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A History of the Gymnasium Movement in Queen's.

THE question is sometimes asked, "When did the Gymnasium movement originate?" To answer this question one must go back to some source of information more ancient than the Journal; for in the first volume of the Journal, published in the session of '73-'74, appears an article urging action toward the providing of a Gymnasium, "We must see that this matter is well worthy of immediate and serious consideration." This is not likely to have been the first appeal. No immediate result however was forthcoming, for in Dec. '77 the Editor writes, "As we have nothing in the shape of a gymnasium, a college necessity (we use the word necessity advisedly and trust that proper notice will be taken of it) we suggest the desirability of a snow shoe club." But the proper notice was not taken and there is no further reference to the Gymnasium until in Mar. '79 appears another editorial strongly urging that action be taken to erect a Gymnasium. In April of the same year further reference is made to it and evidently throughout the fall of '79 the agitation was continued, this time with success for in May '80 we read, "At last we are about to have a Gymnasium—not a \$100,000 one, but one a great deal better than none." The faculties of Arts and Theology were moving into their new building and the Senate placed the old Convocation Hall (in the present Medical building) at the disposal of the students for the purposes of a Gymnasium. During the session of '80-'81 the Gymnasium was in operation and evidently good work was done, to judge from the account of the Gym-class display in Mar., '81. But difficulty was found in financing it. The fee was voluntary and only a small fraction of the students paid it. This left a large deficit for the A.M.S. to meet, and thus the second year opened under rather unfavorable conditions.

That the affairs of the Gymnasium were not running smoothly is apparent from a note that we find in the Journal of Dec. 17th, '81, which states that "at a mass meeting to consider the affairs of the Gymnasium it was decided to take the Gym. out of the hands of the A.M.S. and to give it over to a club Sometime this fall one of the windows was taken out by some of those lawless characters which exist about every college and the apparatus was removed through the breach and strewn around the campus. The club will undertake to see that nothing of this sort occurs again . . . it is a good thing to take the Gym. out of the hands of the A.M.S., which