

deserving ; it too often goes to the best "coached," and the best coaching is a luxury to be enjoyed only by the rich. In this way the competitors suffer and the cause of education itself suffers. Children are injured in body, mind and soul ; mediocrity is forced up into a position that does not belong to it ; and the instrument that was intended to help the poor child of genius is employed to save the pockets of the wealthy.—*The School Guardian*.

FOOTBALL.—There is little doubt that football is by far the most dangerous of the games commonly played by boys and young men. Yet there are few of us who would like to see it put down, and the Headmaster of Loretto, who has been a notable athlete in his day, is certainly not one of those few. Therefore the more attention is due to Dr. Almond's protest against certain brutalizing and "gate money" tendencies, which he declares to be on the increase :—

"—the effect of recent legislation has been to make the game faster. Everything for pace and show-off,

because crowds like a quick game and dislike what is, to them, the tedium of the old honest scrummage game. The effect of this is that more boys and men are excluded from the game than used to be the case. Boys with a weakness of the heart are excluded because of its pace, men have to stop playing sooner, and take their place amongst a crowd of sightseers, who would be much better engaged in taking exercise of some kind themselves. I have often felt, and said, that if the game develops on its present lines any further, schools ought to have a Union and rules of their own."

These remarks of his are called forth by the vigorous attempt now being made to put down "shinguards." The attack is based on the opportunities it gives those who wear them to take advantage of these safeguards to injure other players ; but Dr. Almond's opinion is (and he is supported by medical testimony) that some such protection is absolutely necessary as the game is played now.—*The Educational Times*.

PUBLIC OPINION.

THE MASTER OF BALLIOL.—Oxford has lost the most remarkable of her many eminent educationists by the death of Professor Jowett. The late Master of Balliol was at once scholar, teacher, and man of affairs—a rare combination, it will be admitted. Moreover, he had the subtle knack of impressing his personality on all with whom he came into contact. It is said that he had a peculiar ambition to influence such of his pupils as were likely to have distinguished careers. As a man he had an intense admiration for Johnson, and much of Johnson's fierce impatience of interference or opposition. He loved to rule

alone : but then he ruled with conspicuous success. There have been more famous as well as abler men than Dr. Jowett at Oxford, but during recent years, at least, there has been none of his imperious force. His chief source of strength was that he was not too severely academic ; in the midst of his most absorbing labours he never forgot that there was a great world outside the university walls. Abominating prigs, he was not afraid to say scathing things in a scathing way. Yet many of his pupils who are now filling distinguished offices will remember with gratitude his hard but beneficent discipline.