

KING'S COLLEGE ENCENIA.

The last week has witnessed the conclusion of another Academical year in the College which forms the nucleus of an University for New Brunswick.

On Saturday, June the 20th, the Collegiate School was publicly examined by the Visiting Committee appointed by the College Council, and in presence of the parents of several of the pupils.

Owing to the recent and lamented decease of Mr. Holbrook, who had so long conducted the English Department of the School, the examination was confined to the Classical Scholars, who, notwithstanding the unusual circumstances of the last year, appeared to great advantage.

While desirous to express their general approval of the state of the School in Classical and Mathematical attainments, the Visitors observed that peculiar praise was due to the boys of the Homer and Virgil Classes, and to all who were examined in the Grammatical foundation of the Latin Language.

The French Department was also considered very satisfactory, and the Committee congratulated M. Houseal on the spirit of zeal and emulation displayed by his pupils; who seemed to have acquired under his superintending care, not only a good elementary knowledge of the language, but also correct pronunciation.

The Douglas Silver Medal for 1846, which is the highest Prize in the School, was obtained by Master Neville G. D. Parker, as was also a Prize for the best translation from English into Latin.

A Prize for the best English Theme was awarded to Master G. Goodridge Roberts.

Master Spencer Phair received the Prize for Class Translation; and Master Thomas Hogg, for general assiduity and good conduct.

Badges of Merit were also conferred by the French Master, on Masters Neville Parker and John Medley, in the First Division; and on Messrs. Frederick Parker and Charles Medley, in the Second Division.

The College Council, having received the Report of its Visiting Committee, proceeded to re-organize the School in a manner which, it is trusted, will be found commensurate with the increasing anxiety for intellectual cultivation.

Mr. Charles Coster, A. B., who had distinguished himself by the successful prosecution of his studies in the College, and conducted the School during the recent visit of Mr. Roberts to England, has been appointed to the office of Second Master; and will render his assistance in both the Classical and Mathematical Departments. The Council has also made provision for the engagement of a Fourth Teacher, with a special view to the wants of the Commercial part of the community: Mr. Gall, whose precision and regularity are generally appreciated, will afford daily instruction in Writing, Book-keeping, and the branches of Arithmetic more particularly requisite for the Accountant.

On Sunday the Academical body attended Divine Service at the Cathedral of Christ Church, the Lord Bishop preaching the Anniversary Sermon; of which, on the proposition of His Excellency the Chancellor, the Council has requested His Lordship to furnish a copy, in order that it may be printed.

On Monday the Examinations commenced at the College, and were continued by adjournments until Saturday. Mr. Dole, formerly a pupil of Dr. Paterson, at the Grammar School of Saint John, was elected to the University Scholarship which had been proposed to general competition. Four Students who had completed the usual course, obtained Certificates for their A. B. Degree. The respective Classes were carefully examined in the various subjects in which they had been instructed according to the Hebdomadary; and six Gentlemen who had pursued their studies in other places of education, viz:—One at King's College, Windsor, four at the Sackville Academy, and one in Saint John; passed the Examination prescribed by the Students. The general result is considered peculiarly gratifying; as equally attesting the efficiency of the College to those who are enabled fully to avail themselves of its benefits; and the confidence with which it is regarded by the members of other Institutions, whom it welcomes to a free participation of its privileges.

On Thursday, June the 25th, the Chancellor, attended by the whole Corporation, proceeded to the College Chapel, and held the Public Act in commemoration of the Foundation of the University.

His Excellency having opened the Convocation in solemn form, the Vice-President delivered the Commemorative Oration; which, by the special desire of His Excellency and the Council, is subjoined, as follows:—

“The successive returns of this Commemorative Festival cannot fail to awaken deeper and deeper feelings of diversified character and complexion.

In reverting to our Founders and Benefactors; to the benevolence of their design; and the benefits derivable from their institution; our regard for their memory becomes every year more and more reverential.

When we reflect upon ourselves; on our employment of the means and opportunities of improvement which their munificence has here afforded us; and the progress actually made towards the fulfilment of their intention; our sense of responsibility becomes continually more solemn; our regret for time mispent or lost, for errors and deficiencies, more distressing; and our satisfaction at the

degree of success with which it may have pleased Him who “crowns the year with His goodness” to bless our labours, more grateful and encouraging.

If we raise our view to the days and years which may be yet to come, must we not increasingly desire that they be occupied to the best advantage? that we, and all associated in our studies and pursuits, may progressively advance in the learning of truth and the practice of goodness? and that the generations to arise hereafter may receive the full benefits which the College may be capable of communicating?

Such feelings, I cannot allow myself to doubt, have been produced in all our minds by the recurrence of this Anniversary; and to touch the strings is at once to call forth the accordant response—the chorus of hearts attuned to affectionate reverence, gratitude, and hope.

Equally natural it is, and perhaps it might be thought more immediately useful, to review the single year which is now past; to reflect particularly on what we have done, or omitted to do, amidst the circumstances, prosperous or adverse, in which we have been placed; to investigate the apparent causes of success or failure attending our course; and hence to gather lessons of wise and salutary direction for the future.

Entering, however, but a little way on such a review; and passing by, after one of the sagest counsels of ancient wisdom, which forms the fundamental maxim of the *Enchiridion* of Epictetus, the *ta ouc eph' hemin*—all the events not dependent on ourselves, and for which we are consequently irresponsible;—the opinions which others may have entertained concerning us, the dispositions they may have discovered towards us, and the conduct they may have chosen to pursue; passing by, I say, these external things, which (except so far as we have merited them) are *ours* no more than the passing cloud, the breeze which refreshes us, or the blast which chills;—I think that I may justly and safely congratulate you on much which has marked the progress of the year.

The system of liberal Education, which was here established with mature deliberation and the most anxious fore-thought, has continued to be steadily maintained. The series of Lectures in the several departments have been regularly, and for the most part, I trust, diligently attended. And the proficiency actually made by the greater number of Students has been happily evinced at the Terminal and other examinations.

And here I may be permitted to remark that, whatever difficulties may embarrass the question, how far it may be advisable to require the simultaneous attendance of all the Students in all the departments, I cannot doubt that they are all essential constituents in a well-constituted Academical system. Our principle Class-rooms are indeed precisely analogous to the three-fold division which, as we learn from the great Roman Philosopher, comprehended the entire circle of ancient philosophy. “*Una pars, naturæ; disserendi, altera; vivendi, tertia;*” might be not vain-gloriously inscribed over our doors. And none of these, surely, could be neglected, or any of our Students denied the opportunity, at least, of attending it, without a partial abandonment of our just position and character, and a retrogradation towards uncultivated barbarism.

The only question on this topic which appears to me deserving of serious discussion, respects the sufficiency of our system for the specific objects in view.

That every Student, repairing hither for education, should find his attention directed to the objects and operations of nature, the admirable variety of God's unquestioned works; that his intellectual powers should be strengthened and matured by scientific induction and demonstrative reasoning; and his imagination furnished, his judgment regulated, his taste refined, and his moral affections purified, enlarged, and elevated, by the various aids and appliances of Literature, and the transcendent influence of our holy and divine Religion;—must, I conceive, be admitted by all considerate and well informed enquirers.

But is not, it may be fitly asked, some more peculiar instruction requisite in reference to the peculiar stations which our pupils may be expected to occupy in after life? More especially, ought not a professional or practical direction to be given to the studies of those who may be destined for the occupations more especially denominated “learned?”—for the humane and beneficent art of Medicine?—for the necessary and useful practice of Jurisprudence;—and for the invaluable functions of the Pastoral Office?

My conviction, I must acknowledge, is, that such applications of our courses of instruction, or additions to them, are certainly requisite for the completion of our system; and I cannot but trust that the time is at hand, if it be not already fully come, when the wants of the community in these important respects will be duly supplied by means of the College. And of this, at least, I venture to declare my persuasion; that, as far the present instructors may find it practicable, after just and indispensable regard to those parts of education which *all* their pupils require, they will be found prepared and happy to append such special and appropriate instructions as may tend to qualify them for their several and distinct destinations.

On previous occasions of this Festival the events of the passing time have led us to the sobering and solemnizing reflection, that the minds here entrusted to our culture should be considered as destined, not merely for the transient engagements of this life, but also for the ulterior prospects of a future and eternal existence.

But the past year has been unusually charged with these salutary