

# Queen's College Journal.

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## Queen's College Journal,

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FOR the gymnasium question, about which  
so much was said last year, a temporary  
solution appears to have been found, which  
will probably satisfy most of us until some  
future benefactor endows us with a gym. of  
our own. The city Y. M. C. A. have built an  
excellent gymnasium, well equipped and with  
a good instructor; attached to it there are  
also swimming and shower baths. To this  
town students are charged a fee of five dollars,  
and those from outside half this amount.  
Quite a number attend regularly, the swim-  
ming baths being especially popular.

For those who do not wish to make enough  
use of a gymnasium to justify their joining the  
Y. M. C. A., there is the top flat of the Science  
Hall, which was fitted up last year, and has  
this year been much improved, so that a num-  
ber attend daily. On account of its small size  
several useful pieces of apparatus are wanting,  
such as a punching bag, etc., and there are no  
facilities for running; last year's horizontal  
bar, too, has disappeared; but notwithstanding  
this, much good may be got from the appa-  
ratus which we have. Some more pairs of  
boxing gloves would, however, be desirable,  
as every day we see four or five intending  
combatants waiting for others to cease. Ori-  
ginally there were enough, but several right-  
hand gloves have disappeared, so that at

present there are five or six lefts which, having  
no rights to match, are absolutely useless.  
We hope that the committee will see to this.

\* \* \*

Whatever the various opinions of Mr. Glad-  
stone's public policy may be, all must admit  
that he is himself the greatest man now before  
the world. Though Premier of Great Britain  
and Ireland, and though severe political  
storms overhang his Ministry, he recently  
found time to deliver a lecture at Oxford on  
"Mediaeval Universities," nor has any one  
accused him of having neglected his political  
duties in order to do so. Our report is col-  
lated from that given in the *New York Nation*.

Mr. Gladstone's magnificent voice cast its  
wonder-working spell upon its hearers from  
the very beginning, and though the academic  
manner of his delivery kept his eye for the  
greater part of the time closely fixed upon his  
manuscript, the compelling power of his per-  
sonality dominated the assembled university,  
even when a well-considered allusion to Lord  
Salisbury brought down the house. Before he  
began speaking, and when the lecture closed  
at the end of an hour and a half, there was  
unbounded enthusiasm and unlimited ap-  
plause, but the thrill of these moments was  
not so great as to prevent his auditors from  
perceiving upon him certain marks of flagging  
vigour which they forgot while listening to the  
"old man eloquent."

That part of the lecture which dealt specifi-  
cally with Mediaeval Universities was un-  
avoidably somewhat bare of his characteristic  
eloquence, for the very reason that he had  
been conscientious in his study of the techni-  
cal points involved. Only a word or two was  
given to various Italian Universities, to Char-  
lemagne and to Alfred. The beginnings of  
Oxford were fixed not earlier than the twelfth  
century, at which period Paris easily held the  
"prior principalitas," which did not pass over  
to Oxford until the fourteenth century, al-  
though as early as 1252 Oxford began to hold  
her own. During the fourteenth century Ox-