

## Football Captains of Other Days

At the close of another football season we have thought that it would be interesting to look back over the list of those who have captained McGill teams. The first record we have is that previous to 1873 the Montreal team had practised with McGill several times on the campus. In 1873 Arts played and defeated Science by a score of 1 touchdown to nil. In those days the game was played under the English Rugby rules.

In 1874 we have the first regular team, which was captained by David Rodger, Jr., of Science '75. This team played Harvard and was defeated by 3 goals to 0. On the line-up of the McGill team we find the name of C. J. Fleet, Law '79, who is now one of the Governors of the University. Mr. Rodger has been for a number of years living in Boston, Mass.

The team of 1875 was captained by E. T. Taylor, Arts '78, who, with several other McGill men, played on an All-Canada team against Harvard. This team, however, had no better luck than its predecessor, having been defeated by a score of 2 goals and 2 touchdowns to 0. After graduation Mr. Taylor entered the Cheshire Regiment of the British army.

R. Robertson, Arts '77, was captain of the 1876 team, and of this season we note that the Britannia team was defeated by a score of 2 touchdowns and 4 rouges to 0; while Harvard again defeated us on our own grounds by 1 touchdown to 0. Mr. Robertson died some years ago.

The next season, 1877, saw P. D. Ross, Science '78, in charge of the team. In this season both Dean Moyse and ex-Dean Bovey, who had then just joined the teaching staff, played. Brits. were again defeated by 2 touchdowns to 0. Mr. Ross, widely known in athletic circles as one of the trustees of the Stanley Cup, has been engaged in journalism since graduation, and is now proprietor of the *Ottawa Journal*.

In 1878 H. H. Wood, Arts '79, was captain. Mr. Wood has always taken a keen interest in his Alma Mater, and, with the idea of encouraging men to turn out for football, presented in 1902 the trophy known as the Wood Cup, for interclass competition. He, together with Mr. A. E. Childs, Science '88, was also chiefly instrumental in beginning the agitation which resulted in the erection of the Union. Mr. Wood has made his home in Boston for a number of years.

C. W. Sriver, Arts '80, is the next name on the list. In 1879 his team played Harvard in the snow, and the match was called a draw, though Harvard had scored 1 goal and 1 touchdown to McGill's 0. Hemingford, Que., has been his home since he left McGill.

For the next two seasons F. Wolferstan Thomas, Arts '82, was captain. In 1880 the "new" Canadian Rugby Union was formed. McGill defeated Montreal and Quebec in the course of the season. That same year an all-Montreal team, on which were several McGill men, played a draw with Harvard, although the Montreal team scored 4 safety touches against the Americans, which, under the English rules, did not count. The next year, 1881, Montreal defeated McGill by 2 touchdowns to 0, while McGill, in her first contest against Toronto, made the same score against her sister university. Mr. Thomas, after graduating here, studied law in Toronto, and practised for some years in Ontario. He went to South Africa with one of the first contingents and died some years since in Australia.

E. H. Hamilton, Science '84, also captained the team for two seasons, 1882 and 1883. In the former of these the team defeated Toronto, Montreal and Kingston, but were in turn defeated by Harvard by a score of 2 goal and 2 touchdowns to 0, and by Dartmouth by 1 goal and 1 touchdown to 0.