

amateur boat-races. But his career has had the disastrous effect of awakening among us the accursed passion for gambling, at once on the largest scale and in the most dangerous form. Only the disreputable will sit down to the dice: but respectable men will bet and even encourage their children in betting. If, on such an occasion as this race, a patriotic feeling is mingled with the love of gambling, so much the worse: the vice by being dignified is made more seductive. Once inoculated, society will be long in working off the disease. It is understood that a sum not short of a hundred thousand dollars was transmitted from Toronto to London, to be staked upon this race. Much of this money was risked by young men who could ill have afforded to lose it, and some of whom, had they lost it, might have then been tempted to recover it by dishonesty. We hear of poor people staking all their savings. Those who bet on Hanlan have won, but those who bet against him have lost: the winners of to-day will spend lightly, and to-morrow they will be the losers. A frank expression of opinion on this subject will not be resented by any one who has seen how utterly gambling drags down and shatters a young man. Napoleon who, though wicked himself, wanted to be served by trustworthy men, and was a very shrewd judge of character, always avoided those whom he believed to be addicted to gambling, saying that no confidence could ever be placed in them. Managers and employers will find that Napoleon was in the right. A secondary evil is the setting up of an utterly false standard of merit. We use the term merit in the most liberal sense, as including every exhibition of qualities that are or may be of any real use to the community. No such qualities are exhibited by shell-rowing, which, though a healthy amusement for amateurs, is otherwise of no more use, directly or indirectly, than any other sport or game. The calling of the wherryman, with which these rowing matches were once connected, is as obsolete as that of the running footman or the thatcher. The steamboat is now "First oars." Besides, wherry men rowed in boats capable of carrying passengers, not