THE FEBRUARY NUMBER OF Harper's Magazine contains an article on
manual training, in which the
writer credits Prof. John D.
Runkle, of the Massachusetts
Institute, with being the in-
troducer of that method of
instruction in the schools of the United States.
This was in 1876, or shortly after, Prof. Runkle
having drawn the idea from an exhibition of
industrial work which he saw at the Centennial.
Since then, when our School of Mechanic Arts
was formed, mechanical schools have been es-
tablished in all parts of the country.
In addition to the inception of this idea of
manual training, the Institute has played a very
important part in carrying it out, not only in our
own school, but in other parts of the country, as
a glance through the article in Harper's will show.
Prof. William F. M. Goss, a graduate of
the Institute, is in charge of the department of
practical mechanics of Purdue University, In-
diana. Prof. Ordway, for many years a profes-
sor here, is now at the head of the manual
training department of Tulane University, of
Louisiana. Another graduate, Prof. George H.
Bryant, is in charge of the instruction in the
elements of the mechanic arts in the State
Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alab-
ama.
Manual training is a subject which excites
much interest, at present, since its adoption into
the public school system of Boston and other
cities seems probable at no very distant day.
Already there are more of these schools in the
United States than in any other country in the
world, with the exception of Russia, where,
perhaps, the system has reached its highest
development.
THE Athletic Club is to give, on February
13th, what it designates as a "gentlemen's" me-
ting, wholly given up to sparring, fencing,
and wrestling. For the benefit of those not
understanding, we offer the following explana-
tion of this meeting. It is the custom of the
Athletic Club to have, every spring, an indoor
meeting, open to all amateurs of good standing,
and to members of the various athletic clubs
around Boston, principally among these being
the Y. M. C. A., Y. M. C. U., U. A. C.,
and Harvard Athletic Club. The principal part of
this meeting is given up to sparring, and a promi-
inent feature is our annual tug-of-war with Har-
vard.
The object of the "gentlemen's" meeting is
to find whether the Institute can successfully
compete with outside talent. We hope all our
sparrers will enter these games, and do their
best for the Institute.
Last year, for the first time since our tug-of-
war contests with Harvard began, several years
ago, we were pulled. This must not happen
again. It is true that the contest was one more
between the classes of '86 of Harvard and the
Institute respectively, but, nevertheless, it was.