

HAPPENINGS IN THE ● ● ● ● BASE BALL WORLD

O. & P. RACE IS EXCITING

All the Teams Playing Good Ball.

MARION AND MANSFIELD

Suffered Most by Injuries to Players.

Lime Burners Have Lost Many Games by Failing to Hit the Ball at Opportune Times.

The race in the Ohio-Pennsylvania league is one of the most exciting in the history of the organization and is attracting attention throughout the entire country.

In the majority of minor leagues there are two or possibly three strong clubs that make a walkaway race after the first month of the season, and the clubs lower down do not figure in the contest at all. This year, however, with the middle of July almost at hand, Mansfield the "celler" club of the league, can by a winning streak of a comparatively few days' duration hit the top of the heap. The clubs are constantly changing and all of the dope on the final outcome seems to be of a little off color. When the Champs started out quite early in May, gained the top end and put a wide breach between it and the next club, it was predicted that during the remainder of the season Youngstown would keep right on going and would never be overhauled. The dope was bad. Youngstown got away from home and struck towns where the clubs were going right, and the result was that the touted champions of 1907 were pulled out of first place.

Newark lost a double header on the Fourth to New Castle, and then yesterday turned around and shut out the Champs in the first game of a series that is to decide first place for the time being. The Mansfield club was one of the principal helpers in pulling Youngstown from the top perch.

Nearly every club is playing a steady, consistent game. The pitchers are working well. Sharon and Marion are probably suffering more from injuries to players than any other club in the league. Both teams are pegging along, however, and a medium winning streak will place either club up among the leaders. The principal cause for many of the defeats suffered by Marion, is failure to hit at opportune times. It is seldom that the hits of the opponents seem to be more timely. The base running of the locals has been off color which has worked against them somewhat. It is a noticeable fact that if Marion is to win, the club must hold its opponents to comparatively nothing and then manage to get a couple of runs over the rubber. Tate's absence from the game has no doubt lost many games for the Marion aggregation, because the big fellow was the one member of the team who can clout the ball day after day when his men run.

A month from now, the clubs should be scattered more than at present, and the position of the clubs at the close of the season will be easier to dope out.

RAFFIS DESERTS

Billy Raffis, the clever third sacker of the Lanks, has jumped the team for good. Raffis decided to quit base ball while playing the last series at New Castle and quit the team there Wednesday evening. Elchberger played the third cushion in the double header Thursday. A new outfielder, Calhoun, played in left garden.—Lancaster Gazette.

NOTES FROM THE BASEBALL DIAMOND

Freddy Parent is playing a great game for the Boston Americans.

Indianapolis fans have a bleacher organization called the Kind Word Club. The object of the club is to put a stop to knocking and to toss kind words to the home players when they win.

"Bugs" Raymond, who has signed by the St. Louis Nationals, tried to stop an electric fan with his ungloved hand the other day and came near having his pitching arm put out of business permanently.

Five hits one day and twenty hits the next is the way the New York highlanders have been batting.

Joe Kelly and his "Canucks" have set the Toronto baseball world crazy. Great thing for "Sir Joseph" to head a winner his first year in the Eastern League.

What do you think of those Brooklyn's? has been asked more than once during the past month.

Manager Lajoie has his Cleveland team keeping great step and it looks like a hard struggle for the White Sox the remainder of the season.

The Cincinnati team has been playing fine ball of late and a good many fans believe the Reds will get into the first Division before the close of the season.

Manager McGuire of the Boston Americans should get Jimmy Barrett a cap to fit him. Jim ripped his cap up the back in order to make it stay on his head.

Pitchers Lindman and Lindermann are both members of the Boston Nationals.

The Brooklyn team as well as the Giants put an awful crimp in the Philadelphia team's pennant aspirations.

Hal Chase has slumped somewhat in his work with the other Highlanders.

Neither St. Louis team has played as good ball this season at last.

New York fans fear that the great Mathewson is becoming an "in and out." In one game Matty shows himself the old-time wonder and in the next he is batted out of the box.

The Tigers are making quite a bid for the pennant, but very few fans outside of Detroit think Jennings' men will arrive at the top in time to hoist the flag.

A St. Louis uniform is very becoming to Bill Dineen and all that is necessary now is for Bill to win a few games to make his stay in the Mound City a happy affair.

A NINTH INNING FINISH.

O Me! O Me! O My!
We needed one to tie.
With bases filled and two men killed
Up stepped the Swatting Guy.
At the plate he stood
Looked as if he could
Hit the ball and score them all
With his piece of wood.
He made a fierce swing
With his brawny wing
Thrice the dub swung his club
And didn't hit a thing.

O. & P. JULY 4 ATTENDANCE.

At Mansfield	1,800
At Marion	2,500
At Sharon	1,500
At Youngstown	3,531
At New Castle	5,900
At Akron	3,700
Total	18,931

BASEBALL CHALLENGE

The St. Mary's team would like to arrange a game with the Forest Lawn team to be played any place and time as the challenged team may designate. The Forest Lawn manager is requested to answer through the columns of the Mirror at his earliest convenience.

FAREWELL PAUL.

Paul Steinberg, gridiron warrior and base ball umpire, may be a good man when encased in the mole skins, but President Morton at last came to the conclusion that Paul's days of usefulness in the second-named occupation are at an end.

With the possible exceptions of Arlie Latham, the foot ball man's ork has caused more dissatisfaction around the circuit than that of any of the other arbitrators. Steinberg tried hard and was undoubtedly conscientious in his work, but he pulls away behind the best and misses many balls and strikes by so doing.

Now if President Morton will call Latham and replace him with a good man the staff will do fairly well. Between Steinberg and Latham it was hard to tell who was the worst.

Nefean, the Indian who is playing with the Lanks, is a graduate of the Carlisle Indian school. The big chief played on the Carlisle team for six years, taking care of first base during the greater part of that time.

Ace Stewart, the old Niles twirler, who was let out by Steubenville of the P. O. M. has been signed by Manager Tim Fleming of the East Liverpool team.

HOW FERD DRUMM WON THE COGNOMEN OF "FOXY"

Did you ever hear how Ferd Drumm had it in especially for "Doggie" Huling?
Now Tom was a pretty good man to keep around that prayer meeting corner, but those Zanesville fellows were sore. When the bunch arrived there for practice that spring old "Foxy" put Tom on the bench. He brought big Bill Miller in from left field to hold Tom's old station. Of course Bill was a failure. When the fans were sick and sore then Drumm pulled old Tom off the bench and put him at the first turn.
"Doggie" ate 'em all up. He batted like a fiend. Nothing was too good for Tom. He had the won at his feet and all them hollered when they let him go too.
"That's how the sobriet was fasten-

Could nothing be done at that crucial moment?
I prayed for the aid of some great unseen power;
When all in an instant the thought came upon me,
That I might as well be the man of the hour.

"Step forth," something whispered, "you only can do it."
"You are the man who can win this great game."
For a moment I faltered, but the still voice within me,
Said, "This is the day you win glory and fame."
Resist? That I could not; fear vanished entirely;
Like a warrior of old I forged to the front,
And cried, "Hold the ball, I come to the rescue."
"Now hand me the bat; 'tis a hitter you want."

"A hitter! A hitter!" the spectators echoed.
I bowed and gracefully stood at the plate.
In stiff-bosomed shirt and clothes latest in pattern,
A figure I made that would be hard to mate.

A protest most bitter came from our opponents;
A row seemed impending, but it daunted not I.
"Put her over," I shouted, "I'll clean off the bases;
"I'll give you good reason to go off and die!"

In short time the storm of protests subsided;
The team took its place and I at the plate;
The pitcher with movements most violent and fearful,
Shot two through the air at a marvelous rate.

"Two strikes!" yelled the umpire. The crowd groaned disapproval. I smiled, and the pitcher stepped back in his place;
Again he unwound, again it came over;
I swung, and met the ball square on the face.

That crash, and those yells! No words are availing.
To picture it all when I made that home run.
Far out o'er the fence, I saw the ball sailing;
Four crossed the plate—the game had been won.

Not a word could be heard when the ordeal was over.
When our team, dazed, dejected, from the field wandered in;
Not a man in those thousands dared think for a moment,
There was a chance in a million for our bunch to win.

But O joy, bliss and rapture! All hope had not vanished;
The other side, too, went wild in their playing;
They faltered, they weakened, they stumbled and floundered,
They booted the ball in a way most dismayng.

But still we scored not; there were three men on bases;
Two out, then a wall through that great crowd went round,
For the man at the plate never hit in his lifetime,
Was the weakest at bat to be found on the ground.

The game was all over, the rooters, downhearted,
Arose in their seats, some mad and all sad;
Their one hope, they cried, was to get them a slugger,
But alas and alack, there was none to be had.

Then, just when the thousands were pressing about me,
While cheer after cheer rang from every man's throat,
Just as they started to lift me above them,
I reeled, caught my balance—and then I awoke.
The light was quite dim, dawn was just breaking,
But there as I stood and gazed 'round the room,
I saw that instead of winning a ball game,
I had barely missed my wife's head with a broom.

"THIS DATE IN HISTORY"

- July 6.
- 1495—French defeated the Italians at Fornovo.
- 1535—Sir Thomas More died. Born Feb. 1478.
- 1630—Fifteen hundred colonists arrived at Boston Bay.
- 1706—Pierre LeMoigne, Liberville, founder of Louisiana, died.
- 1758—Lord Howe killed in ambush near Tidewater.
- 1785 Congress established the standard of the American dollar.
- 1832—Archduke Maximilian, emperor of Mexico, born.
- 1845 President requested to send an army for the protection of Texas.
- 1868—Democrats nominated Horatio Seymour for president.
- 1893 Prince of Wales married to the Princess of Victoria of Teck.
- 1899—Robert Bonner, American publisher, died. Born 1824.
- 1905—Elhu Root appointed Secretary of State.

His College Record.
"Did young Spurlough make a good record during his collegiate course?"
"No; the wind was against him."
"What's that?"
"I say he won the hundred and the twenty-two all right, but he had to do it against the wind and his time was poor."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Cotton cloth made in India is mentioned by Herodotus, B. C. 400.

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