

out, "not outside work which the editors are taking upon themselves to satisfy some personal desires; but that it is work done in the interest of the University; that it has its educational value." The *Lantern* then goes on to say that it does not mean that College newspaper work should "have a place in the curriculum, but that it should receive some recognition." As our contemporary points out, students go to a College "primarily to get the value of the College work as it is laid out by the Professors;" but that they also come "to get whatever else there is of educational value, such as no amount of regular College work can afford." We are not desirous of having any peculiar privileges as editors, but we think that some arrangement might be made whereby the work done on this paper might, without serious detriment to College work or discipline, be acknowledged in some practical way by the Faculty. Our position is the same as that of our contemporary. The College Faculties do not wish to stop the College papers, and the papers do not want College work to stop. But surely there is some *modus vivendi* possible, by means of which both may go on without detriment to either.

#### A WOULD-BE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

In reading the life of Malone, the Shakespearian critic, recently, we were amused by stumbling on the following notice of a would-be Governor-General of Canada. Wilkes, the famous Demagogue, while carrying on the *North Briton*, when dining one day with Mr. Rigby, told him he was a ruined man. "His principal object in writing was, he said, to procure himself a place, and that he should be particularly pleased with one that should remove him from the clamour and importunity of his creditors. He mentioned the office of Governor-General of Canada, and requested Mr. Rigby's good offices with the Duke of Bedford, so as to prevail on that nobleman to apply to Lord Bute for the place." The story goes on to state that, to make sure that the hostile attacks on the Government should thereby be brought summarily to an end, he would make Churchill his chaplain, and Lloyd his secretary, and so carry off the whole hostile force with him to Canada! It is paralleled, in the narrative, to the purposed departure of Hampden and Cromwell to America in Charles I.'s reign. The appearance of the trio at Government House, in the old days, when Lower Canada was still occupied by the generation of the Conquest; and Western Canada was being taken possession of by the U.E. Loyalists might have wrought some curious changes on Canadian History. That such an appointment was aimed at as a solution of the famous troubles at home in the early days of George III. and of Lord Bute, is worth recalling to our students of British and Canadian History now.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

The Editors are not responsible for the opinions of correspondents. No notice will be taken of unsigned contributions.

#### PHYSICAL CULTURE.

To the Editors of THE VARSITY.

SIRS:—Permit me to lay before your numerous readers a few remarks in favour of the University gymnastics.

Education has, very properly, been defined to be that which comprehends all the means which contribute to the development and cultivation of the various physical, intellectual and moral faculties. I would here desire to deal specially with the physical element of University education.

While the out-door sports carried on under the auspices of the Football, Cricket, and Lawn Tennis Clubs, etc., are deservedly popular and flourishing, such does not seem to be the case with those sports more immediately appertaining to the gymnasium. The exercises that should be included in the University gymnastic course consist of fencing, boxing, single-stick, horizontal and paral-

lel bars, flying rings, trapeze, fives, etc.; therefore it cannot be said that collectively they lack the charm of variety.

For the out-door sports there are several clubs; for the gymnasium, not one. Included in the former are two football clubs, the Rugby and the Association. The members belonging to them find in their practice the necessary associated mental and physical stimulus that makes them so intensely attractive to the participant. In the gymnasium, fencing and boxing will be found to have the same attractive qualities.

The noble game of cricket has its different features of bowling, batting, wicket-keeping, fielding, etc.—combinations that require the use of the physical and mental faculties and thereby make it attractive to those engaged in it.

In the various exercises on the different kinds of fixed apparatus in the gymnasium, feats of intelligent daring requiring judgment, accurate measurement by the eye, and immediate execution by the muscles under the direction of the mind; other feats of skilful intricacy, agility, and grace; and those of wonderful strength or prolonged endurance, evidently have the necessary stimulus above mentioned.

In the out-door sports, lawn-tennis has its coterie, and in the gymnasium Fives has its devotees, both having the same attractive stimulus. So that, considered separately, the sports of the gymnasium have at least as much to recommend them as the out-door sports. They have also this advantage, that they are adapted to every season of the year and all states of the weather, but more especially to those days and seasons when the out-door sports cannot be practised, or only carried on at great inconvenience.

Then if, collectively and separately, the sports practised inside the gymnasium are at least equal to those carried on outside in the qualities that make the latter so successful, why is it that the former are almost entirely ignored? There are several reasons, some of which I shall enumerate:—

1. Many of the exercises are more complicated and intricate, several of them requiring to be commenced at quite an early age.

2. The pupils have not been graded in the exercises in the schools and colleges, nor have examinations been held, consequently students on commencing their University career are not up to the standard that should be required at that stage.

3. The exercises demand teachers, yet none have been employed, or if they have they are probably unskilled persons (that is, they are not all-round gymnasts), and hence it has come to pass that gymnastic exercises receive comparatively so little attention.

4. The want of a sufficiently commodious gymnasium.

5. This last that I shall mention is one of great present importance to the physical culture department of the University; the one that, outside of those before mentioned, enables each of the out-door sports to exist in a flourishing condition and without which they would almost cease. It is this: There is no gymnastic club, and therefore the gymnastic sports are deficient in the necessary *esprit de corps*. I would therefore suggest that such a club be formed.

There are some who prefer the exercise of the gymnasium; others, no doubt, who, though preferring the out-door sports, cannot, from one cause or another, take part in them and have to decide between the gymnasium sports or none. Both of these classes should unite in forming a gymnastic club in connection with the General Athletic Association, which is, I believe, about to be formed, and on the same basis as the other clubs composing it. I am sure this arrangement would be not only of incalculable value to its own members but also of great service to the other clubs forming the General Athletic Association.

At present the tendency of the outside clubs is to estimate the gymnasium and gymnastic exercises, not for their own intrinsic merits but for the value they have in aiding their own peculiar sport. Now, by forming the club that I have suggested, while the value they would be to the other clubs would be increased, their own intrinsic value as a means of physical exercise would at once become apparent in a way that could not fail to add fresh lustre to the Physical Culture department of the University.

E. B. HOUGHTON.

#### DR. WALLACE'S LECTURES.

To the Editors of THE VARSITY.

SIRS:—It is to be hoped that Mr. Wallace will have no reason to complain of his reception by the students' body. Mr. Wallace is so eminent in his special department that it is a privilege to hear him. But unless the lectures are brought prominently under the notice of undergraduates, they are apt to neglect them in the general hurry of the term. I would suggest that the officers of the Canadian Institute make arrangements to have the various classes thoroughly canvassed in order to distribute as many tickets as possible.

SCIENCE.