

times when it will appear to a man that if he does his duty he will get some pretty rough usage, and he may be tempted to shirk his unpleasant task.

There must be to every player who has persevered in his practice a growing confidence of strength, and of his power to meet and overcome difficulties.

If a student goes through college and confines himself solely to his books and the class room, he goes out to meet the world at a great disadvantage, the bustle and the strife are new experiences to him, he has been used to quiet and seclusion, and now he must meet and contend with others on all sides. But the football player has met all this before and has been accustomed to brushing up against men, and has gained a confidence in his ability to look out for himself.

Apart from these influences which bear directly upon the player football is a strong factor in contributing to that indefinable thing known as College life. It must be admitted that there is a certain element in the life of students at College, a feeling of fellowship, and a general air pervading the whole University, which is found nowhere else. Analysis of what this life is would be impossible; but we know it exists and has its distinct colouring.

Football, in as much as it tends to bring men into closer touch with each other, opens new channels of acquaintanceship, gives a common topic of interest, creates a certain degree of excitement, and make the student keenly interested in the success of his university, about to contest with rival institutions, gives a distinct tone to College life. It is the salt without which the year would open with a flatness noticeable to all.

In conclusion, while we have eulogized football, we cannot of course prophesy that it will be a lasting feature among the College institutions. Athletics will remain and many contests will always be encouraged. The ancients had their sports and gloried in them. The higher their civilization and the more cultivated they were, the more they devoted themselves to Athletic pursuits. The particular form in which these pursuits have manifested themselves have changed with the times and customs of the people. To-day we have our football. It seems to meet the demand made upon it, and until something has been found fit and able to supersede it, it will continue to flourish and appeal, and appeal strongly to every College student.

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