I suppose the article to which most readers of The Tech will first turn in Scribner's for November, is that on the Physical Characteristics of the Athlete, by Dr. Sargent, the accomplished Superintendent of the Harvard Gymnasium. It is the second of a series on Physical Training, and is profusely illustrated with diagrams and instantaneous photographs of athletes in motion. It is good to see the careful attention that is paid in colleges like Harvard and Amherst to physical training. Gymnastics were first introduced at Harvard, about half a century ago, by the two well-known German scholars, Dr. Charles Follen and Dr. Charles Beck. They were fugitives from the iron despotisms that were established in Germany after the downfall of Napoleon, and had belonged to the patriotic young Turners, organized by Jahn. One of them, Dr. Follen, after taking a noble part in the anti-slavery movement in this country, perished in the burning of the Sound steamer Lexington, in 1840. Dr. Beck was for many years the learned professor of Latin at Cambridge. When I entered college some remnants of their open-air gymnasium were to be seen on the Delta, where now stands the stately Memorial Hall. But gymnastics died out at Cambridge, and did not revive till some unknown benefactor gave the money for the first gymnasium building, and a respectable colored pugilist was appointed superintendent. They did not gain a permanent footing and a true organization till the present superb gymnasium was built, and the pugilist was superseded by a well-educated physician. It may perhaps be doubted whether, until this system is adopted, a gymnasium is not the source of as much harm as good; for it is not physical training merely to turn a lot of boys into a shed full of bars, and ropes, and dumb-bells. Let us hope that the time will soon come when no college will be considered properly equipped without a trained medical superintendent of its students.

An ancient and venerable illustration of another of the popular sports of the day, may be found in the illustrated paper on the wonderful old Viking ship lately dug out of the funeral-mound of a Scandinavian chieftain at Gokstad, in Southern Norway, and now, with its curious contents, in the possession of the University of Christiania. It is 78 feet long, and it is conjectured to have been built in the later iron age, or between A. D. 700 and 1000. It was but a grim kind of yachting that was probably done in her, for it was in such keels that Angles and Saxons made their raids on Britain, and the piratical followers of Rollo sailed up the Seine. It was in such a vessel, too, that Leif Ericson, whose statue we have just been setting up, first reached America. Rarely has there been such an antiquarian find as the contents of this old Scandinavian chief's funeral-mound, who was not a Viking, or any other kind of king, as many people suppose, but a Vik-ing, wicing, or man of the creek or fiord.

Readers of The Tech will certainly not overlook the excellent article by our President, entitled, "What Shall We Tell the Working-classes?" If the working-classes could only be made to listen to such sound doctrine, our labor troubles would be over.

The Contemporany for October contains a specimen of what may be called first-hand knowledge in the shape of a paper on Afghan Life and Afghan Songs, by Professor Darmesteter. I call it first-hand, because the learned Professor lived for months among the Afghans, and collected their songs as young Walter Scott collected his Border Minstrelsy, from the mouths of the people themselves.

In the same number is a paper "by an English resident in Russia," giving an account of that extraordinary man, Michael Katkoff, who died recently in Moscow. Though only a newspaper editor, Katkoff seems to have been, for the time, more the real ruler of Russia than the Czar himself, and, if we may believe this writer, Russia never had a greater curse. For he was a renegade reactionary, a traitor to all liberal principles, and threw the whole of his enormous influence over the