

posed by him to be Steatite. His conclusions regarding the character of this mineral were disputed by C. C. Delaney and E. Charlebois. D. A. Campbell advocated Mr. Devine's opinion, which was concurred in by the majority of the members present.

ATHLETIC NEWS.

We were highly pleased with the success of the junior calisthenic class in the entertainment on Easter Monday evening. The movements were as near perfection as could be expected from young students, who have but a very limited amount of time at their disposal for practice. Too much importance cannot be attached to these exercises, so beneficial to every limb and muscle of the body. In this line we look for progress. Next year we expect to see the senior students organize a class, and, under the direction of a competent instructor, make the annual entertainment of the A. A. the best of its kind ever seen in this city; besides, there is no better preparation for the field than hard work in the gymnasium.

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The *Manhattan Athletic Club Chronicle* is a journal devoted to the interests of the N. A. A. A. of America, and the April number contains much fresh and interesting athletic news. But there are a few passages to which we would take objection. Among them is the following: "There are nearly three hundred colleges and universities throughout the United States, besides innumerable other institutions of learning; in the great majority of these athletics hold a prominent position. At the principal universities the instructor in these branches holds a position on the faculty of equal importance with the men who cultivate the intellect." To the first sentence of this extract we are most happy to give our unqualified approval, and it is a matter for congratulation that athletics are at last taking their proper position in our schools and colleges. But to the second we do not hesitate to give just as unqualified a disapproval. In the first place, we can scarcely think that such a state of affairs exists, but if it does we can see in it little less than a national disaster. The greatest enthusiast, and we claim to have considerable love for athletics, would never expect for his favourite an equal place with intellectual pursuits in any institution of learning. As the body is inferior to the mind, so is athletic inferior to intellectual development. The former is but an aid to, not an equal with, the latter. Therefore, an instructor in athletics, however amiable, clever, or distinguished he may be personally, cannot hold "a position on the faculty of equal importance with the men who cultivate the intellect." Why, our esteemed contemporary would have John L. Sullivan, on the supposition that he were professor of athletics in Princeton, occupy a position of equal importance

with the venerable philosopher, Dr. McCosh. No there is nothing but danger to athletics in elevating them to a place beyond their merits. Another objectionable paragraph in the same journal is this one referring to the A. A. U., a rival organization. "We stand amazed at the audacity of the leaders of the new union, whose sole purpose and object is to pull down amateurism from its proud pedestal to the low and degrading level of professionalism. We confess we stand amazed at the audacity of the language here used. There is nothing either low or degrading in honest professionalism in athletics any more than there is in law or medicine. When lawyers refuse to take their fee and doctors offer their valuable services gratis, then we may begin to talk of amateurism and its proud pedestal. The athlete has just the same right to expect and obtain compensation for services rendered, in any connection whatever, as the eloquent lawyer, skilful physician, or sensational preacher. But what is this amateurism anyhow? Judging from recent developments in football in England; from the stone-throwing and name-calling tendencies of the N. A. A. A. of America and the A. A. U.; and, coming nearer home, from the revelations of a few weeks ago in the Montreal A. A. A., as well as the proceedings of the recent lacrosse convention in Cornwall, we would say that the huge Augean stable of amateurism needs a most thorough cleansing. The trouble seems to be that no Hercules can be found; and until he does appear, we would request the *M. A. C. Chronicle* to cast no reproaches on professionalism, as such. An honest, open professional is a far more honorable man than a shabby amateur, specimens of which are numerous, though costly.

A challenge from the R. M. C. Cadets to play a game of football in Kingston has been declined. The first fifteen will not re-organize this spring.

The first baseball game of the season, played on Tuesday, the 17th, was really an excellent exhibition. The teams were scratch nines, under the captaincy of J. Ryan and L. Weldon, respectively, and victory rested with the latter. A score of 6 to 2, few errors, and good batting in a nine innings game at such an early date, point to a fact that we have insisted upon all along, viz., that the team of '88 can be made equal to any of its predecessors. An effort will be made to bring a few strange teams to Ottawa, possibly the Beavers and Clippers of Montreal, and one from Brockville or Kingston. Besides this, the competition for the Carroll cup and the championship of the College promises to be very close and exciting. Five or six nines will take part in the contest.

NOTES.

D. A. Campbell, captain of the lacrosse team for the coming season, will fill the position well, and do much towards bringing the game up to its proper standard.