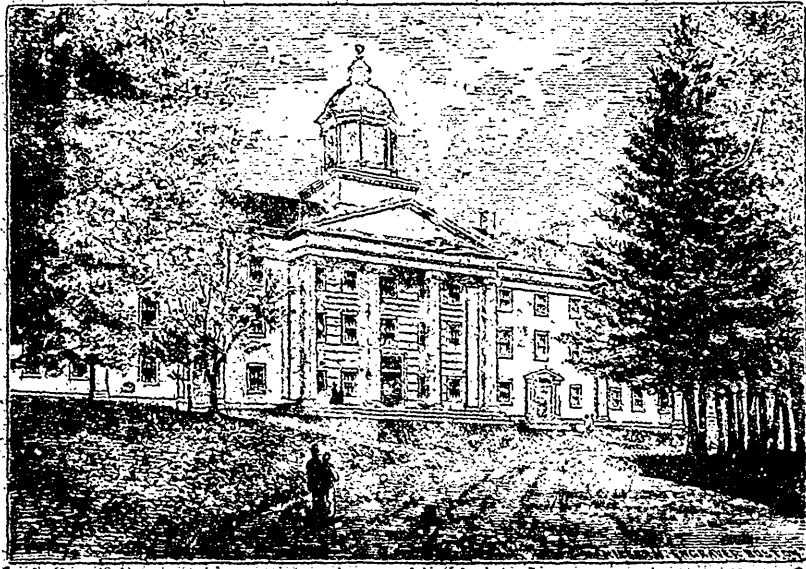


Miss Reynolds

December, 1879.

Vol. VI., No. 3.

The Acadia Athenaeum.



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THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

TROS TYRIUSQUE MIHI NULLO DISCRIMINE AGETUR.

VOL. 6.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., DECEMBER, 1879.

No. 3.

FRIENDSHIP.

(From Emerson's *Essays*.)

"A ruddy drop of manly blood
The surging sea outweighs,
The world uncertain comes and goes,
The lover rooted stays.
I fancied he was fled,
And, after many a year,
Glowed unexhausted kindness,
Like daily sunrise there.
My careful heart was free again,—
O friend, my bosom said,
Through thee alone the sky is arched,
Through thee the rose is red.
All things through thee take nobler form,
And look beyond the earth,
And is the mill-round of our fate,
A sun-path in thy worth.
Me, too, thy nobleness has taught
To master my despair;
The fountains of my hidden life
Are through thy friendship fair."

Reminiscences of European Study and Travel.—No. 11.

BY PROF. D. M. WELTON.

About half way from Cologne to Bingen is Coblenz, the most beautifully situated town on the Rhine, standing at the confluence of the Moselle and the Rhine, and being the focus of the commerce of the Moselle, the Rhine, and the Lahn.

Just opposite to the influx of the Moselle rises the majestic fortress of

EHRENBREITSTEIN,

justly termed the Gibraltar of the Rhine. It is situated on a precipitous rock 387 ft. above the Rhine, and never succumbed but twice to an enemy, once when taken by stratagem, and once when reduced by famine. On each of these occasions it fell into the hands

of the French, first in 1631 and second, after being four times besieged, in 1799. On getting possession of it at the last of these dates, the French increased its impregnability by additional intrenchments, but in consequence of the Peace of Luneville they blew it up and evacuated it in 1801. This method of quitting the place proved, however, rather costly to themselves. By the terms of the treaty subsequently made at the Second Peace of Paris they came under obligation to pay 15 million francs to the Prussian Government for the restoration of the fortifications. During the ten years beginning with 1816 the Prussians spent 8 million dollars on this great stronghold, and it is extremely doubtful if the French ever succeed in taking it again.

A little above Coblenz on the opposite side of the river is the town of Oberlahnstein, overlooked by the picturesque

CASTLE OF LAHNECK.

This castle has been recently restored; and though not the most interesting of these old structures, it yet calls up some of the pleasantest of my Rhine memories. On the present occasion I contented myself with simply looking at it from the deck of the steamer.

But nearly two years after I left the steamer at this point for the purpose of going through and around it. The path leading to it winds in a zigzag direction by successive flights of steps cut in the solid rock, and is somewhat difficult of ascent; but the summit once gained commands a view a thousand times repaying the toilsome climbing. Standing on the edge of the high elevation on which the castle is built, I could look immediately down upon *Oberlahnstein* at the

base of the mountain. On my immediate right flowed the Lahn to join the Rhine on my immediate left. Directly opposite the castle rose the *Allerheiligenberg* with its pilgrimage chapel. At the confluence of the Lahn and Rhine could be seen the Romanesque Church of St. John, and beyond it Niederlahnstein; farther down the river the Island of *Oberwerth* with its large dwelling house—once a convent; in the background the conspicuous fortress of Ehrenbreitstein; opposite to it Fort Constantine, and between them Coblenz. Seldom have human eyes surveyed a more charming scene. Scarcely a single object necessary to the perfect landscape was wanting. And to crown the whole, jutting headland and river, convent and castle, city and fortress were suffused and transfigured in the mellow splendor of the setting sun.

About seven in the evening we arrived at
BINGEN.

The beautiful poem of Caroline Norton, called "Bingen on the Rhine," in which she gives touching expression to the thoughts of the German soldier dying far from friends and home, had made me interested beforehand in this place. Our stay here, however, was very short. After a hasty inspection of the chapel of St. Roch, whose August festival is so charmingly described by Goethe, we got on board the cars for

FRANKFORT ON THE MAIN,

twenty miles further on; or, as might be said, *Frankfort on the Rhine*, for it is situated at the confluence of these two rivers. Frankfort dates from the time of Charlemagne. In 794 that emperor held a convocation of bishops and dignitaries of the empire in the royal residence from which the city takes its name ('*Franconofort*'—ford of the Franks). Louis the Pious granted the town certain privileges in 822, and from the time of Louis the German, who frequently resided here, it gradually rose to importance. At the present time it is a city of great wealth and of extensive commercial relations, the head House of the Rothschilds being here.

The principal attractions of the city to the tourist are the monuments of Gutenberg, Goethe, and Schiller, the Kaisersaal, Dannecker's Ariadne, and the Palm Garden. Our comparatively short stay in the city—for we were hurrying onward to Leipzig,—forbade us giving as much attention to these several objects as we wished to give them, but my own desires in this respect were gratified on two subsequent occasions, when I passed through the city to and from Paris.

THE MONUMENT OF GUTENBERG,

almost the first object which arrests the eye on entering the town from the Railway station, is very fine. It was erected in 1858, and consists of a galvano-plastic group on a sandstone pedestal. The central figure with the types in the left hand is Gutenberg, on his right Fust, on his left Schoffer. On the frieze are portrait-heads of thirteen celebrated printers, with Caxton the Englishman among them. In the four niches beneath are the arms of the four towns where printing was first practiced, namely, Mainz, Frankfort, Venice, and Strassburg. On four separate pedestals are Theology, Poetry, Natural Science, and Industry. The heads of four animals, which serve as water-spouts, indicate the four quarters of the globe and the universal diffusion of the invention. How great the indebtedness of the world to the art of printing, and what astonishing improvement has been made in it since Gutenberg's day! He used none but wooden or cut metal types, and the earliest printed edition of the Bible which appeared in 1450 took seven or eight years for its completion. Now the *London Times* is so rapidly set up and issued that speeches delivered on the evening of one day in the House of Commons may be read at the breakfast tables of the people on the morning of the next day.

There is reason, however, to suspect that the multiplication of books becomes a means of tempting not a few persons to read too much and consequently, to think too little. If fewer books were read, and of those read, if more were thoroughly digested, there

would doubtless be less of intellectual dyspepsy.

THE MONUMENT OF GOETHE,

erected in 1844, constitutes the chief embellishment of the *Goethe-Platz*. The poet holds a wreath of laurel in his left hand, and the reliefs on the pedestal are illustrative of his literary life.

The House in which Goethe was born has many visitors. It bears an inscription recording his birth on August 28th, 1749. The arms over the door, consisting of three lyres placed obliquely and a star, were chosen by Goethe's father on his marriage with the daughter of the Senator Textor, from their resemblance to a horse shoe, the grandfather of the poet having been a farrier. In the attics of this house he lived from 1773 to 1775 and wrote his 'Gots' and 'Werther'; and in them also occurred many of the adventures which make his biography so interesting.

SIR THOMAS BROWNE.

Thomas Browne, one of the most eloquent and poetical writers of a great literary era, was born in London two years after James I. ascended the throne of England. In early life his circumstances were such as permitted him to embrace the educational advantages which his country afforded. At the age of twenty he graduated at Pembroke College, after which he turned his attention to physic, and was created Doctor of Medicine at Leyden, in 1632. Subsequently he settled as a practitioner in the city of Norwich, and soon became so eminent in his profession that the afflicted far and near sought his advice. In 1655 he was chosen honorary fellow of the College of Physicians, as a man *virute et literis ornatissimus*. The honour of knighthood was conferred upon him in 1671 by Charles II. Like the majority of England's literary men he experienced the pleasures and benefits of a continental tour. His first work, *Religio Medici*, was published in 1642. It was written about seven years before, and not with a view to publi-

cation; but it came under the notice of individuals, who, without the author's consent, gave it to the world. It immediately rendered him famous as a literary man. In a brief period it was translated into the Latin, Italian, German, Dutch, and French languages. The work not only gives an account of the writer's religion, but enters into philosophical points. Four years later his *Treatise on Vulgar Errors* appeared. This is more philosophical in its character than *Religio Medici*. It gives us a notion of the idle fancies which then existed; nor, by the way, is our own time free from *all* such fooleries. Browne himself embraced a few of those errors, such as a belief in witches, which we are wont to look upon as fit to be he'd by superstitious old women only. There are few upon whom the peculiarities of their age do not more or less firmly fasten themselves.

In 1658 *Urn Burial* was published. Here the author gives an account of the different methods of disposing of the dead in different ages and countries. *Christian Morals* and other short works were published after his death.

"While learning shall have any reverence among men," says, Dr. Johnston, "Thomas Browne will not be deprived of praise, for there is no science in which he does not discover skill, and scarce any knowledge, sacred or profane, abstruse or elegant, which he does not appear to have cultivated with success." He attained that height in knowledge that he felt he knew nothing, "for heads of capacity think they know nothing till they know all."

From his works we easily become acquainted with the man. Such is not always the case. Shakespeare, whose authentic biography is brief, remains to us as one of whom we know little, there being absence of self-reproduction. Like Newton, Browne was very modest and of retiring habits. He reminds us of Spenser in his want of sympathy with the operations of daily life amid the busy crowd. Like the Stoics he was neither transported by mirth nor dejected with sad-

ness, but possessed "joy without frivolity and pensive thoughtfulness without gloom." To him time was very precious and of this alone was he parsimonious. His days were passed in administering good to the bodies and souls of men, and when in his 76th year death visited him, he feared not but submitted with religious courage.

His style of writing is somewhat pedantic yet seemingly natural. Dictionaries cannot well be dispensed with by the reader. In the thought there is much originality and great suggestiveness. With the spirit and beauty of the thought Cowper was so much imbued that in *The Task* we find many resemblant passages. Johnson has the same majestic display of language, and this is conceived to be the result of the intimacy with Browne, of whom he was a great admirer. In passing we may notice a point of difference between these two men. Johnson was impatient of contradiction or even of argument, while Browne could not separate himself from any man upon the difference of an opinion, realizing that advanced judgment might dissent from what his judgment at any time assented to.

Browne ever felt obliged by duty to impart instruction, and made not his head "a grave but a treasury of knowledge." He had an enlarged conception of charity. To the beggar he was a friend, for he felt that beneath the repulsive exterior there was a soul of the same alloy as his own. In the sick room he more earnestly longed for the recovery of the soul from the disease of sin than the rebuke of physical disorder. His noble nature is seen in oftentimes wishing that he could bear a portion of others' sufferings.

His reflections upon death and immortality are solemn and grand. Looking upon death with heroic bravery, he wondered how a Christian could be amazed at it; yet such is in accordance with nature, and there are few like Browne, to whom life was more terrible than death. The efforts of men to have their names handed down to posterity as the performers of great works are shown to be

foolishly directed. To the fear of hell, Browne owed no good action. In his view they go the fairest way to heaven who serve God, not as slaves crouching under threatening torture, but from love. No other motive is pure. * * *

Our Exchanges.

The *Bates Student* for October is a very well got up paper. Had we room we might call attention to many excellencies which it contains. Editor's portfolio is quite extended, and also quite readable. To the first article in this department, however, we must take exception. It seems to be an apology for students who stay out of class for the purpose of teaching. The writer, indeed, goes so far as to advocate the idea that so long as a student passes his examinations successfully he ought not to be compelled to attend class strictly. We have not room here to give our reasons, but we altogether dissent from this view. We need to be brought into contact with men of culture in order to receive the full benefit of a college course. We need to compare and weigh well the theories of different authors by the aid of discrete teachers instead of slavishly following a particular textbook. We are sometimes inclined to envy the pupils of the ancient scholars, who lived and studied under the eye of their teachers.

The chief objection to the *King's College Record* is that it contains so little from the students. Articles from correspondents are very good, but one or two at a time is sufficient. Descriptions of Oxford and Cambridge are getting trite now. Students to the front.

The Archangel from St. Michall's College, Portland, Oregon, is before us. Its literary department is not very extensive, but it has room to grow, and we do not despise the day of small things. You are welcome, western friend, and we shall expect that in the salubrious atmosphere of the Pacific slope you may soon develop into a first-rate literary journal. Why cannot a paper edited by six jocund sons of Erin develop the humorous department a little.

The *College Journal* is an unpretentious sheet but has considerable of merit. The article on Thomas Paine in politics, contains some very sensible remarks. It shows some breadth of view in the editors of the *Journal*, that they can appreciate the good qualities of a man with whom they radically differ on other points. There is nothing gained, and much lost, by attempting to put such

men's failings in too strong a light; and besides it is our humble opinion that it is, at least, a doubtful virtue, to misrepresent even the most heterodox of men. From childhood we have been accustomed to hear this man spoken of as if he were merely, as the *Journal* puts it a "scion of Satan." The contemptuous name of "Tom Paine" by which he is commonly designated has often grated our ears. Charity should lead us to honor all the more any good qualities shown in the conduct of this much deluded man.

Among our very best exchanges is the *Vassar Miscellany* published by the students of Vassar female College. The first article on the "Idyls of the King" is quite exhaustive, and in our judgment a good criticism. It is not strange that the young ladies should be fascinated with such characters as that of Enid and others in this inimitable Poem. Our advice to such, if we were permitted to give it, would be, reader go and do likewise. *De Temporibus Et Moribus* contains many good things. Quite a literary taste is manifested. There is nothing trite about the *Miscellany*.

We are welcome to our list the *Dalhousie Gazette*. We take a special interest in papers coming from sister Institutions in our own Province, and feel proud to be able to class them as quite equal to those from abroad. The exchange editor speaks very fairly. We think him a valuable addition to the fraternity.

The *Argosy*, for November is still on the "up grade," and "gathers strength as it goes." Its contents will repay a careful perusal.

The *Simpsonian*, for November, contains entirely too many errors. We could excuse some typographical blunders or attribute them to the wiles of the (printer's) devil; but the amount of bad spelling, and worse, grammatical construction, is altogether inexcusable. When we read the account of "the sixth annual contest" we tried to look sober, but "it couldn't was." Being jealous of the credit of college students we sought relief in the sceptical assumption that the sense of vision might be deceptive; but the relief did not come. We still saw before us "Great principles coming to us *died* in human *goar*;" that unfortunate "light-house on the sea of life;" "the divine *philanthrophy*;" "a *secono* to eternity;" "Miss Murphy," who in the possessive case becomes "Miss *Murphie's*;" "and being "*born*" along by charming thoughts. The italics are ours; the spelling his own. But we forbear. * *

Personals.

'67. J. W. Manning preached in the Baptist Church of this village, on Sunday, Nov. 16th.

'71. W. B. Bradshaw has been compelled, on account of ill health, to resign his charge of the Byrne St. Baptist Church, Petersburg, Virginia, U. S.

'72. W. M. McVicar has been appointed to fill the vacant Chair in Horton Academy.

'75. W. G. Parsons has taken the school at Kentville. He visits his *Alma Mater* occasionally.

'75. Israel M. Lowley is preaching at Lawrence-town, Annapolis Co.

'76. D. H. Simpson, F. D. Crawley, and E. W. Kelly have returned to Newton to resume their theological studies.

'76. M. W. Brown now preaches at new Germany.

'78. B. W. Lockhart is studying at Newton.

'79. Arthur W. Armstrong is teaching at Port Hawkesbury.

'74. William Shafner is teaching the advanced department of the school in this village.

'79. H. A. Spencer has been in Wolfville and Cornwallis, for several days, soliciting subscriptions, towards the building of a church in Dartmouth.

Ralph S. Eaton, who spent the Freshman year with the present Senior Class, is now teaching the Second department of Morris St. School, Halifax.

'79. G. O. Forsythe is teaching at Greenwich, King's Co., N. S.

MARRIAGES.

'71. At St. James' Church, St. John, N. B., on Nov. 6th, 1870, by Rev. Canon Brigstocke, Chas. H. Masters, Barrister-at-law, to Mary P., second daughter of the late Andrew Gregg, Esq. of Frederickton, N. B.

DEATHS.

'68. At the residence of the Rev. W. H. Warren, Bridgetown, on Tuesday, Nov. 11th, 1870, of consumption, William A. D. Mackinley in the 34th year of his age. The remains of the deceased were taken to his native place, Franklin Point, P. E. I., for interment.

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WHY can we not have some articles, from our graduates, in the ATHENÆUM? is a question which often suggests itself to us. We do not ask this because our staff of editors cannot supply matter enough themselves; half the number of editors could do it easily; but it has appeared to us that by such an arrangement we might supply our patrons with a greater variety of readable matter. It is supposable that those of our friends who are out in the world, engaged in the active pursuits of life, know better than we what would be of interest to the generality of our readers. We had in mind a scheme by which we think that some such persons might give us some matter of a general in-

terest to all our readers, and of special interest to us as students.

One of the greatest difficulties that the student has to solve during his college course is in respect to the choice of a suitable profession. Here his ignorance of the most of the learned professions, and the special faculties which are necessary to insure success in these several departments, stands much in his way. Now we have a large number of graduates successfully prosecuting the work of each of the common professions, who are quite capable of giving advice on these points. For instance, as each one doubtless thinks his calling the most important, they may speak of the relative importance of theirs in regard to others; of the inducements it holds out to young men wishing to enter a literary life; of the peculiar tact required in order to succeed in such work, and other such suggestions as they may see fit to make. Come on old grads., from the man who holds the "quill," up—or, if it suits you better,—down to the man who sits in parliament. We shall wait to hear from you; only don't all speak at once.

THOSE who are engaged in the work of higher education in our province, are often put in a humiliating position from the fact that their work is so little appreciated, as yet, by the masses of the people. This is the case in regard to those who enter on different professions; but especially is it the case with respect to those who teach. This we apprehend is the worst feature of the case. By posting himself thoroughly in law, a man may, with little education, become a fair pleader; so also he may come, other things being equal, to do fair work writing for a journal, or in the practice of medicine; but never can a man become a successful teacher who has prepared for it by a systematic cramming, and has no true idea of the intrinsic value of education. Yet it was only the other day that a college graduate of first class standing, holding excellent recommendations as a student from the Faculty of

fact is, the whole literary, scientific, and practical world walk by the light of a few such torches, set up here and there along the highway of the ages. The world of the emotions falls into rank, and marches to the beat of some great sympathetic hearts, who stand out in high relief along the line of history.

Neither is it necessary that such men should become great authors in order to perpetuate their influence. The noblest intellect that ever exerted itself on this earth of ours, used no such means, but seemed so complete in itself as to be independent of them. That individual who possessed it, has left us no writings of his own. The writing on the same has long since been obliterated; yet we take this as an example of indistructable influence, since it has permeated the whole ground work of human society.

A misunderstanding often arises in regard to the education of men who have accomplished a great deal in life. We often hear some of the founders of our college praised, because without themselves enjoying the benefits of education, they so appreciated those benefits as to seek to confer them on posterity. We are willing to accord them all the praise, but we do not admit that they did this work as uneducated men. They were, indeed, educated men, who had got their education during long lives of costly experience, and at the expense, doubtless of much failure and disappointment, and hence their desire to procure for their successors the means of obtaining the same discipline under more favorable circumstances, and at an earlier period in life. This is what colleges profess to do, viz., to give in the shortest possible time, and at the least possible expense, that culture which is requisite for the pursuits of life. But the subject still grows on us, and must be deferred to a future time.

THAT spirit of insubordination which has been manifesting itself through the columns of the *Star*, seems not yet to have subsided. We have not followed very closely the arguments adduced in support of the grounds

taken by these reformatory individuals, and hence are not in a position to criticise their actions very much. As journalists, however we give full countenance to liberty of speech. That the truth be known is always best for all concerned, and we hope that the present discussion will tend to this end, and to this end only. If this be the object, then we hail the occurrence, though it may look like doing evil that good may come. We would just suggest to writers on the subject, that it is so easy to find fault even with the most perfect organization, that it is quite possible for them to carry this matter to an extreme and thus defeat their own object.

That any student who has completed the course here, has learned too much about mathematics, we are not disposed to admit, though perhaps this study may, under present arrangements receive too large a proportion of time, as compared with other things. It appears to us that in order to have anything like a complete course in mathematics, at least very nearly all that is at present studied must be retained. It remains to be said, however, that the drill in this work previous to entering college, is accomplished in too short a time, and that the text book used is entirely too elementary. We are also of opinion that the standard for matriculation in classes should be much raised, thus giving room to substitute other languages at a more advanced stage of the course. In regard to the department of natural science, it does seem that there is more work than one man has been able to accomplish. We think it a pity that more class work is not done in this department.

To build up a museum is very well, and especially at the present time is quite necessary, but men, not museums, are the great want of the age. We hope that at no distant day the Governors of the College will see their way clear to appoint an assistant Teacher in this department. Then class work can be extended, and we can have a course in botany and other necessary additions in this line. Yet it needs to be remembered that everything cannot be done at once.

the College at which he studied, together with similar recommendations as a teacher, was put in nomination for a position in one of the Halifax schools, in opposition to a person in every respect his inferior, having none of the advantages of the higher education; and yet we were surprised to learn that the latter was the successful candidate. Surely the golden age has not yet arrived in the educational affairs of our Province. Is it not possible that if the Alumni and Faculty of each of our chartered colleges were to use their influence in this matter, they would be able to bring about a more satisfactory state of things in this respect, otherwise we fear that our colleges will not soon come to wield the influence they should in the improvement of the general education of the Province. If men of culture are to be retained in these Provinces, it will not be by subjecting them to such humiliating contests as the one alluded to above.

WE regret very much to hear that there has been quite a falling off in the attendance at the Seminary as compared with that of former years. With the improved accommodations, we had hoped that the number of students in that Institution would be very much increased this year. As to the qualifications of the teachers, we are not supposed to know anything about that. Most of them, however, are persons, who in previous years have given excellent satisfaction, and we have no doubt but that in the case of any new additions they have been very wisely chosen. It seems quite possible that this branch of the Institution is not sufficiently advertised. Formerly we have known this to be the case in regard to this Institution, and on this account persons who would naturally have been induced to come here, have been drawn away to similar schools, or perhaps inferior ones, where they were better acquainted with the arrangements. We merely state that we have known this to be the case on former occasions, and think perhaps it may help to account for the small attendance this year. We understand that no

pains have been spared to make the Seminary in every respect as convenient and efficient as possible.

THE idea that the utility of education can be measured by the ability to acquire wealth, we stated in a previous article, was establishing altogether too low a standard. Not, indeed, that we would ignore the influence of education in the production of material wealth; for while we hold that its work is chiefly in a higher sphere, yet we must believe that breadth of view, soundness of judgment, etc., which are the results of education, are after all the chief sources of material prosperity. Who are the men who have so perfected and utilized both physical, and mental sciences, if not men of broad and sound culture. Yet all these sciences are, in various ways, made use of in the advancement of material prosperity. The fact is, the outside world is the inheritor of numerous benefits conferred on it as a result of *theoretical* education, of which it is yet entirely unconscious. Thus we see that the utilitarian system of education, by its very narrowness, become self-destructive. While it would raise up men who are mere machines to perform certain operations, or puppets to run our particular errands, true education develops men who are cosmopolitan in their nature and views, and whose influence is felt over a wide circle. The influence exerted by such persons is not always apparent, though always certain. We meet with them and do not observe anything particularly striking in their character; yet they may have such an influence in moulding our destinies as we have no thought of. These are the men, of whom it is emphatically true that their "works," whether good or evil, "follow them," that is, their influence lives, it may be long after their names are forgotten. Who can estimate the influence that a Shakespeare, or a Milton, a Hume, or a Carlyle, not to mention a host of others, have exerted on English speaking people; a Descartes, or a Kant among the Germans? The

Our College has, we think, kept abreast of the demands which the education of the Provinces have made on it: at least it has kept well abreast of its means in these respects. It is true, nevertheless, that new arrangements and adjustments of the curriculum, will always be necessary in order to meet the demands of these progressive times. We have confidence that such alterations and improvements will be made as they become apparent.

Again the fraternity which owns Acadia as its Alma Mater, has been called to mourn the loss of an honored member from its ranks. As many of our readers have already been informed through the medium of the *Christian Messenger*, W. A. D. McKinlay, A.B., of the class of '68, is no more. Five of this class have already fallen, while five still remain. Since the time of his graduation the deceased has, through ill health, been compelled to live a retired life, and on this account his circle of acquaintance was more limited than it would otherwise have been. With those who knew him, however, his excellent disposition and perfect manliness of character made it a necessity, that, to know him was to love him. Though physically unable to enter upon the active duties of life his mind was ever active, and in retirement found in itself the great source of its comfort and contentment. One better acquainted with his case than we, has already said that, "but few knew how faithfully and persistently he struggled to overcome the difficulties which beset him, and to bear with submissiveness the necessary burdens of life." Although labouring continually under great physical depression, he was yet of a kind and affable disposition, which, together with his vast fund of information and great breadth of thought, made him at once an agreeable as well as valuable friend. The last two years of his life were spent in the United States where he had gone for the benefit of his health. A short time ago he returned to this Province, where at Bridgetown he would

have spent the winter with his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Warren. By referring to another column a notice of his death can be seen. His remains were conveyed to Charlottetown, in charge of Rev. W. H. Warren, and interred with those of his friends. Thus one whom we much respected, has left us and entered upon a higher state of existence where bodily afflictions no longer disturb and where that ever vigorous spirit may, under more favorable circumstances, attain to the fuller light after which it sought.

Things Around Home.

For the benefits of a College education see our Editorial columns.

Dr. Welton is building just below Chipman Hall.

Yes, friend Wright,—You shall have your paper. We wouldn't miss you for the world.

Prof. How do you find the stem of *perniciorum*? Freshie? Drop the *rum*.

We would request the students to notice the advertisements in the ATHENÆUM, and govern themselves accordingly.

The Senior's have formed an Elocution Club for the purpose of perfecting themselves in, and of putting into practice the instruction received from Mr. Porter.

The singers, male and female, meet quite frequently in the Assembly Hall for practice. Considerable, and a much needed improvement in the singing at our Social gatherings is manifest.

The Freshmen are sometimes inclined to be noisy in passing from one lecture room to another. Try and curb your ardent spirits. It is sometimes unpleasant to your neighbors.

Of all by-words which have been current here, the one now in existence, E. G., (to be pronounced as the letters are sounded), is the most outlandish and incomprehensible. Do let it rest, and return to "daft" or "boss."

"Things are not what they seem," the staid Junior muttered, as he wrathfully cast from him a tobacco stamp, which he had picked up in the delusive hope that it might be a five cent piece.

G. W. Cox of the Senior Class, who has been ill for some weeks, is again about. We are pleased to see him in the lecture room once more; his kindly face has been much missed.

The time and manner of attendance upon the gymnasium has been systematized. The students are divided into three sections and have regular times allotted to each. By this means much confusion is avoided, and the necessary amount of exercise is taken with a greater degree of comfort.

We regret very much to announce the decrease of Rev. John Chase, late of Wolfville. Many of us considered him a worthy friend. Mr. Chase was one of those who could afford to recognize kindly, even a student, and his friendly greetings on the street will, hereafter, be much missed.

W. M. McVicar, A. M., succeeds to the position in the Academy vacated by Dr. Hall's acceptance of the English Department in the Normal School. Mr. McVicar is an excellent teacher and a thorough disciplinarian. We feel assured that the success, which has heretofore attended him, will be continued in his present work; and trust that he may have a long and prosperous connection with our Institutions.

The young ladies of the Seminary have the use of the College Library this year. No doubt, those who were obliged formerly to content themselves with the Bible Dictionary, a History of Nova Scotia, and a few columns of forms, which have hitherto constituted the Seminary Library, appreciate their advantages much more than the rest; but, all must feel deeply grateful for the change.

Such a rummaging as the Juniors have given the Library. When, one after another

presenting themselves before the awe struck Librarian, with their arms filled with books, he ventured to inquire what occasioned "this thusness," then came the sepulchral reply, "Junior Exhibition."

The election of Municipal Councillors, in accordance with an act passed during the last session of our provincial parliament, was held on Tuesday Nov. 18th. We were pleased to learn that the vote taken in ward 8, resulted in the return of J. W. Barss, Esq., of Wolfville. The position is quite an important one; especially as it is a new departure in our County affairs and its utility needs to be thoroughly tested. Mr. Barss's large business experience will render him timely assistance in the performance of his new duties.

Why cannot the ATHENÆUM have a public entertainment? There is plenty of talent in the Society, and not the least reason why one, both profitable and entertaining to those attending, as well as advantageous to the participants, should not be given. It is too late for this term, and, perhaps, it could have hardly been expected with the amount of work on hand; but, let the Society be in readiness next session to do itself justice.

We are glad so many of the students are found frequent visitors of our Library. Though the number of volumes in it is not large, only between three and four thousand, yet the greater part of this number are valuable works, through which the student may obtain any desired information, and with which he may follow a profitable course of reading. The collection is being increased every year by the means of a small fund devoted to that purpose. If some liberal minded person would confer a great benefit upon the College, let him give a generous sum, the interest of which may be used for the purchase of needed books.

Our Temperance Meeting for November was quite a success. A well selected programme was presented and carried out with great credit. The singing was much improved by the organ, which Mr. Shorad kindly

lent the Society for the evening. An organ is much needed in the Academy Hall for use in our evening meetings. Cannot one be got?

The Freshman Class is increasing. There have been several additions to its ranks. It now far outnumbers any other single class in College. Let them come! We would, that the class was double its size. Acadia is ever ready to receive all who have a desire for knowledge; and is prepared to do as much for her students as any of her sister Colleges in the Lower Provinces, we had almost said the Dominion.

If a-little more care was taken in the use of the papers in the Reading Room, it would be beneficial to all concerned. It is probably only mere thoughtlessness; but, those purchasing papers do not fancy receiving, more or less shattered, what they bought with the expectation of getting in a decent condition. Let but a little thought and care be exercised and all will be well.

A young lady who has been a subscriber to the ATHENÆUM sent us the following notice: a few days since "You have been sending my paper to H—, for some time past although I did not know it, I have been married for two years, etc.

Correspondence.

"FROM POLITICS UPWARDS."

The above is taken from the exchange columns of the last ATHENÆUM. The editor who penned it may not have meant it to be taken in its literal sense, indeed from the context we may infer that he was joking. In expressing himself in this way, he has not departed from a common practice, the idea is nothing new. Continuously and by all classes, do we hear politics spoken of as if it was a game, and not an over honorable one at that. Most people who talk thus would not, after a philosophical consideration of the subject, acknowledge that they had been expressing sound views, or even their own

opinions, but merely that they had been joking after the manner of the time.

This habit of speaking of matters of the greatest importance in a way that we cannot justify, does great mischief. By continually presenting a subject in a distorted form, it accustoms the mind to this form to such an extent that most minds mistake the distortion for the reality. The result is that politics—the noblest and most extensively necessary of the sciences is, through thoughtlessness and trifling, lowered, not from its exalted position, but in the estimation of men. So they allow it, to a very large extent, to be controlled by the unprincipled and incapable.

Let us hope that this state of affairs may soon change for the better, and that the ACADIA ATHENÆUM may hasten on the change by sentiments that proceed from patriotic breasts. U. G.

ST. URSULA.

One of the most famous legends of the Romish Church is that of "St. Ursula and the Eleven Thousand Virgin Martyrs." The evident improbability of so large a number of such a class, sealing with their blood their testimony to the truth, has with many relegated the whole account to the region of Myths. Others however are disposed to believe that the story had some foundation in reality, but have arrived at the conclusion that its true solution is not attainable. Both classes are in error. The legend is not entirely mythical, and there is a simple key which, when possessed, at once unlocks the riddle.

The story is founded upon an ignorant reading of a Latin inscription to the following effect. "Ursula et XI. MM. VV." As the letter M in Latin denotes a thousand, and as a repetition of a letter was one of the means adopted for pluralizing a number, a natural reading and interpretation of the two "M's" would be *eleven thousand*. In the same manner the two "V's" would signify *Virgines*, that is *Virgins*.

But the two "M's" in the inscription were not intended to stand for a *number*, but were

a pluralized abbreviation for *Martyres*, the Graeco-Latin of our word Martyrs. The inscription read in this light would signify, "Ursula and the Eleven Virgin Martyrs"—a simple enough expression, and pointing to an occurrence unhappily only too intelligible.

A European tourist, an account of whose travels has lately appeared in one of our religious journals, had evidently never been informed of the true meaning of the inscription, or he would not have perplexed his readers and himself, as he did, with an attempted explanation.

* * *

Wolfville, Nov. 20th, '79.

Literary and Educational Notes.

The University of Virginia has 325 new students

Two of Longfellow's daughters are pursuing the Harvard course of study for women.

Harvard has lately had the good fortune to receive a bequest amounting to about half a million of dollars,—the largest in its history.

The "Chandos Classics," in large and clear type, are now offered at the remarkably low price of sixty cents.

We learn that two vols., descriptive of Gen. Grant's late tour in the East, are soon to be published by subscription.

It is announced that *Forster's Life of Swift* (of which only one volume was published during Mr. Forster's life) is to be completed from material accumulated by the author.

Prof. J. B. Mayor is to publish very soon, the first volume of an edition of Cicero's *De Natua Deorum* with an introduction and notes designed to illustrate ancient philosophy.

Thomas De Quincey: His Life and Writings, by H. A. Page. This volume has the reputation of being the best work that has yet been written on the life of the great master of English prose.

The History of the Zulu War, by Miss Colenso, daughter of the Bishop of Natal, is now in the hands of a London publisher. It is expected that this book will be an impartial account of the late great struggle in South Africa.

The Theological Seminary at Princeton, N. J.

offers a Hebrew Fellowship with six hundred dollars to the best scholar in the graduating class, with the understanding that the student gaining the prize shall spend a year at Princeton in the further study of Hebrew.—*Ec. & Ch.*

Mosaics

D. Jerrold's definition of dogmatism: "Grown-up puppyism."

Going to law is losing a cow for the sake of a cat.—*Chinese Proverb.*

An idler is a watch that needs both hands, As useless if it goes as when it stands.
—*Cowper.*

Our estimate of a character always depends much on the manner in which that character affects our interests and passions.
—*Macaulay.*

No heart is pure that is not passionate; no virtue is safe that is not enthusiastic.—*Prof. Seelye.*

A certain pliancy of disposition in regard to innocent prejudices and defects, is what in our intercourse with the world, good sense necessarily requires of us.—*Dr. Campbell.*

Truth is the gem for which the wise man digs the earth, the pearl for which he dives into the ocean, the star for which he climbs the heavens,—the herald and the guardian of moral and political progress.—*Lord John Russell.*

Under the eye of my teacher I read my Bible morning, noon, and night, and have ever since been a happier and better man for such reading.—*Burke.*

Virgil likens the care he bestowed on his writings to the work of a she bear "licking her cubs into shape."

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