

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., June 14th, 1871.

ACADIA COLLEGE ANNIVERSARY.

Those who live amidst verdant fields and the bright green foliage of this early spring-time can but imperfectly appreciate the rich treat that flows into the minds of those who can but occasionally enjoy a visit to the broad fields of Nature's charms. In anticipation of spending a day amongst the delights of King's County in June, and with the hope of meeting old friends from other parts of the province, and participating with them in the festivities of the College Anniversary, we left our home on Wednesday morning for Wolfville. On reaching the Depot at Richmond we find a goodly company of friends on a similar errand. Murray the conductor, whose presence, from his long and faithful service in that office, gives a sense of security, soon finds that another car is required to afford accommodation to all. This preliminary being attended to, we are off to the interior of the province with all the rapidity of our N. S. Express trains—say 20 miles an hour. We soon exchange the beauties of our harbor and Bedford Basin for the rocks and lakes, which, with but an occasional intermission, greet the traveler thence almost to Windsor. Passing on beyond the solid rocky foundation, on which our province rests, we come to the beauties of Nature and triumphs of Art in Hants County. The fine iron bridge, of which Windsor boasts seems to have inspired its people to seek profitable employment in the direction of manufactures. For this purpose large buildings are being put up by some of the live, enterprising citizens of this thriving town.

Passing along the shores of Minas Basin we have before us the vast plains of Grand Pré made classic by Longfellow.

There are now but few "Evangelists," but in the place of those who formerly made the fields vocal, and gathered the fruits of the bountiful harvests are others who although not less beautiful perhaps, speak a different language and worship under different forms.

ARRIVED AT WOLFVILLE.

We find the platform crowded with students, and friends already arrived, ready to receive further additions of visitors; a number of the former have on their parti-colored caps—indicating that they have just suspended their game of cricket to greet the newcomers. After discharging all that wish to be left here, the train hurries along with the balance—some to pass on to other provinces, and others to visit the great republic. The "Saxons" and "Acadians," with their friends, give quite an animated appearance to the college grounds, whilst they are deciding their relative skill in bowling, striking, and running. Although the Collegians might be supposed far in advance of the Academicians, yet the latter were victorious in the last game, but having beaten them in the first, the Acadians retained the honor of taking the prize, as won in the first contest.

THE ASSOCIATED ALUMNI OF ACADIA COLLEGE.

held their annual meeting on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 17th. The report of the Directors was highly encouraging.

The following were the officers elected for the ensuing year:—

Rev. D. M. Welton, A. M., President.
Silas Alward, Esq., A. M., Vice-President.

Edwin D. King, Esq., A. M., Secretary,
J. F. L. Parsons, Esq., A. B., Treasurer.

DIRECTORS.

H. H. Bligh, Esq., A. M.

Rev. W. S. McKenzie, A. M.

Rev. W. B. Boggs, A. B.

Rev. E. M. Saunders, A. M.

Prof. Wm. Elder, A. M.

THE DINNER.

At the close of the meeting, the members adjourned to the dining-room of the Academy Boarding House, where a substantial repast was provided. Ample justice was done to this by about forty of the friends.

After dinner, the President alluded to the pleasure he had in meeting the members of the graduating Class, with others who had formerly stood in the same position.

Hon. Judge McCully was first called on to speak. He referred in forcible terms to the high position reached by the men about to take their first degree. He urged them to re-

member that they were but just entering on the race, and it would require them to keep up their habits of study, if they would take a leading position in whatever they adopted as their life-work.

Rev. Dr. Cramp by request offered a few thoughts on the changes which Time is working in the friends and students of Acadia College. Many of the students he had known had been called away from their midst, and so their numbers were diminished, but he was thankful that others were being brought forward to fill up their ranks, and so to keep up the succession.

Dr. Clay called up a number of the reminiscences of the past in connection with the Institution, and noticed the claims and obligations resting on the men who had received a course of liberal culture. The times, he thought, were indicating that a more severe test would soon be given all through the Dominion, than had yet been applied to men's principles; and it would be well to be fully equipped so as to be prepared to defend the truth and the right.

Rev. W. S. McKenzie alluded to his early days at these institutions, and the scenes which had been called up in his mind by the present visit. He felt the obligations resting upon himself as upon all the former students to do all in their power to sustain the College in its operations and branches.

Hon. Dr. Parker expressed his pleasure at meeting several old friends, and associating with a number of new and younger ones. He described the grounds as they were on the hill where the College now is. Upwards of thirty years ago, he and Professor Isaac Chipman, had obtained a number of trees and planted around. Many of these had now attained noble proportions, and afforded a delightful shade for all to enjoy. He believed that everything done with a good design is rewarded, and hoped to see Acadia College not only sustain its fair reputation, but taking even a higher stand year by year.

T. H. Rand was requested to speak but having to give the Oration he excused himself.

A. W. Masters, Esq., of St. John, being invited, shewed that a very different sentiment now existed than formerly prevailed. Even in Cumberland he had not many years ago heard a schoolmaster speak unfavorably of the higher branches of Education, and a farmer despise writings on Agriculture. (Rev. Mr. Steele said those men had now removed from the county.)

J. F. Parsons spoke of the need for a much larger class to enter every year than had yet been in the College, before the necessities of these provinces would be supplied. He believed that such classes could be secured if all the students and alumni would regard themselves as commissioned to commend the institutions and advise young men to come to them for a course of higher instruction.

The time having arrived for the evening meeting, an adjournment was made to the Baptist Meeting-house where a good congregation had assembled to listen to

THE ORATION.

After brief devotional exercises the President called on T. H. Rand, Esq., who read a most elaborate and highly wrought paper on the necessity of cultivating the Emotions to render any system of education well balanced and thorough. He shewed that the exaltation of the intellect and reasoning powers, and giving almost exclusive attention to them tended to deform the moral nature, and prevent the development of man's noblest faculties. It is, however, impossible for us to give a fair idea of what is comprised in this masterly paper. It occupied about two hours in its delivery, and secured the close attention of the audience. Under some circumstances we might express our surprise that Mr. R. should have made so large a demand on his audience, and on his own pen, to supply the Association with an oration; but the earnestness he evidently felt in presenting the subject, as a great desideratum in ordinary education, disarms us for such criticism.

On receiving a vote of thanks on the following day, and a request that the oration might appear in print, Mr. R. stated that his conviction of the importance of the subject had been strengthened by the opinion of educationists in England and Scotland. It is probable that the paper will appear in one of the Reviews.

THE ANNIVERSARY.

Thursday morning awoke refreshed

by fine showers during the night. Although some doubt existed whether the rain would not continue, yet thankfulness was awakened in every heart for the timely and general visitation. The dust of the previous day was allayed, and a favorable prospect presented itself for those who might wish to come from a distance.

At a past 10, the usual procession of the Faculty and Students, the Governors, Scholarship-holders and friends was formed in front of the College, and proceeded to the Baptist Church for the Anniversary Exercises. On arriving in the village; the long line of students opened its columns, and the Faculty and friends passed in, filling up all the reserved seats. On the platform were the President, Rev. Dr. Sawyer, supported on either side by Revs. Dr. Cramp, Dr. Crawley, Professors Higgins, Jones and Elder, Revs. John Storrs, David Freeman, A. S. Hunt, and E. M. Saunders, T. H. Rand, Esq., Hon. Dr. Parker, and Hon. Judge McCully.

The following is the order of the exercises:

Organ Voluntary.

Prayer by Rev. D. Freeman.

Music—Sanctus.

Essays by the—Graduating Class.

Our Young Men—A. Cohoon, Port Medway.

Books (Excused) J. R. Stubbart, Little Bras d'or, C. B.

The Teacher—I. B. Oakes, New Albany.

Music—"Who are these?"

Human Nature—C. Masters, St. John.

The Divinity of Science—J. Neiley, Wilmet.

What is Truth? (Excused) W. H. Warren, P. E. Island.

Music—"Wake the song of Jubilee."

Earnestness—H. Morrow, St. Peter's Bay, P. E. I.

Principles of Inquiry—J. W. Bancroft, Round Hill.

Copernicus—W. Spinney, Wilmet.

Music—"Oh that I had wings."

The Sphere of Silence—J. B. Mills, Granville Ferry.

The Age we live in—W. B. Bradshaw, Centerville, P. E. I.

Acadia College—J. W. Longley, Paradise, Annapolis Co.

Music—"Roll on last of the year."

Degrees Conferred.

Music—"Farewell Acadia."

On the return of the Class after having been invested with the insignia of the Bachelor of Arts degree, the President gave them a few brief words of counsel, shewing that by the position they had now taken, their relation to the college and to the world had materially changed. They were now about to enter into actual life, and that as educated men; and society would have claims upon them as such which it did not have on others. A wide field was opened to them in all departments. Living in an educated community, education would present its demands and he had confidence that in this, or any other profession, they would each and all do credit to themselves and their Alma Mater. He expressed the best wishes of their instructors for their future welfare.

Dr. Sawyer introduced Professor Jones, the President of the Associated Alumni, to present the Prizes awarded under its auspices.

The first was a prize of \$40 for the best Essay on the given subject "The Teuton." Three students had competed. A letter was read from the judges: Hon. Judge Ritchie, Hon. Judge McCully and Rev. E. M. Saunders, expressing their opinion of the merits of the Essays, and their decision. The Essay written by Ingram B. Oakes was the successful one. The other prizes were then given, as follows:

For the best monthly Essays of the year \$25. to Mr. G. S. Currie of Fredericton.

For the Student having the highest standing in the Junior Class \$20 to Mr. W. Mortimer McVicar.

Do. in the Sophomore Class, \$20 to Mr. George O. Gates of Wilmet.

Do. in the Freshmen Class, \$20 to Mr. W. G. Parsons of Wilmet.

The Education Prize was awarded to Mr. Johnson Neiley.

The Gold Medal (the Edward Young Prize) for excellence in Mathematics was awarded, at the request of the donor, by Rev. Dr. Cramp, to Mr. Gates of Wilmet.

The Cricke Prize was awarded to Mr. Theodore Thomas of Wolfville.

The Graduates' Essays were all good, each one had not only excellence in itself but served to enhance the value of the others. Some of them gave more opportunity for original thought than others. All were well delivered and gave promise that the speakers would at some future time be heard again, in some public capacity. We cannot give an analysis of each, but if we might mention some general characteristics of the whole, it would be

(1) The spirit of honest, untrammelled enquiry which each student had evidently given to his subject. (2) The use of choice and vigorous language, and the absence of all bombast and fustian or extravagant expressions. (3) The appropriate use of Scripture language when quoted. (4) Clear enunciation and suitable action in the delivery.

The large class of twelve men, several of whom were about six feet in height, was a highly gratifying sight. Their full-toned voices and well developed frames, were doubtless largely indebted to the vigorous exercise taken in the cricket field, along with the necessary confinement in the study.

HONOR CERTIFICATES.

were given to the following:

Members of the Senior Class respectively in the Natural Sciences; Mr. A. Cohoon in Intellectual Philosophy; and J. W. Longley in Moral Philosophy. Messrs. Masters and Mills in the Classics.

Junior.—For Classics and Science, Mr. McVicar.

Sophomore.—Mr. H. Rand in Rhetoric.

Freshmen.—J. W. Longley, Natural Sciences, and W. G. Parsons, in History and Natural Science.

French Class.—Cohoon, Longley, Masters, Mills, Morrow, Oakes, Spinney and Smith.

The National Anthem and Benediction by the President closed the day's proceedings.

THE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT.

According to the announcement the evening of Thursday, was occupied by a Musical Concert, under the direction of Mr. J. Neiley, the proceeds of which were to be appropriated to the purchase of a large Telescope for the College.

We were pleased to learn, that it was a most complete success, the music was finely rendered. In addition to which addresses were given by several gentlemen.

Prof. Elder spoke on the necessity of a good telescope in the College and the uses to which it might be applied.

Rev. D. A. Steele, called attention to the present position, and the future prospects of the institution.

Professor Jones referred to the means of raising the people's appreciation of the benefits conferred by the college, and suggested to all Graduates that they should regard themselves as under obligations to endeavor to mould society to a higher condition of thought and feeling.

J. W. Bars, Esq., noticed some of the benefits of a collegiate course, and gave examples of successful men, who had gone forth from Acadia's Halls.

Rev. Dr. Sawyer said, that a sovereign had been discovered on the plate at the door. An enquiry was raised, whether it had been put there by mistake. No person claiming it, Dr. Sawyer offered to cover it. Prof. Elder and J. W. Bars, followed the example. It was then suggested with the hope of enlarging the amount that a collection be taken. J. W. Bars Esq., generously offered to give an amount equal to the collection, whatever that might be. The result of the whole was that nearly \$150 was realized—a worthy finale to this interesting occasion.

DEATH OF A CHINESE CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY.

The San Francisco Evening Bulletin, of May 22nd, is received, giving an account of the death of a Chinese Christian Missionary, Toong Saung Nam, which recently took place in that city. From it we learn that he was born in Canton in the year 1835. He was converted to the Christian religion in his native land, by Rev. B. H. Grayes, Baptist missionary to China, and came to San Francisco with that gentleman, some fifteen months since. Nam intended to go to the East, but upon arriving here, finding the harvest so plentiful and the laborers so few, he yielded to the solicitations of American missionaries, abandoned his original project and went no further. He associated himself with Rev. John Francis, Baptist missionary to the Chinese, and soon became a valuable assistant in the work of reformation. His earnestness and benevolent disposition won him a host of friends, among those with whom he mingled. His influence with the Chinese people was remarkable, especially when the benighted condition of his race is taken into consideration. He followed the example of Paul, preaching the word of God upon the public streets, and heeding not ridicule or abuse. His knowledge of the English language was limited, but he spoke the Chinese tongue with pleasing fluency. On Sabbath morning it was his custom to take a position on Jackson street,

and draw his audience as best he could. He never lacked hearers. Seldom did he address less than 400 persons, and often the crowd reached 1,000. Upon several occasions he was assailed by disciples of Confucius; jeered at and insulted; but he never, so far as is known, lost his temper or retreated. In one instance, a crowd of Celestials reviled him, and desired a comparison between Confucius and Jesus. It is related that he silenced them by the single remark, "Jesus forbids blasphemy," he accomplished much good by his tact and forbearance.

At the funeral services about seventy-five Celestials, friends of the deceased, formed into line—four abreast. Eight young men served as pall bearers, and walked beside the hearse. All along the route the Celestials were treated with much respect by the people generally.

The exercises were novel and interesting, commencing with an organ dirge. When it is remembered that the Chinamen have hitherto abhorred a Christian burial, and it has been the custom to return their bones to China, the effect of this occasion may be appreciated. The coffin was decorated with flowers and placed before the altar. Revs. Messrs. Sawtelle, Martin, Condit, Gibson, Loomis, Young, Medbury, J. Francis, Watson, Post and Buckbee participated in the religious exercises. The gathering sang: *Sleep in Jesus*, Rev. Mr. Gibson invoked the Divine blessing, and Rev. Mr. Martin read an appropriate passage of scripture. Rev. Mr. Loomis then delivered a prayer in the Chinese language—all the Celestials paid close attention. Rev. Mr. Francis paid an eloquent eulogy to the deceased, recounting many interesting events of his life, and throwing light upon his characteristics. Rev. Mr. Condit delivered an address, to the Chinese (in Chinese). Judging from appearances, the remarks fell upon willing ears.

We learn from the *Visitor* that "the Missionary agency is doing well. Bro. Cady informed the Board on Monday evening that he expected to raise from eight to ten hundred dollars from the Eastern churches before the meeting of the Eastern Association at Sackville. His mission is identified with all our denominational interests, and as such commends itself to the cordial good will of every Baptist in the Province. The liberal soul deviseth liberal things, and by liberal things shall he stand."

We copy the following from the *Visitor* of the 8th Inst:

"We exceedingly regret to hear that Rev. G. D. Cox, of Hillsburg, N. S., is suffering severe bodily indisposition, so much so that he finds it necessary to cross the Atlantic in the hope that a sea voyage may prove beneficial. He has been wonderfully blessed in his ministry during the last winter and spring. We are informed that over a hundred converts have been added to his church by baptism. Over exertion during the progress of this work is no doubt the cause of his present difficulty. His voice has failed. We pray that he may be speedily restored, and long preserved as a faithful watchman on Zion's walls."

Rev. E. C. Cady recommends the churches of the N. B. Eastern Association to report to the Association the number of non-resident members in a separate column. He says:

"The clerks and pastors will report the present membership as formerly, and then ascertain how many of these are living too far away from the church to attend its meetings on communion seasons, and report them as non-resident members."

We have before us a pamphlet describing an organization in the United States which deserves high commendation. "The National Prison Association." The following are the Articles of the Association, descriptive of its character and objects:

1. The amelioration of the laws in relation to public offences and offenders, and the modes of procedure by which such laws are enforced.

2. The improvement of the penal, correctional, and reformatory institutions throughout the country, and of the government, management, and discipline thereof, including the appointment of boards of control, and of other officers.

3. The care of, and providing suitable and remunerative employment for, discharged prisoners, and especially such as may give, or shall have given evidence of a reformation of life.

It is sustained by annual contributions of ten dollars and upwards. The pamphlet also contains an address to the public, we presume by the Secretary, Rev. Dr. Wines of New York.