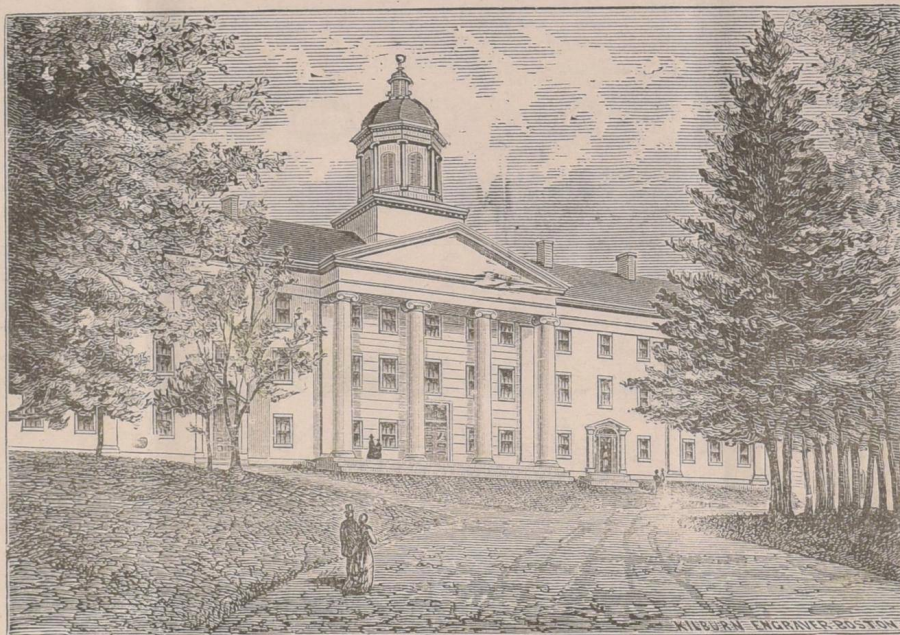


November, 1879.

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The Acadia Athenaeum.



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THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

TROS TYRIUSQUE MIHI NULLO DISCRIMINE AGETUR.

VOL. 6.

WOLFFVILLE, N. S., NOVEMBER, 1879.

No. 2.

THE THIRST OF THE MIND.

As Tantalus of old assayed in vain
To quench the burning thirst that parched his lips,
And sent a poignant madness through his brain,
So eager mind, athirst, unresting, sips
The copious draughts of knowledge—which the
years
Have richly poured upon the present—but
In vain. An ocean limitless appears,
And rolls its surging tide of ponderous thought,
Of sage reflection, fruits of fancy's flight,
Descriptions grand of deeds by heroes done,
And of upheavals which have made the right,
Burst brightly forth, clear—shining as the sun,
Until the billows rise, surround, submerge
And whelm the mind. Impatient, restless e'er,
It seeks to deeply drink; but on the verge
Of hoped success finds hapless failure. Ne'er
Alas! the longing ends. Too oft the mind
Is rudely tossed as on a sea of fire,
The parching billows' plaything; or doth find
That drinking ever multiplies desire.

REMINISCENCES OF EUROPEAN STUDY AND TRAVEL.—No. 10.

BY PROF. D. M. WELTON.

The mountainous district through which the Rhine winds its way immediately above Bonn is called

THE SEVEN MOUNTAINS,
from the principal peaks which compose it. Their names and heights are respectively as follows: Drachenfels, 1,066 ft.; Wolkenburg, 1,076 ft.; Lohrburg, 1,444 ft.; Oelburg, 1,522 ft.; Loewenburg, 1,505 ft.; Nonnenstromberg, 1,105 ft.; and Petersberg, 1,096 ft.

The first of these—the Drachenfels—is perhaps most worthy of notice. The view from it is the most picturesque; besides it is crowned with the Castle of Drachenfels, which was erected by Arnold, Archbishop of Cologne, at the beginning of the 12th cen-

tury and ranks among the most interesting of the Rhine ruins.

The name Drachenfels, or "Dragon's rock," is drawn from the mythological story of the dragon, which is said to have housed in the rock, and been slain by Sigfried, the hero of the Low Countries, who, having bathed in its blood, became invulnerable. The cavern in which the dragon lurked may be seen from the Rhine, half-way up the hill among the vineyards. I shall not soon forget the excitement which prevailed on board the steamer as she passed this point, every tourist doing his utmost to get a glimpse of the cave.

It was the ravishing prospect which the top of Drachenfels commands which inspired the following lines of Byron:—

"The castled crag of Drachenfels
Frowns o'er the wide and winding Rhine,
Whose breast of waters broadly swells
Between the banks which bear the vine;
And hills all rich with blossomed trees,
And fields which promise corn and wine,
And scattered cities crowning these,
Whose far white walls among them shine,
Have strowed a scene which I could see
With double joy wert thou with me."

Indeed there is not a ruin along the whole course of the Rhine—and they may be counted by the score—that does not borrow additional interest from some historic or romantic association hanging over it. Take for instance that of

ROLANDSECK,

only a solitary arch of which remains. It is believed to have been built by Roland, peer of France and Paladin of Charlemagne, who fell at the battle of Ronceval. Immediately below it, on an island in the Rhine, is a convent, half buried in trees, in which lived for a time, and finally died, the fair creature whom Roland had hoped to make his bride. The story runs as follows: "The brave

Knight Rolland, scouring the Rhine in search of adventure, found himself the guest of Count Heribert, Lord of the Seven Mountains, at his castle of Drachenfels. According to custom the daughter of the host, the peerless Hildegunde, welcomed him with the offering of bread, wine and fish. Her beauty riveted the gaze of the young knight, and Hildegunde and Roland were shortly affianced lovers. But their happiness was brief. Roland was summoned by Charlemagne to the crusade. Time sped on and most anxiously did Hildegunde await his return. But sad rumors came. The brave Roland was said to have fallen by the hands of the infidels, and the world no longer possessing any charm for the inconsolable Hildegunde, she took refuge in the convent on the adjacent island. The rumors, however, of the death of her betrothed were unfounded. Although desperately wounded, he recovered, and hastened to the halls of Drachenfels to claim his bride, but instead of being welcomed back by her fondly remembered smile, he found that she was forever lost to him. In despair he built the castle which looks down upon the convent, and there lived in solitude, catching an occasional glimpse of a fair form passing to and fro to her devotions in the little chapel of the convent. At length he missed her, and soon the tolling of the bell and a mournful procession conveyed to him the heart-rending intelligence that his beloved Hildegunde was now indeed removed forever. From that moment Roland never spoke; for a short time he dragged on his wretched existence, but his heart was broken, and one morning his sole attendant found him rigid and lifeless, his glassy eye still turned towards the convent chapel."

Of a somewhat different character is the story suggested by

THE MOUSE TOWER,

which stands on a rock in the middle of the Rhine, and marks the spot—so the well-known legend goes—where the cruel Archbishop Hatto was devoured by mice. Having caused a number of poor people to be burned in a barn during a famine, whom he com-

pared to mice bent on devouring the corn, he was immediately attacked by mice which tormented him day and night. He then sought refuge on this island, but was followed by his persecutors, and soon eaten up alive.

But perhaps there is no rock which tourists on the Rhine rush so eagerly upon the deck of the steamer to see as

THE LORELEI,

so-called; for on this rock the siren is said to have had her dwelling, who, like the sirens of old, enticed sailors and fishermen to their destruction in the rapids at the foot of the precipice,—a legend long a theme for the poet and painter.

In a beautiful poem of Heine's he represents the charming Loerlei, when the top of the mountain is bathed in the rays of the declining sun, as sitting thereon, radiant in her sparkling jewels, and combing her golden hair, at the same time singing a bewitching song. The sailor on the Rhine below hears her voice and turns his eye upward to see whence it comes, but as he listens and gazes, he forgets his boat which is dashed upon the rocks.

I will take the liberty of quoting this poem in its original form, following each stanza with a free English translation.

Ich weiss nicht, was soll es bedeuten,
Das ich so traurig bin;
Ein Märchen aus alten Zeiten,
Das kommt mir nicht aus dem Sinn.

I know not what it means
That I am so sad;
A story of the olden times
Is ever coming into my mind.

Die Luft ist kuhl und es dunkelt
Und ruhig fliesst der Rhein;
Der Gipfel des Berges funkelt
Im Abendsonnenschein.

The air is cool and it grows dusky,
And peacefully flows the Rhine;
The top of the mountain sparkles
In the evening sunshine.

Die schonste Jungfrau sitzt,
Dort oben wunderbar;
Ihr goldenes Geschmeide blitzet,
Sie kamm't ihr goldenes Haar.

The beautiful virgin sits,
Up yonder (on the mountain) in wonderful
fascination;
The lustre of her ornaments flashes,
She combs her golden hair.

Sie kammt es mit goldnem Kamme,
Und singt ein Lied dabei;
Das hat ein wundersame,
Gewaltige Melodei.

She combs it with a golden comb,
And sings at the same time a song;
That has a most wonderful,
Captivating melody.

Den Schiffer im kleinem Schiffe
Ergreift es mit wildem Weh;
Er schant nicht die Felsenriffe,
Er schant nur hinauf in der Hoh.

It arrests with a strange power
The mariner in his little craft;
He looks not at the reef of rocks below,
He looks only to the maiden.

Ied glabue die Wellen verschlingen,
Am Ende Schiffer und Kahu;
Und das hat mit ihrem Singen
Die Lorelei gethan.

In the end the waves devour
The mariner and his boat;
But the Lorelei has done it
With her wonderful singing.

A DEFECT IN OUR COMMON SCHOOLS.

Those who are at all acquainted with our common schools and who have a just conception of what the object of these schools should be, must be impressed with *some* deficiencies in them, notwithstanding the praise which our system deservedly receives.

Among the youth at school there appears to be a feeling, which is doubtless the result of a general sentiment, that unless they have a knowledge of certain advanced branches they can justly be charged with shameful ignorance; and so the study of these branches is entered upon by many before they have anything like a mastery of the rudimentary parts of education. Those who are to fill the professions or occupy positions as teachers must have a firm foundation for the superstructure, while those who are to fill the humbler walks of life and can spend but little time at school, cannot afford to take up the so called "ornamental" studies until in the rudiments they have acquired a good degree of proficiency.

But it is to the *reading* that we wish to make especial reference. That too little attention is given to this important branch of education on the part of pupils, resulting from too little value being attached to it by

teachers is painfully evident. Instances in which there is any knowledge of the *art* of reading are very rare. In the majority of cases the training received ceases with the common school, and hence the necessity of a thorough drill there. Looking at the facts as they have existed and still exist, there is perhaps little cause for wonder that those who are constantly before the public, and who have to read much, are so deplorably lacking in this much to be desired accomplishment. It is surprising, no doubt, that men in such positions are so easily satisfied with their acquirements in this direction, but it is largely due to not having their taste cultivated in youth by proper discipline. The only way to bring about the desired change is to give careful training in the common schools and awaken a feeling of the desirableness of becoming good readers; and if the matter is taken up as it should be and properly carried forward, a few years will suffice to witness most marked improvement on every hand.

It is said of Spurgeon's reading of the Scriptures, that it is like a running commentary; and so all reading should be. Regard must be paid to emphasis, rhetorical pauses, and to those valuable rules given with a view to help in the correct presentation of the thought. Where this is wanting reading is a mere repetition of words—a body without a soul.

It is to be hoped that the consequence of the comparatively little care which has been given to this matter in the past will cause the necessity of reform to emerge into such distinctness as will result in educationists adopting plans calculated to secure a new order of things, and fill our schools, our societies, our platforms, and our pulpits with *readers*, not mere *word-funnels*.

"In view of the great success of the bicycle, may it not be that the human race, by the process of evolution, will change from an indefinite, incoherent homogeneity through a succession of differentiations and integrations, so as to go on wheels. Doubtless it will be so if it have the proper environment"—EX.

From the above our bicyclist may yet cherish the hope that he is filling up an important link, in the yet imperfect development of the race.

Our Exchanges.

The *Colby Echo* was the second exchange to greet us this term. It looks well and seems to have enjoyed the vacation. We quite agree with its remarks as to how vacation should be spent. The editorials are quite readable. H. K. L. favors us with two poetical effusions, rather unique. We notice one of them was written during vacation, and on this account will readily excuse the absence of any very great intellectual effort. Was not the other a product of those *happy days* also? The Junior declamations are good; but we would prefer them one at a time. The most formidable character, on the first view, is our fellow-craftsman, the exchange editor. Viewed a little more closely, however, he turns out to be only a sheep in wolf's clothing after all. Beneath a rough exterior he hides quite a sympathetic temper. Take off the coat of mail, good brother; we don't use any deadly weapons to carry on any little pleasantries that may arise; or if you still persist in wearing the mask don't look out from under it so innocently, as your action suggests the ludicrous infantine practice of hiding and crying out "I'm hid here," etc.

Next on our list comes the *Bates Student*, a neat little periodical; not making any great pretensions and yet fairly edited. The editorials have an air of outspoken honesty about them. We are sorry that the article on Lord Byron should not show a greater breadth of view. We think a little more careful, impartial study of the subject would lead to more modified statements. Instead of Byron being "remembered more for his vices than his virtues"—which is not at all complimentary to the reading public, we incline to the opinion that he is remembered, *in spite* of his vices; for his extraordinary genius. Perhaps not even the writer of that article would care to part with Byron from his library. However, we leave it for those who are themselves perfect, to "cast the first stone" at the author of Manfred and Childe Harold, while the literary world are content to admire the compositions, and "shed sympathetic tears" over the sad fate of the composer.

The *Simpsonian* comes to us all the way from Indianola, Iowa. Its general appearance is good. The article on Emerson is fairly written, and on the whole a pretty fair criticism. Possibly, however, while the writer gives all due credit to the literary merits of Emerson's writings, he sets their moral and religious value at too low a figure. Perhaps the writer had in mind Joseph Cook's statement that "it is peculiarly Emersonian to oppose Emerson." We do not wish to be understood as writing an apologetic on Emersonism; but the "Over-Soul" teaches that "Sage of Con-

cord" many things well worthy of being attended to.

The *Niagara Index* is again before us. As a literary sheet it has considerable merit. The subjects discussed cover quite a wide field from politics upward. They begin with quite a "flourishing of trumpets," and draw very dogmatic conclusions; but when we come to the rather premature, "hence," we are reminded of some experimenting of our own, when we were innocent Freshmen. When a difficult proposition in Geometry came up we used to tread as lightly as possible over the difficult points, but just as we were about to escape the connective adverb, the inevitable "why hence," sounding, with peculiar emphasis from the chair, revealed to us our critical situation. The exchange man is evidently of the same descent as his predecessor of last year:—having "his hand against every man;" but that the reverse of this may not be true, we will "wash our hands in innocency" at least we will keep them clean by not meddling with him at present.

The *High School Journal* also comes to us from the distant prairies. It is a wide-awake sheet, and has about the right ring for an educational pioneer in the great West.

We have also received the *Canada School Journal*. This is an energetic educational advocate. We wish it every success in its attempts to raise the standard of education in our common schools. Cramming as known in many of them is a disgrace to the intelligence of the age, and should not be tolerated. Teachers and friends of education generally would do well to patronize the *Journal*.

The *Argosy* is again wafted to us from "over the bay." We congratulate our neighbors on the improved appearance of their paper. The general tone of its contents is good. The article on "The Pyramids" however, is rather rhetorical than sensible. Pigmies would do well to keep away from giant statues *i. e.* they would show to better advantage. So the *tyro* had better seek a "foe-man worthy of his steel" among common men, and not misrepresent men who have given their lives to study in the higher spheres of sciences. When echo answers "nothing at all to the interrogation "why" it seems to give rather an uncertain sound. If the writer means that there is no echo, the expression seems to be a meaningless appendage to the sentence. Tradition informs us of a parallel case once occurring here when an aspiring Freshie on making his debut in our literary society, allowed his eloquence to so far transcend his judgment as to exclaim in the following phrase. "Where is . . . and echo answers, gone." So history repeats itself. Pos-

sibly *echo* gave a different response when the "forest primeval" stood in this vicinity, but this cannot account for its strange answer at Sackville.

The *Tuftonian*, just received, has a pleasant appearance. As yet we have only been able to take a hurried glance at its contents. So far as we have examined them, however, we think the articles are quite up to the average. "Petty cheating" is quite timely. We fear it contains too much of truth, and are glad to see a College paper speak out plainly on the subject. The causes, or rather the inducements to this course are various, nor does the whole fault lie with the student. The daily marking system as it obtains with us, is, we consider, one of the best preventives against this evil.

The *Wittenburger* has also been received, but has not as yet received the attention it deserves. *Wittenburger* is one of those papers which we know are good without reading them, which is sometimes no small comfort, to the busy student.

The *Beacon* is filled with interesting matter. It is one of our most welcome exchanges. The *Truro Sun* confers its usual compliment on our first issue of this year; which compliment we are happy to be able to return to that "bright and shining light" of Colchester. Hitherto the *Sun* has led the van among our country papers. But recently a new luminary has arisen, which has now reached the Zenith (Wolfville), and by a power peculiar to such orbs seems to be rapidly changing its magnitude. Yet we hope, for the credit of our solar system, that the *Sun* will not allow itself to be outshone even by a star of the first magnitude.

Scientific Notes.

Two new metals have lately been discovered by means of the spectroscope. One called *Samarium* was discovered by a French chemist, and the other called *Norwegium* by Professor Tellef Dahll, of Norway. *Samarium*, which was first observed during the examination of a metal named *Samar-kite* has not yet been isolated. The principal properties of *Norwegium* have been already determined by its discoverer. It is described as being white, slightly malleable, about the hardness of copper and fusible at a dull red heat. Its density is (9.44) and chemical equivalent 145.

A plastic cement, composed of yellow oxide of lead and glycerine has lately been patented by M. Janin, of Paris. The proportions of the ingredients vary according to the consistency required—a larger proportion of glycerine being used for a soft than for a stiff cement and *vice versa*. Under the influence of gentle heat it sets

to great hardness in a few minutes, and is then capable of resisting both heat and pressure. It is especially adapted for moulding objects requiring extreme delicacy in the lines of the cast, such as engraved blocks, plates, forms of printing types, etc. The oxide of lead used is that which commonly passes under the name of massicot.

Recent investigations into the properties of Chlorine, consisting of experiments with that substance at a very high temperature, although not as yet sufficiently full to lead to a decisive conclusion, strongly indicates that chlorine is either a compound, or that it may exist under different forms like oxygen and ozone. It is thought, and there seems from the nature of the experiment to be considerable ground for the belief—that oxygen is one of the substances entering into combination in it. It is also stated that under an analysis of a similar character. Bromine exhibits affections analogous to those of chlorine; and it is not at all improbable that the rest of this group under a carefully exhaustive analysis will follow.

ERRATA.

The following are *errata* of the last issue of the *Athenæum*. For these errors we apologize to these of our readers who received the uncorrected copy.

In the editorial, for "God speed *them*," read, "God speed *thee*." *Things Around Home*; last item in first column, for, "nor a moor," read, "on a move;" second item, second column, for, "University, London," "University College, London." *Literary and Educational Notes*; note five, read, "examinations" for "examination;" last note in first column, for "reprint Morley's" read, reprint of Morley's;" next to last note, for "presented" read "published," for "Gunn," "Ginn." *Personals*; R. M. Hunt," not R. B." "H. L. B." should appear after "G. B. H."—*Mosaics*; for *immerses* read *emerges*.

MARRIAGES.

'72.—At Halifax, Oct. 28th, by the Rev. E. M. Saunders, M.A., William L. Barss, Barrister, of the firm of King and Barss, son of John W. Barss, Esq., of Wolfville, to Florence Austin Payzant, daughter of Lewis S. Payzant, Esq., merchant of Halifax.

DEATHS.

On Sept. 20th, 1879, Rev. Henry Angell, died very suddenly of hemorrhage of the lungs, at his residence on Pearl St., in the city of Los Angeles, Lower California, U. S.

The deceased was a Nova Scotian, and once studied at "Acadia," but the death of his friend, Wm. E. Grant who perished on that "fatal excursion to Blomidon," so affected him that he never returned to College after June, 1852. He was well known and highly respected in many parts of Nova Scotia.

THE ACADIA ATHENÆUM

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SINCE the *New Star* has arisen in our neighborhood it has been made a medium for quite a spirited discussion of educational affairs, as connected with the Institution. In regard to such matters the ATHENÆUM has for the most part deemed it best to hold rather a neutral position. We have been cautious about presuming beyond our proper sphere, or entering into any of those proscribed precincts which it is not lawful to enter but for the Faculty alone. Yet we reserve the right, as the organ of the students, of speaking plainly and independently on any matters connected with the Institution which may in our view seem to demand reform.

As to the present discussion, however, we are glad that it is being carried on through

another channel. Concerning the merits of the questions discussed, we prefer to withhold our opinion at present. The discussion can, we think do no harm at least, and if any special changes in the order of things are necessary, we feel sure that those in authority will be ready to receive useful suggestions, independent of the source from which they may spring. We have every confidence in the governors and officers of the college. We believe that they study our interests, and while we remain of this opinion, we shall not withhold our confidence and co-operation from them, although some minor discrepancies may appear. We only hope that those of the students who engage in the above mentioned discussion, will do so from a sincere desire to promote the welfare of the Institutions, and not from any such base motives as a desire to "appear out in print," or to have regulations so adjusted as that they may obtain admittance on special occasions to the Sem.

THE Theological Department of this Institution is, we understand, making good progress this year. This course has formerly been much crippled from want of pecuniary support. Now, however, it seems to be established on a more solid footing, and we will expect to see it grow and flourish in the future as it has never done in the past. Persons wishing to take a course of study in this branch, who do not feel inclined to enter on a full college course, would do well to patronize this Institution, selecting from the regular arts course whatever may suit them. Some persons are taking such a course here at present, and we understand, find it very satisfactory. We are assured by persons who have had an opportunity of judging, from observation, of this matter, that such persons would receive much more benefit from such a course, than by attempting to work with college graduates at regular theological institutions. Dr. Welton is indefatigable in his endeavors to promote the interests of this branch of the Institution, and deserves the sympathy and co-operation

both of the students and the denomination generally in his work; while the fact that the venerable Dr. Crawley presides over and teaches classes in it, needs no comment from us.

ONE of the latest developments in educational theories as held by would-be educationists, is the intense clamor now heard on every hand for practical education, so called. For our present purpose we may allow the common use of the term, though we apprehend that, so used, it is altogether a misapplication of this term. Rather would we hold that the education which such persons might consider extremely impractical, by a proper discipline and development of the mind may become by far the most practical. Education in its broadest sense is the cultivation and development of the whole man. It is the adaptation of all his powers, both mental and physical, for the accomplishment of the various modes of his existence. A properly directed culture should always have the effect of strengthening every useful faculty that the individual possesses, in short, of making him more a man. Thus equipped the individual may be considered a miniature world in himself. Within him is the greatest power. He is an inheritor of the ages and kindred souls through all time, and in all nations are his brethren. He is thus to a large extent removed from the effects of circumstances, or the fluctuations of fickle fortune, for his own soul is his citadel to which he returns from every petty defeat, and establishes himself as in an impregnable stronghold. We do not mean to assert that such is always the result of education, but such we affirm should in every case be its aim.

Taking the word in its etymological connection we find it comes from the Latin root *e* and *duco*, meaning to lead out; this corresponds very well with the idea contained in our now familiar word, develop, which is the result of culture and discipline.

How different from this, is the theory of the practical educationist. His theory is essentially the reverse of this, being neither more

nor less than a cramming into the mind of certain branches of knowledge which are supposed to be useful to an educated man. His great plea is that life is so short that we cannot afford to give so much attention to the higher culture. Life, he says, is extremely practical, and all education should be made to serve the practical ends thereof. While we have no objection to the practical part, which should by no means be overlooked, we would reply that this is entirely too partial a view to take of education. We might ask, what is life for, if it is not for the cultivation of the higher powers of man? In education we deal primarily with mind. It is not as a short lived creature that man receives mental discipline, but as a creature of all time.

In this, however, we may seem to go to the other extreme, though we do not think any one will deny the truth of our statement. That sound culture is the main thing to be sought in education, most persons will admit. The question then resolves itself into this form, viz., how can this object be best attained? We freely admit that if these so-called practical branches of study, are well adapted to impart thorough mental training, they should then take a prominent place in an educational course; if not, then let no imagined present benefit turn the student aside from that which is the great end of education. A mind in itself well disciplined is worth a whole world of books, or an indefinite curriculum of special, practical studies. It is indeed true that such a person may not always be able to accumulate any great amount of wealth, but he possesses resources which are always solvent; within himself he has a mine which yields imperishable gold, such as the riches of Orient could not purchase. But more of this another time.

It is the tendency of crime to spread its evils over innocence, as it also is of virtue to diffuse its blessings over many who deserve them not; while, frequently, the author of the one or of the other is not punished or rewarded.—GOETHE.

Things Around Home.

How about that volunteer company?

Some of the Juniors think that the new Senior will go off into an interrogation point.

The old Seminary has been remodelled inside, and is now occupied by some half dozen students and the *venerated* Janitor.

The Seniors are using the abridgement of Porter's Human Intellect as prepared for Colleges. They say "Psychology is a pleasant (?) study."

Our Bicyclist has collapsed. He is occupying his spare moments at present in the study of Phonography.

That Junior who wears glasses, says it is a result of close reading of fine print on Sundays. Publishers of cheap literature, take notice.

A change has taken place in the curriculum of the Freshman and Sophomore years. The former have Rhetoric in the place of Chemistry, leaving it for their Sophomore year.

All of the Preps have not yet made themselves complete masters of Swinton's Grammar. "It's your chose," is hardly correct; there is still room for some slight improvement.

Perseverance should always have its reward. And that Junior, who thought himself fit to hold every office, and who voted for himself every time, surely should have his reward.

Several of the Seniors are taking French and German, or Hebrew, as an equivalent for Classics. We trust the time is not far distant, when the modern languages shall form part of the regular work.

The officers elected at the first meeting of the Missionary Society were:

A. C. Chute, President;
C. L. Eaton, Vice do.;
E. R. Curry, Secretary;
A. L. Calhoun, Treasurer.

The following is a notice which was posted in one of the village stores. No comments are necessary.

"Wanted at the Eureka House, College Hill, a nice cow giving milk, hay, oats, meats, vegetables, etc., for which cash will be paid. Apply to——"

A young theologian has discovered that Paul's "thorn in the flesh" was an appetite for liquor, as we are informed that the Apostle called at "Three Taverns" in one journey.

We understand that the young ladies of the Seminary have established a reading room. During last year they had the use of the College Reading Room, but, as the buildings are now situated, this is not convenient. So they have wisely determined to be independent and furnish their own reading matter.

The College reading room is now in a better condition than at any preceding time in its history. We have a large, convenient, and well lighted room. The assortment of newspapers and periodicals has never been surpassed. There is no reason why, with such advantages, the students should not keep themselves well informed on all topics.

The teachers and young ladies of the Seminary gave their first reception on the evening of Oct. 4th. Two hours passed quickly and pleasantly. The contrast could not but be noticed between the present commodious and cheerful apartments, and the antiquated and cheerless rooms in which the receptions were wont, formerly to be held.

Rev. T. H. Porter is on the Hill giving instruction in elocution. A large number of the students have availed themselves of the opportunity thus afforded. All who have received his lectures express great satisfaction with the instructions given. We can heartily recommend both the system, and Mr. Porter, as a teacher, to any who desire to

improve their reading and speaking. The system is common sense, and a knowledge of it, easily gained. Every school teacher and professional man should make himself master of this system of elocution.

The class of 1880 has organized and elected the following officers:

G. W. Cox, Convener;
 L. R. Shafner, Vice do;
 G. E. Croscup, Secretary;
 E. W. Sawyer, Treasurer;
 C. E. Griffin, } Ex. Com.;
 S. N. Bentley, }
 B. F. Simpson, Orator;
 W. Barss, Historian;
 E. J. Morse, Essayist;
 G. J. C. White, Poet;
 C. R. B. Dodge, Chaplain;
 H. M. Chambers, Humorist;
 I. C. Archibald, Chorister.

The large attendance in the gymnasium proves that it is generally appreciated. Enter the door any afternoon, you may see the dignified Senior, and the diminutive Freshman, alike intent upon the cultivation of their muscular powers, and desirous of keeping their bodies in a healthy and elevated tone. This is right. The motto for every student should be, "*Mens sana in corpore sano.*" We would suggest, that some of those who frequent the gymnasium, be less noisy in their talk, and more careful of the apparatus.

Student reciting in Psychology class. "The acquired perceptions are all directed by experience, e. g. There is no reason *a priori* why the fragrance of a tube-rose should not proceed from a lily." Prof. "what do you understand to be the significance of *a priori* in that connection?" Student, hesitatingly, "well,—well, we don't know why anything should be like it is, except by experience." Prof. "are we to suppose then that there is no *a priori* reason why a dog should not have five legs and a cat three?" Mr. C. anxiously interrupting, "I, I, think we do, for instance, a cat could not support her centre of gravity on three legs!" Prof. "Well, but can you not conceive it as possible that the Creator might

have made an animal under such conditions as that it could walk as easily on three legs, as others do on four." Mr. C., still sceptical, "He might in case of an animal that was to walk very slowly, but not for one to catch mice." Sensation!

Probably most of our subscribers have noticed before this time that J. B. Hall, A. M.; Ph. D., has resigned his position in Horton Academy, and accepted one in the Normal School at Truro. This is an occurrence that we may much report, as Dr. Hall's teaching abilities are well known to be of high rank. While, however, we report losing his services at our own institution, we are glad that the Institution at Truro has been so fortunate in the choice of both the new teachers that have been added to its staff, and shall expect to see it enjoy a new era of progress. We have not enjoyed any personal acquaintance with Mr. Hall, but we know that his record as a student, a teacher and a gentleman, is among the very highest. He carries with him the best wishes of the students of Acadia.

Acadia is still to the fore in athletic sports Saturday, Nov. 1st., fifteen from the Sophomore and Freshman classes, under the captaincy of E. A. Corey, played a match game of foot ball at Windsor with fifteen from Kings College. Our boys won the game handsomely by two goals and seven touchdowns to *nil* on the part of their opponents. Acadia's team did some very fine playing. On their return from the match, the two classes carried the story of their exploits and victory to the reception room of the Seminary. The day's dissipation proved too much for the most of them, as but few were at Church the next morning.

Among several other innovations, that of the Singing Class is by no means to be despised. Mr. C. M. Pike has formed quite a large class from the three Departments. Those who have voices, should by no means neglect putting themselves under Mr. Pike's tuition. He has a fine voice himself, and thoroughly understands music. Much improvement on

the present style of singing is necessary, as would be evident to any one attending any of our evening meetings. There is no lack of good material, and there is no reason why we should not have here, on the Hill, as good a choir as any in the Province.

Dr. MacDonald, the agent of the Nova Scotia Health Society, spent two or three days here inspecting the sanitary condition of the Town. He delivered two lectures, one in the Academy Hall, the other in the Baptist Church. He pronounces the Ladies' Seminary to be the most perfect building in respect to sanitation, of any in the province. This is encouraging. Parents may send their daughters here, with the assurance that so far as it lies in the power of man to effect it, they shall enjoy entire freedom from disease.

Scene, in Hebrew class. Prof. "Mr.— That Kaph is not made in the right shape." Student, rather indignantly, "that's not my fault. It's no use for me to fight with the inexorable laws of nature." Prof. O! you misunderstand me, Mr.— I did not intend any personal allusion. Exit, theologue.

Personals.

'73. Frank H. Eaton has been appointed to fill the Mathematical Chair of the Normal School at Truro, N. S.

'73. James B. Hall has received an appointment in the same institution. He gets the chair of English.

'74. J. I. DeWolfe, pastor of the Baptist Church at Milton, Queen's Co., paid us a flying visit a few days ago.

'75. Howard Barss spent the past summer on this side of the "Pond." But the greater part of the time was passed by him at his home in Wolfville. He is doing a good business. We call attention to his advertisements in another column.

'79' C. K. Harrington has changed his field of labor from Springfield, N. B., to New Glasgow, N. S.

'79. R. G. Haley is now Book-keeper in the firm of Spinney & Dakin, Yarmouth, N. S.

Peter McGregor, who spent his Freshman year with the class of '79, was once more "here" on his way to Newton. He says that he did not write that article which appeared in the March issue of last year over the signature of "Peter."

Fred. Rand and G. B. Titus, who began a college course with the class of '79, spent a few days with us early in the month.

'80. I. C. Archibald, formerly a member of the class of '78, has returned and joined the present Senior Class. He brings with him his well-known and time-honored note book.

E. H. Sweet, who matriculated with the present Junior Class, has for the past two years been at Wabash College, Ind. He recently took two prizes there—one for essay writing, the other for elocution.

'82. J. B. Bogart is principal of a graded school in St. Stephen, N. B.

R. MacDonald and Spurgeon Whitman are in the U. S., the former in Cambridgeport, the latter somewhere in Massachusetts.

I. N. Schurman is at present pursuing his studies at Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

Literary and Educational Notes.

Harvard has a Professor of Chinese.

And now Carlyle feels so much better, as to be thinking of writing his autobiography.

Prof. John Tyler fills the chair of Biology, at Amherst, this year.

Edward H. Plumptre, D. D., the well known author, Prof. in King's College, London, is spending a few weeks in U. S.

The number of students attending American Colleges is supposed to exceed 30,000.

A member of the class of '78, Columbia College

during his course, has taken \$1,000 in prizes, and refused three \$500 scholarships.

A new edition of the poems of Geoffrey Chaucer has lately been issued, to which are added poems attributed to Chaucer.

The select speeches and orations of Daniel Webster, with an essay on Webster, as a master of English style, may now be had, in one large octavo volume.

"*Ancient and Mediæval Republics.—a Review of their Institutions and of the causes of their decline and fall.*" This work, which is the result of the extensive research of the author, Henry Mann, is recommended as well worthy of the closest attention.

All Classical students will welcome a new and enlarged edition of Andrew's Latin Lexic o about to be published by Harper & Bros. Then *London Athenæum* says: It is the result of the unremitting labors of its Editors for several years, and will be found fully abreast of modern philological and archaeological research.

The sixth annual contest of the I. C. L. Association will occur, Nov. 20th in New York. The examinations in Greek will be on the *Electra* of Sophocles, the *Apology* and *Crito* of Plato. Analysis of verb forms, prose composition and prosody. In Latin, on the Letters of Cicero, the *Trinummus* of Plautus, composition, translation at sight. In Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Analytics and Calculus. In Mental Science a paper on the *Philosophy of Kant* will be required.—*Boston Beacon*.

POPULATION OF GREAT CITIES.

The population of the great cities of the world is a matter of perennial interest. According to the latest official estimates in each city, or the latest census where these are not attainable, they range as follows:

London, of course, heads the list with its 3,533,484; Paris comes next with 1,851,792, by the census of 1872; then Peking, with 1,500,000; and Canton, with 1,300,000; next comes New York, with 1,066,362; and closes the list of those having more than 1,000,000 inhabitants. Of those having less than 1,000,000 and more than 500,000, Berlin comes first, with 994,343; then Philadelphia, with 850,856; next Tokio, Japan, the Yedo of the old geographies, with 800,000; Vienna, 690,548; St. Petersburg, 669,741; Bombay, 644,405; Kioto, Japan, 560,000; Glasgow, 555,933; Ozaka, Japan, 530,000; Brooklyn, 527,830; Liverpool, 527,083; St. Louis claims 500,000, and if allowed her own estimate,

heads the list of those ranging downward, from 500,000 to 250,000. Then follow Naples, with 457,407; Chicago, with 440,000; Calcutta, 429,535; Nanking, 400,000; Madras, 397,552; Hamburg, 393,588; Birmingham, 377,346; Manchester, 359,213; Baltimore, 355,000; Boston, 354,765; Shanghai, 320,000; Dublin, 314,666; Buda-Pesth, 314,401; Amsterdam, 302,266; San Francisco, 300,000; Leeds, 298,189; Rome, 282,214; Sheffield, 282,130; Cincinnati, 280,000; Breslau, 259,345; Melbourne, 250,678; Havana, 250,000.

Thus it will be seen that there are 39 cities, each having 250,000 inhabitants or more supposing none to have been omitted, and an aggregate of about 24,000,000.—*Examiner and Chronicle*.

Mosaics.

The man who can't put fire into his speeches should put his speeches into the fire.—DR. MATTHEWS.

It is not by regretting what is irreparable that true work is to be done, but by making the best of what we are.—F. W. ROBERTSON.

What care I what you say, when what you do stands over my head and thunders in my ear so loud that I cannot hear what you say?—EMERSON.

Recommend what is right rather than oppose what is wrong. . . The best way of effecting the expulsion of evil is by the introduction of good.—WILLIAM JAY.

I never bet on the man who is always telling what he would have done if he had been there. I have noticed that this kind never get there.—JOSH BILLINGS.

Men are every day saying and doing, from the power of education, habit and imitation, that which has no root whatever in their serious convictions.—CHANNING.

Hath any wronged thee? be bravely revenged; slight it, and the work's begun; forgive it, 'tis finished: he is below himself that is not above an injury.—QUARLE'S ENCHIR.

Retire into thyself. The rational principle

which rules has this nature, that it is content with itself when it does what is just and so secures tranquility.—MARCUS AURELIUS.

Whatever philosophy may determine of material nature, it is certainly true of intellectual nature that it abhors a vacuum; our minds cannot be empty; and evil will break in upon them, if they are not pre-occupied by good.—JOHNSON.

Clippings.

Soph. translating: "*Pinei melaines metros enzor on methu.*" "He (Hercules) drinks the unmixed wine of his black mother." Query, was Hercules a descendant of Ham?

Professor in Rhetoric: How do you pronounce cement,—a noun? Soph. cement! Prof.—wrong; accent on the "Cem." Enthusiastic applause from the class.

The same: Now gentlemen perhaps some one will give me the pronunciation of the word "*beauxesprits?*" Soph:—that is French for bow spirits, isn't it Professor?

"Sweet are the uses of adversity"—so said the poet:

But 'tis not true, and all posterity should know it.

In all her ways Dame Nature says 'tis not,—And which shall we believe—begotter or begot?

"But, friend," you say, "sure, Nature often lies."

That we admit, nor manifest surprise;

But of all poets, Nature is the nurse,

And while she lies herself she makes them worse.

ADVICE TO YOUNG MEN.—You can probably be rich my son, if you will be. If you make up your mind now that you will be a rich man, and stick to it, there is very little

doubt that you will be very wealthy, tolerably mean, loved a little, hated a great deal, have a big funeral, be blessed by the relatives to whom you leave the most, reviled by those to whom you leave less, and villified by those to whom you leave nothing. But you must pay for it my son. Wealth is an expensive thing. It costs all it is worth. If you want to be worth a million dollars, it will cost you just a million dollars to get it. Broken friendships, intellectual starvation, loss of social enjoyments, deprivation of generous impulses, the smothering of manly aspirations, a limited wardrobe and a scanty table, a lonely home, because you fear a lovely wife and beautiful home would be expensive, a hatred of the heathen, a dread of the contrition box, a haunting fear of the woman's aid society, a fretful dislike of poor people because they won't keep their misery out of your sight a little sham benevolence that is worse than none; oh, you can be rich, you man, if you are willing to pay the price. Any man can get rich who doesn't think it is too expensive. True you may be rich and be a man among men, noble and Christian and grand and true, serving God and blessing humanity, but that will be in spite of your wealth and not as a result of it. It will be because you always were that kind of a man. But if you want to be rich merely to be rich, if that is the breadth and highth of your ambition, you can be rich, if you will pay the price. And when you are rich, son, call around at this office and pay for this advice. We will let the interest compound from this date.—*R. J. Burdette.*

Student fresh from college, to conductor: I wish to get on the penultimate car. Conductor—"We have no peanut car; you can take the smoker." Mutually disgusted.—*Sel.*

Professor: "Can you multiply together concrete numbers?" The class are uncertain. Professor: "What will be the product of five apples multiplied by six potatoes?" Pupil (triumphantly): "Hash."—*Sel.*

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