

Lacrosse has so many advantages over other games, that perhaps it will not be out of place to mention a few of them. It is the cheapest of all games. It requires no pads, gauntlets, or other expensive equipments. A single lacrosse-stick and simple running gear, is all that is required for action. It develops the muscles better than any sport we know of. The muscular action is confined to no particular part, as in rowing, skating, or football—it exercises equally the arms, legs and body, and at the same time there is sufficient excitement about it to make it the most fascinating of games. It develops self-reliance, and awakens the energies of all who would excel in it. It is conducive to temperance and sobriety, for no young man can belong to ‘a first twelve,’ or be a ‘crack player’ who does not attend to his way of living, and shun entirely the flowing bowl or other vices. It is so simple to look at that any one can readily master its first principles in a few minutes, but to excel at it requires careful and steady practice, which not only acts healthfully on the body, but exercises an exhilarating effect on the mind. The game is always alive, and no player need ever complain that he has not had innings enough. As a matter of fact, it is nearly all innings, if a player only chooses to make it so.” Setting aside, in this panegyric, general expressions of the fondness and hope which cannot fail to swell the breast of a Secretary, the points really made in favour of Lacrosse seem to be its cheapness, the ease with which its principles are learned, its general development of the muscles, and its liveliness,—the excitement never flagging and every player having perpetual innings. The last consideration may be extended to the spectators, whose presence and interest, after all, are no small part of a match: it is almost impossible to make a Canadian lady enter into Cricket sufficiently to sit through a game. On the other hand, the weak points of which the Secretary seems partly conscious, which at least he admits have afforded marks for the calumnies of a censorious world, are the roughness of the game and its unscientific character. We hardly know exactly what a