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No. 4.

THE ACADEMY.



PICTOU, N. S., MARCH, 1886.

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M. T. CROWLEY

THE ACADEMY.



Vol. II.

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The Academy.

Pictou, N. S., March, 1886.

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THOSE who have received copies of the ACADEMY and who wish to become subscribers will please send us their names as quickly as possible.

THE term is nearly up and that bane of the Student's life, the sessional exams. are coming dangerously near. As a result the classes are already smaller, and before a week, if we judge from past experience, the attendance will be reduced by about an eighth. The exams. seem to inspire the new boys with a feeling of mortal terror, and the "old uns" with one of re-

verential respect. So it is the custom about the ending of every term, for many of the students to "fold their tent" like the arab, and as silently steal away" (lest the Principal should enquire as to the cause of their early departure.) It gives us great pain to see so many of the students leaving so soon, as many of them have not yet paid their subscriptions to THE ACADEMY. We would therefore ask them to come, before they read another line, and relieve the consciences of this terrible burden.

GREAT BRITAIN AND HER COLONIES.

Foremost among the many nations of the world, is Great Britain, foremost not only by reason of her great military and naval exploits, but also on account of her great commerce and wealth.

This great empire, "on which the sun never sets," was built up from an island no larger than Nova Scotia. But as small beginnings make great endings, so to-day we see this

island ruling over a very large portion of the world.

It has a population of over forty million, contains the largest and greatest commercial city in the world, and has a larger trade than any other nation. London, with its five millions of people, Liverpool with its docks, which skirt the banks of the Mersey for miles. Oxford and Cambridge, names synonymous with learning. Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, Bristol, are a few of the many cities that England points to with pride; in Scotland are Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Perth, and in Ireland, Dublin, Londonderry, Cork and Belfast. What nation can equal these?

But it is not from her great commercial interests alone that Great Britain has derived fame. Go where you will, nearly every place figures in history. Flodden and Bannockburn, Naseby and Marston Moor, Hastings and Twekesbury, will never be forgotten, while at Runnymede was signed the Great Charter, which, although it has seen nearly seven centuries, is still a part of the British Constitution.

Added to all this, is the beautiful scenery of a large portion of the country; the lakes of England, Scotland and Ireland, being particularly famous. With such names to point to, is it a wonder that the Briton is proud of his country.

Then, as to the rest of Europe, Gibraltar is a very small place, but for it Spain would gladly barter a large slice of territory.

In Asia is Aden, guarding the en-

trance to the Red Sea and India. This latter country is counted the fairest jewel in the British Crown. With her mines of gold and diamonds, with her forests of ebony and rosewood, and her newly developing tea industry. Surely this is a favored country.

From India, Great Britain is advancing in both directions, annexing Burmah, and practically establishing a protectorate over Afghanistan.

Australia is the next Colony to take up. First brought into notice by its great gold fields; its great facilities for raising sheep, are receiving great attention, and large quantities of frozen mutton are annually exported.

South Africa is next with its diamond fields, where many diamonds of great value have been discovered.

Last, but very far from least, is Canada, whose great resources need no mention here.

It will be noticed that Great Britain has a number of very small Colonies. But if you look where these Colonies are, you will find that they are situated where they will do most good. And when Great Britain gets into a strong place she is in no hurry to leave it.

COLLARS.

Now, there are several kinds of collars; dog-collars, lay-down collars, standing-up collars, and the regular patent double-action-all-wool-and-a-yard-wide-dude-collar. So that my title is a little ambiguous; but the collar I am going to speak about,

and warn you against, is the last mentioned one. I am going to tell you how my heart was nearly broken, my ears cut, and my prospects almost ruined for life by that invention of Satan, the aforementioned dude collar. One day I, in my innocent and guileless youth, went into an auction-room to invest my little-all (amounting to six cents and a horse-shoe nail) in wearing apparel. The first thing that went up was a hat. On this I bid all my cash but failed to scoop in the hat. I went on in this manner bidding on every article that went up for a solid hour, from a cashmere sbawl to a poke bonnet. But without any result, no attention being paid to my bids, except when the auctioneer told me to hold my tongue, which he did about eighteen times. Just as I was about to turn away disgusted, that fatal collar went up, and I, to my delight, and the auctioneer's relief, secured it without any competition. I went straight home and at once began the serious operation of getting on the collar. After about half an hour's hard work, without any success, I concluded that I was too excited, so I resolved to wait until I was calmed down a little before I sailed in again. I took off my coat and vest, rolled up my sleeves, greased the buttons of my shirt, and prepared for action. I stood the collar on the floor, jumped upon the table, and sprang straight into the collar; barking my shins, and cutting my nose in the attempt. But I was successful, with two packages of pins and an old boot-lace I succeeded in fastening the accursed thing to my neck, and started out to air myself, and exhibit my collar on the street. The first person I met was my bosom friend. I thought he looked at me suspiciously, but concluded that it must be at my col-

lar. At last he asked me where I had been last night, and said he was sorry to see me in such a state. I tried to answer, but on account of one of the pins being dangerously near my throat, and one corner of the collar digging into my right ear, dared not open my mouth to speak. The collar had now worked around, until the back was pretty near where the front ought to be, so that it was pretty difficult for me to see where I was going, and despite my precautions, I succeeded in walking over two small boys and an elderly female who gave me a vicious crack with her parasol, and told me to look where I stepped next time. By the time the pain from the enforced extension of my neck had become unbearable, and I turned homeward to get the collar off. But about half way, the collar got obstinate, I tripped over the loose board in the platform, and fell. With the collar on it was impossible to arise; so I set to work to get it off, I tugged and pulled, but without avail. I humped up my back till my hips were on a level with my arms, and then jumped, but that confounded collar didn't budge worth a cent; and at last the guardian of the peace came up, raised me to my feet, and proceeded to arrest me, after the most approved manner, for creating a disturbance on the street. After some time I succeeded in proving my identity, and getting clear of the collar, when I was released. That night I made a bone-fire out of the collar and if I ever wear another may I die in the attempt.

A young lady cashier in a St. Louis dry-goods house tried to get away with \$3,000 by hiding it in her bustle—a plan not open to gentleman cashiers for obvious reasons. She probably wishes to have a good financial backing.

. SOCIABILITY.

One of the conditions of our happiness, almost of our existence in this world, is the congenial society which this life is capable of affording. No more dreadful punishment has ever been inflicted on criminals than solitary confinement. No man, however wicked or hardened he may be, can long bear to be shut out from the sound of the human voice, the touch of the human hand or the sight of the human face. Experience has taught many a prisoner that the harshest tones, the most forbidding continuance, and even blows and stripes are preferable to complete enforced solitude.

There have been in former days, and, in rare instances there are still some who have voluntarily renounced the society of their fellows, and devoted themselves to nature and nature's author. To them the flowers and the trees, the birds and the beasts, the waving corn and the scented hay, the freshness and life of early morning, and the dewy stillness of the evening, the howling tempest and the cooling breeze, supplied the place of love and companionship of wife, brother, sister or friends. They were therefore free to devote themselves to study, meditation, and thought.

At first sight one would imagine that circumstances would be singularly favorable to these recluses, that being freed from the toils and cares, the annoyance and interruptions, as well as the temptations and passions of active life, they would accomplish much work and obtain such communion with the unseen as is denied to those whose ears are always filled with the jarring music of this troubled world. And yet we do not read that those hermits were among the

benefactors of our race. They no doubt had their work to do, and they did it faithfully and self-denyingly. But in this state they never rose above mere copier.

On the other hand, all the great teachers and leaders of mankind are those who have shared in the struggles, the cares, the joys and the sorrows of those of their generation. Many a time it has seemed to them that the stress and turmoil and trouble around them and within them, had robbed them of their inspiration; but made stronger by that very discipline, they have returned to their work with new vigor, and have succeeded the better for their struggle.

If you want instances of this, take Milton, who, amid the busy hum of London and contending with the conflicts of the civil war, derived the inspiration of that master-piece of work "Paradise Lost." And it was after having endured the greatest bodily affliction that he, assisted by his daughter, brought that great work to a successful conclusion.

Shakespeare, our greatest English poet, did his work in the midst of the ambitious, the heart-burnings, and the revelries of the court; or surrounded by the laughter and bustle of the play house.

Who will say that the famous Wordsworth, Burns or Goldsmith are any the less sweet for having shared the admiration of friends or companions? Dickens, Scott or George Elliot could never have taught as they did, if, with the genial hearts and large sympathies, they had not been able first to know themselves and then picture to others the lives of those with whom they came in daily contact. In short all the reforms have been brought about by men or women who have first mingled with those who have suffered

the abuses and, by their wondrous power of sympathy, shared those sufferings and then with all zeal and earnestness, forced those with whom they came in contact to share that sympathy and so feel the evils that they complained of, that they would no longer suffer them to exist. But such work require strong and deep sympathy. It is in no shallow nature that the germ must be planted, which is to spring up and grow into a great tree laden with blessings for mankind.

I might go on to mention inventors and scientists, for they have been men who have taken part in the active duties of life, and who have communicated to their associates such of the great truths they had discovered.

Now if society be necessary for those, the great ones of the world, how much more is it needful for those who are of less exalted aims and abilities. If they with their lotty aims and absorbing interests, find it impossible to live shut off from society, how much less can we who are of common mould do without sympathy and companionship. We lose much of the sweetness of life by wrapping ourselves up in a cloak of reserve.

BUYING A BOOK.

CUSTOMER.—Have you Anthon's Homer?

BOOKSELLER.—No, sir. But we have Anthon's Virgil; that will do instead. We can recommend it higly. [Recommending Virgil! I wonder if "we" had ever read it. Always "we," too, notice, No bookseller takes the responsibility of ever recommending Virgil on his own

shoulders. He divides it up amongst all his clerks.]

CUSTOMER.—No, I want Homer. Can you get it for me?

BOOKSELLER.—Certainly, with pleasure, sir. [He has not the remotest idea who Anthon or who Homer was; and whether Anthon wrote Homer, or Homer wrote Anthon, nevertheless "certainly 'we' will get 'it' with pleasure." So he proceeds:]

BOOKSELLER.—What is the exact title, sir?

CUSTOMER.—Homer's Iliad by Anthon.

BOOKSELLER.—Homer's Ill, by what sir. [He thinks Customer is using profanity.]

CUSTOMER.—By Anthon—edited by Anthon.

BOOKSELLER.—Oh! Beg pardon, sir, Homer's Ill [to himself; illness I suppose he means ("I" this time.) By Dr. Anthon we presume, sir

CUSTOMER.—Dr. Anthon; yes, I suppose he was Dr. Anthon. When can I have it?

BOOKSELLER.—If you will be kind enough to step in [always "step in," you notice. It would be absurd for a man who is wanting a book very much and in a hurry to come especially for it; he must "step in" as he passes] next week some time.

NEXT WEEK.

CUSTOMER.—Has my book arrived?

BOOKSELLER.—to clerk—Has Mr. Jones' book come, Jim?

JIM—Tom Jones. What book.

BOOKSELLER.—I forgot for the moment [!] the precise name of the work you ordered, sir. It wasn't (turning pages of daybook) "Cometh up as a flower," was it?

CUSTOMER.—No it was Anthon's Homer.

BOOKSELLER—Fiction, sir?

CUSTOMER—Fiction? well I can hardly say. There are so many theories on the subject. Gladstone says it's not fiction, so does Dr. Scelieman. [The word Dr. recalls the book to what the bookseller calls his memory.]

BOOKSELLER—Oh! of course; yes, sir, we remember now accurately Anthon's Illness by Dr. Homer, was not that the work you wished for?

CUSTOMER—Homer's Iliad, it is called.

BOOKSELLER—Precisely, Homer's Ill [ends in an inarticulate murmur.]

Confabulation between bookseller and clerk.

BOTH—It is on the way, sir. If you will kindly step in next—

CUSTOMER—week?

BOOKSELLER—Month.

NEXT MONTH.

CUSTOMER—I ordered a book here some time ago called Anthon's Homer's Iliad. Has it arrived yet? Tom Jones is my name.

BOOKSELLER—to clerk—Jim attend to Mr. Jones.

Customer repeats the question.

JIM—Anthon's Honer's Iliad's—beg pardon, sir.

Customer explains.

JIM—See, sir. [This always means "I will see, sir."] Long pause.

JIM—Was this the work, sir?

Customer takes proffered book and reads title: "Tom Jones, by Fielding." No; my name is Tom Jones; the name of the book is [long very long explanation—at least so customer thinks. But is no explanation from Jim's point of view.]

BOOKSELLER—([from back part of the shop in attentive tone])—We have just ordered it from England, sir. It will be here next—

CUSTOMER.—Month?

BOOKSELLER.—Year.—Grip Comic Almanac.

NOTES AND CLIPPINGS.

Vassar girls are said to be so modest, that they will not work on improper fractions.

The books on which all the kings of England from Henry I. to Edward VI. took the coronation oath is in a private library in England. It is a manuscript of the four Evangelists, written on vellum; the original binding, in a perfect state of preservation, consists of two ashen boards an inch thick, fastened together with stout thongs of leather.

PROFESSOR of Astronomy to Class.—"Yes, I counted 25 meteors sitting on my piazza one evening." Class express surprise at the social character of the heavenly bodies.

STUDENT calling at the abode of his adored.—"Is Miss E. in?" Servant.—"Yes, but she's engaged." Student.—"I know she is. I'm the one she's engaged to."

The old lines said:—

"'Tis better to have loved and lost,
Than never loved at all."

But the "disappointed one" said
"'Tis sweet to love; but oh, how bitter
To love a girl and then not git her."

About one-eighth of the students attending German Universities are Americans.

Aspiring Junior in a crowded barber's shop.—"How soon will you be able to shave me?" Barber, af-

ter carefully examining his face.—
 “Well, you may call in about four years from now, and I will see what I can do.”

A St. Louis editor received in his morning mail by mistake, proof sheets intended for the employees of a religious publishing house. After glancing over them, he rushed to the sub-editor yelling, “Why in the world didn’t you get a report of that big flood; even that old, religious paper is ahead of you. Send out the full force for particulars. Only one family saved. Interview the old man, his name is Noah.

THE SPELLING REFORM.

Only 250 years ago many of our common words that appeared in statutes were not spelled as they are to-day. King was spelled kynge, having, havying; form, fourme; so, soo; merchants, marchaunt’s. Muller has said: “In every language a reform of spelling is sooner or later inevitable.” Whitney adds: “Of all spelling in the world the English is the most absurd.” The general principle is that no sound should be represented by more than one sign, and no sign should represent more than one sound. Violations of the former requirement are seen in flute, deuce, news, sluice; of the latter in rough, plough, through. The irregularities of spelling are believed on good authority, to cause on the average two years of each child’s school life to be wasted. The si-

lent letters cost the country annually more than the interest on the public debt. Some curious results may be obtained if one spells by analogy. For example the well-known verses:—

“Tell me not in mournful slumbers
 Life is but an empty dream.”

may be rendered:—

Phthaiill chmey gnobt ikn chmourgnphoall
 gnelm bolohs
 Leighe us bught anne uegmghty driegm.

The justification—Phthisic, said, ill, drachum, key, gnaw, debt, knot, could, colonel, calm, colonel, height, guess, diaphragm, hiccough, plaguy, shriek.

It is difficult to recognize this as poetry, but it is a good argument for reform. The tenth annual meeting of the Spelling Reform Association was held in New Haven, July 9, 1885. The state of the reform is encouraging. Valuable articles have been printed in the *North American Review*, *The Nation*, and elsewhere. The movement has been helped by legislation in England, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania and Connecticut, and it is officially sanctioned by the Bureau of Education at Washington. Most of the leading men of letters in England and America favor the reform.

HOW TO VALUE MONEY.

NO MAN really understands the value of a dollar until he has worked hard to obtain it. We could point out scores of city boys

who have become miserable spend-thrifts from the lack of just such knowledge. Their fathers were more or less wealthy, but the sons were not put into the office or mill or shop and made fairly to earn their money by tiresome labor, either physical or mental. Their fathers said to themselves: "My sons will never have to drudge as I did," and so the boys did no labor, bore no responsibility and never learned how money was fairly and honorably earned, and, of course, never knew its value or its proper use. Thus hard earned fortunes have been ruthlessly squandered. All young people should be taught the full value of money—how to save and how to spend it. If born a heritage of wealth they should be taught that its possession brings greater responsibilities, and its proper management when they grow up will bring even a heavier tax on their mental or moral powers and faculties than would be the earning of a livelihood. If born to labor they should be taught that work is not disgraceful so long as they labor well, and that their earnings should not be squandered but invested wisely in reference to the future.

OUR RECREATIONS;

THE body must be developed as well as the mind, for, it is only when a well trained mind governs a well developed body that man rises to his greatest excellence. In few

places do students have such a variety of ways in which to exercise themselves as in this town. Among our recreations may be mentioned football, Gymnasium exercises, drill, walking, skating in winter, boating in summer, &c. The exciting game of Football is played with all the vigor and vim of youth, on the Lacrosse Field. Nearly all, from the professor to the junior take a part in the game when the ground is suitable. But when the field is not in a fit condition the student resort to the Gymnasium and there exercise with dumb-bells, clubs, parallel bars, horizontal bars, rings, gloves &c. Many of our students are athletes of no mean fame. A number of students are members of the Pictou Garrison Artillery, and find it profitable in many ways. Persons having taken the drill with an efficient company come on the streets with erect body, good step and bearing. The drill develops muscle, makes one exact in his movements and also familiar with the handling of arms. On joining a recruit takes the oath of allegiance and volunteers to serve three years, but his connection with the battery may be severed by giving a six months notice. The drill being in the evening, and then for only about one and one half hours a week, interferes but very little into the studies. The annual amount of drill required is twelve days of four hours each, for which the men are paid at the rate of 50 cents per diem or \$6.00 in all.

Walking is also a popular exercise; and as there are many inter-

esting walks in this town and immediate vicinity, it is not an uncommon thing in a fine afternoon or evening to meet many refreshing both body and mind by a stroll along one of these beautiful roads. During the winter there is always plenty or good ice in the rink, which is the largest in the Province and sometimes the harbor is good. The lovers of skating have thus plenty opportunity to enjoy themselves.

In summer the harbor and the many fine boats offer great inducements to those who are fond of being on the water. Above us are three rivers, up any of which parties may go in boats; while below, we can sail as far as the lighthouse, and then if time, wind, and courage serve us well, we can pass the light and stand out into Northumberland Straights. In very few places, if any, do we find a better chance for boating than in Pictou Harbour.

Other amusements and recreations might be mentioned but the foregoing are the most important, from which any student can surely make a choice and thus look after his physical as well as mental culture while attending the Academy.

CAPE BRETON SCHOOL- MASTER.

MOST of our gentle readers might consider school teaching a very easy, indolent business,

but when the test comes it is found that the most stately persons proves to be failures. I remember when I was a school-boy in one of the back parts of the country, where the lordly pines, with their stately branches towering over a nut-brown schoolhouse and a sparkling brooks rippling by, emptying its contents into a large pond a short distance below. In winter when the glittering ice formed an expansive bridge across this pond, we would glide to and fro while the ice creaked beneath our feet, until the dreaded sound of the school bell called us away to pursue our daily tasks. Rejoicing when Saturday morning came, several of my chums and myself, with skates in our hands and the frost crackling beneath our feet, we wended our way to the noted place of pleasure. Through the day we devised a plan by which we might have a Saturday every day. This was to play some practical joke on the teacher, and by doing this he would take the hint and leave. Monday morning came; one John B., took the lead, and after two or three successful tricks the teacher concluded Satan had possession of us, and the next morning saw our friend take the train for the "Far West," thus leaving us the remainder of the week for a jolly old time. Several others attempted, and gave up in disgrace. At last an applicant from Cape Breton arrived. At first sight he appeared to be a man of little ability, tall and slim, and looked like everything but to command a school of twenty or thirty rough country boys. The

date when he was to begin was a bright, clear morning on the fifteenth of January. Skating by this time was excellent; we concluded to put part of the day in with him, and the remainder on the ice. For the first hour everything went well, but to our pleasure one little fellow felt inclined for a drink of water. There being none in at the time the said John B., and myself offered our kind aid in slaking the young gentleman's thirst by bringing a bucket of water from the neighboring spring. On leaving the room we took the pains to lay the stove poker at the door. I will leave our conversation going to and from the spring, to the imagination of our readers. Entering the door of the school-house with the bucket of water, my feet caught on the end of the poker, and I accidentally on purpose stumbled, and 'ue bucket, turning a somerset, left its contents on the floor, while a roar of laughter burst from the rows of pupils; but suddenly all was hushed. At one moment I felt something seize my collar, at another I thought the floor flew up and struck me. I yelled for aid, as it was the usual custom; never before had I been refused. The last thing I knew I knew nothing, for I had been dragged up and down the aisle until the floor was as dry as before the bucket was upset. After laying there till I realized my position, I arose to my feet, and stole off to the seat a wiser but not a happier boy. Every one in the room was terrified, and looked like so many ghosts. He then asked if anyone else wished

for a drink; but we all concluded that we would wait till noon. I may say, in conclusion, that our little C. B. man never since had the opportunity of getting the floor washed in so cheap a manner; and after that we always did our skating at noon. Always apply to C. B. for a teacher.

A. F.

THE FOOT-BALL MATCH.

ON the 10th inst., the students and teachers, ably assisted by three members of the athletic association, played a match game with the New Glasgow foot ball club.

On account of the challenge not being received until the morning of the above mentioned day, many of our best players could not go. So the team was formed while on board the train for New Glasgow, which was as follows:

Dr. Stewart, Captain.

Gammel, forward.

McKinnon, "

McKenzie, "

Millar, "

McCharles, "

Fulton, "

Fraser, back.

Mellish, "

Carrol, "

Primrose, half-back.

Bethune, "

Melsom, "

Murray, quarter.

Love, "

Upon arriving at New Glasgow about 3.30, p. m., the captain very soon agreed to kick off at 4 p. m.,

and play for 25 minutes, then rest for ten, and again play for 25 minutes.

At the appointed time both teams were ready. New Glasgow won the toss, thus giving Pictou the kick off. In a few minutes all heard the shout "play," and simultaneously the ball was kicked, and the play began. The ball was followed closely by the Pictou forwards. One of the New Glasgow team secured the ball and was dashing off with it at a tremendous rate when one of the Pictou team distinguished himself by gently placing his already mentioned opponent prostrate on the ice. A scrimmage was then formed, in which the Pictou team showed superior strength. The ball was soon out, and some short runs were made. Some of the New Glasgow team seemed to have no respect for their persons; in that they would throw themselves down to trip their opponents, regardless of being trampled upon, but by looking at one another's faces, and the blood-stained snow which presented itself to view on all sides, they might have become cognizant of the fact that "discretion is the better part of valour." However, Pictou soon secured a try, but on account of a high wind, failed to kick a goal. The ball was soon kicked out, and before many minutes elapsed Pictou had secured another try through the strength and swiftness of Bethune, who ran about fifty yards, leaving seven or eight of his opponents behind him, in close proximity with the ice. Some of the New Glasgow team claimed that

he crossed the touch line, the umpires could not agree, so the ball was scrimmaged opposite the spot where they claimed he had crossed the touch line. At this point some good playing was done on both sides, and New Glasgow secured a try, but failed to kick a goal. Without any hesitation the ball was kicked out and the game going on splendidly, the Pictou team carrying everything before them, when the shout "time's up" fell upon the ears of the players, which meant a rest for ten minutes. When the ball was again kicked off both teams seemed to play more vigorous than before. The most noticeable feature of this part of the game was that the ball was for the greater part of the time behind the New Glasgow goal line. Pictou secured two trys, both of which were disputed, but just as time was again called, Pictou secured another try which could not be disputed. The ball was soon placed, and Carrol kicked a good goal. Then the game ended in a decided victory for Pictou.

PERSONALS.

We hear with pleasure that our old fellow student, Mr. R. P. Stewart, has entered the bourne whence no traveller returns—a bachelor. We wish him every joy.

Dr. Allison and Inspector McLellan will examine the Academy next week.

PICTOVIANA.

Look out for your gloves.

Take a rest and see how it feels.

Never sit down until you are certain that there is a seat under you.

It is whispered that one of our well-known studentesses attends the *Kirk*. It is our impression that it is *vice versa*.

Unus. Duo tres. From this he thought that it would be advisable to provide the adv. sen. with a Latin prayer book.

The seniors intend to utilize the old window-blinds as scenery in the Merchant of Venice, so the wroth Prof. seems to think.

AUCTIONEER.—How much am I offered for this hat?" Student, "two cents." He probably thought it was to be sold by the *Foot*.

Who were the students who received the present of a package of pork through the mails. It is said that they intend holding a jubilee.

THE VERY LATEST.—"Goblin Smith is the greatest political economist in America. The next will probably be that G. S. is *Mac's* kin on his mother's side.

We hear that a lot of the students (and studentesses) from the western county, were photographed in a group the other day. It took the whole ten to make a decent picture.

We hear that one of our adv. sens. attempted to *carry* a young lady home from debate the other night. Her *mother* didn't say I'm a—F rai(d), sir, I will have to chastise you.

Who are the students that knocked down all the pots, pans and crockeryware when they returned from the party the other evening? It is even said that one of them insisted on dancing with the bed-post; such conduct as this should be looked into.

Two of our seniors appear to be very delicate, as they gave as an excuse for their absence from Academy for the past few days, that they were *very* ill. They say that they can *see more* fun in skating at the rink than in working Algebra until the *grey* light of morning.

Two of our seniors have been getting into trouble lately. Our musical (?) friend and his chum went to serenade (?) some of their fellow students the other evening, but their *efforts* not being appreciated by the lady of the house, they felt called upon to make a hasty retreat. One of them accomplished this by tumbling down stairs like a *Fletcher* of bacon, and the other by descending from the third story window by means of a rope. What a *mash* he would have been if seen at this time. It is a *Pity* that he had to make such an unceremonious exit. We *Have* heard that they intend to provide a *Creel-man* in case of any future emergency.

Scene, (Student's boarding-house, Supt. of Education, and Inspector expected to arrive next day.)

First Student—"Say, Jim. going to the rink to-night?"

Second Student—Oh! ah! no, I ah! can't; got an infernal sore head. Guess I am going to have a bad attack.

First Student—I believe the Supt. ain't coming to-morrow.

Second Student—Ain't he, though? Sure? I guess I am a little better now; anyway I think I can go to the rink.

NOT IN VAIN.

We are glad to see that the hints given in our last issue have been attended to, and that the debate is again on its old standing, as good, if not better than ever. The subjects handed in by the Committee for the past few nights were very good ones, and the debaters exceptionally good. We hope this will continue.

SCIENCE IN SCHOOL.

This subject is every year becoming of more importance in educational circles, and the probabilities are that in the course of a short time a regular course of elementary science will have a place in the curriculum of our common schools. The advantages of such a course cannot be over-rated. Besides the insight it will give the students into the mysteries of nature, and the various relations of the common substances

used in our every day life, it will also develop the searching and enquiring disposition in the mind of the student. It will also learn him to pursue a logical and exhaustive course of reasoning, based on a number of acquired facts, in the study of any subject. Of course this course could not be made an exhaustive one to cover all points, but it would give to the enquiring mind a good store, and plenty of material on which to feed. In fact so necessary is such a knowledge, not only for our private investigations, but also to our social and educational standing that it is a wonder it was not adopted long ago. But perhaps the old prejudices against the study of science which formerly, and even now in some places existed, accounts for this. So now that this has been done away with we can expect to see, as was said before, such a course established before very long. As a well-known lecturer says, we have two books given to us directly by God for our study—nature and the Bible. And that the study of one should be neglected altogether by us seems to be not only an act of negligence, but also, nearly one of sacrilege, but now that this state of things seems to be about to undergo a change, much for the better, we can only wish for success, and watch with interest the development of the new regime, or as Cook puts it, "let us go on hoping, toiling, and studying, ever looking forward to the day when the chasms of popular ignorance will be bridged over by the strong cables of science, and coming nearer the presence of an omnipotent Deity we can step into the dawn of a new day."

TIRED EYES.

In these days of study and sedentary work requiring much use of the eyes, they often become so tired that they refuse to do good work. This is particularly true when the work is done in a poor light, or when it is very fine work. Few eyes will bear such treatment for any great length of time without being spoiled. The question is often asked us, What can be done in such cases? There is one remedy for tired eyes that has great value. It consists in massage with the hand wet in cold or cool water. Fill a basin with it, and standing over it wet the hand with as much cold water as it will hold and apply it to the eyes, at the same time with the thumb and forefinger giving the eyes a gentle manipulation. Continue the process for four or five minutes several times a day. The results are often almost marvellous.—*Herald of Health.*

THE WORLD.

How often the simple phrase "What will the world say?" deters men from making known the desires of their hearts, and prevents them from doing things they otherwise would. The world, in fact, is to the majority of men, the square and compass by which they shape their course and "the world" is a hard master. I do not mean the physical world but the social. The impartial judge which every day determines the fate of hundreds of our fellow-creatures.

No person can go through life without coming in direct contact with the world; and he either leaves it better for his contact or the worse. The world takes no half men. It takes hold of each one as

he comes out, and if he is not a suitable one passes him over for a better to take his place. And it is not often wrong. The world, as I heard a minister say, generally values a man at about his true worth, despite all that may be said to the contrary, and the man who has entered "the world" and comes out victorious in the great battle of life has no reason to be ashamed of it. In this "struggle for existence" as some put it, many temptations are met with, and if a man fails it is his own fault, not "the world's." And Byron beautifully expresses this when he says:—

Though the rock of my last hope is shivered,
And its fragments are sunk in the waves,
Though I feel that my soul is delivered
To pain, it shall not be its slave.

* * * * *

Yet I blame not the world nor despise it;
Nor the war of the many with one—
If my soul were not fitted to prize it,
'Twas folly not sooner to shun.

And in going through life it is always the same. If a man fails he is too apt to lay the blame on "the world," not on himself. But if we do our duty, with the help of a gracious diety, we need never fail; and if we do not, "The World" will esteem us the better for it.

MIND FOOD.

The mind should be continually supplied with good and nutritious food for the purpose of strengthening it, as natural food strengthens the body. For example; withhold food from the body or supply it with that which is unwholesome and the speedy decline follows; so with the mind. Feed it upon that which is obnoxious and the result is plainly visible. In some cases the mind becomes

distracted and the owner of it is looked upon as being foolish. In other cases it even goes further and lunacy or madness is the result.

The chief constituent of mind-food is sound, philosophical literature; but, on the other hand, the world is full of degrading and immoral literature which tends to pull men down and in fact this has such an influence at the present day that a large amount of brain power is entirely destroyed. Thus, if this kind of reading, which is called "novels," were effaced from our country we would have more great men and women and consequently the country itself would rapidly become greater both in social and natural affairs.

Poets and all other writers exercise the mind to a great extent, and therefore they are at the same time supplying and strengthening it with food and are thus able to improve on their next production.

Many men find food for the mind in the culture and study of the objects of nature; many more study agriculture and other sciences, others may be seeking for some invention yet unknown or for some improvement on those which are. The laborer also may find abundant food for his mind in his daily work. In fact, man may obtain nourishment for his mind in every respectable form of work.

EXCHANGES.

We see on the table a new exchange this month—*The Scholars' Monthly*, edited and published by the scholars of the N. G. High School. It presents a very creditable appearance, and its contents, considering that it is the first issue, are very good. We have also received copies of

the following: *Acadia Athenæum*, *Dalhousie Gazette*, *The Argosy*, *Queen's College Journal*, and the *Colchester Sun*.

CUTTING OFF WOMEN'S NOSES IN INDIA.

The horrible crime of mutilating women by cutting off their noses is so common in Bombay as to call for the most stringent repression, and nothing we imagine, will repress it but the free use of the lash. In the sessions ending recently Mr. Justice Scott had to hear three—we might say five—of these cases, one after the other. He postponed his sentence for a week, and we were in hopes that he would in each case order the criminal to be flogged within an ace of his life. Eventually, however, he sentenced them severally to what he had ascertained to be the usual punishment—three years' rigorous imprisonment. We are inclined to regret that he learned sessions judge, new as he is to the country, did not throw precedent over altogether. Surely there are cases in which the lash would be at once the most fitting punishment and the best deterrent. Estimated by the misery inflicted, even the most severe penalties would seem too trivial, and if the law does not permit of flogging in the cases of such cruel mutilation the law should be altered. The miserable women who are mutilated in this way are, of course, rendered hideous ever afterwards and, because they are women, it is simply impossible to calculate the misery and degradation that they will experience during the rest of their lives. No amount of imprisonment can eradicate a crime that is still evidently a customary form of marital punishment among the lower classes. But a wholesome terror of the

cat-o'-nine tails is common to the degraded classes all the world over.—*Times of India.*

OBITUARY.

We hear with deep regret of the death of two of our old Academy students—Mr. Owen Crerar, and Mr. Charles McDonald. Mr. Crerar met his death by falling from the vessel on the 25th of Dec. last; and Mr. McDonald died on March 27th, of lung disease, in one of the Western States. We tender our sincere and heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families.

TO OUR READERS.

We are very sorry we have again to call the attention of *a few* of our subscribers to the fact that they have not yet sent us their dues. How can we be expected to meet our expenses if we have no money to do so. THE ACADEMY has not proved the financial success we thought it would. When we started *every one* of the students was going to add something to help it along; but now that it is started we find that not more than one-third of the students take the paper, (the other two-thirds presumably peruse the copies of their neighbors.) We would like to see a few more dollars in the treasury, and any donation will be thankfully received, and acknowledged in THE ACADEMY. We must also request all of last year's subscribers who have not yet paid up to do so at once, to save us any further trouble in keeping the books open.—EDITORS.

Thursday the 8th of April is Examination Day. We would like to see all our friends to honor us with their presence.

Pictou Academy.

STAFF OF INSTRUCTORS

Science,	A. H. McKay B. A. B. Sc.
Classics,	W. R. Fraser, B. A.
Mathematics,	H. Malliah, B. A.
English,	J. Gaminell, B. A.
Drawing, painting,	Miss M. J. McKenzie,
Taxidermist and Subcurator of Museum,	G. Dickson, Esq.

LIBRARY.—Received from Richard Craig, Esq., Truro, through the kindness of Mr. Henry Putman, "The Report of the United States and Mexican Boundary," by a Commission appointed by the United States Government. It contains about 1000 pages with magnificent and accurate plates, describing the Botany and Zoology of the region. Mr. Craig has the thanks of the Academy for the valuable and appropriate donation.

Received from Charles H. Tupper, Esq., M. P., the following Blue Books for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1885.

1, Report of the Auditor General on Appropriation Accounts; 2, Report of the Minister of Public Works; 3, Report of the Minister of Justice as to Penitentiaries; 4, Report of the Department of Marine; 5, Report of the Inland Revenue; 6, Report of the Public Accounts; 7, Descriptions of the Townships of the Northwest; 8, Tables of Trade and Navigation; 9, Appendix to No. 2.

Received D. M. Geldert, Esq., vol. I of bound copies of the "Halifax Monthly Magazine," from June 1830 to May 1831.

The MERCHANT OF VENICE is expected to come off on the 9th of April. A piano is already placed in position for the musical rehearsals. The stage paraphernalia is being procured.

The Public Examination is expected to come on the previous day. The written terminal exams. are supposed to commence about the 15th. This will be the time for sportsmen students to akedaddle, or before.

STUDENTS ATTENTION!

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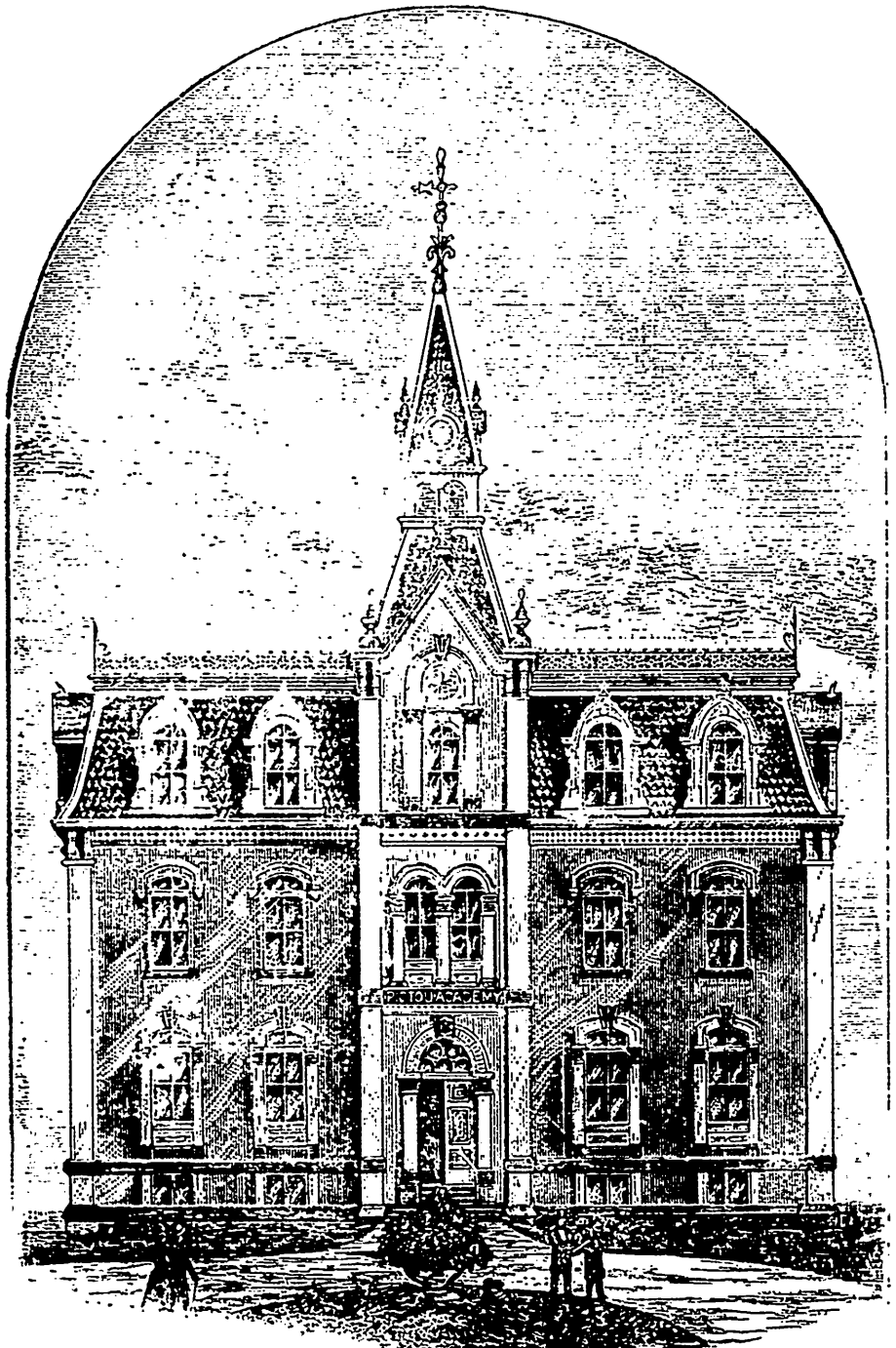
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