

districts. The great impetus arising from national contests was absent and could not be looked for until the rules were made harmonious. An appreciation of this fact led to a convention of players in 1863, held in London, at which a set of rules was drawn up and an association formed. This association aimed at something more than merely bringing the rules into unison. Players had long recognized the roughness that characterized the various systems of playing football and they had also been aware that what had originally been football had become a game in which the foot was subordinate to the hand, and skill to brute strength. What was aimed at then was to make football really a game wherein the foot played the ball, and to this end they determined to do away with the handling of the ball except by the goal-keeper, the permission being granted in his case that the capture of a goal might be rendered more difficult. The new game met with much favour in England and soon ran a close race with the Rugby game. In Scotland the first club formed was the Queen's Park, who beginning their existence in 1867 have since then had an almost unbroken record. Recently, however, they have not had matters so much their own way, other clubs formed later having pushed them hard. I have not the statistics of the English and Scottish Associations at hand but I think I am correct in saying that though England first practised the new game, Scotland has adopted it with more heartiness and played it on the whole with more success, as is evidenced by the fact of England for the first time winning, last year, an international match, in which the team representing Scotland was one chosen by the Scottish Association. Wales has been even less lucky against the uncanny Scotchmen; but judging from the renewed interest in the game in England this state of affairs will not continue long. While I do not look for the players of the English or Welsh Associations manifesting a dominating superiority over those of the Scottish Association, I certainly do anticipate that the future international matches will find victory more evenly distributed. Perhaps without incurring the imputation of being partial I may direct attention to a noble feature in the history of the game as played in Scotland. In four years the charity matches in Glasgow have yielded £1,545, a record which I believe is unparalleled in the annals of athletic exercises. In connection with most amusements calling for the exercise of physical force and endurance it is common to hear of broken down constitutions and fatal accidents. I can recall no death, no permanent injury, indeed, no enduring

inconvenience from the playing of the Association game in Scotland, though in England last year the death was recorded of one poor fellow who fell a victim to an injudicious 'charge.' The danger arising from 'jumping at' a player was at once recognized and a law was passed prohibiting it in future. Is not the record extraordinary? In Scotland there are at least 8,000 active players of the game, and these have pursued the health giving exercise without any of their number having sustained as much injury, as many of them might have, had they instead of rushing headlong on the field, been stretched full length in bed. The benefit which the players derive is not all the good that arises from the game. To see it large crowds leave the vitiated atmosphere of the cities and find their way to the football fields. If this exercise be less boisterous than that of the players it is not unattended by beneficial results. Thus when amusement is provided and tone to the system found it cannot be wondered at that tens of thousands are votaries of the game who never kick the ball.

THE GAME IN CANADA.

Nothing is more natural than that an expatriated person in a land new to him should long for many of the associations that were dear to him in the country whence he came. Prepared, if he be a man of the right sort, to fall into the ways of the people among whom he resides, he yet craves for some of his former delights, and to this may be attributed the introduction of Association Football to Canada, which occurred three years ago. A number of Glasgow young men, who played the game there, found themselves congregated in the City of Toronto. Cricket and applauding at lacrosse matches furnished congenial exercise during the summer months but the spring and fall hung heavy on their hands. A number of them being together one night it was resolved to attempt the introduction of association football. Rugby was then played with considerable vigour though not extensively, but the same feeling of dissatisfaction with it which led in England to the formation of the association prevailed here. This was supplemented here by the popular disfavour with which the Rugby game was regarded, on account of its roughness. These young men to whom I have referred were all members of the Carlton Cricket Club and they formed the Carlton Football Club, the first association club in Canada, and I