

The Portfolio.

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former students.

A YEAR ago this spring, for the first time, a calisthenic review closed the session of those useful exercises. The satisfaction at the success of the entertainment was manifested by numerous complimentary and congratulatory speeches. In fact the enthusiasm was so great that first one of the Directors arose and after a few preliminary remarks very cordially offered a prize to be competed for by the succeeding class, then another followed this good example so nobly given, and all bid fair for the next year.

With these brilliant expectations on Friday evening last this year's calisthenic class assembled for the annual review. It was the bright hopes connected with that evening, when grace and beauty was to be rewarded, that through the long year, week after week, kept those ponderous clubs swinging, oftentimes menacingly near the craniums of companions. However, the night of triumph at last arrived, and a most disagreeable one it was outside, but, for the few friends gathered the genial light and heat chased rain and muddy streets from memory. We do not purpose entering into the details here as a full description will be found in another column. But let us pass on, the last exercise was over; now for the prizes! was the exulting thought of many a beating heart. Our honored Principal arises;

he claims supreme attention, for is not that momentous question to be decided? Why, at his words, is every countenance o'ercast and mute looks of despair exchanged? They are simply, "Before dismissing let us sing 'God save the Queen.'" Refreshments were then in order, and one would not suppose the disappointment was heart-rending to see the way the apples disappeared and the unheard of capacity of pockets for swallowing up pippins and russets that meant famine in the larder. But to return to the exercises. There were a great number of them performed very gracefully, and, as the Major afterwards said, they far exceeded his expectations. May we not venture to make the proposal that at all such reviews in the future the interest be increased by a distribution of prizes; at least it might have a trial.

SEVERAL times, recently, our attention has been drawn to the fact that many college papers are advocating the curtailing of the space in their publications devoted to literary articles. They think it would be advisable to have fewer essays, and more locals, personals and clippings. Now, it is all very well to have humor and personals in preponderance, certainly more agreeable to a certain class of readers, and, of course, editors all have an overweening desire to please the public, as is demonstrated in another column, but it seems to us that if our college papers are to be turned into comic sheets, with about an eighth part in each issue devoted to common sense, why not at once set up as distant followers in the wake of *Punch* and *Grip*, or rivals of advertising almanacs? What are college papers for? With what interest and for what purpose were they originated? Our answer to such would be, they were intended to promote the interests of the institutions with which they are connected, and the interests of education in general; to form a substantial link