

Washington's Loss to Athletics Illustrates Game's Oddities. Union League Too Slow.

One Error by Good Player Lets Athletics Win. Cates Unusually Steady for Spitball Pitcher. Brooklyn Plays Joke Game.

By THOMAS S. RICE.

How can you dope the great national game? There's the Washington club which lost to the Athletics in Philadelphia yesterday by 3 to 2. Washington made four errors and Cates allowed eight hits. Yet one of these errors, made in the seventh inning with nobody out, was responsible for the Athletics' winning. Deleahanty made a poor throw on Davis' grounder, then a long fly and two singles and a double brought in three runs. Yet three other errors in that same game were useless in helping the Athletics, as were five singles.

Also, in the same exhibition the Athletics made two errors, and one of those, on an easy chance, gave Washington a run in the first inning. Washington made nine hits, and seven of those were wasted, as was a pass. It's queer, the coincidences of baseball, such as how, when a pitcher does allow a couple of safeties in an inning, that is the one session in which his support falls down. Not infrequently a twirler is tapped for eight or nine hits in a game, yet the only runs come off bases on balls and in innings in which no hits were made.

That the element of luck enters into such contests cannot be denied, and it is this uncertain element—except when Cy Young pitches against Washington—which makes baseball the ideal American game.

We are pleased to note that Eli Cates did nobly in the box against the Athletics, even if he did lose. Cates is peculiar in his style, and in his actions is less impressive than any boxman on Cantillon's staff. He is a right-hander, with a rather jerky delivery, which, he claims, is not a snap and is not exhausting. This assertion is borne out by his career. He is an old and air-around ball player, and has been getting better as he gets older.

Cates is a spitball artist and has excellent control of the elusive delivery. In the game yesterday he gave no transportation, which is unusual for most pitchers. He is rather a warm weather specialist, because of his long residence on the coast, and may yet be another find.

Deleahanty made a wild throw yesterday on a comparatively easy chance that had a game. This is a series of the oddities of the sport, that even the coolest and least spectacular players will go along with it. It is the most difficult kind, then slip on something soft, and that wild illustration of the funny business of Laporte in the series here with Boston. It is doubtful whether a second catcher ever had more chances in a game than Cates yesterday. He accepted nine chances and missed twice on snaps. On Saturday he had eleven chances, and accepted them all, his work being a feature for Boston in every game.

Freeman is slapping away, getting hits with surprising regularity and making errors with discouraging frequency. Still, the principal worry was his hitting, and now that he is going some with the stick, his chances of landing permanently are much brighter. He is much more confident in his art than batting and Freeman was the sensation of the American Association in covering his position. His errors yesterday did not hurt him, and he leaves the big fellow will eventually land in his stride.

Because he is so large many fans have obtained the impression that Freeman is both slow and clumsy. This is not entirely correct. He is not the man in the club on his feet, but he is by no means slow for one of his girth, and bounds along far faster than many of his fellow major leaguers.

Washington's Union League took a joke game from Brooklyn yesterday. Before going further it must be remarked that if the Union League umpires and managers do not make the players hustle more the league will most certainly be a failure. The game here began at 4:30 in order to accommodate the Government employes, which is an hour later than usual. Games here are held in an hour too late for peace and warm grub in the average happy home or boarding house. If the Union League are going to continue to pull off contests lasting two hours and ten minutes, such as that yesterday, domestic difficulties are going to increase in this town at an alarming rate.

Everybody on the field was at fault yesterday. The players' ankles were to the plate as if they had all day, the umpire did not prod them along and the two managers seemed to appreciate the fact that warmed-over coffee makes discontented diners and diminishing dividends. Get a move on, you Union League or the District League will put you out of business!

That Union League game yesterday was the funniest thing of the kind that has been pulled off here since Belva Lockwood ran for President. Brooklyn made ten errors, and eight of those came in the first two innings, which is pretty near a record for a recognized league with the names of the names of great and beautiful cities. Brooklyn came here outed as one of the best aggregations in the league, having played together last year as an independent club. Alas for touting! Brooklyn started like the tailenders in a grammar school lecture, but managed to take a stiff brace and made only two more errors in the next eight innings.

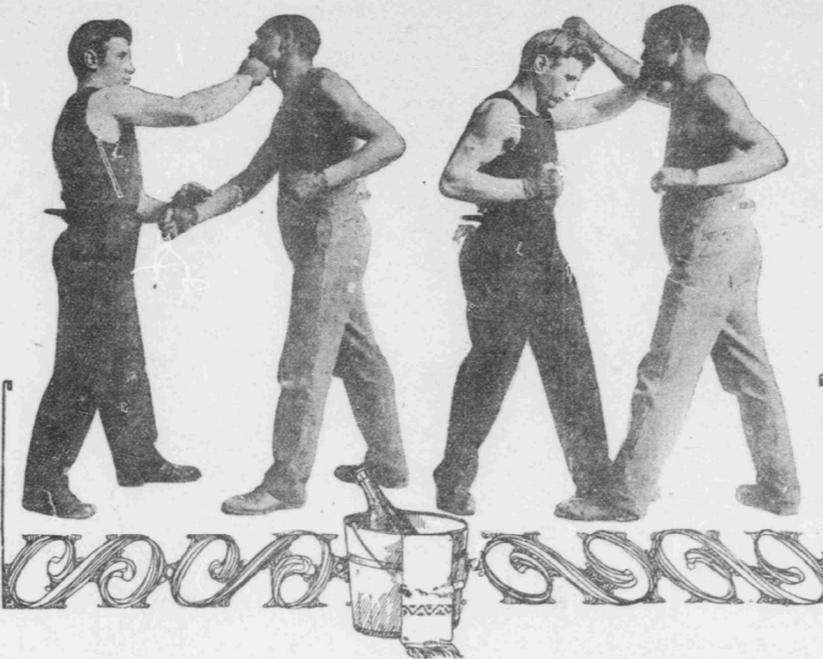
Murray, the left-hander for the Navy Yard, again came to the front and showed possibilities as a classy professional. When Cleveland's had been taken out after the first inning and Spear had been chased after the conclusion of the second, Murray went on the mound and let Brooklyn down with three hits and no more runs.

The infields of all the Union League teams are excessively wobbly, and this gives the fans many pleasant thrills. You never know when a game may be won, and it wouldn't do any good if you did. For some reason, the men are undoubtedly playing below their form, as is shown by their occasional star stunts. Perhaps when they get over their first nervousness and find that their "real names" they will become steadier.

Outside of his failure to keep the game on the jump, Stanton has done excellent work. He has the players fairly well in hand and insists upon a strict interpretation of the rules.

One of the most ridiculous incidents ever pulled off in a Washington ball game was the protest made yesterday by May, Brooklyn's left fielder. He misjudged a fly by Shaughnessy in the fifth inning, and another by Burke in the sixth. Then came his protest. He

KID SULLIVAN'S MOST EFFECTIVE BLOWS



RIGHT SWING TO JAW.

STRAIGHT RIGHT TO BODY.

English Champ Primed for Battle With Classy Little Fighter From Capital Tonight.

Summers, Trained for Bout With Terry McGovern That Never Came Off, Will Be Tough Proposition for Sullivan.

BALTIMORE, Md., April 30.—Johnny Summers, the English 135-pound champion of England, may make his last appearance in the roped arena in the ring of the Eureka Athletic Club tonight, when he is to tackle Kid Sullivan, the tough little Washington boxer, for fifteen rounds at the Germania Maennerchor Hall.

Summers, upon his arrival in this city yesterday, stated that he had practically accepted the terms of the National Sporting Club of England for a match in London with Jem Driscoll for the 130-pound championship of the British Isles, Driscoll being Summers' nearest rival for that title.

The National Sporting Club has offered a large purse for a match between Summers and Driscoll. If the pair are matched this will prevent Summers meeting with Paiky McFarland in California, Jimmy Coffroth and Jack Gleason, two of the foremost boxing promoters in the United States, offered Summers big money to meet McFarland before their club.

In Good Condition. Summers comes here in prime condition, as he trained as though his life depended on the bout with McGovern.

CHEERFUL CHARLES HICKMAN'S JOB AS ORIGINAL HUMAN OIL CAN IS UNIQUE IN BASEBALL.

CLEVELAND, April 30.—Why did the Cleveland American League baseball club sign Charles Hickman, and why is he being carried on the payroll? It's not because he is a good hitter. Charles' batting eye has been a trifle dim for the past two or three seasons. Nor is it because he is a great fielder. He never was. Neither in the infield nor the outfield has he ever really shone.

Hickman has an absolutely unique job in baseball, which might be called "good fellow."

The Cleveland club has been troubled for several seasons past by internal strife and dissensions. Always made up of star players, it has failed consistently in the winning of pennants. The owners, Somers & Kilfoyl, finally decided that persistent ill feeling between members of the team had a good deal to do with its lack of success.

They tried getting rid of the supposed disturbers. This did no good. Either the right men were not picked out or new disturbers arose as fast as vacancies were created. Then came the thought—to hire a man who would, by his own good humor, cheerfulness, and tact "keep peace in the family."

Therefore "Cheerful Hick" was signed. He is probably the most popular ball player, among his fellows, in the business. He is always sympathetic, kind-hearted, good-natured, cheerful. He is a born optimist and a natural peacemaker.

HACK IN POOR FORM. TAKES LONG REST. LONDON, April 30.—The London Star today prints a letter from "Russian Lion" Hackenschmidt stating that he intends to cancel all engagements for five months in order to obtain a thorough rest and also to get his knee, which has been troubling him, in proper shape.

After this Hackenschmidt says he will go into strict training for wrestling matches, and will not enter the arena again unless he is in good condition. As soon as he is fit, Hack says he will seek a return match with Frank Gotch, the American, who recently conquered him.

TRACK AND DIAMOND MEN BUSY AT TOMORROW.

Both Teams Will Invade Philadelphia Next Saturday.

Tome invades Philadelphia in force next Saturday. The baseball team goes to Haverford to play the Haverford School its annual game, and the track team to meet Penn Charter in its first dual meet between these two schools.

Diamond, the freshman pitcher, was on the firing line for the home team and showed plenty of reserve speed in pinches, but showed a natural tendency to loaf on his job in the latter sessions when Georgetown had a safe lead.

Harris Weakens. Harris twirled a good game until the fourth when he weakened and let in two Georgetown runs. Sexton went out the locals managed to get three bingles off him, two of which, combined with an error and a pass, in the seventh tallied two more runs.

Agricultural and Mechanical tallied its first run in the third. Ross singled to left, Aearnthy doubled to right and scored on Farmer's high liner to first. Diamond here gave an exhibition of his clear-headedness, which won him a place on the varsity nine despite his youth and inexperience, and failed to go up in the air. The next up fanned and the visitors did not get another man across the plate until the ninth, when Diamond was again responsible by allowing four runs. But before any great damage was done he nipped the "Tar Heels' hopes of scoring in the bud.

Courtesy and Schaffy copied two hits apiece for Georgetown while MacDonald came back to his own after a day's lay-off in the last Virginia game and tugged out a three-bagger. Abernethy was the heaviest hitter for the visitors.

North Carolina Next. The local team will rest today after what is said to be one of the longest and hardest series of home games played in this city. Tomorrow North Carolina will make its initial appearance on Georgetown field this season with what is touted as one of the strongest teams in the South. While Georgetown defeated the Southerners last year, it was

TAR HEELS EASY FOR GEORGETOWN.

A. & M. Makes Valiant Fight But Is Out-classed.

Gallaudet goes to Annapolis Saturday morning to attend the annual game with St. John's College.

Dillon, the southpaw who pitched against Western Maryland, is on the sick list this week, forcing Gallaudet to rely mainly on Buck to do the twirling against St. John's.

only by the hardest kind of work, and the North Carolina school has retained most of its veterans this season, making a team which has already made good for a strong claim to the college title in the far South.

On Saturday Georgetown will play Fordham in New York. The team leaves Washington tomorrow evening.

The score yesterday: Georgetown..... 0 1 2 2 0 0 2 0 8-5 A. and M..... 0 1 0 0 0 0 2 0 3-2 Left on bases—Georgetown, 5; A. and M., 4. Bases on balls—OF Leonard, 1; Inning pitched—By Harris, 6; by Sexton, 2. Hits—OF Harris, 7; off Sexton, 2. Struck out—By Diamond, 8; by Harris, 7; by Sexton, 2. Three-base hits—McDonald, Smith. Two-base hits—Abernethy, Courtney, Thompson. Sacrifice hit—H. Smith. Stolen bases—Mess, Courtney, 2; Schaffy, Farmer, Council. Doubles—In New York to Mack; Abernethy to Fox. Wild pitches—Diamond, 2; Harris, 2. Umpire—Mr. Betts. Time of game—1 hour and 35 minutes.

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BUCK WILL TWIRL FOR GALLAUDET.

Dillon Unable to Appear in St. John's Game Tomorrow.

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Summers seemed much put out this morning because the bout did not come off. Summers is under weight and so is Sullivan. Like Summers, Sullivan has not overlooked anything in his training and the Washington lad promised to be in the finest form of the season. He thinks that he has a chance to beat the English champion, as he claims that Summers is just built for him. It is well known that Sullivan always made his best battles with men of his own style, and as Summers will be coming at him at all times, Sullivan believes that he should be able to wear him down before the limit of fifteen rounds.

McGuigan to Referee. Tonight's battle will be refereed by Jack McGuigan, the well-known Philadelphia promoter and referee, and challenges will be hurled at the winner by Paiky McFarland, Matty Baldwin Young Loughrey, Fighting Dick Hyland and other well-known boxers.

For the semi-windup, the feature of the preliminary, Kid Lenny and Young Coo are matched. Their last bout was for fifteen rounds and Lenny got the decision. McChoe has yielded for his chance at Lenny so he will be given the chance tonight. Jockey Lynch will come in from Pimlico and will be ready to meet any lightweight. He prefers Young Brit.

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