

# NINETEENTH CENTURY NOTES

SPRING 2012

Society for American Baseball Research

Nineteenth Century Notes is a publication of the Nineteenth Century Committee of the Society for American Baseball Research

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Overlooked Legends Project by Joe Williams

### Committee Contacts

Chairman— Peter Mancuso  
6970 Ely Road  
New Hope, PA 18938  
peterplus4@earthlink.net

Editor/VC— Bob Bailey  
10223 SW 49th Lane  
Gainesville, FL 32608  
bobbailey@cox.net

Copyright © Society for American  
Baseball Research 2012

### Inside this issue:

Overlooked Legends Bios 1-8

Research Request 9-10

Pioneer Project News 10

Committee News & Notes 11

Base Ball Pioneers 1850-1870 Cover Art 12

The 19<sup>th</sup> Century Committee will be holding its fourth annual vote for the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Overlooked Baseball Legend. Our past winners were Pete Browning in 2009, Deacon White in 2010 and Harry Stovey last year.

The 2012 ballot consists of ten names. We have seven returning candidates from last year, one returning from the 2009 and 2010 ballot and two newcomers. One newcomer was the leading vote getter from last

year's write-in votes and the other was selected by the subcommittee while being among the leaders of the write-in votes.

Without further ado, the 2012 candidates are...

Doc Adams  
Born: November 1, 1814  
Died: January 3, 1899  
Played: 1839-1862  
Position: Pioneer

The title "Father of Baseball" has been bestowed on a handful of

gentlemen since the early days of our national pas-



(Continued on page 2)

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER by Peter Mancuso

**Frederick Ivor-Campbell 19<sup>th</sup> Century Base Ball Conference:** As I write this we have only one seat left at this year's Frederick Ivor-Campbell 19<sup>th</sup> Century Base Ball Conference. By the time you are reading this, I assume with some certainty that that seat will

have been accounted for. This is the earliest date that conference registrations has reached capacity. I wish to thank all those who have joined in as presenters, panelists, speakers and participants. The value and enjoyment derived from the conference

is a direct reflection of its attendees.  
**Overlooked 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Baseball Legend Project:** This spring issue of our newsletter again presents to our committee members the profiles of the candidates for this year's Over-

(Continued on page 8)

# 19<sup>th</sup> Century Overlooked Legends (cont.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

time. Daniel Lucius Adams is among them. A graduate of both Yale and Harvard, Adams helped shape the game as we know it today. As a young physician in New York City, "Doc" played a form of baseball as early as 1839 and became a member of the famed Knickerbocker Base Ball Club in 1845, about a month after the club was formed. In 1846, Doc was elected vice president of the Knickerbockers and played in the famous "first" game between clubs on June 19 at Elysian Fields in Hoboken, New Jersey. The following year he was elected president of the club, a position he held for the next three years and would serve again from 1856 to 1858. In 1848, he headed the committee to revise the rules and by-laws of the Knickerbockers. As a player, Adams is credited as being the first shortstop in 1849 or 1850, first as an intermediary to receive the relay throws of the outfielders, but later moving up to the infield. The lefty batter played regularly and productively into his forties. At his suggestion, the first baseball convention of ball clubs met in May 1857 to formalize set rules between clubs and ultimately leading to the formation of the National Association of Base Ball Players. Adams was elected president of the convention and was the first chairman of the Rules Committee. In his leadership positions, Doc played a crucial role in the establishment of several key aspects that make up the game of baseball, which include nine players per team, the

nine inning game, ninety feet between bases and catching the ball on the fly to record an out rather than being able to catch the ball on one bounce for an out. In 1862, Adams stepped down from the Rules Committee post and resigned from the Knickerbockers. He left the legendary club as the most significant member in team history, membership that included Hall of Famer Alexander Cartwright.

Ross Barnes

Born: May 8, 1850

Died: February 5, 1915

Played: 1866-77,79,81

Position: Second Base

Barnes may have been the most exciting all around player of



the 1860s and 1870s. Prior to the establishment of the National Association, Barnes was a star player for the Forest City Club of Rockford, Illinois. In 1871, he joined the Boston Red Stockings of the new professional league and quickly established

himself as one of the league's shining stars. Over the next five seasons, Barnes would lead the league in at least eighteen offensive categories while becoming the National Association's career leader in runs, hits, doubles, base on balls, stolen bases, batting average and on-base percentage.

Barnes, the premier fair-foul hitter, won batting titles in 1872 (.432) and 1873 (.425). Also a defensive standout, Barnes was one of Boston's "Big Four" that led the Red Stockings to the league championship each year from 1872 to 1875. When the National League was formed in 1876, he became a member of the Chicago White Stockings and led them to the league's best record.

He also led the league in almost every offensive category including batting average, on-base percentage, slugging percentage, runs, hits, doubles, triples and total bases. After the 1876 season, he was never the same player. Both an illness, limiting Barnes to just 22 games in 1877, and the banning of the fair-foul hit were contributing factors in his demise.

He finished his career by playing in the International Association in 1878, followed by two seasons as a shortstop for Cincinnati in 1879 and Boston in 1881.

Bob Caruthers

Born: January 5, 1864

Died: August 5, 1911

Played: 1884-93

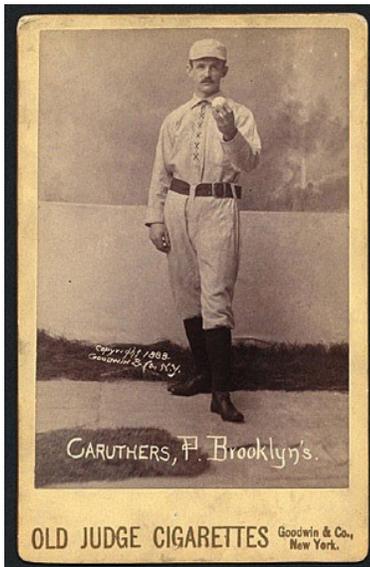
Position: Pitcher and Outfield

*(Continued on page 3)*

# 19<sup>th</sup> Century Overlooked Legends (cont.)

*(Continued from page 2)*

Born in Memphis, Tennessee and raised in Chicago, Illinois, Robert Lee Caruthers was among the greatest all-around players of his day. He was an outstanding pitcher with a deceptive right-handed delivery and a hard-hitting outfielder who had a solid reputation as a defensive player and a



base runner. Before signing with the St. Louis Browns of the American Association in 1884, Caruthers played for Grand Rapids (1883) and Minneapolis (1884) of the Northwestern League. The 5'4", 140-pound twenty-year-old made his major league debut for the Browns on September 7, 1884 and went 7-2 in 13 games to close out the season. In 1885, he teamed with Dave Foutz to lead the Browns to the pennant, going 40-13 and leading the league in wins, winning percentage (.755) and ERA (2.07). After the 1885 season he went to Paris, France and became engaged in a trans-Atlantic salary dispute with Browns' owner Chris

Von der Ahe, earning his nickname "Parisian Bob" and settling for a \$3,200 salary. The Browns won the pennant again in 1886 with Caruthers going 30-14 with a 2.32 ERA (second in the league) while hitting .334, slugging .527 and leading the league with .448 on-base percentage.

The 1887 season was much of the same with a pennant, a 29-9 record and a league-leading .763 winning percentage, at the same time hitting .357, slugging .547, scoring 102 runs, stealing 49 bases and getting on base with a .463 percentage. After the season in a Von der Ahe shakeup, Caruthers was traded to Brooklyn where he would play for four seasons, winning 29, 40, 23 and 18 games, respectively, while contributing to pennant winners in 1889 and 1890, Brooklyn's first season in the NL. In 1892, he went back to the Browns, now a NL team, and played primarily in the outfield, having career highs in games (143), at bats (513), hits (142) and walks (86).

The 1893 season was his last in the majors, playing briefly for the Chicago Colts and the Cincinnati Reds. He finished with a 218-99 record, an ERA of 2.83 and a .391 OBP for his career.

He continued playing in the minors until 1898 before becoming an umpire. He was an American League umpire in 1902 and 1903.

Jim Creighton  
Born: April 15, 1841

Died: October 18, 1862  
Played: 1857-62  
Position: Pitcher

James Creighton was baseball's first superstar and possibly its first professional. His life came to a tragic end just six months after his twenty-first birthday, making the young ballplayer a baseball legend and fueling the lore that makes baseball our national pastime. He was a tremendous hitter but made his mark on baseball history by revolutionizing the pitcher position with his swift and accurate pitching that didn't allow batters to get a solid hit on the ball. Creighton grew up in Brooklyn, New York and took a



liking to both cricket and baseball, for which he would excel at both sports. In 1857, he created a ball club with his childhood peers called Young America. The club played a few matches but lasted just one year. He then joined the Niagaras of Brooklyn and became their second baseman. In 1859, Creighton filled in for the Niagaras regular pitcher John Shields by taking the mound against the Star

*(Continued on page 4)*

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Overlooked Legends (cont.)

*(Continued from page 3)*

Club of Brooklyn. The rest is history (and lore). Creighton threw with a sweeping low delivery and a wrist snap that increased the spin on the ball, causing the ball to rise to the catcher's shoulder.

As John Thorn has written, "he possessed an unprecedented combination of speed, spin and command that virtually defined the position for all those who followed". After the game, the Star Club snapped up the new pitching phenom and by the following year he was a member of the Excelsior Club of Brooklyn. It wasn't until he started pitching for the Excelsiors in 1860 that he became the game's most dominant pitcher.

Creighton had the benefit of playing with the greatest catcher of the time in Joe Leggett, who was adept at handling swift pitching and limited his passed balls in comparison to others of the day.

The battery was the best in the nation in 1860 and the Excelsiors were the best team in the land despite not officially beating the reigning champion Atlantics in a best-of-three series. The Excelsiors went on the first baseball tour of a team earlier in the season which enhanced Creighton's reputation outside of Brooklyn as his contemporaries and fans witnessed his attention-grabbing delivery and success.

On November 8, 1860, Creighton pitched the first recorded shut-out against the St. George Cricket Club, 25-0. In 1861, the Excelsiors did not play any matches and Creighton played in just six games in 1862 before he passed away on

October 18. It appears he died from a ruptured inguinal hernia.

How that exactly happened will never be known but in baseball lore it occurred on October 14 against the Unions of Morristania when he hit a home run. His death made him a baseball immortal. His pitching changed the game forever. Creighton was a pioneer that changed the focus from tossing the ball to the batter so they could put the ball in play to trying to get the player out and not giving the hitter a clean shot at the ball. Due to his success, others would soon follow this strategy and there was no turning back. Creighton died at his father's home and was buried with a large monument in Brooklyn's Greenwood Cemetery, a popular tourist spot for baseball enthusiasts.

Bill Dahlen

Born: January 5, 1870

Died: December 5, 1950

Played: 1891-1911

Position: Shortstop

Known as "Bad Bill" for his extreme temper, Dahlen played for 21 seasons and is considered one of the great defensive shortstops in baseball history. With excellent range and a tremendous arm, he set numerous fielding records. It has been almost 100 years since Dahlen last put on the uniform as a player and yet he is still among the all-time leaders at shortstop in games played, assists and putouts as well as errors.

As a hitter, Dahlen was among the best hitting shortstops of his era and had excellent power. In his career, five times he finished in the top seven in home runs and when he retired, only Herman Long had more homers as a shortstop. He also led the league in RBI in 1904 with 80 and finished in the top nine three other times. His career offensive numbers include 1,589 runs, 2,457 hits, 413 doubles, 163 triples, 84 home runs, 1,233 RBI, 547 stolen bases



and 140 hit by pitches. In 1894, Dahlen hit in 42 consecutive games to set a major league record which has since been surpassed but is still fourth best in history. Dahlen played his entire career in the National League, playing for Chicago, Brooklyn, New York and Boston. Dahlen's fiery style of play was a key factor in the success of the teams he played on, including NL championships in 1899 and 1900 with Brooklyn and 1904 and 1905 with New York. New York went on to win the

*(Continued on page 5)*

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Overlooked Legends (cont.)

*(Continued from page 4)*

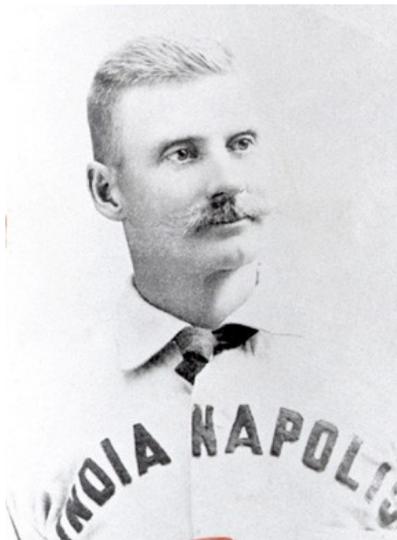
World Series in 1905.

Dahlen appeared on the Hall of Fame's 2009 Veterans Committee ballot for pre-1943 players but failed to gain election.

Jack Glasscock

Born: July 22, 1857

Died: February 24, 1947



Played: 1879-95

Position: Shortstop

Considered by many historians as the greatest defensive shortstop of the Nineteenth Century, "Pebbley Jack" played the majority of his career without a glove. He received his nickname for his dutiful inspection of the field for pebbles and tossing them away to avert bad hops during the game.

He led the league in fielding percentage and assists six times, double plays four times, putouts two times and had the most range of any shortstop of his era. He retired as the career leader for shortstops in games, assists, double plays, putouts, total chances and fielding percentage. At the

bat, he got better with age. A career .290 hitter, he led the National League in hits in 1889 and 1890, winning the 1890 batting title with a .336 average after finishing second the previous year with a .352 average. He finished his career with 1,163 runs, 2,040 hits and more than 825 RBI. Striking out just 196 times in his career, Glasscock was also one of the toughest hitters to strikeout, leading the league three times in at bats per strikeout. The "King of Shortstops" played for nine teams in seventeen years, including a brief stint in the Union Association. He continued playing in the minors until 1901.

Paul Hines

Born: March 1, 1855

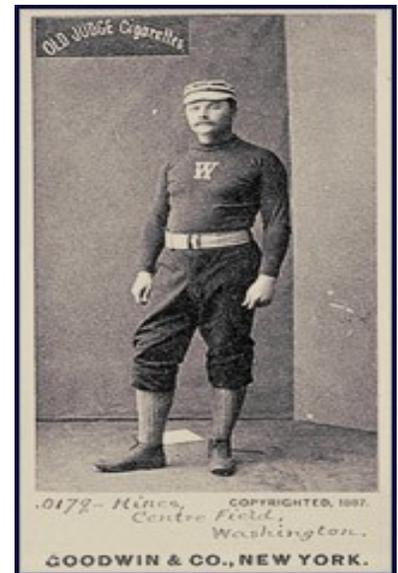
Died: July 10, 1935

Played: 1872-91

Position: Outfield

Hines, an outstanding defensive center fielder, was among the best all-around players in the game for 20 seasons. He started his professional career with Washington of the National Association before becoming a member of the Chicago White Stockings in 1874, playing for the first National League champion in 1876. In 1878, he joined Providence and became baseball's first Triple Crown winner when he led the league with 4 homers, 50 RBI and a .358 batting average. He followed his historic season with another batting title in 1879 (.357), while

also leading the league in games, hits and total bases as the Grays won their first NL championship. In 1884, along with Old Hoss Radbourn, Hines led the Grays to the NL pennant before defeating New York of the American Association to win the first "World Series." Hines played for the Grays during their entire existence (1878-1885). He returned to Washington for the 1886 and 1887 seasons



before bouncing from Indianapolis (1888 and 1889), Pittsburgh and Boston (1890) and back to play in Washington for the Statesmen of the AA in 1891. Hines finished his career with 1,217 runs, 2,134 hits, 549 extra-base hits, 855 RBI and a .302 batting average.

Bobby Mathews

Born: November 21, 1851

Died: April 17, 1898

Played: 1869-77,79,81-87

Position: Pitcher

*(Continued on page 6)*

# 19<sup>th</sup> Century Overlooked Legends (cont.)

*(Continued from page 5)*

Mathews, a pioneer pitcher in the development of both the spitball and the curveball, won 297 games, including the National Association's first game in 1871. Listed as five feet, four inches and 140 pounds, Mathews played amateur ball in Maryland before joining the Fort Wayne Kekiongas in the NA. In 1872, he joined



Baltimore as their ace, winning 25 games and leading the league in strikeouts. Mathews moved again in 1873 and joined the New York Mutuals, where he would stay through the 1876 season.

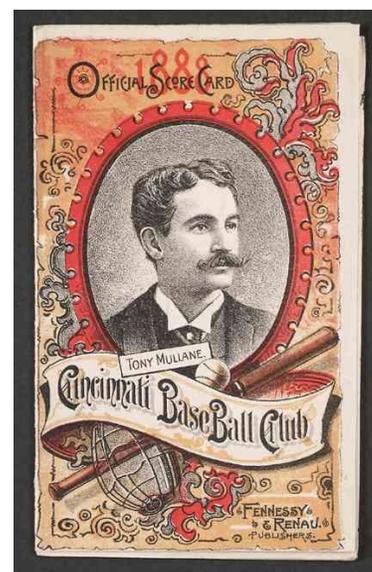
Mathews was their workhorse and led the league in strikeouts in 1873, shutouts in 1874, and ERA, games started, complete games and innings pitched in 1875. Despite the Mutuals being a subpar offensive team, Mathews managed to become the third winningest pitcher in the NA's exist-

tence, behind only Albert Spalding and Dick McBride, winning 131 games. At the end of the 1876 season, the Mutuals failed to play out their schedule and were removed from the National League, which was the beginning of an uncertain future for Mathews. From 1877 to 1882, Mathews bounced around from team to team, which ultimately cost him the three wins he needed for 300. He won just 39 games in those six seasons, although he was a key contributor as the change pitcher for the champion Providence Grays in 1879. Among his stops were the Columbus (1877) and Lynn (1878) teams of the rival International Association (considered a minor league) and a trip to the West Coast (in protest of the new reserve clause) to play for an independent team out of San Francisco in 1880. His career was rejuvenated in 1883 when he joined the Philadelphia-based Athletics of the American Association and led them to the championship. It was the first of three consecutive seasons of 30 wins for the hurler. Mathews finished his career with nearly 5,000 innings pitched and a 2.89 ERA.

**Tony Mullane**  
 Born: January 20, 1859  
 Died: April 25, 1944  
 Played: 1881-84,86-94  
 Position: Pitcher

Born in Ireland, Mullane won 284 games in thirteen major

league seasons. Nicknamed the "Count" and the "Apollo of the Box" for his good looks and polished appearance, Mullane was a popular player who was often called to pitch on "Ladies' Day" to get more fans to the field. He was a right-handed thrower who occasionally pitched from the left side as one of the few ambidextrous pitchers in baseball history. After a brief five-game stint in 1881 with the Detroit Wolverines of the National League, Mullane joined Louisville of the American Association the following season. Mullane won 30 games with a



1.88 ERA in over 460 innings pitched for the second place Eclipse. In 1883, he joined the St. Louis Browns and led them to a second place finish in the AA, winning 35 games with a 2.19 ERA. After flirting with playing for the St. Louis Maroons of the Union Association, despite being under contract with the Browns, he ended up in Toledo of the AA

*(Continued on page 7)*

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Overlooked Legends (cont.)

*(Continued from page 6)*

in 1884. He led the mediocre Blue Stockings with 36 wins, 325 strikeouts and 567 innings pitched. Mullane's revolving finally caught up with him in 1885. Toledo folded and he became property of St. Louis once again. Mullane decided to sign and play with Cincinnati instead. For his actions, Mullane was suspended for the entire 1885 season which ultimately cost enough wins to leave him short of 300 victories. In 1886, he joined Cincinnati and stayed with the team until June 1893, when he was traded to Baltimore. With the Red Stockings (team changed their name to the Reds when they joined the NL in 1890), Mullane won 20 or more games five times, including 33 in 1886 and 31 in 1887 even though the Reds were usually in the bottom half of the standings. In 1892, he left the team to protest his salary being cut which cost him a few more wins.

Mullane was a fine all around player who played the field in over 200 games when he didn't pitch and hit a respectable .243 for his career, scoring over 400 runs and stealing over 100 bases. He played minor league ball as late as 1902.

Joe Start

Born: October 14, 1842

Died: March 27, 1927

Played: 1859-86

Position: First Base

Start had one of the longest playing careers in baseball history,

playing in 1859 with the Enterprise Club of Brooklyn to 1886 with the Washington Nationals of the National League. In between, he would earn the nickname "Old Reliable" for his play on the field and for his honesty and personal integrity. At five feet, nine inches and 165 pounds, he was considered big



for his day. His size and athletic ability made him one of the 1860s most powerful hitters and the game's finest defensive first baseman. Start had tremendous range for his day and was known for his outstanding ability to catch throws from his teammates, of course with his bare hands. The lefty-throwing Start has often been credited for being the first to play first base off the bag. After his time with the Enterprise Club, he began play with the Atlantics of Brooklyn in 1862, becoming their first baseman through 1870. During the 1860s, he was consistently among the leaders in hits, runs

scored and total bases while the Atlantics were the National Association of Base Ball Players champions for the years 1864-1866 and 1869. Start had a key triple in the eleventh inning of the game that ended the Cincinnati Red Stockings' historic 89-game winning streak on June 14, 1870.

In 1871, he joined the New York Mutuals of the National Association, playing with them during the inaugural NL season of 1876. After playing with the Hartford Dark Blues in 1877 and the Chicago White Stockings in 1878, he joined Providence and batted .319 for the pennant-winning Grays. In 1884, as the team's captain, the Grays won the first "World Series" with Start leading all NL first basemen with a .980 fielding percentage, the fifth time he accomplished the feat since 1871. Start retired with a .299 batting average (.300 for his 11 NL seasons), batting over .300 seven times. He was the oldest player in the game during his last nine major league seasons.

Others receiving consideration but did not make our top ten include Bud Fowler, Mike Griffin, Dummy Hoy, Cal McVey, Lip Pike, Al Reach, Jack Stivetts, George Van Haltren, Chris Von der Ahe and Ned Williamson.

### Voting Process

The voting process will be quite simple. Sometime in May, every

*(Continued on page 8)*

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Overlooked Legends (cont.)

*(Continued from page 7)*

member of the Nineteenth Century Committee will receive a ballot either in electronic format or via U.S. mail. Each member will be asked to rank their top five candidates with 5 points for first place, 4 points for second place, etc. The person with the most points will be the Overlooked Nineteenth Century Legend for 2012. There will also be an opportunity to submit one or two

names to the subcommittee for consideration in 2013. The votes will be tabulated in June and the winner will be announced in Minneapolis, Minnesota during SABR's annual convention. Over the next few months, please take a good look at these candidates. We look forward to your ballot submission in May.

The 19<sup>th</sup> Century Legends

Project Committee consists of Charles Faber, Bob Gregory, Ralph Peluso and Joe Williams. Please feel free to drop Joe an email at [jwilliams22@snet.net](mailto:jwilliams22@snet.net) with any questions concerning the project. A final note: The committee thanks all of the great researchers of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Committee. If not for our members, both past and present, the bios for this project could not have been compiled.

## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER (cont.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

looked 19<sup>th</sup> Century Baseball Legend. Because, you are a member of our Nineteenth Century Committee I wish to encourage you to vote for the candidate of your choice among this year's ten candidates and to nominate a candidate for the Overlooked Legends Committee to consider for inclusion for next year's or future slates. As we announce the election results at our annual committee's business meeting held at the SABR National Convention and because SABR 42 is in late June of this year, we will hold the online (and paper ballot for those without email) election before the end of May. Please, watch for announcements of the election and, please, be sure to vote.

**Annual Committee Business Meeting at SABR 42:** As most of you know, this year's national convention is being held from Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> thru Sun-

day, July 1<sup>st</sup> in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The date and time of our annual business meeting is now set for Saturday, June 30 at 2 PM. Stay tuned for the meeting location. I will be posting several email announcements to the committee of the meeting's time and location as soon as I receive the final schedule from the SABR 42 organizers. I invite you to email me with any items of business that you would like to have considered at the Committee's Annual business meeting. I am looking forward to seeing you in Minneapolis.

**Greatest Games Book Project:** Under the incredibly steady and patient guidance of Editor-in-Chief, Bill Felber our Nineteenth Century Committee book project, "**Inventing Baseball: The 100 Greatest Games of the Nineteenth Century**" is steadily moving toward publication. Over forty (40) of our Nine-

teenth Century Committee members have contributed as writers, editors, proof readers, fact checkers and photo and image providers. I believe the end product will be a most enjoyable journey for readers of the formative years of our National Pastime told through one-hundred accounts of 19<sup>th</sup>-century games. I will reserve the true celebration until the point when we all can hold the actual book in its print-on-demand or e-book format, I do wish, however, to express at this time my thanks to the many of you who have contributed to this publication project.

**What is the Next Big Undertaking of the Nineteenth Century Committee?** Another book? Another conference, in the Fall, in a city and focused on that city's 19<sup>th</sup>-century baseball? A new nineteenth century data base, baseball writers? What do you think? Please, let me know.

# Research Request from Craig Waff

Committee member Craig Waff has been working for some years on a tabulation of early baseball games. These are games before the advent of formal leagues. He has done yeoman's service to the 19th Century research community. Below is his request for help locating details of "The Elusive 20 Games."

Part of my motivation for establishing the Games Tabulation was to indicate the existence of numerous games played in the pre-Civil War period that were not tabulated or listed by Peverelly and Wright in their separate compilations. Each of these authors listed about 300 games played in the Greater NYC area during this period, and although Wright acknowledged heavy reliance on Peverelly for the period prior to 1866 (the date of publication for Peverelly's book), there is not an exact one-to-one correspondence in the games that each separately listed.

But given these roughly 300 or so games that formed the initial foundation of the GT, I also wanted to determine if it was feasible to find at least one recorded account (especially in the contemporary newspapers) confirming the existence of each of the games. Although attaining such a goal has been challenged by numerous instances of wrong date, wrong score, etc., nevertheless, at least one primary source has indeed been found for most of the games listed by Peverelly and Wright.

After systematic searches through two daily newspapers (NY Times & Brooklyn Daily Eagle), and five sports weeklies (Spirit of the Times, Porter's Spirit of the Times, Wilkes' Spirit of the Times, New York Clipper, and the NY-based Sunday Mercury), however, I have identified twenty games listed by Peverelly and/or Wright that remain elusive, i.e., I have not been able to locate any reference to them in a game account or a "matches-to-come" announcement in the publications cited above. The 20 games are:

1 Oct 1855 - Gotham (NY) 22 vs. Eagle (NY) 11; Elysian Fields, Hoboken (Peverelly, pp. 22 & 26; Wright, pp. 4 & 5)

15 Oct 1855 - Eagle (NY) 21, Empire (NY) 15; Hoboken (Peverelly, pp. 26 & 30; Wright, p. 5 (twice))

5 Nov 1855 - Atlantic (Bedford) 27, Harmony (Brooklyn) 10; Brooklyn (Peverelly, p. 61; Wright, pp. 5 & 6)

20 Aug 1857 - Empire (NY) 39, Eagle (NY) 15; Hoboken (Peverelly, p. 30; Wright, pp. 9 & 10)

21 Aug 1857 - Atlantic (Bedford) 37, Continental (Brooklyn) 21; Atlantic grounds, Bedford (Peverelly, p. 61; Wright, pp. 9 & 13)

8 Sep 1857 - Harlem (NY), 25,

Union (Morrisania), 14; unknown playing field (Peverelly, p. 49; Wright, p. 11)

20 Oct 1857 - Atlantic (Bedford) 37, Putnam (Brooklyn) 15; Putnam grounds, Brooklyn (Peverelly, p. 62; Wright, pp. 9 & 12)

22 Oct 1857 - Atlantic (Bedford) 29, Eckford (Brooklyn), 11; Atlantic grounds, Bedford (Peverelly, pp. 62 & 73; Wright, pp. 9-12)

26 Aug 1858 - Mutual (NY) 56, Independent 12, unknown playing field (Peverelly, p. 37; Wright, p. 18)

4 Sep 1858 - Eckford (Brooklyn) 29, Putnam (Brooklyn) 10; Brooklyn, Eastern District (Peverelly, p. 73; Wright, p. 20 [twice])

10 Sep 1858 - Mutual (NY) 47, Baltic (NY), 26; unknown playing field (Peverelly, p. 37; Wright, pp. 18 & 25)

30 Sep 1858 - Mutual (NY) 18, Empire (NY) 17; Hoboken (Peverelly, p. 37; Wright, p. 18 [twice])

28 Oct 1858 - Phoenix (Brooklyn) 20, Oriental (Brooklyn) 8; unknown playing field (Wright, p. 22)

unknown 1858 - Pastime (Brooklyn) 33, Reserve Nine (Newark) 23; unknown playing field (Wright, p. 23)

## Research Request from Craig Waff (cont.)

6 Aug 1859 - Mutual (NY) 33, Jefferson (NY) 17; unknown playing field (Peverelly, p. 37; Wright, p. 35)

12 Aug 1859 - Newark (New Brunswick?) 22, Liberty (New Brunswick) 16; unknown playing field (Peverelly, p. 90)

19 Aug 1859 - Eagle (NY) 12, Gotham (NY) 11; unknown playing field (Peverelly, p. 26; Wright, pp. 33 & 34)

22 Aug 1859 - Excelsior (South Brooklyn) 41, Knickerbocker (NY) 37; muffin match on the fly; Excelsior grounds at foot of Court St., South Brooklyn (Peverelly, pp. 18 & 55)

5 Oct 1859 - Liberty (New Brunswick) 50, Union (Elizabeth) 21; unknown playing field (Peverelly, p. 90)

12 Oct 1859 - Social (NY) 49, Waverly 18; Greenpoint, L.I. (Peverelly, p. 44)

Lack of apparent coverage for the above games may have been due to one or more of the following factors: (1) No reporters covered the game, and the club secretaries did not send an account of the game to any newspaper or weekly; (2) Any reporter or secretarial accounts submitted to the newspapers and weeklies for a particular game were suppressed due to lack of space; (3) The game may have been reported to publications not yet consulted; (4) I may have somehow overlooked relevant accounts in the aforementioned publications despite systematic searches.

With the hope that reasons (3 or (4) may have been the cause of the apparent lack of coverage for at least some of the Elusive 20, I shall award a "Find of the

Month" if anyone can identify coverage of any of these games.

As I plan a research trip/vacation to the East Coast in late April, I also welcome suggestions regarding additional publications (especially local newspapers) with considerable coverage of base ball game accounts for the pre-CW period that I would find worthwhile consulting.

Craig's Games Tabulation can be found on the Retrosheet web site (<http://retrosheet.org/Protoball/GamesTab.htm>).

Craig's reference to Peverelly and Wright are:

-Charles Peverelly, *Book of American Pastimes*, 1866. (Reissued by Arcadia Publishing, 2005)

-Marshall D. Wright, *The National Association of Base Ball Players, 1857-1870*, 2000. (Available from McFarland)

## Pioneer Project News—A Review from Library Journal

Base Ball Pioneers, 1850–1870: The Clubs and Players Who Spread the Sport Nationwide. McFarland. Apr. 2012. NAp. ed. by Peter Morris & others. illus. bibliog. index. ISBN 9780786468430. pap. \$49.95.

Morris ( *A Game of Inches* ) and his colleague editors want the 1850 to 1870 decades of baseball to receive coverage similar to that of baseball's subsequent years.

Contributors here present nar-

rative club histories, including available biographical information, organized regionally from "Connecticut and Maine" to the "San Francisco Bay Area." Thus we learn that it wasn't until the waning of the Civil War that New York-style baseball (rather than barnball or roundball) can be documented in Maine and that Rochester, NY, had four significant pre-Civil War ball clubs. All pieces are carefully sourced, largely to contemporary

newspapers. VERDICT Although some libraries may not define the chapter-by-chapter narrative approach as reference, this is a scrupulous work that will enchant avid historians of early baseball. Rightly, there's no mention of Abner Doubleday. With all royalties to support SABR Negro League and deadball era projects documenting forgotten stars.

(See back page for Cover Art.)

# Committee News and Notes

**Bob McConnell**, one of SABR's 15 founding members and a long-time member of our Nineteenth Century Committee passed away at Christiana Hospital in Newark, Delaware on March 18<sup>th</sup> of this year; he was 87 years of age. We were extremely fortunate to have had Bob with us for so long and in such vibrant health right up through this past summer's SABR National convention in Long Beach, California. We are also very lucky that **Peter Morris** chose to write a biographical essay on Bob for SABR's Bioproject. There is also a detailed obituary on the SABR website. His pleasant manner and enthusiasm will be missed by the members of this committee and within SABR in general.

[editor's note: I first met Bob McConnell at the 1983 SABR Convention in Milwaukee. Despite being green as grass about SABR, I found myself in a small group discussion that included Bob. I was interested in everything baseball and it seemed to me that Bob knew everything interesting about baseball. Over the years as I became more active in the organization Bob and I exchanged notes often. Early on it was his request for some research about a missing detail about a home run in the Home Run Data Base he maintained. Later he was helpful to me on a Minor League Project I was working on. As I asked questions details and suggestions kept coming from Bob. We saw each other often at SABR Conventions

and at Philadelphia-area SABR functions when I lived in the area. I will miss him coming up to suggest projects, asking for information, giving information, and being so kind to me in 1983. BB]

Nineteenth Century Committee Member **Jim Hawking** has had his book, "Strikeout: Baseball, Broadway and the Brotherhood of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century" published by Sunshine Press. This historical novel centered around the players rebellion is available through Ingram.

**Charles Wesley "Charley" Jones** has been found. One of baseball's most tantalizing 19<sup>th</sup>-century mysteries has been solved. The exciting news was released by SABR's Biographical Committee in its February 2012 newsletter which is available on that committee's section of the SABR website. Jones died on June 6, 1911 at age 51 in New York City's Bellevue Hospital and is buried in Lutheran Cemetery in Queens, New York. Although, this discovery was made by a non-SABR genealogical researcher, Greg Perkins our own **Richard Malatzky** verified, by an examination of the death certificate on file at the NYC Department of Vital Records that this is in fact Charley Jones of 19<sup>th</sup> century baseball fame.

Continuing his focus on great players from the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century, Nineteenth Century Committee member, **Roy Kerr** has completed "Buck Ewing: A Baseball Biography". The book is scheduled to be available from McFarland Publishers in July. Roy has also written well researched biographies of Hall of Famers, Sliding Billy Hamilton and Roger Connor.

**John Thorn**, founding co-chair of our Nineteenth Century Committee and now, also, the Official Historian of Major League Baseball has formerly announced an invitation for our members and all baseball fans to add to the rich baseball historical record by contributing their personal baseball memories to BaseballMemoryLab.com. This project is being sponsored by Major League Baseball and MLB Advanced Media and is a collaboration of MLB and MLB's Origins Committee to which Thorn services as chair. John made a preliminary announcement about this project at our Nineteenth Century Committee's annual business meeting last summer at SABR 41 in Long Beach, California. Now it is alive and ready to go. Readers here should visit the website, BaseballMemoryLab.com to get further information and instructions on how to contribute their personal baseball memories to our National Pastime's historical record.

The CLUBS and PLAYERS WHO  
SPREAD the SPORT NATIONWIDE

# BASE BALL PIONEERS

1850-1870



EDITED BY

Peter Morris, William J. Ryanok,  
Jan Finkel, Leonard Levin AND Richard Malachuk