

survive the ordeal without injury, and only a medical expert can tell when the constitution is naturally strong. More university students have been invalidated for life by devotion to athletics than by devotion to study. Severe training for matches is so exhausting that the student who is subjected to it cannot possibly do justice to his intellectual work, any more than one who has exhausted his nervous energy by intense mental application can take his place usefully in an athletic match. No one is in a better position than the student to find out from experience that his nature is at least two-sided, and that perfection of condition requires due attention to each side. The tendency to professionalism shows itself in a variety of ways, such as betting on the results of matches, resorting to illegitimate devices, indulgence in brutality, and the substitution of chronic academic hostility for generous intercollegiate emulation. All this is aggravated by heated discussions of disputed points in the sporting columns of the newspapers. The general effect is to lower the tone of academic life, which is bad enough, and to give the public a distorted impression of it, which is far worse. The remedies for such evils as have found their way into the practice of athletics are in the hands of the students themselves. They are by no means so aggravated here as they are in the United States, and young Canadians will perform a useful and patriotic service by endeavouring to restrain them within the smallest limits possible.

General Kitchener.

General Kitchener's campaign in the Sudan is one more illustration of the old truth that in the long run success comes to those who work for it and is not the result of chance. Few men have gone through a more severe preparation for such an adventure than he did. He spent three years as an active member of the Palestine Exploration Expedition, his work being the survey of Galilee and the production of a map of the Holy Land. He then made a survey of Cyprus, served as British Consul at Erzurum, accompanied the former Nile Expedition, and passed through the war about Suakim. He is described as an energetic worker, but taciturn and even morose, and there have been times when he disappeared into the desert for weeks together with no apparent reason.

Higher Education of Women.

The collected opinions of more than one hundred leading professors in twenty German Universities form an interesting contribution to the literature of higher education for women. Some of the contributors write enthusiastically in favour of throwing university courses open to them, the members of the faculties of psychology and philosophy being unanimous in support of the proposal. Some of the writers are reserved and undecided, and a few are positively averse to providing for women any higher education. As Germany has always been noted for its conservatism on all questions relating to the status of women, these published opinions show that very satisfactory progress has been made.

Russia and Bulgaria.

Russia has not been very successful in Russianizing Bulgaria. The assassination of Premier Stambuloff seemed for a time to have removed the chief obstacle to the success of her policy, but a more formidable one remains in the stubborn determination of the people to manage their own affairs. They tolerate King Ferdinand just now, apparently because he fills a gap, but they will not allow him to sell a shred of their independence in order to secure from Russia the recognition of his kingship. There are indications that anti-Russian feeling is just now on the increase, one of them being the conclusion of a commercial treaty with Austria-Hungary,

an arrangement that has heretofore been found impossible of accomplishment owing to the hostility of the Russian party to the scheme. Stranger events have taken place than a federation of the Slavic principalities—Roumania, Servia, Montenegro, and Bulgaria—or, at the least, an alliance offensive and defensive among them. The importance of Montenegro has been recently enhanced by the marriage of the Princess Helena, daughter of the King, to the Crown Prince of Italy.

Land-Grabbing Nations.

The London Times has rendered the cause of truth good service by publishing some statistics to show that Great Britain is not the only nation which is rapidly extending its territories by the absorption of savage areas. France has in twelve years increased her foreign colonial possessions from 665,000 to 3,391,000 square miles. Germany had no colonial territory twelve years ago; she has now 1,023,000 square miles. Italy has added in the same interval to her territory almost half a million of square miles. During these twelve years Great Britain has brought under her influence 2,000,000 square miles in Africa, and has increased her total colonial territory from 8,400,000 to 11,000,000. There is this great difference, however, between Britain and the other nations as promoters of colonization: they exploit their colonies for their exclusive benefit so far as they can; she allows all foreign countries to trade with her colonies on the same footing as herself. The splendid courage which prompts such a course ought to appeal to the admiration of civilized people everywhere, but it does not always seem to have that effect.

University Influence on Politics.

President Cleveland gave an admirable address on this subject at the recent sesquicentennial celebration at Princeton University. He pitched his remarks on the subject in a high key, and uttered some plain truths to which all universities would do well to take heed. A university which contents itself with being a mere seat of learning fails in its duty to the state, and loses one means of keeping itself in touch with a democratic community. Every student who goes out into practical life, whatever his academic course may have been, should have a more intelligent grasp of political and economic questions than he would have had but for his academic training, and should be less open to the influence of selfish schemers, sinister plotters, and all the rest of the "patriots" who lie in wait to trap the unwary.

Mr. Bryan's Campaign.

There seems to be on the part of a great many people a certain amount of admiration for Mr. Bryan, the defeated Democratic candidate for the Presidency of the United States, and a lingering conviction that he is sure to occupy a prominent place in political life. So far as his campaign speeches are concerned, there is little evidence either of consummate ability or of political shrewdness. Opinions may differ as to whether he is an honest but deluded enthusiast, or a deliberately crafty demagogue, but there can be no doubt as to the shallowness of his speeches. Only two of these are worthy of consideration—the torrent of rhetoric which secured him the nomination of the Chicago convention, and the tiresome but by no means profound essay on the currency question which he read at the Madison Square meeting in New York. As a physical *tour de force*, his volubility was phenomenal, but more than that is required to enable a public man to forge his way to the front in a nation of seventy millions of people, which has produced political orators like Webster and Sumner, and campaign speakers like Douglass, Lincoln and Schurz.