

believe that a large number of our students are sacrificing some of their best opportunities because they thoughtlessly and wantonly ignore one of the most important things in student life. In a recent exchange we find the following note: "One-third of the university students of Europe die prematurely from the effects of bad habits acquired in school; one-third die from lack of exercise; and the other third govern Europe." That lack of exercise is so fatal as this may not be absolutely true, but one thing is certain that if some of the students would take more vigorous daily exercise than they do, many of the cobwebs would be swept away from their brains and fewer pale faces would be seen in the spring. We do not propose to write a homily on the subject but we cannot deprecate too strongly the fact that very often, while only about twenty men are engaged in football, scores of students may be seen lounging around the fence getting no physical benefit. A few take regular exercise in the Y.M.C.A. gymnasium and many more take vigorous outings on the streets every afternoon, but many apparently forget that no man can do himself justice in his mental work while he is neglecting and abusing his physical organism. When we consider that in recent years the death of some of our best students and the life-long disabling of others is directly traceable to over-study and lack of exercise, the question becomes a very serious one. Nature resents abuse and will have its revenge. In view of the early opening of the skating rink and the beginning of the hockey season and with the prospect of the bracing winter atmosphere before us, further comment is unnecessary.

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At the risk of becoming tedious to our readers, we again open up the subject of inter-collegiate debates. So far as we know, on two occasions only have we had debating contests with the students of Toronto University, and during the last few years none have taken place, in spite of the repeated efforts of the Alma Mater Society to make the necessary arrangements. In the *Mail* of November 24th, Mr. E. H. Ross of Toronto strongly advocates the formation of an inter-collegiate debating union. He considers that debating contests would be of much greater interest than those for supremacy in football. He refers in very flattering terms to the speaking ability of our representatives at the football banquet given in Toronto after the championship match, and, speaking of one of our prominent players, says: "A college could well afford to lose a game at football when it possesses an oratorical champion who can crown a physical defeat with an intellectual triumph, and convey to the public an impression that Queen's ex-champions in football are champions in eloquence." It is well known that among the great

American colleges inter-collegiate debates are annual events, and have become an important feature in college life. Besides this, many of the individual States have Inter-Collegiate Oratorical Unions. We see no reason why we should not have some such an organization in Canada, or, if long distances prove an objection, in Ontario. Occasional independent efforts are made at debates of this kind, for instance, representative theologues from Knox and Montreal Presbyterian Colleges recently held their annual contest, and Toronto and McGill Universities are making arrangements for one also. There are many subjects—social, political, literary and moral—that are engaging the attention of the students of our various colleges and in some of them training in elocution is also given, so that a debating union could have abundant work to do in testing the oratorical and intellectual prowess of our representatives. At present, perhaps, our colleges are known to the public more by the physical achievements of their football teams than by anything else, and this idea gives them a splendid opportunity of shewing Canadians, by depth of thought and power of expression, that higher development also is making rapid strides. Organization could be easily effected, at first by correspondence and then by delegates from the different colleges meeting at some central point to draw up a constitution and regulations and arrange a series of subjects and debaters. We invite the attention of contemporary college periodicals to this question, as a free discussion of it may stir to action the various literary societies, and we suggest that our own A. M. S. make an early movement, if not in the direction of an intercollegiate organization, at least towards arranging a debate with some one of our sister universities.

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Theology is the science of God; *i.e.*, a systematic treatment of all we know of God.

Now, the God of the nineteenth century, unlike the God of Deism, is immanent in the world, and the world is regarded as the progressive revelation of His nature. The theology, therefore, of the nineteenth century is not alone concerned with the dogmatic treatment of the Jewish and Christian writings (although a proper dogmatic treatment of these writings will always hold the foremost place in theology), but as well with all the parts of God's revelation of Himself. The truest lover of the Scriptures need not hesitate for a moment to admit that, as "the heavens declare the glory of God," astronomy, which is a systematic account of the planets and their courses, is a revelation of God. Nor need he doubt that, if "the earth is full of God's glory," geology, botany, physics, chemistry and other kindred sciences reveal to us what God is. If he admits with the Psalmist that "man has been