

# DONLIN DOINGS

## THE FAMOUS PLAYER TO RETURN TO BASE BALL.

Will Quit the Theatrical Business Next Season and Resume His Old Place in the Outfield of the New York National Team.

SPECIAL TO "SPORTING LIFE."

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 3.—It can be accepted as a settled fact that the hard-hitting Mike Donlin will be back in center field for the New York Giants next season. He wired from Champaign, Ill., to a Chicago friend Saturday that he had just signed with Manager McGraw, who had come from New York armed with a fancy contract which couldn't be turned down. Signing Donlin at practically his own terms means that the New York Club is going after the championship honors next season with a vengeance. McGraw's part in the deal with Donlin also sets at rest all rumors to the effect that the aggressive little manager would be supplanted as leader of the New York Nationals.



Mike Donlin

### NEW YORK NEWS.

The Return of Mike Donlin Hailed With Pleasure—Some Team Shifts Manager McGraw, of the Giants, Has in View—Manager Griffiths Now Resting.

By Wm. F. H. Koelsch.

New York, Dec. 2.—Editor "Sporting Life."—Speculation as to the changes contemplated by Manager McGraw is the chief topic now under discussion among the local fans. As Manager Griffiths has made some very important moves affecting the Yankees it is calculated that the long expected shake-up in the ranks of the Giants is about due. The first move was the signing of Mike Donlin for next year, followed by the announcement that the hard-hitting outfielder would also be field captain next year. It seems that Secretary Fred Knowles journeyed to Chicago as the diplomatic representative of President Brush to talk matters over with Mr. Donlin. Nothing was said for publication as to the salary agreed upon, but that was amicably adjusted by Knowles and the big outfielder signed for next year. It is also said that a non-alcoholic clause was inserted in the contract entered into between player and club. It embraces a promise to keep in good shape, refrain from the use of intoxicants, and to make the training trip to Texas. If Mr. Donlin lives up to all these conditions his salary will be forthcoming and the team will be materially aided in its endeavor to regain its lost laurels. The friends of



J. J. McGraw

ROGER BRESNAHAN will, of course, regard the selection of Donlin as captain as a reflection upon the Toledo detective. All hands seem to agree, however, that McGraw was not a success as captain. He made his protest generally at the wrong time, using poor judgment by kicking when his team was out in front and often picking out the most infinitesimal issue to kick on. As a result of this shortsighted policy he incurred the ill will of the umpires who often disregarded his protest when his team had a real grievance. While Donlin, like Bresnahan, is regarded as a strenuous individual he is depended upon to use better judgment as a field captain than his predecessor displayed last year. One protest at the proper time is worth more than a dozen ill-timed kicks. The general impression is that Donlin, being a brilliant player, will not have to cover up any mistakes in play by beefing at the umpires. Fred Knowles commented on the signing of Donlin as follows: "In my opinion Donlin will greatly strengthen the team. Two years ago he saved us at least a dozen games with his timely hitting in the last inning. At any rate, he's more certain of making good than any colt we might pick or any man we have a chance to get through a trade." Regarding Bresnahan Knowles said that the club has no intention of letting him go to become manager of the Cincinnati Reds. He also expressed the opinion that Bresnahan had no desire to leave the team despite some differences the great backstop had with McGraw last season.

### REDS MAY GET BROWNE.

The contention of the Cincinnati writers that George Browne will wear Red togs next season sounds quite plausible inasmuch as the make-up of McGraw's outfield next year will consist of Shannon, Seymour and Donlin, according to all indications. That Browne will figure in some deal is generally accepted as a fact here. The club does not want cash for its players and there is some guessing as to what Cincinnati player McGraw is gunning for. Of course, Miller Huggins would fill in nicely for the Giants, but it would take more than McGraw would perhaps be willing to give to land the Reds' second baseman. Outfielder Paskert, the Reds' Atlanta recruit, has been mentioned in connection with the deal for Browne. Paskert made a promising, showing with

the Southern League champions last season. Rumors of some

### TRADING WITH ST. LOUIS

are still in the air and Manager McGraw is said to fancy these men: Arthur Hostetter, infielder; Pete Noonan, catcher; Murray, outfielder, and Fred Beebe and Karger, pitchers. As Billy Gilbert is carded to play second base for McCloskey's men it is believed that McGraw has a chance to get Hostetter. He hit only .247 last season, but that was as a St. Louis player it must be remembered. Despite all that has been said about Larry Doyle being the regular second baseman there is a decided feeling here that McGraw will not depend upon Doyle entirely and hence the belief that a second baseman may come as a result of one of the many deals said to be under way. It seems that Manager

### GRIFFITH IS RESTING

after his strenuous work in connection with the deals he made a few weeks ago. It seems that the Old Fox made a gallant effort to get Bradley, of the Cleveland Club, and carried on negotiations with Manager Lajoie. The Frenchman, however, balked, and now the Cleveland Club announces that Bradley will not be on the market. Just what kind of a proposition Griffith framed up in his endeavor to annex Bradley has not been divulged. Whatever it was it evidently had Larry guessing for awhile. A group of fans, all members of the Hot

Bill Dahlen is wintering quietly in Brooklyn and the rumors of his probable trade did not affect his appetite for roast turkey so we are told.

The Metropolitan Cafe, at 65th street and Columbus avenue, in the heart of what is now the "New Tenderloin," which is run by Billy Gilbert and his partner, Livingston, promises to take the place of Nick Engle's famous "Home Plate" Cafe.

### BURKE DEAD.

A Once-Famous National League Player Spent His Last Days and Passes Away in a Charity Hospital.

Utica, N. Y., Nov. 26.—Eddie Burke, the old left fielder of the New York Giants, died a charity patient in the City Hospital here today. In his time he was rated as among the best outfielders in the game, and is still remembered for his wonderful work in the sun field at the Polo Grounds in New York. In the past five or six years he has been going steadily backward. He was improvident and dissipated, and shifted about to various sections of the country. Later he was employed as a cook in a section gang on the New York Central Railroad, but he had so undermined his constitution that it was not long before he became so ill that he was sent to the City Hospital here to meet

their quest for efficient managers and to assist managers in securing positions, also young managers who are ambitious to elevate themselves to the position of manager in minor league clubs. It is not Mr. White's intention to do any actual hiring, but simply to act as a sort of "Clearing House" between clubs and prospective managers and to bring clubs and handlers of players into closer relations with each other. Mr. White solicits correspondence from base ball club owners, also managers and players, who should file with him a complete statement showing their complete experience as managers and players, and they will be placed in communication with clubs who are anxious to secure competent managers. Address all communications to Charles D. White, 126 Nassau St., New York City, care A. G. Spalding & Bros.

### NEW YORK LEAGUE.

The Syracuse Club's Manager, "Sandy" Griffin Already Has the Nucleus For a Strong 1908 Team.

By Mike Kelley.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 2.—Editor "Sporting Life."—Manager Griffin, of the Syracuse Stars, announces that he has secured five men of especial promise for the coming season, including two pitchers and three fielders. The players who have been signed are outfielders Preston and Hillinger, of the Tecumseh South Michigan League team; shortstop Clyde Waves, of Zanesville, O., and pitchers George Hollis and Ralph Works, of the Medicine Hat team in the Canadian League. These players will come highly recommended by competent judges of ball players who had an opportunity to watch their work last season.



T. C. Griffin

### MANAGER GRIFFIN

who makes his home in Fayetteville, N. Y., has been in constant communication since the close of the past season with a couple of well known players and their signatures to a Syracuse contract would be the most pleasing news the base ball loving public in this city has heard in a long time. Nick Carter, the Syracuse pitcher drafted by Connie Mack, was in the opinion of every team manager in this circuit the best pitcher in the New York State League.

### THE SYRACUSE COLONY.

of ball players boasts of quite a membership this winter, the following well known players being now in this city: Frank Schulte, Geo. Wiltsie, Billy Dineen, Billy O'Brien, Lew Carr, Jerry Hurley, Jack Fifield, "Dick" Trainor, Geo. Therre, Geo. Villeman, Jim Welsh, Jim Daly, Billy Dunn, Billy Stroh, Laurie Barry, Frank Shulte, of the champion "Cubs," is spending the winter in this city and is enjoying himself testing the speed of his new race horse that he purchased after the world's series.

### News Notes.

The Utica Club Directors have declared a dividend of 20 per cent. out of last season's profits. It is reported that Manager Billy Clymer, of the Columbus Club, is figuring to purchase the Scranton Club. Manager Dooley, of Utica, has signed an outfielder named Coyle, late of the Connecticut League. Captain Bill Coughlin, of the Detroit Club, has not abandoned all notion of purchasing the Scranton Club, but he does not intend to buy unless Ashenback or some other good man goes into the deal with him.

### A REAL SCHOOL

For Development of Ball Players Is a New York Fixture—Many Players of Note Turned Out.

New York, Dec. 2.—Editor "Sporting Life."—John J. McGrath, the well known local promoter of sporting enterprises, has a real school for ball players in actual and successful existence. In conjunction with Roderick McMahon he runs two local base ball parks—One at 136th and 137th streets, the other at 5th and Madison avenues—on which half a dozen local semi-pro. teams play regularly. Over these McGrath keeps a watchful eye, picks out players of ability and secures for them positions on independent and minor league teams. Here is a list of successful players who owe their start to McGrath:

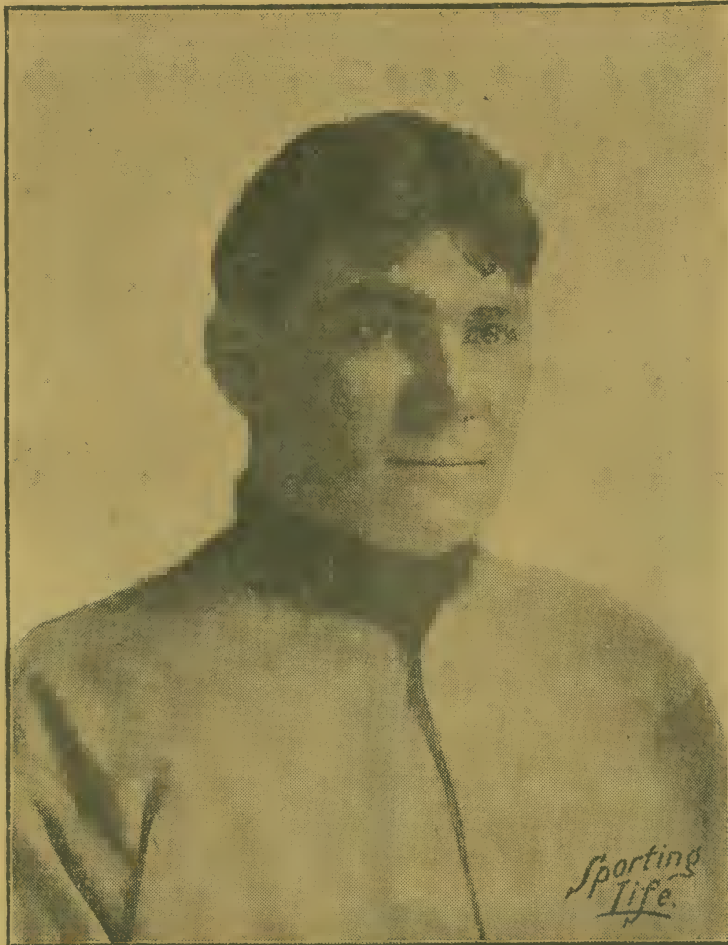
With major clubs—Oldring, Montgomery, Ala. 1905. Athletics 1906. Murray, Notre Dame College 1905. St. Louis N. 1906. Zimmerman, Red Hook 1906. Wilkesboro 1906-07. Chicago Cubs 1907. With minor clubs—Pepe, Macon 1906. Montgomery 1907. Barry, A.-J.-G. 1907. Poole, Johnstown 1907. Clarke, Montreal 1907. Batchford, Memphis 1907. Harrison, Macon 1907. Fallon, Hartford 1907.

Mr. McGrath writes that for the 1908 season he will send out more and better young players than ever before, owing to previous success and the great demand for rising youngsters.

### EARLE ELIGIBLE.

Will Give Up Scottdale Franchise and Resume Managing.

Fairmont, W. Va., Dec. 3.—Editor "Sporting Life."—The Western Pennsylvania League is a thing of the past. The local club is willing to resume business, but it is the only one with that pluck. All of the other clubs lost more or less heavily for two reasons, namely, too much bad weather and too many little towns in the circuit. Billy Earle, the owner of the Scottdale franchise, is among those who have quit for good. He is now working here as a miller, but is open to engagement for next season as playing-manager and points with pride to his managerial record of five champion and five second-place clubs. He can be addressed at the Marietta Hotel, this city. Of his players of last season Evans goes to New York, Powell to Washington, and Ralston and Miller to Cincinnati.



LAWRENCE DOYLE, Infielder of the New York National League Club.

Lawrence Doyle is a newcomer on the New York National League team. He was purchased from the Springfield Club, of the I. I. League in July for \$4500—the highest sum ever paid for a player in that minor league class. Doyle is a very young player, having seen but two years of professional service. He was born at Caseyville, Ill., July 31, 1886. In his youth he was a coal miner in Illinois for several years. In 1905 he started his professional base ball career with the Maton Club, of the K. I. T. League. In 1906 he played with the Springfield Club, of the I. I. League and developed rapidly. This season his work was the sensation of the league, his fielding being wonderful and his batting hard and timely, he going at a .325 clip all season. His work was so fine that a number of major league scouts tabbed him for major league acquisition. Many offers were made for Doyle's release, but the Springfield management refused to sell. Manager McGraw sent Dan (Brothers) the veteran ball player, to watch Doyle at work. Brothers was so impressed with the youngster's playing that he recommended purchasing his release. The Springfield set the purchase price at \$4500 and the New York Club paid the money.

Stove League, were discussing the needs of a quick-thinking backstop for the Yankees. The result of the confab was that the management could do worse than secure

### EDDIE McFARLAND,

of the White Sox. The probable effect of the Great White Way on Comiskey's catcher was also mentioned, but it was suggested that with an iron-clad non-alcoholic clause in his contract the hard-hitting catcher might be able to defeat Old Temptation even in New York. Certain it is that the Yankees need a catcher of the right sort. While many regard the new man, Blair, as a promising performer, still the very fact that this minor league recruit showed us how weak we really were behind the bat seems to indicate plainly that more real strength is needed in the Yankee's catching department.

### MISCELLANY.

McGinnity and Bowerman are the men the St. Louis Club are gunning for in the trading market. That McCloskey has more than a fair chance to get the "Iron Man" is the belief here.

The death of Eddie Burke recalled the hold the little left fielder had on the bleacherites when he played the sun field on the Polo Grounds. The quarter seats were then in left field and looked like a huge jury box, and so popular was the little left fielder that the section was known as "Burkeville" long after he left New York.

his end. At the time of his death Burke was only 43 years of age.

(Edward Burke, whose death is noted above, was in his time a very able ball player, who was his own worst enemy owing to his dissipated habits. He was a brilliant fielder, good batsman and clever base runner. He was an aggressive player of the kind New Yorkers are particularly fond of, and for years was a popular idol with the New York bleachers and the left field section on the Polo Grounds was known as "Burkeville" in his honor. Burke was born at Northumberland, Pa., October 6, 1866. He made his professional debut with the Scranton Club, of the International Association in 1887. In 1888-89 he played with Toronto. In 1890 with Pittsburgh and Philadelphia Nationals. In 1891 with Milwaukee. In 1892 he began with Cincinnati and finished with New York. He played with the latter until 1902 when he returned to Cincinnati, from there went to Louisville and then dropped out of the game.—Editor "Sporting Life.")

### WHITE'S SCHEME.

To Enable Clubs Needing Managers and Managers Looking For Positions to Get in Touch With Each Other.

A long-felt want in the base ball world has just been established by Charles D. White, an old-time patron of the game and whose acquaintance with the club owners, managers and players is not exceeded by any other man identified with the national game in this country. The new departure is a scheme to aid base ball club owners in