

with which subscriptions are paid. A bill showing the amount due will be forwarded to all, and we shall expect a ready response. We shall be glad to send the ATHENÆUM to a much larger number of our friends. The price is one dollar per year.

WHEN any change is made in a representative institution the result is closely watched both by its advocates and opponents. No doubt, the recent change made in the length of Acadia's college-year will share the common fate. That the thing is done, and is not likely to be undone, will do little towards stopping the mouths of critics; for "people will talk." Care in their selection, and faith in the ability of leaders, are principles on which the prosperity and harmony of any society depend. This much, at least, may be taken for granted, that those whose duty it was to decide the matter, were influenced by no other motive than the welfare of the college. But the same charity that leads to this conclusion, supposes a repeal or modification of the action as soon as the welfare of the college demands it.

It is reasonable to suppose, in the absence of the real facts, the considerations on which the decision was reached to have been at least four: (1)—the amount of work; (2)—the health of the students; (3)—the attendance, and (4)—that other element in success—policy. Concerning the first it may be said that September is a better month for study than May. Indeed, freedom from protracted indoor study when Spring comes, appears to be a physical necessity, while the long, cool evenings of Autumn seem specially adapted to mental work. It is an acknowledged fact that one hour's study under favorable conditions is better than four when the current is the wrong way; and the same conditions which will enable one to do more work in the same time, will also enable him to do the same amount better. The second consideration named is scarcely worth noticing; for in these days we do not have to weep over the graves of many who have been killed by hard study. There is greater cause for sorrowing among the friends of the institution for those who do not, than for those who do study too hard. The injury in such cases usually comes from want of care and proper exercise, and can be remedied with equal ease, by attention to the

same, in May or September. If the question had been decided on the merits of the third consideration the change would, certainly, never have been made; for if the students who depend on teaching to pay their way in college, be taken from the classes, they will suffer severely in number and strength. No board of trustees can be expected to wait a month for a teacher, even if he be superior. This, however, seems to be necessary if the teachers are to be accommodated. As far as policy is concerned the change is, doubtless, a good one. The students ought all to be present at the Anniversary exercises so that as good a showing as possible may be made. The present arrangement is well worthy of a trial; for experience in each is the most satisfactory way of determining which is the better.

DR. RAND, after a connection of some two years with Acadia, as Professor of the Theory and Practice of Education, and History, has resigned his position to accept a professorship in Toronto Baptist College. In him Acadia has lost a strong man. His connection with the College, though short, was sufficiently long to exhibit his proficiency in the art of teaching as well as to endear him to all. Perhaps the highest compliment which can be paid to the Doctor's abilities is to say he is a good teacher. He needs, however, no commendation of ours to establish this fact. His connection with the cause of education in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick has become a matter of history. It is one thing to have knowledge, but quite another thing to have the power of imparting it. The possession of the latter is indispensable in the teacher; and it was possessed in no ordinary degree by Dr. Rand. That he has an enviable faculty of securing attention by getting the student in love with a subject, all who have met him in the class-room, will be quite willing to affirm. Perhaps one of the best things to be said of one at his departure is that he is missed. This may truthfully be said of Dr. Rand. Indeed, so large a place had he won in the affections of the students that it is difficult for them to be reconciled to his departure.

In connection with his leaving, as well as with his coming, there will always be more or less dissatisfaction. The denomination, though slow to appreciate him, will always regret that he should have withdrawn