

them. In studying men it is very important that men so live as to induce the age to find fault with itself. Nor should your purpose be to classify, corner and fence in men. That kind of work is quite in keeping with ranching, where the corral and the branding-iron play an important part, but we are not here to learn the art of making classes, but to master the science of a true brotherhood in which all men shall be included.

This society is open for the advantage of men from 1905 to 1908—not as a shelter, not for haggling, nor for beating up the dust of moth-eaten dicta, but for the study of the problems of to-day, for culture that is broader than party manners and that does not depend upon the use of rounded phrases.

In closing you will allow me to express my personal gratitude to this time-honored society. We who are growing old, learned our lessons in a rougher school than the students of to-day attend. We not only hustled and hazed men, but we had brute force committees. It is a wonder we had noble men in those days when we missed the refinement and culture of to-day. Even in that far-off past there were men of vision who moaned over our barbarity, our hazing, hustling, brute-force methods so aptly described by Prof. Ashley as "the calm deliberations of a self-governing democracy." It was a barbaric way of civilizing men, but I am glad we did it. It brought us very near to one another. But granting all that, we turn to recount the benefits of our undergraduate course, and frankly credit the Literary Society with much, without which we would be poor indeed.

American Football

The Editor of Varsity :

The following occurs in the report given in the N.Y. Sun of the foot-ball match played on the 15th inst., between Princeton and the Naval College team at Annapolis, in which the former, the champion of the Eastern Colleges in 1903, was defeated :

"On the Princeton side of the field the scene was pitiful. Several of the players were heart-broken, while Foulke, the tiger captain, cried and moaned like a person in agony."

In my time at Princeton such an exhibition of grief and despair at the loss of a game would have been impossible. But the College men have not changed their nature; they and their contemporaries in the American colleges generally, are just as brave and enduring as are our own well-tried Canadian students. Yet scenes like that here described have been of late years not uncommon in the United States. The explanation seems to be that too much significance is attached to inter-collegiate games. They are played for victory, not for the fun of the zest of the playing, or for the mental and physical energy and resource which they call forth. And victory means for the time everything in the world to the players, not for themselves, but for the reputation and glory of their college. A false value is attached to the college itself, and a false notion of the meaning and purpose of student athletics and of student life generally is assiduously fostered till the very verge of the ridiculous is reached and sometimes passed before the eyes of a mystified

public. The athlete and his crowd of backers and admirers hold exactly the same relation to their college, as militarists do towards their nation in idolizing its supposed honor and glory and making it the chief end of their lives to have their dubious abstractions vindicated by the brutal arbitrament of force upon some far-off field of war. And, by the way, it was under the old regime of unrestrained physical force that ancient classic heroes used to indulge in unlimited lachrymose effusions.

The thought of exclusive brute force in this connection suggests a remark as to the distinguishing characteristic of the "American game" of Rugby. Any one who has seen their style of game played, has noticed at once that the main purpose kept in view by each team from the start of the contest is to secure a formation or combination that will most successfully "interfere" with the efforts of the opposing side to come within reach of the ball. And this interference is made even when the possession of the ball is not directly involved, so that the aggressors are, ahead of the ball and engaged in fighting, not those who are really "in the game," but those who are trying to get into it. Such a construction of the Rugby game, or of "foot-ball" generally, is necessarily detrimental to the art of line playing. It is also in the long run injurious to the chivalric spirit and sentiment—the most wholesome and saving element in true college sport—because it is essentially illegitimate and alien to the game. Let the Canadian colleges never adopt the system on the principle of "off-side interference." And what is of equal importance just now, let the referees take care that it is not practised in the least degree under our present system.

University College.

J. F. McCurdy. 07

Fees Now Due

"Quaerenda pecunia primumst virtus post numeros."

Oh why should a precept so lawless

Find life in the air of a college ?

Yet cruel as the Greek king at Aulis

Each reverend dispenser of knowledge

Cares not for our murmurs or curses,

But drains our life-blood—from our purses.

"Give, give us money," everywhere they cry,

"For registration, library, lab., or gym.

You must not put this off till bye and bye ;

But pay at once." O mercenary hymn,

Why should thy sounds profane intrude

Upon a student's solitude !

Why should our minds on thoughts profound intent,

For filthy lucre have a care or thought ?

Or why not bank our cash at three per cent. ?

Or why buy knowledge that cannot be bought?

Oh Learning, Learning, hast thou sunk so low

As bid thy votaries pay as they go!

"Oh, from these taxes find us some relief,"

We vainly cry unto the powers that be,

"This impost dread that taxes our belief

In even a Senate's cruel rapacity !

If you need money, tax whate'er you please,

Tax cap, tax gown, tax all our faculties,

Tax what you will, tax e'en our patience too,

But O tax not our pockets more than's due."

—R. C. R., '05. 07