

other insipid amusements, have begun to do homage to the new sovereign, and we predict that ere long Canadian hockeyists will find in their American fellow-sportsmen, opponents worthy of their steel. There is that in the game which ensures to it long life and popularity. Long live King Hockey!

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The Mock Parliament is with us again in earnest. As a serious affair it is most amusing, and as a matter of amusement it is seriously performed. By combining opposite phases it presents a whole truth, and reminds us that laughter is not far from tears. To parley is not necessarily to mock, and there is a kind of mockery that does not arouse two she bears to tear forty and two children. So the Mock Parliament, with all due respect to the genuine parliament,—from which mockery is not absolutely excluded,—combines recreation with training in readiness of thought and expression. Debate, wit, eloquence are there in play. "Sport is the bloom and glow of a perfect health," and the hilarity and good humour of the floor of the house are quite in accord with serious mental development.

As we look into the past we are struck with the fact that so many great statesmen, eminent divines and successful men of business laid the foundations of their usefulness in childhood's mimes. The little boy who pronounced the benediction in his game of church by saying, with simple seriousness, "O Lord, I am going for the mail," will yet be a devout pastor. The houses, the schools, the shops, the pulpits of early years are foretastes of life's real stage whereon all men are actors. We would not be without faith in Sentimental Tommy. His miraculous prayer, his solemn mourning, his melting letters and "The Last Jacobite Rising" confuse us. What on earth will the boy become, actor, or writer, or what? Let him be made a Mock Parliamentarian and combine all the gifts of his imagination in the public service of his country.

Observe the practical wisdom, the manners, the insight, the patriotism developed by such institutions as our Mock Parliament, and have great hope for your country because the present session has opened auspiciously, with due regard to externals and internals. The treasury has new occupants and even Black Rod changeth, but stable amid all flux, serene amid the wreck of parties and the crash of worlds, our perennial speaker waves his magic arm, and all is decorum.

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There seems to be on the part of the members of the different professions in this, as in other small cities, a lamentable tendency towards the silly and unprofitable display of petty jealousies. With few exceptions the members of the bar are continually

railing at one another, never missing an opportunity of landing a sharp upper cut of biting and scathing sarcasm, or in other ways showing their utter contempt for one another. In religious circles an equally strong, though perhaps more ingeniously disguised rivalry is manifested—a wholesome rivalry perhaps, but one which has had the effect of increasing tremendously the obligations of the different congregations in the city.

No one would deny, and no one would wish to deny, that innumerable advantages are to be gained from the exercise of a pure, open, whole-souled rivalry; for in a good-natured contention of this kind the contestants benefit not only themselves but others as well. But what are we to say of the abuse of such a power, an abuse which to our mind is practiced by the medical profession in small places where there is the keenest competition among the different members to edge themselves into the good graces of the townsfolk? It surely is not a very edifying spectacle to see the profession degraded by members, who, entertaining a disgraceful jealousy of one another, take every opportunity that presents itself of saying a harsh, unsympathetic, and very often even false word against a brother member. Yet any one who is at all conversant with the habits of medical gentlemen, especially in small places, is painfully conscious that this is exactly what is being done every day in their ranks.

The spirit thus displayed, however, is not confined to individuals alone, but seems also to prevail among factions. The society a review of whose organ appeared in a recent number of the JOURNAL affords a very striking illustration of our meaning. How is it just that certain members of any profession should band themselves together, saying "we constitute the brains of the medical profession in this city; let us form ourselves into a society," deliberately excluding other practitioners?

Surely such a spirit is by no means commendable. What a contrast is here called up to the agreeable harmony that prevails among members of the same profession in larger cities, where each one has made a name for himself, and so can afford to elevate himself to a sphere in which such low scheming measures are never dreamed of. At the top of the ladder men are independent; it is on the lower rungs where the scrambling is. But the exercise of any meanness will only prolong and not shorten the scrambling period and so defeat the end it was intended to promote.

We would like to see the noblest of all professions kept pure and free from all tarnish and hope that that desirable consummation may soon be reached, when it can truly be said that a doctor is his brother-doctor's best and dearest friend.