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"Prodesse Quam Conspici."

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## THE MARSH.

The suns and shadows of thy seasons many  
Have not upraised thee from thy low estate ;  
Nor make thy strong, slow pulses fluctuate,  
Through quickening sunlight and long hours rainy.  
Against thy side the sea's strong arm falls puny :  
Upon thy breast, vain is the creek's far flow ;  
The measuring march or rivers' tidal glow—  
Only the sky may span thee, dark or sunny.

When grasses wave, or all is wrapt in snow,  
There comes to thee no glad awakening  
Beneath the flight of days and flow of tides.  
The wafting wings that circle thee are slow ;  
And seldom voice awakes the gathering  
Of days, wherein thy purpose calmly bides.  
WOLFVILLE, N. S. —J. F. HERBIN.

## THE GERMAN STUDENT.

SOME two years ago, at the request of the ATHENÆUM, I wrote from Berlin two articles on "The American Student in Germany." Being again invited to contribute something, it occurs to me that that the Canadian student in "fair Acadia" may like to know something of his foreign brother, the German student in Germany.

In almost every respect the German student is a type of the race to which he belongs. You will notice this both in his appearance and in his disposition. He is of good physique, of resolute nature, deliberate in movement, of strong passion when roused, reserved in manner, jealous of his rights, but kindly in heart and generous towards his fellows. He takes life earnestly. The light and trivial side of life has little attractiveness for him ; in truth, he does not understand it. His self-consciousness debars him from frivolity. He is a Teuton. The German preacher must go to the heart of things ; of effervescent and sensational oratory he

knows nothing and cares less. The German Opera is of the intense and heavy sort; the light French play would draw no audience and no sympathy in Berlin. The German dwellings are substantial, built to endure, like Jachin and Boaz, the pillars of Solomon's Temple. The German student is of like stable stuff. The French student in Paris, with his wit and raillery, ever gay and debonair, seems to seek study last of all things. Even the English youth, at Oxford or Cambridge, is zealous for the pleasures of the river, the field, and the chase, amid his scholastic surroundings. Not so the German. He takes even his recreations in a whole-souled, earnest way. Of the jolly out-door sports of England and America he is entirely ignorant. The steady and uniform discipline of regular gymnastic training takes the place of base-ball and cricket and foot-ball, and affords him sufficient recreation and variety, when his studies weary and his brain needs rest.

In his habits and peculiarities as well the German student is a thorough German. His lager and his tobacco are as much a part of his student-life as are his note-book and his eye-glasses. It is saying too much to affirm that every German student drinks beer, wears glasses, smokes, and brushes his hair *a la pompadour*, but these characteristics are all so general that one is inclined to make the assertion, because of its nearness to the truth. One of my German friends, a theological student in his third term at the University, said to me suddenly one evening, as we sat chatting together in his room, "Why is it that none of your American students smoke? You are as frightened of tobacco smoke as if it were the smoke of cannon." And as he spoke he watched, with half-closed eyes and look of absolute contentment, the light blue smoke that rose and wreathed above his head, and vanished as another whiff succeeded it. All students' receptions and evening lectures, in concert halls and many theatres, at restaurants and wherever else the opportunity is given, the habit is indulged. The temptation in this direction becomes stronger from the cheapness of the necessary material, for in Berlin six reasonably-good cigars may be purchased for 30 pfennigs or about ten cents.

Every German, of high degree or low, whether worthy or worthless, whether brilliant or stupid, *volens volens*, must serve his time in the army; so every German student is a soldier, in fact or *in prospectu*. By training and inheritance he is a soldier and has ever before him the ideal of a soldier's life. He is a fighter. Duelling amongst students is still a common custom. Scarred and slashed faces are an ordinary sight, and are considered a mark rather of honor than disgrace. There are restless spirits and socialists and irruptionists and plotters within the student class, but in general and as a class the students are loyal to the

Fatherland, enthusiastic in a rational way over national attainments and national institutions, and perhaps more than rationally confident of the future growth, and the absolute supremacy of *Das Deutsche Reich*.

What has been said of the outer life is true also of the inner or intellectual life. The American student excels in clever analysis and rapid intuition. The Englishman follows a blunt, realistic, common sense, straight-ahead plan, arrives without unnecessary struggle at his conclusions, and holds them tenaciously. The German, in his mental methods, differs widely from each of these. There is with him a steady, evenly-balanced, unbiassed, determined seeking after truth. It is natural to the German to love truth and to seek wisdom. He loves and seeks in an unselfish spirit, keeping his mind in equipoise until he has followed his subject to its conclusion, and then forming his argument in accordance with the principles of reason and sound judgment.

So the German student in Germany is a thorough-going German. But he is also, and always, and essentially a *student*. The proportion of idlers to workers is smaller than in any other country. In the Gymnasium, which corresponds to our College, the pupils are compelled to work. When the nine years rigorous discipline of the Gymnasium has been passed, and the University, with its elective courses, lack of surveillance, and absence of recitation-system, is entered, some slothful spirits make their appearance. These, however, usually withdraw from the ranks at the close of the first semester, or, after taking a vacation from study for a term or two, yield to the habit learned in the preceding nine years, and return to their books.

This preparatory discipline is an interesting feature of German student life, and is largely responsible for the fact that Germany has now the intellectual supremacy amongst the nations. The youth must pass through the various grades of the elementary school, usually through the several grades of the *vorschule*, always through the six grades of the gymnasium, and finally through the ordeal of a searching examination, before he can be admitted in regular standing at the University. Promotion from grade to grade in any of these schools is only possible to faithful students, for entrance on each higher grade is immutably conditioned on the performance of satisfactory work in the grades below it. Nor may a student enter an advanced grade as a result of private study. Regular school attendance is compulsory; neither the rich nor the the poor are exempted. A boy may be permitted to study under a special tutor, but he must be a tutor approved by the State. As a result of the compulsory system there are five times as many public school students in Prussia alone as there are in England, and the German people as a whole are becoming more and more emphatically an educated and educative force.

In all the preparatory schools the training is of a uniform character, and the rules governing the various gymnasien are practically identical. The gymnasium has three divisions, each covering a period of three years. The boy who enters at the age of ten completes his course at nineteen, if he be diligent. In the lowest form or grade he is obliged to attend school for 28 hours per week, throughout the other forms for 30 hours. The gymnasien insist upon a broad and liberal classical training, but give careful attention to all subjects, strengthening the mind at all points, and fitting it to take a clear and many-sided view of life and of humanity. The physical education goes hand in hand with the mental, and is insisted upon with exactly the same firmness. There is religious instruction for three hours a week during the first three years, and for two hours a week during the remaining six years of the course at the gymnasium.

So the German student has the priceless privilege of a progressive, all-round development, from early childhood to manhood. In face of this fact, what can hinder a German youth from being a student in the best sense? Surely, nothing save latent and insurmountable stupidity. The clergymen, the lawyers, the physicians, the teachers in the higher schools and universities, must be university graduates, which means that they must pass through all grades and through the different schools that lead through the university, and then through the extended course at the university itself, before they can practise their respective professions. What noble contrast to our slipshod system! If a young man desires to enter business life, he may attend a *Real-schule* instead of a gymnasium. These *Real-schulen* substitute French and German in part for Greek and Latin, and are more practical in their aim and character. The gymnasium represents the ancient, classical, humanistic view; the *Real-schule* exemplifies the modern, scientific, realistic tendency. Only graduates of the gymnasium are admitted at the university.

When he enters the university the German student is to all intents and purposes his own master. He may pursue whatever branches of study he sees fit to select; he may attend lectures or he may absent himself for days and weeks together; he may give undivided attention to one special subject or he may distribute his energies; he may even enroll himself in two entirely distinct departments, although this is not done to any great extent. The four Departments or Faculties are those of Law, Medicine, Philosophy, and Theology. The student who enters the university practically announces his intention of devoting his life to special work in one or other of these departments. The object of the university is to prepare specialists, as that of the gymnasium is to give a substantial and general basis of work. The university systematizes while it completes. It is

the crown and finish of the entire and mighty educational fabric. Here the student gains power, incentive, direction, force. His faculties have been disciplined and prepared. Now the avenues of his chosen field are laid open before him, and he is taught how he may use these faculties in a definite and practical manner. This tends directly to that toward which the entire system tends indirectly, the full culture, the uniform development, the complete education, the perfection of the nature of the individual, in a word, *Gesammbildung*.

The German student is a divinely-privileged character. We students who live in a less favored land have our duty clear before us. As young men and as students we must seek to understand and to apply as far as practicable the educational measures and methods of the people in advance of us, which, in the last half century have proved a blessing and a stimulus to the German youth.

AUSTEN K. DEBLOIS.

St. Martin's Seminary.

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### THE GRADUATE SCHOOL.

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A few decades ago, it was generally supposed that a man's training was finished when he reached the end of his four years of college life, unless, indeed, he were going to be a lawyer, a doctor, or a minister. In that case everyone recognized that he required two or three years more of special preparation; but if he were only going to be a teacher, or a man of letters, or a man of science, he was considered to be wise enough already. A few Americans had wandered over to the European Universities and had there done more advanced work and won the degree of Doctor in Philosophy, but you would rarely find that title in the catalogue of an American institution of learning.

This was the old order of things, just when the new order was opening. Harvard was among the first of the American Universities to offer advanced courses to the college graduate who desired instruction for professions other than in law, medicine and theology, and she granted her first degree of Doctor in Philosophy on examination, in 1873. For many years students of this class came only in small numbers. The professors were overworked with their undergraduate teaching and the graduates had largely to take care of themselves. The same state of affairs was also true of many other institutions where doors had been opened to students of this class.

The organization of the Johns Hopkins University marked the beginning of an era in education, where a new value was set on the graduate students. The President of this University recognized that the time had come for a great step in education. He

saw that the College Student was left at the very threshold of his ripening powers ; that he had not reached the point where, in any province of learning, he was thoroughly capable of guiding others ; and that the man who was to be an intellectual leader needed a further preparation just as truly as the one who entered the professional school. Recognizing this he conceived the idea of a University which should devote itself primarily to the graduate work. He called to his assistance professors who had been leaders in scientific investigation. The idea of a fellowship or graduate scholarship whose workings had been so successful at some other institutions was here adopted on a large scale—twenty fellowships being established outright. By this means Johns Hopkins University opened with a faculty of strong men, and with a corps of graduate students, having twenty picked fellows as a central force, and with only *one* dozen undergraduates within her walls ! This was probably the most significant step ever taken ; the cause of education in this country. Here was established the first graduate school separately organized and equipped. Though there is now an important undergraduate department, yet when one speaks of Johns Hopkins to-day, he thinks mainly of a University of graduate students and professors.

Under the influence and competition of John Hopkins, other Universities have been compelled to give attention to the development of graduate schools of their own. The value of the graduate student and the graduate department is coming to be generally recognized. Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Cornell, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Stanford, all have these schools, of greater or less size and importance. In the year just past, Johns Hopkins had 267 students in full work in the graduate school proper, and 31 more in attendance upon single courses. Harvard had 189, besides 34 graduates of other institutions who were made to content themselves with passing first into her senior or junior class. Cornell had 133, besides 31 who passed into her senior or junior class. Yale had 76. Pennsylvania had 74 on her list, including a number of special students and some who were not college graduates. Michigan had 50, without including 37 who were non-resident students. Columbia had 50. Minnesota had 44. Wisconsin had 22 in residence and 40 "in absentia." Stanford had 37. The University of Chicago has now enrolled 160 in this department, and this is her opening year. Doubtless this is the largest number that has yet come to any University in a single year, and is only one of the many wonders in connection with the mushroom growth of that great institution.

What is the field of supply for schools of this character ? The largest colleges in the country draw their students from a wider area than the smaller ones, yet even these find the greater portion of their students in their own and the neighbouring States or

Provinces. The rivalry is not great. The case is entirely different however with graduate schools. Those men and women who seek the higher degrees will go from one end of the country to the other, if they are assured that at that other end they will find what they want. The University of Chicago for example, has drawn from many States and Provinces, from Nova Scotia to California, from Ontario to Texas. This fact means that there must be a spirit of rivalry. For all practical purposes Harvard, Yale, Johns Hopkins, Columbia, Cornell, Michigan, the University of Chicago and others, are in as immediate collision as if they were all within the same square mile. For all of them there are not more than 1500 graduate students.

The total number of students must always be small so that the keenest competition will arise. In time a few great Universities will inevitably absorb the most of them, for the equipment of a graduate school that can permanently stand is very expensive, not only does it require the best investigators, but such research as this class of students is supposed to carry on demands an apparatus of books, instruments, and collections, such as only the largest endowment can provide. Of the many graduate schools of the Universities of this continent, only a few shall survive to determine the most advanced education of the country, and from these schools shall go forth to the colleges of the land men and women who will be thoroughly capable to help in the work of elevating the standard of education throughout America. A. L. W.

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### AN OFFSPRING OF THE OCEAN.

It was a wild October night. The rock-breasted shores of the north reverberated with the splash and dash of mighty billows as, urged on by the fury of the storm, they threw themselves upon the rocky fastnesses of the coast. Old ocean stretched out in the gloom a sheet of foam the home of wild and contending spirits. The mountainous waves staggered under the onslaught of the winds. The hurricane with resistless sweep traversed the face of the fickle waters bringing the message of death to many a bold mariner. A party of men stood on the windy bank watching the struggles of a storm tossed bark as she drifted helplessly upon the rocks. A crash—the ship has struck and the tumultuous seas sweep her sides. The men hasten to the shore in the hope of preserving some poor wretch from the wild waters. But the chance is small for anything living to pass through that seething mass of foam. Suddenly one of the watchers makes a sudden dash into the waves and drags from its deadly grasp a dark and dripping form. That was all. The winds howled. The seas

swashed. The darkness gathered around like a pall, and the ocean chanted its mournful dirge as soul after soul ascended from that scene of death and destruction.

Kindly care soon brought back life to the little waif of the ocean. He blossomed into intelligence, but nothing could be learned regarding his parentage or connections. John Hunter, his rescuer, adopted and reared him as his own son.

Young Hunter rapidly traversed the stages from childhood to youth, from youth to manhood. His character was moulded by nature herself. The forest, field and ocean, each had its especial charm and lesson for him, and he developed a strong taste for the beautiful, the good and the pure. He knew the deep pools where the monarchs of the finny tribes sported in the shade. His the unerring bullet that pierced the heart of many a bounding deer. His the stout arm and the bold heart that made him the pride of his village and realized the ideal of many a rustic maid.

His foster father had a daughter Alice Hunter, one of nature's most perfect works. The golden tresses, sparkling eye, clear complexion and pure life, early captivated the heart of young John. When children they sat on the rocks together and listened to the music of the waves. In youth they shared the duties of the farm and manhood and womanhood found them part of each other's existence.

But this happy state was too idealistic to continue. News arrived of the outbreak of the war of 1812, and the attack of the Yankees on Canada. The Anglo-Saxon blood, ever bounding more fiercely when liberty is at stake, in young Hunter's veins responded to the rallying cry. He and a few kindred spirits shouldered the rifle and set out for the scene of glory and bloodshed. Lundy's Lane and Queenstown Heights tell the tale of his bravery and undaunted bearing when the air was full of death and the stoutest heart quailed. His the winged bullets that carried destruction in their unerring path—his the tender hand always ready to succour a fallen comrade.

But the struggle is over. The dogs of war have ceased to bay, and John Hunter has had his fill of military glory. Twice the harvest has fallen since Hunter looked upon the scenes of his boyhood and the face of his beloved ones.

The breath of the north is felt in the air as the young soldier returns. He passes with elastic step the road to his father's house, as it nestles in the grove of poplars by the hollow. The water smiles to him welcome, the fields and groves despite the gloom of November gaze at him kindly, the wild ducks winging their noisy way southward tells him of home and Alice. He pictures her beauteous face by the blazing hearth and hears the music of her voice. His hand is on the knob, he enters. An old man meets him, his head bowed as with sorrow. His eye lights with a wan



smile as he meets John's beaming face. "Welcome home" he says, in hollow accents. Suddenly the light dies away and he murmurs huskily, "Alice is dead." Young Hunter gave a great gasp and staggered as if struck. That bold heart, which the sight of streams of blood and the roar of death-dealing artillery could not make beat a moment faster, dropped and staggered under this cruel blow. The life of his life is gone. He wandered across the fields and hills like the shadow of a fleeting cloud. The faces of his old comrades sent a sting like a dagger wound into his vitals, and the old scenes and recollections burned his very soul. In this lonely and melancholy state of mind he joined a party of hunters bound for the gloomy forests. One day while dreaming of his dead one he wandered away from the path of his comrades. A small fall of snow soon covered his footsteps. The clouds that all day were hovering around the horizon had spread over the whole face of the heavens. The wind began to rise and moan forbodingly through the trees. Violent gusts of snow began to sweep through the woods, and as night settled her dark mantle over the landscape Hunter realized that he was lost.

A wild night set in, just such a night as that in which old ocean had given him up. He wandered on in the dark. The wind howled and shrieked. The snow in whirling eddies swept through the forest glades. The cold became intense, Hunter began to feel that deadly drowsiness stealing over him. He tried to shake it off. He sinks down, and the wintry snows gathered the offspring of the ocean into its icy embrace. The next spring a party of hunters found all that remained of John Hunter, by the side of a stream, that to this day, bears his name. As we look into its clear waters and listen to its chatter and rippling, it seems to tell of this young and noble life that passed away on its frozen banks during that tumult of the elements. N. J. L., '95.

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### BERMUDA.

(Concluded.)

The Land of the Lily and the Rose is the way in which Bermudians designate their island home and advertise it as a winter resort. Situated six hundred miles from the nearest land about the same parallel as Charleston, South Carolina, this little group of islands forms one of England's strongest fortifications, having on the north but one narrow channel by which vessels can approach, on the south a military road and earthworks, and at each extremity a strong fort. A regiment of soldiers is stationed at the more important parts of the islands, having the principal encampment at Prospect, about a mile from Hamilton, near which

the Governor resides. The next station of importance is twelve miles from Hamilton, at St. Georges, and the third in the parish of Warwick, on the opposite side of Hamilton harbor. A rather curious custom is that of closing all the military roads on a certain day every year, to impress upon the inhabitants the fact that these roads are controlled by the militia.

The North American squadron has its winter quarters at Bermuda. The fleet consists of a number of war-ships of various size, two of which patrol the harbour, the others being anchored near the Dockyard. Here is the floating dry dock in which the largest ships are repaired. Although the Dockyard, situated at the extreme end of the curve of the crook while Hamilton is on the main stem (following out the figure), is on a very small island it is the chief naval station, is strongly fortified and has machine shops and training-ships.

The earliest inhabitants of the islands were pirates, who committed all sorts of depredations and cruelties, part of the wealth thus obtained being enjoyed by their descendants at the present time. The population numbers thirteen thousand six hundred, of whom more than half are negroes. Among the whites, many of whom are of English descent, English habits and customs and English propriety prevail. All appear to have comfortable homes, though there is scarcely a magnificent or expensively furnished house in the islands. There is no poverty and very little crime. The negroes work until they earn a little money, and then rest until that is spent when they go to work again. They form an important part of the population and may be divided into two classes—one of which includes boatmen, pilots, drivers, laborers and servants—the other and smaller class being engaged in the professions. The more aristocratic of them live in a pretty little cluster of houses called Zululand. There is no social intercourse between the two races.

When a man wishes to build he shovels away a foot or so of soil and then saws out the rock underneath into blocks which are left exposed to the weather to harden, the stone being so soft that it will crumble in the fingers. When the house is built of these blocks the walls are covered on the outside with a cement made from the same kind of sand, and on the inside with whitewash. As a consequence, when it rains for several days the dampness soaks through the stone and frequently appears in spots on the wall inside but no one seems to take cold from it. At intervals there are slits in the walls to allow the air to go into the rooms and keep them dry. Clothing, shoes and gloves if not carefully looked after in wet weather become mildewed. The bare white walls and floors in many of the houses have a cheerless appearance to a stranger. The roof is made of slabs of stone placed like shingles, on which the rain is filtered and falls into spouts

which convey it to tanks under or near the house. This is the only fresh water available. A magnificent stone building has just been completed as a governor's residence, and being situated on a high hill commands a view of the islands. When a vessel is sighted it is made known all over the island by a flag from the governor's flagstaff. If one understands the code of signals by the color of the flags he can tell what kind of a vessel is sighted and just where it is. On another hill not very far away is the admiral's residence, a low, rambling wooden building surrounded by beautiful grounds. In these grounds passages have been cut out of the rocks down to the water's edge and a tunnel has been built under the highway. There is a good deal of similarity in Bermudian houses, nearly all having a verandah often two stories high. Lamps are used for the most part, candles in curious bell-shaped glass stands being strictly adhered to in some of the older families. One of the most interesting houses is that occupied for a short time by the poet Moore. It is a small oddly-planned house with small rooms and low ceilings. On a tree in front of the house a bell used to hang. In former times church bells were all hung on trees.

The principal islands are divided into parishes—Pembroke, Devonshire, Sandip, Warwick, Paget, etc.,—each having its parish church. There are a few churches of the Roman Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian denominations, but the Church of England prevails. Black and white attend the same church—one or two churches are confined to the blacks alone and have a colored minister—the former occupying seats at the back of the church and the latter the front pews. The churches are quite pretty though plain, and built of white coral limestone which in the older churches has grown grey. A few are very old and crumbling to decay. The oldest, St. Luke's, at St. Georges, is still used and has many memorial tablets of officers who died of yellow fever. Old Trinity church, in the city of Hamilton, was burned several years ago and a large sum of money has been spent on a new and large building, but severe storms have damaged it so many times and so much money has been wasted that it seems well-nigh useless to attempt to finish it. Many of the churches have pipe organs but there are few good players. The churchyard either surrounds or is close by the church. The graves are lined with stone and the caskets of each family piled upon one another and sealed with a plain stone slab bearing an inscription, or having the initials of the family cut in the edge of the stone.

There is a public school system and an inspector of schools. These schools are attended largely by negroes, the white children attending a few private schools. The people are fairly well educated but are easily satisfied, preferring to drive, drink afternoon

tea or take an occasional nap rather than spend the time in reading. There are two small newspapers—one published weekly, the other semi-weekly, and edited by a negro. In the Public Library, from which books may be taken for six shillings a year, many of the works of standard authors can be obtained but the magazines are a luxury in which Bermudians are not particularly interested. The library occupies two rooms in a building commonly known as the Public Buildings, which contains offices and the legislative chamber of the house. Other buildings in different parts of the town are used for public business.

There are two large hotels—one controlled by an American, the other by a Bermudian, and a number of smaller hotels and private boarding houses. Board is from ten dollars a week upwards.

There are no wild animals; horses, donkeys, cows, goats, a few dogs and cats are the principal domestic animals. The ground seems to be perfectly free from animal life, there being no snakes and not even a worm. Pasturage is not very good; the grass does not spring up in blades but in clusters which spread over the ground and are but a few inches in height; there is no underbrush. Insects are few, the chief being spiders nearly as large as one's hand, very large flying cockroaches and myriads of malevolent mosquitoes. It is absolutely necessary to use a mosquito net the greater part of the year.

The trees are very different from ours in the north, many of them bearing scarlet, purple or white blossoms. Most of them remain in leaf the year round, a few lose their leaves two or three times while the fiddle-wood—corrupted from fiddle wood—turns red and loses its leaves in the spring. The principal trees are the palmetto, tamarind, paw-paw, mangrove, oleander, Virginian cedar, having a red wood which is very beautiful when highly polished, a few tall tufted royal palms, cocoanut palms, sago palms, umbrella, mahogany, pride of India, rubber trees and such fruit-trees as the orange, lemon, lime, cherry, loquat, sugar-apple and a tall tree bearing a kind of grape. Every negro has his banana patch. Peaches and some other fruits are not cultivated owing to the encroachments of an insect supposed to have been imported in fertilizers. Berries can be cultivated but at present there are none of any description in the islands. Water melons, musk melons, tomatoes, common potatoes, sweet potatoes and onions are the principal agricultural products. Oleanders as high as apple-trees and geraniums grow wild in hedges along the roads. The oleanders are in partial bloom all the time, but in June they are loaded with beautiful pink, white or red blossoms, pink being the most common. The double pink are called 'South sea roses.' They contain a great deal of sap which stains whatever it touches. Roses bloom at all times and a few other plants may be seen in hedges but there is no great variety of flowers.

Large fields of calla lilies and Easter lilies are cultivated. The century plant, aloe, prickly pear, are frequently met with, and the night-blooming cereus may sometimes be seen on the stone walls along the road. Almost the only wild flower is the life-plant which covers the walls; its blossom is a stalk with pendent bell-shaped leaves called 'flopers,' which gradually turn quite red.

The chief exports are lilies, onions, tomatoes, and during April and May there are frequently two steamers a week loading. A characteristic of Bermudians is that if one goes into producing a particular thing and finds it pays all go into it, and as all are anxious to get their crops to the market the result is that the market is flooded at once, prices fall and they cannot understand why it is. The principal imports are manufactured goods, cattle, fruit. Arrowroot is the only article prepared on the islands and this only in small quantities.

As a health resort Bermuda is excellent, except for consumptives, it being very quiet with no railroads, no horse-cars and little traffic. Yellow fever never occurs unless brought to the islands from some other port, but when it does appear it makes great havoc.

The climate is a perpetual summer, February and March being the coldest months; frost and snow are never seen though they are occasional hail-storms. Generally the rain falls in sudden and very heavy showers often accompanied by high winds which lash the sea into foam and dash it high against the rocks. A white squall is sometimes seen. The sun is shining and as one looks down the harbor a white impenetrable wall of mist approaches rapidly. Presently it reaches the onlooker and the rain pours down in torrents. The nature of the soil is such that although streams of water may be running all over the streets during a rain-storm yet a few minutes afterward one can go about perfectly dry-shod.

Along the north shore the coast is rocky but not high, while on the south there are higher rocks and frequent long strips of smooth beach with sand almost as white as chalk. Quantities of this sand are piled up, in one place covering a house except the chimney. Frequently the ground swell on this shore can be heard all over the islands. In many places the rocks have been hollowed out by the waves and a number of caves formed, some being quite large and containing deep water.

Bathing and boating facilities are almost unequalled. On the coast there is always surf bathing, while in the harbour the water is often quite smooth and deep enough for diving. All sorts of curious things are found on the sandy bottom—sea puddings, pieces of coral, fine red and pink seaweed, oysters, scallops, star-fishes and many beautiful shells. The water is intensely blue

being made all the more beautiful by the white sand which forms its bed.

Frequent races take place between the various sail-boats. Those who see a prospect of losing the race sink their boats and swim about in the water until picked up. The harbour is very safe for sailing or rowing. On a warm, calm, bright moonlight night—and moonlight to possess its full charm must be seen in some such place as Bermuda,—nothing is more delightful than a row among the islands to the narrow sheet of water called Fairy-land, where the trees on either side interlace overhead. On a dark night a row is pleasant also, for the water is so phosphorescent that each dip of the oar reveals a blade of light which is seen as well along the sides of the boat as it goes through the water. Except in winter there is little or no dew.

As the islands are of coral limestone the roads are exceptionally good, very white, hard and smooth with few hills. In a period of dry weather, lasting sometimes for two or three months, several inches of dust form which ruins the shoes and clothing unless one conforms to the custom of the men of wearing white linen or flannel, and of the women of wearing muslins, and of both wearing white shoes. The roads wind continually making a hundred miles of good driving, and are bordered by low stone walls. On account of its windings one very pretty road is called the Serpentine, but the name might be applied with propriety to nearly every road on the islands.

The principal forms of amusements are boating, betting, driving,—the Victoria being used chiefly and a colored driver almost always in attendance—tennis, picnics, boat-races, horse-races, rifle matches, and in winter dances at the hotels and an occasional concert or amateur theatrical performance. Everything considered, Bermuda is an ideal spot in which to spend a few months.

K. R. H., '91.

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### THE VENERABLE BEDE.

In one of the loveliest parts of England, upon the richly wooded banks of the river Wear, stands the magnificent Cathedral of Durham, once described as, "Half house of God, half castle against the Seat." Erected by William the Conqueror in 1093, the cathedral still remains absolutely perfect in all its original parts. In the Western Chapel, are the remains of the Venerable Bede, whom Burke styled the "Father of English learning."

Tradition says that one of his disciples in writing an inscription for his tomb, could think of no other suitable term to apply to his beloved master, and therefore left an unwritten space before his name. A short time afterwards, he found that the blank had been filled with the word Venerable, written by an angel's hand.

Ever since, the old English scholar has been called the Venerable Bede.

Bede lived in a most interesting period of the history of Europe, though in comparison with its importance, one little studied. He was born in the latter part of the seventh century, when in the midst of the intellectual barrenness of the Dark Ages, a few centres of learning were to be found here and there like cases in the desert. At the early age of seven years Bede was placed in the Monastery of St. Peter, Wearmouth, and at the age of ten was transferred to the associated institution of Jarrow, where all the rest of his long tranquil life was spent.

"I spent my whole life in the same monastery," he says, "and while attentive to the rule of my order and the service of the church, my constant pleasure lay in learning or teaching or writing." These words of his tell almost all there is to be told of the simple, uneventful life of this devoted man. In his nineteenth year he received the orders of deacon, and at the age of thirty was honored with the dignity of priesthood. While yet a young man he became a teacher and his school at Jarrow, which with the exception of that of York, was not surpassed in Western Europe, was composed of six hundred monks, besides strangers who came thither for instruction. He acquired so great a celebrity that many of the most eminent men of the time, including the Archbishop of York, came to consult him in questions relating to the church.

Pope Sergius I. desired that Bede should be sent to Rome to assist him in Ecclesiastical discipline. Bede, however, declined this honor, being anxious to devote all his time to his favorite task of writing, and until his death, in 755, he was constantly occupied with his chosen work.

The untiring industry and patient zeal of the Venerable Bede, are shown by the fact that in addition to performing the manifold duties of his position as priest and teacher, he left forty-five written treatises. The writings were in the department of History, Theology, Science and translation of the Scriptures into English.

The work which immortalizes his name is the Ecclesiastical History of the English Nation, written as were nearly all his works in Latin. A compendium of ancient records, of tradition and of observation, it is our chief original authority for the history of the Anglo-Saxons and their church for the century and a half that follow the landing of Augustine. Although somewhat imbued with the credulity of his time, this history is based upon enquiries made in the spirit of an historian; business like, yet childlike, practical, yet spiritual. The esteem in which the History was held is evident from the fact that King Alfred in translating, presented the substance of it in its original form, without change or addition.

Bede's historical works are especially remarkable for the patience indicated in the search for all trustworthy sources of information ; for the sincerity and love of truth and for the pleasing artlessness as well as the force with which the story is told.

His learning was as varied as it was great. His works form almost an encyclopædia of the knowledge of the time. All that the world then knew of philosophy, music, rhetoric, medicine, astronomy and physics, was brought together by him for the use of his pupils.

Bede's scientific treatises are founded on the Bible, and the science of the ancients as contained in such writers as Pliny. The theological works are chiefly made up of extracts from the fathers, Lives of Saints and Martyrs, and a book of Hymns and Commentaries. While exhibiting little original thought or discovery except in his historical works, Bede excelled in good judgment, and in expressing in simple Latin that which he gathered in his wide range of classical and theological reading.

The Venerable Bede was the glory of the old English period. First in the order of time among English scholars, and first among English historians, he strove to make the English a literary language. Superior, perhaps, to any work the world then possessed, "gentle, pure, simple-minded and devout learning, but deepened the lustre of his piety."

The historian, William of Molmsbury, affirms in his writings that the death of Bede was fatal to learning in England and especially to history. Although many grander and more brilliant names adorn our literature, it is yet most pleasant to turn from these to the gentle scholar of Jarrow, to study his pure, quiet life and note his beneficent influence. His blameless life and cultured mind, stand out clear and distinct amid the moral and intellectual darkness of his time. "His soul," says one writer, "was a sanctuary lighted up with the lamps of angels, and dedicated to the high service of man and his Maker."





# The Acadia Athenæum.

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## The Sanetum.

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IT has been suggested that some change in connection with the honor awardments at Acadia is necessary. According to the present system they do not carry sufficient weight. The honor certificates as they are now awarded are really only certificates for extra work done in any single year. Honor certificates, as they are understood in institutions generally and as they should be understood here, are given in the senior year to those doing extra work in any particular subject during the three latter years of their course. Then graduation with honors would mean something; it would mean three years of extra work in English, classics or whatever the subject might be. To those doing extra work in any subject for a single year certificates of extra work could be given. It might be objected that a student's taste for a subject might not form until his junior year and so he could not take honors in that subject, but this difficulty could be obviated by allowing him to take the three years' work in two years. According to this system honors from Acadia would mean much more than they do now.

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FOR some years past the evening of anniversary day at Acadia has been devoted to a concert, given usually under the auspices of the graduating class. Considerable dissatisfaction has been expressed of late by friends of the college at this method of spending the evening. The Alumni who generally visit the institution in large numbers at that season especially, complain that they have no opportunity of meeting old friends

and acquaintances, and claim that it would be more to the interest of the college if that evening were spent in a more social way, and that strangers who visit Acadia then would become more interested in her welfare if they could meet and become acquainted with some of the professors and students during their visit. Accordingly, the usual concert will be displaced by a *conversazione* given by the Faculty, at which all visitors will be made welcome, and professors and students will exert themselves to make the occasion an enjoyable as possible to the guests. We hope that this change will be for the best interests of our alma mater.

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**A**MONG the contemplated improvements during the summer vacation is a general repairing of Chipman Hall. For the past year, owing to the unfit condition of many of the rooms and the state of the building in general, many students have sought various places in the village as boarding apartments, where the circumstances were more favorable. But before opening next September many improvements will be made. Either the building will be enlarged or some of the more undesirable parts used for the purpose of bath-rooms, at present a much felt need. Beside this, every part of the building which is worn and uninviting now will be replaced by new, or neatly repaired. The students in selecting their rooms for the coming year, ought to keep this fact in mind and endeavor, if possible, to enter the Hall, where the true spirit of college life is fully breathed and the boys learn to know each other so thoroughly, welding those bonds of friendship which years of separation can never break asunder.

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## The Month.

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On the invitation of Prof. and Mrs. Tufts, the Senior class spent a very pleasant evening at their home a short time ago.

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The Mock Trial given by the Athenæum Society in College Hall on the evening of April 14th, was well carried out and proved a success, if we can judge by the frequent applause of the large audience. The success of the undertaking is largely due to Mr. Henry Lovitt, of Kentville, who instructed the students in the method of procedure. The trial was afterwards successfully repeated at Hantsport.

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The following officers were elected at the last meeting of the

## Athletic Association :

✓ 1st Base ball, Capt. J. C. Chesley ; 2nd do., Harry King ; 1st Football, Capt. J. E. Ferguson. Lacrosse, Capt. W. G. MacFarlane. W. Margeson was appointed secretary, vice F. B. Schurman resigned, and J. N. Creed was elected a member of the Executive Committee in place of S. R. McCurdy. At the same meeting a change in the method of holding tennis courts was voted. Under the new arrangement every four players have exclusive control of one court. This change has resulted in much work being done in improving the campus without expense to the Association, and is in every way more satisfactory than last year's method.

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The visit of the Fiske Jubilee singers was one of the most enjoyable musical events of the past month. Although they did not get as large an audience as they usually do in College Hall, their singing well sustained their reputation, and all who heard them enjoyed a treat.

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The Propylæum Society though small in numbers does not lose in interest. For the past few months, debates on live questions of the day have taken a prominent place on the programmes, but not to the exclusion of the more literary work for which the society was originally designed. This term, considerable attention has been given to the study of a few of the leading modern novelists ; the time during the previous term having been occupied chiefly with the poets.

A few weeks ago the Propylæum accepted an invitation from the members of the Athenæum to visit their society. The meeting was very interesting, and greatly enjoyed by the visitors. The Propylæum regrets that it has not yet been in a position to repay the kindness of its *brothers*.

The officers elected in March are as follows :—Pres., Miss Morton, '94 ; Vice-Pres., Miss Coates, '95 ; Sec.-Treas., Miss Durkee, '96 ; Ex. Com., Misses Annie MacLean, '93, Archibald, '95, and Strong, '96.

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Mr. H. N. Shaw, B. A., for several years the efficient professor of Elocution at Acadia, and who now occupies an important position in Toronto, lately paid a visit to Wolfville. During his short stay he gave a recital in College Hall. Mr. Shaw's reputation in this locality as a reader of uncommon ability, drew a large audience. He read in his usual truly artistic manner, and the numerous encores he received showed how much his efforts were appreciated. Not less pleasing were the numbers

given by Misses Fitch, Wallace, and Brown of Acadia Seminary, who assisted Mr. Shaw. The programme was as follows:

#### PART I.

1. SCENA AND ARIA: "Beneath the Ramparts,".....Concone.  
MR. SHAW.

2. "A Set of Turquoise,".....T. B. Aldrich.

#### DRAMATIS PERSONÆ:

Count of Lara; Beatrice, his wife; Miriam, a maid; Page.

Scene I: The Villa Garden. Scene II: Beatrice Chamber.

MR. SHAW.

3. VIOLIN SOLO: { (a) Danse Polonaise.....Xaver Scharwsuka.  
(b) Dormez Mignonne.....Godard.  
MISS FITCH.

#### PART II.

1. VOCAL SOLOS: { "Oh! tu bell'astro incantator,".....Wagner.  
"Yeoman's Wedding Song,".....Poniatowski.

2. READINGS: { "O'Grady's Goat,".....  
"Claudius and Cynthia,".....Thompson.

MR. SHAW.

3. VOCAL SOLO: "He was a Prince,".....F. Lynes.  
MISS WALLACE.

4. READINGS: { "Miss Squeers' Tea Party,".....Dickens.  
"Legend of the Bells,".....Anon.  
Musical Accompaniment.

MR. SHAW.

5. VOCAL SOLO: "The Home Land,".....Singer.  
MISS BROWN.

6. READINGS: { "Herve Riel,".....Browning.  
"Dad's Lil' Boy,".....Edwards.  
MR. SHAW.

#### GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

On Friday evening, April 28, the last recital of the year, was given by the Pierian Society of the Seminary, in Alumnæ Hall. This was in many respects the best of the series of entertainments given this year by the Seminary, and reflected credit alike upon the skill of the performers, and the painstaking instruction of the teachers. Each part of the programme was well sustained, and evidently much appreciated, as nearly all had to respond to enthusiastic encores.

The performances upon the piano were of an exceptionally high order, and clearly proved that our Seminary offers the best instruction possible in this important branch of culture. The readings and vocal solos, likewise, were rendered in a pleasing and artistic manner, giving evidence of much care in their preparation.

The recital was a most enjoyable one, and if results reveal the character of the teaching, we can confidently affirm that Acadia Seminary offers unsurpassed advantages to young ladies seeking an education.

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## The Review.

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Among its selected articles the *Dalhousie Gazette* has one entitled Cramming, which now as the examinations are drawing near deserves the careful perusal of every student. The discussion is conducted on a thoroughly psychological basis and sets forth very clearly the evil effects of such a baneful practice. Among its evil results is the fact that the student's "aim is to recall what he learns at the appointed moment." After a careful psychological analysis the practical value of cramming is estimated. "It is not in truth to be considered education in the proper sense of the term at all. For real education is always education in some particular subject of study, and implies that the subject studied has become so mastered as to have become a permanent possession of the mind. No man, therefore, can be said to be educated in a subject, who has merely crammed it for the use of an examination or for any other temporary purpose."

The April number of the *Owl* contains a splendid cut of J. J. Curran, M. P., Solicitor-General of Canada, together with a brief but interesting biographical sketch. Mr. Curran was born at Montreal on the 22nd of February, 1842, graduated at the University of Ottawa then St. Joseph's College, and entered life as an energetic lawyer. The *Owl* makes mention of him chiefly because he is one of the University of Ottawa's graduates who has risen to prominence in the affairs of his country, and also because he is such an admirer of his Alma Mater and the religious education which she is forwarding.

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## De Alumnis.

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REV. J. A. FAULKNER, B. D. 78, is at present engaged in ministerial labors at West Bank, Pa. He has given considerable attention to special theological and historical studies. A History of the Christian Church by Dr. J. F. Hurst, is just from the press, several chapters of which have been prepared by Mr. Faulkner. The copious bibliography of the volume is also from the same hand.

REV. W. B. BRADSHAW, M. A., '71, has a church at Hiawatha, Kansas, and REV. W. B. HUTCHINSON, B. A., '86, has a church at Topeka in the same State.

F. A. STARRATT, B. A., '92, has left Chicago University for a time, to take a church at Grafton, North Dakota.

W. B. WALLACE, B. A., '90, has accepted a call to Oswego, N. Y., at the conclusion of his studies at Rochester in June next.

W. J. LITCH, B. A., '91, has entered the North West missionary work and has been given a field at Emerson station.

A. C. KEMPTON, B. A., '91, at present studying at Rochester Theological Seminary, called forth some words of high encomium from one of the professors of that institution. He speaks of him as reflecting great credit upon Acadia and possessing in his make-up the happiest combination of talents scientific, literary and oratorical that he had ever met with in any young man.

H. W. BROWN, B. A., '90, and C. M. WOODWORTH, B. A., '90, have received their degrees in law from Dalhousie, standing well up in their class. Mr. Woodworth has taken up his residence in Alberta. All letters sent to his Halifax address will be forwarded to him by the director of that city. The latter has powers of attorney to remit them and they will be sent to him immediately on arrival.

REV. W. J. ROUTLEDGE, formerly of '93, was ordained at Mahone Bay on April 11th.

The Halifax Acadia Club was recently organized in that city. The officers are: Honorary President, Hon. D. McN. Parker, M. D., D. C. L., President, J. C. Dumaresq; 1st Vice-President, Rev. W. E. Hall; 2nd Vice-President, Rev. W. M. Smallman; Secretary-Treasurer, T. J. Locke; Executive Committee, J. F. L. Parsons, Dr. Read, J. Y. Payzant, W. F. Parker and Rev. D. G. MacDonald. There is a large Acadia constituency in Halifax, and it is expected that the membership roll will reach nearly a hundred. It is to be hoped that the club will have a prosperous career and that other places in the province will possess Acadia clubs in the near future.

H. B. HOGG, B. A., '92, is taking a course at the Provincial Normal School.

GEO. H. PARSONS, '95, has gone to Chicago to take a position in connection with the Canadian exhibit at the World's Fair.

S. R. MCCURDY, '95, has accepted a position as Secretary of the Young Mens' Christian Association of Lynn, Mass.

## Collis Campusque.

Prof.—Are you gentlemen prepared now to listen?

Student.—Yes, yes, Sir, I am ready.

Prof's evasive reply:—Of course, no reference to you.

Does a baseball curve? Why and how does a gun kick? are questions that trouble some of our youthful scientists. But they should remember that time is precious for other subjects, although they become so ecstatic in their explanations of new theories.

Appropriateness of thought to things and of words to thought, is a quality of mind, often coveted by the eager student and disregarded by the most wary. Yet the former has great difficulty in distinguishing the different qualities of jokes, when he is told of one that it is little more than a pun; little less than a joke; near an epigram.

Science knows no bounds! The most astounding development has been lately exhibited by the unique method in which the Land Improvement Association has of advertising its merits.

A certain individual, whose ingenuity carries him sometimes into extraordinary excesses, has been reported as carrying specimens of all the different soils on his boots.

The student lolls back in his chair with a look of self-satisfied complacency on his unwrinkled brow. But when the Professor requests some one to convey the chalk to another part of the room, this individual, in accordance with his usual policy, springs with the agility of a panther to do the Prof's bidding. But ah the mutability of human affairs! He stops as though paralyzed and rebounds to his seat setting at defiance the theories of man's free agency. For alas! some villainous rascal had tied the tail of his gown to the seat.

A street scene: The youths and maidens of Acadia stroll down the monotonous promenade proscribed by the powers that be, and well worn by many predecessors similarly trammelled. A freshman, well known as such by certain landmarks obvious to the initiated, meets a dark-eyed lassie, who smiles, oh so sweet at the vacant individual, but who not so much as condescends a glance. But his comrade gives him a nudge, and, as he looks back over his shoulder, he meets a dark eye fixed on his receding form with a look that makes his knees together smite with a "dull sickening thud."

Those who talk the loudest and most about a principle are the first ones to disregard it, is a remark as often thought to be true, as it is often quoted by the lovers of argument. However, one of our freshes should always try to keep in mind that it is a poor method of developing class-patriotism, by wilfully concocting and narrating the most fabulous skits about his classmate, in order that the same appear in print. Whatever pleasure or benefit he may derive from the same we hope will be more than counterbalanced by the just indignation of the party he thus strives to injure. For by thine own words thou dost stand condemned, thou wicked servile.

The lover and perpetrator of practical jokes is often carried far beyond himself so that even in his precipitancy he forgets the golden rule. Considered in the light of the same and common sense justice, many of his principles and motives are as far beneath those of a gentleman as they are above those of a fool. Doubtless a little serious reflection will convince that person or those persons, who have recently tried to make themselves notorious, by stealing and reposting a well known sign-board in a not very estimable place, of the truth of the above. Truly, the bent of their minds is shown by the surroundings and atmosphere in which they operate.

Most every one enjoys a hearty laugh, or a little excitement, but it may be laid down, that a laugh should be caused by some laughable event, and that any great commotion should be produced by some sufficient cause. But there is one thing about Chipman Hall boys that to a disinterested spectator must appear profoundly ridiculous. We refer to the tremendous excitement, uproarious applause and stale chestnut jokes that are cracked, when an individual is so unfortunate as to have his hair cut, or an unusual length of whisker shaved. It is impossible to conceive where the ridiculous appears in an event so natural, and of such frequent occurrence.

Except the sound of the Doctors reverend voice, silence reigns in the chapel. Another moment and the morning exercises will be over, when suddenly the door opens and shuts with a muscular slam, and a green-looking individual stands on the threshold. He looks around with a vacant stony gaze, and then shuffles down among his compatriots with a noise comparable only to the marching of a battalion of horse. His dreamy eye has a far away look, as though the mind had tired of such an uncouth dwelling-house, and had wandered among the blissful regions of Fairy-land. We hope, however, that by this time the missing member has returned to fulfil its proper functions.

It is true that man is part of his surroundings. It is equally true that he imitates those with whom he comes in contact. And to the above may be added that every one, some time or other chooses and sets his model before him to copy and fashion his own career and life in somewhat a similar manner. As each person strives to make his own life the best, it is absolutely necessary for him to have his model pure and as near complete as possible. Just as an artist sits down and reproduces on canvas the distinct and minutest details of a statue. As the two portions of human life are so widely different, it may be considered as a general law, that a man should not set up for his model a woman, neither should a woman a man. It may, however, be considered a slight evasion, when this law is violated in one of our studios, but doubtless with as good results.

It is of course difficult for unsophisticated students to accept Darwin's theory of evolution, but yet we have had such plain and unaccountable illustrations of apeish characteristics displayed recently, that Darwin alone can give satisfactory reasons for them. The illustrations above referred to were lately exhibited by our Freshmen. Suddenly in the midst of a modern nineteenth century lecture on elocution, these singular tendencies were evinced. One little fellow slings himself over the seat in true monkeyish style. Another big fellow strokes his long goatee, and clambers for the open window. Another active little lad, forgetting that the passing ages had worn off the hinder appendage possessed by his progenitors, illustrated the old adage that "Pride must have a fall," and took a tumble for himself out the window. Several more crawl along on all fours for the back entrance. These singular manifestations were at length closed. One, whose legs were longer than the others, was discovered retreating precipitously for the door in a position very suggestive of the traditional Jocko. After some little difficulty these apeish propensities were quelled, and mankind has tided over another dangerous epoch.

The sable wings of night had come,  
The twinkling stars shone in the sky,  
The shadows gathered on the Hill,  
The learned piles in silence lie.  
Chip. Hall reared up its stately height,  
Shadowing deep yon lisping rills,  
The last week's wash comes thundering down,  
Like bounding rocks in Alpine hills.  
But hark! the deep-toned bell is heard,  
The Athenæum meets to-night;  
Its echoes die in yon dark sky,  
The windows gleam with rosy light.  
A figure issues from the door,  
How dark and mystic there he stands;  
His back sustains a shapeless mass,  
He grasps it tight with quivering hands.  
What means this dark suspicious act?  
No one lingers near to see him,  
A freshman small and vacant too,  
Bears his wash to Athenæum.

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## Acknowledgments.

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