

THE ROCKWOOD REVIEW

THE INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACE.

Now that the Yacht Race is a thing of the past, we can sit down and look calmly at the situation, and boys can easily learn a lesson of value from it. They have seen a nation humiliate itself in the desire to win at any price, even at the sacrifice of honor, and they have observed a gentlemanly sportsman take a dignified way of protesting against unfair treatment, without making any great fuss about it. The Americans are a wonderful people, and we all have unbounded admiration for many of their good qualities, but Englishmen and Canadians agree that American ideas of true sport are quite different from ours. With us we are taught to believe that games are instituted for some other purpose than the mere winning of events, no matter what the cost. We admire the determined athlete who puts forth the last endeavor to win, but we have no place for the athlete who adds sharp practice to his abilities. Baseball soon died in Canada, as we could not stand the professional element, an element that immediately came in conflict with our ideas of sport. We did not care to hire people to play our games for us, we were content to do our own playing, even if it was not as good as "professional ball." We have a few professional cricketers, not to play fancy cricket, but merely to teach others to play. This is strictly legitimate. In the U. S. football has become really a professional game in the Universities, as a result of the "win at any price" idea, and we all know what American football is as a game.

The example of the Defender playing sharp practice at the start, as all well informed yachtsmen admit—then accepting the gage of battle as shown by her sailing a

race and losing it—then claiming a foul that she could not be entitled to the moment she crossed the line in pursuit of the Valkyrie, and accepting a present of the race she did not and could not win, is an example we would not care to have our boys follow. The better classes of Americans feel that they have been done an injury as a nation, by such unsportsmanlike conduct, and possibly good may come out of evil. Always remember boys that to learn to lose well is just as great an achievement as to learn to win modestly, and to lose honorably is ten thousand times better than to win with even a suspicion of anything discreditable. From a close study of boys and men at play, I have learned that as a rule boys are inclined to be much fairer to each other, in our country at least, than certain classes of men, and outside of baseball, which is almost dead, there is little to complain of in the way of "crooked work." Boys, on you the future depends, keep yourselves pure in all of your games, and never try to defeat an opponent by unfair means. As long as this is your creed, you can extract good, and good alone, from any manly sport in which you engage.

Mr. Ed. Beaupre, of Portsmouth, sent us a fine specimen of the peculiar plant "Monotropa Uniflora"—Ghost Plant or Indian Pipe plant as it is popularly called. This exquisite parasitic flower generally grows on the roots of pine trees, and plant and flower are white and wax like. It is not at all common about Kingston, although an occasional specimen is found. Its shape is quite suggestive of an ornamental smoking pipe. When old or dried it unfortunately turns quite black.