

that college men devote an undue proportion of their time to athletic games, the misconception will be corrected and the college placed before its constituency in an entirely new light. Another point to be observed is the educative influence which a series of such debates would exercise on the general public. Not only would the audience hear leading questions discussed by those who had the very best opportunities of acquainting themselves with the same, but what is perhaps of still greater importance, the public would learn what true debate is. Competent men are judges, and no college would dare submit a weak argument, or indulge in any mere sophistry such as is commonly heard during our political campaigns.

But the great advantage arising from a system of Intercollegiate Debating is to be found in the healthy and enthusiastic spirit that will be infused into the various debating societies in connection with our colleges. From all sides comes the complaint that the attendance is small and the interest scant. It is a common thing for men appointed to debate, to ignore their duty to the society and absent themselves from its meetings. But all this can be changed. What sends men to the campus to play football day after day, in rain or shine? The prospect of match games. And so the establishment of a league for Intercollegiate Debating would work a transformation among our many societies. The attendance would be large, there would be no careless speaking, no half prepared arguments and sleepy interest. Objectionable features would be eliminated from the habit of speaking to an extent not possible under existing circumstances. And it will come to pass in these days that a man whose speech consists of mere words and whose only recommendation is a loud voice and vehemence of gesture, will discover that his audience is not an appreciative one: but he who has something to say and says it tolerably well, will always be accorded a hearing. What the time demands of its speakers is practical common sense, and of all places the college debating club should be the best fitted to give the necessary training.

A Christmas Chat.

Uncle George and his young friend sat by the old, broad-hearth-ed, open Franklin.

"Ay," said uncle George, as he gazed into the fire, which seemed to kindle holy thoughts and to light up his memory pictures, "the promised Christ had come; the pre-existent Word was in the world. In the man Jesus, I believe that Jehovah himself was made flesh."

"And the world was made by him, too," suggested the young man

"Yes, he who made the earth, made himself a garment of its dust. He who ordained nature's laws; and yoked the forces of the universe; and planned creation, giving each orb and flower its shape and places