

accordance with a false conception of propriety. Noisy sports are placed under the ban and vigorous out-door exercise is regarded as unlady-like and hoidenish. A friend at our elbow declares that he passed a Ladies' Seminary some years ago where he saw some of the pupils vigorously pelting each other with snow and others laboriously constructing a snow Colossus; but the lady principal appearing on the scene she ignominiously drove them in-doors. A distinguished physician, writing on this subject, said, "By grossly perverted usages of society it is considered improper for girls to run and jump and shout, and especially so out of doors; but while mere children they must act as *young ladies* and never move except in a precise and measured manner, and anything that requires muscular effort is regarded as vulgar." Thus our correspondent will perceive that if Acadia Seminary is deficient in suitable appliances for the physical education of its inmates, the fault does not rest so much with those immediately in charge of that institution as with the public sentiment which sanctions and supports the present condition of things. If the physical development of young ladies is neglected, and if an "idle whim of impropriety" interferes with the vital questions of health and exercise, parents and guardians must shoulder a share of the responsibility. Reform is needed all along the line. Let calsthenic and gymnastic exercises take their proper place in our Seminaries, as they have already done in most of our Colleges, and let the old Greek system of "harmonious development" of mind and body be observed, and we believe the results will be the strongest argument in favor of the scheme.

THE January number of the *King's College Record* is responsible for the following: "There are now three Colleges in this Province alone, each entertaining more or less of a spirit of petty jealousy which cannot but be hurtful to the cause of higher education." Whatever may be the propriety of applying such language to Dalhousie or King's we are not prepared to say, but we assure our contemporary that it is quite mistaken in attributing such sentiments to Acadia. That the *Record* fairly represents the attitude of King's toward her sister Colleges in the above statement it may not be ungenerous to assume, as it is doubtless

more familiar with the *spirit* of that institution than a stranger could possibly be; but when it claims equal accuracy of information with regard to other Colleges it falls into error. We are not sure that we should object to the sentence had the *Record* presented it with limitations, but it has no right to make sweeping statements or hastily conclude that because a certain thing may be true of King's, therefore by a process of induction it must be true of other Colleges as well. Acadia has no need to be jealous of her sister Colleges, and certainly not of King's. She has a Faculty harmonious in all their relations, faithful to their trust, and composed of men of acknowledged ability and ripe scholarship; she has a larger number of undergraduates in Arts than any College in the Maritime Provinces; she occupies a position financially most satisfactory and encouraging to her friends; and although she is not the special object of the munificence of any one man, yet her prosperity is none the less assured, since it rests in the affections of a loyal people.

No, friend *Record*, Acadia has no "petty jealousies." She may be conscious of defects and anxious for more extended usefulness; but she repudiates and despises the motives you attribute to her. True she is inspired by a generous rivalry, and if this is all that the *Record* means, we do not object: in fact we stand on common ground; but if the *Record* means emulation when it affirms "jealousy," then the conclusion of its proposition is false: for healthy emulation, so far from being "hurtful to higher education," is no inconsiderable factor in its advancement. Clearly the scheme of College Federation has dazzled the eyes of our contemporary. Well, we are not surprised. The old proverb still contains a kernel of truth: "The weaker goes to the wall." Were King's in a stage of vigorous, healthy growth instead of melancholy decrepitude, we believe that federation would present fewer attractions. Acadia has no objections to the courtship between King's and Dalhousie. She trusts it will result in a happy union, and promises to be prompt in offering her congratulations. For herself she claims the right to be left alone. She has no desire to convert marriage into bigamy by becoming a third party in the contract. She has a purpose of her own to serve which she believes will be best attained by advancing along the line which reason and experience has proved in the past to be so advantageous to the true interests of education.