

of a summer vacation practically shut out from their minds their sense of duty.

This failure must be acknowledged as a gross error, answerable only by the staff. Without the slightest desire to shift the responsibility, or to make the blame personal, the surviving members of the old staff assume this position; and,—since it is not customary to publish a September number—hope by this issue—as a substitute if you like—to appease much of the wrath incurred.

Although it would seem untimely now to speak largely concerning commencement, yet we wish by a reference to part of the program, and to the few days since our return to college, to be able to repay you in a small degree for the anxiety which our negligence must have caused.

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WE see no reason why this year in field sports should not be our best. Although many of our best athletes—those who have done most to raise our standard—graduated at the last commencement, we still have as good material as ever.

Many will not admit this, for the reason that very few of the old students who have not been members of the first base ball nine, or the first foot ball eleven, have kept up systematic training in those or other sports. Few trained men, if any, can be looked for among the students who have just entered here for their first time.

But these reasons do not indicate that we are lacking in material, simply because it has not been developed. The question is: "Will these men take more interest in sports than they have done heretofore." If not, why not? Let us inquire into the incentives which we have for students who wish to engage actively in field sports. As it is perfectly plain that all students cannot belong to our representative base ball and foot ball clubs, we see few inducements in these lines for those who are not very well adapted to them. Besides these two sports, with the exception of lawn tennis, we have had no other field sports at all. As we have no track, of course we have no walking or running contests, two of the most beneficial exercises, both as regards health, and the training of men for most all other field sports.

We have a gymnasium of which we may justly feel proud; equipped far beyond our ability to use it intelligently. As it would be an unprofitable scheme to let loose a drove of cattle in a field of green corn, with no one to look after them and keep them from tramping all over the field and recklessly wasting the fodder, so it is with throwing open a gymnasium to a body of students without furnishing it with an instructor. Where there is no established system of training, students invariably use such pieces of equipment as best suit their pleasure, without regard to the benefit which they may derive from them. In-