

obtaining a sufficient number of trees if the grounds were graded and in a proper condition to receive them. Arbor Day, then, would be of some service; but until some system has been arrived at, some definite plan of improvement decided upon, it would be a waste of energy for the students to attempt to have an Arbor Day. The time must come when these grounds shall be placed in a better condition, and the sooner it is done the better for the institutions.

ANOTHER alumnus has fallen. Again we are called upon to mourn the loss of one of the noblest of Acadia's sons, Rev. Walter Barss, B. A., who died at Geneva, N. Y., on the 5th ult. Mr. Barss was born at Wolfville, Jan. 17th, 1859, studied and graduated with the class of '80. Completing his theological course at Rochester four years later, he entered heartily into the work of the ministry at Victoria, B. C. In 1887 he returned to the east in delicate health and took pastoral charge of the Baptist Church at Mechanicsville, N. Y. About six months ago he removed to Geneva, where he labored with unabated zeal and energy till he was suddenly called to halt in the work that he so dearly loved, by the cruel voice of disease, to which he was forced to yield after a struggle of only three weeks. Although a young man on leaving his native province, Mr. Barss was well and favorably known to a large number especially of his own denomination, who eagerly watched his successful career. To those, and to his grief stricken relatives, as well as to the host of friends he made for himself in the land of his adoption, his sudden departure was truly a mysterious providence.

Of the many kind words that have been uttered concerning the worth of a worthy man, we quote the following from the pen of a class-mate, believing that no truer estimate can be formed of a young man's character than that entertained by his fellow students: "His sterling integrity and genuine manliness endeared him to all of us. I never knew him to do a mean act. I never heard from his lips an expression which would have been out of taste in the most refined society. My class mates were all good men and true; but when I say of him that he was *primus inter pares* they will all agree with me. His memory will always remain with me. I hope it will help me

to do my work better. I do not say these things because my friend is gone. I have often said them." What was true of Mr. Barss' record at Acadia was true of his after life even in a more marked degree. One of the professors of Rochester thus speaks of him: "The one characteristic which, perhaps, more than any other, sums up my impression of him, both as a student and a minister was his constant, unswerving fidelity. He was a man to be implicitly trusted. He was faithful to every task and true to every duty. It was a privilege to have such a man in the seminary. By his superior ability, natural and acquired, by his unaffected piety, by his exalted and healthful type of Christian life, by his manly consecration and his earnest missionary spirit, he was a help and a blessing to us all."

Mr. Barss was everywhere beloved and respected by his congregations and by his brother clergymen of all denominations. As a winner of souls he was eminently successful. In a few short years that were given him to labor in his chosen sphere, his efforts were abundantly blessed; and now that he has gone to his reward, the impress of his life remains on hundreds of those whose privilege it was to know him and to enjoy his ministry. To the bereaved ones, who have lost a husband, a father, a son, a brother, the ATHENÆUM joins in heartfelt sympathy, commending them in the hour of darkness to the light which the departed so clearly reflected.

WE have more than once called attention, through the columns of the ATHENÆUM, to the progress that is being made at Acadia in the way of enlarging the staff of instruction and enriching the course of study. We regret that the Board of Governors are so straitened financially that it behooves them to practice the most rigid economy. We believe there are few Colleges accomplishing so much on such limited resources. If the Baptist constituency could fully realize the ever growing needs of such an institution they might possibly respond more freely and thereby enable the Governing Board to meet pressing demands now held in abeyance, and also to inaugurate progressive measures in the direction of the truth of modern educational movements.

The college has one need at the present time which