

WILL every *alumnus* during the present vacation act as a self-appointed agent for the college, especially in the way of directing thither any young men anxious for an education? This word is hardly necessary we know. The largely increased numbers that crowd the class-rooms during the last few years have doubtless been largely due to the hearty exertions of the *alumni* and just here will the hope of Old Acadia continue to be for many a long year. No millionaire has yet taken our college under his wing; and it is well so, since the struggle at first for existence and now for enlarged possibilities has brought her nearer to the heart of the denomination than otherwise could have been effected. And the fact of no patron of the George Munro's type having yet appeared means that not one of her friends can afford to lose an opportunity of furthering her interests. If these are indifferent, strangers assuredly could hardly be expected to assume the responsibility. Let everyone who has ever been within her halls exhibit for Acadia, so far as his opportunities admit the enthusiasm of a salaried canvasser. These efforts united in aim, though individually separated, will give the college a support far better, if either must be had alone, than any provincial endowment or wealthy patron's bequest.

We wish here in all modesty to offer a suggestion solely for the ear of our esteemed governors. In every Baptist Association this summer in the science schools and the teacher's institutes of the maritime provinces there should be a speaker—and if a member of the faculty so much the better—to enforce the claims of higher education and either directly or indirectly to press the claims and sing the praises of our institutions. Other universities adopt this method and reap the advantages. A little time and money in this direction could be profitably invested. The travelling expenses of the professors should be defrayed and their interest in the college would no doubt answer for every thing else.

A MISTAKE too prevalent among our college men is to defer till the last year a decision upon their life-work. It is not wise certainly to rush upon so momentous a conclusion with heedless impetuosity. Among the few great questions which meet everyone sooner or later this assumes a by no means unimportant position. For the majority a

calling fitly chosen contains the promise of assured success, but otherwise an omen of unconditional failure. A square peg doesn't fit well in a round hole. Time therefore and abundant consideration should be devoted by every young man to the question: "What shall be my life-work?"

Yet a decision ought to be arrived at and as early as possible in the college course. A common saying is; "There is plenty of time. I have two or three years before the necessity comes of making a final choice." In formal fact this may be all true enough; but counting the opportunities thus wasted which could be made to tell on one's culture for any special vocation, let the student rather say: "I must decide at once as to my profession or occupation, in order that I may while obtaining a broad all-around education, at the same time, be able to converge as many educative forces as possible upon the line of the particular development I especially require."

That this is not mere theorizing every student will be assured of, if he takes a moment to run over a list of his acquaintances, some of whom have had their life-work chosen early, others not till late in the course. He will generally find that the former upon graduation whether they purpose to be lawyers, doctors, preachers, &c., have already, unlike their fellows, obtained quite a knowledge, theoretical and practical, in their special department. This fact speaks for itself.

MR. H. N. SHAW has again appeared before the public in the results of his work. Five of the speakers on Commencement Day were his pupils. We do not mean to say that they had attained the proficiency their teacher could have imparted under the more favorable conditions; for in the rush of studies, elocution lessons not being compulsory, was too often slighted even by those who attempted it at most but two or three terms in the whole college course. Yet notwithstanding these hindrances we think that no invidious distinctions are drawn when it is stated that the speaking of the elocution pupils afforded the very strongest argument in favor of that much-neglected study. This at all events was the popular verdict.

A whisper has been heard to the effect that elocution is to form hereafter a regular part in the curriculum of the Freshmen a year. Such a consummation is most devoutly to be wished. On every hand the comment is heard that Mr. Shaw has done a great deal for the