BASE BALL.

AUSTRALIAN NEWS.

OUR GAME GROWING STEADILY IN POPULAR FAVOR.

The Outlook For Next Season Bright --- Intercolonial Matches Arranged---The Present Pennant Race, Etc.

MELBOURNE, July 8.—Editor SPORTING LIFE:—The season in Victoria is now drawing to a close, and at the present time it promises to be an exciting one, as the following table of the Victorian League will show: Played. Wou, Lost. To Flay.

In Adelaide and Broken Hill the game is more popular than here, but our not having a ground to play on in the summer hindered us somewhat here. But they also play a much better game in Victoria, and the score usually runs as follows:—12-9, 9-7, 10-2, etc. A meeting of the Victorian Base Ball League was held last night (Monday, July 7) with the secretary of the South Australian Base Ball League present and a series of intercolonial matches was arranged between the two colonies, the South Australian team to play in Melbourne Jan. 1, 2 and 3, and the Victorian team playing in Adelaide at Easter time. Aside from these games there will be Tasmania and Broken Hill teams to meet, which, together with the regular League matches, will make a very interesting season for us.

MORE EXTENDED MENTION.

MORE EXTENDED MENTION.

American "Crowds" Totally Eclipsed by Australian Gatherings—What the Future Has in Store For Our Hapless Yankees -A Suggestion to American Foot Ball

Players, Etc.

MELBOURNE, July 5.—Editor Sporting Life:—In your issue of May 3, on the front page you have a special from New York, dated May 2, which says:—"On Friday (May 9) next the New York and Boston Players' League teams play their first game in this city, and the occasion will be a memorable one, as there will be seen the largest gathering ever at a ball game in this or any other country. There can be no doubt of this, as the admission is to be practically free." The special then goes on to say that this will come about owing to the New York World (5c.) giving a coupon of admission to the game to whoever bought the paper on Sunday. Curious to see what this number would be, especially as I thought your correspondent was

erowd paid a bona fide admission fee and saw the base ball match. Melbourne calls New

Now let me tell you without the least bit of exaggeration or boasting that we here reckon 20,000 at a foot ball match a fair attendance, and this too when half a dozen big foot ball matches are being played on as many different grounds. I reckon Melbourne will have been playing grounds 100 000 to foot ball matches are being played on as many different grounds. I reckon Melbourne will turn into her playing grounds 100,000 to 125,000 people every Saturday, and as all this winter the Victoria League have been playing their base ball pennant matches in front of the foot ball matches, only leaving off playing base ball when the bell was rung "time" for the foot ballers to enter the arena, you can see what we are doing to introduce the game. True, these crowds do not attend the cricket matches, and, therefore, when base ball supplants cricket and becomes the furore here as it is in America don't you see that we are going to "go you several better" in base ball as we do in other athletic sports. "The national bird" of Australia can make big leaps, remember, and is going to come out right on top in athletics everypop. And you Americans can paste this in your hats to remember. I'm going to live (if I am not cut down early) to see Australia beat you for the world's base ball championship, yet, and one of these days I'm coming over to the States to collect a sufficient quantity of new hats, or a whole wardrobe for that matter, right on that statement. Call 25,000 a big crowd! In the vernacular, "Wot are you a givin' us?"

SIMPSON'S IMPORTANT MISSION.

But now I'll tell you. It is not unlikely

simpson's important Mission.

But now I'll tell you. It is not unlikely Mr. H. H. Simpson may sail in the steamer following the one that carries, this letter for the States on a business trip, He will probably, however, stop over at Honoldiu. Mr. bly, however, stop over at thonolulu. Mr. Simpson may come out also commissioned to talk business with your foot ball clubs—and if you have got any gilt-edged, one hundred cents to the dollar, foot ball players in that great country of yours, "which is bounded on the north by the aurora borealis, on the south by the Southern cross, on the east by the rising sun and the west by eternity," and these players think they know how to play the rising sun and the west by eternity," and these players think they know how to play foot-ball—if they will come over here we will give them all the games they want, with figures such as I have quoted. That is, provided they can play foot ball, but if we can run through them as we can all the rest of the world, they will get one good gate, say 25,000 to 30,000, and then only—nothing. If they can lick us or hold their own fairly well, then there is as much wealth here for them in gates as there will be when we send you a

there is as much wealth here for them in gates as there will be when we send you a base ball team that will make Anson feel sick and take all the chipper out of Ward.

BASE BALL GROWING.

As to base ball here—well its going on steadily day by day, winning approval, but I must confess that "The Old Land" and "Our Kin Across the Sea," have eclipsed us entirely. This is sad when we remember how brilliant at one time the prospect here looked. Still we are not losing ground. The policy, I have before alluded to, of playing the pennant matches previous to foot ball matches, is initiating the people into the mysteries of base ball, and what is more they are catching on, and as they grow to understand it they come again. The thousands who come to see foot ball get a base ball match thrown in, foot ball get a base ball match thrown in, and when they get to understand what it is all about they begin to applaud and good plays now begin to evoke ringing cheers from \$2.25, three months for \$1.25.

these foot ball crowds. There is now, I am pleased to be able to say, every likelihood of our having a base ball "park" for next summer's games. Nothing definite is yet fixed, but it premises to be

mer's games. Nothing definite is yet fixed, but it promises to be.

A SUGGESTION TO FOOT BAILERS.

Last Wednesday's Sportsman contains an article addressed to the foot ball association, advocating steps being taken to bring about a series of foot ball matches between America and Australia. Time will tell how it will be taken up, and in my next I may be able to give you distinct news on this matter. The foot ball season begins here on May 1, and closes at the end of September, and, excepting a few odd days when there is heavy rains, play can be done every day (barring Sundays) between these dates if desired. We have no snow or ice in winter here except on the hills and high tablelands, and little or no frost. Wet is the only thing that stops games, and the wet here is not of the day in and day out sort, but consists of copious showers at intervals of days or weeks. The average winter is bright, sunny and clear with occasional wet days, and most of the showers come during the night. Your foot ballers could be home to play the latter end of your Indian summer and early November, and they could play in March in the States. Their idle time would be during the hard weather you have in winter, that is all. This ought to be good business.

DRIFTWOOD.

Will you or your New Hayen correspond-

Will you or your New Haven correspondent, or Mr. Chadwick, tell me why the run does not count, as supposed by your New Haven correspondent, in his letter of April 30, in your issue of May 3, on page 3, fourth column?

30, in your issue of May 3, on page 3, fourth column?

Some time ago, before the present Australian eleven sailed for England, I suggested to them to take base ball material along, and during the voyage study the game so that they could adopt the admirable suggestion of your correspondent in England, "Viator," and play a series of games at base ball on their unengaged days, and I printed "Viator's" letter which dealt with the point. The suggestion was, however, ignored, and now the Australian team is "in the soup" with cricket, and doubtless think it might have been just as well not to be so very superior to an outside suggestion. Men are said to learn wisdom by experience. Let us hope they will.

FROM KALAKAU'S DOMAIN.

The Championship Race of the Hawali League-The Closing Games-The Record,

The Pittsburg Press editorially calls attention to a decidedly reprehensible practice in connection with the gathering and dissemination of base ball news. It well says:

"The evil of the present hour in base ball circles seems to be, not only on the part of magnates, but players generally, a rashness to jump at conclusions. Too much talk is circumnavigating the realm of the national game. Within 48 hours possibly the most important rumor has been regarding the selling out of four of the prominent members of the New York Players' League Club to Day, Spalding, Anson, et al. prominent members of the New York Players' League Club to Day, Spalding, Anson, et al. Talk on the subject is so bewildering that it is practically worthless. We are informed early Saturday that Ewing vehemently declared there was not an atom of truth in it, and he was determined to live or die, professionally, with the Brotherhood. Toward the late hours of Sunday morning advices from the East stated that Buck was acting strangely—had suddonly become non-committal—and latter on could not be found. Anson yesterday insinuated that there was a great deal more in the situation in question than had been dreamed of in the philosophy of some sanguine moguls of the Players' League. Result—talk; nothing definite.

"Another illustration of the jumping at con-

"Another illustration of the jumping at conclusion business is found in connection with Ted Sullivan, manager (or supposed to be) of the Washingtons. Since Saturday night it may be found that 'Ted Sullivan will try and hold the Washington team together and keep it in the Atlantic Association; 'Sullivan, surnamed Ted, is thinking of reappearing on the diamond again, having recently been tendered some good offers;' 'Ted Sullivan is hustling for players for the Pittsburg National League team, and will likely manage O'Neill's Own.' Not so bad for Ted, as a newipaper record inside of 24 hours, and although Anson declared yesterday evening that Sullivan had arrived in the city with Philips and another pitcher for the Pittsburg League Club, a tour of the hotels failed to materialize the gentleman in question. Indications, however, point to the probability that the gyrating Teddy is firting with O'Neill's Own in this immediate violnity. Saturday morning Viau, the handsome collegiate gentleman released by the mediate violnity. Saturday morning Viau, the handsome collegiate gentleman released by the the Pittsburgs. Since that time we learn that he is to play in six different clubs, nearly every base ball association in the universe, excepting Barr's English and the Australians. Still no

orner in the talk market.

"This morning, from Cincinnatl, we learn that Latham has caught the town; that a decided opposition previals against him because he was promoted to the captaincy over the heads of some of the old-time Red Stocking favorites; that the players are all broken up because they have lost the action Ariba: that the Players. the active Arlie; that the Players' were glad to get rid of the clown. All talk. The public are confused. They are in a sensitive mood on the subject of base ball. It has been noticeable of been lacking from the presidents and secreta-taries of the respective leagues. Why can't these gentleman officially take cognizance, promptly, of such important subjects and ease the public mind, otherwise conditions will drift into such a shape that there will be no public mind to ease.

A FLAG FOR BROOKLYN.

Possibly Two, But at All Events Both of the Church City Clubs Are Hot After the Pennants and Have Hopes of Get-ting There—What is Thought and Said of Their Chances—General Talk of the

Players.

BROOKLYN, Aug. 14.—Editor SPORTING
LIFE:—Guessing on the compromise fad is so
much like hard work that the philosophical
have taken to counting chances on the pennants. Babe Anson is largely responsible for
the latest freak, through his recent break regarding Brooklyn's probable standing at the
finish. That six feet of blonde Western nonentity for some reason or other can see pathgarding Brooklyn's probable standing at the finish. That six feet of blonde Western nonentity, for some reason or other, can see nothing good in the City of Churches—possibly Spalding won't permit him—but be that as it may, he talked about how easily Chicago could get away with Byrne's men until he suddenly dropped to the fact that the public was giving him up as a hopeless case of paresis, and then he took another tack. All the time he was doing his wind-jamming he and his club were being rolled in the mire of defeat by the Brooklyn men, and when they got deep enough into the mud to feel it, Anse—that is one of his pet appellations—got to talking about the pennant. According to his calculations the Bridegrooms would not be in it. Boston was his favorite. Why, he could not exactly say, except that Brooklyn's pitching department was not up to par—that is Anson's par. Terry, he discovered, was a great man, great indeed, but the support given him was not near high water, and in consequence the handsome twirler's efforts were and would be nil. Caruthers was not in form, he argued, and was not likely to be, and Lovett, too, was slightly slippery for the present stage of the game.

Mr. Anson could not go any further than

Lovett, too, was slightly slippery for the present stage of the game.

WHAT THE FACTS ARE.

Mr. Anson could not go any further than this, because probably his brain capacity was not equal to the effort. If he had come out plump and plain with the facts as they are—that Brooklyn has only twenty games to play home and Boston twenty-four, that our outfield is a succession of patch-works and that the playing of pitchers in the field was liable to weaken the battery work—the public in general might come to the conclusion that there was at least a triffe in his talk. But he did not. It looks very much as though he took forty winks to dream out the situation, pretty much as a coon—or, to be more polite, a negro gentleman—settles himself to doze on a policy problem. The coon dreams that a white horse means play 22 for a gig, and a black cow coming after indicates that a wise man would saddle the gig and add all the rest of the trappings. Anson evidently only caught the white horse, and that is Boston in his dream book, and so Boston goes for the pennant. But despite his vapory prognostications, the Bridegrooms are going it at a nice, even pace, and if they only come away from the Hub unscathed the flag will be largely theirs.

As I write they have one of the three in

the Hub unscathed the flag will be largely theirs.

As I write they have one of the three in their pockets and it needs only a solid front to get the remainder. All the world knows how nice the Bean-eaters went under at Brooklyn last week twice in succession, and how bad weather possibly saved them from a triple defeat. If the same snap is shown by Byrne's men on their present trip, a like dose is only a matter of course for the band of the Triumvirs. The Bridegrooms will have a rocky road fo travel during the last month of the campaign, and if they only keep their rocky road fo travel during the last month of the campaign, and if they only keep their chests out and a bone in their upper lips they'll come out high flyers at the extreme upper end of the procession. If they fail to win the banner though, it will not be due to the cause ascribed by Spalding's man, but simply untoward circumstances and the fact that the constant shifting of players may weaken the best men at their regular positions. Please note this prognostication.

JOHN WARD'S CHANCES.

A number of other chunips of the Anson breed, who talk simply because they can't help themselves, have been paying attention to Brooklyn on the Players' end pretty much on the same principle. Oh, yes; Ward'smen are pretty good ball players, they argue; but then, alongside Kelly and Ewing, they, al—

ONE LITTLE STORY AFLOAT. ONE LITTLE STORY AFLOAT.

Of the many reasons offered why Ward's men will not finish first in the Players' tusle is this, and mind you they are by far not all National Leaguers who advance the argument, that Boston, New York, nor Chicago have ever tried hard to beat Brooklyn at home, and that when the big stars of these clubs warmed the bench it was more than anything else to give Brooklyn a chance to win. Rather long drawn, don't you think so? It is true that some of these stars did fail to put in an appearance at certain times in this put in an appearance at certain times in this city, but I question whether the same thing was not due more to the fact that the said big luminaries were not in condition to do anything of note. They can all talk as they please, but none of them can get over that stonewall infield and lightning outfield that John Ward never tires of boasting of. I really cherish a well-grounded hope that the Eastern Park men will win the flag in their class.

class.

SOME INCIDENTAL BITS.

Lost, strayed or stolen is a proper label for Darby O'Brien just now. It may be that he will have materialized before this sees the light, but all the same up to date he is very much of a puzzle to the ordinary Brooklynite. He wired that he would start for Brooklyn on the 10th inst., and here it is the 14th and none can say where Darby is. Can it be that we are to lose the royal good fellow and great captain and left fielder?

The Sunday Observance people last night

The Sunday Observance people last night stuck bright-hued feathers all over themselves and made the announcement that they had succeeded in killing Sunday ball playing at Ridgewood. This crowd have said equally crazy things since their organization, and they know as well as the general public that had not Jim Kennedy and Scotchy Wallace fallen out, Sunday ball playing would in all probability have been very much of a sound reality at Ridgewood to-day.

There were three big diamonds lost at Coney Island on Sunday last and one of them was the property of Tom Burns. The probable thieves that clutched two of them are prisoners, but the holders of Tommy's spark are still unknown and he mourns the loss of a \$250 stud. Bob Clark, too, is credited with losing a headlight that usually adorns his shirt front, but where he missed it or whence it has gone are matters known only to himself.

SONGS AND TALKS.

SONGS AND TALKS.

John Ward sung "Annie Rooney" to the tune of "McGinty" last night at a hall near Eastern Park, where the Players were being dined. But when it is told that John Montgum had Frankforters and custard pie on his pulse at one and the same time, his performs. gum had Frankforters and custard pie on his plate at one and the same time his performance need not be wondered at. Mr. Ward is a Chesterfield from away down South, and when the wonderful feed was flashed on the gathering he went at it like a loyal Teuton. The banquet was arranged by some of the leading men in the upper section of the city and proved a big success in every particular. All hands walked home, which is saying a great deal for East New York.

Tom Lovett's finger that was injured in one of the Boston games last week is all right again and he is due to pitch to-day.

Geo. Andrews is playing a fiend's game in centre for Ward. Some of his catches are marvels.

The same can also be said for McGeachy, who is very much alive in sink

son, four feet broad and five high, are tussling for the outside honors at Eastern Park.

Donovan is temporarily in the shade with the Bridegrooms and the sight of Daly on first base and Foutz in centre field is one of

the treats of the day.

Two whitewhshes in succession at the hands of Mutrie's mules! Ye gods! Could anything more terrible be imagined? There was a heavy plunk of gloom in this bailiwick on Tuesday at sundown.

John Ward has taken to wrestling his coon, the whistler I mean, and he has pretty much of a pudding at it.

the whistler I mean, and he has pretty much of a pudding at it.

Some people wonder why Charlie Byrne wears a perpetual smile these peculiar days. He holds a trump card that will win in three different ways, and hardly a dozen have guessed what it is so far.

Our base ball days end early in September here, unless one or two pennants are brought back, and that is one reason why both clubs are so hot after the flags. J. F. DONNOLLY.

CATCHER ZIMMER,

Who is Making a Phenomenal Record For

Who is Making a Phenomenal Record For Continuous Catching.

Charles L. Zimmer was born at Marietta, O., on the 22d day of March, 1860. While a young man he passed apprenticeship in a cabinet maker's shop and is a practical workman. He first began to play ball with the Ironton (O.) team, one of the strongest amateur organizations in southern Ohio. He caught for other Ohio clubs, and finally got into eastern company, playing in the Hudson



River Valley League and with some of the crack semi-professional organizations of New York State. Zimmer's work first began to attract attention in the base ball world when he was a member of the Poughkeepsie (N. Y.) Club in 1886. From Poughkeepsie he wentto Rochester, N. Y., and in the latter half of 1887 the Cleveland Club, then a member of the Américan Association, purchased his release from Rochester. Since then he has been identified with the Cleveland Club's interests. He is married and has a family of three little girls. He resides on Woodland Hills, Cleveland, in a house of his own, which is filled with tasty articles of furniture, all his own handiwork. Zimmer is a powerful batter, although not what might be called a safe batter. There is one thing in Zimmer's favor that no more than half a dozen professional ball players in the country can boast of. He has never taken a drink of any kind of intoxicating liquor in his life, and has never used tobacco in any shape. He is the present captain of the Cleveland National League Club, and has the full confidence of its directors.

AN UMPIRE'S TREATMENT.

Bausewine, of the Western Association

OMAHA, Aug. 10.—It is Umpire Bausewine no longer. Secretary Roche dropped on him yesterday afternoon and told him in terse resterday afternoon and told him in terse English that his services were no longer required by the Western Association. He evilently expected to hear it, and it did not take him long to prepare to leave the city are his memory will have ally as a frightful nightmare. He departed on an evening train for Kansas City.

the field without further argument.

WHAT BAUSWINE SAYS.

Ex-Umpire Bauswine told how he happened to be assaulted by President McCormick, of the Omaha Club. He was scheduled to umpire the game there between Omaha and Des Moines, but was refused admittance when he presented himself at the gate. He purchased a ticket, but it was promptly torn up and Bauswine was told that he would not be admitted under any circumstances. Then he purchased another ticket, which he intends to purchased another ticket, which he intends to use as evidence in a suit which he will bring against the Omaha Club for damages. A short time later he met President McCormick and demanded to know why he had been denied admission to the grounds. Hot words passed and McCormick struck the ex-umpire with his umbrella. Bauswine consulted a lawyer before leaving Omaha, and the latter said he had an excellent case against the Omaha Club.

CHAPMAN EXPLAINS.

The Facts From His Standpoint in the The Facts From his Standpoint in the Forfeited Syracuse Game.

The following letter from Manager Chapman to President Phelps, regarding the disputed Syracuse Sunday game, explains itself:

"LOUISVILLE, Ky., Aug. 7.—Zach Phelps, President American Base Ball Association. My Dear Sir:—The Louisville Base Ball Club declined to play the Syracuse Club at Syracuse, Sunday, Aug. 3, as I had received notice from Chief of Police Wright, of that city, that he would arrest and lock all hands up over night would arrest and lock all hands up over night should we attempt to play the game. Mr. Frazer, of the Syracuse Club, as well as Wesley Curry, the regular umpire, were also notified. Curry would not go to the grounds as he was positive the game could not be played and he would simply be arrested if any attempt was made on his part to have the clubs play. Frazer said he would not guarantee us any money and we must take our chances at getting the regular guarantee or a portion of the receipts. Frazer well knew that both clubs would have been arrested had one inning of the game here. Frazer well knew that both clubs would have been arrested had one inning of the game been played on the ground near the Iron Pier at Syracuse. The game should have been played as scheduled at Three Rivers, where we played together on May 25. Frazer and his players went to the Iron Pier grounds, Sunday, Aug. 3, and selected a-man as umpire who is neither a regular or substitute, and had his men go on the field in the mud six inches deep, and his pitcher pitch an old ball nine times over the plate, which could not seen as the mud was so thick and deep, and the picked-up umpire then gave and deep, and the picked-up umpire then gave the game to the Syracuse Club by a score of 9 to 0, which, according to the rules of the Association, he had no right to do. I claim that the Louisville Club did right in obeying the order of Chief of Police Wright, and that Frazer and his Stars have no case whatever. For anything further in this matter I beg to refer you to the Mayor or Chief of Police of Syracuse.

Yours very respectfully, John C. Chapman,
Manager Louisville Base Ball Club.

They Knew Their Men Long Ago. "The modern base ball player is a mighty un-certain quantity when it comes down to a ques-tion of finances, and the men behind the old

League are just beginning to take advantage of the fact."—Philadelphia Record. The same can also be said for McGeachy, last beginning? What were they doing last winter and how did they recapture thirty-thre whistling coon and Col. Tom Wilkin-three of their old players?

CHADWICK'S CHAT.

A Gathering of Magnates-The System of

A Gathering of Magnates—The System of "Free Ball" and its Evil Consequences—More Batting Theories—A Point in Rules—Praise For the Brooklyns, Etc.

New York, Aug. 13.—Editor Sporting Life:—Mr. A. G. Spalding sent for me to come and see him last Friday, before he sailed for England, and I went over to 241 Broadway that day and there had the pleasure of meeting not only the Spalding brothers, but Messrs. Day and Reach, and Mr. Byrne had left only a short while before. It was simply a gathering to wish A. G. bon voyage, and a jollier party of League magnates I never saw together. Had brother Dickenson seen the quartette of League presidents chatting together that day he would have had a column in the World the next day, with a display head, about "Secret Conference of the National League Magnates!" "The Desperate Strait They Are In!" "Their Private Desire for the Compromise!" etc., etc. But if he had heard their talk together on the occasion, as I did, he would have thought that the war was coming to an end rapidly, and that the base ball rebellion was approaching its Appomatiox. A. G. is getting stout under the "great mental strain" he has been subjected to. So is Al Reach, while Chas. H. Byrne's genial smiles are returning to him. John B. Day, too, though with more to dwell upon in the way of disappointment than the rest of the party, is taking things more in Mark Tapley style. Evidently the League's situation at present is not troubling the magnates half as bad as it is the "other fellows" in the fight.

I told the Chicago Club's president that I thought the free ticket exercise.

I told the Chicago Club's president that I thought the free ticket system, which both the warring leagues had adopted, was an addition to the big blunders of this campaign of blunders. His reply was to the effect that he left it in Morton's hands to do as he liked in the matter, and Morton had followed the P. L. Club of Chicago's example, but only to a limited extent. Spalding had some figures about the P. L. attendance at Chicago during Aug. 4, 5 and 6, which he gave me as a sample of what the "Comiskey crowd" had been doing all along. Here are the statistics, which A. G. said were perfectly reliable, as he can prove if required:

Brotherhood League Games. Atten'e. Atto'e. Rec's. Aug. 4, Chicago with New York...3030 617 \$355.00 Aug. 5, Chicago with Cleveland... 2147 842 488.75 Aug. 6, Chi'a with Ol'd (2 games) 2228 846 .484.26

This gives the average receipts at \$223 per game. The above is but the latest sample of the false counting given out to the newspa-

I believe in Mr. Byrne's policy in the matter of treating the strike, and that is for the National League to go on transacting its business in its usual way, without regard to what the strikers are doing. Whatever other League clubs have been doing in copying the Players' League blundering plan of free tickets, certainly, the Brooklyn Club has not engaged in it. Their "deadhead list," in fact, has not been as large as it was in 1889, as Charley Ebbetts can show by his books; and, certainly, that of New York has not been, for when the latter club was at the Polo Grounds the extortionate demands the New York Club when the latter club was at the Polo Grounds the extortionate demands the New York Club had to submit to from politicians and their heelers made that club's deadhead list the largest in the League. This giving way of free tickets was a big mistake of the Players' League Club at the outset, and it was a worse mistake on the part of the National League clubs to follow it. It cheapens the game, brings into the grounds the most objectionable of the class of spectators, and drives out the best class of patrons. The worst portion of the crowd in the grand stand of every professional club is that which includes the deadheads. These form the majority of the kickers in the crowd. Men who pay to see a game are not the growlers and kickers, as a rule. It is the deadhead class who try to hide their position by making a noise and a fuss. a fuss.

crowd—about 400 in number—than the political deadheads that used to throng the grand stand at the Polo Grounds up to 1888. Even to-day one can pick out the deadheads by their growling and kicking alone. The Pay has stand at the Polo Grounds up to 1888. Even to day one can pick out the deadheads by their growling and kicking alone. In Pay has congratulated himself time and again on the absence of this deadhead 400 from the new grounds of the old Polo Grounds attendance. What does the Players' League gain by their free ticket plan? It simply results in as much financial loss as does the papering of theatres to create an impression of the great success of a new play. People who are in the habit of paying to go to a match soon find out that complimentaries can be had for the asking, and instead of paying to go to a match they go for the "comps." Of course, every professional club is obliged to have a certain number of passes out to pay for bill board privileges. Then, too, there are the heads of the city departments, the press, etc., which necessarily call for passes. But this is not what I mean. It is the privilege given to saloon keepers to give to their customers free passes which hurts more than anything else. Mr. Byrne told me that when he was in Chicago "Hamilton tried to get under a short fly over the trifield, but the ball got away from him. Burke, who Byrne told me that when he was in Chicago last he tested the truth of this distribution of free passes for Players' League games at the saloons and found it was a fact, and to an extent which surprised him.

I received an invitation from Mr. Johns, of the Cape May Club, to be his guest there on the occasion of the match of Aug. 11, between the Cape May and Riverton clubs. I should have liked nothing better, but my city engagements prevented my acceptance of the courtesy. I see that the Cape May team have been doing some great work. They have a strong nine from the Princeton and Pennsylvania University teams, with Shannon and Brokaw as their battery; Dana, Wagenhurst and Watts on the bases; Knickerbocker at short field, and Graves, Durell and Hyneman in the outfield, the latter being also an effective pitcher. Their strength was shown in their victories over the strong team known as the Cuban Giants in two victories out of three games. Their defeat of the Young Americas and the Staten Island Athletic Club has added to their laurels. The Philadelphia National League team have an off day on Ang. 20, and they should go down to Cape May that day. I received an invitation from Mr. Johns, of

I went over to the Polo Ground on Saturday to see the Bridegrooms play Mutrie's team again, and I took notes of the work done by the New Yorks, and found that team work, either in the field, at the bat or in baserunning, was certainly not a strong point of their play. Another thing wanting is good generalship in the field. I was much pleased with the fine play of Whistler at first base. He handles the ball there in good style. The team needs a right fielder badly. Time and again the home team had runners on bases, but, instead of trying to tap a ball safe or hit it so that in case no base hit followed at least a sacrifice hit would forward the runner, they nearly all went in to an effort to "knock the stuffin" out of de ball," and their slugging at the ball generally resulted in fungo hits or strike-outs. Denny was especially weak in this slugging business, he striking out at it three times in succession. They gave a dozen easy chances for catches from fungo hits off Terry's swift pitching, when skilful bunting or safe taps of the ball would have yielded base hits or good sacrifices. I went over to the Polo Ground on Satur-

Nothing has been more striking in the improved play of the Brooklyn Bridegrooms this season than their great advance in team work at the bat. They have almost dropped their old slugging way of hitting, and they are getting-into wrist play at the bat against a swift delivery in the place of shoulder hitting. Of course, if the batsman has a slow ball sent in the him he presserily requires more force in course, if the batsman has a slow ball sent in to him he necessarily requires more force in striking at it, but against swift pitching there is nothing like wrist play at the bat. A simple tap of the ball will frequently send the swiftly-pitched ball flying over the heads of the infielders out of reach, when a hard-hit, swiftly-pitched ball would result in a simple fungo hit, giving an easy chance for a catch.

No batsman should go up to the bat pur-No batsman should go up to the bat purposely to make a sacrifice hit. That is not the point to aim at. The idea of a sacrifice is to aim at a placed ball, or try for a base hit, and while doing this contrive that the hit, if it fail in yielding a base, shall at least forward a runner on the sacrifice. A great deal of batting skill is required to do this effectually. In my opinion the model hit, to

begin with, is a finely placed ball for a single base. Next comes the ordinary base hit. Then the skillful bunt, and lastly the sacrifice. When a runner is on third and two men are out, and sacrifice hitting is useless, then a try for a three-bagger or homer is a point to play. When one man is out and a runner on third a fungo hit to the deep outfield frequently yields a sacrifice fly. But slugging for extra base hits when no runners are on the bases is simply chance batting at best, and if one gets in a three-bagger or a homer it is at the cost of a 90-yard run, or a sprint of 120 yards, pretty fatiguing work for a player who has a long game before him.

It has been made plainly evident this season that Pittsburg is not a National League city. The League would find it to their advantage to take Baltimore under its wing in the place of Pittsburg. Even Washington would be better. The latter city is a League city, and it only needs a well-appointed ground and a strong team to prove the fact. It evidently is not willing to support anything short of the best, Baltimore is an untried League city. Even the Players' League advocates of that city admit this fact. It is no city for a Players' club, however, while Pittsburg is just the place for one. A dispute occurred on Saturday last at Liv-

A dispute occurred on Saturday last at Livingstone, Staten Island, between the Staten Island Cricket Club's captain and the captain of the Crescent Athletic Club, which involves an important question in regard to the proper interpretation of Rule 29, of the national code of rules. That rule states that:—"The choice of innings shall be given to the captain of the home club, who shall also be sole judge of the fitness of the ground for beginning a game after rain." In the case in dispute it had rained up to 3 P. M. of the day of the scheduled game between the two clubs, but it then cleared up. In the meantime Captain Tyng had notified his team that the rain would prevent the game, and a portion of his players weren't on the grounds in consequence. The Crescents, however, were on hand to play, and at 4 P. M. the sun was shining and the ground in fair condition for play. But Captain Tyng declared that the field was not fit to play on, but he afterwards, however, agreed to play an exhibition game, and such game was played. If the field was in sufficiently good condition for use for an exhibition game, tertainly was for the regular game. This raises the point as to the correct interpretation of the rule. The spirit of the rule unquestionably requires that the condition of the field after a rain shall be such as to render fair play on the field possible, otherwise the captain is given the power to refuse to use it. It would never do to give the home club the power to decide the question at their option, without regard to the condition of the field. It simply gives the home captain the power to decide the point, when the condition of the field is such as to leave it an open question. In the case at Staten Island the testimony is in favor of the field being in playing condition, the fact being shown by the two teams playing an exhibition game, Captain Tyng merely taking advantage of a technical point owing to his being short-handed.

The base ball war has exposed the fallacies of the Brotherhood leaders very plainly, es

ing short-handed.

The base ball war has exposed the fallacies of the Brotherhood leaders very plainly, especially that of the co-operative system of capitalists and players jointly running a professional organization successfully. The plan has practically been a failure in every instance in which it has been tried. Another conspicuous fallacy of the Players' League people is that of supposing that a professional club team can be disciplined and trained up to a high mark of excellence while being worked under the joint control of player and capitalist directors. Its working this season has been a distinct failure. The first professional national association was an association of professional base ball players, not clubs, and its failure was such as to lead to the establishment of the present National League, owing to the hippodroming, revolving and crookedness the old plan led to.

One of the biggest mistakes made by ch

in this way:

"Hamilton tried to get under a short fly over the infield, but the ball got away from him. Burks, who was not twenty yards away from the ball, did not budge an inch to back him up, and by the time Hamilton could recover the ball two runs had been scored, the batter getting a home run on what shou'd have been only a single. Such actions as these are demoralizing to any team if allowed to be indulged in, and, although a fine was administered in this case, it was not nearly to severe as the occasion warrants."

The failure to back up Hamilton was a woeful neglect of duty, as much so as if Burk had refused to catch an easy fly ball. This is the worst kind of record play, viz., trying to injure the record of a companion player.

Here is an interesting table of comparative

figures in fielding averages, viz., the fielding percentage of the infield and outfield players of the four clubs at New York and Brooklyn

ne York N. L. New York P.L. Rrook N.L. Brook P.L. 1b Esterbr'k 1985 Connor 1983 Foutz 1972 Orr 1979 2b Bassett 1987 Richar'n 228 Collifs 1945 B'banr 1938 3b Denny 1987 Richar'n 228 Collifs 1945 B'banr 1938 3b Denny 1987 Pincy 1910 Joyce 1986 6s Glassc'k 1987 Binfeld 1988 Smith 1989 Ward 1986 1986 Grant 1988 O'Rourke 1914 O'Br'n 1949 Secry 1987 of Tiernan 1914 Johnston 1914 Don'n 1979 André 1921 of Burkett 1987 Slattery 1873 Burns 1945 M'Ge'y 1913 It will be seen that the Brooklyn National

League players lead in five out of the seven positions, and the New York National League players in the other two, the National League clubs bearing off the palm on their fielding in the seven positions. HENRY CHADWICK.

LATHAM'S CASE.

Why the Chatterer Was Released From the Chicago Players' League Club.

Needless guessing as to the cause of Latham's release from Chicago is still going on. The latest contribution on the subject is from the Philadelphia Press, which says:

the Philadelphia Press, which says:

"If Arlis Latham fan't good enough for the Chicago Club, why should be be good enough for Philadelphia" saks an exchange. Arlis wasn't released becape he was not good enough or did not take enough care of himself. Other reasons.

The Press is in error. No other reasons but those stated led to Latham's release. His ability to clown could not offset his inability to play the sort of ball essential to success in the very fast Players' League. Plainly, Latham was not strong enough for the Chicago Club; there's the long and short of it.

As to the relations between Latham and Comiskey, a Chicago correspondent writes:

"There has been so much written about the trouble

Comiskey, a Chicago correspondent writes:

"There has been so much written about the trouble between Comiskey and Latham that the truth might be told with benefit. Latham claims that he could not get along with Comiskey. There is small wonder for this. Comiskey is the easiest taskmaster in the country when he sees that his men are playing as good ball as they know how. He saw that Latham was not trying to play, and as a result kept after him with a sharp stick. Arlie always had a peculiar penchant for letting hard bit bells travel past him unmolested. Here he was, it seemed, trying to keep out of the way of the ball for fear of making an error. Then, too, his batting was peor, and his work thoroughly ludifierent. There was a reason for his listless work. When he came here he overdrew his account considerably as he always does, and tried to get into the club deeper. Its managers felt they would have ta reduce the club to business principles and refused to advance him any more money. From that time forward he did poor work."

To all of this it may be added that Latham