

their burdens; heavily laden boats drift upon the river, or are drawn along the canals by a string of men,—a miniature company of various costumes and hues. There are some large towns with minarets and obelisk spires, and better still, queer smoking chimneys indicating a manufactory below. We even saw an attempted enterprise on the part of an Arab girl, who with her head covered with gray woolen tassels, and brass ear-rings of enormous size, and necklace of gilded medals or coins, was undertaking to sell oranges at sixpence each, the amount she had paid for a dozen or more. An old woman sat flat on the ground, with a tray before her, in the centre of which was arranged a little mound of eggs, set around with loaves of bread; the whole looking like an immense brooch for an ogre. Upon his back a tawny Egyptian bore a pig skin, from which he offered us water, drawing it into the one receptacle, a tin cup; another followed in his wake presenting at the window a dirty pot of coffee; flocks of white birds went soaring through the air, or settled upon the distant fields like lilies dotting the grass. There are very few trees aside from the groves of olives and palms. Once or twice we came in sight of the desert, stretching away to the horizon in great billowy waves, like the sea. Towards and from it companies as ludicrous and grotesque in appearance as possible were moving; the groups of people, growing more frequent as we neared Cairo were studies for an artist;—an everchanging undulating panorama of the East and the Easters, that lost none of its interest till we came in sight of the Pyramids and arrived at Cairo.—*National Baptist.*

## Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JUNE 12, 1867.

### Education in Nova Scotia.

To the views propounded by us in our last article there is one objection, which, it must be admitted, has considerable force. It is said, that if you enlarge the College Curriculum in the manner proposed, you will give the students more work to do than they can possibly perform with ease to themselves or credit to their *Alma Mater*; and that the result will be a superficial education. By attempting too much you will do nothing well. There will be a smattering of many things, a thorough attainment of few, if any. And it is not at all unlikely, the objection alluded to cases will occur in which, ardent minds being associated with feeble bodies, the system will break down under the pressure, and those who might have proved valuable members of society will be sacrificed to literary and scientific ambition.

We reply, that to some extent this objection may be urged against all our plans. It rests on an incorrect view of education itself. Our youths are not expected to learn every thing, either at school or at college. Completeness is unattainable. Education is not universal attainment: it is discipline—training—preparation. The student is learning how to think and investigate. He is laying up stores for future use. He is undergoing mental drill. He is becoming acquainted with facts and principles, the application of which, in an infinite variety of ways, will occupy his whole life. When his education is said to be finished it is in fact only begun. The degree of completeness which will be afterwards reached will depend on the character and extensiveness of the preparation.

Our plea is, that there are branches of knowledge which cannot with propriety be neglected in any well-ordered scheme of instruction. The days of the *Trivium* and *Quadrivium* have long since gone by. Our youths have something more to do, in this nineteenth century, than to learn grammar, Rhetoric, and logic (the *Trivium*), and arithmetic, music, geometry, and astronomy (the *Quadrivium*)—though the amount of astronomy then learned was little more than was sufficient to regulate the times of church fairs and cast nativities. They must not only be carried through those studies by better methods than were in vogue in mediæval times, but they must be introduced to a far wider range of learning. Creation's wonders should be spread before them. The laws of matter and mind should be inquired into, in no desultory manner, and the arrangement of the great kingdoms of nature, the animal, the vegetable and the mineral, should be well understood. To which may be added, the opportunity of gaining acquaintance with the celebrated of other nations by the acquisition of the languages in which their works are written.

Four years are not sufficient for all this. Some Colleges, we observe, profess to complete the education of their students in three years, and the actual term of study, even in

those three years, is but short. We apprehend that the charge of superficialness, if in any case fairly brought, would lie against a Course so limited. Justice cannot be done to the numerous subjects claiming attention unless the Collegiate Course is extended. Less than five years will not suffice for a satisfactory training. If that term cannot be granted, the only alternative is a cutting-down, to some extent, in existing departments, and that is much to be deprecated.

There is indeed one consideration that may be adduced, and which may partially influence our judgment. It is this: the matriculation-standard may be still further raised. By this means a larger amount of knowledge being gained beforehand, the additional branches of study may be with greater ease grafted on the present four years' Course. We submit this to the notice of College authorities. It appears to us to deserve serious attention.

A dream comes over us. We are reading the Treasurer's Report for 18—. It states that the churches have at length responded to the call, and come forward nobly;—that Hants and Kings and Annapolis Counties have combined to found a "Manning" Professorship;—that the Western Counties have endowed a "Harding" Professorship, in Commemoration of the two "Fathers" who bore that name;—that a "Dimock" Professorship has been established by Lunenburg, Halifax, and the Eastern Counties (including Prince Edward Island); and that the brethren in New Brunswick have raised the funds necessary for a Professorship in honour of Joseph Orndal. The Report further states that a College Hall has been built, the lower part appropriated to Class and Lecture rooms, the upper to the Library and Museum. The Report informs us also that wealthy gentlemen in Halifax have presented large donations of books to the Library, and enriched the Museum with specimens fully illustrative of the natural history of the province. So much for the Report. We now in vision ascend the College hill, and see on every side marks of progress. New buildings have risen up, rendered necessary by the growing prosperity of the Institution, and on the summit are laid the foundations of an Observatory, from which the students will take astronomical observations, and acquaint themselves, by the use of the best instruments with the far-off wonders of the heavens. Or the plain below the Collegiate Academy and Female Seminary have obtained ample accommodations, well furnished with every educational requisite, and all the apparatus of instruction which may have been introduced by that time. We call this a dream—a vision. But is it not destined to become a reality? Ought we to aim at any thing short of the representations that have now been made? And may we not, by "the good hand of our God upon us," realise the whole, in all its fulness and glory? So mote it be!

One other point remains to be briefly noticed. We allude to the Theological Department. It will share, we cannot doubt, in the general improvement and advance which we have indicated as so desirable. The day, it may be hoped, is not far distant, when three Professorships shall be established, with distinct and clearly defined duties, offering such inducements to probationary divines as shall attract them to our halls and prevent their straying away.

And here a word or two may be permitted on a closely allied subject. Candidates for the Christian ministry are distressingly scarce. Instead of being able to occupy new ground we cannot supply the churches which have lost their pastors. A list of thirteen destitute churches is now before us. We know not where they are to look for occupants of their pulpits. How is this to be accounted for? Is it that the number of young men who desire the "good work" is actually diminishing, because love to the Saviour has grown cold? Is it because the gifted are not sought out, or are not encouraged to devote themselves to the Lord's service? Is it because ministerial support is so scantily supplied that the merchant's clerk or the mechanic fares better than the Christian pastor, and that in consequence the latter occupies a position in society to which he ought not to be degraded? Whatever may be the cause, it should be searched out and dragged to light. There is great deficiency—or culpable negligence—or grievous wrong, somewhere.

### Acadia College Anniversary.

The first week of June in each year is surrounded with deep interest to the friends of Acadia College and its students. The institutions of learning on the hill at Wolfville, at that time, assume an appearance of activity somewhat differing from that of any other week in the year. After spending the pre-

ceding days, and weeks, and months in digging in the mines of knowledge, the several classes bring forth the treasures they have gained, and have them submitted to the test of rigid examination. The Graduating Class having completed its course of four years, are privileged to offer a few specimens of what they have secured in the form of Orations, that their friends and the public may form some slight estimate of the wealth of which they have become the possessors, and may welcome them back again into their ranks as skilled workmen, prepared to operate in the various fields of mind and matter which require their aid in cultivating. Having gathered up the grains of promising ore, and selected what proved to be the genuine metal, truth, they now come forth into society to employ their riches as an addition to the circulating medium, so making the world wealthier, and the people more capable of enjoying the blessings bestowed by the Divine Parent.

All nature seemed in harmony with the celebrations, having put on its newest garb of foliage, blossom and bursting bud. After spending the winter months of dreariness in apparent death, there comes a resuscitation of life and beauty and promise, and clothes with living green, each tree and forest and field.

### HORTON ACADEMY.

First in order comes the Academy, which has done its preparatory work for near half a century, and has taken no small share of the honor as well as the labor of raising this province to its present respectable position, and of supplying a number of useful and valuable men to the neighbouring provinces. The examinations of the Academy were held on Monday and Tuesday.

On Tuesday afternoon an exceedingly interesting portion of the celebrations took place in the Academy Hall. Four young ladies, having completed their course of three years at the Seminary, and proved by a searching examination their proficiency in the various branches of higher instruction given at the institution, were each requested to read an essay, which they had prepared for this occasion. They were as follows:

"The object of study" by Miss Blackader.  
"Imagination" by Miss Bigelow.  
"Open Secrets" by Miss Woodworth.  
"Valedictory" by Miss Eaton.

The diplomas were given by Rev. Dr. Crawley, who addressed the recipients in his usual mild, fatherly, and affectionate manner. His counsels will doubtless be long remembered by all.

We regret that we were not able to be present, but have learned from various quarters that the examinations were most satisfactory, and reflected the highest credit alike on the young ladies themselves, as the ladies and gentlemen in charge of the Seminary. The essays were of the first order, and by one competent to judge, they were pronounced in advance of many orations he had heard delivered by students at College commencements in the United States.

A prize was also given to Mr. E. P. Bowles as the victor in a spirited contest of several hours in orthography.

The Hall was filled by friends of the institution who manifested the highest satisfaction in the exercises.

### THE CRICKET MATCH.

On Wednesday the Academy and College Students were on the cricket ground contending for the prize of \$20 offered by Lewis Y. Payzant, Esq., who had observed the injurious consequences of students taking too little physical exercise, and sought by this means and the conditions attached, to infuse more active exertion among them.

To the great surprise of all parties, the Academy Club were the successful competitors by 92 runs.

### THE ASSOCIATED ALUMNI.

On Wednesday afternoon the Alumni Association held its Annual meeting. After transacting the business, the officers were elected by ballot in the following order:

T. H. Rand, Esq., President.  
Rev. D. M. Welton, Vice President.  
J. Y. Payzant, Esq., Secretary.  
B. H. Eaton, Esq., Treasurer.

Committee: S. Selden, Dr. Bars, Dr. Wickwire, Prof. R. V. Jones, Rev. E. M. Saunders.

The evening was occupied by the Annual Oration, delivered by Rev. W. S. McKenzie. Subject: "The College Graduate." For an hour and a half the attention of quite a large audience was riveted, who were delighted with many well-drawn delineations of character, and the experiences of student life under different circumstances. A few brief remarks were afterwards made by Rev. Dr. Crawley, Rev. E. M. Saunders, and Rev. S. T. Rand, in reference to the orator and his theme.

### THE COLLEGE ANNIVERSARY.

On Thursday morning the Faculty, Governors, Students, and graduates of the College and Academy students, assembled under the folds of the royal standard, and, after being marshalled into order, walked in procession to the Baptist Church, where a large congregation had assembled to witness the Anniversary celebrations. On arriving at the Meeting-house, the long procession formed into open column, and the Faculty passed on, receiving the respectful salutations of the Academy students. Professor Saffery who presided at the organ struck up a Voluntary and continued till all were in their places assigned them.

The President Rev. Dr. Cramp, Rev. Dr. Crawley, Professors Higgins and Jones, Revs. D. W. C. Dimock, A. S. Hunt, S. W. DeBlois, Jas. Parker and Rev. John Storrs with T. H. Rand, Esq., occupied the platform. Rev. A. S. Hunt opened the proceedings by prayer.

The following were the subjects of the Orations:

"Cause" by J. F. L. Parsons of Liverpool.  
"Circumstances" by W. N. Graham of Antigonish.  
"Nugæ" (trifles) by Wilbert D. Dimock of Truro.

"Results" by Jas. W. Manning of Bridgewater.

One could but observe the strong marks of individuality each oration bore, and the vast fund of original thought they developed. The order in which they were delivered, and the appropriateness of each in its place to produce a combined oneness of idea, was a most pleasing feature of these masterly productions. We are glad to learn that two of this class are proposing to devote themselves to the Christian Ministry. The others will doubtless make their mark in whatever profession they may settle upon. The mental capacity, breadth of thought, striking illustration, and apt quotation showed that the training received had not failed to call forth and strengthen the powers, with which they were severally endowed, and we shall be disappointed, if they do not all take a position of influence and respectability at no distant day.

The Degree of Bachelor in Arts was then conferred on the above, and of Master in Arts on Mr. H. Harding Bligh of Halifax, who was present to receive it, and the honorary degree of M. A. on Edward Young, Esq., formerly of Falmouth, now in the Treasury Department at Washington,—a pupil of Horton Academy in 1829 and 30.

On the above gentlemen presenting themselves in their bachelor's hoods to the President, he arose and addressed them, as follows:

GENTLEMEN,—  
If I were disposed to adopt the language of compliment or flattery I should say, this is a proud day for you. You have mastered your difficulties. You have completed your Course. You have stood the test. And now you appear before this congregation, wearing your collegiate honours, joyous and exulting—grateful—satisfied—and radiant with hope. You reasonably expect congratulations and good wishes. They are tendered to you, in all sincerity and heartiness.

I would not utter a word calculated to damp your pleasure, or mar in the least degree, the happiness of this hour. Yet I think it would be a dereliction of duty if I were not to remind you, that the position you now occupy is as serious as it is interesting. You have reached a crisis in your history. From this day you go forth to the world and take your stations among men as independent members of society. If it be not too heathenish a mode of speech, it may be said that you have to shape your own destiny. It will depend upon yourselves whether your future life on earth shall be contemplated and reviewed with humble gratitude or with unavailing regret. For it must not be concealed that you will meet with temptations, snares and trials, and that the best-principled often find themselves in perilous doubt, verging on dismay. In this conflict there is no hope of success but for those who distrust themselves and rely on the great God. The wise man must not glory in his wisdom nor the mighty man in his strength. The vain and self-sufficient, like the ship that carries too much sail and too little ballast, may glide along swiftly and safely while all is smooth, but in the storm they are sure to be wrecked. Earthly confidences will fail, earthly sources will dry up; but "blessed is the man whose trust is in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is." He "shall never be ashamed."

It is scarcely necessary to remind you that to whatever mode of life you may devote yourselves, your education will have to be carried on. You will continue to build on the foundation that has been laid. While your individual tastes or the requirements of your respective positions will naturally influence and modify your literary pursuits, I would suggest the desirableness of availing yourselves of all opportunities to enlarge your knowledge of natural science. Apart from the gratification which such studies afford, and their bearing on intellectual progress, the connection of science with religion is so intimate and important that every true friend of the one should seek to be well acquainted with the other. So far from being antagonistic, as is frequently affirmed, they contribute mutual illustration and help. Nothing