

The Dalhousie Gazette.

ORA ET LABORA.

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NO. 1.

CONVOCATION.

THE annual opening Convocation of Dalhousie College was held in the Assembly Room of the Province Building on Tuesday, the 2nd inst. Representatives from all classes and denominations evidenced the general and increasing interest felt by the citizens of Halifax and the public at large in Dalhousie College and University. The students, in academic costume, assembled in the centre of the building, with the Faculty at their head, surrounded and overlooked by a large and brilliant assemblage, made a sight in the highest degree pleasing. The proceedings opened with prayer, after which the Principal made a few introductory remarks in which he referred to the munificent manner in which George Munro, Esq., is advancing the cause of higher education throughout the Province, and called upon Professor McDonald to announce the winners of the Munro Bursaries and Professors' Scholarships, which are as follows:—

- I. For the Island of Cape Breton—Not awarded.
- II. Counties of Pictou, Antigonish, Guysboro—
D. J. Morrison, Pictou Academy.
- III. Counties of Colchester, Cumberland, Hants—
E. M. Dill, Pictou Academy.
- IV. Counties of Halifax, Lunenburg, King's—
Hiram Elliott, Canard, Private Study.
- V. Counties of Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth,
Shelburne, Queen's—Frank Jones, Digby.
- VI. New Brunswick—Not awarded.
- VII. Prince Edward Island—John P. McLeod.

SCHOLARSHIPS IN ARTS.

- I. H. Adams, Halifax High School.
- II. John Pitblado, Halifax High School.

SCHOLARSHIP IN SCIENCE.

H. McN. Smith, Halifax High School.

The degree of M. A. was conferred on Rev. D. F. Creelman, B. A., and that of B. A. on Messrs. Creighton and Blanchard, after which Dr. MacGregor was called on to deliver the Inaugural Address, which we give in another column. At the conclusion of the address, which, as a comprehensive review of the growth of science, is unsurpassed, the Principal called on Hon. S. L. Shannon, who, after a few preliminary remarks, referred to the condition of the College when, sixteen years ago, he became one of its Governors. "Will Dalhousie be a success?" was the question then asked. "Can it be so in the City of Halifax, a city devoid of interest in higher education, and wanting in literary taste and intellectual attainments?" The large number of students in attendance at the present day furnished an answer to that question. Then, again, it was contended that while in the various County Towns there were so many educational institutions it would be impossible to get young men to come to Halifax. But notwithstanding all and in spite of all, Dalhousie has risen to the front rank, not only supported by a large and ever-increasing number of students, but also by a staff of Professors equal to that of any College in the Dominion. The munificence of George Munro was an evidence that it was also supported by the people. The speaker contrasted the subjects taught in the Colleges when he was a student with those of to-day. Even then the scientific subjects were very little thought of, while now in Dalhousie and other Provincial Colleges the latest researches in

science are made known by men eminent in their profession, specially trained at the great seats of learning in Europe. Our young men now are taught less of the ornate, perhaps, but more of the practical, which, however, is much better fitted for them in an age essentially practical. "You," addressing the students, "are the men of the future. You are to take the places of those who now occupying prominent positions, not only in this Province, but in the Dominion. We hear a great deal at present of the "exodus" from Nova Scotia, but let us see to it as we have before seen that the "exodus" henceforward is of educated men, who go abroad to fill positions of trust and honor, reflecting alike credit upon themselves and their native land. You, (the students,) have not as yet commenced the battle of life. It is yet before you, and you are here obtaining the implements with which you may wage a successful warfare. Using them aright God will bless and prosper you."

The honourable gentleman having taken his seat, amidst rounds of applause, Sir William Young, being loudly called for by the students, addressed the meeting. He referred to the condition of Dalhousie at the time when he first became connected with it. Difficulties had stood in the way of its advancement in times past, and it was most gratifying to witness the success which at present crowns its efforts. He referred to the great success in life of Mr. George Munro, and the love for his native land which was evidenced by his extraordinary munificence. He (the Chief Justice) was convinced that benevolence was the characteristic of the many friends of Dalhousie, but not only benevolence but *beneficence* must be extended towards that institution if it was to be what it should be. He was pained, on reading the list of successful candidates for the Munro Bursaries, to find that New Brunswick had not been successful in winning the prizes offered for competition in that Province, in common with Prince Edward Island and our own Province. He was at a loss to understand why no New Brunswicker had been

successful. They were ahead of us in most things. He (Sir William) spent a day at the Exhibition recently held in St. John, and he was sorry that there was not a larger attendance of Halifax manufacturers and mechanics. He was astonished at the St. John show—at the superiority of the manufactures exhibited, their general excellence, and the taste and neatness with which they were finished. St. John manufacturers were far ahead of us, and the energy and enterprise they displayed was marvellous. His Lordship referred to the great necessity for scientific education, and instanced the noble work accomplished for the young men of England by Sir Josiah Mason. He shewed the great advantage of a Technological Institute to the young men of Halifax. The *Herald* had stated that that magnificent institution had about collapsed. That was a mistake. It was not a failure. It should not be a failure. It was with peculiar pleasure that he had learned of Mr. Munro's intention to endow another Chair in Dalhousie College, with a salary of \$2,500 per annum. He (the Chief Justice) regretted that the greater number of our Professors were not receiving such compensation for their services as they were entitled to or as the Governors could desire, but circumstances at present prevented an increase of salaries. He trusted that our wealthy friends would soon imitate the example of Mr. Munro, so that the efficient working of Dalhousie might not be hampered and hindered. He referred to the increased number of Bursaries which Mr. Munro intended to offer henceforth, open to competitors from all parts of the Dominion. His Lordship concluded his remarks by describing several incidents connected with his recent tour in the United States, notably his visit to Harvard University.

The Principal made a few remarks in confirmation of the statements of the Chief Justice with reference to the Bursaries, and closed by pronouncing the Benediction. The students in parting gave three cheers for Mr. Munro, and the Session of 1880-81 was formally opened.

PROFESSOR MCGREGOR'S ADDRESS.

EVEN a cursory study of the history of science shews that it is not a record of continuous success, but contains many chapters of failures. A chronicle of progress on the whole, it tells of very rapid advance at some periods, but it has to note stagnation and retrogression as characterising centuries even of serious work. As the conditions of success are very much the same, both in research itself and in the study of its results, I have chosen as the subject of an address, intended as a kind of preface to the work on which we enter to-day, the conditions of scientific progress. These conditions we can best discover by a study of the circumstances of schools and nations which can show a record of honest effort for the extension of knowledge, and as a result have influenced, whether for good or evil, the progress of science.

From this point of view we must begin with the history of the Greeks. For though in China, India, Chaldæa and Egypt there had been students of nature long before they arose in Greece, yet we have no records of the way in which they worked, or of the conditions under which they achieved their measure of success.

The manner of life of the ancient Greeks was peculiarly fitted to produce an intense interest in natural occurrences. Originally they had accounted for them by analogy from their own experience, assuming in trees and rivers and planets the existence of rational personal beings, and thereby building up their beautiful system of mythology. But before we become acquainted with them they had satisfied themselves of a prevalent invariability in the succession of phenomena, and in this idea of invariability or of law, science had taken her rise. Throughout the whole history of Greek philosophy we see the same interest in physical facts, the same desire to understand the relations between them, the same endeavour to reduce the many of experience to the one of theory. Their attempts were continued for more than three centuries. System followed system, and school succeeded school. But at the end of these three centuries of work it was found that though the old mythological ideas had been shaken and there was no longer confidence in the gods, yet no tenable philosophy of the universe had been established. That this should have been the experience of even such a people as the Greeks need cause no surprise. In order that progress may be made in the

knowledge and understanding of the outer world facts must be observed, general laws must be established, the imagination must be cultivated to frame hypotheses, by aid of which they may be accounted for, and finally the theories thus formed must be subjected to rigorous experimental test. For such work the Greek philosopher was not yet fitted. He "was a child," says Jowett,* "and also a man—a child in the range of his attainments, but also a great intelligence having an insight into nature and often anticipations of the truth. He was full of original thoughts and yet liable to be imposed upon by the most obvious fallacies. He occasionally confused numbers with ideas and atoms with numbers, and his *a priori* notions were out of all proportion to his experience. He was ready to explain the phenomena of the heavens by the most trivial analogies of the earth. The experiments which nature worked for him he sometimes accepted, but he never tried experiments for himself which would either prove or disprove his theories. . . . He was the natural enemy of mythology, yet mythological ideas still retained their hold upon him." The mistakes of the Greeks, then, were those of childhood and had their origin in excessive self-confidence. They collected large stores of facts. They discovered many of the simpler laws. They elaborated ingenious theories. But they lacked the stern spirit of criticism. Hence their classifications were often artificial, their generalisations loose, and they were too ready to accept plausible hypotheses without bringing them to any experimental test.

The development of a science by the inductive method is a slow process. Lives must be spent on the simpler laws before more general ones can be determined, and men must

"Rise on stepping-stones
Of their dead selves to higher things."

But such a work demands the patience, the self-restraint and the experience of a manhood to which the Greeks had not yet attained. Hence they tried the royal *a priori* road. Seeking in themselves rather than in the outer world the principles of the solution of the mystery of things, they built up systems which stood but for a time, falling before the tempest of criticism, because they were not founded on the firm rock of fact.

* In the introduction to the *Timæus*, vol. II., p. 502 of his *Plato*.

Failure is one of the best schools of success; and the experience which the Greeks learned in that school has served for the world. It was summed up by Aristotle, the author of the last chapter of the old Greek philosophy, and was published in the 4th century B. C., when Greece had lost her independence and was fast losing her supremacy in literature and science. The great merit of him whom Dante calls the "master of those that know," consists not so much in his having done good scientific work himself, as in his having pointed out clearly the method by which it ought to be done. His own work was very extensive, ranging through all the branches of science then known, but his writings are filled with instances of looseness of ideas, confidence in plausible theory, and all the errors of young thinking. Yet he stated clearly the principles whose violation we now recognise as the cause of his own and his predecessors' failure. For he pointed out that the basis of all true knowledge is sensuous perception, and that there can be no argument from general laws unless they have been obtained by generalisation from the facts of experience. The result of Greek failure was the forging of this sheet anchor of success which Aristotle left to those who were to follow him.

Meantime, through the wars of Alexander, Aristotle's pupil, thousands of Greeks had been brought into contact with people of manners and customs very different from their own. They had met men of many nations and of as many different modes of thought, and had found that there were some departments in which the barbarian was in advance of the cultured Greek. Moreover the necessities of war had brought to the front all the available resources of the camp. The power of knowledge had been recognised and eager desire for its increase was the immediate consequence. When, therefore, Ptolemy became king of Egypt he founded at Alexandria a great literary, philosophical and scientific institution called the Museum. Here he gathered together a vast library and supported large numbers of learned men whose duty it was to perpetuate, increase and diffuse knowledge. The brother of Alexander and the friend of Aristotle, Ptolemy naturally appointed many of Aristotle's followers to the Museum, and as his successors were men like-minded with himself, the Aristotelian method was subjected to the trial by experience. The circumstances were favourable. In the Museum there was perfect freedom of

thought, and the favour of the monarch protected its inmates from the superstitious jealousy of the mob. The only stones of stumbling which the philosophers had to fear were the prejudices in their own minds, and their safety lay in distrust of so-called intuition and experimental verification of all hypotheses. A study of those of their works which have come down to our time shows that while they were still apt to fall into the errors of the Athenian Greeks they yet were able to a considerable extent to follow the precepts rather than imitate the practice of Aristotle; and, as a consequence, while much of their work was of an ephemeral character, still a large amount of it had a permanent value. Euclid and Archimedes, for example, were men who laid foundation stones on which the sciences of Mathematics and Physics have rested ever since.

About the beginning of the Christian era Alexandria became a part of the Roman Empire, and shortly afterwards the character of its philosophical school changed completely. Aristotelianism gradually lost ground and two new systems arose of which it may be said that they knew not science. Of these new schools one was due to the contact of Jewish with Greek ideas, the other to the influence of the new Christian philosophy on the Buddhist, Persian and Jewish religious systems. The interaction of Jewish and Greek philosophy produced Neo-Platonism, and the christianisation of the Eastern faiths gave rise to the various forms of Gnosticism. Both were based upon authoritative writings, traditions or intuitions, and either refused or discouraged confidence in the senses. Even the few who, despite the prevailing interest of the time, still held to the doctrine of Aristotle, found that the freedom of speech of the pre-Christian centuries was passing away. The prevailing theology gradually became intolerant. The adherents of the Greek philosophy became few and weak, and at last science died when the accomplished Hypatia, the most popular philosophical lecturer of her time, was brutally murdered by a Christian mob.

Thus strangely are the pre-Christian and post-Christian periods of the intellectual activity of the Alexandrian School contrasted. In the earlier, thought was free, in the later, fettered by authority; in the earlier, men looked outside themselves for the laws of the external, in the later they expected to find them ready generalised in consciousness or given by special reve-

lation from heaven; in the earlier, men tested their results by appeal to nature, in the later they trusted solely to their logical acumen. And when we come to examine results, the earlier period shows great progress in science, the latter, utter stagnation.

At the time at which Christianity began to be preached at Rome, that city had reached the lowest depth of wickedness. The old pagan forms remained, but among the better educated philosophical atheism prevailed, and among the masses the atheism of indifference. Faith had disappeared. Morality was dead. The earliest triumphs of Christianity were among the masses, and for some time the work advanced quietly. Its only active opponent was philosophy, and the destructive criticism of philosophy was powerless against the living realities of the new religion. But, as time went on, the *imperium in imperio* which Christianity created, became a state danger. The conservative party determined to take active measures, and had recourse to persecution. Thus philosophy became allied with conservatism, learning with wealth and refinement, in opposition to the earnestness of purpose of the lower classes. In the conflict which followed, the Christians, led by Constantine, triumphed; and the immediate consequence was an increase of the power of the uneducated classes, resulting in the persecution of their opponents, the decapitation of philosophers, the closing of the philosophical schools, and the general restriction of freedom of thought. The attitude which the early Church took up in relation to science was probably determined by the fact that its officials were generally men who had risen from the ranks, and were without literary or philosophical culture. There were learned men, indeed, among the early converts, but they included few who were able to meet the criticism of the philosophers and men of science. Hence it gradually became the custom for upholders of the new religion to decline all intellectual battle with philosophy and to entrench themselves behind the infallibility and completeness of the Holy Scriptures. Thus arose the unfortunate dogma of the early Christians, that in matters not only of theology and morals, but even of science, the Holy Scriptures contain all that man needs to know, and that therefore, scientific knowledge must be advanced not by an appeal to nature, but by a study of the sacred books and their commentators.

The result of this method of research was that the crudest physical theories, many of which had been discarded long before by the Greeks, were adopted as infallibly certain. The earth was held to be a plane, and the sky a vault above it, in which the stars are fixed and the sun, moon and planets perform their motions. Man was regarded as the centre of the physical universe, the heavenly bodies as of quite a subordinate nature, their use being to give light to man. The idea of the government of the world by laws was utterly rejected, the perpetual interference of Providence being asserted instead. Even the old mythological spiritual influences were called in, under a new name, to account for natural effects. For angels were supposed to direct the motions of the stars and to manage the eclipses of the sun and moon.

The arguments on which these doctrines were based seem even more extraordinary than the doctrines themselves. Augustine, for instance, says, on the question of the antipodes, that "it is impossible that there should be inhabitants on the other side of the earth, since no such race is recorded in Scripture among the descendants of Adam." The sphericity of the earth was considered disproved by the consideration that "on the day of judgment men on the other side of globe could not see the Lord descending through the air." The Copernican theory of the solar system was overturned by David's poetic assertions that the "going forth of the sun is from the end of the heaven and his circuit unto the ends of it," and that the Almighty "laid the foundations of the earth that it should not be removed forever." Paul had spoken of men as dwelling on "all the face of the earth." Hence it was inferred that they do not live on more faces than one, nor yet upon the back. He had also somewhere referred to the earth as a tabernacle. This was verily a magazine of knowledge. For it followed at once from Paul's metaphor that the earth must be a counterpart of the tabernacle of Moses, twice as long from east to west as from north to south, and covered over like a room by the sky. Isaiah was held to bear witness to the truth of this opinion, for he describes the Almighty as one "that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in." In this way patristic science solved most natural problems. For there are few phenomena such that the Holy Scriptures contain no phrase capable of being twisted into a reference to them. If any question was

found incapable of solution by this method, its solution by any other was declared to be empty and false, useless to man and dishonouring to God.

Opinions and arguments such as these appear to us nowadays to be utterly childish and absurd. But we must take care not to point the finger of scorn at the men who held and used them. They were men blinded by the enthusiasm of a great moral work. They had seen philosophy powerless to raise Rome from its low moral state. They had found that the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures were capable of converting men from gross sensuality to comparative purity and righteousness. They were ignorant of the solid work which philosophy had done, and knew only what it had failed to do. What wonder then that they rejected its assistance altogether, and came to regard the sacred books as the sum and substance of all knowledge? But to us, it is evident that this mode of treating physical subjects could lead to no good results. We see now that the Holy Scriptures do not form text-books of science; that reliance upon authority cannot carry us forward; but that progress is to be made solely by means of observation and reasoning.

Unfortunately many centuries passed before this became clear to Christendom. Charlemagne made attempts to promote learning, ordered his clergy to give their attention to letters, founded schools, and gathered together learned men. But his schools were a failure. There was no desire for learning, and, despite his efforts, patristic science still held sway.

It is true that after the critical year 1000, when men began to breathe freely, having found that the day of judgment was not yet come, there was a shaking among the dry bones of Christendom. Attracted by the progress of Mohammedanism in philosophy and science, Christians went to drink from the fountains of Arabian learning. Plato and Aristotle began to be studied. The age of Scholasticism dawned. But the tradition of centuries could not be at once thrown off, and the spirit of Scholasticism was the same as that of Patristicism. According to Aquinas, who was a characteristic Schoolman, "Reason and revelation are both separate sources of knowledge, which have their appropriate channels, and man can put himself in possession of each, because he can bring himself into relation to the Church on the one hand and

the systems of philosophy—or more shortly, Aristotle, on the other." The only difference between the scholastics and their predecessors then is that the former drew all their science from Aristotle, while the latter had drawn theirs from the Holy Scriptures, and, from the point of view of scientific progress, this last state of Christendom was as bad as the first.

Meanwhile external conditions had become very unfavourable. Appeal to authority as the arbiter in all questions of truth and error had made the clergy dogmatic and intolerant. This spirit of intolerance was exhibited in the fourth century in the foul murder of Hypatia, and though for a long period in the middle ages it had no effect, that was only because thinking men thought in secret and kept their conclusions from the light of day. The old spirit was found to be still strong when Copernicus, Bruno and Galileo began to assert new modes of thought. For the Church stretched forth her hand to vex them and to cut them off from the face of the earth.

(To be continued.)

THE WOUNDED SENIOR'S LAMENT.

O BITTER, bitter is my lot,
I dread the spring to see,
For while I'm thus laid on my back
My cram goes back on me,
My Classics now are left to roam,
To wander round and beg;
I e'en must leave my Latin feet
To nurse my English leg.

And when I think of thee, my French,
You scarcely will believe,
That only plainest Saxon words
My wounded soul relieve.

Farewell to Greek, the much loved tongue,
And thou, dear Optics too,
O pardon if the bitter thought
My optics fills with dew.
Astronomy, to thee farewell,
Tho' direful sickness bars
My meeting thee, thro' sympathy
I sometimes still see stars.

And Ethics, too, to tail the list,
'Twill be a dreadful time
Ere I by illness thus laid low
Can look to the sublime.

The Dalhousie Gazette.

HALIFAX, N. S., NOVEMBER 18, 1880.

EDITORS.

J. A. SEDGWICK, '81, GEO. PATTERSON, '82.
H. MCINNIS, '83. D. CAMERON.
A. E. THOMSON, B. A., Corresponding Editor.
J. DAVIDSON, '82, Financial Secretary.

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We regret that the present issue of the "Gazette" is rather later than usual. But owing to the difficulty in obtaining suitable paper, and the time occupied in some of the minor changes, the delay is unavoidable, so we trust our readers will take our apology in good part.

IT is with a certain feeling of diffidence that we come before our readers this year. Though we donned our new garments after due consideration, and as we hope in the interest of improvement, yet we run the risk of being called dangerous innovators by those who remember the GAZETTE in its old style. Still we trust our new dress is becoming, and may we say, fashionable. For even in the printer's office Fashion holds her sway, and Dalhousie must never be behind the age; our fair readers, at all events, will appreciate our sentiments. But to wear our new finery gracefully is another matter, and we trust that our readers will deal gently with us should we show some slight awkwardness at first.

We have also made some slight changes which will be, we trust, in the interest of subscribers outside College. For while we reserve *Dalleusiensia* as the peculiar property of the students, we trust to make some compensation by devoting a portion of space to the outside College world. Nor will we disdain, by a judicious use of the scissors to give some idea of other Colleges and their publications.

Thus we have our work cut out for us, and we feel that we must use every exertion to maintain the measure of success which fell to the lot of our predecessors. We take up their mantles with a certain amount of awe, and can only hope that they have fallen upon fit shoulders. But while we remember the responsibilities, we are also not forgetful of the pleasures of the editorial chair. In conclusion,—“While thanking the public for past favours, we trust by a strict attention to business to merit a still further share of their patronage.”

AND still the ownership of the Grand Parade is left unsettled, and the trial—Governors of Dalhousie College v. City of Halifax—has ended in a huge *fiasco*! The jury have disagreed, as doubtless they had a perfect right to do, but still we must confess it is difficult to see the ground for disagreement. Our readers may imagine that we are prejudiced in the matter, and we feel no shame in acknowledging it, but then *we* are not a *jury*. We only then ask them to read Judge Weatherbe's charge—and none can question his impartiality—and then can they wonder at our expecting a verdict for the plaintiffs? Is it too much then to imagine that there has been prejudice—unconscious we hope—in the matter. We say “unconscious,” for it is difficult to think that such a jury, picked from the best class of jurors, would consciously give a verdict contrary to their judgment.

The next question is how is the case to be settled, for at present it remains *in statu quo*. The Governors of the College have shown their

readiness; if the City are as willing as they profess, why not submit the evidence as it stands either to arbitration or to the full Bench, and thus save the time and expense of another trial? It is difficult, however, to hope for such a result. Last year the case was before the Court, but the City taking advantage of some trifling irregularity—if we remember rightly an initial left out of a juror's name!—had had the case delayed for a year. Even in the present trial they endeavoured, though unsuccessfully, to obtain a *non-suit*. How, then, can we hope for a settlement, or how, from the experience of the last few days, hope for an impartial verdict unless the *venue* of the trial be changed.

IN our account of the Convocation this year—which we publish on another page—our friends will be glad to read the additional munificence of MR. GEORGE MUNRO to our *Alma Mater*. Not content with the gift of one Chair, MR. MUNRO has this year endowed the Chair in History, left vacant by Professor DeMill's lamented death, with \$2,500 a year. Still further, he has offered five scholarships of \$200 a year, open to the different counties in Nova Scotia, and two open respectively to New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. And next year it is rumoured he will offer five more open to all comers, thus giving in all twelve scholarships, to be competed for annually, at a cost of nearly \$10,000 a year! Such magnificence nearly takes our breath away. There has never been anything like it in the Dominion, and even across the border, the land of magnificence, such gifts are comparatively rare. At present we can scarcely realize the benefit that must accrue to Dalhousie, but when these scholarships have been thoroughly advertised we may expect a wondrous increase of our numbers from all parts of the Dominion, and thus, God willing, will be built up a noble Provincial, nay more than Provincial University, where men will meet on the common ground of love of knowledge, and leave the petty warfare of creeds to its

proper place,—the Theological Halls of the different denominations. And such a result will be owing in great measure to GEORGE MUNRO, whose name will go down to posterity as the benefactor, not only of Dalhousie, but of Nova Scotia, by his liberal assistance to the cause of higher education.

THE editors were somewhat surprised to find the attitude taken by the Governors this year with regard to the GAZETTE. Upon applying for the usual sum due for last year's advertisement, we succeeded, after great difficulty, in obtaining a *dividend* of 50%, accompanied by a note from the Secretary stating the wish of the Governors to withdraw their advertisement. The Governors in the meantime, express their goodwill to our paper and explain their action on the ground of want of funds. But surely the small sum of thirty dollars a year can not dip very deeply into the College purse! Moreover it is difficult to see how the College can be in a worse financial condition than it was two years ago, now that by the Munro Endowment it is relieved of the burden of two professorships. However we have no option but to accept the excuse, and only regret that one has been offered where there was no necessity. In the meantime we are glad to state that by personal canvass we have obtained sufficient advertisements to cover this loss. Moreover we have still left room for the College advertisement, which we will continue to publish in the interest of our *Alma Mater*, though we should not get a dollar for it!

OUR Financial Secretary wishes us to remind those of our subscribers who have not paid for last year's GAZETTE that their subscription was due one year ago, and to request immediate payment.

Those who receive the paper for the first time, and who do not wish to subscribe this year, will save the Finance Committee much trouble by returning the first copy to the editors.

AT the last moment our printers have failed us, and the new paper has not come. As we feel that it is not fair to our subscribers to delay publication longer, we are therefore compelled to put off some of our projected improvements till next issue.

SODALES.

THE first meeting of the above Society was called to order on Friday evening, Nov. 5th, at 8 P.M., in class-room No. 2, with Mr. Landills in the chair. After a few preliminary remarks from Mr. L. the Society proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing winter. Mr. J. Davidson was appointed President, and Mr. Gavin Hamilton Vice-Pres. The post of Secretary was next filled in the person of Mr. W. R. Fraser. After speeches from the newly elected officers the meeting listened to the report of Mr. McInnes, the past Secretary. The report showed that there was \$1.50 to the credit of the society after paying the janitor's bill of \$5.00 for services real or imaginary, probably the latter. So many bills from the janitor had been cropping up of late that Mr. McDonald, of Parliamentary fame, took occasion to remark that in his opinion the janitor was not justified in presenting these bills at all, and he would move that the Secretary be appointed a committee to confer with the Secretary of the Senate and find out the truth in this matter. This motion being seconded it was unanimously and enthusiastically carried. The President next called for remarks upon the subject of continuing Sodales in the present manner or form into a parliament as had been done part of last winter. Mr. Sedgewick first arose and cast in his word in favor of Sodales as it used to be. There were some who did not hesitate to say that Mr. Sedgewick's opposition was due to the fact that he had never been made even a J. P. by either government. The venerable Mr. McColl next assumed a standing position and in a voice hoarse with emotion squelched

the former speaker on the spot; but all his arguments were wasted, and in spite of his flow of eloquence the hard-hearted majority resolved to continue Sodales, and should the interest in it subside to form a parliament.

Mr. McDonald next moved that we abolish the office of critic, but upon the motion being put to vote it was lost and the office continued with some limitations, viz:—that the time for the critic's remarks be limited to ten minutes, and that he criticise not summarise as had been the custom in former days. It was next resolved that the subjects for debate be chosen by the Society instead of by an appointed committee, and accordingly they selected the subject for next night, viz:—"Is a Protective Policy beneficial to the Maritime Provinces?" This subject was proposed by Mr. Sedgewick, who in doing so said that the Protective Policy question was one that was mooted in the time of Brougham and was discussed by him (Brougham not Sedgewick) and other celebrated men. It was still a live question and one which he considered of vital importance and worthy of being debated upon in even a society like Sodales. Mr. S. was therefore appointed opener, and Mr. McInnes, an ardent disciple of Adam Smith and his "Wealth of Nations," (?) respondent. The critical post of critic was assigned to Mr. G. M. Campbell, after which the meeting adjourned,—all confident that the Sodales Debating Society would conduct its meetings ably and enthusiastically during the ensuing Session.

DALHOUSIE IN COUNCIL.

PURSUANT to a notice posted on the old black-board to that effect, the first general students' meeting was held in class-room No. 2 on the evening of the 1st inst. The meeting was called to order at 7.30 o'clock by Mr. Mahon the retiring President, and business was at once proceeded with,—the minutes of last meeting being first read and approved.

The following are the officers for the ensuing year:—

President, W. H. Spencer; Vice-President, Jas. S. Trueman; Secretary, Graham Creelman.

Mr. Spencer being present accordingly ascended the wool-sack, and after thanking the meeting for the honor conferred upon poor unworthy him called upon Mr. J. Davidson, the Financial Secretary, who gave a verbal report relative to the condition of the GAZETTE. He showed that the paper was solvent,—all bills in connection therewith having been paid, with the exception of the janitor's. As his (the janitor's) services could be summarily comprehended in the words, "twelve bowls of paste," it was unanimously resolved that he be paid \$3.00, and that he be recommended also to think himself very fortunate in getting it. After some discussion a motion to the effect that the GAZETTE be continued during the present session was put and carried. It being impossible on account of the hubbub attendant upon voting to form any definite idea as to the choice of the meeting, it was found on referring to the Secretary's minutes that the following gentlemen had been elected to conduct the GAZETTE for another year:—

Editors, H. McInnis, '83; J. A. Sedgwick, '81; D. Cameron; G. Patterson, '82. Fin. Secretary, J. Davidson, '82.

It being the opinion of the meeting that an additional editor would not be superfluous, and that he be appointed from among the graduates, Mr. A. E. Thomson, B. A., was elected amid shouts of approval. The title Corresponding Editor was thereupon conferred upon him.

The meeting then proceeded to elect a Finance Committee which is as follows:—

Fin. Committee, W. R. Fraser, A. G. Cameron, H. Mellish, G. Campbell.

The following gentlemen were elected a Reading Room Committee:—

W. H. Spencer, James S. Trueman, G. Carson.

After several gentlemen had urged the necessity of keeping up the Foot Ball Club, and it appear-

ing that the College foot ball was no longer an entity, it was resolved that a *per capita* tax of ten cents be levied to procure a new one. The following were elected officers of the Club:—

Captain, W. McDonald; 2nd Captain, G. M. Campbell; Sec. & Treas., H. McInnis.

Messrs. Thomas Stewart and J. McDonald were appointed with the officers a committee to manage the affairs of the Club.

No other business appearing the meeting closed by singing "Old Sam Simons."

OUR EXCHANGES.

SALUTATORIES are now the order among college papers and we expect we shall have to follow the fashion. In taking up the duties of exchange editor we feel we shall be looked upon as a son of mediocre abilities is when he endeavours to supply the place of a great father. The articles of the last exchange editor won for our paper great praise.

"His style was witty, though he had some gall;
Something he might have mended, so may all;
Yet say I this, that for a mother's wit
Few men have seen the like of it."

But we hope our readers will be like a fashionable host

"That slightly shakes his parting guest by th' hand,
And with his arms outstretched as he would fly
Grasps in the corner."

To our exchanges we extend a friendly greeting, hoping by candid criticism to win respect, and trusting that our paper will meet with approval.

Speaking of salutatories brings to mind the excellent one with which the *Portfolio* ushers in its third volume. Judging from the unanimity with which the ladies proceeded to organise their literary societies the fallacy of a proverb which we believe dates from the fifteenth century is proved,—

"Two women in one house,
Two cats and one mouse,
Two dogs and one bone,
Never can agree in one."

PERSONALS.

We clip the following from the *Morning Chronicle*:

"At Poplar Grove Church, Nov. 3rd, by the Rev. Allan Simpson, GEORGE A. LAIRD, of Grand Valley, North-West Territory, to Miss MAGGIE TAYLOR, of Halifax, N. S."

Mr. LAIRD, it will be remembered, graduated in 1877. We wish him all happiness in his wedded life, although his tailors' bills are likely to be enormous.

BLANCHARD, perhaps better known to the readers of Inner Dalhousie as *Charles*, who graduated last Summer Session, has gone to Winnipeg, Manitoba, to study law.

DANIEL A. MURRAY, Freshie and orator of 1879-80, is at home teaching at Bible Hill, Truro. We hope he may return next Winter with his health recruited.

A. J. MURRAY, of the Freshman Class of 1878-79, flourishes the rod in the school at Fisher's Grant, Pictou Co. We are sorry to say he has become a disciple of *Æsculapius* and will not return again to these classic halls.

D. R. THOMPSON, a general of 1878-79 is engaged in the same useful if not lucrative occupation at Vale Colliery.

HOWARD MURRAY, who figured under the cognomen *How* last Winter, has been appointed Principal of the New Glasgow Academy—his native place.

R. R. J. EMMERSON, B. A., 1879, is Principal of Shelburne Academy, just vacated by Joseph Morton, another of our graduates.

CHARLES CAMERON, B. A., 1879, is studying medicine at the Halifax Medical College, at which institution there are now no less than eight B. A.'s, four of whom received their degree from this University.

DALLEUSIENSIA.

We wish our contemporaries to note that this column is not intended for the public, but belongs exclusively to the students at present attending College, who alone are expected to understand its contents.

Two hundred and ninety-three students in attendance this Session.

SIXTY-ONE Freshmen.

FORTY competed for the Mnnro Bursaries.

OUR "phunny man" is omni-present, therefore, be circumspect in order to be safe.

We are afraid the article "Conversation" was written by a "strong-minded" young lady; but if all such young ladies can write as cleverly and as sensibly, we only wish there were more of them.

The exchange editor of the *Acadia Athenæum* takes a column to describe his own character. Was it not Whichote who said, "Take away self-conceit and there will be elbow-room left in the world." "The Study of English" is a good article and keeps us from saying, as we lay down the paper, "there's nothing in it."

Now we pass from a people described as "rough, ready and democratic" to the mis-named "land of the free." Complimenting the *Beacon* for its ability, we pass to Brown University and confess we are disappointed with the *Brunonian*; but we must give the editors time to recover from the effects of "plumb-colored" chairs in the reading-room. Printers do make such mistakes—sometimes.

We think the editors of the *Niagara Index* are seeing themselves as others see them when we read "there is a littleness among collegians," and an article entitled "The Effect of Melancholy," but so great is the force of habit that this same writer takes "the pagans in ancient times" for a comparison. Come gentlemen, you only used to go back as far as the Crusades. Try and advance a year or two. The style of "The Republic that may be" is too florid for even a Yankee college paper. Exclamations are thrown in indiscriminately. Alexander is already sorely troubled with Nihilism and family affairs, and you should not, as Pitt would say, "roll up the map of Europe," and tell him that Poland is no more to be a part of Russia, and that the Romanoffs are going to be driven from their throne. At least, break the news gently. We hope your system of spelling is not "contagious." "Writing a Necessity" is a really good article. "Sometimes, no doubt, a magician will make a good hit (Sir Robert once said a 'good thing') but all such successes range of course under the head of 'mere tentative miracles' as distinguished by the strong brain of Paley."

A JUNIOR translates "*Tergellius ille Sardus*,"
"Tergellius the Sardine"!

THE following is an effusion of a poetical Soph:—

"The wits that drink water and suck sugar candy
Impute the strong spirit of S—K to brandy.
They are not so far wrong: the matter in fact is—
He drinks *aqua vita* and spits *aqua fortis*."

A SPRINKLING of the Juniors have taken to smoking
merely for the sake of making vortex rings, ye ken.

STUDENT translating,—"*Noctes vigilabat ad ipsum
mane: diem totum stertebat.*" "He slept all night and
snored all day." Prof.—"He was doubtless one of the
seven sleepers." Mr. S.—*Omnes snorterunt.*

Cosine is again with us. He still searches for his
supplement with *variable acceleration*. No *resultant*
is as yet apparent. The *force* of his hopes, however,
increases his *velocity*, and the *energy* of despair makes
him *work*. It is said he is studying "Maxwell on
matter and motion," as he considers this *matter* needs
motion.

THE student whose initials are G. P. is henceforth to
be named "Grand Parade," as he is always so *untidy*.

A LONG-HEADED (?) Junior on entering the Physics
class-room for the first time, after gazing around him
timidly, asked if the instruments therein were *battering-
rams*!

DID the French Professor mean anything the other
afternoon when he remarked that there were *more (n)*
kinds of geese than one,—geese with feathers and
geese without.

A JUNIOR gives as one of his reasons for taking
German in preference to Greek that it will prove useful
for writing in autograph albums.

As a proof of the natural depravity inherent in our
Freshmen, one of them actually locked the door against
a clergyman who had come "to minister to a mind
diseased." Wicked, heinous Freshie.

WE regret to state that Mr. McDonald, Captain of
the Foot Ball Club, while out playing on Wednesday
last sprained his leg so badly that it is feared he will
not be able to attend classes for a fortnight or two yet.
It will be seen that the lamentation over neglected
classes in another column applies to him.

ITEMS.

SETTLED.—Acadia College students are in future to
wear caps and gowns. Look out for big *rents*.

"I SHALL dwell no longer on this point," said a
Professor, as he rather hastily arose from a chair on
which a tack has been placed.—*Ex.*

KING'S COLLEGE has 42 students this Term.

DURING the 242 years of its existence, Harvard has
turned out 14,062 men.

PROFESSOR, to student in history: "Mention six
animals of the frigid zone?" Student eagerly: "Three
polar bears and three seals."—*Ex.*

WORTHY OF ATTENTION.—Rutgers College has suc-
ceeded in getting Greek text books to which no printed
translations exist.

THE total number of registered students at Oberlin
is 980.—This year Vassar has in its Freshman Class
130 ladies.

PROF.—"If sulphur is odorless, what is the matter
with this?" (producing Hydrogen Sulphide.) Student,
"I should think *something* has gone wrong with it."—
Ex.

THE Freshman Class at Harvard numbers 220; at
Yale 200; at Cornell 130; at Amherst 90; at the
University of California 61; and at Dartmouth 90.
Lafayette enters 110 new men; Princeton 117.

THIS is the way a Vassar girl tells a joke: "Oh,
girls! I heard the best thing to-day; it was just too
funny! I can't remember how it just came about, but
one of the girls said to Professor Mitchell—Oh, dear,
I can't remember just *what* she said, but Professor
Mitchell's answer was just too funny for anything. I
forget just exactly what he said, but it was just too
funny for anything.—*Ex.*

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