

TO SPORTSMEN.

WEST BROMWICH ALBION'S SECOND APPEAL.

A PROMISING START.

As all followers of football are aware, the West Bromwich Albion Football Club has during the last two seasons encountered a series of misfortunes which have placed the famous old organisation in financial difficulties. A few months ago an appeal for support was issued to the public, but the response was far from satisfactory. The public were naturally reluctant to subscribe. They were not informed for what special object monetary assistance was needed; they suspected that the directors had in mind the discharging of past liabilities. The well-wishers of the club refused to contribute for the purpose of liquidating old debts.

There is no longer room for doubt. The present directors are the right men in the right place. They are determined to restore the club to the high position it deservedly held in the football world, and are sparing no effort to get together a first-class team for next season—a team capable of gaining a place in the First Division of the League. They have boldly tackled a difficult task, and, given the support of local sportsmen, there is every prospect that their efforts will be crowned with success.

In order to give everybody a chance of assisting the management it has been decided to open a shilling fund in connection with the "Gazette and Express," the "Birmingham Evening Despatch," and the "Sports Argus." Every farthing will be devoted to the endeavour to give the club a new lease of life, and all contributions will be duly acknowledged in the papers named.

We feel sure that the matter is one which will commend itself to the favourable consideration of all interested in sport and that we shall not appeal in vain.

The following subscription has been received:—

	Shillings.
W. W. Butler	500

This is a decidedly promising start. Everyone knows what a virtue there is in getting well "off the mark," and the generosity of Mr. W. W. Butler has enabled us to accomplish a good beginning. We don't expect everybody to give 500 shillings, or even fifty. But it is in the power of everybody to give at least one shilling. "Many a mickle makes a muckle," and that should be the motto of our fund.