

to the disposition of the person who enjoys them. To a conscientious, hard-working student, they are a delightful satisfaction. He can enjoy them with no qualms of conscience, or feelings of duty neglected, or opportunity lost. To the sluggard they are an injury, as his whole life is only an illegitimate holiday. The period of respite is spent in pleasure damaging and detrimental to his interests. Deliver me from the lazy, languishing, lackadaisical lubber who can't take interest enough in his work to make the resuming of it a pleasure. May a holiday ever be enjoyed, and all the holidays of our lives be earned, as they must be, before they can be really enjoyed.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### MESSRS EDITORS:

As the question of re-equipping the gymnasium on the Hill has recently been again brought to the notice of the students, perhaps a few remarks on that subject would not be out of place. The inestimable benefits of gymnastic exercises, and their superiority over other means of physical culture, are now matters so freely discussed by every journal in the country, that anything which I might say would be merely superfluous. I propose rather to deal with the phase of the question which more nearly concerns ourselves at present, viz:—How shall our gymnasium be conducted, under the control and direction of an Athletic Club, or by private individuals?

For a long time the necessity of a well equipped gymnasium has been felt by the students attending these institutions. No movement, however, was made toward obtaining one until last year, when the matter was taken in hand by two enterprising resident students. This at first promised fair, but finally resulted in a successful failure,—a success for the proprietors, but a failure as far as the interests of others were concerned. In short, those who gave it their support found at the beginning of the present year that they were no nearer possessing a gymnasium than ever. While they had supplied the funds, the old proprietors held possession of the apparatus. Nevertheless the majority failed to see the matter in its true light; and, when it was proposed to conduct the gymnasium on the same principle as last year, readily acquiesced.

Now, I think matters should be viewed somewhat differently. Let us look at it from a financial standpoint. Last year, those who assumed the risk and responsibility, received enough in return to cover expenses and remunerate them for their trouble. This money was furnished by the students. In other words, we bought the apparatus and paid a respectable sum to be relieved from the responsibility of ownership. At the end of the year we had had our

exercise, but the gymnasium was no more. This year the same is to be repeated, only we trust with more satisfaction. We again purchase the appliances. Next year will be merely a repetition of this, and so on to the end of the chapter. From this it must be obvious to the dullest mind that each year we bear the expenses of equipping a gymnasium and in the end find ourselves at the point from which we started. True, the same persons may engage in the enterprise successive years and thus the expense be lessened. But, even were such a case likely to occur, the length of our course would not permit of its long continuance. On the other hand, were a club to be organized, how different would be our position in a short time. The close of the first year would find us in possession of a gymnasium which we could call our own, and ourselves none the poorer. Each successive year, instead of being compelled to start afresh, we could invest the funds in further additions to our stock of appliances. Thus, when we who are now here go out from the institutions, we could bequeath to those who come after us a gymnasium of which they need not be ashamed.

Although this is the most practical and radical difference between the two systems, it is not the only one. Where a few individuals have full control, little dissatisfactions, which are always occurring, frequently lead to hard feelings and personal animosities. Many are thereby deprived or deprive themselves of advantages which they might otherwise enjoy. Besides, any who may be disposed to destroy or otherwise make trouble, will conduct themselves as they would not were their own immediate interests at stake. Many other differences might be noted, but that I am already trespassing upon your valuable space. If I have succeeded in directing attention to the importance of this matter, my end is attained. I feel assured that the better judgment of those interested in gymnastics will prompt them to adopt the proper plan at the proper time; and here, for the present, I will let the subject rest.

Yours, &c.,

STUDENT.

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