

The Acadia Athenæum.

VOL. XVII.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., DECEMBER, 1890.

No. 2.

THE
Acadia Athenæum.

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One Copy per Year \$1.00. Postage prepaid.
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ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

The Sanctum.

WITH this issue the contemplated changes in our paper are completed. The rose tint did not seem to retain its holiday appearance under atmospheric impressions, and "harmonic poise" made also necessary the change of cover.

ARE we to have a sanctum? Ay! Thus unanimously voted the Athenæum Society at a recent meeting of that body. The executive committee were authorized forthwith to secure and furnish a room in keeping with the limited means of this paper. "Henceforth," as said the critic on that occasion, "the sanctum of the ATHENÆUM will no longer be a vague phantom existing only in the brain of its editors, and used on set occasions for rhetorical effect, but an accomplished reality." Our patrons are invited to give us a call, and we will promptly acknowledge the same in the list at the end of the LOCAL column.

TO the excellent and practical communication of "Alumnus" which appears in another column of this paper, we gladly give space and most heartily commend it to the careful consideration of our readers. It has ever seemed strange to us that such a society as "Alumnus" proposes had not long since come into existence in connection with Acadia Seminary. Like those of the affiliated schools, the former students of that institution are drawn to their *alma mater* by many strong ties which neither time has caused to decay nor space to sever. In short, they love the Seminary, and we believe, are only waiting an opportunity to give tangible proof of their attachment to her. The opportunity is at hand. Could not the present students, who have no less attachment to their *alma mater* than their predecessors, take the matter in hand and make the preliminary arrangements for carrying forward this laudable enterprise? When such plans as they consider will best subserve the interests of the proposed society are formulated, let circulars be issued to each of the former students explaining the nature and design of the proposed society, and naming the place and date of the first meeting. A scheme of this kind, we believe, will meet with a hearty response; and an Alumne Society in connection with Acadia Seminary must, we feel assured, prove a mighty inspiration to the cause of higher education among the young ladies of the Baptist denomination in the Maritime Provinces.

BUT the students of Acadia Seminary—present and past—are not alone in their indebtedness to these institutions. In looking over the records of the graduates of Acadia College, it is worthy of note that out of the three hundred and seventeen men and women who have received the degree of B. A., a round fifty of these hail from Annapolis County, N. S., while twenty of the present undergraduates—fourteen of whom are in the two upper classes—are natives of the same constituency. In this respect, Annapolis sustains to Acadia a relationship analogous.

to that which Pictou bears to Dalhousie. The last named institution receives a large part of her present support from one princely benefactor, George Munro, a former Pictonian; and when but a few weeks ago the claims of Dalhousie were publicly set forth to the citizens of New Glasgow, that town immediately responded with a subscription of \$3,000 towards the general funds of that college. Would it not be well for Annapolis to follow this example? While it is true that this highly favored county has borne her share of the burden in supporting Acadia in the past, it is also apparent that she has received large returns in the shape of educated men and women, who are worth more to her than a just equivalent for all past investments. This truth, we believe, only needs to be presented to the people of Annapolis to find a tangible response from them. Who will lead in this matter? We await the issue.

THE gymnasium apparatus has arrived and been placed in position. Mr. H. Y. Corey who has taken a course of instruction at St. John, N. B., has entire charge of this phase of college work, and is proving himself well qualified for the position. Under the new regulations instruction is made compulsory, subject to a light tax of two dollars upon the student. Three hours a week are given to each individual, who forms one of a class. The arrangement is very satisfactory and will, we expect, work wonders to accomplish the grand object for which the gymnasium was founded, "to make a sound body with a sound mind," using an appropriate phrase we heard not long ago. This is all as it should be. We are glad the instruction has been made part of the course, because there is always a tendency for some to shirk the amount of exercise really necessary in college life. Under the judicious training of Mr. Corey, we hope to see this difficulty removed.

THERE seems to be a feeling among our students that a second-rate lecturer is barely preferable to none at all. Yet, for various reasons, we have been forced to content ourselves with this class of men, with but very few exceptions. This, we think, is the experience of other Maritime Colleges as well. As a class, they are not largely endowed, and can

seldom afford the expense incidental to bringing a noted speaker some distance, and for a single occasion. Also, when the undergraduates and not the faculties have this matter in charge, there are additional motives to be cautious, and perhaps a trifle "penny-wise."

A proposal has therefore been made to establish an INTER-COLLEGIATE LECTURE BUREAU which should control the lecture courses of the Lower Province Colleges. No basis of organization has been agreed upon, but the advantages of the scheme are obvious.

The main object, of course, would be to secure first-class lecturers at a reasonable outlay, and as our colleges are so placed that a tour of them could be made in not many more days than there were appointments, this method seems to offer a settlement of the difficulty. Certainly, the proportional expense must be much less than by the old plan.

We hope that our sister-schools will consider this matter, and give both themselves and us the opportunity of hearing other educated men than our own professors, and of broadening our mental field of view a little more than is possible under the present system.

AMONG the matters for consideration before the Governors at their last session was a resolution presented by the students last June, asking for the privilege of holiday special religious services on the Hill once a month at least in addition to the regular Missionary meeting. The question of "may we or may we not" hold such meetings, has been in agitation for some years back. We do not purpose at present to give a summary of the arguments which have been advanced pro and con such a step. Suffice to say the Governors have not thought best to give our demands in full, though in substance they have granted them. On Sunday evening November 8, we held our first service, beginning at eight o'clock. Professor Young gave an excellent discourse on Soul Education. Regular monthly meetings are expected to be held from this time on. The Governors have our sincere thanks for the careful consideration they bestowed upon our resolution and the interest they have manifested in the welfare of the students. Though we would have preferred the whole loaf, we cannot feel unthankful for what we have already received.

A GOOD book or a good paper is a good thing ;— granted ;—but try to read standing or in a cold room, and you soon forget your good book, and wish for a good chair and a good fire. Very well, now we are getting near to the point. We have a reading-room, well stocked with papers and magazines,—but ! Yes, there is some room and no lack of papers, reading desks and a table, a chair or two and a stove, *but* there is not all there should be. Our room is too small ; somebody seldom remembers to light the fire ; we are often compelled to sit on the table, or incline our persons against a window-casing ; and it is even whispered that some whose stature is inversely proportional to their thirst for knowledge have to mount on the light fantastic toe when they scan the headlines of the daily papers. This should not be, and it gives us satisfaction to know that there is prospect of a change. The Athenæum Society is to meet one flight nearer the empyrean than before, and the current news will probably be the new tenant of the old room. This will give us a chance to read with comfort and elbow space, and prevent the papers on the table from being monopolized by the ten good men and true who may happen first to touch the edge thereof. With a good room properly heated and furnished, we shall be able to learnedly digest and criticize the articles, to our own satisfaction if to no one's else.—

Verbum FACULTATI—?

IT is an easier task to say what we need than in many cases to supply such need. We think it evident that the Chapel has become too small to comfortably accommodate the increased number of students. The time has fully come when a larger room for general college purposes is needed. We can hardly be expected to use Assembly Hall. The library room would answer in size, but where shall the library be removed ? This brings up the question of a separate building for library and museum purposes, which has been discussed in this paper. We believe that such a step will be a necessity at no distant date. The proposition to restore the Old Academy Hall for such purposes seems to be the easiest way out of the difficulty as far as college accommodations is concerned. But in order to do this, other class rooms will have to be provided for the Academy. The time has arrived when the whole college building is needed for college pur-

poses. That means of course that the time has also arrived for a separate Academy building. Next year the ladies are to have a new Seminary. Why are not the students of H. C. A., entitled to a new Academy ? We think that the authorities consider they are. But how meet all these demands out of a depleted treasury ? The Academy as a feeder of the college has done a grand work. If age has any claim, 't stands first. What an opportunity for some one or more of our Baptist friends to endow the Academy and place it upon a firm financial basis ! An important moment has arrived in the history of these institutions. The increasing popularity among its constituents has created a correspondingly greater demand upon their liberality. It may seem to some that our demands are increasing at a very rapid ratio. So they are, but the Academy question is not new and it forces itself upon us. The scope of the work attempted here can only be fully realized by our friends upon a fair representation of our needs. When one change is completed in our present system it involves several others at the same time. The whole truth is, we have outgrown our accommodations. In the face of difficulties the Governors are doing nobly, and their work must commend itself to the public.

DEATH has again visited us. On Friday, Oct. 29th, the many friends of Prof. Keirstead were called upon to mourn with him the death of his beloved wife, Janie F. Keirstead who passed peacefully to her reward on the afternoon of that day. The following sonnet from the pen of Rev. J. Clark of Antigonish, is respectfully inscribed to the bereaved husband, Prof. E. M. Keirstead :—

"ALL LIFE UNTO HIM."

(See Luke 20 : 37-38.)

We thank Thee, God ! our life, so full of Thee,
Ends not with death, but onwards throbs for aye ;
Its burdens, not its blessings, pass away ;
Death crowns the life, and sets the spirit free ;
'Tis sense, not soul, that knows mortality.
This side of death is night ; beyond is day ;
'Tis there life's fulness blooms. Thrice blest are they

Who dwell with God, and His great glory see.
 Our dead yet live. The stone-marked burial ground
 Contains not them. No tomb can hold the mind.
 In brightest realms their golden voices sound ;
 In service high their powers employment find ;
 Grand thoughts are theirs beyond earth's shadowy bound.
 O bring us soon to them, Lord God, most kind !

At a meeting of the students on Nov. 3rd, the subjoined resolutions, which feebly bespeak their sentiments, were unanimously adopted :—

Whereas, It hath pleased Almighty God, in His wise providence, to call to Himself the beloved wife of our esteemed professor, Rev. E. M. Keirstead ; and,

Whereas, We have ever known her as a Christian lady possessed of the gentle, kindly and sympathetic nature of a noble woman ;

Therefore Resolved, That we record as an expression of our esteem this tribute to her memory, knowing that one who ever took a kindly interest in our welfare ; and whose example was ever an inspiration to a higher life has passed to the Life beyond.

Further Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved husband and daughter, who we trust can say with assurance,

"So long Thy power hath blest us sure it still
 Will lead us on
 O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till,
 The night is gone,
 And with the morn those angel-faces smile
 Which we have loved long since, and lost awhile."

Resolved, also, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the sorrowing husband and that they be published in the ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

On behalf of the students of Acadia College,

W. N. HUTCHINS,	} <i>Committee.</i>
M. S. READ,	
J. B. GANONG.	

MYTHOLOGICAL MURMURINGS.

Sydney Sisyphus.
 Bill Innemonides.
 Damon and Phintias, Longfellow's twins.
 The Viking Apollo.
 Diamond-Dust Nick, the Promethean fire-brand.
 L. Reynard Ulysses, the meaningless mortal.

Literary.

OLIVER CROMWELL.

HE who would help his fellow men must have a heart hardened and not anxious for praise. From the beginning of time, those who have taken a prominent place in the world's affairs have been subject to the shiftings of popular opinion. Of truly great men, perhaps none has been so variously judged as Oliver Cromwell. Let us examine a few of the characteristic events of his career, and see how they speak concerning him.

The first of Cromwell's life was quiet. Happy in his family, he appeared as a peaceable, law-abiding citizen, a God-fearing man, but little troubled by the noisy world about him. But his day was hastening on, though not yet come. England was being prepared as a field for his actions. Cromwell was the axe, tempered by heaven, laid to the roots of the tree of corruption which was fast undermining the constitution of Old England.

King Charles was blind. He could not or would not see ; and so, despite the remonstrance of Parliament, continued in the suicidal policy which was to lose the Stuart Line a kingdom, and cost the king of England his life. By attempting the forcible seizure of members of the Lower House, he deeply insulted the nation, which rose as one man to assert its ancient dignity. There was but one of two things for the people to do. They had either to allow the great principles of right to be trampled in the dust, and thus wrong, not only themselves, but all who might come after ; or to make righteous the government, by removing the cause of evil. The latter was the only course conscience would allow them to take, and civil war was the means used to carry it out. Horrible agent indeed ! But the only practicable one. Far better to lose a limb and save the body, than keep the limb, and, because of it, perish miserably. So civil war was begun, in which Cromwell was to play a conspicuous part, and which was to furnish him with abundant work, work for which he was well fitted.

Oliver Cromwell was distinctly a General. That, no one can plausibly deny. Whether combating enemies at the point of the bayonet, or striking at abuses in the councils of the nation, he conducted his plans with a masterly hand. His was a practical mind. He took in at a glance the condition of things, saw what was needed, and had the courage and strength to bring that to pass. One calm July evening, on the field of Marston Moor, the magnificent military genius of Cromwell blazed forth, attracting to itself the astonished gaze of the world—a gaze not to be withdrawn until he passed out of sight in the zenith of his power.

But if Cromwell was great as a soldier, he was terrible as a general. For the manner in which he conducted his Irish campaign, he has often been

severely censured. The condition of the country at the time, however, should not be forgotten. The Roman Catholics had broken out into rebellion, and upwards of two thousand persons fell victims to their frenzy. The atrocities committed were something without a parallel in history. By their frightful crimes, the people forfeited all claims to mercy. And terrible was the punishment meted out to them. The wretched peasants were made to feel the iron heel of the conqueror upon their necks. They had "sown the wind, and reaped the whirlwind." In the light of these facts, surely no fair minded person can judge the punishment greater than merited.

A favorite charge made against Cromwell is that he was a scheming, ambitious man. How did he act when fully established in his office of Protector, supported by a powerful army of his own training, ready to do his bidding at the shortest notice? Did he seek to increase his power, and satisfy his love of military glory, by embroiling the nation in foreign wars? On the contrary; he sought to promote peace by every means in his power. But, he never purchased it at the expense of the rights of English subjects. Peace and prosperity for England was his policy until the day of his death. As for other nations, he had no desire to interfere with them, except when they interfered with England, or the rights of England's subjects. And never before was the name of Britain so respected. Spain, the great champion of Catholicism, was made to realize, at the mouth of British cannon, that Protestantism now had a defender with a strong arm. The King of France, too, had such hearty respect for the messages sent him by the Lord Protector, that he was fain to give religious liberty to his Protestant subjects. Does all this look as if Cromwell was working simply for his own advancement? It is said that fear alone restrained him from taking the name of king—that this man who had beaten the cavaliers of Charles on their own ground, mercilessly lashed Ireland into obedience, and laid low the power of Scotland at one blow, was afraid to take the name of king, while exercising all the authority of one!

No, establishing a royal line was not Cromwell's purpose. His whole desire was for England's good, and for her he worked with all his strength. It was this very desire of his, to see England prosper, that led him to sanction the death of the king. Events had proved conclusively that Charles was not to be relied upon. Time after time, he had shown himself utterly void of uprightness. He himself taught his people, by many bitter lessons, that they should not trust him. And though it is to be deplored that he should have been condemned to death after a mock trial in which there was not the slightest semblance of justice, yet, it cannot be denied that it was expedient for the king to perish. The times compelled something desperate to be done. Charles, by his own acts, pushed his death upon the people. They either had to take their monarch's life, or suffer the whole king-

dom to be murdered by most tyrannous measures. They decided for one to suffer rather than many, and, in the light of subsequent events, we cannot say they decided wrongly.

Again, in politics, Cromwell is accused of making matters subservive his own interests. In the affair of the Self-Denying Ordinance, he was exempted from its application. But that, certainly, proves nothing disparaging to him. It is simply a clear evidence that he was regarded as the most capable man in the kingdom. In his great act of usurpation, when he seized the power by dissolving Long Parliament, his enemies profess to see proof conclusive that all his speeches and acts in defence of liberty were but hollow shams. Remember, however, that the Long Parliament dissolved by Cromwell, was not what it was when first assembled. No Pym nor Hampdens graced its councils. Its great spirits were gone, and none but inferior ones had succeeded them. Hallam, who seldom, if ever, judges wrongly, says, "It may be said I think, with no greater severity than truth, that scarce two or three public acts of justice, humanity, or generosity, and very few of political wisdom or courage, are recorded by them, from their quarrel with the king, to their expulsion by Cromwell." It is necessary to bear this in mind. For these very men were even then hurrying a bill through Parliament, providing for their own perpetuity in office. Cromwell saw this, and knowing that they were not capable of governing the affairs of the kingdom, prevented them from accomplishing their purpose. As has been said, it was simply "the usurpation of *capability* against *incapability*." He well knew himself to be the only man who in those perilous times could guide aright "the ship of state," and he did not shirk the duty imposed upon him by Providence.

To any one looking at Cromwell in the light of history, and judging him as influenced by the times in which he lived, there can come but one estimate of his character. Whether we look at him through his public or private life, through his speeches or through his letters, we see him always the same man, influenced by but one purpose, and that to do his duty whatever men might think. And the terrible earnestness with which he strove to do his work told upon him. Being but mortal, restless days and sleepless nights worked their effects. The messenger of Death came to him and took him; came to him and found him planning for the good of his beloved England; came to him and found him perfectly willing to go and be with his Master, for whose cause he had so valiantly fought in life. To him, England owes much of the freedom she now enjoys. He laid a broad and firm foundation for true liberty. And so, whether he is blamed or praised, matters not. The object of his life was to preserve inviolate the privileges of the English people, and in its accomplishment, he built for himself a fame and glory which will not fade as long as the name of England lasts.

NEWSPAPERS.

PROBABLY the most potent factor to-day in the moulding of public opinion is the newspaper. There may be that power which exerts a greater influence and spurs men to greater efforts for the time being, such as the earnest speech of a patriot, or the fiery anathemas of a popular demagogue, but there is nothing so far-reaching and permanent in its influence as the press.

The first newspaper was the *Frankfurter Journal* published in 1615. It is still in existence, and occupies an important place among the journals of the Fatherland. Seven years after this, the first in England appeared, called the *Weekly News* from Italy, Germanie, etc. These were at first hawked about the streets, and some time elapsed before they had a regular subscription list.

On this continent their growth has been marvellous. The earliest permanent newspaper, in America, began in 1704 and lasted until 1775. At the outbreak of the war with England, there were 39. The manner of printing was crude in comparison with modern methods. For instance, in 1830, working the full twenty-four hours per day, but 3000 copies could be printed. Several years ago a press was introduced, which, from a web of paper three or four miles long, could fold, cut, and deliver 25000. The greatest speed attained was 250 per hour. To print as many copies as our leading Sunday papers issued in four or five hours would, in 1809, have required ten hours a day for seven and one-half years. This is mentioned casually to illustrate the improvements in machinery, which account, in a great measure, for the position occupied to-day by the press.

The story of the censorship of the press is familiar to every reader of English literature. The battle has been fought and the victory won, so that today we count it as one of our privileges to be free from the once dreaded imprimatur of any party or power. A Frenchman once wrote: "Suffer yourself to be blamed, imprisoned, condemned; suffer yourselves even to be hanged; but publish your opinions. It is not a right, it is a duty." This course was almost literally taken when the fathers of journalism had to face fines, imprisonments, and the pillory. About the same time in France, a similar fight was taking place. The public were dependent on foreign papers circulated unlawfully. To-day, every country in the world, into which the newspaper has penetrated, with the exception perhaps

of Russia, boasts a free and untrammelled press. In that country, according to a law of 1865, the suppression of a book could only be accomplished by a judicial decision. This was so altered afterwards to give to the Council of Ministers, power to interdict a book. In 1831 the power of the whole Council was vested in four. By servile praise and flattery, certain papers managed to exist until 1884, when the Ministry proceeded to crush them. Everything was then suppressed but a few worthless sheets.

As a means of voicing public opinion, the newspaper is second to none. A free press gives to every individual power whereby he may reach the thrones of kings, and, without any play of words, can be said to be the throttle-valve of freedom. What would a government be if it could not be publicly criticized? What indeed any position of trust? Our public literature exerts an influence that is felt by all public officials. The preceding sentences must not be interpreted as being in any way derogatory to the good character of any such person as has been mentioned. It merely refers to the fact that, when it is known that the acts and doings of any man can be published for a nation to read and act upon, he is a little more careful as to his record.

In the "General Advertiser," a paper printed in London, there appeared in 1769, the famous letters of Junius, than which, no more effective specimens of invective can be found in literature. King, Ministry, Parliament and Court felt and acknowledged the force of his attacks. No effect was felt on the circulation of the paper for nearly a year. When on Dec. 19th, 1769, the famous "Letter to the King" came out, it resulted in the addition of about 1750 copies to the regular impression. When Junius ceased to write, the circulation of the *Advertiser* was 83,950. Seven years before it had been 47,715. The History of Halifax affords another example of what may be accomplished by the press, when, through the columns of the *Nova Scotian*, the magistrates were attacked. The success attained was due in a great measure to the abilities of Joseph Howe as a speaker, but the *Nova Scotian* was the challenger to the contest.

We have in every county of Nova Scotia established newspapers. Each has its editors and corps of correspondents. Probably nearly every matter is touched, directly or indirectly, from the apple blossoms found in the fall, to the affairs of government. County, province and Dominion news is thus within the reach of all. If any individual or sect has a grievance, means is given whereby it can be made known. Being made known, it can be dealt with in the light of public opinion.

The newspaper too has its place as an *Educator*. To professional men it is a means by which they are kept informed on the news of the day, and enabled to keep pace with public advancement. It does not deal with the specialties of any particular profession, but with that which may be common to all. To a

large number of the people, it is about the only literature with which they come in contact. The weekly visit of the "paper" is looked for, not only to pass away a few moments, but to gain an idea of what is going on about. What then should a newspaper be? As it caters to the popular taste, it should aim to a certain extent to please; but if popular taste sinks, the newspaper should seek to elevate it. A large amount of space is taken by some in reporting the movements of celebrated pugilists, and sporting characters in general. A prize fight gains more attention by many, than would a delegation, meeting to discuss something for the popular good. Is this as it should be? Our newspaper should have the interests of their constituency at heart, and not be guided altogether in their utterances by dollars and cents. To advocate right principles, to pursue steadily and work to accomplish such ends as *men* ought, certainly can furnish them with abundant work, and with a noble mission. And what can a newspaper not accomplish? It is a mighty power for good or for evil. With its opportunities thrown in the right direction, it is capable of doing great things; but it stoops from its proper sphere and as was said by a writer in the ATHENÆUM for May: "While the magazine is the battle-field for politicians, the newspaper is left to the political trickster and crank." That is a fact which we will not dispute. Our papers resort to low tactics and political mudslinging, instead of adhering to candid discussions and fair statements of questions. There are, certainly, notable exceptions, but the standard of the generality of papers should be raised. They should wrest from the Magazine part of its prestige in the line of subject matter. But this has already been touched upon in the article referred to.

The ideal newspaper seems far away in the future, but distance does not signify that it can never be reached. Let it come nearer to that from which it has evolved. First, it was a *newspaper*; then editors began to give opinions; next enterprising traders and merchants to fill its columns with advertising; and, finally, it admits such articles, that it is termed, by some, a low priced rival of the magazine. Instead of everything printable being printed, let there be a distinct line of cleavage between sense and nonsense. Let the unfairness which characterizes our party press give place to honest opinions. Partizanship or opinions may be held to; but let the newspapers be candid and honest, and then, will it command more respect. We do respect it now and welcome it to our homes, and because of this esteem, we wish it placed on a higher plane. It is impossible to present a cure for all its frailties at once. When improvements along this line have been begun, we may be astounded because of their delay. It will only be when the newspaper is rid of much which now characterizes it, and also taken many additional traits, that it will ascend to its proper level.

Contributed.

ACADIA SEMINARY.

Messrs. Editors:

Assuming that the columns of your journal are read, as ought to be the case by graduates and former students of Acadia Seminary, I take the liberty of addressing to them through the ATHENÆUM a suggestion which, if properly carried into effect, might become of material benefit to the school.

The suggestion is that an *Alumnæ* Society should be formed in connection with the Institution. No originality is claimed for this idea. It has been realized in the cases of other similar institutions, which have derived considerable advantage from the existence of such societies. In such cases much has been done to promote the welfare of those schools, while the members of the Societies have received from them much profit to themselves.

At Mount Allison such an association has existed for some time, apparently affiliated with the associated Alumni of the College, but to what extent I am unable to say.

The aim of this proposed society would be to sustain the same relation to Acadia Seminary which the society, called the "Associated Alumni of Acadia College," bears to the latter institution.

The object of this last named society is stated to be, "generally the advancement of education in connection with Acadia College and the Baptist Academies at Horton and Fredericton," (now St. Martins.) Although former students of these Academies are eligible for membership, the constitution of the Society does not appear to contemplate the admission of graduates and former students of Acadia Seminary and the ladies' schools at Wolfville, of which the present Seminary is the successor.

A glance at the annual announcements of the Associated Alumni of Acadia College, as contained in the College Calendars from year to year, will show something of the history and achievements of that Society. It is well known that of late years the Society has been of material assistance to the Board of Governors in contributing liberally to the support of the Chair of Modern Languages, and that the Society has now undertaken, with every prospect of success, to support and endow "The Alumni Chair of Physics."

Now, what the *Alumni* are doing for the College the *Alumnæ* may do for the Seminary. The ladies, properly organized, on behalf of their School, can do as much financially as we on behalf of ours. The record of "The Woman's Baptist Missionary Union of the Maritime Provinces" is good evidence that the Baptist women of these Provinces have a pretty firm grip on the denominational purse strings. Besides, many ladies, eligible for membership in the proposed society, having married outside the pale of the denomination, might fairly be expected to "have a pull on" financial resources, which would not otherwise be available. But apart altogether from money considerations, the loyal sympathy and co-operation of the past students of the Seminary and its predecessors, properly organized, would do much to strengthen the hands of those who are carrying on the work and government of the School, and to increase the membership, popularity and efficiency of the Institution.

As to the material for the organization of such a society, it need only be said here that its proper constituency must now number some hundreds.

The time for the organization of the Society is now ripe. The Board of Governors, by direction of the last Convention, have announced a new departure in Seminary work. An admirable site for proposed new buildings has been purchased at a cost of \$6,000, giving over four additional acres of land for Seminary purposes. About \$25,000 must be raised to cover the cost of land and buildings. If Acadia Seminary is to maintain her place against her competitors in this and the adjoining Province, the policy and plans of the Board of Governors must be carried out. These competitions increase not only in efficiency and the power to attract, but in number. Doubtless every old "Seminarian" will watch with interest the work of enlargement in Seminary work, and of raising the standard of the school. Let them, however, organize and that quickly, for their share in the accomplishment of these plans, and thus make their interest a practical working force!

To become practical, I beg to suggest that several of the ladies, forming a self-constituted committee, might, by public and private invitation, call a meeting of all graduates and former students, to be held during Anniversary week, 1891, to consider the formation of such a society; and, if organization should be decided on, that a constitution somewhat similar to that of

the Associated Alumni of Acadia College be adopted, making eligible for membership, among others, former students of the old Seminary, located in what is now the "Royal Hotel," previous to the establishment of a Ladies' Seminary on the Hill. Once organized, I am convinced the ladies would require no further suggestions or advice from us Alumni. We should probably then have to look to our laurels as a working society. At Sackville there appears to be a joint meeting of *Alumni* and *Alumnæ*, annually, partly of a business and partly of a social and literary character. Some such meetings at Wolfville might be made very interesting and advantageous.

This letter is perhaps too long, Messrs. Editors, but I trust the subject and the possibilities for good in the subject may be deemed of sufficient importance to palliate a trespass on your indulgence.

ALUMNUS.

Miscellaneous.

OUR LECTURE COURSE.

THE first public lecture of the present college year was delivered in Assembly Hall, on Friday evening, Nov. 7, under the management of the Athenæum Society. We were fortunate enough to secure the services of Hon. Attorney-General Longely, who upon special request of the students, gave his interesting lecture on Joseph Howe, delivered on a similar occasion nine years ago.

The lecturer started with the significant fact, that every country has its great men. In this respect Nova Scotia was not behind. Carlye says "The history of the world is the history of its great men." The purpose of the evening was to rescue from neglect the memory of Joseph Howe, a truly great man. To this end it was not his purpose to write a short biography. He desired to consider him as a man with the great purpose of his life.

Joseph Howe was brought up in a newspaper office. When 25 years of age he began to write upon public affairs, which he continued until his death. The Attorney-General then dwelt in a broad manner with the questions of Colonial Government, and the British Constitution, paying a glowing tribute to the latter. The battle for Responsible Government was fought out by Mr. Howe in a way greatly superior to that in the other provinces. His famous Libel Suit was aptly compared to the trial of the Seven Bishops. In speaking of Mr. Howe's remarkable speech on that occasion, the lecturer called it "one of the most masterly Philippics of our language. The peroration

will compare with any sample of British oratory from Pitt to Sheridan." The *modus operandi* of the liberal party had been throwing paper balls instead of 40 pound cannon balls. Under the attack of Mr. Howe abuses tumble down like toy houses. In the elections of 1847, Howe was successful, and from that day no party has attempted to carry on a government without the majority of the people at their back.

Turning from the political struggles we were next made acquainted with Mr. Howe's social qualities. "Howe as a man was eminently genial, a most pungent humorist of his day." Half his days were spent in making friends. If introduced to 500 men at any gathering he would remember nearly every one five years after. At this point several pleasing anecdotes in the life of Mr. Howe were admirably related.

Howe was a poet and a man of letters. Three piles of papers might be found in his study, (1) political, (2) historical, (3) poetical. When he became Governor, he hoped to carry out the darling wish of his life, to arrange these papers and give them to the public. The numerous works of Mr. Howe were here appropriately mentioned. In May, 1876, by the unanimous consent of his colleagues he became Lieutenant Governor. Greater honor was never conferred upon a Nova Scotian. He looked pale and feeble, but was sanguine. Soon after the news was flashed over the province, that he was dead. All classes high and low sincerely mourned, because they felt that a representative man had fallen. The works of a great man never die, but it is wonderful how soon people forget. No monument marks his resting place, a quiet spot; but around that unpretentious grave the grass is completely trodden down by the concourse of his loving countrymen, who daily do honor to his memory. In closing, the lecturer made an eloquent appeal to the students to be worthy of the example of Joseph Howe. His noble resolution, "I will, by the grace of God, be a man," may be emulated by every young man. It is hardly necessary to say the lecture was an excellent one; that was evident. As a body of students we feel grateful for the inspiration which the lecture brings to us.

FOOTBALL.

The annual intercollegiate football match between Dalhousie and Acadia was played on the grounds of the latter on Saturday, the 15th ult. The visiting team had met the Kentville boys the day before, and laden with laurels, the majority of the players accompanied by a number of their friends, arrived at Wolfville towards the close of the day, intent upon enjoying a night of undisturbed slumber before entering upon the conflict of the morrow. The ladies of

Acadia Seminary gave a reception to the students in College Hall that evening, and were thoughtful enough to extend an invitation to the visitors. Needless to say our friends availed themselves of the opportunity of glancing at the sunny side of life at Acadia, and of forming acquaintances which for several reasons were not likely to be made on the following day.

Saturday morning dawned beautiful and clear, and all congratulated themselves on the charming day. The west-bound train brought a fresh contingent from Dalhousie, who straightway repaired to the field to use their lusty voices as they beheld the game. At 11:15 A. M., the teams lined up in their places. A slight wind was blowing across the field, which was of little advantage to either side. Dalhousie wins the toss. Acadia kicks off and the play begins. For a time the ball hovers about the middle of the field, but Dalhousie forces it dangerously near her opponent's goal line, and compels the home team to touch for safety; but when half time is called the ball, having gradually returned, is about the centre of Dalhousie's field.

In the second half, the leather again gravitates towards the starting-point. Again Acadia's goal is in danger, and the home team is once more compelled to seek refuge in a safety touch. A scrimmage takes place near Acadia's goal line, the ball is out; and Bill, the indefatigable half-back, who less than two years ago exchanged the red and blue for the yellow and black, carries it over the line and a goal is scored. The excitement is intense. In the few minutes left of the half hour, Acadia makes the most of the time, and scrimmages are taking place in close proximity to Dalhousie's goal when time is called. "Three cheers for Acadia!" "Three cheers for Dalhousie!" The score stands 4 to 0. Dalhousie is victorious. Acadia is defeated, and for the first time the garnet and blue is hauled down from the mast, and the yellow and black floats in the breeze.

It was a good game, and some good playing was done on either side. Space prevents us mentioning individual plays which at the time elicited well merited applause. It is gratifying to know that the best feeling prevailed throughout, and the conduct of the Acadia boys went to show that they are able to bear defeat like men, looking forward, of course, to the time when they will have the opportunity of winning back their lost laurels. The thanks of both teams is due to Mr. Knight of the Wanderers, who kindly acted as referee.

The visitors, who were dined at the Village House, spent the afternoon in visiting the grounds and buildings and "doing" the town generally. At the 5 o'clock train they joined the King's College team and, amid cheers for the three universities, departed for home with a faint whisper of "Rah, Rah, Rah; Yah, Yah, Yah; Hoo-rah Hoo-rah, 'Ca-di-a" ringing in their ears.

Our Societies.

MISSIONARY.—The Acadia Missionary Society held its first meeting of the year in College Hall, Nov. 16, when the following program was carried out:—

Essay. "A glance at World Missions," Miss Katie R. Hall.

Reading. Miss M. Brown.

Solo. Miss Clara King.

Address. Rev. A. Cohoon.

Mr. Cohoon spoke in no uncertain tones on his favorite theme, "Home Fields," and made strong appeal to the young men of Acadia who are not looking forward to work in foreign lands, to consider their obligations to the needy fields of our own provinces.

J. H. Macdonald represented this society at the last meeting of the Canadian Intercollegiate Missionary Alliance held in Montreal, Nov. 6-9. Mr. Macdonald's report is crowded out of this issue.

Y. M. C. A.—Seventy-nine new names—forty-five active, and thirty-four associate—were added to the membership list this year. The membership committee expect to increase the number by several more before the close of the year.

Four mission stations are regularly supplied by the active members, viz: Morine Mountain, Poor-House, Hard Scrabble, and Rogers Mountain. The missionary committee are vigilant and hopeful.

Frof. Young addressed the last monthly gospel meeting, which was held in College Hall on the 5th ult. The professor's address was much appreciated.

ATHLETIC.—Now that the football season is over, the members of the A. A. A. are going in for vigorous gymnasium practice. Tennis became the popular game this autumn, but lacrosse still awaits the return of the chief.

Following are the alleged officers of the Jackstonian Club for the ensuing quarter:—Pres., Ross; Sec'y., Wilson; Treas., Morse, C. E.; Official Umpires, Gates, Morse, L. R.; Ex. Com., Spurr (chairman), Secord, Wood, Harding, Stackhouse.

LITERARY.—The Athenæum Society has carefully revised the constitution and by-laws, and has decided to print five hundred copies for the use of future members. R. O. Morse, '91, has charge of the publishing and will see that the work is satisfactorily executed. The chairman of the Lecture Committee, Mr. Lu. Crosby, is negotiating with the other maritime colleges with a view to establishing an Intercollegiate Lecture Bureau.

Exchanges.

The Colby Echo is now, as in the past, a live journal, and certainly voices the sentiments of the students.

The November number of *The Intercollegian* gives a vast amount of information on its centre pages as to the Young Men's Christian Associations of the United States and Canada. No Christian student who wishes to keep abreast of the times should fail to read this excellent paper.

The Woodstock College Monthly has a neat and tasty appearance. The article on College Sports as a Factor in Education is worthy of a careful perusal.

The Educational Review, from the practical and vigorous stand it has always taken on the educational affairs of our provinces, is making itself invaluable to the aggressive student. The November number devotes considerable space to reports of Teachers' Associations.

We are glad to welcome the *Cosmocræ* to our table. We trust that ere long the managers of that paper will give our local talent an opportunity of exercising their artistic taste.

We notice with pleasure that M. E. Fletcher, a former student of Horton Academy is Editor-in-chief of *The Academy*, Worcester, Mass. The writer of Behring Seal Fisheries was a little excited and might gather considerable information by making himself acquainted with the other side of the question.

The Cadet makes a good appearance, and evidently knows something of military life. As a warrior it seems to be able to sustain its reputation.

The Sunbeam is against the touching manner of young ladies' demonstrations of affection upon meeting. No broader application is made. In perfect keeping with the above, an outsider gives a view of Stanley's wedding.

We have also upon our table *The Harvard Monthly*, *Trinity University Review*, *The Varsity*, *Niagara Index*, *The Owl*, *Normal Offering*, *Dalhousie Gazette*, *The Argosy*, *University Monthly*, *Seminary Bema*, *College Rambler*, *Manitoba College Journal*, *Acta Victoriana*, *The Leader* and others.

Personals.

Rev. O. C. S. Wallace, M. A., '89, after a very successful pastorate of nearly six years at Lawrence, Mass., has resigned and accepted a call to Bloor St. Baptist Church, Toronto. We are glad to see Mr. Wallace on his own side of the line again.

Prof. J. G. Schurman, D. Sc., has been appointed Dean of the new Department of Philosophy at Cornell University. Prof. Schurman at one time was a student at Acadia, and at the close of his Junior year took the Gilchrist Scholarship. After studying some years in England, Scotland and Germany, he became Prof. of English Literature and Mental Philosophy at Acadia. He has since filled Professorships in Dalhousie and Cornell. Last year he visited the German Philosophical Schools. Dr. Schurman has the hope of building up at Cornell a School of Philosophy to rival the German school.

L. S. Morse, B. A., '66, has filled with entire satisfaction the position of Inspector of schools in Nova Scotia, for nearly twenty years. He was first Inspector for Annapolis Co., from '71-'81. Upon the division of the province into ten Inspectoral Districts, he was appointed for District No. 4, including the counties of Digby and Annapolis, which office he continues to fill.

G. O. Forsythe, LL. B., B. A., '79, has a good law practice at Port Hawkesbury, C. B.

H. W. McKenna, B. A., '89, is teaching at Oxford, Cumberland Co.

G. E. Higgins has departed from '91 and is now teaching at Round Hill, Annapolis Co. George, we are sorry to lose you.

John E. Eaton, '90, who is enjoying the Principalship of Port Hood Academy, C. B., led the province on Grade "A" license at the last examinations.

E. M. Bill, B. A., '88, who has entered upon the second year of the L. L. B. course at Dalhousie, paid us a visit a short time ago. Rumor hath it that he also called at the Seminary.

C. W. Corey, B. A., Charles Day, M. A., A. K. De Blois, Ph. D., J. B. Morgau, B. A., W. B. Boggs, B. A., and S. W. Cummings, B. A., have since the close of the last academical year joined the ranks of the Benedicts. The *Athenæum* extends congratulations.

Rev. F. C. Hartly, B. A., '88, recently resigned the pastorate of the F. C. Baptist church at Sussex, N. B., and is now ministering to the people of Fredericton with his usual vigor and success.

H. B. Hogg, after spending a year in teaching in his native county, Yarmouth, has returned to the Hill to join the class of '92.

F. H. Knapp, B. A., '86, who graduated in law at Ann Arbor University in the Spring of '89, has since decided to enter the University. His friends in the East wish him every success.

Rev. W. A. Newcomb, B. A., '70, the present Pastor of the Baptist Church at Thomaston, Me., visited Wolfville a short time ago on a holiday trip. He has since received a call to the Pastorate of the first Baptist Church, Halifax. Nova Scotia will do well to win back such a talented son as the reverent gentleman has proven himself to be.

Locals.

Nawthing.

Not exactly, Professor.

King Hal has established a repository for superannuated jokes.

DISCONSOLATE SOPH.—Well, she has gone.

SYMPATHETIC CLASSMATE.—Where?

D. SOPH.—Oh, she has gone to the Seminary, and she might as well have gone to the cemetery.

S. CLASSMATE.—Yes, old fellow, that's so, for you would have followed her just the same.

The boys still frequent the depot to see the car-wheels go round, meet their companions and gaze at the cow-catcher. Just imagine what a vacancy a more juvenile bovine taker-in would make in our college.

A cad at a recent reception told a young lady that the pleasure he received did not compensate him for the soap used in making his toilet. No young lady could but accept the compliment contained. Doubtless it was the same consideration for his feelings that prevented his hearer from asking him how many boxes of soap he had used, and telling him that a considerable quantity might yet be employed with benefit to himself and without loss to the reception, even if it took him all the evening to apply it.

O tempora, O Mores, Scnatus haec intelligit, consul videt, hic tamen vivit. Once upon a time, mayhap it is hidden in the dim mists of the past, it was customary for even Freshmen to attend receptions, clad in the ordinary apparel of civilized man. But now to what depths we have fallen when we allow Acadia's champion Freshman to appear at receptions wearing tennis shoes. Take pity on him, ye higher powers. Do not rise in your might, but rather bear with his backwoodism and greenosity. Rather curb his haughty spirit, impatient of restraint, and shove him along in the way he should go.

PROF.—How did voltaic electricity get its name?

FRESHMAN.—From Voltaire.

PROF.—"Good try," guess again.

The fair land beyond the sea, so liberal to us in the past, has presented us with another of her many prodigies. This time he strokes the tuneful lyre. He has a rather oil sleek appearance, and carries his hair in the loose flowing poetic manner. He stalks about with *kingly* mien, scowling out, or interrogating, in true Socratean style, all who looks his way, as becomes one so highly favoured by the muses. The sunshine of approval has beamed upon him in the place of his nativity, and the critic therein, fearing lest his brilliant career should be marred in foreign lands, have published the most important of his productions, and a friendly criticism thereof. The greatest effort yet of this rising young genius is his "In Memoriam," which has been widely copied by all the great reviews, including one of our exchanges which paper holds the copy-right. In his depth of philosophy, touching pathos, and pleasing diction, it is

acknowledged by all fellow softs, and claimed by himself, to be by no means inferior to Tennyson's work of like character. With the melody of the resounding lungs of this "star" do our college gatherings reverberate. The Freshmen quietly accept him as their own, while we all suffer in the prolonged and continued absence of the "fool-killer."

He entered the class-room, looked smilingly round,
Then sat in the sunniest spot to be found ;
His good sense in this can be easily guessed :
His home is in Paradise, (not of the blest).
The light that was shed by old Sol, you must know,
Made him feel in his brain a philosophical glow.
So he begins, (rubbing his chin with his right index finger)
Lest the thought would escape, if expression should linger.
"I've a thought, Sir, and got up prodigiously well,
Just where its defects are I never can tell,
Why not nourish the mind with right useful food,
Not stuff it with astronomy and lots such no good ?
Such is my plan, Sir, and if you're up to the freak,
I wish you would put it in practice next week."
Radiant the smile of that downy-faced youth,
But that smile faded fast, 'neath mathematical truth.
"The force of your philosophy, like Martumus' scone,
Would lose half its beauty if purified once ;
But if out of your brain, Sir, the cobwebs were brushed,
You'd find even stars would go in with a rush."

NICK THE VALIANT.

A DRAMA OF THE SOPHOMORE WAR DANCE.

ACT FIRST.

SCENE I.—The tent of Hairy Face. *Dramatis Personæ.*—A dozen of the old warriors.

The noise of the war dance still continues. The old warriors inured to such display of prowess, remain quiet, waiting for vengeance. The pipe of peace goes round.

SCENE II.—Encampment quiet. Plans for vengeance. "Such nickle-plate hardness must be checked," quoth Bearded Chin the Hairy Surveyor. Council of the Sagmores,—a direful plan proposed. Rossmoyne, the Sachem of the Jackstones, leads the way to his council fire.

ACT SECOND.

SCENE I.—The tent of Rossmoyne. *Dramatis Personæ.*—The same.

War council of the chiefs. The tent of Strike-a-Fire guarded. "An hour later and we strike for liberty," says Mocart, the great chief of the Economiquins. "The night is cold and the hydrant will be useful," observes Little Gosling. Blood-curdling vengeance, fiendish lavatory acts proposed. Sagmores disperse. Four young warriors left on guard.

ACT THIRD.

SCENE I.—The tent of Strike-a-Fire. *Dramatis Personæ.*—Strike-a-Fire and squaw.

Strike-a-Fire applies his ear to an orifice between his tent and that of Rossmoyne, and hears the plans of the council,—much afraid. So Strike-a-Fire, the young brave of the Rockies is trapped at last ! Desperation nerves his iron arm ; his squaw

builds a fire and barricades the door. Frail from former injuries, and with the sharp tomahawk in his hand, Strike-a-Fire, the young brave, watches for the entrance of the dreaded foes who come not, till at length the morning light puts to rest his fears.

ACT FOUR.

SCENE I.—Tent of Hairy Face. *Dramatis Personæ*, the same as in Act I.

Old warriors reassemble,—much mirth,—"Will the young brave sleep to-night ?"

Again the council,—resolution taken.—"Will-Strike-a-Fire keep to his own tent, and cease to be familiar with old chiefs of the tribe?" inquires Little-foot Herb. If not, then all say, "The war-paint must be donned in earnest, and in the hazy morning light, the young the young brave of the Rockies must pay for this intrusion on the old chiefs with much water."

To be well informed in the affairs of every day life, it is not necessary to have any very superior educational advantages ; and for a knowledge of the ways and doings of school life, one needs only to note, label and tuck away in his memory, the incidents of to-day, for to-morrow's use. Still, there are some upon whom ordinary events make no impression, whose attention can only be arrested by the bursting of a cannon or the roar of Niagara. Seldom does the ambition of the latter class prompt them to enter college. A few, however, creep within its portals, and as we observe our present Freshmen, we would suggest that they cultivate their powers of observation. Some of their far-sighted heroes appear to view their own personality as if it were drawn on Mercator's Chart, instead of an invisible cross-lined point. Others, although realizing that modesty is a beautiful trait, there draw the line, believing that the modest man dies, and neither he nor his modesty are heard of forevermore. Again, there are those who would do well to imitate the wise man with the toothache, viz : hold their jaw.

Acknowledgments.

Hon. J. W. Longley, \$4.00 ; C. H. Borden, \$3.50 ; Acadia Seminary, 3.00 ; Jas. Bowes & Sons, \$2.50 ; Dr. A. J. McKenna, H. Glasgow and J. M. Shaw, \$1.75 each ; I. W. Porter, Rev. C. W. Williams, A. K. DeBlois, and Ph. D., \$2.00 each ; G. A. Martell, Chipman & Shaffner, J. D. Spidle, L. A. Cooney, Mrs. Blair., W. G. McFarlane, W. W. Chipman, T. Sherman Rogers, B. A., Rev. S. H. Cain, X. Z. Chipman, Rev. A. Cohoon, W. B. Wallace, B. A., W. S. Black, B. A., \$1.00 each.

Dr. A. J. McKenna, \$2.75 ; R. W. Eaton, \$1.75 ; Rev. D. A. Steel, M. A., Rhodes & Curry, E. C. Whitman, H. W. McKenna, B. A., Rev. Geo. Wethers, \$2.00 each ; J. W. Wallace, J. B. Hall, Ph. D., Miss Katie R. Hall, Arthur H. Bogart, C. A. Eaton, B. A., B. H. Bentley, B. A., Rev. N. A. McNeil, B. A., C. E. Seaman, L. V. Masters, A. W. Nickerson, E. W. Young, E. Clay Blair, B. E. Dakin, W. M. Smallman, Miss Ruby Coffin, D. L. Parker, Rev. C. R. Minard, B. A., W. F. Parker, B. A., C. M. Woodworth, B. A., A. A. Shaw, Miss E. T. Eaton, Miss M. Frizzle, W. T. Stackhouse, \$1.00 each ; J. L. Miner, 50 cents ; G. W. Young, 25 cents.

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