

THIS week we give space to three communications on the question of the boat club. All of them favor the project more or less, though the writers have each their objections to urge. All these objections, we think, can be answered, many of them indeed will be provided for when the constitution of the club is drawn up, and its general policy settled. The way in which the subscriptions are coming in shows that the project is favorably received both in and out of the college. In less than ten days over one-sixth of the required amount has been subscribed.

THE communication signed 'Junius Jr.' was written on the two sides of a thin piece of paper nine by three inches. The 'Jr.' attached to the name was what saved it from the basket. Correspondents would greatly oblige by writing legibly and on one side of the paper only. Not a few of the errors that have slipped into these columns have had their origin in bad copy. Students, who, as a general rule lack practice in writing, and who, nevertheless, ought to have a desire to become proficient therein, can ill afford to make copy that is slovenly in any respect.

THE editor of the 'College Chronicle' of the *New York World* is collecting the opinions of the various colleges on the coming presidential election, a vote being taken in most of the institutions, and the result sent to New York. Being Canadians our 350 students don't take enough interest in the matter to express an opinion, though of the half dozen men from the other side, five appear to be out and out Grant men. If the *World* will ask for the views of Canadian students on our live question, the great and only N. P., and prevail on the Council to permit of the vote being taken, our men will not be slow to cast the ballot.

THE BOAT CLUB.

There have been several communications in this paper about the proposed 'Rowing Association,' and 'G. G. S. L.' (briefly 'G'), has given us a most glowing account of it, looking at it from the bright side, which is all very well; but still it is necessary in a case of this kind to look at both sides of the question. I think that it would be a most admirable plan if we could form a boating club in the University and make it the first in the Dominion, and I would give it my humble support as readily as any man; but I think that it would be incomparably better to have a gymnasium. I have heard it stated by some of considerable authority that if they had a boating club a gymnasium would follow. I cannot see how it would be brought about. An argument that 'G.' used is that 'In all European and American universities every man is a member of the boat club, even if he never sees a boat from the beginning to the end of the academic year.' 'G.' must remember that quite a different class of men go to the universities in Britain (I don't know about the others). There they go with the understanding that they are not to study, except the few 'reading men,' and consequently they all belong to the boat club. 'G.' evidently admits this, because he says, 'Few things put the name of Cambridge and Oxford in the mouth of everybody so readily as a contest between their

eights.' Again, there they have the water almost at their door; here it is a half hour's walk from the college, and allow half an hour for dressing and sundry other things, and an hour and a half is gone on the walk, etc., alone, and not many reading men allow themselves more than two hours a day, and a great many not that; so there is half an hour for practice. If, as 'M.' suggests, we could get a students' hall with a gymnasium built alongside the college, and there is nothing to hinder it, then we might expect every man to join; but I don't believe that they will be able to get ten men outside the present committee to join, if even all those join. Prof. Croft in his letter says that it is the most healthy amusement. In this I have to disagree with him, because I cannot see how it is more healthy than football, although I do not say that football is more healthy than it. I, however, agree with him that 'the danger of football is absent from it.' But surely the learned professor does not mean to say that there are more accidents at football than in rowing, and its almost invariable attendant, bathing?

If the students are determined to have a summer game why not take up cricket? in which they have the best advantages. I suppose, of any club in Canada—namely, for \$3.50 the use of all the nets, etc., of the Toronto Cricket Club, and I have no trouble about the grounds or anything. I see no reason why we should not turn out as good a cricket club as our football teams are. I think that by all means we should get a gymnasium first, and then, when we get a respectable hall in which we may give public entertainments we may then try to get up a boating club, but I think it will be time enough then.

JUNIUS, JR.

I am far from wishing to express myself averse to the institution of a college crew in connection with our University, but I certainly think objections may be taken to the proposal made in the circular. Our circumstances are such that our men have neither the money nor the leisure to go into aquatics, the most expensive of all exercises, as the undergraduates of the universities of Great Britain do. More than that, we are here only one month in the year when training could be carried on; and for students living outside the city to remain here purposely, would demand greater pecuniary sacrifices than they, for the most part, could afford. The club would have for active members only the undergraduates resident in Toronto, and from them the crews would be chosen. Now I very much question whether it is necessary to expend \$3,000 to sustain such a crew. For them we are asked to build a club house, and furnish it with boats. And when we consider that there are not more than fifteen or twenty undergraduates in the city at leisure during the holidays, it seems a rather pre-osterous idea to spend \$150 per head upon them to form a boat club, which, if it is to be called the University Boat Club, should be representative. No one, however, would refuse to contribute toward the institution of such a college crew if a scheme were devised for storing their boats at the house of one of the city clubs; indeed, toward this scheme many would contribute who see no necessity in expending the sum asked upon a project which will bring them so little return for their money, and at a time when there is need of a college gymnasium.

URSA MAJOR.

The plan suggested by Mr. McCaul, in the last issue, is by far, I think, a more plausible one than that which is set forth on the circular issued by the Organization Committee of the University Rowing Association.

There are at least twenty proprietors of boat houses on the water front of the city, who have lots running out into the bay from two hundred and fifty to five hundred feet. Most of them have only small houses and shops erected on their lots, and they are always willing to build boat houses when they can get tenants for them. After having had some conversation on the subject with several of the most prominent proprietors, not only of water lots with boat houses, but also of vacant lots, I have come to the conclusion that the before-mentioned plan will be more easily carried out than even Mr. McCaul expects.

There can be no doubt but that the association will be railed at through the communication columns of the public press, concerning the uselessness of sending men to college to learn, as will be said, to row, and about the amount of time that will be wasted in the training, etc., that will be a necessity if the club is to compete in any of the great inter-collegiate regattas; but, I think, after a look at the list of wranglers at Cambridge this year, which shows thirty-three names, out of which number six men have distinguished themselves in rowing, cricket and football—that any of that class of humanity that may, with all propriety, be called *croakers*, had better keep their croakings for some more suitable subject.

H. TORONTO.

WHO IS HE ?

TO THE EDITOR.—The following finely expressed sentiments let my side of the story, the first part of which, under the above heading, has already been given to your readers by my darling Susan. Having read the verses below, I am sure, Mr. Editor, you will consider the *amende honorable* to have been made, and never call me 'ungallant' again.

CHARLIE.

SUSAN AND CHARLIE.

Taking a walk with this dear blushing girl,
Long hair o'er her shoulders in many a curl;
Bright eyes that oft flashed in frolicsome glee,
As now and again she twitted me.

Charlie, just now you are ever so nice,
But soon, and 'twixt almost seem in a trice,
When you've passed your exams and purchased a cane,
I'll be quite forgotten, Oh! 'twill be my bane.

In vain I protested that this was unfair,
She held to her point, said, 'a slight change of air'
Oh! affected the memory, and much did she fear
My vows would prove 'chaff' at the end of the year.

Perhaps you will ask, did I really forget her?
Indeed, I did not, but consider her better
Than any of the girls I had seen in Toronto,
And to be married to her, in the future I want to.

So Susan, my darling, don't weep and lament me,
Or the thought of your doing so will ever torment me;
I care for no other, I care but for you,
My dear little maiden, indeed this is true.

RESOLUTIONS.

That the Y. M. C. A. men who use the glee club piano, shall never oppose the use of organs in their future congregations.

That some of the ghosts, inhabiting the literary society's building, be introduced to the meetings, to encourage the tendency toward chimerical pursuits.

That the glee club be requested to awaken these comatose spirits by continuing its practices in the building.

That the men who drew Neilson home go on the stage—between here and Donmout.