



REV. CHARLES A. LYDON, M.A.

The Acadia Athenæum.

"Prodesse Quam Conspici."

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The Making of Men.

As the insect from the rock
Takes the color of its wing;
As the boulder from the shock
Of the ocean's rhythmic swing
Makes itself a perfect form,
Leaves a calmer fruit to raise;
As the shell, enameled warm,
With the prism's mystic rays,
Praises wind and wave that make
All its chambers fair and strong;
As the mighty poets take
Grief and pain to build their song:
Even so for every soul,
Whatsoe'er its lot may be,—
Building, as the heavens roll,
Something large and strong and free,—
Things that hurt and things that mar
Shape the man for perfect praise;
Shock and strain and ruin are
Friendlier than the smiling days.

—Rev. John White Chadwick.

Rev. Charles A. Eaton, M. A.

OF none of her sons has Acadia more reason to be proud than of the recently settled pastor of Bloor St. Baptist Church, Toronto,—Rev. Charles A. Eaton, M. A. whose portrait forms the frontispiece to this number of the *ATHENÆUM*. His career has been watched by all friends of Acadia who now heartily rejoice in the most marked success which has attended his step.

The little village of Lakeville, Cumberland Co., N. S. claims to have made his earliest acquaintance, for it was here he was born on the 29th March, 1868. On his father's side he is descended from a puritan family which has had its home in Haverhill, Mass. and vicinity since 1640. On his mother's side from a long line of Nova Scotian Baptist preachers—the

Parkers—whose years of consecrated christian service adorn the pages of denominational history.

During the summer of 1885 Mr. Eaton was baptised by Dr. D. A. Steele of Amherst. Feeling the claims of the christian ministry upon himself, he at once turned his attention toward Acadia College for which he prepared at the Amherst High School. Entering this institution in the Autumn of 1886, he made an unbroken and brilliant course, graduating with the Class of '90. During his course, Mr. Eaton filled a most important place in the college societies and in the Y. M. C. A. which was organized in the autumn of 1888. In his senior year he was Editor-in-chief of this magazine. During his last two years here he also supplied, with great acceptance, the pulpit of the Baptist church in Annapolis Royal.

Upon graduation, Mr. Eaton at once proceeded to Newton Theological Institution from which he was graduated in 1893, receiving the degree of M. A. from Acadia at the same time. During his last year at Newton, he was called to a pastorate at Natick, Mass. where he enjoyed a most happy and successful period of ministration.

In the summer of 1894 he accompanied Dr. Lorimer to England where he studied in the Summer School of Theology at Oxford. In the following year he again visited England, where upon invitation he supplied the pulpit of Bloomsbury Baptist Chapel, London. He is also invited for this summer, and will supply Bloomsbury and Abbey Road during the vacation.

On the 26th June, 1895, Mr. Eaton was married to Miss M. Winnifred, daughter of W. D. Parlin, Esq. of Natick, Mass. Mrs. Eaton, accompanied her husband abroad last summer.

Upon the call of Rev. O. C. S. Wallace to the chancellorship of McMaster University, Mr. Eaton was unanimously called to be his successor at Bloor St., Toronto, where a most enviable success crowns his labor. Of his work, a correspondent to the Boston Watchman says:— "At Bloor Street, Rev. Charles A. Eaton by his winsome personality, eloquent tongue and profoundly earnest evangelistic spirit has already demonstrated to the satisfaction of old and young, learned and unlearned, rich and poor, that his predecessor, whatever may be said of his wisdom in other cases, showed sagacity of a high order when he recommended the young Natick pastor to be his successor in this important pastorate. Great congregations assemble to hear Mr. Eaton, and his

opportunity to accomplish great things for Christ is one which an angel might covet. Conversions are occurring every week, and it is believed that great blessings are just at hand."

Mr. Eaton is an earnest advocate of the interests of Acadia College, and while in Boston he most ably assisted in organizing the New England Acadia Alumni Association and wrote a pamphlet in the interests of Acadia. He was also one of the speakers at the annual meeting of this Association of which mention is made in another column.

Since leaving the editorship of the *Athenæum*, Mr. Eaton has done much writing and has won a wide reputation as a writer and lecturer, and on March 1st of this year he lectured for the third time in the Boston Music Hall Course.

Of striking person, winning manner, liberal culture, eloquent speech and thorough christian consecration, Mr. Eaton may justly be esteemed a pride, not only to Acadia and the Baptist denomination but to the entire christian ministry.

Antiquity of Man.

TAKING a broad view of the forms of animal life both as they exist now and as they have existed since their appearance on the earth, we find three great series: 1st. The Natural History series, consisting of the existing forms which make a graduated scale from the one-celled organism, performing all the functions of life in that one cell, up to the myriad-celled and highly organized animal, man.

2nd. The Geologic series, in which we find in the forms of life when arranged in the order of their appearance in time, another graduated scale, with extremely small intermissions, from the lowest organism to man.

3rd. The Embryological series, in which the life history of every individual animal of the Natural History series embodies in itself both the Natural History and the Geologic series from the one-celled form to the more or less highly differentiated form of its parents. These three so wonderfully similar series can be logically explained only by the Theory of Evolution, by which, given changing environment, the principle of variation so plainly visible in individual forms to-day, Natural Selection and the law of inheritance, we have the great factors that have moulded the widely divergent

forms which we now have in existence. The general law, therefore, of animal life on the earth since the beginning has been a law of progress.

Man in every way we consider him whether it be embryologically, geologically, structurally or mentally is one of these forms of animal life. The differences which exist are those of degree and not of kind. Therefore he has been, and is still, subject to the same general laws that have governed life since its appearance on the earth, and any discussion of his antiquity must be carried on in the light of the geologic series, or in other words, the succession of forms in time.

As Geology cannot be marked off distinctly from many other sciences, these others should also be consulted whenever they bear upon the question.

In the study of Natural History, no feature will move the observer to greater wonder than the remarkable adaptation of organisms to their environment, so wonderful that we have been taught to regard it as conclusive evidence of the direct supervision of a Supreme Being.

When a country becomes cultivated, many insects injurious to the crops soon appear and new pests are continually being described with marvellous habits and structures designed either for protection from enemies, or for procuring subsistence under the changed conditions of life. Most of these insects, undoubtedly, formerly thrived on the forest trees or wild vegetation of the country until the changing conditions led to change of habits and more or less change of structure to enable them to exist. As the habits and structures of these insects change under changing environment, and as conditions, climatal or otherwise determine the existence of forms of life in all cases upon the earth, we have come to regard the principle of adaptation to environment as one of the great Natural Laws, and to deduce the Physical Geography of the Globe during past time from the structures of the organic forms found in the different portions during the several periods.

From these considerations it follows that new species come in when changed conditions render change of habits and consequent change of form necessary to existence, and further, that existing species came in as soon as these conditions became favorable for their existence, and at the place where these conditions first became favorable.

Positive and direct evidence of the Antiquity of man from Geology, is unfortunately somewhat meagre and indefinite, but when we consider the subject in the light of these

two principles we can arrive at a conclusion which will approximate the truth. Conclusive evidence exists that man was in both Europe and America at the close of the Glacial Period, and his bones and stone implements are found in abundance mixed indiscriminately with the remains of many animals now extinct. Physically these early men were not inferior to the men of the present time, but they were less erect and their brains were less highly developed than the more advanced races of to-day. Their state of civilization was far inferior as evidenced by their living in caves and only possessing the rudest stone implements with which they hunted and fished, fought their battles or defended themselves from the attacks of other animals. Their food must have been largely the fruits which grew wild near at hand if we except the periods when they migrated to the seashore to feed upon molluscs, immense heaps of whose shells form the kitchen-middens of the Baltic and the coasts of North America and mark the ancient encampments of these primitive peoples. The great resemblances between these races in such widely separated continents in physical structure and manners of life at this early period indicate a descent from common ancestors, and any estimate of Man's Antiquity must provide the time necessary for such a wide dispersion as well as concede a common centre from which such a dispersion was possible, and in the absence of direct proof indicate causes which would lead to this wide separation of the members of that ancestral stock. Human remains have been often discovered which have been and still are claimed to have been found in Tertiary strata, but none have been absolutely convincing to all geologists. Seeing, however, that man was so widely dispersed in early Quaternary time, may we not look confidently toward the discovery of still earlier remains along the line of migration? The countries most thoroughly explored have certainly been those which were the termini of his migratory movements.

Evidence enough of this sort has, however, been discovered to prove that man's history has been a progressive one, and that the civilization of to-day has been a slow and laborious growth from men little higher intellectually than brutes. The adequate discussion, when and where conditions first became favorable to man's needs, would require a detailed account of the natural products upon which he subsisted, where and when they first appeared and their dispersion thence over the Globe. Such a discussion would be beyond the limits of the present paper. Some general information however, has

been gleaned from the mass of literature bearing on the Geological aspect of the subject which indicates in a general way the centre of origin and direction of travel taken by the flora and fauna which seems to have been contemporaneous with primitive man. From before mentioned reasons we are safe in inferring that man moved along with the fauna and flora upon which he subsisted, and that the same causes that influenced their migration operated directly and indirectly upon his own.

Geology tells us that the earth has been continually cooling since life came upon it, and that up to tertiary times the interior heat was the chief factor in determining climate and until then there was little variation of temperature over all portions of the Globe. But the earth's heat diminishing much faster than the sun's the relation has so changed that great differences of temperature now exist not only in different parts at the same time, but at the same place at different seasons.

The fauna and flora contemporaneous with early man seem to have come in with these differential temperatures and as we enter the tertiary formations we find ourselves upon the threshold of the modern types of life. The ages when lycopods, ferns, cycads, and yew like conifers were the leading forms of vegetation have passed away and that of the dicotyledonous angiosperms now succeeds them.

This flora was not confined to what is now the temperate regions but extended far within the Arctic circle. One of the most remarkable discoveries of modern times has been that of tertiary plant beds in North Greenland containing 137 species, of which 46 are found in the central and European Miocene basins. They were mostly trees including 30 species of conifers besides birches, oaks, planes, poplars, walnuts, limes, magnolias and many more. These plants grew on the spot for their fruits in various stages of growth have been obtained from the deposits. In addition to these terrestrial trees and shrubs the lacustrine waters of the time bore water lilies while their banks were clothed with reeds and sedges. All this vegetation grew within $8^{\circ} 15'$ from the Pole in a region now covered with snow and ice and in darkness half the year.

As the climate became cooler in Europe during the late Tertiary, we find that the tropical plants one by one retreated southward while some of our common wild flowers and water plants, such as the buttercup and marsh marigold, made their appearance. The advent of a colder period is well shown in

the younger Pliocene deposits of South-eastern England where a number of northern molluses make their appearance. The proportion of northern species increases rapidly in the next succeeding or Pleistocene beds. The Pliocene period, therefore, embraces the long interval between the warm temperate climate of the later ages of Miocene and the cold Pleistocene or Glacial period and its fossils show the gradual extirpation of southern and advent of northern forms. The general facts are the same for North America. Migration of forms contemporaneous with man of early times were from the north, tropical, sub-tropical, temperate and finally arctic, moving along in silent majestic procession before the advancing cold until ice and snow extended far south into Europe and North America.

Eventually, and no doubt very gradually, after intervals of increase and diminution the ice finally retired toward the north and with it went the Arctic flora and fauna that had peopled the plains of Europe, Canada and New England. The existing snow fields and glaciers of the Pyrenees, Switzerland and Norway are remnants of the great ice-sheets of the Glacial period while the Arctic plants which people the mountains and survive in scattered colonies on the lower grounds are relics of the northern vegetation that covered Europe from Norway to Spain. The general succession of events has been the same throughout all the European region north of the Alps as well as in Canada and the North Eastern States.

That man was in Europe during the retreat of the glaciers is as certain as geological evidence can make it. That he was also in America at this time is just as certain, and man of the same race and using implements of about the same material and state of perfection. How did this people come to be in these two continents separated by thousands of miles of ocean who were undoubtedly ignorant of navigation and could not have crossed such extensive tracks of water? Shall we suppose with some of our predecessors the existence of the hypothetical continent of Lemuria, and that the races appeared on this continent in the Indian ocean and pushed from this warm climate northward to the margin of the ice fields, directly opposite to the migrations of all other forms of life? Shall we suppose that they came into America by way of Behrings Straits on the retreat of the ice, or that they crossed the Pacific from Lemuria by means of the chains of islands that dot its surface for thousands of miles?

Wright states that undoubtedly men were in America when the glaciers reached to New York harbor, while the

doubtful evidence of former more extensive land areas in the Pacific and the great distances between the islands and the American coast, throw both theories into the realm of improbability. The facts, moreover, point to the clear conclusion that man appeared in the Arctic regions and, pressed by the increasing cold, migrated southwards with the flora and fauna upon which he subsisted to the easily accessible continents of Asia and America, the hardier races ever remaining on the very verge of the ice fields and retreating with them in the warmer periods following.

One of the facts revealed by Geology is that the great continents of the present have, with slight oscillations of level, been the great land areas of past time and that the great oceans have always occupied the beds in which they now lie. The present distribution of land and water has certainly undergone few changes since Tertiary time, as strata of this age are either found lining the margins of continents or, when inland, occupying the beds of ancient inland seas and lakes. A glance at a map of the world shows the great extent of land in the far north and the near approach of the great land areas of the eastern and western hemispheres. But in Pliocene time the connection was probably better than at present. That elevation of land in the north marked the later Tertiary is acknowledged by geologists generally, and by many this is considered an adequate cause for the changing climate and southern migration of plants and animals. Some even consider it to be the chief cause of the Glacial period following. This elevation would make the Polar land areas more extensive as well as the continental connections more favorable to the wide distribution of forms of life.

That by means of this northern land man migrated into America has been the most plausible theory of his dispersion ever held by the advocates of his first appearance in Central Asia. But ignoring, if that were possible, the knowledge that man was in California and the Eastern United States when Alaska and the Behring Straits were buried in the ice of the Glacial period, to account for such a movement in an opposite direction to his means of subsistence we would have to infer some moving spirit of discovery or dare-devil zeal for exploration such as now inspires man to Jeannette and Franklin expeditions in search of the North Pole. With the rude appliances for subsisting possessed by these primitive peoples their fate would undoubtedly have been similar and America would have remained uninhabited until the times of Eric the Red or Columbus.

Adopting the opposite view, difficulties disappear rapidly. In Miocene time conditions both in climate and natural productions were favorable to the existence of a low race of men in Northeast Asia, Alaska and Greenland. It is probable that here such a race appeared. The climate gradually became colder. Those races which did not accustom themselves to the changing temperature moved south with the other less hardy forms to those lands most easily accessible. Others, no doubt would modify their habits to suit the changing conditions and only move as competition for subsistence and the constantly increasing severity of the climate forced them in turn to migrate to regions where means of life were available.

Asia and America were now accessible and this Mongoloid man spread over both continents.

That the Negro race which seems to have been the earliest and was undoubtedly the least hardy division did not enter America points to some water barrier that formed an obstacle to their migration in this direction which disappeared later or was overcome by their more hardy brethren of later date. The Caucasian race is the most recent of the three, and history and tradition point to some portion of central Asia as its birthplace. That no traces of this race exist in America is an indication that the trend of migration has been southward rather than northward and lends weight to the present theory. Many other facts pointing unmistakably in the same direction could be cited concerning the general movements and distribution of animals and plants contemporaneous with early man if the scope of the present paper permitted. The lion, hyena, elephants and other animals now found only in the Tropics roamed over northern countries and their bones lie side by side with those of men in the limestone caves of Europe. Mammoths and Mastodons inured to colder climates accompanied man in nearly every portion both of Europe and America and lingered far down into Post Glacial times before becoming extinct. Arctic America contained in Tertiary time plants so much like species existing in the forests of both temperate North America and Japan, that the former have been pronounced the undoubted progenitors of the latter. All the evidence obtained seems to point unquestionably to the conclusion that man appeared first in northern regions during later Miocene time and followed in his migrations the fauna and flora which nourished him, to the southward.

The question of Man's Antiquity becomes therefore a

question of the date of a geologic Period. Attempts to fix the dates of these periods have always been unsatisfactory as no reliable chronological table exists. Even the lapse of time since the glaciers began to retreat has been variously estimated from 6000 to 35000 years and these computations were both based on the recession of the Niagara Falls, one of the most reliable measures known. Measures of earlier periods are still more unreliable and estimates consequently more divergent. Dana thinks that Cenozoic time lies within 3,000,000 years. This consists of two great divisions Tertiary and Quaternary, the latter coming in with the Glacial period. Deducting 50,000 years for the latter, Tertiary time would include 2,950,000 years. Tertiary time, again, embraces three periods Eocene, Miocene and Pliocene which are estimated to have been of nearly equal lengths. If man appeared in the Miocene, as has been shown extremely probable, we can from these estimates place his Antiquity at something over 1,000,000 years.

These conclusions respecting the Antiquity of man have been based almost solely on the facts of natural science and these facts undoubtedly lead to a different view from that to be obtained from sacred or mythological literature bearing on the question. This feature, however, does not invalidate the conclusions. Up to the present century the date of creation was confidently ascribed to a period of some 6000 years ago. Progress of the natural sciences has shown such a date to be incorrect and caused a complete modification of the conception of creation. The same sciences are compelling us to a like modification of our views of Man's Antiquity and leading us to regard him as in no way excluded from the workings of the great natural laws to which other forms of life are subject.

One million years is perhaps a high estimate. It is tenable however when regarded in the light of the present theory of the place of man's origin and his migrations.

Whether these assumptions are true or false further discovery must decide. Investigators are beginning to turn in this direction and in spite of the almost insurmountable difficulties attending Arctic exploration, the knowledge already obtained from accidental discoveries gives us ground for hope that some one of the number of scientists and adventurers now exploring these regions may bring back positive evidence that will throw light on this obscure but extremely interesting question.

Midsummer Night's Dream—Shakespeare.

It is widely conceded that nowhere in the field of dramatic art do the works of any one man afford a vaster or more enticing study than do those of William Shakespeare. This is doubtless due to the fact that his writings offer a greater diversity of character, a firmer mental grasp of the individual subject, a clearer insight to the motives actuating his *Dramatis Personæ*, and a vividness, ease and naturalness unequalled by other writers of the comedy or drama. To such a degree does he possess this latter quality of naturalness that he has caused the comedy to appear the product of growth rather than of artistic invention. Thus to Shakespeare and his skill is the drama indebted for its high place in English writings. Just as the stereoscopist, concealed in the gloomy rear, may throw upon the canvas his attractive views, so has Shakespeare, standing in the gloom of the sixteenth century, fastened upon the canvas of the world's dramatic literature, his enchanting views before which the busiest must pause enraptured by their realness. The art is visible, but the artist unseen.

None of his views has Shakespeare more successfully manipulated than that of the "Midsummer Night's Dream." In this he has undertaken a theme shunned by other writers. And so beautifully has he effected his end, that to all it must appear that without "Midsummer Night's Dream" his works would be most incomplete. There would remain one phase of unstable life untouched by artist's pen. Dream-land would be yet unexplored.

As the dream of the night appears to be unconnected with the busy rush of the preceding or following days, so Shakespeare's "Dream" appears to stand separate from his other plays. In this we find not the logician of the "Merchant of Venice," nor the philosopher of "Hamlet." But here the scene is gloomy, the characters fleeting, the arguments light and the language very simple.

To paint a dream! To most of us a dream is but a fleeting intoxication, very vaguely remembered and utterly uninteresting of review. How often have we endeavored to present this fervid hallucination to another, only to find that its nature is too visionary, its texture too aerial to admit of vocal touch. Shakespeare alone has been able to capture one of these buoyant bubbles and in this comedy he holds it up to our view. Here we see all the imagery of the wildest and most fantastic dream actually embodied before our eyes. The writer thus depicts the moving agencies as fairies, the elements as moon-beams and the sweet fragrance of flowers; even the human agents are of the same visionary character, being subjects of illusion and enchantment, love and amusement bring their sole occupation. We do not of course believe this to be a psychological explanation of dreams, nor do we assume that even in dream-land our minds are subject to the caprice of fairies. Yet the "Dream" shows the skill of its writer who endows

ing the fragment of popular belief, has given form to the invisible and life to the dead. For, indeed,

"The poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling,
Doth glance from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven;
And, as imagination bodies forth
The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen
Turns them to shape, and gives to airy nothing
A local habitation and a name."

In all his plays we think that Shakespeare had a nobler aim than merely to please the fancy of the reader. In each can be found some important lesson. In the one it may be gallantry, in another caution, in the third mercy. In "Midsummer Night's Dream" he is evidently dwelling upon the visionary and unreal in human life. We are told that nothing exists but mind, that nothing transpires but thought. When we say that we see an object we are told that it is "all in the eye," that some cerebral lobe has awakened by an impression; and so on. In other words, that life is but a dream. Whether this be true we know not. Yet we can see some likeness between the impulsive and confused doings of men and the proceedings of the Dream of Shakespeare. As in the play, the characters, impelled by sentiment, so madly pursue the visionary *love*, so men impelled by ambition as madly pursue the equally visionary *popularity*. As, influenced by the fairies 'Puck' and 'Oberon,' Shakespeare's characters so suddenly find the object of their pursuit to be changed, so do men, influenced by the fairies "time" or "circumstance," as suddenly find their former object distasteful and a new aspiration to have dawned upon them. And as light-hearted and happy Titania became so mysteriously "enamoured of an ass" so do we find men, influenced by a drop from the herb *wealth*, as quickly enamoured of the donkey *rice*.

In short we shall say that though for philosophy and rhetoric the "Midsummer Night's Dream" may not be first, yet for simplicity and grace it is second to none of Shakespeare's writings.

ED.-IN-CHIEF.

Aurora Leigh.

AMONG the many writers of the present century Elizabeth Barrett Browning stands pre-eminent as the poetess of the age. A woman whose song is devoted to liberty, aspiration and ethereal love. One of whom imagination takes possession and carries to heights so great that her poems lose the calm and polished perfection characterizing the work of Tennyson. But while the soul of the latter is unmoved, Mrs. Browning, whose genius may be compared to an æolian harp in its sensitiveness to every passing breath thrills with the emotion she endeavors to express.

Living in an era of widening range of opportunities for women and one in which the literature is introspective and has to do with hu-

man life and society of the present Mrs. Browning has used her genius in defending a social question of vital importance to her own sex, that in which women take the initiative and are independent. Combined with this question there is in her poem, "Aurora Leigh," another, the call for greater unity between the idealist and the worker providing for each day's need which shows life triumphant in doing rather than thinking or believing.

"Aurora Leigh" is the autobiography of a heart and intellect in which is shown the development of an æsthetical and imaginative nature and the failure of a life so blinded by the ideal that the possible forms no part of its existence.

The first glimpse of the heroine Aurora is as a little child among Italy's sunny mountains where ignorant of a mother's tender care she wanders at will or sits and gazes, 'half in terror half in adoration,' at the picture which is the sole reminder of the life whose care she lacks.

"So nine full years were hid with God among his mountains."

In this free life containing an unseen source of growth the flight of time is unheeded until there comes a sudden awakening to "full life and life's needs," and Aurora realizes that she is entirely orphaned, that her home is no longer under the blue dome of Italy but under the more chill and leaden sky of England, that she is in the care of a stranger who is generous, bland, more courteous than tender doing her duty—"as it fearful that God's saints would look down suddenly and say: Herein you missed a point, I think through lack of love."

Aurora's guardian was one who knows only one variety of human character and who would cast everyone in the same mould. The sculptor may gradually shape his marble to the form of the image in his own mind, but the human soul with its own peculiarities cannot be shaped in this way. The spirit will either be crushed or find a secret means of life.

To Aurora the constrained life with her aunt, the uncongenial tasks, the feeling that an effort was being made to shape her character to a pattern wholly foreign to her natural inclinations made living almost unbearable.

Then she found a means of life in the voice of nature speaking on all sides and learned, while wandering over the fields yet fresh and sparkling with the morning dew, to "fly her fancies in the open air." Then again she would lose herself to actual surroundings between the magical covers of her father's books.

Those around her could not fail to see the change in the external life resulting from the quickening of the inner and to know she had sources of thought and enjoyment which they had not provided and could not remove.

Aurora becomes absorbed in her ideals and filled with a longing for freedom to express the ideas with which her own soul is overflowing. When her aunt is removed from her pathway she can feel no sorrow for one to whom she came as a stranger, and one whose nature being so entirely unlike her own she could not learn to regard with affection. She rejoices to be free from restraint, free to assert her independence.

and gratify the ambitious dream of her life by expressing her ideas and gaining for herself a place in the literary world.

But can this be done without patient toil, without discouragements and being at least for a time subject to the varying moods and fancies of a critical world. Such an experience does not seem to be Aurora's. She must work steadily and untiringly for the book-seller with one hand and for herself and art with the other. Then one wants another volume like the last, another would have a striking yet not a startling book, something new, yet orthodox, another objects to abstract thought, and still another would have more mirth. In the effort to please the infinite variety of tastes the mind becomes weary, the nerves overtaken and overstrained. But at last there is reward and she has gained for herself a place worthy of recognition.

What does Aurora say concerning the realization? Is it what she has hoped, toiled and struggled for?

"Is this all? all that's done and all that's gained?
If this then be success, 'tis dismaller
Than any failure."

What is actually gained is so far below what was hoped for that the realization is more bitter than failure and her ambition is still unsatisfied. Then she begins to realize that she has exalted her artist's instinct, "at the cost of putting down the woman's," that although art is much it alone does not fill the human heart.

The discipline of the world, however, mellowed Aurora's nature more than all the wise precepts of her aunt. Mrs. Browning finally shows her heroine kind and generous in befriending a homeless waif and giving to her a home. She can do this with the consciousness of one who has proved her own worth and confident that her kindness will shield its recipient from the buffets of the world.

The poetess evidently wished to show the value of the human over the intellectual type of womanhood by her plot of this romance in verse.

And however much there is of the inspiration in fame and of the fascination in creative work, the true woman must be worthy of the eulogy conferred by Robert Browning on his wife.

"O lyric love half angel and half bird
And all a wonder and a wild desire
Boldest of hearts that ever braved the sun,
Took sanctuary within the holier blue,
And sang a kindred soul out to his face
Yet human to the red ripe of the heart."

R. J. B.

Truth in Paradox.

In estimating a life or character, the question rarely turns on the correctness of this or that opinion held.

W. E. GLADSTONE.

Obituary.

NEVER have these Institutions undergone a greater bereavement than that experienced in the sudden decease of Miss R. Elinor Upham, the beloved teacher of drawing and painting in Acadia Seminary.

Miss Upham, a native of Truro, N. S., and a lady of wide experience as a teacher, entered upon her duties here in September last. She had previously studied widely under Professor Antchuson of the Royal Academy, London, and later at the Cowles Art School, Boston, as a pupil of Joseph DeCamp and Ernst L. Vesjor. Before her appointment to the staff of the Seminary she had conducted a studio in Truro and later in Moncton, N. B. She thus brought to her department here a most liberal culture coupled with an extensive experience.

During her brief connection with the Seminary, by her amiable disposition, affectionate manner and high christian qualities, Miss Upham had won the admiration of her associate teachers and the love of the entire school.

The funeral was held in Alumnae Hall at 11 o'clock on the morning of the 24th February, where a most impressive service was conducted by Prof. Trotter, assisted by Rev. D. H. Simpson of Berwick. Mr. Trotter spoke most touchingly of the mysterious but all-wise dispensations of Providence, dwelling at length upon the glories of the christian hope. The remains were taken to Great Village for interment.

The sincerest sympathy of the ATHENÆUM is extended to the friends and relatives of the deceased for whom we mourn but not as they who have no hope.

THE best things in the world do not come to us ready-made . . . Truth must be searched for with patient toil. Beauty must be wrought out with painstaking devotion. Food and raiment must be wrested from the furrow and woven in the loom. And all our social and political institutions must be fought for on the field of battle, defended in the forum, and vindicated in the courts. Even our religious faiths must be thought out anew in the soul-conflicts of each generation, or they become mere forms of words, devoid of life and power.

WILLIAM DEWITT HYDE.

HERE is the most serious question of our times: Is Christianity able to establish right relations between man and man? The skepticism which is most dangerous to Christianity to-day is not doubt as to the age or authenticity of its sacred books, or distrust of its time-honored doctrines, but loss of faith in its vitality.

REV. JOSIAH STRONG, D. D.

The Acadia Athenæum.

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The Sanctum.

The Best Thing the College Does for the Student.

AN article in the *Forum* of this month summarizes the answers of a large number of correspondents to the question:—What is the best thing that the College does for the student? There is considerable agreement in the answers, some giving more prominence to one element, others to another. One says that in College he learned to study, to gather information, to think; another, that the College gave him the ability to keep the maximum of application for the maximum of time. Several express the opinion that the greatest good of College training is the broadening process that takes place in character, spiritual and moral as well as mental. The College enlarges the range of one's sympathies and one's views of life, God, man and duty. Life is broadened by finding out what men have done in the world in one great department of learning after another.

Some of the correspondents place special emphasis on the benefits resulting from the influence of large bodies of students on one another. Dr. R. S. Storrs writes: The best thing I found in College was the intimate contact with fine minds of class-mates. It is the opinion of some of these correspondents that the influence of students on one another is greater than that of professors on students. "Civilization is a product, not of isolation, but of the crowding of population. Humanity educates humanity." A somewhat similar idea is expressed by the words of another who said that he felt that by his College course he made himself a part of the great sodality of letters.

The obvious remark on these summaries is that they contain no reference to special studies or the accumulation of stores of learning. These things are not omitted because they are useless, but whatever

virtue may attach to them, they are not classed among the best results of College training. These testimonies deserve consideration. As men who have been engaged for years in the competitions of a busy life look back on their College days and ask themselves :—What is the best thing that I have brought with me through all this time since I left College, they answer by indicating results that are indirect and to some extent incidental. If power to work, breadth of sympathy with laborers in various departments of special study, a sense of community with the educated and learned of every nation and age, and the abiding impulse to noble living and service awakened by intimate fellowship with the choice minds of fellow students are the best fruits of college training, then going through college is a much more serious business than it is commonly supposed to be. The subject deserves further study. We may call attention to it again.

The examination season is one of the many things which may be depended upon in a college course, and it certainly sustains its reputation for being a terror to the evil-doers and to the indolent. Though in some institutions doubts are entertained as to the value of written examinations, we still think they have a legitimate place in the educational process, and nowhere does one receive a fairer estimate of his ability than at the hands of individual college professors. Apart from the imperative need of examinations as a test of work done, there is a great advantage accruing to the student in having to review and gather up the entire subject in hand that he may pass muster. The advantage lies in the mental discipline required in thus summing up at the close of a long and broken course of study stretching over many weeks, possibly months.

To the industrious the examination has no terror. It stands to him as the mere process by which he is to measure himself. And though the aspiration solely for marks is not commendable, yet an ambition for creditable standing is certainly praiseworthy and should be encouraged. But the examination itself cannot foster this ambition. Still it would seem that an aid might be found in the manner in which they are conducted and the means adopted in publishing the returns. It would be a desirable change if the nice distinction of decimals were dropped and a student's standing were reckoned solely in classes of First, Second, Passed or Conditioned. This would obviate some of the unpleasant comparison of numbers. Then, again we think it would be desirable if the results of the half-yearly and final examinations should

be published as soon as possible after examinations are held. This might easily be done in any of the leading provincial papers. The wide circulation of these papers would inspire the student to pursue his work with all available diligence and in the end would yield greater satisfaction to both professor and student.

In our last issue brief mention was made indicating the attitude of "Acadia" toward intercollegiate debating. Since then the contest has been held with Kings College of which mention is made in another column. Although of this debate we are not privileged to record the success of last year so far as the decision is concerned, yet we feel that for practical benefit to the individual colleges it equalled those of March last. The value of these debates does not lie in the victory won, but in the inspiration such intellectual contests bring to the colleges represented. Indeed we think they would fulfil their purpose equally well if no decision were given save that of the popular sentiment aroused in the audience. This thought is strengthened by the difficulty found in procuring judges free from prejudice in favor of one or another of our provincial colleges. For judgment upon these contests no formulated rules are to be had by which each point can be measured as in the case of intercollegiate athletics. Moreover we are sure that the personal interests of the speaker and the honor of his college would be a sufficiently strong motive impelling him to do his utmost to win the interest and sympathy of his audience. This latter would find its expression quite as widely as that of a set judgment.

Again in addition to the inspiration subjective to the individual colleges, there is also another feature of value in these debates. We refer to the friendly social acquaintances one is privileged to make with another when thus he meets in friendly controversy. The debates do not represent physical force, nor do they represent mere men, they embody *ideas* which are struggling for supremacy.

We sincerely hope that the present debating interest may be cherished and that it may ultimate in the founding of a regular maritime intercollegiate society somewhat after the plan indicated in the February *Gazette*.

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the New England Association of Acadia College Alumni was held at the United States Hotel, Boston, on 2nd inst. A company of more than forty assembled at the

Banquet which followed the business meeting. There was quite as much enthusiasm as in the past. The officers elected for the year are President, Rev. Robert MacDonald, Pastor of the Warren Avenue Baptist Church; Vice-President, Rev. Leander A. Palmer, of Swampscott, Mass; Secretary, Benjamin A. Lockhart, Barrister, Boston; Treasurer, Charles H. McIntyre, Barrister, Boston; Directors, M. C. Smith, M. D., John E. Eaton, Barrister, and Rev. Austen J. Kempton of Boston and Rev. Ralph M. Hunt of Jamaica Plains.

The sum of two hundred dollars was forwarded to Wolfville to be applied to the Alumni professorship. The Society has one thousand dollars on hand as the beginning of an endowment of a Professorship. Much credit should be given to the officers and leaders in this movement for their services, and to the members who contribute generously to their Alma Mater. Rev. Ralph M. Hunt, Rev. Charles A. Eaton and others have given freely of time and effort to establish the Society on a firm basis. The speakers at the Banquet were: Rev. Charles A. Eaton of Toronto; Professor Keirstead of Acadia; Professor Rheas of Newton Theological Seminary; Rev. A. S. Gumbart of Boston, Rev. Robert MacDonald of Boston and Rev. W. B. Lockhart of Manchester, N. H. The Boston papers reported the meeting a success. Mr. Gumbart declared that he saw no reason why Acadia should not receive aid from the Baptists of New England as the Colleges of the United States are aided. He praised the graduates whom he knew for their loyalty to evangelical theology. It is hard, in fact impossible, he said, to recognize them as foreigners. There is a growing recognition of Acadia in New England as a factor in religious, professional and business life. He recommended a continuous agitation by the friends of the College in the United States.

The *Boston Herald* says: Prof. E. M. Keirstead of Wolfville, N. S. (where the old college is situated) was more serious, though he said he brought the greetings of the undergraduates who were very glad to see him leave. There are now 318 students in all, including 107 young women; and 24 professors and teachers. More optional courses have been added from year to year, and the College is on a more liberal basis, though it has a chronic shortness of finances. The College was never more helpfully related to its constituency, which is not growing larger, however, because the young men who could do effective work do not remain in the country. The Professor spoke fervently of the mission of higher education.

Charles H. McIntyre, who discharges his duty as Treasurer in a very able manner, spoke of the business of the Society. Among those

present were Rev. George B. Horr, editor of the *Watchman*, Rev. I. W. Porter, Rev. W. M. Smallman, Rev. J. H. Davis, C. E. Seaman, A. E. Dunlap, J. W. Dervis, M. D., J. S. Lockhart, M. D., Archibald Murray, Rev. P. S. McGregor and others.

The Month.

ON the evening of February 14th many were seen wending their way to College Hall. Evidently something was about to happen of more drawing power than one of the Athenæum lectures; and so there was. The lady members of the College were about to give their annual reception. The members of the Propylæum always have some pleasant surprise for their guests, and this occasion was not an exception. To each gentleman and lady, upon entering the hall, was given a card, on which was written part of a quotation and a number. The gentleman had then, with the help of the introducing committee, to find his Valentine, or the lady on whose card was written the remainder of the quotation and a corresponding number. During the evening Miss Shand, of Windsor, delighted the audience with several songs. After spending a very enjoyable evening the guests dispersed feeling very much gratified to the members of the Propylæum for their entertainment.

A larger audience than usual makes evident the growing popularity of Seminary recitals. Alumnæ Hall was filled on the evening of the 15th ult. by an audience which highly appreciated the efforts of the performers.

Evidently foot-ball is not the only game our boys can play as is evinced by their scoring in hockey this winter. The first game of the season was played with a Windsor team, which was defeated by a score of 7-0. Then our boys went down to Halifax to try their mettle against the city teams and to meet their old rival, Dalhousie. After a hotly contested game, we were defeated by one goal in our contest with the Wanderers; but were more successful in the game against Dalhousie, defeating her by a score of 3-1. The following is the team:—E. H. Moffat Capt., E. B. Jonah, Herbert Johnson, E. Johnson, C. H. Freeman, W. E. Dimock and Harry Johnson.

Until last year the only intercollegiate contests among the Nova Scotian Colleges were for supremacy in foot-ball, but now we not only pit ourselves against each other physically, but also, and what is of far more importance, strive for supremacy in debating. Last year in the debate between Kings and Acadia we were successful, but this year the tables were turned and the *decision* was given against us. On Friday evening, 6th inst., College Hall was filled to overflowing. The audience expected a treat and were not disappointed; the clear-cut arguments and brilliant repartee displayed by both sides was indeed pleasing to those who had the pleasure of being present. The speakers were, for Kings, Messrs Foster, Shatford, Ancient and Hiltz; for Acadia,

Messrs F. E. Bishop, L. M. Denton, B. L. Bishop and A. H. C. Morse. The judges who decided the debate were Prof. DeMille of Kings, Dr. Higgins of Acadia, and Mr. Barclay Webster of Kentville. We think this matter of intercollegiate debating is of vital importance, and sincerely hope this pastime will increase from year to year.

The regular monthly meeting of the Y. M. C. A. was held in College Hall on the afternoon of the 23rd February and was addressed by Rev. D. H. Simpson, M. A., of Berwick, N. S. His subject, "What think ye of Christ," was handled in his usual scholarly style, and was greatly enjoyed by the large audience gathered. Mr. Simpson is a very impressive speaker and his thorough zeal for his work cannot fail to influence all his hearers. An unusually large audience assembled at the village church on the evening of the same day, where, upon invitation of Prof. Trotter, Mr. Simpson again preached. His subject then was:—"Whose is the image and superscription," and was of a thoroughly evangelistic cast.

Exchanges.

WE welcome this month the usual number of exchanges, which form no unimportant part of the literary matter found in the reading room. For literary merit, care in editing, the insight given into college life and doings, and for neat and attractive appearance they deserve commendation and should receive the attention from readers of which they are worthy.

The Dalhousie Gazette as usual presents the appearance of a distinctive college journal. Bristling with "College Notes," an account of leading graduates, the doings of its societies, etc., it seems to index the vigorous life of the University which it represents.

The Owl comes to hand with its customary neat appearance and usual number of literary articles contributed by the students of the University by which it is published.

The Theologue as the name denotes, is of special interest to Christian ministers or to students who have the christian ministry in view, but may also be read with interest and advantage by many others. Two articles of the February number deserve special attention from those that look forward to successful work in winning souls for Christ and in training them after they are won. These are "The young Minister's Library" and "Two essentials in a christian ministry." The subjects treated of, connected with the names of Rev. D. M. Gordon and Rev. A. Gandier respectively, are sufficient guarantee of their value.

The March number of The Varsity opens with an interesting letter from Jas. A. Tucker who was brought into notice so prominently in the late disturbance between the students and faculty of the University of Toronto. Mr. Tucker is now a student of Stanford University,

Col., and sets forth in an informal, interesting way, student life there as compared with student life in a Canadian University.

The contents of the first March issue of the McGill Fortnightly contain much that will appeal to the thoughtful reader.

The February number of the Presbyterian College Journal presents its usual attractive appearance and its contents are of that instructive, scholarly character which this journal always exhibits.

The February number of the Harvard Monthly will afford pleasure to all readers who have a taste for poetry, fiction and literary criticism of a high order.

Other exchanges on our table are the Manitoba College Journal, Kings College Record and The Cadet.

De Alumnis.

M. D. Hemmeon, '88, yet teaches in Truro, N. S.

C. H. Day, '86, has ended his evangelistic work at Quebec.

A. F. Baker, '93, who is attending McMaster University this winter, has received a call to the pastorate of the church at Petittcodiac, N. B.

W. B. Wallace, '90, has resigned his charge as pastor of the Baptist church at Oswego, N. Y., to accept a call to the Tabernacle church in Utica, N. Y.

C. A. Eaton, '90, present pastor of Bloor St. Baptist Church, Toronto, has received an invitation to supply the Bloomsbury Baptist Chapel, London, during the summer months.

H. G. Estabrook, '91, now taking his first year at McMaster University, is being communicated with by the Windsor Baptist Church, relative to becoming their pastor.

E. A. Read, '91, was ordained, on February 21st, to the Christian ministry as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Pontiac, Ill: This Church is said to be the largest in central Illinois.

Rev. E. M. Keirstead, D. D., '95, attended the meetings of the New England Branch of the Acadia Alumni Association, held in Boston on the 2nd March.

E. E. Daley, '91, pastor of Leinster St. Baptist Church, St. John, has been visiting friends in Cornwallis, N. S. By this short vacation his health has been greatly improved.

During the present year at Harvard the following Acadia graduates have been in attendance. Undergraduates, A. Murray, '94; Graduate Department, C. E. Seaman, '92; Law School, J. E. Eaton, '90; Dental School, W. H. Starratt, '92.

The following Acadia graduates are in attendance at the Rochester Theological Seminary this winter: C. B. Freeman '91, W. L. Archibald '92, O. N. Chipman '92, A. J. Crockett '92, A. A. Shaw '92, in the Senior Class; I. E. Bill '93, and L. F. Wallace '94, in the Middle Year; and in the Junior Year is J. L. Miner '95.

As You Like It.

THE design of these notes
Is to *help* and to *cheer*;
For the blessing you get
You're welcome, don't fear.

Then list to suggestion,
Take heed to your ways;
Thus the sophomore editors
E'er after you'll praise.

And as generous gratitude
Possesses your heart,
Toward enlarging this corner
Contribute *your* part.

- "I accept your apology."
- Who stole the curling-tongs from a member of '98? Let's *see*.
- Query:—Who has the white grey-hounds?
- It is reported that two of the senior debaters got the wrong brand.
- Why is the class of '99 like the spring time? *One* reason is that it has a fresh-ette.
- Perhaps the collegian who could easily go with any of the girls, might find that he would have others to *compete* with. At least the experiment might possibly be fraught with peril. Reports will get abroad.
- Prof. of Chem.—"What takes place when you put it in water?"
Soph.—"Well, it gets wet."
- Small sister of Sophette—"Mr. C—— is trying to grow a moustache. And he's got a few."
- Dr. to Senior tenor—"Who is that freshman who gives expression to such evidences of musical talent? I would say he was more hindrance than help."
- The Post Office appears to be the changing place. A senior and a junior have charge down east; a freshman then presents himself and walks on west. If you desire their names, interview Messrs T—, C—l and M—d.

On February the 20th day
Eighteen hundred and ninety- six,
On the sidewalk, right in the way,
Two Jun's and a Soph. got in a fix.

The snow at first came gently,
But soon the force was great;
The prisoners felt the strokes
And said: "O fate, O wretched fate.

Poetry was their first resort
In which to find relief.
And thus enclosed as in a fort,
These words they said in brief:—

"Up the street, up the street,
Up the street Thursday night,
All in the midst of the Sem's.
In the bright moonlight !
Forward, we happy three.
Charge for the Sem we may,
All in the midst of the Sem's,
Isn't this gay?"

"Fair ones to right of us,
Fair ones to left of us,
Fair ones in front of us,
Smile then and wonder.
No teacher from behind
Sees us; is she not kind ?
No one our joke will find,
There's been no blunder."

After :—

But we were well repaid,
My, the wild tracks we made.
Wont students wonder !
Honor the snow Sem's threw,
As : t our ears it flew
And struck, C thunder!"

— Ninety-six is on the *qui vive* to see what success will attend the efforts of their member from the West to secure the position of assistant postmaster.

— No work to do in this College, eh? Going to Chicago, are you? Perhaps it would be well to see what the full course here is like before taking any rash steps. You know it would be harder to leave this place than you may have suspected. The process of becoming *wadded* to a given course, may be very difficult to resist, even for the handsome young man from the Freshman Class."

— Junior Class in Bible. Prof.--" You know we hear of miracles wrought in Upper Canada, but of course we do not believe them " H. A. M. — "Pink Pills?"

— "Well, if you are not going to do it I'll try it myself," said C—d: and suiting the action to the word, he suddenly sat down on the sidewalk,—and *hour (h)ur* M——t ran !

— " 'The way of the transgressor is hard ' and cold," said the Freshman as he slid down the Seminary steps on the night of the last recital.

— It is certainly *refreshing* to be informed that Adam was born in 45 B. C., and that John wrote the first verse in the Bible.

— The debate was good. But the best of earthly things are not perfect. There are spots on the sun and spots also on the debate in the form of occasional mispronunciations, examples of which we venture to point out. The spelling in the following sentences will be recognized as corresponding to the pronunciation employed during the *recitation* of the 6th inst. :—

"The *indoucements* held out to emigrants by the United States are *absorbingly* greater than those offered by Canada."

"Even if emigrants were to settle in Canada in large numbers, their presence might prove *sooie'idal* to the highest interest; of her free *institootions*."

One of the debaters evidently *fostered* the belief "that the *son erus* tones of a previous sentimental speaker were *jest a little* surpassed " by his own.

Let Ixion stay revolving on his wheel :
 Let Tantalus reach after grapes in vain;
 Let wickedness all kinds of torture feel,
 But now let meanness feel deserved pain.
 Of all the punishments designed for men,
 The following is the latest up to date :
 And though it be resorted to again,
 'Twas first agreed upon by '98.
 Let any man who marks so near first class
 Be tied to a large comet as his fate
 And may the comet swiftly Wolfeville pass,
 And not return till 1898.
 On diabolic orbit see him spin,
 His college gown a sight too dread for words:
 And thus atoning for his direful sin.
 He'll never more give 74 $\frac{2}{3}$.

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