

Vol. 2.

No. 2.

# THE ACADEMY.

CONCORDIA SALUS.

PICTOU, N. S., JANUARY 1886.

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# THE ACADEMY.



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## The Academy.

Pictou, N. S., January 1886.

### EDITORS.

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THE ACADEMY will be published monthly during 6 months of the present Academic year.

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COMMUNICATIONS may be addressed to J. H. McMILLAN, P. O. Box 255 Pictou N. S.

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

**WE** heartily thank our readers for the cordial reception given to our first issue, and they may rest assured that we will do our best to bring the paper up to a good standard, although we do not intend to reach perfection. It must be remembered that the editors have some other work to attend to, than getting up the paper, consequently only a very limited time can be devoted to it. On this ground there-

fore we must ask our readers to excuse any delay in the appearance of the paper and any lack of merit.

Although our paper has a fairly good circulation, we see with regret that many of the old students whose names were on the books last winter have not given their subscription for this volume. We would ask all those who are able, to send us their names and subscription fee as quickly as possible that they may not lose any of the numbers. We also find by examination of the books that a few of last years subscribers have not yet paid the dues. We would ask them to kindly remit the amount, it is not very large, at once, to save us any unnecessary trouble and expense in collecting it.

THE students having digested their Christmas dinners have all returned, to all appearances, prepared for three months hard work. So we may expect a pretty good "show up" in the exams. next spring. We are glad to see so many new students coming in this winter, it speaks well for the reputation of the Ac-



wars, chief among which was the disastrous Fenian campaign, in which, so much time and money was expended, so many reverses met, and so many English bodies left to bleach upon the burning sands of Egypt. This is one of the darkest pages in the history of our Empire and of a year which the veil of oblivion would so closely draw. The Fenians have been at the gates of London, and the outbreak of the Boer war is imminent. And thus, the year has been led to the blackest hour.

The color that has also had a share of the trouble of France has suffered many humiliating reverses in Tongkin and Madagascar. She has dislodged her colonies, and is now vainly struggling to remain third. She has shed much of her blood and treasure in a vain cause, and is now trying to begin her new year. There are several Eastern questions, the Balkan, Bulgarian, Roumelian, and others, which threatened to involve the whole of Europe. Spain has lost her old King, and has been devastated by the cholera. And Austria is on the verge of war with Russia. Our cousins across the border have also seen stirring times. The first Democratic President for 24 years has been elected. The vice-President, and General Grant have died, and even Vanderbilt's millions could not save him.

Looking at all these facts we see that the past year has been the most exciting throughout the world, for a considerable time. And it is but fitting that we should be very thankful that things have not turned out

any worse. So let us take a good view of matters, and as we can to the inevitable, let us hope for brighter times in the present year.

### CHRISTMAS.

NO more has Christmas come and gone, and now we only have the recollections of a joyful festival.

Of all the festivals of the year none is as expressive or emblematic as Christmas, and this is but right, for whatever can even be compared with the advent of Christ.

Almost from the beginning of our lives, we are taught to look at Christmas as the great festival of the year. But at this stage we take notice of the turkey and pumpkining them of the reason of the celebration. But with advanced years we see not this side but the true and real meaning of all this rejoicing.

The custom of giving presents on this day is very appropriate. For as 'unto us Christ was given,' so also do we give presents to our friends.

There is nothing in Christmas that is unharmonious or out-of-place. All that took place on the first Christmas, the appearance of the angels, the adoration of the shepherds, the star of Bethlehem, tends to show one thing: that Christianity is the only true and lasting religion.

What's a student's apartment without "The Academy"

## NOTES AND CLIPPINGS.

THE following interesting and instructing poem was found, written on the fly leaf of a second-hand treatise on algebra :

If there should be another flood,  
For refuge hither fly ;  
If all the world would be submerged,  
This book would still bedry.—*Argosy.*

The richest university in the world is that of Leyden, Holland, its real estate alone being valued at over four millions.

Egypt has a college that was nine hundred years old when Oxford was founded, and in which ten thousand students are now being educated, who will some day, as missionaries, go forth to spread the Moslem faith.

Ten of the most advanced courses in Harvard have only one man in each.

The leader of the class of '85, graduating from the Woman's Medical College in New York is a Chinese lady Kin-Jac-Me. She is twenty years of age, and after study, intends to return to China to practise her profession.

We often wonder why it is that professors, in general, expect students to carry in their brains cart-loads of lore got from various sources. When each individual professor, in treating his own specific subjects, hugs passionately to his note book.—*Argosy.*

"The university," says Mr. Lowell,

"is not a school for the bread winner, but my idea is rather that it should be the life long sweetness of all the bread he ever gets."

Cannon Farrar is a great opponent to the prominence given to the study of ancient languages.

Burdette says that a man passing the farm on which Joseph Cook was working this summer, at Ticounderoga, heard a deep sonorous voice cry out, like the call of a prophet, "abandon the direct progression to straight thitherward, and deviate by inclinatory and aberrant dextrogyration into a dextral incidence." It was the ultimate American saying "gee" to his oxen.

Prof. Political Economy: "What word meaning money in Latin shows the fact that formerly cattle were used as a medium of barter."  
Junior: "Bullion."—*Etc.*

"His brow is stern, his aspect weird,  
A pony in his hand,  
Upon his lip a tiny beard,  
The Senior's in the land.—*Kansas Review.*

During the past few months the presidents of California, Chicago, Vassar and Cornell colleges have resigned.

Prof. Maria Mitchell, of Vassar College, celebrated her 67th birthday a few days ago, and was presented by the undergraduates with a jelly-cake of 67 layers—one for each year. Poor Maria! We warn the good lady to be very careful. If she eats all that cake, she certainly

will never live to celebrate another birthday.

The difference between rising at 5 and 7 o'clock in the morning, supposing a man to go to bed at the same hour every night, is nearly equivalent to adding 10 years to a man's life.—*Bow Bells.*

During an examination, a medical student being asked the question "When does mortification set in?" replied, "When you pop the question and are answered, 'no.'"

A student supposed to be deficient in judgment, was asked by a professor how he would discover a fool. "By the questions he would ask" was the prompt and suggestive reply.

A gentleman, having made some progress in acquiring a knowledge of Italian, addressed a few words to an organ-grinder in his purest accent. He was astonished at receiving the following reply. "I no speak Inglis."

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### BRAIN POWER.

**WE** are supposed to live in an age when brute force has ceased to rule, and brain power alone is the governing agent. In ancient times, when the mailed knight was the ruling power in society, it was easy to bring about a combat between two rival knights to find out which was the superior. But in the present day the question of superiority,

as to brain power, is far more difficult to solve. We cannot weigh brains, as we would tea or sugar, and find out the relative value of each. Tests, however, have been arranged by which we are supposed to get a knowledge of the brain-power of various individuals. These tests are certainly better than none at-all. Yet they are far from perfect; consequently we often find men selected by such means, to do work for which they are quite unsuited, and to fill offices for which they have no capacity.

The present is an age of competitive examinations, and these afford but a very imperfect test of brain-power. They tend almost entirely to bring to the front those whose minds are the best stored, and many persons therefore, come to the conclusion that, by such a course, we have obtained for our various services the cleverest youths. It does not however follow that this result has been obtained. The greatest brain power may actually be low down in the exam. list.

There is certainly an advantage to be gained by storing the mind with facts, and some people imagine that a knowledge of these facts indicates an educated and strong mind. It, however, merely proves the mind to have been stored, not strengthened. We may know what Cæsar did under certain conditions; how Cromwell gained such an ascendancy over the English people, but the acquiring of any quantity of such facts would not enable an individual to solve the question of imperial federation, unless he could find in the past an exactly similar

case which had been treated successfully by some particular system.

The average occupations of young men at the present day require nothing more than stored minds and the powers of observation; consequently competitive examinations serve, to some extent, to bring to the front such qualifications. But it is not among such that we obtain our inventors, our statesmen, and our great generals. The mere routine man will almost invariably bring about a disaster, when he has novel conditions to deal with, and, as a rule the routine man comes out best at an examination.

Considering the above facts, therefore, it appears that just as the intellect is invisible, so the intellect is unmeasurable; and instead of forming hasty conclusions as to the relative intellectual power of two men, from the results of an examination, we may perceive that by such means we may be selecting those only, who, under certain conditions, have succeeded in storing their minds with the facts required for that examination.

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### EXCHANGES.

WE have received this month copies of the *Col. Sun*, *The Argosy*, *Queens College Journal*, *Dalhousie Gazette*, *McGill University Gazette* and *Acadia Athenaeum*. We are glad to see so many really good college papers among the universities of our Dominion. It speaks well for the enterprise and ability of the students. All the college

papers seem to be paying more attention to their literary articles this year, and the result is very satisfactory. In fact, as a general rule, the contents of a paper are more appreciated than the "get up." The *Dalhousie Gazette* and the *Argosy* both present a marked improvement on previous years, and the editors are to be congratulated on the successes which has followed their attempt to bring the paper up to the standard.

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### RESOURCES OF NOVA SCOTIA

THE resources of Nova Scotia are great and varied, and perhaps no country of the same area can boast of such a vast amount of mineral wealth. Coal, which is so extensively used in manufacturing all articles, is found in Pictou, Cumberland and Cape Breton.

Pictou County, which is, with the exception of Halifax, the foremost County of the Province, in a measure owes its greatness to the coal trade. On the Pictou coal basin there are six pits in operation, which raise an enormous amount of coal, the most of which, during the summer months is shipped from Pictou harbor, which is from five to twelve miles distant, to Montreal and various other places. As Pictou harbor, during the winter season is frozen; the mines then export all their coal via the Intercolonial Railway.

In Cumberland County there are several coal fields, of which the most important is Spring Hill. On this



coal field there are four pits, all of which are comparatively new. The mines, like those of Pictou, raise a great deal of coal, some of which is shipped from Parrsboro, a port about thirty miles distant, the remainder is sent along the Inter-colonial Railway to Upper Canada. The other coal fields of Cumberland, which are of less importance are at Maccan, South Joggins and River Herbert.

Then about the Coal Mines of Cape Breton, too much cannot be said; they are equal in every respect, if not superior, to those of Pictou or Cumberland. The mines being situated near the ocean, have easy intercourse with other parts of the world. They ship large quantities of coal which is of a superior quality from Sydney harbor, one of the best in the world. These mines throughout the Province raise over eight hundred thousand tons of coal annually, and thus give employment to a great number of hands, and circulate a large amount of money among the people.

The Creator of all things, who has thus so bountifully blessed the Province with an ample supply of coal, has distributed throughout the land an abundance of iron. The only Mine in operation at present is on the South side of the Cobequid Mountains, in Cumberland, where iron ore is of a superior quality is to be had. Here the iron ore is dug and smelted with coke brought from the Albion Mines of Pictou. Iron Ore of a good quality is found on the East River of Pictou. The

owners of these iron beds are now awakening to the fact that the manufacture of pig iron in Pictou County would be a profitable business. Steps are now being taken to open up a mine here.

That precious mineral, Gold, is found in Guysborough, Halifax, Hants and Yarmouth counties, the mining of which forms an important industry. Manganese is found in Hants; copper in Guysborough. Although these minerals are not worked at present, still they are rich and no doubt, in some future time they will be opened up and furnish employment for thousands of hands.

But it is not from mining that the mass of the population derive their living, but from farming. Nova Scotia is a good agricultural country, especially north of the central water-shed. The south side being very rocky is not so well suited to agricultural pursuits. The climate of Nova Scotia is well suited to the cultivation of grains and vegetables, for which the farmers find a ready market at the nearest village. The portions of the Province best adapted for raising hay, are along the lower course of the rivers flowing into the head waters of the Bay of Fundy. Here are large tracts of marsh protected from the sea by dykes, and which have been yielding heavy crops of hay for over one hundred years, without the aid of manure.

Lumbering, which is carried on during the long winters, is an important industry. The trade con-

sists mainly in getting out spiles to export to the United States and timber for shipbuilding and other purposes.

Shipbuilding, which is an important industry, is prosecuted on all coasts.

The fisheries of Nova Scotia are important, and exceed those of any of the other Provinces of the Dominion. The principal fish in the coast waters are the cod, mackerel, herring, shad, salmon, halibut, trout, and smelts. The value of the annual export of fish is over four million dollars.

Of the various manufactures of the country such as woolens, cottons, glass, etc., we need make no mention as our readers are fully aware of their great importance.

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### SUCCESS IN LIFE.

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What may truly be called success in life? The majority of people to whom you might put this question, will at once answer that to be successful in life, a man must at least obtain a goodly share of this world's goods, or attain some celebrity above the common every-day life.

I am not going to say that this is not success, or to say that a man should not endeavor to obtain a reasonable amount of riches, or that he should not desire distinction of any kind; far from it. This is a natural and perfectly justifiable desire. But how often is riches or fame made the end rather than the

means nowadays. Do not the majority of young men on beginning life think that to become rich or to become famous is the one great object of living, the only thing worth striving after? Is it not the tendency of the day to judge of a man's success by the amount of wealth he has accumulated, or by his standing in society.

This, however, is judging too much from superficial appearances. A man may seem to be eminently successful, as far as appears to the world, and yet have not been able to accomplish any beneficial results either for himself or for others.

To be called truly successful, a man should have accomplished, throughout his life, the greatest possible amount of good to *others* as well as to himself. A selfish man can never be called a truly great man. Very few, of course, are Quixotic enough to entirely neglect their own interests while endeavoring to serve others. Yet how many there are who are willing—rather determined to obtain the object of their ambition regardless of the cost to others. It matters not in what way, or what means are used so long as the object in view is obtained. Such men cannot be called truly successful. They may make a good appearance, but their usefulness in society does not count for much.

A young man, therefore, entering upon life for himself, should be very careful as to what he wishes his career to be. Many men have from earliest boyhood an earnest desire to enter a certain profession, a kind

of intuitive knowledge of what profession in life they are most fitted. Others again experience a great amount of doubt and hesitancy before they can decide upon their life work.

There are some whose life would be almost useless should they make a mistake in the choice of a profession. But to the majority, it does not so much matter what profession they enter as it does how they exert themselves in that profession. Success must depend on one's own efforts. Many think that *genius* is always necessary to become an eminent man. This, every one cannot in a high degree possess; but to all who are endowed with good, common sense, steady hard work will stand in as good stead, and nearly always accomplish as good results.

### HAMLET'S SOLILOQUY.

(REVISED VERSION.)

Oh, that this too, too solid Greek wou'd melt,

Thaw and resolve itself into English,  
Or that the Principal had not fixed  
His canon 'gainst translations,  
How very stale flat and unprofitable,  
Seems to me, all this *Initia Græcia*.

Fie out! Oh fie! And only sentences,  
Vocabularies, and still rarer things,  
Possess it merely. O that it should come  
to this.

About two thousand years dead, yes more,  
And yet, this language must 'uncarthed'  
Why was it not left with its masters, now  
asleep,

Until the trumpet raises again to life,  
To get its due. Heaven and earth  
Must I remember! Why he gave us more,

As if increase of study, had grown with  
time.

Let me not think on it, F— thy name is  
Work;

A little, and ere the sni'e, with which we  
nailed

A page reduced to half, had op'ed  
His eyes—why even he—Oh! friend!

A man whose very soul was Greek, could  
not

Have been much worse. But I must  
cease The clock, with wicked speed,  
In striking mine. So I must do my work  
If I would seek, to-night my downy bed.

BILLY SHAKSPEARE,  
*2nd Edition.*

### SKATING.

The other day I concluded to go to the  
Staking Rink this winter, and learn to  
skate; so on the morning of the day on  
which the Rink was to open, I began to  
prepare. I bought a new pair of boots, and  
a new pair of skates. When I had made  
my purchase, I tried on my boots,  
and sewed on a missing suspender button.  
I sat down to wait for 7 o'clock and to  
while away the time and get some profit-  
able information, read through Beadle's  
book entitled "How we learn to skate in  
half an Hour." And when I was done I  
concluded that I would be able to master  
the art in that time. Seven o'clock  
came at last; I proceeded to the rink; fas-  
tened on my skates and got ready to  
make my first venture on the ice. I  
stepped boldly down, and—what happon-  
ed at this point I am not able to state dis-  
tinctly; but "something" did happen; of  
that I am quite certain. Perhaps I was so  
surprised with the sense of my own cour-  
age in attempting the feat of stepping down  
alone, that I sat down in too great a hur-  
ry, or perhaps the ice may have been a  
little too slippery at that particular place,  
At any rate, one portion of the ice seem-  
ed to have flown up and struck me on the  
back of my head, just above the ear. Af-  
ter several minutes I got up, caught hold  
of a post and prepared to start out again,  
a little more carefully. I gave two or

three spasmodic kicks, and succeeded in propelling myself about one foot six inches without any further mishap. Emboldened by my previous success, I resolved to follow up explicitly the directions of the book, and therefore stepped later in half an hour. "Now," the book said, "strike out with the right foot bodily at an angle of 45 degs. from the left." I did this, and some time thereafter I could not get the right foot into position; in fact, it protruded in front of me. In two legs were at an angle of 180 degs. Some fiend skating backward, then purposely sat down softly upon my head and raised a lump of about eight pounds on my forehead, and then struck me for setting down on the ice, as if it were my fault; I got up again, and, after some further collisions with posts and people, to the amusement of the skaters, I mastered the art sufficiently to be able to make three strokes per minute. I then resolved to strike a compass course for the lower end of the rink; started out and got to the middle in about ten minutes, and would have got over all right if somebody had not struck against me and started me on a terrific rate down the remainder of the distance. I failed to turn the corner, and just as the band struck up "See the conquering hero come," I came, and brought up in grandeur against the wafer cask,—cut my eye, split my coat right down the back, and tore both knees of my pants. I got up again and made for the upper end again to put off my skates and start for home, and on my way up, went through several gymnastic performances *gracefully* and well, among which were waltzing on my right ear to the tune of "Away down upon the Swanee River" from the Band, and executing the double grape vine with variations about six times. In half an hour, however, I reached the dressing room, got off my skates and left the rink a sadder and a wiser man. My expenses for the evening I summed up as follows:—

Pair Skates,	\$2.50
"    Boots,	5.20
"    Socks,	40
Suit of clothes, spoiled,	15.00
Hat, spoiled,	2.00
Doctor's attendance,	5.00
Total,	\$30 10

I may also include \$2.00 which I have since paid in buying a revolver with which to assassinate the author of that book if I should ever meet him, and I will give no word of advice to the unwary. To any person who intends learning to skate I say, pad yourself with not less than four pillows, wrap a good soft blanket about your head and hire two boys to assist you during the operation. If you don't wish to do this, don't try to learn to skates.

N. B.—Any person wishing a new skating outfit can obtain it from me at a liberal discount.

### SUCH IS LIFE.

Riches we wish to get,  
Yet remain spendthrifts still;  
We would have health, and get,  
Still our bodies ill;  
Bafflers of our own progress from youth  
to life's last scenes.

We would have inward peace,  
Yet will not look within;  
We would have misery cares,  
Yet will not cease from sin;  
We want all pleasant end, but will use  
our harsh means.

We do not what we ought,  
What we ought not we do,  
And we lean upon the thought;  
But our own acts, for good or ill, our  
mightier powers.

But next, we would reverse,  
The scheme ourselves have shown,  
And what we made to curse,  
We now would lean upon,  
And feign kind gods, who perfect what  
man vainly tries.

MATHEW ARNOLD.

## THE COLONIAL EXHIBITION.

THE Colonial Exhibition will be held during the present year at London, and has a probability will be one of the most magnificent affairs of this kind that has ever been witnessed by the nations, and with the sanction of General Pitt Rivers.

In speaking of this exhibition it is with particular reference to our own country that we wish to draw attention.

It is to the advantage of Canada, to impress upon the world the efficiency of their native land with regard to its natural and industrial resources, and what province in the Dominion is better adapted to accomplish this project than our own? The natural resources of Nova Scotia cannot be surpassed by those of any other country of equal extent on the face of the earth; thus we are able to contribute to the Colonial Exhibition, the finest Agricultural and Mineralogical as well as the most Zoological and Ornithological specimens that can be produced in the Colonies.

Besides these we can make a grand display of the productions of our waters. Possibly Newfoundland may approach us in this competition, but if our fishermen are animated with determination to excel, they will, in all probability succeed in bringing forward the finest Ichthyological collection in the British Colonies. If so, it will then hold the first position in the world.

On the other hand, our farmers are able to transmit handsome contributions from the products of the farm and animals from the yard.

Concerning a Mineralogical collection, little need be said. Our Province

contains minerals of nearly every description, and of excellent quality. We may say in the words of the judges of the Great International Exhibition, that the *catfields* of Nova Scotia have no equal; and her gypsum, iron and gold, no superior. Surely, then, our miners should insist in making the name of the land of their names to yield a higher rank than any other in the collection of the Mother country, when the opportunity is at hand for making a great step to this end.

Nova Scotia is again to the front when specimens of a Zoological and Ornithological character are required. We will not enumerate the numerous and valuable species of animals and birds which inhabit our Province, but will mention the chief fur-bearing animals such as the bear, fox, mink, otter and beaver. A writer on the natural history of our Province says the fur of these animals is not surpassed by any other in the world.

We would also request, and almost urge, our artisans and manufacturers, having been already successful in a work or less degree in obtaining first and second class prizes at exhibitions on this continent, to do all in their power in contributing their most skillful productions to the Colonial Exhibition.

Here then in our own Province we have superior specimens of nature and industry. Why not make it known to a greater extent? The effects of doing so would soon follow, and would especially be observed in a greater commercial activity, also increase of emigration and other results of minor importance.

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Subscribe for THE ACADEMY at once.

## PERSONALS.

Mr. H. McInnes, formerly professor of mathematics in the Academy, visited the institution a few days ago. He is now studying law at Dalhousie college. Success to him.

Mr. Rod. McKay, professor of English in the Academy sometime ago, is now taking his last course in Theology, at Queens university.

C. P. Bissett an old Academy student having passed his matriculation exam in medicine last fall is pursuing his studies at St. Pierre this winter.

Several old Academy boys, now now studying at Dalhousie, were in Pictou during the holidays. By the way, Pictou Academy is well represented in Dalhousie, nearly  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the students attending there are old Academy men.

## LIFE IN A SNOWFLAKE.

Some imaginative and wonderfully learned German scholars tell us that every snowflake is inhabited by happy little beings, who begin their existence, hold their revels, live long lives of happiness and delight, die and are buried, all during the descent of the snowflake from the world of clouds to the solid land. These scholars also tell us that every square foot of air possesses from twelve to fifteen millions of more or less perfect little beings, and that at every ordinary breath we destroy a million more or less, of these happy lives. The sigh of a healthy lover is supposed to swallow up about fourteen millions. They insist that the dust, which will, as all know, accumulate

in the most secure and secret places, is merely the remains of millions and billions of these little beings who have died of old age. All this, of course is mere guess work. But I do know that the snow in some parts of the world is thickly inhabited. I have seen the new snow in Idaho black with little insects. People there call them snow fleas. They are as lively as possible, and will darken your footprints, walk as fast as you may. They are found only on the high mountains, and only in very fresh and very deep snow. They, of course, do not annoy you in any way. They are infinitely smaller than the ordinary flea, but they are not a whit less lively in their locomotion.—St. Nicholas.

## PICTOFLANA.

Merry Christmas!

Work! work! work!

Did he EVAPORATE?

Call your feet home!

Who wants the feather bed?

Donald got the note, and met her in the hall.

"Beware of oyster rackets, and never put your foot in it."

They say 'he has them bad.' Query, what has he?

Mac got the snow-ball, instead of the examiner. Qui fit?

J— to prof. in chemistry who has just minutely explained the manu-

facture of Hydrogen. What is that stuff you are making.

"No 12 will you do this, oh not, here" No 12 (*sotto voce*) Yes I'm here.

ADV. SEN. — Studying Latin for recreation — "Two men, how do you express that in Latin? Oh, yes, *bis hominum*."

PRINCIPAL. — No. 4, were you absent last day? No. 4. — No, sir. PRINCIPAL. — Well, you must have been absent-minded, then.

Who was the Senior of whom we have heard tell, who went to the coasting party, got his leg broken, and had to be hauled home on a hand-sled? *Will he ever do it again?*

One of our well-known Seniors, on seeing the German letters on the board in the Principal's class-room, innocently asked of his seat-mate if they "taught music in the Academy."

It is with deep regret that we have to chronicle the following sentence coming as it does from one of our esteemed professors. "He who has the bride groom is the bride." What next?

He is a bright youth. He had his hair cut just before vacation. Probably the holidays Cum(m)ing(s) on made him fear an attack of brain fever. Yea, verily, he now looketh for drawers.

We saw one of our prominent students not long since vainly endeavouring to squeeze a lead ink-pot cover into his vest pocket to resemble a watch. What would you *Mak(e)ma(ho)n*.

An adv. Senior was seen the other

day going about with the invitation. 'Please kick me' ostentatiously displayed on the back of his coat. It is needless to say that the invitation was cordially accepted.

We notice that one of our students has been distinguishing himself by the slaughter of pigeons. He has now come to the conclusion that, on account of some slight misunderstanding with the guardian of the peace, he had better leave off the ~~business~~.

The subject of one of our jokes in our last issue called at the sanctum a few days ago, armed with a ruler and a carving-knife, to impress upon us the necessity of keeping any more jokes on him out of our columns. His arguments to that effect probably weighed a *Ful ton*.

*Heard in the hall:* "Say Jim how did you do in the exam? Oh fine, he marks splendid. How did you do?" "Not very well, he marked me miserably, I am certain I made more than twenty, look at this now its all right except an *a* for an *e*," and so forth. Moral, you can't please everybody.

Texas Charlie is said to be able to break two balls thrown into the air by one shot from his rifle. We have an adv. senr., however, who can get ahead of this. Who can break five lamp-shades without any rifle at all, and beats the record. He is not, however, Charlie's son, but we are under the impression that he is *Thom's son*.

He marches through the hall with compressed lips, with aspect weird, with stern brow. His countenance is pale, his pulse throbs violently.





tics. In 1864, the metric system was made compulsory in Italy. It was made permissive in Great Britain in 1876, and in the United States by law in 1835 is yet most extensively used in all civilized countries. The metric system is however becoming more popular, especially in the universities and in the lines of trade, and in the lines of trade in countries which have not yet adopted the decimal metrology. In 1870 the North German Parliament passed an act adopting the system and declaring its use permissive from Jan. 1870, but compulsory only after 1st, Jan. 1872. In 1870 it was made permissive in the Dominion of Canada. It was at that time wholly adopted the following countries, having an aggregate population of 146,010,000, viz.—France, Algiers, Belgium, Netherlands Colonies, Italy, Spain, Sicily, and Cayenne, Portugal and Cape Verde, Greece, Mexico, Chili, Brazil, Grenada, and other South Sea Republics. It was partially adopted by the following having a population of 78,000,000, viz.—Ireland, France Towns, Austria, and British India. It was made permissive in the following countries having a population of 97,600,000, viz.—Britain, United States of America, and Prussia and North Germany. Since this time the metric system has been steadily but continually growing in popularity in the latter countries in which it has been merely permissive.

The fact that so many countries have already given up their old system for the metric, and that in our country it is permissive, is one of the most positive and unanswerable

Secrets been revealed  
At this exciting stage  
Two eagle eyes the page  
Scan for a minute;

Then, with true love's art,  
Study it part for part,  
Until they know by heart  
Everything in it.

What is it all about?  
Drashes for words left out—  
Pronouns beyond a doubt I  
Very devoted.

Howell's she's just begun;  
Dobson her heart has won;  
Locker and Tennyson  
Frequently quoted.

Criss-cross the reading goes,  
Rapturous rhyme and prose—  
Words which I don't suppose  
Look very large in  
Books on the "ologies";  
Then there's a tiny frieze  
Full of sweets in a squeeze,  
Worked on the margin.

Lastly—don't pause to laugh!—  
There is her autograph  
Signing this truce for half  
Her heart's surrender;  
Post-scriptum, one and two—  
Deserts—the dinner's through!  
Linking the "I" and "You"  
In longings tender.

Such is the type of all  
Save one, and let me call  
Brief notice to this small  
Note, neatly written;  
'Tis but a card, you see,  
Gently informing me  
That it can never be!—  
This is the mitten!

—*Century.*

South America has nearly completed a transcontinental railway. It now extends from the waters of the Atlantic at Rosario (north of Buenos Ayres) westward about 500 miles to Mendoza, and within 140 miles of the railway now in operation from the Pacific coast at Valparaiso to the foot of the Andes. The line has been surveyed across the mountain, and it is thought that the link will be supplied within two years.

## Pictou Academy

### STAFF OF INSTRUCTORS

Science, A. H. McKay Ba. Bsc.  
Classics, W. R. Fraser, B. A.  
Mathematics, H. Mellish, B. A.  
English, I. Gammel, B. A.  
Drawing and painting, Miss M. J. McKenzie.  
Taxidermist and Subcurator of Museum,  
G. Dickson, Esq.

MUSEUM.—From Miss Tissie Copeland, Trinidad, "Cap worn by the Guarahounds (Warahounds), South American Indians " It is a curious, conical style of head-gear, made from the fibrous root of the Coco-nut tree.

### EXAMINATIONS.

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J. H. McMillan, 82. G. A. Cogswell, 82

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THE CHAMPION LAZY BOY.—Mrs. Fizzle-top, not being satisfied with the progress made by her son at the University of Texas, called on his teacher.

"Professor how is my son Johnny coming on in his studies?" she asked, anxiously.

"I have great hopes of him, madam, great hopes."

"I am so glad to hear that."

"Yes, madam, he is phenomenally lazy. I don't think I ever saw a boy so phenomenally lazy."

"I understood you to say that you had great hopes of him."

"So I have, for I think if he ever begins to study he is too lazy ever to stop."

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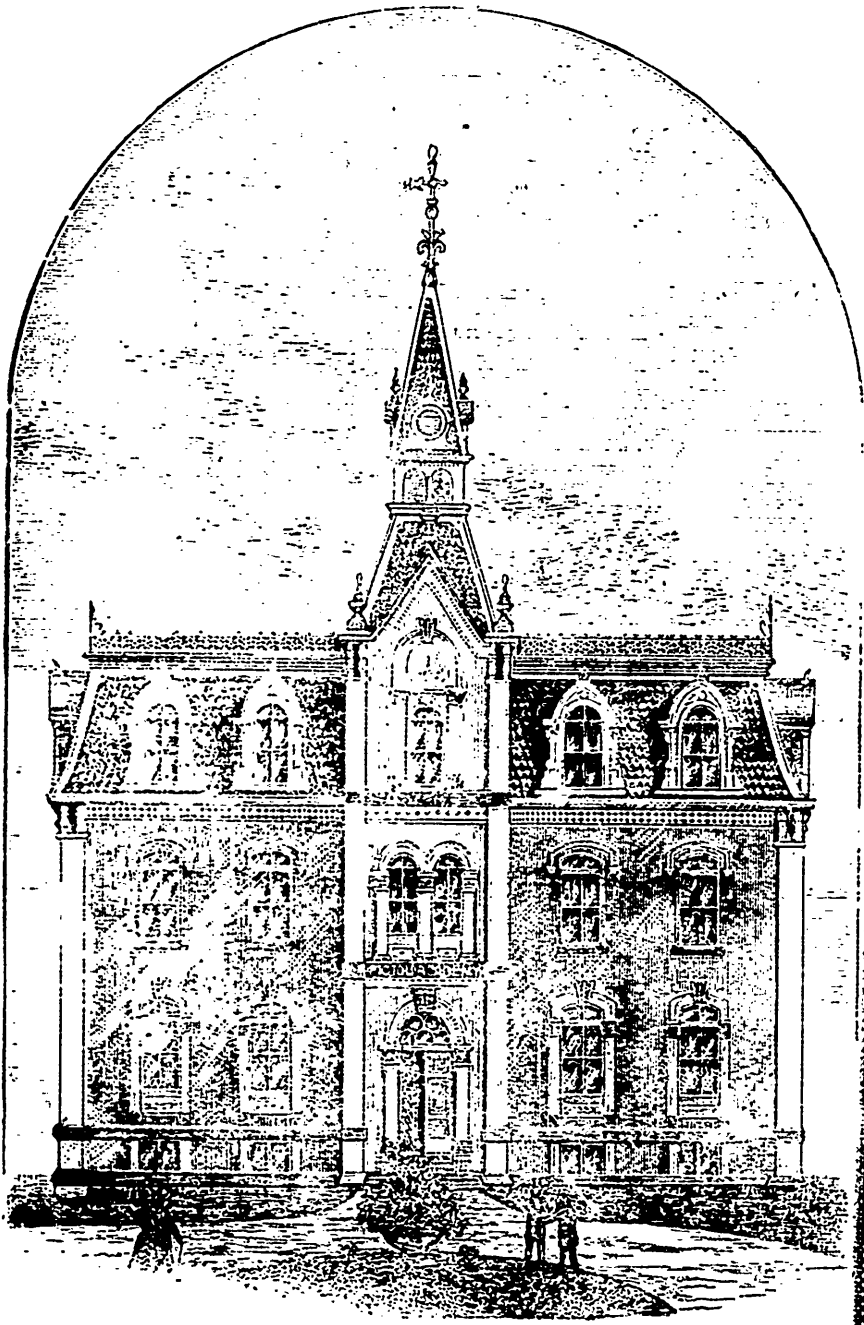
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