

The 'Highlanders' gave a party on Thursday, the 24th ult., at the hotel. A combination of causes resulted in a slim turn-out. As a polite boarder at the hotel, in immaculate white breeches and a waxed mustache remarked on observing all the company sitting in a row in the dining room—a few and strangers to each other at that—"where are the folks? Why, they are as scarce as cloves in a ham!" We admitted the fact, and agreed that bad management and hot weather, was the cause. Financially it was quite successful.

It gives us pleasure to note the efficient manner in which our streets are being taken care of this season. It is the first year that any comprehensive and efficient management has been displayed. Nothing gives a place, either in the city or country, a better appearance than streets well taken care of. Both roads and sidewalks should always be kept in the best order.

THE WAY TO READ.

Old Doctor White, the teacher of Edwin Forrest, used to say, when he gave reading lessons to ministers, "Why, sir, the reason the world is not converted is because the clergy don't know how to read the Bible." Ministers seem to encourage, by their indifferent reading in the pulpit, the indifferent listening in the pew. It is said that the late J. M. Bellew drew crowds to his church in London just to hear him read the Scripture lesson. But the generality of ministers in this country think only of their sermons; do not even know what they are going to read; they leap over commas with utter contempt, and arrive at periods too late to let the voice fall, not only ~~but accents and inflections are overthrown in wild confusion.~~ There is some ~~land~~ hurrying reader, but what can be said in favor of the dragging, monotonous, somniferous tones of another class? As for encomium, neither order merits it, for the one wearies as much as the other. A good reader will not consent thus to torture an audience, nor will he consent to be tortured on his part by seeing them asleep. A pause will startle a sleeper sooner than a shout. Some slight evidence of appreciation on the reader's part will awaken attention in an auditory which would drop into listlessness if he read disjointedly, emphasizing every word as a child does, or hurried through the sentence as if to show how easily he could pronounce the words. The following principles of good reading are worth practicing by every subscriber to the News:

Time, pitch and inflection vary according to the varying importance of the ideas expressed. Slow time, low pitch and downward inflection generally go together, as do rapid time, high pitch and upward inflection. Begin with ordinary time, pitch and undulating inflection, and continue them through ordinary narrative; but when you come to passages distinguished for excellence and weight, your time must be slower, your pitch lower, and inflection decidedly downward. This is a general rule, and no such rule can be free from exceptions. But to be more specific. When you read any sentiment that is good, lovely, superior, wonderful, spiritual, heavenly, any statement that is positive or praiseworthy, you may slacken your pace, sink your voice, and use the falling inflection, and nine cases out of ten you will be applauded. On the other hand, when you come across a description of anything foolish, inferior, or wicked, anything doubtful, ridiculous, or despicable, when you come to an uncertain question, to any sentiment the opposite of those mentioned above, then your time may be more rapid, your voice rise and end on the upward inflection.

Finally, don't emphasize either a repetition or a sequence. Read the first, third and fifth lines of the following extract with slow time, low pitch and downward inflection. Read the second and fourth lines with rapid time, higher pitch, and upward inflection:

The spirit that I have seen may be a devil,
(For the devil hath power to assume a pleasing shape),
Yea, and perhaps out of my weakness and my melancholy,
(For he hath power over such spirits),
He abuses me to damn me.

Special Telegram

WAUKEGAN, Aug. 6th 1874.

Editors News.—In a game of base ball played yesterday at the Fair Grounds between the Athletes and Glencoes, the latter were victorious by a score of 19 to 18.

MUSCLE VS. MUSCLE AND NERVE.

When a contest occurs between athletes, and one side is represented by city and town boys, and the other by country or farm-bred boys, the papers and spectators always try, in the true religious spirit, to make it appear that victory will, somehow, go to the crews least favored by worldly fortune; that is, that it is the honest country boys who had to work on the farm before they went to college, like the "Aggies" last year, or the honest mechanics who went from the workshop to college, like the Cornells this year, who will carry the day against the pampered or favored town boys of Yale and Harvard or Columbia. Nature, they think, must have a tenderness for the poor, and a desire to promote the respectability of manual labor and country life; just as the friends of woman think that Nature cannot have been so grossly unjust as to disqualify woman for any office of dignity or emolument. And yet this illusion about Nature and the country boy has been again and again dissipated by actual experience, and this experience is found to be in accordance with the soundest deductions of physiological science. The reports of our Medical Department on the late war showed, what the reports of all medical departments have shown everywhere, that the country boys are the very softest material that goes into the field; that no military contingents are sooner knocked up on the march, or sooner broken down by fatigue; and that none suffers such serious diminution under the terrific process of sifting by which veterans are made. In fighting, marching, or bivouacking, or any other severe and prolonged test of the bodily powers, the city man, or man of the desk, other things being equal, comes off best, and this for a reason which, so far from being depressing, is, as regards the future of the race, in the highest degree encouraging. It is the reason which gives the civilized man his advantage over the savage, makes the officer more enduring than the soldier, and ensures the dominion of the world always to that portion of the race which makes most use of its brains. Country life, with all its advantages, has the very great disadvantage of being, intellectually considered, a sluggish life. It seldom calls for a rapid use of the faculties, and does not offer any great variety of objects for the exercise of them; so that, all else being the same, a totally illiterate street-boy will have great advantage in any trial of mingled skill and endurance over a totally illiterate country boy. The city boy who leads a tolerably healthy life is, therefore, better armed at the outset for any struggle which requires a very nice adjustment of nervous power to the overcoming of a given set of difficulties. Any marked difference in intellectual training is likely to increase this advantage. One of the most valuable results of this training is the increase it makes in a man's capacity for working for remote results, without diminution of ardor or vigor—a capacity on which civilization may be said to rest; and there is, perhaps, no point of both the moral and physical constitution which is more thoroughly tested by a boat race than this. The more of it a man has, the better military officer, or student, or business man, or rower he is likely to make. To be able to see things far off as if they were near, and act as if a year hence were to-morrow, is the very essence of what is called "bottom," or staying power in a man. The process of training for a boat race is constantly talked of as if it were simply an affair of muscle, and, therefore, as if the man who had cut down most trees or pitched most hay was sure to stand it best, and win the race. But it is in reality only an affair of muscle in a minor degree; it is mainly a trial of nervous force. The man who can on the appointed day, after two or three months of hard work, worry, and excitement, bring his bodily powers most completely within the control of his brain, will win the race, supposing his muscles to be as tough as those of his competitors; and the chances are that

this man will be the best-fed, best-taught man; and the man who has, on the whole, had most practice in the rapid concentration of his faculties on a given piece of exertion; so that all reliance on anterior load-carrying, or heaving, or mowing, or lumbering, though it is sometimes sweet, is apt to be delusive.

It is sincerely to be hoped, however, in the interest of genuine culture, that the victory each year at the university boat races will not be confined to any one college, but that new-comers will, as this year, get a fair share of it. It is in the power of every college which has a good sheet of water near it to make up a good crew by applying the right tests; and the better the chance of winning seems to be, the more colleges will try, and the more widely diffused through the country will be the really valuable tests and habits, which boat racing tends to cultivate.—*The Nation.*

JOB PRINTING

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WAUKEGAN

Weekly Gazette

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Highland Park, June 1, 1874.

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