

no account, ought our familiarity to betray us into the error of cracking jokes at the expense of brother clergy, relating the makeshifts of the study, or recounting the drollness of parish visits. Above all those subjects referring to the relations of the sexes which people now-a-days affect to discuss openly as a sort of moral duty, should be handled with the greatest possible delicacy if referred to at all.

A second point of contact is *courtship*, which many people call flirtation, when applied to a young clergyman. That some young clergymen are not entirely free from the charge can hardly be denied. What can be said on behalf of such men who deliberately trifle with the affections of young ladies and boast of the success of their infamous folly. Few things are more base. The game is altogether one-sided, and the advantage is entirely with the young man. It is he that makes the advances and pays those little attentions which when paid by an honourable man, the lady has a right to regard as being meant in a certain way. To betray confidence thus induced deserves the most severe and indignant censure.

A third point of contact is found in the manly sports; golf, bicycle clubs, gun clubs, foot-ball, lacrosse, hunt clubs &c. The craze for sports is widespread and in many places requires direction and control rather than encouragement: I believe however that youth ought to be encouraged to take part in those games which cultivate quickness of judgment, skill, patience, endurance, and other manly qualities. In our country villages too often an apathy seems to pervade the youth and a listless inactivity characterizes their idle hours. When this is the case I fear that unholy thoughts and deeds may fill the void. However if the clergyman can find the time and is of that peculiar, buoyant and dignified temperament which fits him to be a leader of youth I do not see why he should not make himself felt through the sports of youth as well as from the pulpit. I will go further and say it is his duty to do so.

Finally in regard to those amusements which include both sexes, theatre going, card parties, dances, &c. I do not care to dogmatize. One thing is certain they do not need encouragement from the Church. But can the clergyman do anything to control them and turn them to good account? On this, opinion is divided, with the weight of judgment apparently against the church having anything to

do
the
may
wor
I
ing
be s
reac
or th
enga
all t
men

FI

Mr.
the c
reign
repor
that
60 ha
the e
where
For v
was h
bursed

Mr.
Rev. M
gentle
ance i
import
Associ