

FOOTBALL.

PICNIC TO THE CARLTON FOOTBALLERS.—The S.A. Cricketing Association, under whose auspices the Carlton footballers are playing a series of matches in Adelaide, gave a picnic in honour of their guests on Friday afternoon. A few minutes after 10 o'clock two of Hill & Co.'s coaches left with the Carltons and delegates from the football clubs, numbering in all about fifty, for Bridgewater. The air was rather cold but exhilarating, and the ride was thoroughly enjoyed. A stoppage was made at the Eagle-on-the-Hill, whence the Victorians obtained a fine view of the plains. The journey was resumed to the Halfway House, Stirling West, where Host Flannigan had provided an excellent spread. Mr. J. Creswell presided. Mr. R. Pratt gave the toast of the day, "The Carlton Club," and Mr. Strickland (vice-captain) responded. Mr. T. G. Smith, in a happy speech, proposed "The Victorian and South Australian Football Associations." He thought football had supplanted cricket in public favour in the two colonies. He hoped intercolonial exchanges would take place oftener. The game would, he thought, be made faster if, instead of throwing the ball in from the boundary-mark, the umpire walked in right angles for 5 yards and bounced the ball; scrimmages would thus be stopped. Mr. T. S. Marshall, in responding for Victoria, disagreed with the suggestion of Mr. Smith. He urged the S.A. Association not to have more than ten clubs. They had eighteen in Victoria. That was too many, and they did not have enough good games. Mr. W. J. Hill (Secretary of the S.A. Association) would like to see a combined team from South Australia take part in the carnival proposed to be held in Melbourne next year. He would also like to see such a series of matches in Adelaide at a later season. Mr. Marshall gave "The S.A. Cricketing Association," and, in doing so, thanked Mr. Creswell for the great attention he had given to the Carltons, thus making their trip very pleasureable. He thought Cricket Associations nowadays relied on football for support, but the football clubs did not grudge them the money as the Association had all the hard work to do. He had never seen a better ground for football than the Adelaide Oval, although the surroundings were not equal to those on some of the Victorian grounds. Mr. Creswell returned thanks, and remarked that for the past three years the balance from cricket had been as large as the balance from football. The coaches then drove on to Bridgewater, which was reached at about 2.30. Dunn & Co.'s mill was inspected, and then a start was made for town, which was reached at a quarter past 5. A very pleasant day was spent.