

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., June 13, 1883.

THE ANNIVERSARIES AT WOLFFVILLE.

The close of the educational year at Wolfville is full of deep interest to a large number of our readers. It is looked forward to for some time before its arrival by the friends of the institutions and the relatives of the students.

The day was all that could be desired. Wending our way to what is to many the very centre of the world, and the dearest spot on earth—Acadia College—we found the Examinations in progress.

Next came a class of young men and women for the purpose of being examined in History. The character of the questions asked and answers given made it evident that the studies had been not a mere memoritor exercise.

Wednesday afternoon was filled up with an Exhibition in the College Hall by the Academy Students. There were several excellent Essays delivered:

- 1. Study—an occupation and a pleasure; by Walter Evans, of Wolfville.
2. Charlemagne; by Harry Wickwire, of Canning.
3. Chivalry; by C. H. Miller, of Clarence.
4. The luxury of doing good; by G. R. White, of St. Martins, N. B.

Interspersed with these substantial parts of the feast were recitations and music—vocal and instrumental—by young ladies of the Seminary, which greatly relieved the severer exercises.

Rev. J. F. Avery. Each of the six young ladies then read an Essay prepared for the occasion. They were as follows:

- 1. Ancient Cities; Emma V. Johnson, Wolfville.
2. The Marble Waiteth; Leonette M. Crosby, Yarmouth Co.
3. John Ruskin; Vinona Alward, St. John, N. B.
4. English Verse; Harriet A. Harris, Wolfville.
5. Language in Art; Mary E. Melville, St. John, N. B.
6. What the Rocks tell us; Alice R. Hanson, Kentville.

Miss Hanson, at the close of her Essay, turned first to the Lady Principal and then to her classmates, and gave the following touching

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS. We have fulfilled our prescribed course at Acadia, and the time has come when we must go out from our temporary home and meet whatever the shadowy future contains for us.

To you who have ministered to our mental requirements so zealously we would extend our sincerest thanks.—You have guided us through the mazes of subjects over which we have often been discouraged, inciting our aspirations with kind words of cheer.

My classmates, we have come to the last scene of our school life. Could we tear aside the veil that hides futurity from us we should find, not all sunshine, but snares and brambles in every path.

The Essays were all good and yet so different in their subjects and general characteristics, that a comparison could hardly be drawn, each having its own individuality and style.

This is always the great day of the feast. The large class of students who were to graduate would naturally call forth many friends.

Literature and Life, T. Sherman Rogers, Amherst, N. S. The Future of the English Language, W. C. Goucher, Truro, N. S.

When the class appeared, in obedience to the Principal, to receive their diplomas from the hands of President Sawyer, all dressed alike in white, they formed a rare and beautiful picture.

privilege of being educated women, that they would be expected, not only to sustain the character given, but to exert an influence for good in the community wherever their lot might be cast.

In the intervals musical compositions of a superior order were rendered in excellent style by other members of the Seminary, which made the occasion a treat of a more than ordinary character.

We would be glad to give a lengthened report of what was said by Hon. Dr. Parker if we had been prepared to have taken it down at the time, and our space would permit.

In one of the large class-rooms was an Art Exhibition, which comprised a large number of beautiful drawings and paintings done by the young ladies.

Whatever of interest was felt in the examination of work done and the cultivation of mind that had been accomplished in the Horton Collegiate Academy and Acadia Seminary, it was but as the commencement of that which drew together the much larger number of people to

THE COLLEGE ANNIVERSARY.

This is always the great day of the feast. The large class of students who were to graduate would naturally call forth many friends. Long before the hour named to begin, the seats were well filled, and yet the people continued to arrive by carriage and by train until every place for sitting or standing was filled.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Alex. MacArthur, after which the Graduating Orations were given in the following order:

- Literature and Life, T. Sherman Rogers, Amherst, N. S.
The Future of the English Language, W. C. Goucher, Truro, N. S.
The Value of a Variety of Industries in the Nation, Herbert R. Welton, Wolfville, N. S.
The Influence of thought on Action, A. L. Powell, Amherst, N. S.
The Relation of Art to the Development of National Life, C. Osborne Tupper, Amherst, N. S.
The English in India, Charles W. Williams, Wolfville, N. S.
The Interdependence of the Sciences, Clarence W. Bradshaw, Centreville, P. E. I.
The Influence of the Invisible on the Greek, Oates C. S. Wallace, Canaan, N. S.

The President explained that each member of the class had prepared an Essay which had been accepted by the Faculty, but because of the time it would take to deliver them all, as election had to be made.

The Essays were all of a very superior character, and showed that whilst much mature thought had been given to them, yet they were so presented that the audience could well appreciate every word.

The Class of 1883 were then presented by name for graduation by the now venerable Rev. Dr. DeBois, who has performed this pleasant service, we believe, year after year for about a quarter of a century.

The Associated Alumni of Acadia College, met to hold their Annual business meeting at 7 1/2 o'clock Wednesday evening. After reading the Report of the Executive Committee, the meeting was adjourned till 9 o'clock on Thursday morning.

- President—Herbert C. Creed, M. A., Fredericton; Vice-President, Hon. J. W. Johnston, M. A., Dartmouth; Secretary-Treasurer—William L. Bars, B. A., Dartmouth; Directors—1. J. Parsons, B. A., Halifax; 2. B. H. Eaton, B. A., Dartmouth; 3. J. W. Longley, M. P. P., Halifax; 4. Prof. R. V. Jones, M. A., Wolfville; 5. Rev. E. J. Grant, Dartmouth; 6. Frank Andrews, B. A., Halifax; 7. Edwin D. King, M. A., Halifax.

The following gentlemen were nominated by the Society to represent them on the Board of Governors of the College, for election by the Baptist Convention, viz.: Silas Alward, D. C. L., of St. John, N. B., and Herbert C. Creed, M. A., of Fredericton.

The speeches after dinner on Thursday were of varied interest. If space would permit and they could be recalled and given verbatim, they might be read by many with intense interest.

Mr. Creed, in alluding to the Alumni, read some verses which had been written and appeared in the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER 25 years ago, from a graduate of 1858, (Judge Weatherbe). Our readers of 1883 will doubtless be pleased to see them.

Respecting the Concert in the evening, provided by the Graduating Class of 1883, we need only say that its nov-

preceded. As it was participated in by about 200 persons. The heavy shower of rain had driven the friends in somewhat sooner than was expected, and caused an appearance of waiting. At length all were supplied and satisfied, and the post-prandial speeches commenced by the President of the Alumni Association, Mr. E. D. King, giving

- 1. "The Queen," and all joined in singing "God save the Queen."
2. "Alma Mater," Proposed by the President E. D. King, and responded to by Dr. Rand, and A. J. Denton, B. A.
3. "The Dominion and Local Legislatures," Proposed by H. C. Creed, and responded to by D. B. Woodworth, M. P., and J. W. Longley, M. P. P.
4. "The Board of Governors," Proposed by J. W. Longley, and responded to by D. R. Eaton.
5. "The Senate of the University," proposed by Mr. J. B. Mills, and responded to by Hon. Judge Johnston and S. Alward, D. C. L.
6. "The Faculty," Proposed by Dr. Rand, and responded to by D. F. Higgins.
7. "Our Fathers and Founders," Proposed by the President, and eloquently and feelingly responded to by Drs. Pryor and Bill.
8. "The Graduating Class," Proposed by Prof. Kierstead and responded to by Mr. O. C. S. Wallace, B. A.
9. "Our Sister Colleges," Proposed by the Prof. R. V. Jones, and responded to by W. Graham, Q. C.
10. "Our Guests," Proposed by the President, and responded to by His Worship Mayor Fraser.
11. "The Press," Proposed by Dr. Rand, and responded to by S. Selden.
12. "The fair daughters of Acadia," Proposed by Professor J. A. Coldwell.

After noticing the patriotic deeds of that city in ancient times, he called upon his hearers to emulate the patriotic of other days, to work cheerfully together for the consummation of this glorious object, the building up along the lines of these Northern latitudes a powerful nationality, which in the onward march of civilization will keep step with the great English-speaking countries of the world, and towards which will be turned the eyes of all looking for the better time to come.

ely—the Kempa Ladies' Orchestra—drew a crowded audience, and, with some vocal performances, all were pleased.

The Acadia Athenæum, a society of the students, is accustomed to engage the services of some distinguished person, usually an alumnus, to deliver a lecture or oration by way of introduction to the Anniversary proceedings. This year Silas Alward, Esq., a barrister of St. John, N. B., of the Class 1860, was invited to this position and discoursed to a large audience in the Assembly Hall on "The Eternal City." It consisted largely of personal recollections of his visit to Rome in 1867. After revelling in the grandeur of that ancient centre the lecturer brought his audience back to this country and said our thoughts have wandered to a far-off country—one hallowed by the grandest associations, possessing an eventful history around which romance has thrown the charm of its irresistible spell—a land "where the poet's eye and painter's hand are most Divine." It is true we cannot boast of as sunny skies or beautiful scenery as Italy possesses, yet the sterner latitudes are more favorable to the development of such qualities as best tend to impart vigor and moral stamina to a people. It is true we cannot boast of a remote antiquity; yet our country bears none of the traces of decay, but rejoices in the maiden freshness of youth, and blooms in almost primeval loveliness. It is true our annals are not illustrated by brilliant deeds of remarkable exploits on "field or flood," yet they are not stained by revolting acts of cruelty or oppression; nor is our record entirely a barren one.

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HORTON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY.

The published reports show that this Academy has had a large measure of success during the past year. Seventy have been in attendance, 18 in the advanced or senior year, 24 in the middle. Of these 47 have studied Latin and 24 Greek. This compares favorably with the report of Sackville Academy, the attendance there being reported as 68, of whom 29 studied Latin and 14 Greek. We understand that the accounts of Horton Academy for the past year show that the income met the expenses of the school, and paid the interest of the debt on its building. This is certainly a very satisfactory record. We hear from competent judges that Mr. Armstrong is a good teacher, and has done excellent work; but circumstances are such that he prefers to retire from the charge of the Academy. His resignation has been accepted, and a committee appointed to obtain a successor. Mrs. Armstrong has also rendered valuable service in connection with our institutions at Wolfville. It is to be hoped that they may be retained in the Province, as the labors of such persons are much needed here.

WHILE agriculturists in many parts of our country are suffering from too much rain, and are consequently backward in planting, the farms in some parts of Virginia are reported to be suffering from drouth, many of them having become barren wastes from the long term of dry weather. It may be poor consolation to both these sufferers from the inequalities of the rain fall to know, that taking one district with another throughout the whole country a fair average is being experienced.

THE POPE is seriously concerned at the rapid decrease in contributions of Peter's pence during the past few months. It is said that an appeal addressed to all the Bishops is being prepared by the Pope urging them to awaken the faithful to the necessity of providing funds for the needs of the Holy See.