

Perhaps the press is alone responsible for the claim appearing in this latter form, but it certainly was published in this manner.

A solution of the problem has appeared in the announcement that the Ottawa College Club has determined to rejoin the Ontario Rugby Association. Everyone interested in football in the Dominion will be pleased to hear this. The return of the garnet and grey to the arena will be warmly welcomed, and ought to incite all their opponents to redoubled efforts to tear from them the championship which they have so long held.

I don't think there ought to be great difficulty in defeating them. Indeed, if they had not played Montreal in Montreal before their game for the championship here on Thanksgiving Day, I think they would have been beaten here. It was evident they were playing here to defeat the game which had worsted them in Montreal, and their opponents did not change their tactics. Time and again during the scrimmages the Collegians, warned by the disaster which had befallen them in Montreal, would be on them before they could fairly grasp the ball. Dr. Elder appeared to be most anxious and painstaking, but he could not be everywhere at once, and there were so many glaring offences of off-side play on both sides that it is no wonder he missed some of them.

By the way, there is no doubt he was in error in making the game a tie. The scorer *did* put up a point too many for the home team, but the board was changed before the game ended, and the correct figures mounted. I kept the score the whole time, and made no mistake about it, for my sympathies were with the defeated, and I would rather have favoured the Montrealers.

Another point is the very objectionable feature of off side play, indulged in to an extent which is most reprehensible. Why cannot the referee be relieved of the duty of watching for off-side play? This could be much better attended to by a couple of umpires whose exclusive duty it would be, who could devote their whole attention to it, leaving the referee greater liberty for attending to other points calling for all his energies.

Why is it that the championship appears to be confined to the provinces of Ontario and Quebec? Surely there are teams both in the east and the west who could make a good struggle for the supremacy.

I have no doubt the expensive transport is one great deterrent to more frequent interchange of games between the clubs from the east and west. This is an evil that might be remedied in great measure, if properly represented to the railway companies, and might be well worthy of consideration by the Football Unions.

It is marvellous to contemplate the amount of money taken at the "gate" at the Yale-Princeton match. If it was not for the dispute as to the amount which should be accounted for, possibly attention would not have been drawn in such a marked manner to the results. As it is, we cannot help an envious feeling arising in our breasts when we hear of gate receipts amounting to \$25,000 or \$30,000, and a club receiving as its share \$13,000.

### TRIBUTE TO AN HONOURED CANADIAN.

(Toronto Mail.)

Under the head line of "Sport and Athletics in Canada," the *Week's Sport* of New York comments favourably on Canadian prowess in the athletic field. Referring to the new Toronto Athletic club house it makes a lengthy excerpt from the *Mail's* report of the speech of Prof. Goldwin Smith on the occasion of the turning of the first sod. This speech it characterizes as "utterances which demand a place in every publication that is interested in sports." In the same article the *Week's Sport* pays the following well deserved tribute to a great and honoured Canadian:—"Toronto is now to have an athletic club building which will perhaps be the largest on this continent, and it is a coincidence that the land chosen and purchased by the trustees of the athletic club is a portion of the estate known as Sleepy Hollow, owned by the Hon. John Beverley Robinson, a man who was one of the best all-round amateur athletes this continent has ever produced. With the gloves he had few equals. His high jumping record, a great one in those days—44 years ago—was 5 feet 9½ inches. As a senator of Canada he was a success, and afterwards as Lieutenant Governor of Ontario he broke all previous records for gold lace and dignified and refined bearing. At the present moment we venture to say that there is not a man in America of the Hon. John's age who could tackle him successfully with the gloves or otherwise, and we mention him here as an example of the manner in which judicious use of manly sport may successfully combine with every other ambition, and with every tradition of an illustrious and gifted family.

### THE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION.

Hamilton, Dec. 8. The Ontario Game and Fish Commissioners had a short but important conference in the City hall to-day with the commissioners from the United States, there being present Messrs. J. H. Wilmott, Muskoka; Dr. McCallum Dunnville; R. A. Lucas, Hamilton, and Ald. A. D. Stewart, Hamilton, of the Ontario Commission, and Hon. Senator McLaughlin, of Rochester, N. Y.; Mr. Frank J. Amsden, of the Cheap Fish Food As-

sociation of Rochester, N. Y.; Mr. George Skinner, of the St. Lawrence Anglers' Association, Clayton, N. Y.; Dr. H. M. Smith, Washington, D. C., of the United States Fish Commission, and Hon. E. G. Whittaker, of Albany, N. Y. Hon. R. Roosevelt, chairman of the New York Commission, was not present, and Senator McLaughlin was chosen chairman. Gen. Richard U. Sherman was detained by illness, but sent a long report upon the propagation and protection of fish. Mr. H. H. Warner also sent a letter on the same subject. The meeting unanimously decided, on motion of Ald. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Whittaker, that provisions ought to be introduced into the laws of the United States and the provinces of Ontario and Quebec forbidding the taking and having in possession salmon trout and whitefish weighing less than two pounds each, bass weighing less than one pound, and blue pike less than ¾ of a pound; also that the Government should locate the spawning beds so that fry might be placed artificially in the places where fish would naturally go to deposit their ova. The question of approving of the New York codification of game laws came up, and the code was generally approved of by the Canadian representatives. The clause which allows game birds to be shot in the spring was unanimously denounced, and the American commissioners without a single exception agreed with the Canadians in this respect. It was therefore unanimously decided to approve of the New York codification except in this respect, and to recommend that the shooting season be from September 15th to December 15th, or at the least December 30th, instead of from September 1st until May 1st. The use of nets whereby small fish are taken out of the water and destroyed was denounced most emphatically. The question of establishing a hatchery in Ontario was discussed, and it was decided to recommend to the Ontario Government the establishment of a hatchery. It was also decided to hold meetings of the International Convention of Fish and Game Commissioners annually, the next meeting to be held in Detroit.

