

ATHLETICS.

In resuming the spring football practices, the Athletic Association has taken a step in the right direction. For two years or more the growing importance of lacrosse and baseball, made it necessary to exclude football from the programme of summer sports, but while lacrosse and baseball thereby gained, football lost. For to the want of training in the spring, is chiefly attributable that nervous and uneasy feeling with which the footballers take the field in the fall. With the close of every year, many of the first fifteen leave the College, to fight the battles of their Alma Mater on new and different fields, and seeing that their places have ultimately to be filled, no wiser step can be taken than to commence early and educate the youthful aspirants while they have yet the example of the old ones to direct and guide them. Moreover Rugby football will henceforth present itself in new force. The recent alterations in the playing rules will have for effect to materially change the character of the game. Comparatively little will in future depend upon the strength and dash of the scrimmagers, whilst upon the wings and quarter-backs will devolve in a great measure, the burden of the play. We bespeak a most successful season for the champions next fall, for the changes in question cannot but result advantageously, yet, permit us to say that we are ignorant of the game, as at present constituted, and practice alone will acquaint us with it.

The prospects for baseball are brightening. True many familiar forms are absent from the diamond this year, but we have already seen enough to confirm us in our opinion, that there still remains excellent material for a good nine, and we venture to say that before another season shall have passed, the College team will be creditably heard from. With such enthusiastic players as Kehoe, Paradis, Donovan, Clarke, Sullivan, D. McDonald, Ivers, Cahill, Lajeunesse, Reddy and G. Murphy, baseball cannot but flourish.

Under present circumstances our lacrosse team has but little work to do this season. Of all our athletic organizations, the lacrosse club has suffered the most severe losses by the departure of students. Of the unquestionably brilliant lot of

players who in past years composed our team, many are now missing. The ranks of the "home" division are thinned by the absence of Devine, Campbell and Delaney, and in the field, the grand work of the ubiquitous Tom Murphy is no longer available. Their places cannot readily be filled, but in the meantime we trust that lacrosse will continue to be attractive, and receive from the Association the encouragement it justly deserves.

The genial Capt. Pouliot so well and favorably known to the boys as an enthusiastic patron of the game of hand-ball, has offered several valuable prizes for competition on Easter Monday. There is considerable excitement manifested over the coming contest, but we venture to prognosticate that unless the weather is remarkably chilly one of THE OWL representatives will come out pretty near the top. We are prepared to back this opinion to the extent of seven cents—the time honored editorial wager.

A movement is on foot to visit England during the coming summer with an "All Canada" Rugby football team. Is not Ottawa College entitled to a large representation on the team? Members of the first fifteen, your present practices may not be altogether aimless.

The habitués of the hand-ball alley had the opportunity a few days ago of witnessing a dreadful political catastrophe, nothing less than the fall of the two Houses of the Dominion Parliament. The distinguished Senator and M. P. who represented the legislative bodies on this unfortunate occasion are frequent and welcome visitors to the alley.

The football season will hereafter open on September 19th. We will thus have only two weeks to prepare to meet Toronto University, probably our most formidable rival next year.

Mr. W. F. Kehoe, a delegate to the recent lacrosse convention, at Montreal, received many press compliments on the vigorous and effective, yet generous character of his appeal in behalf of his club.