

forcibly home, that the various departments are very unequally provided for. The classical shelves contain all, or nearly all, the authors that are ante-Christian, and many that are decidedly mediæval; the 'corpora Inscriptorum,' too, are in full force, thanks to the literary labors of the late President in that department. Commentaries and editions (modern at least), are, on the other hand, poorly represented; however, the Classics make the best show, and have no reason to complain. Mathematics also are fairly well off. The departments of general literature are the worst, and English literature especially. To be sure there is Shakespeare in various editions, with the Ireland forgeries and the Shakespeare Society's publications, but the result of the New Shakespeare Society's deliberations, and the valuable labors of Prof. Dowden, the poet Swinburne, and Ulrici, the great rival of Gervinus, towards illuminating the pages of the 'immortal William' to earnest Shakespeare students, find no place within our learned walls. Robert Browning was, until two years ago, altogether unrepresented; Swinburne, Morris, Christina Rossetti, and other leaders of the modern school of poetry, are so still. The authorities have made due amends to Browning; may they speedily do so to these others. The library is evidently anti-Annexationist in the matter of literature; it contains Longfellow (presented perhaps) and Bret Harte (!), who is now said to affect the London swell, which may account for his presence; but all the rest of the great American writers, Emerson, Bryant, Poe, Whittier, Washington Irving (except in his histories) are ignored as completely as are Leigh Hunt, Hood, Moore, and other old friends of English birth. So much for modern times. But the mighty ancients are scarcely more fortunate: the Elizabethans are there in part, but that part is sadly mangled by popular editions. Enough about English, what of foreign literature? In French, we find Victor Hugo and De Balzac, but George Sand is conspicuous by her absence, and even among the numerous volumes of Victor Hugo we miss 'Les Misérables!' In the English department, to admit no novelist of a later date than Smollett is not unwise, but to have De Balzac and Victor Hugo, yet exclude George Sand, is like putting the Iliad on the curriculum and not the Odyssey, or Schiller without Goethe, or Corneille and not Racine. These are a few inconsistencies; many others might be noted, but for the present these will suffice to show that not only inconsistencies but positive wants are apparent in our library.

At a meeting of Convocation, held in June last, a committee was moved for by Mr. Houston to investigate and report upon the best means for increasing the endowment and general efficiency of the University. The gentlemen selected to act on the committee were the Chancellor (Hon. E. Blake), Vice-Chancellor (W. Mulock, Esq., M.P.), the Chancellor of Ontario (Hon. J. A. Boyd), Jas. A. Morris, R. E. Kingsford, T. W. Taylor, J. M. Buchan, and the mover. Mr. Mulock was named as Convener. We understand one meeting of the committee has been held, when Mr. W. F. Creelman, B.A., was added to the committee and appointed Secretary. There being only a small attendance, nothing further was done, as we understand, and the committee awaits the call of the convener, who is preparing certain financial statements to be submitted to it after approval by the Board of Audit.

It would be a national misfortune if the national University were to be dragged into politics. Under our system of Government can this be avoided? Are the minds of our politicians so warped by their political strife that they cannot deal with this question in a fair spirit? We would be glad to think that such is not the case. It does seem to be a curious state of things that when there is a surplus of \$5,000,000 or thereabouts, and when the Minister of Education, who is in, and the Leader of the Opposition, who is out, are both graduates of the University, that some agreement could not be come to whereby a further sufficient endowment be granted, and the cause of higher education in the Province could be so manifestly advanced. Are our prominent men, on the one hand, so afraid of responsibility as to hesitate about proposing such an expenditure; or, on the other, so anxious to make a point that they will sacrifice the efficiency of a University to do it? We hope not.

UNIVERSITY NEWS.

FOOT-BALL.

RUGBY UNION.—We have no matches to report for this week, as that arranged with Hamilton for last Saturday was postponed at the request of the Torontos, who wanted several of the University team to go to Montreal to play for them against the Britannias. The club has however been hard at work, having had a practice every day. A great number of players have come out this year with the expectation of being on the McGill team, and the committee will have to exercise a good deal of caution before they make up their team, as there are a number who are making a hard push for the last places. The practices are generally unnecessarily rough, owing to the loose way in which the members play. This ought to be checked at once, as it will do the team harm in a match. The 'following up' to which we called attention in the last issue is still weak, although a little improved. The way in which the team lines out from touch is the most disorderly thing that we have seen for some time in a foot-ball field. It is a very simple and effective way for each player in a game to 'mark his man' and stick to him through thick and thin. The drop-kicking of the team is also very weak, only one of the backs, so far as we have seen, being at all sure of his kick. No better instance of the effectiveness of drop-kicking could be given than the late Toronto-Britannia match. In this game the Torontos could run faster, tackle better, and push their opponents in the mauls, and yet the Brits had the best of the game, simply because every one of their backs could drop fifty yards every time. The University Club have still a week before them, and if they only settle down to their work we have no doubt that they will be able to give a good account of themselves in the McGill match. We wish them every success.

'TOUCHES.'—At a committee meeting held on Thursday afternoon, it was determined to play Port Hope School on Friday, Nov. 3, McGill University, on Saturday, and Kingston Military College on Monday, Nov. 6. This arrangement was come to after due consideration, as it was thought that the team would be too much knocked up by playing three successive matches, McGill, the most important one, being last. It was also determined to try and raise more funds towards the expenses, the amount so far realized being rather meagre.

Of the fifteen men who represented Toronto in the recent championship play with the Britannias, fourteen were either graduates or undergraduates of Toronto University.

One of the fourteen was Mr. E. McKay, who, although he had not previously practised this year, played undoubtedly the best game on the field.

The Toronto University and Toronto Foot-ball Clubs have started an agitation to revise the present Rugby Union Rules, and are trying to get all the clubs in Canada to join with them in this much needed reform.

Our chances for winning the McGill match would be considerably improved if the fifteen, so far as possible, would play together every day this week, and take a good run after the game.

It would be well for the team, both forwards and backs, to recollect that to kick the ball when near either their own or their opponent's goal is about the worst play one can devise. In the former case they give their opponents a free kick at their goal, when they catch the ball, and in the latter they kick the ball over the goal line, thus giving their opponents a twenty-five yard kick, and losing their own chance for a try. This latter case is of course not meant to include those times where there is any chance for a drop at goal. The safe rule is,—never kick the ball off the ground when near your own goal, never kick it at all when near your opponent's, except to kick a goal.

The Hamilton F. C. are getting, to say the least of it, uppish. They say: The Torontos played a drawn game with the Britannias, the champions of Canada; we virtually beat the Torontos, i. e., we gained a great 'moral victory' over them; *ergo*, we are champions of the Dominion!!! Q. E. D. Our mathematical readers will, we have no doubt, be able to disprove this proposition by the *reductio ad absurdum* process.

ASSOCIATION.—On Friday last the University Association put another team on the field to compete with the Knox Club, in the opening match for the Central Association Cup, and this time with greater success than in the match on Convocation Day. Then, it will be remembered, the game was a draw, as the home team had the honor of scoring the only goal taken. The season in this district has opened propitiously, and the Association has been successful in bringing two of its strongest clubs together, to inaugurate the first contest in the Toronto district, under the new Central Association rules.

We regret, however, to have to record an accident which compelled Mr. Creelman to discontinue playing. We hope it is not an omen of the results this year.