

sary articles and tools in, and the grounds themselves, which might with some care be made an ornament to the city, resemble in their present condition an uninhabited wild. Thus it has long since become evident that whatever improvements are to be made must be done by our own unaided efforts. The recognition of this fact by all will be a better surety for advancement than continuing to have faith in a truly broken reed. All who attended our late autumn meeting must have been struck with the improvement which the new track affords compared with the old arrangement. The time, if we mistake not, was better on this very account, and besides, for the first time we were able to have a bicycle race. Much, of course, still remains to be done, but for even the present track we ought to feel thankful to those gentlemen who undertook its construction and to all who subscribed towards the cost. Some of our readers will remember that upon the suggestion of Prof. McLeod, a committee was appointed at the end of last session for the purpose of having a track constructed round the football field. Much praise is due to Mr. McLeod, not only for suggesting the idea but for his great kindness in superintending the carrying out of this work. He was ably seconded by the committee, who also deserve great praise for their efforts for the public welfare. A statement from the Treasurer of the committee, together with a list of those who subscribed, will be found in another place. As will be seen from that statement a small balance remains in the Treasurer's hands, which together, with some \$30, which, we believe, was voted by the Annual Sports Committee, towards the maintenance and improvement of the track, will now form the nucleus of a permanent fund. The Committee, of which we have spoken, was elected for a certain purpose, and that purpose having been effected, they are justified in considering their labours at an end. But the question now arises, to whom is this balance to be handed over for future use? The Track Committee has decided to send a recommendation to the Sports Committee to take steps for the formation of a permanent Association, having for its object the superintendence of the sports of the University in general, and the management of the College grounds in particular. This Association, it is to be hoped, will soon be in actual existence. It may be remembered that in May or June last, a strenuous effort was made to form some kind of a University Athletic Association, but the matter was deferred until a more suitable time, when all the undergraduates would be in Montreal. By the proposed plan it was intended, if we mistake not, that a permanent fund should be raised among the graduates and undergraduates, quite independently of the different College Clubs, this fund to be administered by a committee appointed by the whole. No one Club should have a monopoly of the advantages to be gained, but all should be impartially benefited according to their needs. Some Association of this kind must be formed, if we are to hope for improvements in our out-door sports, and the members of the different clubs should not let any jealousies prevent them from giving the scheme their cordial support. If the suggestion is carried out we will soon be able to erect a house on the grounds suitable for our needs. We feel sure that this would do much towards strengthening the interest now taken in the football practices, a consummation much to be desired when we consider that hard practice can alone make up for the shortness of the season available to our College Club. The Association might take steps also, if it were thought advisable, to resuscitate some winter sports, in which at present very little interest is taken by the students.

Students and others accustomed to use the University library, will, by this time, have had experience of the working of the new regulations which came into force at the beginning of the present session. The chief changes are, that the deposit has been increased from four to five dollars, that it must be paid to the Bursar instead of to the Librarian as heretofore, that a deposit once made cannot be recovered until the end of the session, and the change in the rule referring to fines which makes it more stringent, and states that all fines shall be deducted from the amount of the deposit. What the circumstances are which have arisen to necessitate these changes we do not know; but as far as we have seen up to the present, the changes themselves have given rise to increased inconvenience and annoyance. It is certainly right that the affairs of the library should be carefully attended to, and that measures for its preservation should be taken, but we fail to see what is to be gained by adding \$1.00 to the amount of the deposit or by having it paid to the Bursar. The Librarian is always present in the library, but a prolonged search after the Bursar is not generally successful. The rule that the deposit shall remain for the whole session when once made, is probably the most reasonable of all the changes, as great trouble was given by the continual making and withdrawing of deposits. We are of opinion however, that all deposits should be returnable twice a year at least, namely, at Christmas and at the end of the session. We know, as a matter of fact, that if this is not done, a good deal of inconvenience will arise to many students. The aim which the Committee ought always to keep in view is to make the library as generally useful as possible, and for this end to give every facility to readers. The amount of study which is done in the library itself, except in the intervals between lectures, and in hunting after references, is very small. The chief advantage is obtained by those who take books for study at home, and we maintain that every facility ought to be given to these, who form the larger number, which is consistent with due precaution for the safety and preservation of the books. We hope that the new deposit of five dollars will have the required effect where that of four dollars has been heretofore insufficient. We suppose the new rule with regard to fines will be as rigidly carried out as that which was previously in force. We are sorry, however, that the Committee omitted to insert any rules which should govern professors in their use of the library. We respectfully suggest the following one for consideration:—"That no professor in any of the faculties be allowed to keep more than three hundred volumes for more than three years at any one time, whether the same be for reference or otherwise, under a penalty of two cents for the first offence and five cents for the second, the same to be deducted from the defaulter's salary by the Bursar."

McGill and Toronto University meet on Saturday, November 3rd, to compete in the first of what we hope will be a long and unbroken series of intercollegiate sports. The details have not been decided by the two representative committees as we go to press. The events, however, will be modelled on the Oxford and Cambridge programme. The ties which kindred interests have created between the two great universities of Canada are at last drawing them together. Two years ago the McGill football team went to Toronto, last year Toronto University sent a team to Montreal; the result on each occasion was the same: McGill won, and each team vowed it the most satisfactory