

FROM THE CAPITAL

COMES A STRANGE REPORT ABOUT EX-MANAGER MANNING.

The Popular "Jimmy's" Arrival in Washington Starts a Story That He Will be at the Head of a National League Club There Next Year.

Special to Sporting Life.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 2.—Editor "Sporting Life":—James H. Manning, ex-manager of the Washington club, now a part owner of the Kansas City club, and Western agent for a new explosive, is in Washington—as he says in the interest of his explosive. His advent in the Capital, however, has started rumors to the effect that Manning is to come back to Washington as the manager of a National League club to be placed in this city next year. Manning laughs at and decides the report, but his friends say that it is to be expected that Manning would, at this early time, before all plans are ripe, deny everything. Manning is said to have been in Indianapolis recently in conference with Chairman Brush, of the National League, and immediately following that came efforts to renew the National League lease on the Seventh Street Park. Manning's Washington friends further claim that he was unfairly treated by the American League and crowded out of Washington, which he naturally resents and feels like getting even for. Manning has a host of friends in Washington and with a good team located at the more accessible old League Park could and would make it warm for Loftus' club.



Jas. Manning

or, perhaps, his retention as utility man or outfielder. I see that I inadvertently landed Tenney in the American League last week, but won't apologize for the lapsus clami, as Fred may wish it was true. His favorite song these days is "They're after me," and Detroit or some other club may persuade him to loop the loop. His case lends point to Delehanty's remark that he can't see why players want to tie themselves up by extra long contracts with a wrecked League. Manager Loftus also has another star National League infielder in view, but, as his capture is not yet fully assured, his name is withheld for the present. This will leave the Senators with a utility infielder, something they have often felt the need of.

JOHN MCGRAW'S VISITS to Washington to monkey with the players of visiting Western clubs, are said to have been fruitless. Delehanty was offered \$5500 a year for two years, but says he will be found with the fringe of the crust of Washington base ball society next year, and would play here for \$1000 less than elsewhere. Orin has many flattering offers but prefers Washington, which is near his home in Lynchburg, Va. Manager Shettsline, of the Philadelphia Nationals, invited catcher Clarke to a conference on Thursday in Cleveland. Clarke told Manager Loftus about the matter and said he would see what Shettsline had to offer, but had

NO INTENTION OF SECEDING. This talk pleases the local public, who think the best of them would rattle around in Bill's shoes. Manager Loftus does not expect to lose any player he wants to keep. It is admitted, though, that Wyatt Lee has been captured, but it is by Miss Jewell May Golden, of this city, who will be credited with an assist when the pitcher-fielder pulls off one of those post-season double plays, on September 24. The honeymoon will be passed on the Pacific coast, where Lee is to play with the Lajole base ball outfit. "Sporting Life" congratulates the prospective bride and groom, and wishes them all possible happiness. While the

NATIONAL LEAGUE AGENTS have been hunting with a brass band, the American has quietly swiped the game birds off the roost under their noses. While they are figuring how they are to cop out all the dough to graft the base ball stars into their firmament their rivals are signing them at their own figures. The players show less confidence in the old League people than in the new, as instanced by Jimmy Williams' alleged remark that the New York management will get back half of the swell salaries offered, in fines. The National is showing bad judgment in forcing a war in which it has always had the worst of it, and will sooner or later have to holler "Mister Johnsing, turn me loose!"

FRANK DONOHUE is the only very valuable player likely to leave the American, but the jumps to it will be numerous and important. Players prefer the American because it is run by their friends and founded on respect for their rights, interests and feelings. It encourages players to become managers and owners. Mercer has the proper kind of a sky piece to make a good manager for Detroit, and the

NEW YORK AMERICAN LEAGUE CLUB will be managed by Clark Griffith, the right man for the place, as President Johnson's lieutenants generally are, and, if they are not, they are quickly chased to the underbrush. No secret is now made of the fact that New York will have an American League team next year, which was first positively stated in this correspondence. The situation was sized to a lanigan then—necessarily so, in fact, as President Johnson was the source of the information. Whether this will involve the dropping of Baltimore cannot be stated positively. Grounds for the new club have already been secured, about two minutes' ride beyond the Freedman-McGraw corral.

A UNIQUE FEAT. Outfielder Newenham's Alleged Wonderful Aquatic Performance. From Portland (Me.) "Press."

Horace Newenham, who played with Portland's champion ball team of a year ago, and is now with the Oldtown team of the Northern Maine League, accomplished, Tuesday, Aug. 26, the most remarkable play ever known in the history of the game. Newenham was in right field for his team at Millinocket, when Barrington, the heaviest hitter of the home team, came up and smashed the ball for a terrific drive. Newenham was playing way back on the banks of the roaring Millinocket river, which forms the boundary of the field.

Down from the clouds came the ball ker-shing into the middle of the river. Barrington was strolling about the bases at a graceful walk sure of a home run. But a little thing like water had no terrors for an old-timer like Horace. Into the rippling waters he plunged and swam out for the ball. The great fielder caught the ball in his mouth and came back to the shore with a few sturdy strokes, and the next thing, the excited spectators saw was the vision of the old man of the sea scrambling up the mossy bank.

Barrington had stopped to light his pipe between second and third and was startled by a zipping something which left a rainbow in its wake whizz by him and land in the third baseman's glove with a spunk, and when the home run hitter reached third the ball was waiting for him. "Dod" had lined it across and Barrington was out.

PITTSBURG POINTS.

AMERICANS' RAID SEEMS TO BE MORE THAN A PIPE DREAM.

A Bunch of Champions Who Think They Have Bettered Themselves—Leach Under a Heavy Fire—Bits of General News and Gossip.

By A. R. Cratty.

Pittsburg, Sept. 1.—Editor "Sporting Life":—Col. Barney's pleasant dreams seem to be over for a time. For two years at least all has been sunshine for the little magnate who made a ten strike by taking a losing proposition from Louisville, Ky., bringing it to Pittsburg, merging the same with a fair thing and then getting a great ball team. A two-time pennant winner with smooth sailing was the outlook for the Pittsburg Club until a few weeks ago. Nothing to mar the harmony, players galore, coin rolling in, etc.—it is no wonder that the position of the Pittsburg man was envied. Alas, snags loom up. For the past three weeks there has been a change in the situation. It may have been said to have started right after the owner of the champs visited Bedford Springs. Here he was called on, it is now known, by a magnate of the American. A plan to leave the National and join with the American was broached. Barney heard it, but was not in favor. Then Dreyfuss started in to sign his players for next year. Last season he handled the trick long before all other clubs, and as a result did not lose a man. This year he was a trifle slower than in 1901, and someone heat him out. Dreyfuss, they tell me, admits he is amazed at the actions of some men whom he relied upon to give him at least courteous treatment. These players, though handled like men in all dealings, took in the hot air offered by the American hirelings, and tied themselves up with the new League gang weeks ago. The Pittsburg management has long been aware of this fact in the cases of a number of the unsigned men. Yet they gave them a final chance to stay.



A. R. Cratty

STIRRED UP THE NATIVES. It was a momentous week in our town. The home series with Boston and Chicago caused little or no talk. Fans discussed the prospects of this and that man staying with the club. The greatest interest was taken in the case of Tommy Leach, is a favorite. He was virtually groomed into pro. play by the Pittsburg team. Louisville had used him comparatively little when they had him, and he was a sub here until Colonel Barney got hold of the club and put his pet on the third sack. Then came Jimmy Williams' jump. This made room for Leach, and he has ever been there. Last year, when the boy's future looked dark because of a bad leg, Colonel Barney sent him to a bonesetter, who charged high, but that did not deter Barney. He admired Leach and cost was nothing. People could not think that a ball player would be such an ingrate as to leave an employer after such things. A Southfield street banker hailed the writer Saturday morning and said: "I had an idea that ball players were not so bad as they are painted, but, if Leach leaves Dreyfuss it's all off with me." And the latest is that Leach is lost. There is a chance, but a slim one.

THE MEN WANTED. As to the other men I report has it that Chesbro and Tannehill knew weeks ago that they would not be with the champions for next year. "Tis said that at Tim Hurst's Irish fair on Friday night Col. B. was seen to take Algy to one side. They did the gesticulation act for some time and from the swinging of the arms something hot must have been said. One report had it Algernon here demanded he be given \$17,000 or thereabout for three years. It may have been two, but three is bad enough. Conroy was the biggest disappointment that ever stepped on the field here. You must give him credit with being good on ground balls, but he is not a ground coverer, loses single after single near second base and is a light hitter. Smith is a fine catcher, a prize beyond doubt. Pittsburg wanted him and would have paid high. Davis is not wanted and some people wonder why. Tannehill was wanted up to a certain figure. They say that Jess banks on his all-around ability as being worth just 1000 bucks more than any other pitcher.



Barney Dreyfuss

DAVIS LAMBASTED. There was one man over whom the club owners did not gush when he entered the office the other afternoon, after a long absence. Somehow or other Mr. Alfonso Davis was apparently a non persona grata. He started to chatter the moment he hobbled into the office, but the club magnates took little stock in his sayings. Once he remarked "Some of these newspaper men are going to have a lot to answer for. Their pipe dreams are ever that a lot of players are going to jump. I'll swan if I have heard of a single man who is going to leave." This was more than Col. Barney could stand and he snapped back, "Well, if you haven't I have." Something behind that remark caused Mr. D. to

take a tumble and he took his cane and started. Just before he left an official of the club began gassing as to the injury of the right fielder. He asserted that it was not sufficient to cause him to lay idle. It was a twitting match, but beneath the lines sincerity roosted. 'Tis said that the club owners are angry at Davis. They treated him with great consideration and yet his return has been scant. Wonder if Col. Harry didn't mean Davis when he asserted at a morning levee that the Pittsburg had a man who once broke a contract and never again would they hire men of that kind.

LEFTY HITS BACK. Davis met a Chicago reporter and poured into his ears a tale of woe. He declared that the Pittsburg club never gave him a chance to sign. He had been approached by a man in Chicago who wanted him to join the American, but he told the fellow that he was under contract with the Pittsburg club, and would do nothing until his contract was out. Even then he felt that he would give them first chance. Lefty was particularly angry that he should be roasted in the papers.

HALLER DENIES IT. Frank Haller, once manager of the Birmingham, Ala., team, who gained fame in the Philly papers last week for being a supposed agent of the Brooklyn team, denies that he made any attempt to get Waddell to jump his contract. "I observe," said Haller, "that Frank Hough wrote a fine story about Con Mack laying for me with the intention of doing me up. Well I met Con and told him plump and plain that I was not after Rube. I also managed to inform him that when I was in that kind of business I would be prepared to receive all of the bitter points of the same no matter who came across my path. Let me say one thing. The search of the Brooklyn owners for players in Philly was not without result, and you will see soon that Hanlon and Ebbetts did not waste any time there. Ball players are not so foolish to say that they signed contracts to go to other teams while the season is on. They might have a warm time among their comrades, for you will ever find some players ready to do little things so as to get solid with their managers."

CELEBRATES HERE. One point of interest to base ball men in this city the past week, has been the grand stand. Almost every afternoon a glance around the pavillion showed some base ball gents from out of town who were there for merely pleasure, as they said. Denson Jim McGuire put up his seventy-five cents one afternoon and peeped at the Pittsburg Boston game. Jim was only passing through. If he landed anything here it is more than the local push knows about. Captain Joe Kelley sat in the stand one day. He came here as he said to have a chat with Jess Tannehill, regarding Lee's case, but men who watched him say that Joe did not break his back to meet Tammy. They doubt if the two ever came together. Mebbe Joe wanted Jess. In these days of base ball there are sundry gents who seem to have a meagre knowledge of the truth. The practice seems general and no doubt it is no crime to "stall em off." One of the best stories of the week was the visit of Tom Loftus. Tommy was passing through with the Washingtons and chanced to be crossing the Smithfield street bridge, when the Cubs came in on the Pittsburg & Lake Erie. Tommy, of course, seeing a chance for a gag button-holed the boys "with a don't sign until you hear from me" story. It went the rounds in fine style. 'Tis said that Clark Griffith was here one evening and did the cover act to perfection. He put in six hours at the room of a Pittsburg man. Library Place will soon be famous for intrigues. It is not far from the main part of Allegheny. Pittsburg managers have their eye on this part of the neighborhood. Little goes on there that is not known to the management. Barney and Harry have not been asleep.

A CAPABLE SUB. Fred Crollus has proven to be one of the best subs in right field. He started to hit the ball early last week, and his club work has been high class. In the Boston games he swatted hard. Fred Tenney was even heard to say to his twirler, "Watch this fellow." Crollus does not go after fielding chances in a manner that makes local fans feel at ease, but he has gotten everything out his way so far. Crollus is in the office of W. C. Temple, who is a great admirer of Colonel Barney Dreyfuss. The ex-owner of the Pittsburgs took a fancy to Barney by reason of a matter of honor in relation to a lease of Expo Park for foot ball purposes. Barney gave his word to a local team, the rival of one to be handled by Temple, and though offered more cash for the lease, the little magnate said that he had to stand by his word. "That's more than some of the magnates I know of would do," commented Temple not long ago.

LEAPERS. Tom McCreery's whereabouts were not exactly known here last week. Some people hinted that he had gone East with the Brooklyn, while others said he was at home to get married. One day the writer received a message from the Whitinsville, Mass., ball team, asking that Mac be notified of the team's desire to hire him for four Saturday games at thirty-five per. The message was repeated to Atlantic City. No answer came back. Claude Ritchey's marriage was one of the surprises of the year. No man can guess Ritchey. He did not go round with a bulletin board saying "I'm going to get married." Ritchey is the slyest that ever put on a Pirate uniform according to Manager Clarke. The future Mrs. Ritchey is the daughter of an oil refiner. Ritchey has wells and there is nothing like keeping the oil business in the family. Wasn't it a mistake not to give John O'Connor his ten days? He stayed here and now announces his intention of fighting for the balance of his salary. Frank Selee had a broken up team here. He tried two lads in right field. One posed as Hillebrand and the other as Hughes. One is said to be Bob Lowe's brother in law.

WASHINGTON WHISPERS.

Career of the Disabled Senators—DeMontreville Signed For Next Year—Pitcher Smith of Birmingham Secured—Phases of the Merry War.

By Paul W. Eaton.

Washington, Sept. 1.—Editor "Sporting Life": The Senators won three games from Detroit last week, making it four straight. The contests were the strenuous kind, and on two occasions Delehanty and Clarke had to draw on those bunches of homers they keep in cold storage for emergencies. Del's drive just cleared the fence, which it would have knocked down if it had struck it. On Wednesday they left for Cleveland and commenced losing at once. The team is badly dislocated, as Ryan is out of the game, and Coughlin,



Paul W. Eaton

who was spiked by Harley on Tuesday, is still on the shelf. With these players, who beat their way around the circuit so often, out, and their .310 and .297 bats idle, the Senators have a dismantled look. The fear that Carey might fall off in batting because of his injury by a pitched ball was groundless. It appears to have caused an ossification of nerve instead, as he is manifesting the penchant for larruping the ball into unfrequented spots which has placed him among the best batting first basemen, and he has climbed back into the order of .300.

A NEW PITCHER.

Manager Loftus has signed pitcher Frank Smith, of the Birmingham, Ala., team. He was recommended by Newt, Fisher and other wise ones. Frank Delehanty, of the Atlantas, a brother of Captain Ed., writes that Smith is the best all around player in the Southern League. He is a good fielder and hard hitter, and won a majority of games he pitched, although supported by a rank tail-ender. He is a husky youth, 5 feet 8 in height, and weighs 180 pounds. He is under orders to join the Senators in the West, Pitcher Chech, of the St. Paul American Association team, will probably be given a chance to show what he can do for the locals, also. Manager Loftus wanted to give second baseman Huggins, of the same club, a try-out, but he preferred to remain in the West, where he is studying law. Colonel Rogers' club is where this player belongs. Washington's second cushion will be occupied next season by



Thos. J. Loftus

EUGENE DEMONTREVILLE, the brilliant second baseman of the Boston National League Club. Gene is a Washington boy and is a Havana filler and Sumatra wrapper. His work here when Scrapper Joyce was the main guy, was of the finest, and this season has been his best as a fielder. Demontreville's name has to be cut to Dement in the score so the paper won't have to run supplements for it, and if he bats as he did under Joyce it will have to be still further abbreviated to Dement. The negotiations which preceded the acquisition of Demontreville com-