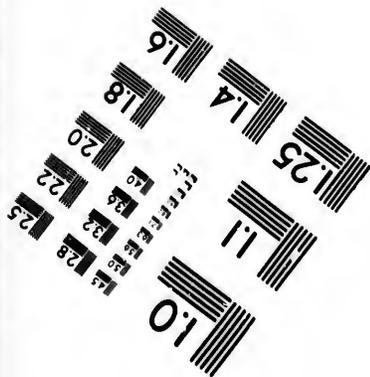
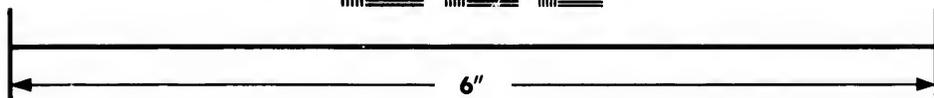
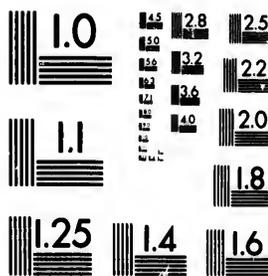


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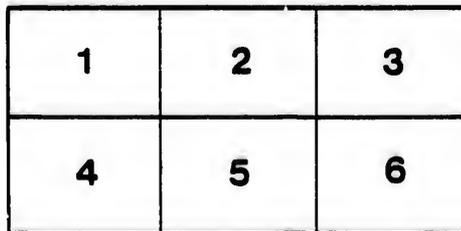
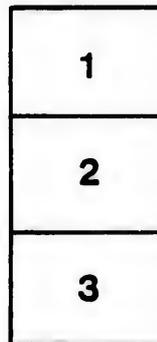
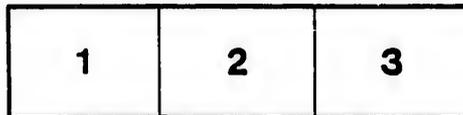
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ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

The Game, and How to Play It.

RULES AND CONSTITUTION OF THE DOMINION
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

BY DAVID K BROWN

TORONTO
J. ROSS ROBERTSON, 55 KING-STREET WEST,
SOUTH-WEST CORNER OF BAY-STREET.
1879

FOOTBALL.

No sooner has any game attained to great popularity, than antiquaries are able to demonstrate incontestably that after all the modern is only an imitation, if not an emasculation of the ancient mode of play. It is noticeable, too, that the greater the favour with which the game is regarded, the more ancient is its origin proven to be. Ten years ago association football in Scotland had assumed the character of a national game, and I well remember the inevitable antiquary incontestably proving that the game had previously seen a development fuller than that to which the united efforts of thousands of players had raised it, in the days when cattle-lifting was by all odds the most popular game on the borders of the lands of the rose and thistle. It was with stoical resignation that association football players then accepted the position of disciples instead of masters, and the antiquary retired into obscurity with a self-satisfied chuckle at having demonstrated the inferiority of the players of the present to those hardy borderers who varied sheep stealing, with kicking inflated sheep's bladders. The antiquary having vanished—for a season, as it ultimately proved—players resumed the game, and made it preeminently the field amusement of the young men of Scotland. Everyone was satisfied that whatever may have been the excellence of the skill displayed by the border men of old and however high the merit they were entitled to as originators of the game, the young men of the day, though they but tumbled out of the hives of industry on to green fields for a few odd hours, had made such advances in the science of the game as to be entitled to rank as masters of the second era—when another old relic of humanity came forth and gave his fiat that the game was much more ancient than had previously been suspected. With bated breath the players learned that the Greeks practised football and after having slaughtered a few Romans, taught the game to the remnant of the legions. Thereafter the Roman troops engaged in war and the teaching of football and thus it came that the British learned the game. The antiquary does not give

particulars of its introduction and it is left to a humble player to complete the ruse, old fellow's work by explaining how it occurred. After his step-mother delivered Caractacus to Ostorius, the Briton was taken to Rome, and when there, he saw two or three games, while he was yet in captivity. After he was set free he took such a fancy to football that he found himself spending his money so freely that he had to hold a caucus with himself. On striking a balance, he found that after securing a first-class passage home he would just have sufficient means to enter into the king business and hire two teams for a week. To consider with Caractacus was to act and thus he returned to Britain. As he doubtless calculated beforehand, he only had to pay his teams for their first week's engagement. The fascination of the game made than keep the field long after any pecuniary inducement to appear had disappeared. This is, I believe, the true inwardness of the introduction of football into Britain. No antiquary has yet come forward to explain its introduction into Greece, or its origin. It may save much speculation to centre the first idea of football in Adam, for certainly his kicking away of the fatal apple—though this is not on the record, it is only natural to suppose that he did it—is a genesis as sensible for football as the genesis can be of any other form of 'humanity in action.' Now that we have got at the bottom facts in connection with football I may at once come to something practicable. In these hasty lines it is none of my purpose, however congenial the task would be, to trace the history and evolution of the game since it was, or was not, introduced into Britain by the returned king. Suffice it to say that up till the year 1863 the game was essentially local in all its rules. Thus there were the Harrow, the Eton, the Marlborough, the Shrewsbury, the Rugby, the Scotch, etc., rules, each set differing materially. The effect of these various peculiarities of play in a game where imperfection in any point may (however paradoxical it seem) mean the defeat of a team otherwise fully equal to its opponents, was to retard the progress of the game and to confine the contests to

districts. The great impetus arising from national contests was absent and could not be looked for until the rules were made harmonious. An appreciation of this fact led to a convention of players in 1863, held in London, at which a set of rules was drawn up and an association formed. This association aimed at something more than merely bringing the rules into unison. Players had long recognized the roughness that characterized the various systems of playing football and they had also been aware that what had originally been football had become a game in which the foot was subordinate to the hand, and skill to brute strength. What was aimed at then was to make football really a game wherein the foot played the ball, and to this end they determined to do away with the handling of the ball except by the goal-keeper, the permission being granted in his case that the capture of a goal might be rendered more difficult. The new game met with much favour in England and soon ran a close race with the Rugby game. In Scotland the first club formed was the Queen's Park, who beginning their existence in 1867 have since then had an almost unbroken record. Recently, however, they have not had matters so much their own way, other clubs formed later having pushed them hard. I have not the statistics of the English and Scottish Associations at hand but I think I am correct in saying that though England first practised the new game, Scotland has adopted it with more heartiness and played it on the whole with more success, as is evidenced by the fact of England for the first time winning, last year, an international match, in which the team representing Scotland was one chosen by the Scottish Association. Wales has been even less lucky against the uncanny Scotchmen; but judging from the renewed interest in the game in England this state of affairs will not continue long. While I do not look for the players of the English or Welsh Associations manifesting a dominating superiority over those of the Scottish Association, I certainly do anticipate that the future international matches will find victory more evenly distributed. Perhaps without incurring the imputation of being partial I may direct attention to a noble feature in the history of the game as played in Scotland. In four years the charity matches in Glasgow have yielded £1,545, a record which I believe is unparalleled in the annals of athletic exercises. In connection with most amusements calling for the exercise of physical force and endurance it is common to hear of broken down constitutions and fatal accidents. I can recall no death, no permanent injury, indeed, no enduring

inconvenience from the playing of the Association game in Scotland, though in England last year the death was recorded of one poor fellow who fell a victim to an injudicious 'charge.' The danger arising from 'jumping at' a player was at once recognized and a law was passed prohibiting it in future. Is not the record extraordinary? In Scotland there are at least 8,000 active players of the game, and these have pursued the health giving exercise without any of their number having sustained as much injury, as many of them might have, had they instead of rushing headlong on the field, been stretched full length in bed. The benefit which the players derive is not all the good that arises from the game. To see it large crowds leave the vitiated atmosphere of the cities and find their way to the football fields. If this exercise be less boisterous than that of the players it is not unattended by beneficial results. Thus when amusement is provided and tone to the system found it cannot be wondered at that tens of thousands are votaries of the game who never kick the ball.

THE GAME IN CANADA.

Nothing is more natural than that an expatriated person in a land new to him should long for many of the associations that were dear to him in the country whence he came. Prepared, if he be a man of the right sort, to fall into the ways of the people among whom he resides, he yet craves for some of his former delights, and to this may be attributed the introduction of Association Football to Canada, which occurred three years ago. A number of Glasgow young men, who played the game there, found themselves congregated in the City of Toronto. Cricket and applauding at lacrosse matches furnished congenial exercise during the summer months but the spring and fall hung heavy on their hands. A number of them being together one night it was resolved to attempt the introduction of association football. Rugby was then played with considerable vigour though not extensively, but the same feeling of dissatisfaction with it which led in England to the formation of the association prevailed here. This was supplemented here by the popular disfavour with which the Rugby game was regarded, on account of its roughness. These young men to whom I have referred were all members of the Carlton Cricket Club and they formed the Carlton Football Club, the first association club in Canada, and I

believe on the continent. Invitations were extended to all to come and see the new game and the result was that the association game spread. The rules were at first written entirely from memory and some absurd mistakes were made. A Scottish Annual was sent for, a meeting of clubs was summoned and the result was that a Dominion Football Association was formed and the rules of the Scottish Association adopted entirely. Only one amendment that the parent institution has seen fit to make has not been adopted here—that prohibiting 'jumping at' a player—the reason for its rejection here being that we Canadian players have not yet developed any such needless practice. Since the formation of the Dominion Association the game has progressed with great strides. A spirit of forbearance has ruled in the meetings of the association and the players have sought to avoid any conflict with Rugby players, trusting to the merits of their game to procure them recruits rather than to polemical discussion. The result is that the utmost good feeling prevails between the exponents of the two systems of playing football. If Rugby have made any advance in popular esteem association players do not regret it, for they hold that better any kind of football than no football. At the same time they feel the liveliest satisfaction with their own progress, and I think it will be admitted with good reason, for now there must be at least over twenty clubs in Canada alone, and of late every week has brought word of new clubs organizing. This record far exceeds that of the Scottish Association, as it is to be hoped the Canadian teams will excel the Scottish when an opportunity offers for a test of skill. At present it must be confessed our clubs play with more vigour than judgment and with more dash than skill, though it must in justice be said that the tendency is to a better appreciation of the fine points of the game. To abridge as much as possible this learning by experience is the object I have in view in proceeding to make a few remarks upon playing the game.

FORMING A CLUB.

Of first importance it is that a club should be properly formed; on the strength of its constitution will depend the duration of its existence. On this head I may as well transcribe from the 'Scottish Annual' the regulations which experience has taught them to be of prime importance:

No Club will prosper which is not regulated by a proper code of rules, energetically enforced by duly appointed officials, and it will certainly tend to their better observation if the laws are few in number and comprehensive. Rule 1st will determine the name of the Club and the colours; 2nd, the Committee of Management (six, eight, ten, or more), consisting of President, Secretary, Treasurer and members, so many to form a quorum, to be elected annually, and be eligible (or not) for re-election; this Committee to appoint the players in the matches, to enforce subscriptions, to call general meetings, to settle disputes occurring in the field, and to regulate the manner in which matches shall be conducted. Rule 3rd may say when general meetings are to be held, and how called; care being taken to name the number of members necessary to form a quorum. It may be desirable to give right of appeal from the Committee to a special general meeting—the Secretary being held bound to summon such meeting on receipt of a requisition signed by so many members. Rule 4th will deal with the admission of members—application to be made through a member to the Secretary, who shall give intimation to the other members a week before the general meeting. This rule should fix the entry-money and subscription, stating when these must be paid, and giving power to the Committee to sue for the sum when a certain time has elapsed. It may also detail the procedure to be observed when it is desired to exclude a member—intimation to be given to the Secretary by requisition, signed by six or eight members, a special general meeting if necessary, to be summoned within a week, the complaint heard, and a majority of votes to decide. Expelled members to forfeit all right to property, and not to be eligible for re-election, if one or more members object. New members should receive intimation of their admission in writing from the Secretary; a copy of the rules being also forwarded. Other rules may be added, naming the sum to be paid by honorary members, and declaring the rules unalterable, except by the decided majority of a full general meeting. An excellent method when forming a Club, however, is to secure the co-operation of an influential member of some neighbouring Association; his experience will always be found valuable, and it will seldom happen that a district is so much isolated as to be unable to command such aid.

THE DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE.

These are two-fold and relate to the club and to its attitude towards the public. They

must exercise constant supervision over the affairs of the club; see that its finances are kept straight and all engagements promptly met. Laxity in this respect is the first step towards the demise of the club. The playing material must be kept up to the mark. The executive must work to keep the members in the best of temper towards each other. A football player is not different from the rest of humanity and is often unable to see why another should be preferred for a match. It is the duty of the Executive, while maintaining its dignity to see that this feeling in a player is removed. Candour and openness will generally effect this, but under any circumstances the Executive must respect its own decisions if it would have them respected. The discharge of this duty to the club is most trying, but it must be discharged. There are different ways of doing it and the best is that of candour and openness. There are beings who find their way into clubs whom it is impossible to please, and the Executive after having exhausted every dignified means of retaining such beings within the fold will do well to let them seek other pastures rather than submit to their egotistical dictation. To the Executive of clubs I say be firm but not dictatorial, accommodating where you can but never servile to any of those who may have contributed to your being entrusted with the club's management. In conducting your business you will find that the management of the club is like running an office. Success will attend energy and systematic work on a good common sense basis; the pursuit of whims, indulgence in fancy ideas, or negligence will result in bankruptcy. Another branch of the duties of the executive towards the club is its reception of a visiting club; and here I cannot improve upon Mr. Dick's remarks, which I find in the Scottish Annual:—"The arrangements in any match should be made so as to promote the utmost good feeling on the part of the players. The officials of the Home Club should always have one or two of the members waiting the arrival of the visiting club. It is very uncourteous to allow visitors to arrive in a place where they may be total—or at best comparative—strangers, and to find their way as best they can to the playing ground. A little attention in this respect would, I am sure, often cause a very pleasant game to take the place of a very rough one—and I know some rough ones that had no other cause for their roughness. In seriously endeavouring to make visitors happy and comfortable before and after a match, lies the secret of pleasant games and friendly intercourse between club and club.

One evil, however, to be carefully guarded against, is that of allowing your entertainments to degenerate into debauchery. Nothing can be more antagonistic to the success of football, the welfare of football players, and the prosperity of our country, than such a finale to a match." I come now to consider the responsibility of the executive of a club to the public. I take it as already as good as accomplished that the association game will spread all over Canada. It is unfortunately the case that when popular attention is arrested by an impending contest, speculation is indulged in regarding the result. Were this confined to canvassing the merits of the opponents, one could not help rejoicing, as thereby the game would be benefited, but unfortunately speculation too frequently takes the form of betting. I will not inflict on those who read these lines a diatribe upon this evil, for that it is an evil I cannot think any one who can take pleasure in out-door sports will deny. Admitting that money easily come by easily goes, and thus the winner is only a trifle less a loser than the direct loser, I would call attention to its effect upon the playing of the game. The man who has money depending on the result is unable to appreciate good play which may put his money in jeopardy; and what is worse, he shows partizanship to such an extent that essentially bad play is applauded by him when good play calls forth only expressions of contempt. This discrimination is calculated to produce discord among the players themselves, and introduces among bunglers a self satisfaction that is fatal to progress. The effect of betting on a field is demoralizing alike to spectators and players, and I would earnestly impress upon the executive of a club that their duty is to use force if necessary to keep away such elements from their matches. I am not one of those who are afraid of censure doing harm on a field, so long as that censure is an expression of unbiased feeling. I am more afraid of indiscriminating applause, so I would advise executives, so far as lies in their power, to imbue their club with a feeling of appreciation for good play, and a just estimate of bad play. In conclusion I would say that if an executive in its attitude towards the club and the public try to preserve the game from all low associations, from everything that savours of brutality, viciousness or meanness, and endeavour to render the game attractive, that executive will deserve and enjoy the good opinion of every one whose opinion is worthy of esteem.

THE LAWS OF THE GAME.

Having outlined the formation and suggested considerations which are calculated to ensure the well being of a club, I now transcribe the rules under which the Association game is played in Canada.

1. The limits of the ground shall be: maximum length, 200 yards; minimum length, 100 yards; maximum breadth, 100 yards; minimum breadth, 50 yards. The length and breadth shall be marked off with flags; and the goals shall be upright posts, 8 yards apart with a tape or bar across them, 8 feet from the ground.

2. The winners of the toss shall have the option of kick-off or choice of goal. The game shall be commenced by a place kick from the centre of the ground; the other side shall not approach within ten yards of the ball until it is kicked off, nor shall any player on either side pass the centre of the ground in the direction of his opponent's goal until the ball is kicked off.

3. Ends shall only be changed at half-time. After a goal is won, the losing side shall kick off, but after the change of ends at half-time the ball shall be kicked off by the opposite side from that which originally did so, and always as provided in Law 2.

4. A goal shall be won when the ball passes between the goal-posts under the tape or bar, not being thrown, knocked on, nor carried. The ball hitting the goal or boundary posts, or goal-bar or tape, and rebounding into play, is considered in play.

5. When the ball is in touch a player of the opposite side to that which kicked it out shall throw it from the point on the boundary-line where it left the ground in a direction at right angles with the boundary-line, at least six yards, and it shall be in play when thrown in. The player throwing it in shall not play it until it has been played by another player.

6. When a player kicks the ball, any one of the same side who at such moment of kicking is nearer to the opponent's goal-line is out of play, and may not touch the ball himself, nor in any way whatever prevent any other player from doing so until the ball has been played, unless there are at least three of his opponents nearer their goal-line; but no player is out of play when the ball is kicked from the goal-line.

7. When the ball is kicked behind the goal-line by one of the opposite side, it shall be kicked off by one of the players behind whose goal-line it went, within six yards of the nearest goal-post; but if kicked behind by any one of the side whose goal-line it is, a player of the opposite side shall

kick it from within one yard of the nearest corner flag-post. In either case no other player shall be allowed within six yards of the ball until it is kicked off.

8. No player shall carry or knock on the ball; and handling the ball, under any pretence whatever, shall be prohibited, except in the case of the goal-keeper, who shall be allowed to use his hands in defence of his goal, either by knocking on or throwing, but shall not carry the ball. The goal-keeper may be changed during the game, but not more than one player shall act as goal-keeper at the same time; and no second player shall step in and act during any period in which the regular goal-keeper may have vacated his position.

9. Neither tripping nor hacking shall be allowed, and no player shall use his hands to hold or push his adversary, nor charge him from behind.

10. No player shall wear any nails, excepting such as have their heads driven in flush with the leather, nor iron plates or guttapercha, on the soles or heels of his boots.

11. In the event of an infringement of Rules 6, 8, or 9, a free kick shall be forfeited to the opposite side from the spot where the infringement took place.

12. In no case shall a goal be scored from any free kick, nor shall the ball be again played by the kicker until it has been played by another player. The kick-off and corner-flag kick shall be free kicks within the meaning of this rule.

13. That in the event of any supposed infringement of Rules 6, 8, 9 or 10, the ball be in play until the decision of the Umpire, on his being appealed to, shall have been given.

DEFINITION OF TERMS.

A PLACE KICK is a kick at the ball while it is on the ground, in any position in which the kicker may choose to place it.

HACKING is kicking an adversary intentionally.

TRIPPING is throwing an adversary by the use of the legs.

KNOCKING ON IS when a player strikes or propels the ball with his hands or arms.

HOLDING includes the obstruction of a player by the hand or any part of the arm below the elbow.

TOUCH is that part of the field, on either side of the ground, which is beyond the line of flags.

A FREE KICK is a kick at the ball in any way the kicker pleases, when it is lying on the ground; none of the kicker's opponents

FOOTBALL

being allowed within six yards of the ball: but in no case can a player be forced to stand behind his own goal-line.

HANDLING is understood to be playing the ball with the hand or arm.

Note—This applies to any part of the arm, from the shoulder downwards.

THE DOMINION ASSOCIATION.

At the time of going to press the Dominion Association comprises the following clubs, but possibly by the time this is in the hands of the reader, all other clubs playing Association rules will have become members:—

CARLTON, Toronto—TORONTO LACROSSE, Toronto—SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, Toronto—UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, Toronto—KNOX COLLEGE, Toronto—BERLIN HIGH SCHOOL, Berlin—PORT HOPE, Port Hope—VICTORIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, Cobourg—BERLIN HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS, Berlin—TRINITY MEDICAL SCHOOL, Toronto.

The President is His Excellency the Governor-General, who is also Patron of the Scottish Football Association. Since its inception Mr. Wm. Lowrey has acted as Hon. Secretary-Treasurer with perfect acceptance. As in the near future Provincial and County Associations may be a necessity, I subjoin the Constitution of the Dominion Association as a model:—

CONSTITUTION & RULES.

1. That the Association be called 'THE DOMINION FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.'
2. That all Clubs in Canada playing Association Rules be eligible for Membership.
3. That the subscription for each Club be Three Dollars per annum, payable before 1st October.
4. That the Office-bearers consist of a President, Treasurer-Secretary, with a Committee comprising these Officers, and one member from each Club belonging to the Association. That it be in the power of the Committee to appoint one of their body to act as Assistant Secretary if required.
5. That all the money received at Matches shall be counted that night by the Treasurer, Secretary, and a member of Committee, or, in the absence of Treasurer and Secretary, by three members of Committee; and that the Treasurer give a receipt to the Secretary for the sum received; or, if the Treasurer is absent, the Secretary shall give a voucher to one of the members of Committee present,

and at the first meeting of Committee thereafter, a report of the drawings shall be made and inserted in the Minutes.

6. That the Officers be elected at the Annual Meeting by a majority of the representatives of the Clubs present, the retiring Officers to be eligible for re-election.

7. That the Annual Meeting be held in Toronto in the second week of October.

8. That each Club be entitled to appoint two representatives to attend all meetings of the Association. No two Clubs to be represented by the same individuals.

9. That in the event of any alteration being deemed necessary in the Rules of the Association, notice of the proposed alteration shall be sent in writing to the Secretary, on or before the first of September, and the Secretary shall inform each Club of the proposed alteration on or before the 15th September.

10. That each Club shall forward its name, the name and address of its Secretary, and a statement of its distinguishing colours or costume, to the Secretary of the Association.

THE CUP COMPETITION RULES.

The Challenge Cup is open for competition to all Clubs in the Association so the rules which regulate the competition therefor must be of interest to all Clubs. They are:

1. The Cup shall be called 'THE DOMINION FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CHALLENGE CUP.'
2. The Competitions for the Cup shall be annual, and shall be open to all the registered Clubs of the Association, subject to the approval of the Committee.
3. Clubs desirous of competing must give notice of their desire to the Secretary, on or before the 15th day of September, annually.
4. The Competing teams shall number Eleven Players each, and while the players of each team may be changed, no individual shall play for more than one Club during any one season.
5. The duration of each Match shall be one hour and a half, and the Ball used shall measure 27, and not more than 28 inches in circumference.
6. The names of the Clubs entered for competition shall be placed by the Committee in one lot, or in lots, according to their districts; and shall be drawn from such lot, or lots, in couples at a time. These couples shall compete with each other, and the names of the winning Clubs shall be placed in a lot, or lots, drawn in couples, and so on until the

final tie is played when the winning Club shall hold the Cup for the current year.

7. In the event of a Club getting a 'bye' in any of the drawings, the Committee at the next drawing, shall first draw a Club to play against it from the lot, and then proceed in drawing couples, *vide* Rule 6.

8. Any Club refusing, or failing to play the Club against which it has been drawn, within the time intimated to it, and without sufficient reasons for so doing, shall be adjudged to have lost the match.

9. The lots shall be drawn, and the competition Matches played, as the Committee of the Association may determine; and immediately after each drawing, the Secretary shall intimate to each of the Clubs drawn, the name of the Club it is drawn against, and the time within which the tie is to be played.

10. Notice of the result of each Match shall be sent by the winning Club, or in the event of a 'Drawn-match,' by both of the competing Clubs, so as to be in the hands of the Secretary within three days of the date on which the Match may have been played.

11. Unless otherwise mutually arranged competing Clubs shall toss for choice of ground, except in the final matches, the ground for which shall be chosen by the Committee. But should two Clubs be drawn against one another, one only of which has private ground, the match shall be played on that ground.* In drawn matches, the Club who lost the toss in the first instance shall have the choice of ground for the second match.

12. The competing Clubs, in all but the final tie of each season, shall appoint the Umpires and Referee, but in the final tie they shall be appointed by the Committee.

13. The Referee in all of the competition matches, shall not belong to either of the competing Clubs, and in the case of the final tie, neither the Umpire nor Referee.

14. ON POINTS OF FACT CONNECTED WITH THE PLAY GOING ON, an appeal may be made from the decision of one Umpire, to that of the other Umpire, and if both agree their decision shall be final; if they do not agree both Umpires shall confer with the Referee (on the field, but apart, and by themselves), and the Referee's decision shall be final.

15. ON QUESTIONS OF INTERPRETATION OF RULES OR LAWS OF THE GAME, an appeal may be made from the decision of both Umpires to that of the Referee, and from that of the Referee to that of the Committee of the Association—but the Referee's decision MUST

* Public ground, if made private for a match shall be held to be private ground under the meaning of this Rule.

BE ACTED ON IN THE FIELD, although under protest.

16. Protest and appeals must be formally intimated to the Referee and to the competing Club, before the Club protesting leaves the ground on which the match may have been played, and must be lodged with the Secretary of the Association within three days thereafter.

17. All questions of eligibility, qualification of competitors, interpretations of the Rules or Laws, shall be referred to the Committee of the Association, whose decision shall be final.

18. When the winning Club shall have been ascertained, the Secretary of the Association shall hand the Cup to its representatives, on receiving a document to the following effect, and subscribed by them: "We, A. B., Secretary of the Z. Y. Club, and C. D. E. F., and G. H., members of and representing the said Club, which has now been declared to have won the Dominion Football Association Challenge Cup, and the same having been delivered to us by J. K., the Secretary of the said Association, do hereby on behalf of the said Club, and individually and collectively, engage to return the same to the said J. K., or the Secretary of the Association for the time being, on or before the first day of April next, in like good order and condition, and in accordance with the conditions of the annexed Rules, to which also we have subscribed our respective names."

19. The President and Treasurer of the Association shall be for all intents and purposes the legal holders of the Cup, in trust for the Association.

20. In addition to the Cup, the Committee will present to the winners of the final tie Eleven Medals or Badges.

21. The Committee of the Association shall have power to alter, or add to the above Rules as they from time to time shall deem expedient.

It may be of some interest if I here append the result of the Cup competitions so far.

SEASON 1877-78.

FIRST TIES PLAYED 20th OCTOBER.

Carlton v. Toronto School of Medicine—won by Carlton 1 goal to 0.

Berlin High School v. Galt—won by Berlin by 1 goal to 0.

University College v. Toronto Lacrosse—a tie.

The second ties owing to various causes beyond the control of the Clubs were not played off.

SEASON 1878-79.

FIRST TIES PLAYED OFF 2ND NOVEMBER.

Berlin v. Galt—Galt scratched to Berlin.
 Peterboro' v. Queen's College, Kingston—
 Not played off.
 Carlton v. Knox College—Won by Knox by
 3 goals to 0.
 University College v. School of Medicine—
 Not played off.

SECOND TIES.

Berlin v. University College—Won by Ber-
 lin by 2 goals to 0.
 School of Medicine v. Knox College—Won
 by Knox by 1 goal to 0.

FINAL TIE.

Berlin H. S. v. Knox—Won by Knox by 1
 goal to 0.

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME.

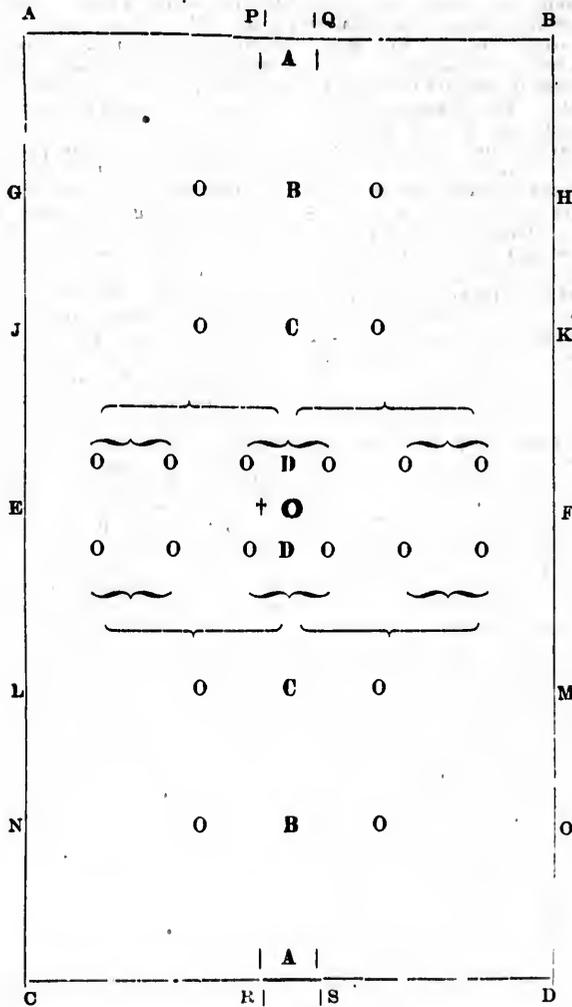
Having enumerated the conditions under which the game is played, I now proceed to give a few directions which I hope may aid players to acquire a degree of proficiency more readily than through tedious, but by no means unprofitable experience. In doing so, I would have football players remember that I do not put forth the suggestions following as laws of the Medes and Persians; I do not put them forward as a species of personal criticism on accepted axioms of play—for I have not yet seen any directions regarding how to play the game; I merely advance them as the suggestions of one who has taken considerable interest in the game; of one whose want of success has perhaps taught him to think a little more about the causes militating against that success than those who have achieved distinction either by instinct or a livelier appreciation of the conditions necessary to raise them to the position of accredited exponents of the game. While I confess that, had these suggestions to back them the reputation of a fine player, they would have more weight; I hope that a hearty appreciation of fine play will warrant their being entertained and discussed by football players. If my suggestions but promote discussion, their publication will have done good service; for nothing, in my experience, has done so much to bring about fine play in a club as a temperate discussion of the points of play which may have resulted in victory or defeat. That I may be the better understood, I will begin by

presenting a diagram of a football field. (See next page.)

This diagram gives the position of two teams on the field preparatory to the ball being kicked off. Once the ball is in play the attack and defence have begun.

A FORWARD'S POSITION.

The attack should be made entirely by the six forwards supported by the half-backs, the backs moving onwards to reinforce the half-backs when in straits. The forwards should advance in line or so dispose themselves that they may take the ball from their fellow-player when progress is impossible or hazardous. Nothing is more common on our Canadian fields than to see a forward isolated and running with the ball as if the entire issue of the game depended on his individual efforts. This is essentially bad play. The forwards must work like pieces of one mechanism. It may be possible for a forward to carry the ball twenty yards further without any great risk, but if it be possible to carry the ball thirty yards with as little risk if it be passed, then it is bad play if it be not passed. Thus the first requisite in a forward is unselfishness. There is something showy and exciting in being able to dodge an opposing forward or half-back, but if that dodging be unnecessary the forward, who indulges in it shows him self to be an injudicious player—between whom and a bad player there is little to choose. Combined play always beat individual showiness, therefore let unselfishness, the first requisite to combined play, be enforced. Unselfishness, however, will not be of much avail unless it be supported by judgment. As is explained in Note 3, forwards usually play in couples. These may be perfectly unselfish towards each other, but they require judgment to know when they have as a couple to be unselfish, and pass the ball to the other couple. Supposing the forwards on the right wing of the attack find themselves faced by the opposing forwards with their half-backs and backs well over toward the point of attack the unselfish play of the attack will not likely be of avail there, and judgment suggests that the attack in this direction be relinquished, and the ball be either centred or kicked well out to the left wing. As a general rule, it is judicious play to change the point of attack rapidly. This is, however, impossible when the forwards do not understand, or will not, that they must advance simultaneously, and where half-backs mistake their positions as feeders, and supports to the forwards. The favourite plan of attack is to work the ball



EXPLANATION.

A B C D, corner flags; E F G H J K L M N O, flags marking bounds; P Q and R S goal and posts, 8 yards apart, height of tape, 8 feet; A, goal keepers; B, backs; C, half-backs; D, forwards; +, ball.

The distance between A and B or C and D, may be from 50 to 100 yards; between B and D or A and C, 100 to 200 yards; between the points D and D, twenty yards, though any of the forwards may advance to the imaginary line between E and F, but not cross it. None of the forwards except him who kicks off can approach within ten yards of the ball.

Note 1. The number of flags marking off the

grounds is optional but the number above w be found sufficient.

Note 2. The Distance between D and C, C and B, B and A is optional: equi distant is a good arrangement.

Note 3. The players coupled with the smaller BRACE play in couples, as a general rule, though each player renders assistance to another if required, though that assistance ought to come from half back.

Note 4. The larger brace shows the three players, to support whom, is the special duty of the half-back.

up along either side, and, when near enough to the goal attacked, to make the shot diagonally if no back be in the way—but if there be a back, it is better to centre the ball and let one of the mid-forwards try to put it through. The diagonal shot is much more difficult for a goal keeper to stop, but at the same time it is a shot which it is much more difficult to make. The two qualities then that a forward must pre-eminently possess are unselfishness and judgment in attack. These qualities are enhanced by speed and pluck. It does not follow that a speedy runner will dribble speedily; indeed the opposite is more frequently the case. This arises from a disposition to overrun oneself, and so lose command of the ball. A player who is running at break-neck speed cannot have control of himself, and not having control of himself he cannot control the ball. The great idea in forward play is to keep the ball close to the foot. To do so the ball must be struck close to the ground, so that the forward impetus given to it may be all but checked by the reverse spin. The ball ought to make a revolution, or part of it, towards the player who has struck it forward. This is dribbling. A good dribbler will impart this reverse motion to an impelled ball so that it will travel just such a distance as will enable him again to apply whichever foot he desire to the ball without causing him to break or check his speed. To the uninitiated it may look very nice to see the ball about twenty feet ahead of the forward and him descending upon it like a whirlwind, but that is not good play; on the contrary it is very bad play indeed. Speed then is not ability to run fast in pursuit of the ball; but is ability to run fast with the ball. Here I might mention it is my experience that this reverse motion can best be imparted to the ball with boots the toes of which are thin. Box toes are a mistake and so are heavy bars on the soles of the boots— $\frac{1}{2}$ inch is quite thick enough to afford a catch on the ground; thicker bars have a tendency to make the foot catch when a kick is made). By pluck, I do not mean bravado or animal combativeness, but rather self-confidence. Further on I will allude to charging. Here let me say that a forward should not permit his mind to wander while on the field. I have known many players miss golden opportunities suddenly presented to them through being lost in a sort of brown study about what they would do were certain things to happen in the play. Others again I have known to grow nervous when making a good run with the ball lest they should

fail to secure a goal. This may seem to some readers an uncommon thing, but I can assure them it is not. A plucky player will never think of goal-taking when he is on the ball; it will be time enough for him to think of the goal when he has a clear road before him to it. Every step towards the goal presents difficulties; the plucky player is he who retains his self-possession and does not let anticipation overlook any of these obstacles. As a general thing a forward has no call to do any charging. If he be playing an unselfish and judicious game he will have as little call to sustain any charging. At all events what charging is done by forwards should be light. Forwards if they play well together can in most cases avoid this, the most disagreeable part of the game. I would impress upon forwards that it is not pluck to charge an opponent needlessly. To see one player rush into another like a cannon shot may tickle the fancy of groundlings, but it does not convey to the initiated any great idea of the charging party's skill as a player. The forward who can neatly anticipate a dodge and obtain possession of the ball without banging into an opponent is a good player and would always have a place on any team which I might control, in preference to a player whose forte was bowling over men like so many ninepins. To forwards, again I say, leave charging to your supports, and confine yourselves in attack to united effort, to evade all opponents and capture the goal. The duties of a forward in defence may be briefly stated. They consist solely in relying upon the half-backs and backs, and in taking up such positions as will enable them to make the best use of the ball when the half-backs and backs have effected its release from the attack. It is a common fault of forwards that they usurp the place of their own defence. This is bad play. A forward is a forward and not a backward, as many of them seem to think whenever the attacking party holds a temporary advantage. This usurpation of duties on the part of forwards cannot be too strongly condemned, for it frequently embarrasses the play of the half-backs and backs, and, what is of equal consequence, invariably weakens or delays the attack when it is again called for.

Having thus outlined the duties of forwards, it might be expected that I would have something to say regarding the physical qualities of the players best suited for the position of forwards. I have none, and for a very simple reason: some of the best forwards I have known have been little fellows, while again some have been big men; some have been fine muscular fellows, others have been

rather indifferently supplied with sinew; but all good men that I have known, whether thick or thin, tall or short, have possessed the qualities which I have enumerated, and put them into their play. Other things being equal, forwards should be those members of the team who have plenty of stamina, for the strain upon them is seldom relaxed. But even the demand upon stamina can be so reduced by proper play, that no healthy young man need fear the ability of his constitution to meet the expenditure of physical force required, and meet it so as to produce lasting benefit.

THE DUTIES OF HALF-BACKS.

No player of the eleven is more apt to misconceive his duties than a half-back, more especially if the forward be of the by no means uncommon class who insist upon playing upon the defence as well as on the attack. Then it is that half-backs are found securing the ball and running down the field with it, only to lose it to the opposing defence. The effect of this is perhaps to make the uninitiated cheer, but its real effect is to weaken the attacking side just where weakness is vulnerable; for a defence that knows its business will return the ball to its own forwards long before the invading half-back can resume his proper position. The position of a half-back is that of the first line of defence; his duty is to feed the forwards of his side nothing more. When the attacking forwards have worked the ball through their opponents' ranks, it is then the duty of the half-back to secure the ball at all hazards, and having secured the ball to tip it lightly to his own forwards. I say 'tip lightly' and wish that there be no misconception of what this means. There are circumstances wherein a half-back has not this option, wherein he can only stop the progress without giving direction to the ball, but in the majority of cases if he be alert, if he use judgment he will manage to intercept an advancing forward and take the ball from him with sufficient care to consider where he will tip it. Irresolution and impetuosity are kindred vices in a half-back, and to them is attributable, generally, the bad play seen on a field. In circumstances where it is apparent that a half-back can only stop the progress of the ball and that by a desperate rush, it is the duty of his companion half back to follow him up rapidly, when, as a rule, the supporting half-back will be able to secure the ball with such time to command its course as will enable him to feed whichever of the forward couples seems best circumscribed to advance the invasion of the

enemy's territory. Let half-backs remember that it is a vice of play to kick heavily, except where it is absolutely necessary to place the ball in position among the forwards. In young teams especially, nothing is more common than to see half-backs make a strong kick and call upon the forwards to close upon the ball. A general rush of the two forces then takes place, and the excitable half-back, in as many instances as not, sees that the enemy gets the ball and an opportunity has been thrown away. In kicking the ball, a half-back should try to give it that reverse motion of which I have spoken, so that on the ball's alighting on the ground it may, as it were, steady itself. Nothing is more perplexing to a forward than to have the ball alight in front of him, and bound forward right in front of his adversary; yet is this uncommon? Any one knows that it is not. It is almost as tantalizing to the forward to see the ball alight behind him and to have to wait until it lobs forward. To have to stop a ball with the breast is so much lost time, and in a game played so fast as this every fraction of a second is of importance. Therefore half-backs should practise this reverse kick. A half-back must be a fast runner and he must have even more judgment than a forward. His work is the most exhausting in the field, so he must be a player who is incapable of thinking of fatigue. On the bearing which he manifests on the field depends the *esprit* of the forwards and it is not without its effect upon the inner defence.

THE DUTIES OF BACKS.

Backs are the heavy cavalry of the game. On them is reliance placed when the citadel is in imminent danger. Their duties are different from those of the half-backs. When the half-backs have been passed and the attack is descending on the goal these two players have to face it all. They must be swift of foot, strong kickers, heavy chargers and cool as the proverbial cucumber. When the descent is being made it is the duty of the back nearest to the point of attack to advance to meet it. His companion will use his judgment in placing himself so as to impede the progress of the ball toward the goal and, in doing so he will play all the better if he contrive so to place himself that the goal keeper and he will occupy two positions, such as will cover the space between the goal posts. I do not mean range himself along side of the goal-keeper, but merely, in perspective, be part of the barrier. His distance from the goal-keeper and the back actively play-

ing is a matter for judgment to determine. The back is the only man who, except in making a shot at goal, is privileged in a scientific game to make a heavy kick or kick the ball high in air. In kicking, a back's first consideration is to dispossess the attack of the ball and by as much distance as possible. If in doing this he can feed the half-backs so much the better, if the forwards, then indeed is he entitled to the heartiest of applause. Of course, if it be wrong in a half-back to dribble, it is doubly wrong in a back. A back must not run with the ball at his foot, but on the contrary when he gets the leather kick as best he may.

DUTIES OF THE GOALKEEPER.

These are the most difficult to define of any player, and they are the most difficult and least thankful to discharge. If any man must be cool on a football field that man is the goalkeeper. Many men in practice can keep admirably cool, but when in a match are enervated by permitting the mind to anticipate all manner of mishaps. Perfect self-command is therefore the first requisite. Again, as a goalkeeper has to cover a space of twenty-four by eight feet, he must be agile as a cat to avert the lightning-like shots that are often made. He must be able to kick well and truly with both feet, and be a sure catch with his hands. He must have excellent judgment, so that he may know when to leave his goal, when to place himself in front of it, and when to retire to the goal line. He must also be a man of good physique and long reach, so that he may repel a heavy charge, and, if necessary, be able to toss the ball over the line when beset by the attack. It will be a safe rule for a goalkeeper to follow, if he never leave his post except when the backs are unavailable and there are about two chances to one that by advancing he secure the ball. Once he have the ball the rules as to kicking which apply to backs obtain with him. Many goalkeepers stand beneath the goal line, but a favourite position is a few feet in advance of it, so that he can, by a step or two to either side or by raising his hands, prevent the passage of the ball between the posts unless it come through the air and be falling in an arch which will just get beneath the tape. This being the easiest of all shots to stop, because it must of necessity have come a distance and be travelling slowly, the goalkeeper if he be in advance can easily retire in time. The advantages seem to be entirely in favour of the goal-

keeper who stands a few feet forward in the field.

SUMMARY.

I have thus briefly attempted to give my own idea concerning what is demanded of the various players on a field. It would be too much to expect that they will be accepted unchallenged by experienced players, but if they succeed in imparting somewhat more of science into the game than is at present displayed in Canada the questioning of kindly critics will but sweeten the satisfaction I will feel at having been instrumental in directing such a measure of inquiry among football players, as to lead to my conclusions being questioned. If my directions turn out to be wrong, then I will have still greater satisfaction in knowing that something better has taken their place. When on this matter, permit me one word in conclusion. To all young players I would say, learn to keep cool. I do not mean to be cold-blooded in your play, but maintain command of yourself; for believe me, if you cannot command yourself, you cannot command the ball. In your demeanour toward your fellow-players be as courteous as if you were in a drawing-room and in evening dress. If some one else, who has not command of himself, make any imprudent or offensive remark, pass it by in silence; or, if it be such as to demand an explanation, wait till the first natural break occur in the play, then request an explanation; if it be not forthcoming, act upon what in your sober judgment seems right, but by no means lower yourself to the level of the offender by displaying impatience or anger. On the field cultivate a feeling of mutual concession and friendliness, and if you do wrong acknowledge it without waiting to be accused. Be as careful not to overrun your instincts as a gentleman as you are careful not to overrun the ball, then, indeed, will you be a true football player and a worthy exponent of the noble game.

THE UMPIRE.

The rules give directions for the selection of an umpire but they do not instruct that official any too plainly in his duty, judging by the infringements of his position and powers which he, invariably I might say, makes. An umpire has no right to open his mouth in reprobation, caution, or in giving judgment until appealed to. When appealed to he must give his decision promptly. He has no call to hear evidence. If a foul be claimed and he do not see it let him say so and the other umpire is then in order to speak.

THE REFEREE.

This official often awards fouls when he is not appealed to. It will conduce more to the harmony of the game if he do not thus exceed his power, but wait for a reference to be made to him.

THE CAPTAIN.

The captain of a team is always one of the players and the position is one not recognized officially. His position is one of courtesy but it would be well were he recognized by the rules. He is by some clubs chosen on the field and in others chosen to fill the place for the season. Each plan has its advantages. When the captain is selected on the field that man can be chosen under whose leadership the chances are greatest of achieving victory. When he is selected for the season a player is invested with a certain amount of responsibility in getting his men 'up to time,' which produces beneficial results. It would be easy to enlarge upon this subject, but I content myself with saying that he is not always the best captain who is the best player. But he is the best captain who most speedily sees through the weak points of his opponent's play, who correctly appreciates the strong points of his own team and manoeuvres to utilize both for his own advantage. The captain of a team must be a man with a big heart, who is cheerful in reverses and cool in success—a man in whom the team has every confidence as he among them who is the most reliable under any circumstances.

CHARGING AT FOOTBALL.

Incidentally I have referred to charging in describing the duties of the several players of a team, and here I may be permitted to revert to the subject, which is one of vital importance. The recklessness with which charging has been engaged in by many clubs, has thrown a measure of discredit on the game, though fortunately its many other attractions have still preserved for it almost inestimable favour with the public. It is a duty and it ought to be a pleasure to all players to remove even the appearance of evil from the Association game, and to do all in their power to make it forever as it has been in the past, an amusement as much to the gentle spectator as to the robust player. The game in Scotland owes no inconsiderable degree of its popularity to the presence of the fair sex on the field and when they are repelled by violent play then will the first step in the decadence of the game be taken. Even

strong men do not enjoy ferocity and I fail to see what satisfaction any one can have in injuring a fellow player. Still it has been done, and I am sorry to say the evil practice has been on the increase in the Old Country. Canadian players may say it is time enough to lecture us upon a vice when it manifests itself in our play. Very true; and I reply that if needless charging have not been partitionary noticeable on Canadian fields it has not been unobserved; and, what is more to the point, there are manifestations of its being on the increase. I would call on one and all to nip this vice of play in the bud. If we do not legislate upon it let us visit its detection with strong deprecation. Let it be our determination in this as in other things to improve upon the Old Country idea. Let us earn the distinction, if we can, of elevating to greater excellence, than they, the beauties of the game, and of reducing to a lower minimum, the abuse of its less commendable features. So strongly do I feel about the evil of indiscriminate charging that underneath I reproduce an article from the 'Scottish Annual.' A careful perusal, nay a re-perusal of this I commend to all; and I indulge the hope that the day will be long distant when any Canadian will have to write in a similar strain concerning the game in the Dominion.

A few remarks on a subject which has long been uppermost in the minds of the lovers of Football may not be considered out of place. For some time past there has been a feeling of disappointment among the constant supporters of the dribbling game regarding the increased prevalence of heavy charging in Association Football matches. One of the chief objects in starting the Association rules was to avoid the roughness connected with the Rugby code, under which so many serious casualties have occurred, and to make the play more a skilful 'working' of the ball rather than an exhibition of brute force. That this has been attained in a remarkable degree cannot be questioned; the clever dribbling, the neat passing and crossing—almost mechanical in its degree accuracy—and the 'screw' shots at goal either with the right or left foot, exhibited by the high-class clubs of Scotland, giving pleasure and delight to many thousands of spectators. Reports from all quarters, however, abundantly testify that there is serious ground for complaint, and in face of several recent exhibitions before the eyes of the committee, it becomes a matter for consideration whether the Association should not take the matter in hand and remedy the evil, by either devising a penalty

for the offence, or depriving the offending club of its benefit of membership.

There is no intention to condemn what may be described as a 'legitimate charge'—namely, that scientific jerk of the shoulder which removes a player off the ball. Indeed, when well executed, this is one of the neatest points of the game, but the art is rarely shown except by a few well-known players. Neither is it desirable that the play should degenerate into a type only fit to be exhibited in a drawing room. The muscular energies, the pluck, and the exuberant spirits of the youth of this country will find vent somehow, and in nearly every kind of sport there is, more or less, an element of danger, but it becomes the duty of every keen footballer to reduce the possibility of accident to a minimum. The objectionable feature is the rushing full-tilt at an opponent—not for the purpose of obtaining possession of the leather, but simply to place him *hors-de-combat*, and, if anyone may judge from vicious looks, to 'knock him out of time.' In the process of 'tackling' there is not the slightest occasion for players to convert themselves into battering rams, or, when they are likely to be defeated, to hurl themselves with irresistible force, like a pack of steam engines broke loose, against the enemy, whether the ball is in the immediate proximity or not. Now, when a player adopts these tactics, he not only damages his opponent, but causes a great loss of energy to himself, besides running the risk of getting hurt. Instances have occurred where a player deliberately forced his knee into the stomach of an adversary. Pushing behind with the hands is also common. Regarding the latter practice, it must in justice be said that it often occurs in the heat of the moment, the player having really no intention of breaking the rules, which provide in this particular case the penalty of a free kick; but jumping upon the back of an opponent, which of late has crept into the game, is a proceeding strongly to be condemned. Should these practices be continued, the result will be that clubs known to indulge in them will find a difficulty in arranging matches because others, having once received a severe castigation at their hands, are not likely to run the risk of aiding in a second exhibition of gymnastics. Players of this class should discard Football altogether, and take a few lessons on the vaulting horse and parallel bars, or perhaps the public gymnasium would be the better place to display their agility.

That charging—brutal charging—tends to bring our popular winter pastime into disrepute cannot be denied; and, besides the falling-off in the attendance of the general

public, which must inevitably follow, a question of more serious import arises. Accidents have been greatly on the increase, and in not a few instances players have been prevented from following their usual occupation for weeks—nay, months—and to totally abandon the sport. Several cases occurred wherein life itself has been sacrificed, and this is a matter not lightly to be passed over.

Is it, therefore, too much to ask that the executive of the various clubs will do all in their power to mitigate the evil, and by discouraging—nay, absolutely forbidding—the practice, still further promote the popularity of our winter game, a game in which thousands of the public of Scotland take pleasure? For the successful working of an Association the fewer and more simple the rules the better, and it would be highly creditable to the clubs if they would remove the stigma of their own free will, rather than wait till special laws are laid down to meet the case.

The following is a leader from the *Daily Telegraph* on the unfortunate death of Herbert Dockerty, of the Ashby Club, for which J. Bradshaw of the Colville Club, was tried for manslaughter:—

Lord Justice Bramwell had before him at Leicester on Tuesday a case in which he laid down the law in a manner that will be eminently gratifying to all lovers of our manly English sports and pastimes. The jury were called upon to determine whether the prisoner was or was not guilty of manslaughter under the following circumstances: On the 27th of February last a football match took place at Ashby-de-la-Zouch between the football clubs of Ashby and Colville, and the deceased, Herbert Dockerty, was playing for the Ashby Club, and the prisoner, Bradshaw, for the Colville Club. In the course of the game, which was conducted according to the regulations known as the Association rules, Dockerty got the ball into his possession, and began to "dribble" it down towards the Colville goal. "Dribbling" a football is in its way a highly scientific process. The player keeps the ball as nearly as may be between his feet; he pushes it along by short kicks, and he trusts to his superior strength, weight, agility and skill to carry the ball through the ranks of his antagonists. When a big man thus dribbles a ball the recognized rule of the game is that a bigger man should "charge" him, or, in other words, boldly rush at him and knock him over, and accordingly Bradshaw either was told by his captain, or took it upon himself to charge Dockerty. Dockerty, not caring to meet the charge, stopped dribbling, and gave the ball a kick. The moment he kicked, Bradshaw jumped at him. Both players were going at

considerable speed at the time of the collision; they met at an angle; both rolled over and Bradshaw at once got up unhurt. Dockerty rose with difficulty, and was led from the ground; and he died next day in terrible agony, the cause of his death being, beyond all question, severe internal injury caused by the violence of the charge. Witnesses were called from each of the clubs, and their evidence, as might have been expected, was contradictory. Those who were most unfavourable to the prisoner alleged that Bradshaw was off his side, and that the charge was consequently contrary to the rules of the game, and altogether unfair. The rule of offside in football, technical as the term may sound, is yet sufficiently simple. No player may kick the ball unless it is on its way to him. The player must, in other words, to make a fair kick, be between his own goal and the ball. Now, on behalf of the Ashby Club, it was urged that Bradshaw when he made the charge was between the Ashby goal and the ball. This, however, was directly denied by witnesses from the Colville team, and one of the umpires, Mr. Turner, deposed that, in his opinion, nothing unfair had been done.

'In a brief but most able summing up, Lord Justice Bramwell put the matter before the jury in a manner that left little room for hesitation. There was no doubt, his Lordship said, that the prisoner's act had caused the death of the deceased. The simple question was whether the act itself was unlawful or not. No rules or practice of any game whatever can make that lawful which is contrary to the law of the land, and that law is, that no man shall do anything which is likely to cause the death of another. Prize-fighting, when it has a fatal result, cannot have pleaded in its behalf that the combatants acted in accordance with the recognised rules of the ring; and consequently there is a certain sense in which it may be urged that the rules of football were immaterial to the issue which the jury had to try. On the other hand, if the game be a recognised pastime, and one peaceful and harmless in itself, and if a man be playing according to the laws of the game and not going beyond them, it is only reasonable to infer that he is not acting with an intention to hurt or in a manner which he knows will be likely to be productive of death or injury. If, in other words, Bradshaw charged Dockerty with a malicious intention really to injure or hurt him, or if again he had charged him recklessly or carelessly, not actually intending to injure him, but being altogether indifferent whether he injured him or not, he would then undoubtedly have

been guilty of the offence for which he was indicted, if not, indeed, under certain aspects of the circumstances, of murder itself. Accordingly, his Lordship told the jury that the one question which they had to ask themselves was whether the prisoner, when he rushed at the deceased and knocked him over, knew that his act must inevitably do a mischief, or knew that it would probably do a mischief, and was reckless and indifferent whether such was its result or not. The game, Lord Justice Bramwell added, must be, under any circumstances, a rough one; but he himself, speaking as a Judge, was unwilling to deprecate the manly sports of this country, all of which must inevitably be attended with more or less danger. Guided by an exposition of the law so lucid and conclusive, the jury, after a short deliberation, found the prisoner not guilty, on the ground we can only presume, that the whole thing was an unhappy misadventure, and that Bradshaw, although he had played violently, had not been actuated by any malice or guilty of any undue recklessness. They coupled their finding, however, with a suggestion that, in their opinion, the laws of football ought to be altered, and they invited the learned Judge to make some sort of recommendation to that effect. On this point we feel it only due to Lord Justice Bramwell to give what he said in his own words. 'I do not know, gentlemen,' he observed; 'I hardly think I am the person from whom such a recommendation should come. I have never played football, and am not now likely to do so. At the same time, I must say that I think it would be as well even for young men to try to make these accidents as little likely to occur as possible.'

'We cannot help thinking that Lord Justice Bramwell herein took a very proper view of his position and functions. Football is essentially a rough and violent game; but most of our old national pastimes are of this character. Boxing—which, we are happy to believe, has survived the downfall of the prize ring, with all its concomitant brutalities—is not a gentle exercise. Combatants at single stick exchange shrewd blows. A 'swipe' over the legs with a hockey-stick is apt to leave its mark for a week or two. Cricket, racquets, tennis, wrestling, hunting and foot-racing of every kind are all attended with more or less risk; but we ought not, on that account, to deprecate them. Football is essentially the winter pastime of the Englishman, as cricket is his summer game. To make a good football player a man must be sturdy, well-knit, strong, active, good-tempered, quick, and capable of sustaining

severe fatigue. In a certain sense it is of all games the most Homeric. The chieftains meet hand to hand, chest to chest, and knee to knee, while the crowd looks on in admiration. There is no finer sight of its kind than to see a good player carrying the ball down into the enemy's ranks, whether he runs with it under his arm, as in the Rugby game, or dribbles it, as according to the rules of the Association. Champion after champion comes out to meet him. Perhaps he rolls over his antagonist; perhaps he is rolled over himself. At all events, it is obvious to any one who has watched the game for ten minutes that it cannot be played without risk of bruises and broken bones, and possibly of even more serious injuries. Are we on that account to forbid it? Surely the players are best judges for themselves. There are some persons who think that an Act of Parliament should be passed prescribing the manner in which football ought, or ought not to be played. But this would involve a scheme not so much of paternal as of grandmotherly legislation, altogether alien to our English habits and customs. There is really no analogy between football and the prize ring. In a prize fight the object of each competitor is to injure the other as much as possible. In football, on the contrary, the game is played for its own sake, and such mishaps as result from it are incidental. We should doubt whether, on the whole, more serious accidents do not annually occur in the hunting field than upon the football ground. Mr. Bradshaw is heartily to be congratulated on his acquittal. It is a serious misfortune for him that he should have had to bear the brunt of a criminal trial, and we venture to think that it is for many rea-

sons matter of regret that the coroner's jury should have brought in the verdict they found. As it is, he leaves the court without an imputation on his character, and no right-thinking person will wish he had been punished by the law for having unintentionally caused a fatality which must always give him occasion for the most poignant regret.

A LAST WORD.

In conclusion I would commend a thoughtful consideration of ways and means of promoting the game on this continent to all who have experienced pleasure and benefit from engaging in it—that is, I ask all players to do what lies in their power to bring others into the happy circle of association football. It would be easy to trace the effect of friendships formed on a football field in the broader field of life, the development which takes place of the nobler instincts of humanity and the improvement, mental and physical, which accrues to the man, for athletic exercises are great educating forces, and of their forces none is greater than football. As time is precious in getting this little annual into the hands of the public—it is the production of less than one day's writing, ill-digested but well-intended—I take leave of the subject in the hope that my own feeble effort will have the effect of stimulating some one competent for the task to produce dissertation upon the association game that will be worthy of it and meet with a more enduring place among football players than I can hope for this, the first Canadian attempt at an exposition of a grand past-time.

THE END.

