

It is possible to fight several duels without receiving a wound, but each duellist is most likely to receive wounds about the head of one or two inches in length even to the bone. In these friendly duels, the eyes and vital parts are protected. It is quite common to meet a German student, however, whose scalp, cheeks and ears, are furrowed with scars. But duels of another class are occasionally fought, which have sometimes ended fatally. These, however, are the result of some real offence.

Most German students then spend two years of their student life in a most remarkable way. Lectures are attended during this period very irregularly, and little real work is done. It is, however, regarded as a period of valuable experience between hard study in the gymnasium and earnest university work. It is largely owing to the broad and thorough training which the young men have received before entering the university, that they can devote this portion of their university life almost entirely to club exercises, customs and attractions.

As a body, German students are very much respected by their countrymen. While their duelling and beer drinking customs are to us offensive objectionable habits and practices, they possess a manliness of bearing, a politeness to everyone, and an honor which impress us with respect for them. Every student feels that he himself is responsible for his own conduct and actions, and in the midst of the temptations and enthusiasm surrounding him he is always mindful of his honor, the reputation of his name, and the respect and rights due to others.

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