

MT. ALLISON COLLEGES.

A RECENT GRADUATE GIVES A FAIR IDEA OF THEM.

Some History of the Institutions—Their Advantages—Who are the Instructors—Life in the Colleges and Academy—A Good Place to Go.

Beautifully situated in one of the most healthful portions of the province are the institutions of Mount Allison. From its central position—midway between St. John and Halifax and in direct communication with Prince Edward Island—Sackville is particularly well adapted as a university town. Its freedom from the temptations of city life, too, make it a most desirable place for young gentlemen and ladies to pursue academic and collegiate courses.

The Mount Allison academy, founded in the year 1843, has left its imprint on many of the men in public and private life in the maritime provinces. Its students are found in every position of honorable usefulness, industrial, commercial, professional and legislative, and among them the names D. Allison, LL.D., superintendent of education for Nova Scotia, and one time president of Mount Allison college; President Harrison, of the university of New Brunswick; Hon. Judge King, Hon. Judge Tuck, Hon. Judge Morse, Dr. W. J. Lewis, of Albert county; Hon. D. L. Hanington, Q. C., and J. L. Black, M. P. P., of Westmorland; A. C. Bell, M. P. P.; J. M. Mack, M. P. P.; W. F. McCoy, M. P. P., of the Nova Scotia assembly; C. W. Colter, M. P., and many others who have made an honorable record in the history of the country, stand out in bold relief.

The arrangements which were made for the accomplishment of the important object for which the academy was founded were such as obtained for it a high position in the public estimation very early in its history. Those upon whom the direction of its affairs has devolved have been stimulated by its prosperity, and encouraged to continue their efforts to render it, in all its departments, more efficient and deserving of patronage. Each year has been marked by valuable additions to its educational facilities, and by more or less general improvement throughout the establishment. Extensive repairs are even now again being made upon the school building, so that in the coming year the facilities for imparting a thorough training are better than ever.

The present teaching staff consists of Thompson T. Davis, B.A., principal and instructor in mathematics and French; R. P. Alexander, B.A., classics and book-keeping; W. B. Jonah, B.A., English; Miss E. P. Wells, shorthand and typewriting; Prof. A. A. Mack, instrumental music, and Herr F. Mahr, violin. The appointment of W. B. Jonah, B.A., to the teaching staff, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. J. A. McDougall, the former English master, is pre-eminently a good one, and, with the present able staff of instructors, the aim of the academy to prepare its students for matriculation into colleges, and for civil service examination, imparting a thorough business education, by instruction in book-keeping, shorthand and typewriting, will certainly be attained.

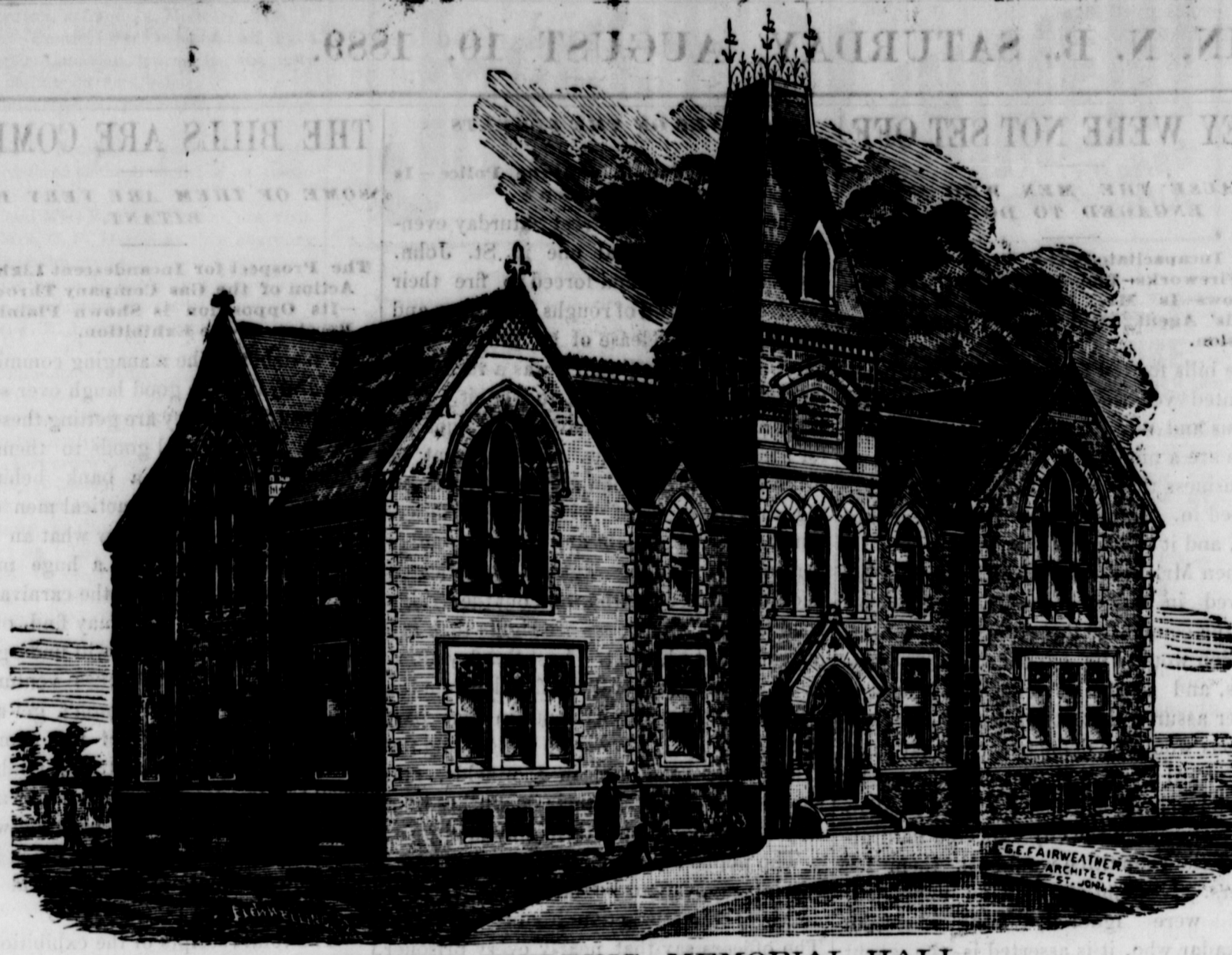
Matriculation into Mount Allison college is recognized as an equivalent to matriculation at McGill university, Montreal, by the board of regents of the latter institution, and medical and other students residing in the maritime provinces, find it greatly to their advantage to prepare themselves for McGill at this institution.

The new academy hall, opened in January, 1883, is commodious and well adapted to the purposes for which it was intended. It is heated throughout by hot water. The rooms are all furnished—a boon to the students, who do not have to take with them a carload of the necessaries of life. Principal and Mrs. Davis; the matrons, Mrs. Annie Smith and Miss Mary Fullerton, make every endeavor to have the institution as home-like as possible; and parents may rest assured that the comfort of their sons is well looked after.

The discipline of the school is good. While not irksome, a proper and healthful restraint is maintained throughout. The general principle insisted on is obedience to proper authority. Punctuality and regularity in attendance upon school duties, industrious application to study, chasteness of speech, proper observance of the Sabbath, a careful refraining from injury to the buildings and property of the institution, and a strict abstinence from tobacco and from intoxicating drinks are especially insisted on. Students are required to attend service each Sunday at the church to which they belong.

All who design to become students of the academy should arrive, if at all possible, at the commencement of the term, as the regular classes are then organized. Pupils, however, will be received at any time. The only prerequisites for admission into the primary department are a good moral character, ability to read and spell, and age sufficient to enable the pupil to prepare regularly for recitation. Advanced students can, if they desire, take in the college special classes while attending the academy.

This branch of the Mount Allison institution is self-supporting. During the last two years there has been a surplus, which indicates that the school is under careful management and that it is growing in the public confidence.

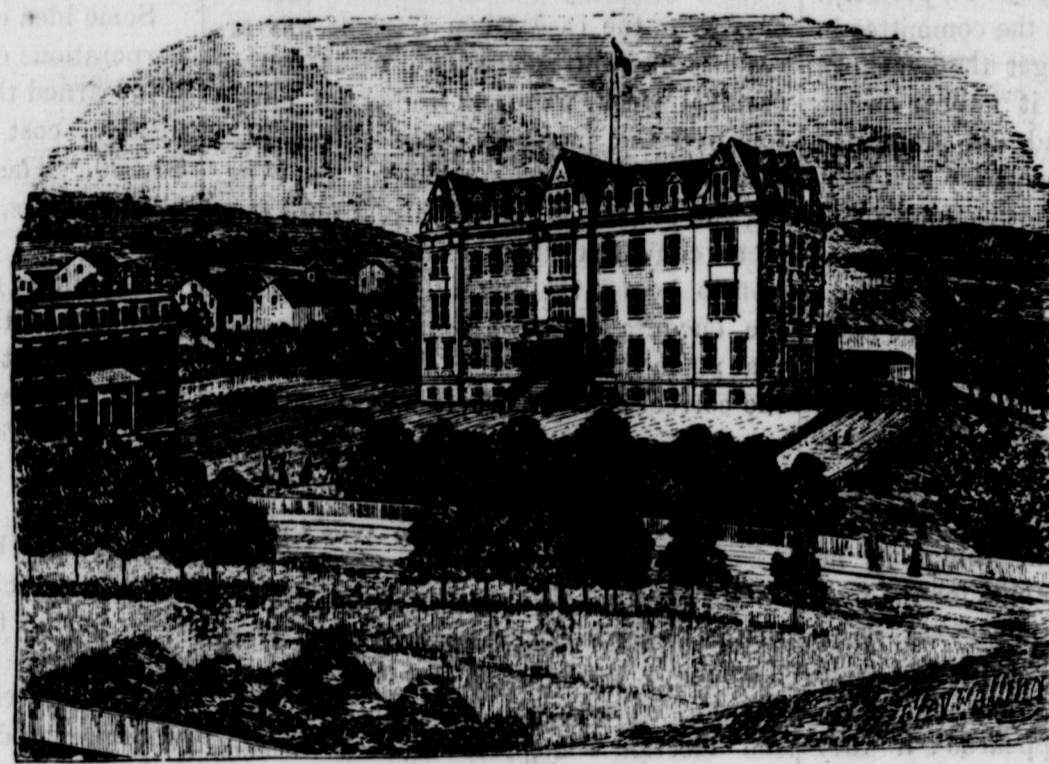


UNIVERSITY BUILDING—MEMORIAL HALL.

The promoters of the male academy had long been aware of the pressing demand for an institution which would offer to young ladies a liberal education. Not till some thirteen years after the opening of the male branch of the institution, however, did the board of governors feel that they could make any move in the matter. In 1854, largely through the benevolence of Mr. Allison, the main building of the ladies college was erected. Since that time several enlargements have been made in connection with this edifice, comprising a handsome and capacious wing and an additional story to the entire structure. It is now well appointed and offers every facility to the faculty in their effort to promote the comfort and progress of their pupils.

The board of instruction consists of: The principal, Rev. B. C. Borden, A. M., English language and literature; the preceptress, Mrs. A. N. Archibald, M. L. A., natural science and latin; Miss Gertrude King, mathematics; Miss Sarah Shenton, B. A., English department; Miss Anna Mack, French, German and vocal culture; Miss E. P. Wells, short-hand and typewriting; Mrs. M. E. Townsend, drawing, painting etc.; Prof. Albert A. Mack, instrumental and vocal music; Miss Mary Vroom, music; Miss Una Damon, music; Herr Robert Mahr, violin. Miss Mirian Fullerton is matron. The officers of instruction of the ladies college aim to impart an education which regards not accomplishments merely, but one which will modify the character and bestow the power of self-control; one which will enable the possessor to enrich the genial atmosphere of home with elevated enjoyments,—an education which shall prepare the daughter, the sister, and the mother to exert a moral influence, the stronger always for being associated with intellectual vigor. The

extended course of instruction in vocal and instrumental music, and in drawing and painting. The facilities for study in the department of music will soon be greatly increased by the erection of a musical conservatory. Mr. Fairweather has prepared the plans and specifications for this important addition to the college building, and the work will be proceeded with at once. Parents and guardians who send young



MALE ACADEMY.

ladies to Mount Allison may be assured that not only the most strenuous efforts will be made to secure the development and strengthening of the mental powers, and to form correct general habits and a high principled Christian character, but due attention will also be given to the preservation of health and the cultivation of refined taste and lady-like manner. With this object in view, familiar conversational lectures are given by the preceptress, or by other teachers, on the personal, domestic, and social proprieties of life. The people of the maritime provinces are highly favored by having within their borders facilities for female education such as is offered by this ladies' college of Mount Allison.

Not till the year 1862 did the institution of Mount Allison offer a complete undergraduate course of instruction. Mr. Allison, always to the front in educational

One hundred and forty-five students have thus far graduated in arts. Ten of this number are deceased. Of those living 46 are ministers of the gospel, 32 are practising or studying law, 8 practising or studying medicine, 25 engaged in educational work, 3 in journalism, and the others are engineers, merchants, etc. The first graduates were Dr. Howard Sprague, of Marysville, and Josiah Wood, M. P. for Westmorland.

The judge of the exchequer court of Canada, two of the professors of the Dalhousie Law school, and two of the Mount Allison professors are Mount Allison graduates. A class of 17 graduated the present year. Mount Allison men have a good record in competitive examinations at other colleges on both sides of the Atlantic. At Edinburgh university, especially, her students have taken high honors. The degree of Mount Allison is recognized by the medical council of Great Britain. Graduates from this institution are thus admitted to all medical schools in the United Kingdom without passing any preliminary examination.

Memorial College hall, one of the finest and best appointed college buildings in the maritime provinces, was completed and formally opened in October, 1884. This edifice is built of brown sandstone, with grey freestone trimmings; and being situated on a rising hill, is an ornament to Sackville. The first floor of the building is devoted to class-rooms, waiting-rooms, and the office of the president, while above these are the beautiful chapel, with its two large memorial windows, the library and the museum. This library, thanks to the recent liberality of friends of the institution, contains some thousands of volumes. The laboratory, in the basement, affords exceptional advantages for practical scientific work. It is one of the most extensive to be found in connection with any college in the dominion



LADIES' COLLEGE AND LINGLEY HALL.

students, as soon as they are prepared, are admitted to the regular university classes and lectures, and may claim all the advantages, honors, and degrees of the university on the same conditions as students of the other sex. Hence, a course of study, ranging from the elementary English branches to and through a full curriculum for the baccalaureate degree may be pursued at these institutions by young ladies under the most favorable circumstances, surrounded by social safeguards, and amid many social advantages. The tendency of the study of the fine arts to cultivate the taste and refine the manners is fully recognized. Adequate provision is made for a thorough and

advance, was the chief promoter in this project which was to supply a growing demand. He did not live to see the completion of the college building. Upon his death he bestowed a considerable amount upon the funds for the establishment of a college, thus becoming the founder of the three tranches of the institution which bear his name. Mount Allison Wesleyan college was organized in July, 1862, under a charter from the legislature of New Brunswick. By virtue of this charter it possesses full university powers. An act was subsequently passed amending the charter, and changing the name of the corporation to "The university of Mount Allison college."

Mount Allison, pursuing a wise course, still holds to college residency. The college students reside in a lodge, where they occupy single and double rooms, as may be preferred. The reading-room is in this building—a great convenience to the students.

Lingley hall, the building in which the convocation exercises take place, has recently undergone a complete renovation, and is now commodious and handsome. Upon its platform the knees of many of the foremost speakers in the country have quaked as they addressed, for the first time, a public audience. Mount Allison has turned out its share

of public speakers, and this is due, in a large measure, to the fortnightly declamating required from the members of the freshmen and sophomore classes, and the orations delivered twice during each term by the seniors.

An exceptional sociability and familiarity prevails between professors and students. This, it can readily be seen, is productive of much good. The students respect the men who will treat them with kindness on every occasion, and a consequent influence is obtained over them by the faculty which could not be had in any other way.

The faculty of arts is as follows:

- James R. Inch, LL.D., president and professor of philosophy and logic.
- Rev. C. Stewart, D.D., professor of moral philosophy and evidences of Christianity.
- Alfred D. Smith, LL.D., professor of classics.
- Sidney W. Hutton, M.A., professor of mathematics.
- Rev. John Burwash, D.Sc., professor of chemistry and experimental physics.
- Rev. B. C. Borden, M.A., professor of political science.
- William Morley Tweedie, M.A., professor of English language and literature.

The university is maintained by an endowment of about \$100,000, by an annual grant from the educational society of the Methodist church, and by students' fees. The real estate of the united institutions is worth about \$100,000.

The college is conducted on strictly non-sectarian principles. The general denominational control under which it is placed furnishes a sufficient guarantee that sceptical license will never be allowed within its walls, but does not imply the existence of a purpose or a wish to interfere with the

conscientious convictions of any. The fullest recognition, however, is given to the truths and claims of the Christian religion. The Bible is publicly honored as the word of God, and no pains is spared that the education imparted may be suitably leavened with religious principles.

Students may enter the college either as regular undergraduates, having passed the matriculation examinations, or as specialists who do not look forward to a university degree. Special students are admitted to any class or course of lectures for which, in the judgment of the faculty, after due examination, they are deemed prepared; and upon leaving the college they are entitled to receive certificates bearing the college seal, and specifying the particular branches of study in which they have received instruction and passed satisfactory examination.

Ladies wishing to pursue an undergraduate course will find at Mount Allison facilities for thorough collegiate training under the most favorable conditions as regards health, and domestic and social advantages. Mount Allison was the first chartered college in Canada to admit women to all the privileges of regular collegiate courses and degrees.

The undergraduate course occupies four years. Students, however, may enter the sophomore class by passing the ordinary matriculations, together with examinations on the subjects of the freshman year, or their equivalents. Those who wish information concerning the examinations, undergraduate course, etc., should communicate with the president.

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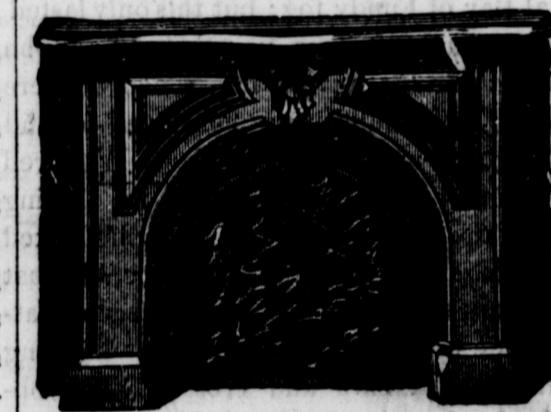
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