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The College Times.

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AMUSEMENTS AT COLLEGE.

Amusements are not very numerous at present at College, on account of the season of the year which renders nearly all out-door sports impracticable; but there are some games in which the boys can engage even in Winter, such as gymnastics, snow-balling and running. The first of these may be practised during any kind of weather, whether wet or dry, without any danger of catching cold or otherwise incurring sickness, because the gymnasium is covered and consequently very little, if any, snow or wet gets in: or a good lively game of snow-balling, when there is snow on the ground, which the sun has melted just enough to make it pack well, is one of the most healthy and refreshing exercises one could take, and if care be taken when going again into College there may be no fear of colds or sore throats: and when the snow is covered with a crust of ice, or when the day is clear and cold there can be nothing better than a good race, or a game of "Cross Tag."

Some boys there are who may be seen during recess or at noon racing across the play-ground or playing tag or engaging in any game that is suited to the weather: and these alone know how much benefit they derive from these exercises; but there are many who stay indoors during the recesses and hardly get a mouthful of fresh air from nine o'clock till three, who learn the lessons for the coming hour and do not give their overtaxed brains a moment's rest all day. Such may be known by their pale complexion, their haggard and weary looks or the sluggishness of their minds, which will not work because there is not sufficient fire in the furnace to keep up the steam, and let such be assured that as long as they continue to deprive their young brains of rest, so long will they have these distinguishing characteristics of "fags."

But look for a moment at him who gives his mind a rest of a quarter of an hour every morning and enjoys the fresh air and bodily exercises. See how ruddy he is, how ready for work, how bright and active his thoughts seem, and with what readiness he answers every question put to him during the following hours. He has kindled afresh his fire and spirit, and consequently the steam is generated which gives him power to apply his mind wholly and actively to the lessons before him.

Even supposing that it does not at the time seem necessary to take advantage of the interval allowed for bodily exercise because one may feel fresh and lively beforehand, yet it is the duty of every boy to get the benefit of the fresh air, for it does not follow that because he is lively and active in the morning that he will continue so all day, and if he does not give his mind its proper rest he will feel dull and tired before the day is out. The intermission of a quarter of an hour in the morning and the hour at noon are given to the boys as a time to recruit their mental powers, and not to afford those who were not able to study all their lessons at home—either through too great an amount of lessons, or by idling away their time which ought to be devoted to study, hoping that some fellow will go over the lessons with them at recess,—an opportunity of "fagging" their neglected lessons.

"But," some may say, "the swings and bars in the gymnasium are broken and not fit for use: so what's the use of going out and getting your hands and feet cold by walking round the gymnasium doing nothing?" (Such sort of objections are very common among the "fags"). Why, it is not the fault of the masters that the swings and ropes are broken, but the boys are to blame, for they do not take enough interest in gymnastic exercises to practise their muscles, but leave the gymnasium at the mercy of a lot of fellows who go around delighting in any mischievous act they can commit, and who break the ropes and bars without caring a cent about it. But if more interest were manifested among the boys in regard to gymnastic exercises, and those who might wish "to get their muscle up" were to exercise their influence over the harum-scarum fellows who do not care much what they do, the gymnasium would be kept in a better state, and should any ropes or bars be broken, there is no doubt but that the Principal would speedily have them replaced with new ones. But it is this negligence on the part of the boys that prevents the Principal and masters from taking a greater interest in the sports at College.

The manner in which most of the boys spend the intermissions is this:—during the quarter recess they either play tag up and down stairs, or walk round chatting, or sit around the stove in the prayer room, hurrying over the lesson for the next hour; during the noon hour those who stay in the building amuse themselves by eating their lunches, throwing the crusts at whoever may be nearest and tossing the paper with what is not eaten by them down stairs or anywhere at all, after which they engage in a game of tag up and down the stairs; but some boys have the privilege of occupying some of the masters' rooms, and there they stay the whole hour without getting a bit of exercise or a breath of fresh air in all day! Such a thing ought to be stopped as soon as possible, and the boys ought not to be allowed the privilege of rooms where they can learn their lessons—but where they can also injure their health which is of much more importance than education. The boys can just as easily as not put on their overcoats and enjoy the fresh air and be better prepared for their studies.

However, this matter is in the hands of the masters and can be stopped if they wish; but without their vote it will continue, and College will turn out a weak and clumsy lot instead of a strong, healthy and active set of fellows who would be in after years an honor to College and a benefit to our Young Dominion.

R. D. R.

Correspondence.

COLLEGE MARKING

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLLEGE TIMES.

SIR,—I see in your last issue that a writer styling himself "Reformer," has ventured to attack the marking system pursued at College, founding his conclusions, I presume, on a decision given in the Society on the occasion of a debate on the subject. His remarks remind me very forcibly of an old proverb that a "bad workman always complains of his tools." For when we find that those boys who come down most severely on the system, are themselves the greatest adepts at those "dodges of cheating," which the writer speaks about, it may seem that after all it is "men, not measures" that are to be blamed. As to the loss of time of which he speaks, we are aware that this occurs in those rooms in which the master does not exercise his authority as he ought. However, I know, and others know, rooms in which not thirty seconds, much less ten minutes, are consumed in calling the numbers, and where "Please, sir, I did not hear my number," and so forth, are but extremely few and far between.

"Reformer" says that in taking places one loses what another gains, and this is decidedly against the principle of "fair exchange is no robbery;" perhaps he innocently loses sight of the fact that the whole end of trade is to make all you can out of other men, and yet condemning this principle, it is very possible that our friend will go into business in a few years, and strain every nerve to do and do well what he now so strenuously condemns. As has been said, it is not the system that makes a boy cheat, but it is the boy's own contemptible nature. Surely if a boy can't stand a temptation to get up one place in the form by unfair means, only perhaps to get down the next moment, one does not much wonder at the result that the writer in your last issue speaks of. But would he do any better if he never knew a marking system at all.

Our friend then says, "I think it would be well if the masters, instead of talking and lecturing about cheating, would go the root of the matter and put a stop to the marking system." Put a stop to what? The cheating? O, not for the world; put a stop to the marking system! This is certainly the art of putting things, and a most unanswerable art, when used effectively as above.

If the marking system were done away with, what could be substituted for it? Merely nothing. When no grand consequence hangs on whether a boy is plucked or not, he becomes listless, and were it not for the constant excitement of getting up or down in the form that keeps most boys up to the mark, what a glorious time we should have and what bright scholars would be turned out. Dwell not too long on this enchanting view, or perhaps you'll see through it.

Before I close, I would humbly suggest that the joke which has tickled the innocent fancy of our "Reformer" no less than twice in his short letter, be patented or in some way restricted to himself. Yours, &c.,

IXIOM.

TAKING HIM AT HIS WORD.—An auctioneer exclaimed: "Why, really, ladies and gentlemen, I am giving these things away!" "Are you?" said an old lady present; "well I'll thank you for that silver pitcher you have in your hand."

SCHOOLBOY EXPERIENCE.

Oh, that miserable going to school! Who can ever forget the first parting, when the tears flow down the little softy's cheeks! But he is buoyed up with the thought that everybody at the school will be to him like his brother. On his approach to the school, how his heart throbs, and how much his mind is filled with mingled dread and joy! The gloomy and disconsolate look of the house in no way cheers him. The sweet little model boy, whom he has been picturing on his way rushes not into his arms and gives him the hand of welcome, but in his place there looms a big lout of a fellow, who immediately knocks off his hat, and tries to palm himself off as a master, but is, in fact, the acknowledged dunce of the whole college.

When the poor little fellow comes to the table for the first time, and takes his seat at the middle among the other boys, all eyes are on him, and he becomes conscious that there *was* a bun before him, when he finds it snatched off his plate by the boy next him, and doubtless no *littler* passes around when, in his ignorance, he asks the boarding-house master for salt.

But he longs for bed time, and when lying in bed how many times he recalls the incidents of the day, and feels that now he has arrived at that desperate period of life when his hand is against everybody and everybody's hand against him!

We imagine his wonder is aroused when, on enquiring who those are who wear gowns, he is told that they are the tailors of the establishment, and is advised to go to them and order his cricket suit; and on the first bath-night he is persuaded to ask the master for his "ticket."

But the new boy becomes naturalized at last, and everything runs smoothly except that there is much grumbling about the food. What a great come-down it is to the country boy, who has heretofore been accustomed to ten or twelve *entrées* at his father's table, to have to take the simple joint; or for him who has been accustomed to a six-foot-two powdered footman to attend to his every want, to have to share, along with sixteen others, one slowly-going waiter, such as would never be admitted among the retinue of his father's servants, his father always having imported French *chefs*, and having, after the manner of his kind, been ever ready to prepare an elegant meal for the dear little pet.

It reminds one very forcibly of the story about two young cubs at Marlborough in England. Being a poor parson's sons they were taken at a reduced rate, but they were the ones who complained most about the food, though it was well known that their family at home was depriving themselves of fresh meat twice a week to help pay for these fellows.

But, however great the poor little fellow's loneliness may be for the first term, or however often he may have run the gauntlet, or got roasted or bumped as the case may be, still holidays, welcome to any schoolboy, come, and he is all aglow to get home; and when there the affectionate embrace—but we can go no farther—'tis too tender.

But the holidays pass, and he returns with his trunk closely packed with all imaginable kinds of oatcakes, thinking that his feasting is not over yet. But, alas, some cruel fellow finds them out, and steals them all.

But the "trial period" of his schoolboy life passes at last, and he in turn becomes as great a tease as anyone, and too soon sometimes becomes the bully instead of being the bullied. As he passes from being a junior to being a senior, he is allowed the privilege of studying in his own room, and in fact as he grows older he is left more and more to himself. If he has been earnest in his studies, perhaps he may be rewarded by getting an exhibition, if he has been a good cricketer, in having the highest score in a match, or if his conduct has been

unexceptionable, by receiving the good conduct prize, and even the *one* boy may go to bed some night, having all three. And when he has passed into the sixth form, he has become known by every boy in the College, and it is nothing short of wonderful the influence that he exerts.

But it is to be regretted that every boy does not similarly improve. A great many seem to forget that those boys with whom they now associate are the very ones with whom they will afterwards live. They seem to think that it will be all the same to them, whether they act well or ill, forgetting meanwhile that the character they form for themselves at College will be remembered by their school-fellows during subsequent life.

But when a boy has remained in the boarding-house from the time he enters the first form till he passes out of the sixth, whether his life so far has been one of pleasure or pain, whether or not it has been marked by many extraordinary events, or whether he has been at the head or foot of his form, he feels—not unlike the prisoners leaving the coil in which he has been long confined—that he has become so much attached to it that he regrets departing, and that although everything has not been so pleasant as might have been, still it has been a sunny period of his life, and that it has been more beneficial to him than home. J. O. A.

MASTERS AND BOYS.

THEIR RELATIVE POSITION SET FORTH AND EXPATIATED UPON—BOYS' VIEW OF THE MATTER.

In many of the so-called educational institutions of the world, which institutions are a mixture of public, private, large, small, good and bad, most absurd notions exist with regard to the rights, privileges, independence, &c., of us boys. When speaking of an absurdity, we allude of course to its emanating from those all wise (in their own estimation) tyrants, generally known under the inappropriate name of masters, who strive to make themselves appear superior to us, but who in doing so inevitably fail. Indeed there is scarcely any need of informing our readers of this, as it is an established fact, with all intelligent persons, that we never do say or think anything but what is strictly correct and wise in every particular. We give it, however, for the benefit of those who are ignorant of this great truth.

Many have asserted Woman's Rights, and we think that it is time now to turn our attention to asserting the rights of the most important, most worthy, and at the same time most oppressed members of society, viz., boys; and this, therefore, we intend to do to the best of our ability. The first proof of our superiority is an axiom—it requires no proof—it stands to reason, and it is this: the gentlemen in question go on teaching the same old thing over and over, year after year, so often that they become so habituated to it, that they know it by rote, and it becomes a mere mechanical process, and in consequence we who now illustriously fill the benches of these institutions, hear many of the same old explanations (long ago worn out), and the same jokes cracked (now *slightly* stale) as those which rung in the ears of our noble, but oppressed, predecessors, all through their course, but which, after this declaration of rights, we trust our successors will not be doomed to bear. Now how infinitely superior to them are we who think over our lessons, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them?

Another case in which the truth of our statement is manifested, occurs when having received an answer too learned and profound for them, they hesitatingly say, "Well ye-ye-yes, I'll take that, &c.," simply because expecting a simple answer suited to their shallow intellects, and not understanding our reply, they don't wish to show their lamentable ignorance by looking

into the meaning of it. We would not for the world insinuate that they are in want of learned words. Oh, no! Some have, no doubt, two or three columns of the longest and rarest English and classical words off by heart, but learnt in a dictionary which gives no meanings, or perhaps invented; and when their knowledge-box is empty, they (the words) are used with great apparent effect in preaching at us for the rest of the hour. Some of them actually have to borrow from Solomon, and invariably in cases similar to the preceding, either quote his wise sayings to put on a semblance of wisdom, or more often, only being acquainted with the name and not the writings of the wise man, tell us to *consult* him.

Some of them have the audacity to tell us (contrary to all the established rules of Hygiene), that we should not take into account the preservation of our bodies, but that we should merely wash our faces in the morning, swallow two or three mouthfuls of food two or three times a day, let them "rip" (the exact words), and think of other things. (We suppose they mean think of *them*, because the better things we think of, the better we shall be, though by so doing, we should be considerably lowered in our own estimation.)

And now permit us "gentle reader" to ask you just a few practical questions with regard to the arbitrary manner in which we have been treated, which we hope you will look at from a practical point of view and act in accordance therewith, and we are sure that you will say with us, "Whoever has heard or ever will hear of a barefaced assumption of authority equal to this?"

Why may not we in the examinations take a peep at the paper of our neighbour, with his permission, (merely of course to see that he is doing it right,) without being accused of that lowest of all sins, cheating: when the masters forsooth, never ask a question except with the *book* open before them?

Why should we be blamed for not answering the questions which *they* with their brains dull by plodding over examination papers, ask, when we having been out to tea the night before, have our wits sharpened by contact with others?

Why should not we, when we wish to be comfortable, keep our windows shut? We have no doubt that if the present state of affairs with regard to this continues, there will be very soon a coroner's verdict over some poor unfortunate of "died from excess ventilation."

In conclusion, we hope that the boys will take the matter up as becomes them, and assert their independence as free and independent *men*, free from the thralldom of the *would-be* tyrants, and independent of their advice, so often anomalous (a priv. and *véhic* a law).

Recollect we mention no particular school, we give wide scope to our remarks. So let none cry out unless they wish to criminate themselves (Cicero).

ONE OF THE MASTERS.

CHEER.—A young man from the country, out walking with a young lady, cudgelled his brains for some interesting topic of conversation to amuse her with, but in vain; he could hit upon nothing until they met several cows, when the swain said, with much simplicity of manner, "Now, isn't it strange what a motherly appearance a cow has?"—To which the lady replied, "I do not think it strange, sir, that a cow should have a motherly appearance to a calf."

"Guilty, or not guilty?" asked a magistrate of a prisoner. "Just as yer honor plazes," was the reply, "it's not the loikes of me, to dictato to yer honor's worship."

A wag who lent a minister a horse that ran away and threw his clerical rider, thought he should have some credit for his aid in "spreading" the gospel.

An old bachelor suggests that births should be published under the head of "New Music."

THE COLLEGE.

HIGH ART—There is no denying that the present Fifth Form are a handsome, classic looking array. They have evidently found it out, for nothing less than having their pictures taken will do for them. Accordingly they have gone about it and have already held a meeting or two to decide who are to be the happy photographers. We believe that their choice has fallen on Messrs. Notman and Fraser, and we cannot but commend that spirit which wishes to "give a chance" to the advertisers in our paper.

The play-ground during the past week has presented a somewhat novel scene. At one quarter, one party of boys may be seen skating on the pond, while if the afternoon is fine another party is as earnestly engaged in playing base-ball as if it were the middle of summer.

This game is steadily increasing at the College and since it is played so zealously now it is feared that it may out-do cricket during the coming season. However there is quite sufficient room on the play-ground for both to be played and we have no doubt but the devotees of cricket will at the proper time commence that game.

U. C. COLLEGE LITERARY SOCIETY.

On February 16th the Society met in the Prayer-room, the President in the Chair. The roll was called, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

G. T. Blackstock and J. C. Harstone were then admitted as members of the Society, and the following nominations were made:

J. F. Brown—moved by Northrop and seconded by Cope.

W. A. Mackenzie and B. Sparham—moved by Ponton, seconded by Bowes.

L. Campbell—moved by F. E. Hodgins, seconded by R. D. Richardson.

W. H. Biggar then gave notice of a motion rendering a member who refused to take his place as leader of a debate, when selected by the Committee, liable to expulsion by a vote of two-thirds.

E. B. Brown also gave notice that he would move that the Laws and By-laws be printed for the members, and that a levy be made to meet the expenses. Notices of motion were also given relating to public debates and to members of the Fifth Form being made Honorary Members after they left College, if they had belonged to the Society.

In accordance with a notice given on the 9th February, F. E. Hodgins moved, seconded by J. A. Patterson: (1) That in the law relating to expulsion of refractory members; (2) also in the Law relating to alteration &c., of the Laws; (3) also in the By-law relating to suspension of By-laws; (4) also in the By-law relating to setting aside the President's ruling, the word "two-thirds" be struck out, and "a majority" substituted therefor.

The mover said that he had rather the motion would be considered and voted upon by paragraphs than as a whole.

This was agreed to, and the first paragraph relating to expulsion of members was struck out.

The next section elicited some discussion. L. Harstone, an honorary member, who was present, said that he told the mover he would come down especially to vote against the motion. It was quite a new idea; no society that he knew of allowed any of its laws to be altered without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members. He was strongly in favour of a restrictive policy, which was exemplified by the House of Lords in England acting as a check on the Commons. The laws of the Society, as they now stood, were well constructed. They had been framed on the model of the Laws of the Old Fifth Form Debating Society, and the University Society, and had been carefully prepared

and sanctioned by the present body. They had guided the Fifth Form Society under more trying circumstances than were likely to arise in this Society. He thought there was no need of any change at present.

R. Atkinson said that the present laws were constructed when this Society had split off from the old Debating Society, and had the effect of producing order and quiet among the members. They had been accepted by the whole Society, and as there had been no abuse of them, should be preserved intact.

W. H. Biggar said that these laws had been framed by some ten or twelve members who composed the Society when it was first organized, but that now the roll showed a total of about thirty or forty members, and surely these should have some voice in determining whether the laws should be amended or not.

F. E. Hodgins, in reply to Harstone, stated that in reference to the House of Lords it was quite a question at the present time in England whether that institution was a benefit or otherwise to the country, and that it was likely to be abolished at no distant date. He wondered that Harstone had praised the Fifth Form Society so much, seeing that he was one of those who had headed the movement which resulted in the separation into two Societies. He thought that if Harstone had been present a few nights ago he would have seen that the Society was in quite as trying a position as it was possible to be in. Atkinson had said that there had been no abuse of the provision that this motion was designed to sweep away; but at the same time to which he referred, the minority, of which Atkinson was one of the leaders, had been able to checkmate the majority, and a dead lock was the result, until the minority found it necessary to give way. This certainly was abusing that provision. He thought that if the affairs of Canada, and of the great Empire of Britain could be guided by the wish of the majority, surely the vast affairs of our Society could be managed in the same manner.

The paragraph was then put and carried.

The third section was carried without discussion, and the fourth was lost.

L. Harstone took the Chair for the reading and debate. W. A. Langton read a selection from Tennyson, and F. E. Hodgins a poem of the late D'Arcy McGee, entitled "Jacques Cartier."

The subject "Is Man more Revengeful than Woman?" was then debated, the Chairman deciding in the negative.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Society met in the Prayer-room, February 23rd, the President in the Chair. After the roll was called, and the minutes of last meeting read and adopted, the following were admitted as members of the Society, J. F. Brown, W. A. Mackenzie, B. Sparham, and L. Campbell.

F. E. Hodgins moved, seconded by R. D. Richardson, that A. D. Patterson and W. A. Fletcher be admitted as honorary members of the Society. To be considered next meeting.

The Secretary read a communication from the Secretary of the Theatrical Entertainment Committee, enclosing the accounts and balance unexpended, which was handed over to the Treasurer.

Biggar's motion, seconded by McKeown, that any member who has been appointed leader of a debate, and absents himself without furnishing sufficient reasons to the Society, be liable to expulsion by the vote of two-thirds of the members present, was then debated upon. The seconder, J. G. McKeown, in the absence of W. H. Biggar, explained that as it was the practice for leaders of the debate to absent themselves, this motion was designed to check that evil.—Carried.

E. B. Brown moved that the Laws and By-Laws of the Society be printed and distributed amongst the members, and that a levy be made to meet the expense

J. A. Patterson moved, in amendment, that the clause relating to the levy be struck out. This was carried. Brown then disclaimed connection with the motion, and Harstone moved, seconded by Hodgins, that the laws be not printed. This was allowed to stand as a notice of motion.

J. A. Patterson withdrew his motion, of which he had given notice last week, relating to a public debate.

Wright's motion, relating to members of the Fifth Form being made honorary members after they leave College, was allowed to stand over.

It was agreed to postpone the debate for two weeks and the Secretary made the following announcement:

Reader: Brooke; and subject for debate, "Is the Successful Warrior or Successful Merchant the better member of Society?"

Leaders: J. G. McKeown for Warrior, and W. A. Langton for Merchant.

The Society then adjourned.

POINTED AND PAINFUL—An Irish glazier was putting a pane of glass into a window, when a groom who was standing by began joking him, telling him to mind and put in plenty of putty. The Irishman bore the banter for some time, but at last silenced his tormentor by, "Arrah, now, be off wid ye, or I'll put a pain in your head without any putty!"

"Do you know," said a would-be facetious youth to a Rabbi, "that they used to hang Jew and jackasses together?" "Indeed," said the old man, "then it is well for you and I, my friend, that we did not live in these days."

A cool proceeding—An ice man cloping with a nice girl.

What should a soldier load his rifle with? With powder and shot? No, with care.

Where is a soldier's shirt marked? On the collar? No, at the quarter-master's stores?

The lawyer's motto: be brief. The doctor's motto: be patient. The potter's motto: beware. The typewriter's motto: be composed.

Two French ladies were looking for the little daughter of one of them in a group of baby carriages, "Do you see her?" asked the friend of the mother, "Here! I am looking for her nurse."—"Yes: all children look alike. I know the nurse, and I can find the child best in that way."—"As for myself, I think all nurses look alike."—"How do you find yours, then?"—"Oh, I know the soldier who is her beau."

A Phrenologist, strolling through a churchyard, perceived a grave-digger tossing up the earth, among which were two or three skulls. The craniologist took one up, and, after considering it a little time, said, "Ah this was the skull of a philosopher." "Very like, sir," said the grave-digger, "for I do see it is somewhat cracked."

Never chase your hat when it blows off in a gale of wind; just stand still, and you will presently see half-a-dozen persons in pursuit of it. When one has captured it, walk leisurely towards him, receive it with grateful acknowledgment, and pace it on your head; he will invariably act as if you had done him a favour. Try it.

A Sunday-school teacher asked one of his scholars if he had learned anything during the past week. "Yes," was the reply. "What is it you have learned?" "Never to trump your partner's ace!"

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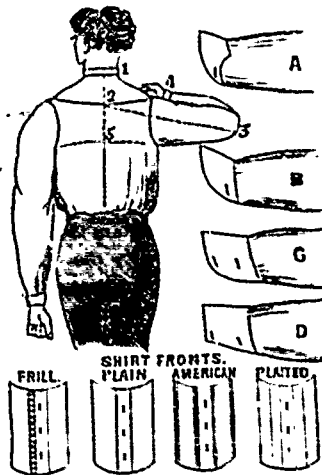
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