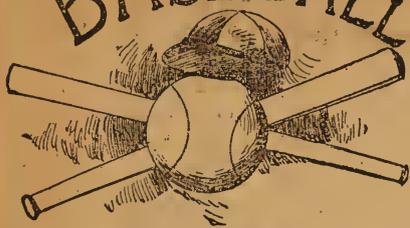


# BASE BALL



## PITTSBURG POINTS.

### MANAGER WATKINS MAKES A FLYING TRIP TO SMOKETOWN.

### He Reports Having Made No Transactions as Yet, But Laughingly Warns Fans to Look Out—No Players Will be Kept if Better Are Securable.

Pittsburg, Oct. 18.—Editor "Sporting Life."—True to President Kerr's announcement, William Henry Watkins, next year's leader of the Buccaneers, reached our town on the 15th. He was exactly on time, and in line with this punctuality patrons of the Pirates expected to hear some good news about the plans for strengthening the Pittsburgs in the year to come.

Mr. Watkins in his jaunt over the West had left a trail marked by many rumors of purchases, trades, etc.

Some surprise was manifested therefore when the result of the hunt was announced to be a water haul. President Kerr four hours before Manager Watkins hove to said to the writer: "I feel sure that he has not secured a new player." Mr. Kerr evidently spoke by the book. His statement also indicated that Mr. Watkins was in the habit of writing his chief, a practice not followed by a recent leader, much to the disappointment of his employer.

**THE SCRIBES' SCOURGE.**  
Mr. Watkins was interminable to the newspaper men when he arrived. The undersigned is sorry he didn't see the ordeal. There is one paragraph here who inserts the probe with the coolness of a cross-examining attorney. He wants the news and will not be denied. No matter whether the query is grating on the feelings of the subject, the news seeker makes it go right home. A Pittsburg reporter once brushed past a colored porter at the Union Station here and entered a private car. Then he propounded to President Benjamin Harrison a leading question on a topic of the day which was in the President's charge. This man isn't a marker to the aggressive base ball writer. You can wager that the latter gets the news by his effrontery, and that is what he is paid for.

Possibly Mr. Watkins was prepared for an attack on this line, but just the same his opinion of his first conference with Pittsburg reporters, as manager of the Pirates, would doubtless prove interesting. Watty is no newcomer in these matters, but he never enjoyed the experience here before, and it's a trial never to be forgotten. The writer remembers Pat Donovan's first session with the probers. The boss deliver in the business jabbed him a couple of times in the solar plexus, but it wasn't Donovan's place to get vexed. He realized his baptism and stood the fire of queries with commendable good nature.

**NO PLAYER SURE OF RESENTION.**  
Mr. Watkins made one statement which caused consternation among the persons who cluster round certain players and admire their strong qualities. He said that while he had not as yet decided on all the changes he would make he had resolved to follow out the plan that no man would be retained if it was possible to secure a better one. This policy would be followed regardless of the fact that present Pirates had a clientele of admirers and fanciers. Sentiment must be set aside when base ball team success is desired. Therefore, no man was sure of being on the Pirates for 1898.

Managers of football teams usually make an assertion of this nature each fall, especially as a spurrier on. It seldom fails to gain and puts animation and vim in athletes prone to be careless and indifferent in their particular line, because of over-confidence in the stability of their position.

**TWO CHANGES INTIMATED.**  
Manager Watkins was put on record as urging a couple of alterations in the make-up of the nine. He declared that he meant to get a first-class outfielder to cover centre field. Naturally this meant that Steve Brodie was to be let go. Then the new Pirate chief threw out an intimation that a couple of men on the nine might be found way down upon the farm when the first of April rolled around. He suggested Hoffy as being one of this number. He said nothing about the pitching corps.

**MUL ON FINANCES.**  
President Kerr was much interested in the article swinging around the circuit wherein Mr. James Mulcahey, gate-tending manager for the St. Louis aggregation, was quoted on the profits and losses sustained by the various clubs in the League.

The Pittsburg president carefully read the story. His eyes and countenance did not change one whit when they struck the lines relative to Boston's triumphs being enriched to the air of \$125,000. There was no demonstration of any kind when he caught sight of the assertion that Andrew Fredman's aggregation gathered in the tidy sum of \$100,000.

Near the end of the article Mr. Kerr began to smile. He was perusing losses

now. Coming to the declaration that the Pittsburg Club had quit a big loser, because it drew poorly at home and abroad, he suddenly ejaculated: "Mul is right there, anyway." The listener tried to laugh off the remark, but the club owner held to it.

From another source the undersigned learned that the club, as far as the figures have been computed, was not far ahead, and the assertion was made that a final computation would show that the club made no money worth speaking of.

**A TOPIC OF INTEREST.**  
Interest in next year's team holds on with the fans. People will meet you with the remark, "Who is going to be kept next year? Will they let Pat Donovan out?" etc. There are autumn fans who think that when the spring dawns gleefully to the front there will be less new faces in the aggregation than it is generally supposed. These people labor on the idea that all over the circuit there exists an impression that Pittsburg must either trade or buy. No alternative exists. Club owners, etc., are laying for the Pirate managers. They have a few hulks as novices they would like to get rid of and Pittsburg has a couple of men they desire.

These fall enthusiasts sort of anticipate that the Pittsburg regime will fool the expectant swappers, and will make play for only one or two specialists to cover positions known to be lamentably weak.

**PINK SHOULD EXPLAIN.**  
A number of Pink Hawley's friends were concerned last week in an odd paragraph, which originated evidently in the West. The sentiment does not put Sir Emerson in the best light. The note when first discovered had Hawley quoted as saying that he would surely be a Pirate next year. Then followed a most remarkable assertion, "If Watkins got rid of him he would lose his job." The squib has been commented on by a good number of people. They can hardly believe Hawley said anything of the kind seriously. Perhaps Pink was interviewed in Chicago, and wasn't exactly discreet as to his remarks.

No one outside of the club owners can say anything definitely as to the disposition of the pitching stars. The writer intimated last week that if any one had to get it would hardly be Hawley. This was a bare surmise, though the base of guessing had a pretty strong foundation.

**SNAGS.**  
Charley Hastings' outfit for the tour was a beauty. He had three suits, two overcoats, besides those Taager Fontaine diamonds to fall back on in case of the tourists snag and it becomes a case of hocking. Hastings pitched his first game last Sunday at Brooklyn. He was eager for the conductor to say "All aboard." There is one of those limburger suspicions that Hasty has reasons for being anxious to get West. You know he once smashed a couple of feminine hearts in that vicinity.

Elmer Smith is getting ready for an extended hunt and fish. The advance guard of Smiddy's club left to-day for the wilds. They intend to put up a comfortable house in the woods. Their destination is not known, but they say snipe are plenty in the locality they expect to stop.

The tourists enjoyed the kindness of President Kerr, who gave them the use of Exposition Field without charge. The score card man, however, who has an exclusive contract and is beyond Mr. Kerr's control, made them knuckle to him. He got half. The tourists' kicked, but succumbed when told that no one could overrule this decision.

Secretary Balliett is a man with a clean-cut conscience. These days Frank can knock out 14 hours' sleep without half trying. There are thousands of men who would give half their fortunes if they could secure just one-half that amount of the delight restorer. Frank never allows cares or woes to worry him. He is the picture of good-natured health.

Reddy Mason came home heaped full of funny stories and newspaper clippings. He was the hero of several rows, and in one made a palpable hit. He refused to fight and a man yelled, "I thought you was a scrapper." "I didn't come down to fight, but to umpire." Wait until after the game for the fight," was Mason's retort. He won the crowd by it.

A letter for Billy Merritt landed at President Kerr's office last week. The carrier was told to direct it to Lowell, Mass., where there was only one William H. Merritt.

The All Americans neglected the all-important fact of properly advertising their game here last Friday. The advance agent was in an awful hurry when in town a week in advance of the club. Hundreds of base ball admirers knew nothing of a game. It was a perfect day and over 2500 people would have attended had the event been heralded. They say the count was 698. The game was shockingly bad and scarcely one-third of the 698 were present near the finish. Disgust had caused their departure.

### CON LUCID'S CLAIM.

### The Noted Pitcher Wants a Big Bunch of Damages.

St. Louis, Oct. 20.—A dispatch from Albuquerque, N. M., states that H. J. Franklin, of the claim department of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, has been in that city in consultation with Attorney Neill B. Field, in regard to arriving at some kind of settlement with Con Lucid, but Mr. Franklin left Albuquerque last night without any satisfactory conclusion being reached.

Lucid is a professional base ball pitcher, and was engaged by the Albuquerque Club to pitch a series of games during the tournament at the Territorial Fair. En route to that city from St. Louis Lucid was caught in the passenger wreck near Emporia, Kan., and when he reached Albuquerque he was badly injured and was of no service to the local management.

Lucid then called on Attorney Field and gave him his case, since which time the attorney has been in communication with the Santa Fe officials, trying to effect a settlement. The report that Lucid had filed a suit for \$5000 damages was a mistake, but if some kind of a settlement is not made such a suit will be instituted against the railway company. Lucid is now in good health.

# MARRIAGE BELLS

## RING OUT FOR BALL PLAYERS' OCTOBER WEDDINGS.

### Three Professionals, Two of Whom Enjoy National Fame, Take Unto Themselves Fair Life Partners For Better or Worse.

This mellow October month has witnessed four weddings in professional base ball circles. The new Benedicts are pitcher Mike McDermott, catcher Fred. Donovan, outfielder Joe Kelley and short-stop Hugh Jennings. Details of three of the events are appended:

#### Jennings-Dixon.

Scranton, Pa., Oct. 14.—Hugh A. Jennings, Baltimore's great short stop, was married to-night to Miss Elizabeth Dixon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Dixon, of Avoca. The ceremony was performed at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Avoca, by Rev. George J. Dixon, brother of the bride. The best man was Dr. J. A. Jennings, of Exeter, brother of the groom. Miss Minnie Cawley, of West Scranton, was maid of honor, and the ushers were Frank Jennings, Michael Garvey, George Weber and C. F. Hoban, all of Avoca. The bride was given away by her older brother, Attorney M. J. Dixon. A reception followed at the bride's home. Among the many presents were a silver service from the Baltimore Base Ball Association, a beautiful cabinet from the club and a coffee and tea service of silver from the students of St. Bonaventure College, Albany, N. Y.

#### Kelley-Mahon.

Baltimore, Oct. 15.—Miss Margaret R. Mahon, daughter of Mr. John J. Mahon, was married last night to Mr. Joseph Kelley, of the Baltimore Base Ball team. The ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride's parents, "Derbyshire," near Pikesville. Rev. John D. Boland, rector of St. Vincent's Catholic Church, officiated; assisted by Revs. M. F. Foley, of Pikesville; Walter Caughey, of Washington; Lawrence McNamara, of St. Ann's Church, and James P. Tower, of Hyattsville, Md., Willie Keeler acting as best man. The couple received many handsome presents. Among them was a cut glass punch bowl and two ladders from the members of the Baltimore Club, a silver tea service from the Baltimore Base Ball and Exhibition Company, and a set of silver butter dishes and butter knives from Mr. and Mrs. John J. McGraw. A reception was held immediately after the ceremony, after which Mr. and Mrs. Kelley left for their wedding journey. They will go to Cincinnati, O., where they will join the Baltimore Base Ball Club and travel to the Pacific coast.

#### Donovan-Fulkerson.

New Castle, Pa., Oct. 13.—This evening at 6 o'clock Frederick Donovan, one of the catchers of the New Castle Base Ball team, and Mrs. Sarah Criswell Fulkerson, of North Jefferson street, were united in marriage by Rev. Dr. I. A. Thayer, of the Disciple Church, John Daniels, who played right field for New Castle during the season of '94, was the best man, and the bride was attended by Miss Minnie Boyd. Among the base ball people who were at the wedding were catcher Eddie Zinram, of Youngstown; Charlie Hickman and Robert Lincoln Lowe, of the Bostons; all the New Castle directors and several of the players, and Lawrence Gilboy, of the Buffalo team, and several others. Mr. and Mrs. Donovan left for Boston and Eastern cities on a three weeks' wedding trip, and will make New Castle their home.

#### NEWPORT NOTES.

### The Local Club in Good Shape For Another Campaign.

Newport, Oct. 17.—Editor "Sporting Life."—The annual meeting of the Newport Base Ball Association was held last week. Last year's board of directors and officers were re-elected for '98, as was Manager Finn. The Association is in a very prosperous condition, being free from debt, with \$1000 in the treasury and a 25 per cent. dividend declared. This was in a great measure due to the sale and draft of players the past season.

#### LOOKING TO '98.

It was voted to secure a strong team for next season, which will necessarily be almost entirely new. Players will do well to correspond at once with Manager M. J. Finn, Natick, Mass.

The success of our club in leading the race all season has been the talk of the whole League. A new city with a brand new club was never expected to be of any account at the opening of the season, but by gingery, clean, hard work we kept them all guessing all year. The cause of our success was good management in keeping the same club and men from the beginning to the finish of the season. The men individually may not have been the best, but team work told the story.

#### APPRECIATED.

Our people were proud, and justly so, of our entire team, as the benefit game given to them attested. At this game the players presented Manager Finn with a costly silver-handled umbrella, showing the secret of success to be the good feeling existing between men and manager. Official averages have not as yet been published, but Pickett has led in batting, with Crisham and Bean following. Kelley leads in fielding. Every member of the club has been reserved with but one exception.

#### IN THE DRAFTING.

It is curious how pitcher Hawley was overlooked. He played nearly every position and played them well, surprising everyone at short while Bean was hurt. He pitched in 38 games, and played in as many more. Of his 38 games he won 26. San Francisco, Oct. 9.—Editor "Sporting

and tied one. He fielded .940 in all his positions, and hit .290. He is a well-made, natural ball player, sure to make his mark, a hard, willing worker at all times. Has great speed and good curves, and with all that a young man. He pitched the same ball the whole season, and was strongest against the strongest teams, shutting out Brockton and Pawtucket on two different occasions each, with not over five hits in any of the games, and in one game Brockton got but one single off him, and that a scratch. Any club that gets him will surely make a lea-strike. SEA SHORE.

#### SAN FRANCISCO BUDGET.

### The California League Season Opens up—Recreation Park the Favorite.

Life.—Col. T. Progressive Robinson is grand! Everyone is happy! The California League's grand opening is responsible. With street parades, tin horns and brass band the California League opened up its winter season yesterday at Recreation Park, San Francisco and Goodwater Grove Stockton.

#### A GOOD START.

The game in this city was a grand one in every respect, and was played before seven thousand enthusiastic rooters. The good old Spalding Official League ball, as adopted by the National and other leagues, was used to the delight of players and spectators. The game was full of interesting features, perhaps the most noticeable being the superb twirling of Hughes, the first base play of Maguire and Matt Stanley's excellent handling of Millwan's delivery, although Arlett may lay claim to the star play of the day in capturing a very difficult one that came his way.

"Husky" Hughes, the Sacramento favorite, struck out twelve men, and held the heavy-biting reliance team to five scattered hits. "Graceful" had nineteen put-outs, one assist and one error on the initial bag, while the Reliance catcher received the well-merited praises of the entire gathering of enthusiastic leather-lunged fans. The appended score tells the tale:

Gilt Edge, r	b	p	a	e	Reliance, r	b	p	a	e
Smith, 2b.	.2	0	0	0	Maguire, 1b.	0	0	19	11
Hene'ry, 1b.	0	2	10	0	McIntyre, cf.	0	0	0	0
J. Hu's, p.	0	1	1	4	Lange, 3b.	.0	0	1	0
Fitzg'rd, c.	0	2	10	3	Stanley, c.	.0	1	2	0
Shan'n, cf.	0	0	0	1	Nealon, rf.	.1	1	0	0
Lock'rd, ss.	2	1	1	3	Stultz, c.	.1	1	0	0
Harvey, rf.	2	1	0	0	Dean, lf.	.1	1	0	1
E. Hu's, 3b.	2	3	2	1	Arlett, ss.	.1	1	0	1
Walker, lf.	1	3	2	10	Perrine, p.	0	1	0	3

9 12 27 14 2	2 5 27 22 4
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Summary—Earned runs—Gilt Edge, 2; two-base hits, Stultz; base on balls—Reliance 1, Gilt Edge 7; hit by pitcher—Stanley, Maguire, Dean; passed balls—Fitzgerald 3; left on bases—Reliance 6, Gilt Edge 13; wild pitches—Perrine 1, Hughes 1; struck out—by Hughes 12, Umpires—Levy and Creamer. Time—1 hr. 45m.

#### STOCKTON A WINNER.

The leather chasers from the Mill City succeeded in defeating the Olympics, of San Francisco, after an exciting game. The game was a good one, with the Frisco ball tossers in the lead until the ninth, when the Stocktons landed on the ball with startling regularity, scoring seven runs and taking the game.

The score by innings:  
Stockton ..... 0 1 3 0 0 1 1 7-13  
Olympics ..... 0 0 3 2 2 0 0 7

#### THIS WEEK'S GAMES.

The games this week are—Saturday, Oct. 9, Heesman vs. Fresno; Sunday, Oct. 10—Olympic vs. Reliance, at San Francisco; Stockton vs. Gilt Edge at Sacramento; Bushnell Alerts vs. Fresno at Central Park.

#### DROPS.

Recreation Park has been greatly improved during the past week, and will be in good condition for to-morrow's game. And speaking of to-morrow's game it will be a corker. Jack McGlynn has strengthened his team, and to-morrow will play Wheeler, the Regulars' pitcher, on the slab, while Cameron, another Regular, will take care of the territory adjoining the second bag.

Tyler and Franks, of Los Angeles, have signed with Fresno.  
Santa Cruz wanted Lange, of Reliance, but could not get the crack player to desert his colors.

Stockton has signed Ritters, and Reliance Iberg, who were the boss battery of the Markets.  
Nash has received his notice from Santa Cruz. The new league is all right.  
The game is saved. KING CHOCOLATE.

#### ALLEN IN DEMAND.

### At Least Three Clubs Want the Clever Short Stop.

Detroit, Mich., Oct. 16.—"Bob" Allen was on his way back to his home in Paulding, O., and stopped here on business. That business is rather interesting to base ball readers. He has a suit for \$25 against Vanderbeck, claiming that amount is due him for two days' pay at the time he was released by the Detroit owner. The Boston team Allen has great praise for. He thinks it will be practically the same and under the same management next year. OF

#### THE TEMPLE CUP SERIES.

he said: "Boston lost the cup because Nichol's arm was sore and he did not want to jeopardize its use next season, so he did not pitch in any of the cup games. Klobedanz was not in the best of shape, either. There is no truth in the story that the receipts were cut in two, each club receiving half. The Boston Club got the losers' end, 40 per cent., and each man received about \$300.

#### HIS RECORD.

"I managed to get my eye on the ball when I joined Boston, and my hits came opportunely. Long was all of the time getting hurt, and for nearly three weeks I played short and several times went on second. I remember that I covered second in one game at Louisville for Lowe and made two hits, and was never mentioned in the score. Lowe receiving all of the credit. I think that there will be only three clubs in the race next year. They will be Boston, New York and Baltimore. I understand that the three teams will be retained intact.

#### IN DEMAND.

"As for myself I do not know where I will play next year. I signed with Boston without reserve, and am free to sign where I will. I have so far received three nice offers. Boston wants me back again, but I have not yet made up my mind. I have no objection to playing in Philadelphia, providing they pay me my price. I dropped off in Philadelphia yesterday, and saw Reach, Rogers and Stallings. The Quakers are very much demoralized. Last year they knew their weak spots. Next year they do not know where to commence the work of building up a team. I understand that Stallings will be retained another year. I have received an offer to manage a Western League team, but have not given the matter any consideration." It is understood that the clubs outside of Boston seeking Allen's services are Brooklyn and New York.