

### Editorial Notes and Comments.

The Carnival idea, which the people of Montreal have already confessed to be "too much of a good thing," and which the citizens of the ancient capital are at present anxious to see developed to its fullest fruition, is but the culmination of athletics run mad in our midst. And our educational system is not without feeling its influence in more ways than one. The victory of the hockey club or of the football team is received with shouts by nearly everybody in the community. The prowess of this leader or of that champion is heralded in the press with the same éclat that haloes the achievements of our statesmen when they return from the motherland after the accomplishment of some treaty or trade negotiation; and when there is something on in the skating or curling rink, in the racket court, the golf field, or the lacrosse ground, other matters, however important they may be *per se*, must wait until "the athletic event is off," either one way or the other. In such recreation, it is not easy to say where the line should be drawn. There is a very thin partition between the extreme of good and the beginning of evil, though any one, who has seen the "cloud of witnesses" and their madness of partiality on the grounds during the progress of events, and the exhausted condition of those who have been dancing to the piping of the screaming multitude, must confess that it is not so difficult to distinguish after all between the athletic exercise that is legitimate and the athletic contests that are prejudicial not only to a true physical development but to a moral one as well. We have referred to this matter before. Our sympathies are against this match-making in athletics. It is the old story of making the means to a good thing the end in itself and not in the good thing—the same running to seed that is to be seen in so many of our educational processes. The tide, however, seems to be on the turn, notwithstanding the press glorification of the carnival idea, and the popularity which some of our gray-headed politicians seek in the snow-shoe club. Our contemporary the *Teacher* in its last issue says:—

"It seems that the press of the country, and the people, too, have at last come to one conclusion in regard to the evils of inter-collegiate games, particularly to the brutality of the public fights which some persons are pleased to term "foot-ball." It looks very much as if the college which persists in tramping its students over the country, bruising, maiming and murdering other college boys, will soon be without patronage from think-