

### Football Notes.

The first practice match of the season was played on Saturday last, on the College Grounds, between fifteen of the "Banks" and fifteen of the U. F. B. C. More than ordinary interest was taken in the contest, from the fact that the Montreal men agreed to play the "carrying" game, to give the College team an opportunity of practicing their rules, which are to be played against Harvard on the 12th or 13th prox. The day happened to be unusually fine, and the capital condition of the ground greatly added to the enjoyment felt in playing this well-contested match. The afternoon's play ended in favor of the "Banks," they kicking two goals to their opponents' three "touch downs," and the large number of spectators who turned out to witness the game were treated to a capital exhibition of Rugby football; and although the match resulted in favour of the "Banks," both teams deserve a word of praise for the able manner in which the game was conducted.

The following are the fifteen who have been selected to play Harvard on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 12th and 13th May:—

#### BACKS.

DAY, RODGER, JR., Science (captain). J. B. AUBREY, LAW.  
C. J. K. FLEET, LAW.

#### HALF BACKS.

H. W. THOMAS, Arts. ST. GEO. BOSWELL, Science.

#### FORWARDS.

OHARA BAYNES, Law.	R. P. PATTEE, Medicine.
G. E. JENKINS, "	R. A. McDONALD, "
R. W. HUNTINGTON, "	E. G. HENDERSON, "
D. E. BOWIE, "	C. R. JONES, "
H. JOSEPH, Arts.	P. J. GOODHUE, "

#### MONTREAL FOOTBALL CLUB.

At the semi-Annual Meeting held on Wednesday, the 22nd April, the following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for this season:—

E. A. WHITEHEAD, ESQ., President.  
COLONEL FRANK BOND, Vice-Pres. J. L. HARR, ESQ., Treasurer.  
FRED. C. HENSHAW, ESQ., 2nd " S. C. W. MONTAGUE, ESQ., Secretary.

#### COMMITTEE.

MESSE, HARR, MESSRS. S. CAMPBELL,  
D. RODGER, JR., C. J. R. FLEET,  
J. J. RUSSELL, P. J. GOODHUE.

#### MATCH COMMITTEE.

MESSE, H. W. THOMAS, D. RODGER, JR.,  
and HARR.

Mr. Hare was also chosen Captain for the spring season.

A new by-law was proposed and adopted to the effect that undergraduates of McGill may become members of the M. F. B. C. upon the payment of one dollar annual subscription.

After the discussion of probable matches for the season, and the enrollment of names of new members, the meeting was brought to a close, having first tendered a unanimous vote of thanks to the retiring officers.

We have also heard that, at an early date, the project of returning to the "carrying" game will be mooted by several prominent members of the M. F. B. C.

#### INTERNATIONAL MATCHES.

With the revival of the football season, and also *apropos* of the meeting of the Harvard and McGill Football Teams, a few remarks made a year or two ago upon the topic of International matches generally may not be out of place.

In former times, before horizons were practically abolished, the aspiring sportsman was sufficiently gratified if he could style himself champion of his native town, and his utmost hopes were realized if he could claim supremacy in his own county. But of late years the man who has won a few matches against indigent competers considers himself modest if he does not arrogate the title of Champion of the world in his particular branch of sport. It may, indeed, happen that such an addition is like the degrees of certain foreign universities—of more show than value. No David may arise to cast a stone at the self-constituted Goliath; he may never be convicted of being "a thing wherein we feel there is some hidden want." It seems probable, however, that those who defy competition will for the future be compelled to make good their boasts against all the British Colonies, as well as against America, France, and Germany.

There is something peculiarly delightful about international contests. In some schools it is the custom, in default of antagonists, to arrange cricket matches in which one half the alphabet plays against the other half, or the dark-haired play the fair-haired. Contests of this sort are always felt to be dead failures. The stimulus of rivalry is wanting; victory has no charms, and

defeat no terrors. But the faintest trace of international feeling in a contest at once excites universal enthusiasm, and the uterine deities of the contending nations—whether they be St. George, St. Denis, Mumbo-Jumbo, Jingo, or Golly—are freely invoked by confident partisans on both sides. We all remember how jubilant the imperturbable Yankee showed himself to be over the prospective triumph of Umpire in the Derby. When Gladiateur actually became the Senior Wrangler of the turf, France felt that Waterloo was at last avenged, and magnanimously pitted a de-graded Albion. Ladies whose own delicate noses had never been visited by anything ruder than a smelling bottle, and general disciples of culture who had never received a heavier blow than a tailor's bill, grew "melancholy with joy" when they read how Savers had distorted the features of Heenan, and how the latter had treated his opponent like a human skittle. The biggest crowd ever seen on the banks of the Thames assembled to witness the victory over the Harvard.

It is for these reasons, among many others, we shall be glad to meet the Harvard men, more especially since they have brought themselves to relax the strictness of their football traditions, and will meet us also on our own terms and after our own fashion. We hope, too, that the custom of inter-university matches may become more frequent, as these meetings, for the sake of wholesome rivalry in our national sports, are desirable.

We must say a word or two to our men regarding the Athletic meeting in October, as we should like to see each one do his best to contribute to the success of this yearly gathering. There are four months' vacation before we meet again, and expectant competitors can easily during that time pick out their particular events, and get quietly into as good form as possible. That a sound mind requires a sound body for its shelter, is a proverb older than the English language; and that bodily health—and as a consequence, mental vigour—are promoted by judicious and wisely-directed exercise is beyond dispute. Surely, then, "training," or prudent and systematic exercise of the body, with a view to keeping the mind clear and elastic, must be virtuous and good, and it is in this persuasion that we must ask our fellow students to follow the true principles which guide men in bringing about that blissful condition of existence, the *mens sana in corpore sano*.

R.

### Reviews.

THE WILD NORTH LAND: Being the story of a winter journey with dogs, across Northern North America. By Captain W. F. Butler, F.R.G.S., author of "The Great Lone Land," etc. Montreal: Dawson Brothers, 1874.

In this work we, as Canadians, have attained the wish expressed by Robbie Burns, viz.: that we may "see ourselves as others see us." The great importance attached to Northern North America, as a field for immigration and enterprise, since the purchase of that territory by the Dominion Government, has led us to boast, in a manner vague and uncertain, about our North-Western possessions. Were some inquisitive foreigner to ask us the pertinent question, "What is there up there?" although formerly we could furnish, at best, an answer little calculated to afford accurate information on the subject; now we can advise him to proceed to Dawson's forthwith, and lay out his money in a copy of this work, and in one of its predecessors, "The Great Lone Land." To supply information of this nature, we have before us the work of no visionary theorist, no speculative immigration agent, but of one who has seen the country, its advantages and its disadvantages, and who can tell in no mean language his experiences of that vast territory. To the Canadian nation "The Wild North Land" gives the candid and unprejudiced opinions of a stranger.

Unlike most of the books written on the subject of Canada, we find in it no tales of impossible, or, at best, improbable adventures, or of wondrous sport, which must alone have existence in the fertile imagination of the author; nor are the customs and peculiarities of one of the numerous classes into which New World society is divided, taken as a fair specimen of the others. Thus, in Mr. Fitzgerald's "Wickets in the West," that gentleman so frequently introduces the various bar-keepers he meets with, and the legion of beverages they concoct, that an Englishman who had never been in Canada, might easily infer