

BLACK SHEEP IN THE FOOTBALL FIELD

I.

It's not our aim to chide or blame
The average football linesman roundly,
We dare not pounce on him, and trounce
His quivering epidermis soundly,
For the average linesman plays his rôle
With conscientious heart and soul.

But sheep, black! whose fleece is black
Are found in every fold. And lightly
From mouth to mouth (in North and South)
A whisper goes, of linesmen sprightly.

Who to their duties fail to bring
The one supremely needful thing!

That needful thing of which we sing
Is strict NEUTRALITY! Let all
Who lay aside that "linesman's pride"
Reform, ere bitterer shame betide!
For, if not neutral, what on earth
Is the liveliest, liveliest linesman worth?

II.

We're not incensed, dear friends, against
The average referee—God bless him!
Nay, far from that, we love to pat
His back, and with our view impress him
That well and nobly he performs
His work, 'mid turmoils, broils and storms.

Yet, here again, we're told of men
Who much below the average are,
A stery queer of "refs." we hear,
Who lack SELF-CONFIDENCE so far
That few decisions they achieve
Without the lordly linesman's leave!

Our winter sport will cease to court
The whole wide world's applause, unless
By *you* essential we support—
THE REFEREE'S ALL-POWERFULNESS!
So, discernment-leaning refs., brush up your wits,
And firmly rule, as your high state befits!

ALBY SLOPER.

Play up
Old
McGill



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