

It is interesting to note that the one university upon this continent which has come to the fore with the greatest rapidity, and which has the greatest European reputation owes its advance and reputation to the abundant researches conducted in its laboratories and published from it and owes those researches largely to the fact that it possesses the greatest number of appointments of the nature of Studentships.

We cannot hope to see these things at McGill in the immediate future. So much has been accomplished of late, so much is being accomplished at the present in establishing the University : so much needs to be done to render it equally great as a teaching institution in all its faculties, that the second great function of a University, that of adding to the sum of human knowledge, must wait until the first great function, that of imparting knowledge, is adequately performed. I would not be thought, however, a dreamer of dreams. Some day McGill should be equipped with Studentships and when that day comes her reputation will inevitably increase not painfully but by leaps and bounds.

FOOTBALL AMONG THE ANCIENTS.

A NEWLY DISCOVERED CLASSICAL FRAGMENT.

[The original of the following letter was discovered a few months ago in Egypt by Private Terence Mulvaney, active member of the Society for the Investigation of Classical Remains. It was while examining a palace of the Dervishes for purposes of loot that Mulvaney found, along with other articles, this letter written on papyrus leaves. Being so classical himself, Mulvaney had no need of it, and knowing the enthusiasm felt in McGill for all branches of learning, he presented the manuscript to the college, and the editor is pleased to subjoin a translation of this most interesting discovery in the learned pages of the *McGill Fortnightly*.

The editor may remark that the manuscript is in parts indecipherable, whether through dampness or through tobacco smoke, it is impossible

to say. He also conjectures there are certain interpolations, probably from monkish sources.

The letter is written by Cesar to Balbus, apparently while the latter was building his famous wall]

CÆSAR BALBUS SAL.

I am affected by the greatest joy in that you, my Balbus, are so strenuously building a wall. Know this that there is no work which has more contributed to the increasing of the love of letters and the instilling of right practices in the minds of our youth than your wall. A. I think . . .

[Here the manuscript is illegible, but from odd words it is conjectured that it contains a description of the writer's winter quarters. The conclusion is as follows :]

I have lately returned from a visit to a certain temple of the Montregii, a tribe of the Gauls : in which temple the sacred books of that nation are studied by the youth under the care of the elders. I also witnessed the young men contending in a certain sport, which was in the shape of a battle and a siege of camps. On either side were drawn up the armies, each consisting of fifteen warriors, chosen for their valiant minds, the strength of their bodies, and their skill in arms : and as in real armies, there were wings, a centre and a rear guard. The aim of the contest is to carry by storm the camp of the enemy : which is effected by carrying therein a leathern ball, swollen with wind : which being done is a sign to the one of victory, to the other of defeat. The contestants are dressed in breastplates, made not of iron but of wool, and some also wear coverings of leather over their ears and legs. The lower portions of their legs are covered with a kind of dyed wool, which gives them the appearance of being painted like the barbarians whom we lately saw in Britannia.

On either side as judges of the fight are men renowned through their weight and dignity : but so great is the alacrity shown by the youth for the struggle that even the decisions of these men do not pass without much controversy. To me, en-