't it professor ?"

Freshman (explaining a curious specimen in Museum) : "This is one of the genus 'erysipelas anapaest,' found only in South Africa."

Prof. : "Mr.—, what does the poet mean by the word 'Satyrs' ?"

Mr. H—, : "I guess he means college professors, doesn't he ?"

Freshmen must not wear bouquets. So let the one seen *rollin* home from church with a peach-blossom on his coat-sleeve "umnd out."

It has been decided by the Faculty to commence classes in "Domestic Economy" as soon as a competent instructor can be secured from Ireland. The ground floor of the Manual Training Hall, east end—will be used for a class-room. An automatic pancake-mixer has lately been put in, and is now on exhibition. There are indications that this class will be largely attended during the coming winter.

Prof. : "Now, Mr. R—, just rise and tell the class all you know. It wont take you long."

The ingenuity of the Freshies has been severely taxed during the past few weeks, in devising a class-yell. The war-whoop executed by them on Installation evening, possesses many valuable features, inasmuch as it is short and much energy would be preserved for meal-time if it were adopted ; and it is peculiarly suggestive of the advanced stage—in their own line—to which they have attained. The matter, however, was vigorously discussed at a recent class-meeting. Some members were strongly in favor of using the first verse of "Home, sweet Home" for a yell. Others of a more erratic nature, were desirous of adopting the deeply significant challenge, expressed in the song, "You can't play in our yara." At a late hour the debate was still in progress. Young Shortstop had the floor—he was holding it down with his

back and snoring loudly—while at momentary lulls, confused murmurs of "green" and "farm" could be heard from the lips of excited debaters.

Fair Sem. to Junior : "It is plain that you're from New Brunswick." The Junior didn't say much after that ; but he was seen early next morning hurrying home from the library with a copious work on Phrenology. We would suggest a work on Physical Geography as better adapted to throw light on the subject.

The Sophomores are now revelling in the glories of sines and tangents Trig. seems to come natural to some of them. One in particular so dotes upon it that he has learned the deaf and dumb alphabet, and improves his odd moments wherever he may be, making si(g)nes to his neighbours, rather favoring the fair sex. But alas ! for his sport. The tangents were his downfall. An intervening stovepipe caught one of his amorous messages, which caromed thence out to where Enos was patiently toiling. Enos knows a good thing ; so he lit on it like a hawk on a spring chicken, or a hungry Freshman on a plate of pancakes and molasses, and telegraphed back, "Yes, call on Pa." At the latest date he was contemplating action against some for breach of promise.

It was decidedly interesting to watch the eagerness with which certain recently-returned collegians hung on the words of the preacher, Sunday evening of the 24th Oct. No doubt many valuable notes were carried away for future reference.

An important feature in the management of Chip. Hall is the appointment of a committee, whose special duty will be to promote the discomfort and inconvenience of the resident students. This committee will conduct a shoe cleaning depot in Boston fashion, and they guarantee good service. No tips allowed ; but any cast off footware will be thankfully received. One member from each class constitutes the committee, with two from the Seniors, on account of the many square feet of surface to be operated upon. The fact that any disorder or dissatisfaction which may prevail in the Hall will be blamed on this committee, makes a residence there very desirable.

Sem. at Reception : "Oh, doesn't that fellow look like a bed-tick !"

An evil-minded Soph suggested in our hearing lately that "oi" (not one)—Nobody.

COLLEGE TABLE AT THE SEM.  
(Discussing Monday's Bible)

1st Senior : "Say, girls, what are the 'Doctrinal points of Peter' anyway ?"

2nd Senior (meekly) : "I guess they are full stops, aren't they ?"

Prof. : "Where did you get that figure at the left ?"

Math. Genius : "Oh, that's one I had.

"And is that dear little fellow in your class ?"

"Oh yes."

"Isn't he just cute ?"

The Cads labored with the energy of desperation. Visions of a special meal—promised on condition of their defeating the champions of Chip Hall—floated before their eager eyes, and urged them on. It was the chance of a lifetime, and they improved it. There was rather a pretty *steel* in the first half, but taken altogether, Chip Hall oatmeal was no match for Academy *rice*.

Bumptious Freshman: "Let us move farther away from those kids. People will think we're Cads."

Try a little mucilage and goose-grease for the moustache.

"Hi there! you freshman. Bring back my cushion."

The class of "Not one" have secured the ground flat of the old Skoda building for class-meetings, quilting bees, etc. A very interesting game of "What will you put in my pot of soup?" was played there the other day. This grand old game loses none of its old time attractiveness when played by the verdant heroes. In the absence of the regulation dish a much battered *can* was used. It did excellent service. When the fun was at its height, quite an excitement was caused by N<sub>3</sub>—*m slipping* "in the soup" bodily. He was soon extricated, however, little the worse of his *misshap*; but as he slowly ambled homeward, a hearer might have detected a vein of deep pathos in his soliloquy "Young and fresh, but I hope for the future."

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Errata: In issue of June '97, for "N. J. Lockhart, M. A., 1 00 and F. B. A. Chipman, 2 00" read N. J. Lockhart, 2 00, and F. B. A. Chipman, 1 00.