

Tammany Hall ruffians here in our government to tell me how it was?"

"That can I, Aristophanes. Thou knowest how that I am never in a hurry in the teaching of truth to my friends. I will tell thee all about it. Well, to begin thou must know that Xanthippe, my beloved wife, sent me yesterday, with three pieces of money, to our only store to buy a fish in the Agora. With my usual desire to do my duty well, I hurried away upon mine errand. But just around there by the porch I met the young Athenian Alcibiades. He was dressed in what he told me was a 'sweater,' and with a football under his arm and accompanied by his two family physicians and a retinue of slaves with a litter was hurrying by when he hailed me in his usual bright and cheerful manner.

" 'Hallo, Socrates, well met old friend. Come with us to the Ilissus to our game to-day. As you see we are to have a game of football. Those Eleusinians have come over with their country team, and young Eumolpus, the priest's son, their captain, tells our boys they are going to do us up. I don't think they can do it, Socrates, and we are going to try, and if we don't teach those chaps from Eleusis what it is to play football then you may use my head for a football to-morrow. But anyhow we want you along, Socrates. Come over and umpire the game and see us uphold the honor of our noble Athens.' Well, thou knowest, Aristophanes, how I like the lad Alcibiades, and the fact is I forgot all about the fish I was to purchase for dinner and to the Ilissus I went. There we found the Athenian team practicing to pass the ball about the field, and when I saw that giant Athenian Cleopas with muscles like a wrestler in the Olympic games and found out that he was to play center and that Alcibiades was to be half-back, and that our boys had two of the fleetest runners from the gymnasium to play at the ends, truly, Aristophanes, I felt that the Athenian team must make a pretty good game. Still those Eleusinians were goodly fellows, too. Young Eumolpus is a giant, and verily his mouth was open before the game began with claims of what he and his heroes could do to our Athenians; but I told him that boasting best became the man who wins the game, and that the game was yet to be fought, and he got ready for the contest.

"The Eleusinians got the kick-off and the priest's son sent the ball well down towards the goal. But Alcibiades was ready for