



## HUB HAPPENINGS.

**A YOUNG PITCHER WITH A CREDITABLE RECORD SIGNED.**

**A Chat With Captain Nash—Progress of Events in the New England League—No Trade For Collins Possible—Spokes From the Hub.**

Boston, March 12.—Editor "Sporting Life."—One by one the boys are sending in their contracts. The contracts received last week were those of William Yerrick and James Sullivan. Nichols has not yet signed his contract, but there is not the least doubt he will be in line all right. Willie Mains is not satisfied. He won't sign until he comes on here and has a talk with the general. Willie claims he is not getting any more money than he was getting in Maine. It would be bad policy to expect the player to pitch League ball for minor league salary. At the same time there is no doubt Willie is a little exorbitant in his demands in what he wants. A compromise would be about the proper thing, and it would be surprising if this were not brought about.

**NOT A GREEN HAND.**

Yerrick has had considerable experience for a "kid." He was born in Danville, Pa., 22 years ago; is 5ft. 12 1/2 in. in height and weighs 153 lbs. He began his base ball career in 1890 in Berwick, Pa., playing second base with an amateur team, and in '91 and '92 pitched for that club. In 1893 he was with the Bloomsburg (Pa.) Club, and in 1894 he played with the Lock Havens. In 1895 he pitched for the Salem Club of the New England Association, and was regarded by many as the best pitcher in the organization. After the Salem Club was transferred to Haverhill, when the League disbanded, Yerrick went to Portland, of the New England League, and there showed up finely. The Bostons gave him a trial in a game in Washington, and he won it handily. On the strength of that fine performance he was drafted by the Boston Club from Portland. Yerrick's work certainly has been of such a nature as to prestage a good record for the Boston Club.

A Newcastle (Pa.) paper has it that "Bobby" Lowe has been offered the management and ownership of the club in that city. It is proposed to raise \$3000 for him and give the grounds rent free. This is certainly a very good offer, but "Bobby" will undoubtedly be back again in his old place.

**"BILLY" NASIE**

arrived in Boston on Thursday of last week, and is here for a stay of ten days. He is reconciled to the deal which places him in Philadelphia, but said he did not consider it proper treatment that the Boston people, with whom he had been associated for so many seasons, had not even wired him of what had been done, and asked if the change would be congenial to him. Nash had no inkling at all that he would be transferred to Philadelphia. He had had a talk with Manager Selee before he left for California, and said he would not be averse to a deal that took him to New York, but he never dreamed of being assigned to Philadelphia. He said he was pleased with the idea of going to Philadelphia, because he thought the people there wanted him. He spoke highly of Colonel Rogers and the talk he had with him previous to coming to Boston. He said the Philadelphia grounds, when completed, would beat anything he ever saw. The last four weeks before leaving Boston Nash put in in Los Angeles, Cal., and it must have done him a world of good, for he never looked better in his life than he does at present. "Billy" said he could not tell who would play short stop for his club this year, but he was well posted on the man who was to be on third.

Nash said it was not at all certain he would make his home in Philadelphia, as he was so well acquainted in this city, and he may conclude to keep his permanent residence here. Naturally it would be no easy matter to break up here, and especially to sever the many friendships that have been formed. Nash certainly has the best wishes of everybody for his success in Philadelphia. As a veteran put it, "Next to Hughey Duffy, Billy Nash."

**IN NEW ENGLAND CIRCLES**

matters are moving briskly toward the opening of the season. Augusta has at last secured a manager out of the many applicants in the person of W. C. Herrington, of Sharon, Pa., who had a team in the Iron and Oil League last season. It is expected that he will bring with him some players who made successes in that locality. Mr. Herrington will find that Augusta has ready for him some very fast material, and the post should be an easy one for a man who knows base ball. In Brockton Manager Burnham is building up a fast team. He will have a great outfield in Nadeau, Willis and "Nick" Wise, especially in batting. There was some talk about both Willis and Wise going elsewhere, but Burnham concluded to retain both men. Many will miss their mark if they do not think George Wheeler, of the Bangors, is not going to be a comer. He has gained in size and weight until he is rapidly assuming the dimensions of a Rusie. Big things are expected of the Portland Club, and from all accounts it should be a "cocker." He has some very fast men, indeed. Duffy speaks highly of Cavanaugh, of Louisville, a short stop. He played in Virginia last spring, when the Bostons were there. Leonard has also landed a good man in young Hugh Kearne, of Troy, a rattling catcher, who is a great base runner. Fall River will have a trio of veteran pitchers—Klobedanz, Lincoln and Stevens—and they are first-class men. New Bedford has not materialized very rapidly, but Fred Doe will not

allow the grass to grow under his feet after he once gets started. Garry, the Lewiston man, claims he won't be lost in the shuffle, and is ready for the fray with one of the best teams that ever represented his city. The change of Garry from Portland to Lewiston was a good thing for both clubs, and the rivalry will be bigger than ever.

**SPOKES FROM THE HUB.**

Suppose Harry Stovey had listened to the pleadings of "Bill" McGunnigle in 1890 and accepted the offer of \$15,000 for a three year contract to go to Brooklyn, \$2000 in advance. His subsequent career might have entirely changed. He would have had a "cinch" for three years, at any rate, as "Gus" Abell's word is as good as his bond.

Manager Frank J. Leonard, of the Portlands, has been making his office in Brockton of late, and is a very busy man, and will be up the time the bell rings.

Manager Selee was one of the guests at a "Dutch" supper given to Herman Long in Woburn last Tuesday. "You can't beat the Dutch," says Herman.

Managers Marston and Selee have closed on April 29 as the date the Bostons will play the New England League champions in Fall River.

I am with you, Batesy. The penny-wise, pound-foolish policy of the present umpire system in the League will recoil with a vengeance long before the season has reached its meridian.

The case of "Pat" Rollins, who was reserved by the Fall River Club and signed with Portsmouth, has been left in the hands of Chairman Young. Manager Marston, of the Fall River Club, says that he has every claim in the world on the player and there is no avenue for his escape.

To satisfy Mr. Saunders, of Louisville, and others, it can be said that Manager Frank G. Selee, of the Boston Club, has absolutely and emphatically no ideas about making any trade for "Jimmy" Collins, and that \$7500 would not buy his release. Both President Soden and Manager Selee are in accord with this—that Collins will play third for Boston. Again, Collins is perfectly willing to come here, and the terms will be made satisfactory to him, and if he is hoping that a deal will be effected which will fetch him back to Louisville it is news here and doubtless to "Jim."

Don't believe all you hear about President Murnane, of the New England League, going to that Washington minor league meeting with blood in his eye. He is not going to take chances of getting his people into trouble, but he will have something to say.

William J. Wiley has bought five shares of the Fall River Base Ball Association stock formerly held by Michael McDermott.

Tommy Niland, of Lynn, Latham's protege, is one of the brightest-looking and best-dressed boys in the base ball country, and if he can put up a game as well as he can look it he will be a jewel. Anyhow, Tommy, put in your best ticks. J. G. MORSE.

**MERRY MILWAUKEE.**

**Pleased With Her Team and Killilea's Methods.**

Milwaukee, March 10.—Now that all the work of selecting a team is over and the timber composing it is satisfactory, President Killilea is resting easy. All doubt concerning the signing of players has been removed. The line-up of the club will be as follows:

Milwaukee—Spear, catcher; Baker, Rettger, Barnes, Stephens, Nonnamaker, Jones, pitchers; Stafford, first base; Taylor and Sharpe, second base; Hartman, third base; Mrzena and Welterer, short stops; Weaver, left field; Nicol, centre field; Twitchell right field.

Riley and Wolf who played in the City League last year, will be given a trial with other green men, who have applied to Manager Twitchell. The usual weeding-out process will of course be indulged in before the opening of the season.

**KILLILEA PLEASSED.**

President Killilea in speaking about the recent Western League legislation said: "The changes made in the constitution, I think, will prove beneficial. I am particularly pleased over the advancement of my sinking fund project. At first it was bitterly opposed, Manning leading in decrying it. We talked it over and viewed the matter from all sides, and finally instead of the manager's depositing the full amount of draft money for a player in the league's treasury, we compromised on \$200. That will be almost half the sum which the National League will pay us for players next year. This is only the entering wedge, however. The plan will be pushed next year. By that time I am of the opinion that the other managers will appreciate the importance of the measure and will vote to turn over the full amount received for drafted men. The more they study over the matter, I think, the more they will appreciate the advantage and importance of it."

**A BIT OF ECONOMY.**

In respect to economy in railroad experience the Milwaukee Base Ball team is benefited materially by the present year's schedule. During 1895 the club covered 10,336 miles. This year, according to Manager Twitchell's figures, the club will travel only 7891, a saving of 2445 miles. This will result in the saving of several dollars to the owners of the organization and a pleasure to the players, who are by no means in love with railroad traveling.

**FRANKLIN'S FOOLISH FEAR**

**That the Big League Would Invade His Precious City.**

Buffalo, N. Y., March 10.—The threatened break of minor league clubs from the National Agreement is creating considerable interest in base ball circles here. Alderman Franklin returned from the schedule meeting of the Eastern League well satisfied with the allotment of dates assigned to his club, and is more than satisfied with the final stand taken by the League with regard to sending a delegate to the meeting of the minor leagues at Washington on March 16.

Mr. Franklin had little to say on the subject of the meeting, but to a man up a tree it is easy guessing why the Buffalo man did not want to get into a tilt with the National League. As a matter of fact, a falling out with the major association would jeopardize his Buffalo franchise. The big League has been casting an eye in Buffalo's direction for the past two or three years, and it is well known that a number of local citizens stand ready to put up a good figure for a National League franchise, if it could be secured without having to buy out Mr. Franklin's rights in the matter.

With the Eastern League outside the pale of the protection of the National Agreement, Mr. Franklin would have no rights as far as the National Board was concerned, and would probably have to compete with a National League Club for the Buffalo patronage within another year.

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**PROUD PORTSMOUTH.**

**Satisfied That Her Team Will Throw Down Norfolk.**

Portsmouth, Va., March 11.—Editor "Sporting Life."—The "fans" here haven't the ghost of a reason for agitating their nether limbs footballically against the team which Lefty Marr has selected to represent this burg in the Virginia State League this year.

Marr, Brandt, Heilman and Pat Rollins have already put in an appearance and begun to loosen themselves up in the beautiful spring weather we are having. The showing they make is strawberries and cream to the "fans" who have been out to see them, and while Manager Marr is not saying anything about what he will do with the men behind him, preferring to let actions speak for him and his men, it is very evident that the team, if judged from the men already on the field, is going to be exceptionally fast.

Edgar Leach, one of our last year's pitchers, and conceded to be one of the best ever in the League, has been signed this week, his release from the Giants having been arranged by your humble servant, Eddie paying back the advance Freedman made him last season to come on to New York for trial. In addition a promising young pitcher from the West is coming on trial which brings the pitching staff up to seven.

As the team now stands the knights of the ash for Portsmouth will be as follows: Pat Rollins and Paul Jones, catchers; pitchers, Leach, Brandt, Hallman, McNamara, Odwell, White and Glenn; first base, Marr; second base, Joe Bloman; third base, Joseph Burke; left field, W. C. Hall; centrefield, W. Ilargove; right field, William Vought.

In comparison with Manager McFarlan's Braves these men will show up most favorably and I don't desire to detract from the make-up of our rivals, either. We are going to have a harder time with our hated rivals the early part of this season than we had last year, and we are all expecting and hoping for the sake of the game that this may be so, but the ultimate result and the "Truckers'" position at the end of the first half we are confident will be with Norfolk behind us.

The schedule builders treated Portsmouth nicely, and we are not at all displeased at the way they have arranged our comings and goings. Norfolk may have thought they got the best of it; but we don't see it. They play only 65 games at home, while we have 70. This alone is most acceptable to the fans.

The improvements at the grounds under the direction of Manager Marr are marked and evidence a knowledge on his part of what is needed for the comfort of his men, the public and particularly of the press, who are to have a box this year on top of the grand stand. Having been given carte blanche by his liberal and public-spirited employers, Messrs. Maynard and Watson, he is not hampered on all sides

Deep meditation racks the brain  
Of many a man of learning,  
To write up ads to catch the eye  
It oftimes sets him squirming.

Yet still there are some ads to write,  
That always are inviting,  
In which I take supreme delight  
Whenever I'm inditing.

And one of these is Yucatan,  
A safe and certain winner.  
If you're dyspeptic buy a pack,  
And chew it after dinner.

by the need of money for the necessary improvements.

Our first exhibition game will be with Ted Sullivan's "Steers" on March 28, 30 and 31; April 2, with the Phillies; April 4, with the Phillies; April 4, with the Bijos, of Baltimore; April 7, Boston; April 9, Baltimore; April 10, the team go to Washington to play His Whiskers' Senatorial aspirants for the National League pennant on the 11th. On the 13th we play Brooklyn again on the home grounds, and on the 15th the University of Maryland.

The next day war will be declared between Norfolk and Portsmouth, and the Portsmouth sports who have been spending the winter days on the streets of Norfolk will be handed their passports. BAT N. BALL.

**ELLIS LOSES PLAYERS.**

**National Board Awards the Toledo Outfit to Pittsburg.**

Grand Rapids, Mich., March 10.—Deacon Ellis received a telegram from President Johnson, of the Western League, to-day that the National Board had awarded the Toledo players to Pittsburg, and advising him to make the best terms possible with Pittsburg if he wanted the players.

The League had to guarantee Ellis to pay him at the season's end if he was not kept in the League, for all the players he purchased of Toledo. Johnson, to provide for the possible contingency, refused to allow the \$2000 sale of Toledo to Pittsburg to stand, and tried to get the players into the Deacon's fold for nothing, but his scheme failed to work.

Ellis will endeavor to rescue Nops and Hughey from Pittsburg, but is not very particular about Connors, Reach and Outcault, as he has lined out for other players equally as good or better.