

codes are constituted which are at present being introduced into Japan. The law department is somewhat crowded, although the examination is purposely made very strict, nearly one-third of the total number of students attending the University being registered in that department.

No less important is the Medical Department. In it the German language and German methods are alone employed. Graduated students, in many cases, after passing a term as assistants in the home hospitals, usually go to Germany to pursue some special line of study. They have always proven themselves excellent students, and rapidly become adepts in their profession. They especially excel in surgery, amply demonstrating during the late war that they have few competitors to-day in skill and scientific knowledge of that particular branch of the medical profession. Not only have lucrative practises been built up among foreigners as well as among their own countrymen, but many of the more skilled of their physicians are constantly engaged in independent research in the higher branches of medicine. As the general tendency is to become specialists, these researches are necessarily very elaborate and far-reaching; and so diligently are they carried on, that the Japanese not only keep up with the progress of western science, but actually promise to lead it.

The other main branch of study, European literature, is pursued in the main by those who pursue learning for learning's sake, or look forward to positions as teachers in schools. Those who are able invariably go abroad to acquire increased proficiency. So diligently is the study pursued, that the more advanced of the students have an extensive knowledge of the best European and American literature.

A word as to the undergraduates themselves. They have the reputation of being hard, conscientious workers, eagerly striving to make the best of the splendid opportunities afforded them. That this is no exaggeration, the remarkable skill and proficiency which they have achieved fully proves. However, they are not merely book-worms. With them, as with us, athletics hold a high place, although the Western games and sports have not as yet been fully introduced. Their favorite pastime is fencing, in which they excel. Cricket and tennis are also very popular, fine grounds and courts being prepared for the players. Baseball has also been introduced, but has, unfortunately, not met with very wide success. In one respect, at least, the Japanese undergraduate closely follows the American student: that is, in ignoring the gown, which even now bids fair to become a tradition among us. Instead, however, a uniform is supposed to be worn by each student, consisting of a grey sack suit, brass buttons and cloth cap for summer, and a blue suit for winter. This uniform, although worn by many of the students, has not yet been adopted by all. Many are still loath to break away from the native costume, and the result is very picturesque indeed; for uniforms made in the European style and native dress do not harmonize at all in appearance.

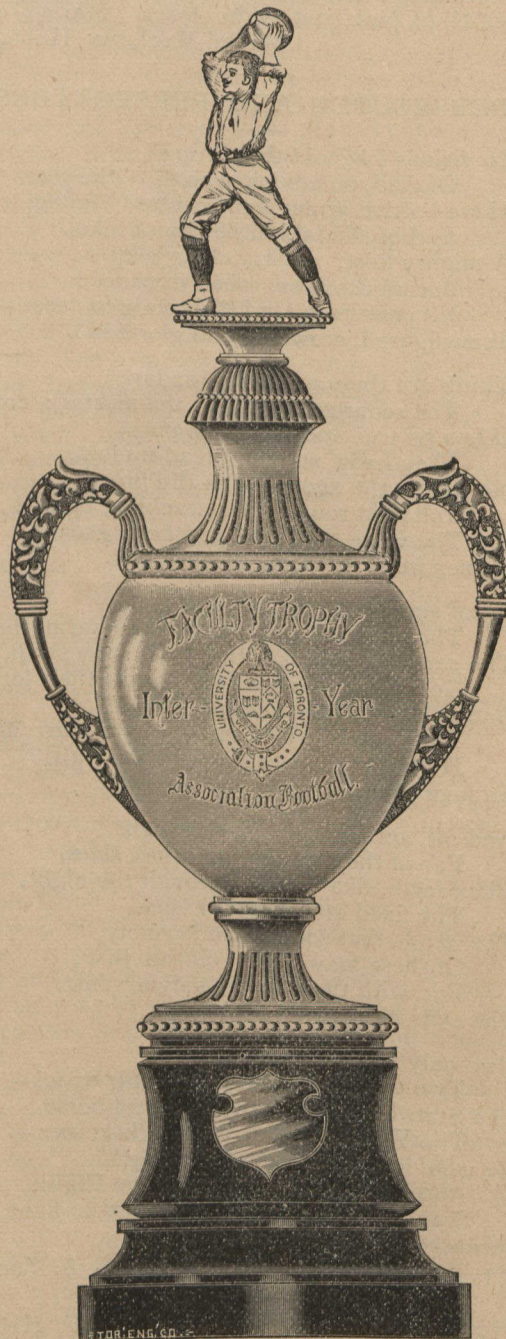
At present there are about 1,400 students enrolled in the Imperial University, of which number about 450 propose entering the legal profession. The list of graduates shows a total of nearly 2,000, a very good record since 1876. The museums are well supplied and the laboratories splendidly equipped. The library, which forms a very important part of the University equipment, contains nearly 200,000 volumes, to which large additions are annually being made. No effort is being spared by this most progressive people to increase the efficiency of their University in every possible way. Its achievements in twenty years constitute a splendid monument to the liberality, intelligence and development of the Japanese Empire,—a monument that any country might be proud to own and happy to cherish.

J. T. A. SMITHSON.

## ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.



ASSOCIATION football has always been a popular game around Varsity. It has been played for a great many years on the east side of the University lawn, and has never failed during all these years to excite the ambition and enthusiasm of Varsity sportsmen. At times, indeed, the interest taken in the game has waned, but those times have been few and of short duration. They were merely



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breathing-spells during which new players were being recruited from the ranks to fill the places of the veterans who had gone over the river of graduation. There are many of these old graduates now occupying high positions in public and private life, who look back with pleasure to the days when they engaged in contests for Varsity's football honor, as stirring as any that have been witnessed on the lawn during these later years. It would have been a pleasant task to gather together for THE VARSITY a few