

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of VARSITY:

Sir,—I beg to call the attention of your readers to an article in *The Mitre*, the journal of Bishop's College, Quebec. There is, I think, a great deal of truth in it, and it is quite applicable to us at Toronto University. The writer entitles his article "Gymnasiolatri" which he defines as "the widespread worship of the University athlete. Permit me to quote: "There can be no doubt, if we take a reasonable view of things, that the immense stress laid upon athletics, in a vast number of Universities is extremely harmful to the intellectual advancement of large numbers of students. Nor is this statement made from any desire to abolish truly manly exercises, which further the truest interests of the student. But in the University of to-day the athlete is idolized over much, the importance attached to athletics is completely out of proportion, and this being the case the student entering such a place of learning, obtains feeble ideas of what lies before him, has his eyes dimmed so that he cannot see things in their true perspective, and adopts a fruitless and disappointing policy. He finds himself too often in a circle where the idol and ideal is not the victor in spacious fields of learning, not the man of greatest culture and intellectual talent, but probably the most muscular or most skilful player on the foot-ball gridiron. He notices whose name is mentioned with a proud boast by all, from Professor to freshman. He knows who is indulged and praised, at whose feet the idle crowd frenzied with delight do homage. His ambition knows no bounds." Despite the exaggeration, (as some will claim) of these words "Gymnasiolatri" appears to me to be a danger at Varsity. Yours, etc., X.Y.Z.



ASSOCIATION.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE 2—GALT 1.

In the return game for the Ontario Championship on the Athletic Field last Saturday the University College Association team defeated Galt, but lost on the round, failing to make up the two goals by which Galt lead in the first game. For the first half Varsity had the better of the game, making numerous rushes but failing to tally a goal, while Galt by a most fortunate play managed to score on practically their only shot of the day. In the second half Varsity came in very much stronger, and played Galt completely off their feet, the ball scarcely crossing Varsity's half in the last thirty minutes. After about ten minutes play Gilchrist dropped well in and McQueen forced Elliott through. Varsity now warmed up, and soon, on a drop kick from a foul at centre, Broder managed to place another between the poles. With fifteen minutes left to play Varsity's chances seemed good, but Galt blocked the goal, and, despite numerous close shots, the score remained unchanged. This is one championship that does not come to Varsity this season, though Galt was decidedly outplayed. Varsity's forwards lost the game by inability to shoot accurately, which we must attribute to lack of practice. Again Varsity's backs pounded the ball too much. The halves played strong and aggressive football,

but at the beginning of the game lost ground by paying too much attention to the man. After all, though we lost the championship, we learned much of football and should profit for the future. But at best the result is very unsatisfactory, and this is doubtless owing to the absurdity of the present rules governing the game. Association has lost its popularity here, and will never regain it till the present style of scoring is changed. In very many cases the better team does not win. The team that is strong enough to carry the ball over the opponent's goal line is penalized for it, while surely it ought to benefit by it. Again, how often do teams score on a corner kick? Old association players as a rule think the present scoring method is all right, and will not listen to changes. Prof. McCurdy, speaking on the subject, says a goal ought to count, say, four points, and a corner one point, while the side that makes the goal kick should have a throw in at right angles to the goal line, immediately where the ball went out. At Varsity, about two years ago, some radical changes were considered, but fell through because old associationists believed them of no use. At any rate everyone believes that the game is not what it should be, and till we try some advances no progress will be made. However all will remember Saturday's game as a glaring example of the unsatisfactory result of association games. The teams were as follows:

University College—Soule, Nichol, McHugh, Smillie, MacKinnon, Martin, Phillips, Broder, Gilchrist, Cooper, McQueen.

Galt—Elliott, Gourlay, Ducker, Lane, Hawk, Spalding, Taylor, Aitkin, Hindmarch, Bennett, Handcock.

Referee—Dr. W. P. Thompson.

RUGBY.

SENIOR S.P.S., 13—JUNIOR S.P.S. 12.

The game last Tuesday between two School teams was a battle royal, and a splendid exhibition of the Burnside Rules. Both teams had a large number of old players, and both were well up in the new game. Owing, however, to the number of first team men on the Junior fifteen, they were easily the favorites, and the result came as a surprise to all. The excellent bucking of "Biddy" McLennan and "Baldy" Campbell, and the brilliant running and kicking of Earl Gibson, the slippery half-back, practically won the match for the Seniors. The Juniors had an excellent half-division, with Baldwin, Beatty and Lang, but the Senior wings got through so fast that they had little chance.

The Seniors started off with a rush, and before five minutes passed Campbell and Ross cantered over for two tries, and the Juniors were forced to rouge. With the score 11 to 0, the Juniors steadied down and transferred the play to the other end. Just before half time, after some excellent kicking and running by the halves, they scored a rouge. The Juniors had easily the best of the second half and began to pick up. But almost all their scores were singles, and it was only a few seconds before time when they secured the point which made the score 11 all. It was decided to play extra time, ten minutes each way. Baldwin was forced to make a safety touch after a few minutes play, and the Seniors led 13—11. The fight waxed hot, and fur and feathers flew. In the second half Beatty kicked over the dead-line for one point. There was no more scoring, so the Seniors won by the narrow margin of one point.

The match was the best exposition of the Burnside Rules up to date. From a spectator's point of view the game was