The functions of a book exchange are these: A responsible person is employed to buy the books which one class has just finished, and sell them to the next, charging only enough commission to pay the running expenses. The exorbitant profits made by the down-town book-dealer are thus avoided, and a necessarily large factor in college expenses much reduced, not to speak of the time and trouble of tramping all over town to find the required book, for the exchange should be in one of the Institute buildings.

Not much capital would be required to start such an enterprise, and, after a time, it would pay a good rate of interest.

Every student should, in self-defense, take an interest in the formation of such a book exchange, and yet it seems that a matter of such importance should attract the attention of the Board of Trustees; for do not the students constitute an important element of the corporation over which they have charge? and should not anything which affects them, either intellectually, morally, or pecuniarily, merit their careful consideration?

OUR Athletic Association is one of our oldest and most flourishing institutions. The exhibitions conducted by it have always been the leading athletic features at the Institute, and serve in many ways to make the Institute prominent. There are usually three meetings held each year: one in December, which is limited to the Institute athletes; one in either February or March, open to other amateurs; and an out-door meeting, where the runners, etc., can have a chance. The open meetings are quite a novelty, giving the Institute an opportunity to compete against other colleges.

This association certainly deserves great credit for its success and works. By offering prizes, and giving chances for the display of prowess, it stimulates students to do gymnasium work which is undoubtedly of great value to them. It also encourages our other athletics by lending a helping hand when necessary, thus establishing and promoting schemes that otherwise would have failed. The outcome has been, that we have a set of records to be proud of, which are every year being bettered. The tug-of-war teams promote class spirit and interest, and our representative four has been beaten but once by Harvard. The present management shows a progressive spirit, and intends to offer prizes this year superior to all former efforts in that line.

With all this to be said in its favor there is one weak point: its membership is exceedingly small, and quorums are almost unobtainable. The reason for this is hard to find. Members have free attendance at games, and can direct the expenditure of the large amount in the treasury, besides the honor. To the new men we will say, that there is no surer way of becoming prominent in college affairs than by joining an organization like this, where all classes are represented, and all are co-workers. Let this be in fact, as in name, an Institute affair. Let all join in the work, and not shift the responsibility to the shoulders of a few self-sacrificing men who are now giving their time and attention for your benefit.

LACROSSE is the latest scheme to be proposed at the Institute, and is already receiving attention from those interested in the sport. It was started by some of our lower classmen, and speaks well for their enterprise. It may be regarded with distrust by some of our more conservative class, and also by those who think that foot-ball should engage all our attention. To the former we will say, that the innovations of last year do not seem to seriously affect, if at all, the standard institutions; and the latter will, on reflection, see that foot-ball is from its nature limited as to numbers and individual requirements. A class of men too light to participate in a foot-ball scrimmage might find lacrosse less exact as to physical standards, and also the chances of injury being less would serve as an argument for some. The large