

Brothers.

The following very amusing story was related by a reverend gentleman, the authenticity of which he is said to have vouched for.

A parson in Yorkshire was greatly troubled by the number of tramps who called at his house for help.

Not liking to refuse them, but still not willing to give much away, he thought of a plan which would politely turn them from his door. To every tramp he promised a meal providing they would first of all let him pray with them.

This naturally answered well until one day a tramp called, got the usual reply, but, to the surprise of the parson, consented.

The parson, not to be done, asked him into his room; and placing before him a piece of bread a few days old, said:

"Now, my dear fellow, before you eat this good and nourishing bread, you have promised to let me pray, so will you please kneel down?"

"Yes," said the tramp, kneeling down.

"Then you will repeat after me, Our Father," said the parson.

But the tramp did not answer. After asking the second time, and receiving no answer, the parson said:

"Why are you not repeating?"

"I can't make this out," said the tramp. "Our Father?"

"Yes," said the parson; "Didn't you know that our Father was in heaven?"

"What, my father?" said the tramp.

"Yes," said the parson.

"And your Father?" said the tramp.

"Yes."

"Well, this beats all," said the tramp, "if He is your Father and my Father, then we are brothers," and shaking the parson's hand, said: "Fancy meeting like this, and you offering your own brother that piece of dry bread!"

The parson gave the tramp a dinner, and gave up praying with tramps.—*Tramps.*

College Athletics.

President Elliot, of Harvard University, has made the following recommendations as to the regulation of college athletics: (1) There should be no Freshman intercollegiate matches, or races; (2) no games, intercollegiate or other, should be played on any but college fields, belonging to one of the competitors, in college towns; (3) no professional student should take part in any intercollegiate contests; (4)

no student should be a member of a university team or crew, in more than one sport within the same year; (5) no football should be played until the rules are so amended, as to diminish the number and the violence of the collisions between the players, and to provide for the enforcement of the rules; (6) intercollegiate contests in any one sport should not take place oftener than every other year. Finally, if trial shall prove the insufficiency of all these limitations, intercollegiate contests ought to be abolished altogether.

These recommendations are surely in the right direction, and we heartily trust that as many of them as possible may be carried out.

There is perfect unanimity of opinion regarding the value of college athletics, but the excesses to which they have been carried are notorious, and the time has come for some decided reform.—*Medical Record.*

Transmission of Scarlet Fever.

In 1846 a boy eight years old was taken down with scarlet fever and died. One of the principal amusements of his illness was in looking over a large picture-book. After his death this, with several other useful playthings, was packed away in a trunk. Twenty-six years later, in 1872, the trunk was taken to England. It was opened the second day after its arrival; and the picture-book was taken out and presented to a boy two years old. During the next fortnight the little fellow was attacked with scarlet fever. It was a wonder to the doctors who were called in consultation, how the disease had been contracted; as there had been no scarlet fever in the town for years. At last it was suggested that the picture-book might have transmitted the disease; and the medical men in attendance, on being told the facts connected with it, agreed that it had retained the poison for twenty-six years, and then communicated it to the child.—*Boston Post.*

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Parson: "Good morning, Mrs. Brown. Is your husband's health improving?"

Mrs. Brown: "I'm afraid not, Sir. He seems awful bad. He tosses about and can't get any sleep at nights. Would you mind preaching a bit of a sermon to him before you leave? They are so soothing that I think it would send him to sleep if anything would."