

NINETEENTH CENTURY NOTES

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Society for American Baseball Research

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Davis & Dahlen: Shortstop Twins

By Bill Lamb

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A pair of Gotham shortstops,

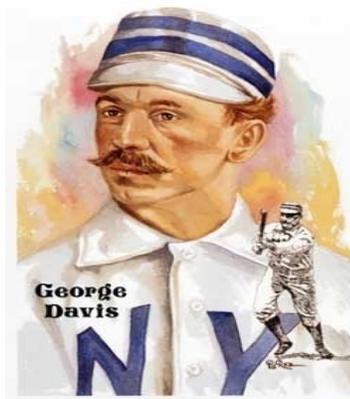
they had been the Reese and Rizzuto of their day – except that they were far superior players to Pee Wee and the

Scooter. Yet within a decade of their retire-

ment from the game, turn of the century stars George Davis and

decades after their deaths, the advent of sabermetrics and a

surge in interest in 19th century baseball spurred renewed appreciation for their career achievements.



Bill Dahlen were largely forgotten. But

Today, a Hall of Fame
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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER by Peter Mancuso

This issue's Chairman's Corner is going to require you to get out a pen and your calendar, but before we get to the portions that require those things let me mention several items that were announced at our annual business meeting on July 31st at SABR 43 in Philadelphia.

Overlooked 19th Century Baseball Legends 2014 election results press release can be found on SABR website. For those members without email I have enclosed a hard copy with this newsletter. In case you haven't heard the 2014 selection was **Ross Barnes**, 646 points. The following nine final candidates were: Tony Mullane,

583; Doc Adams, 458; Bob Caruthers, 454; Jack Glasscock, 435; Jim Creighton, 403; Dummy Hoy, 372; Paul Hines, 298; Bobby Mathews, 291 and Al Reach, 245. Also, see the article in this issue regarding the Overlooked Legends Committee.

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Davis & Dahlen (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

plaque bears the likeness of Davis, while Dahlen stands a reasonable chance of someday joining him in Cooperstown. Should such a reunion occur, it will be more than fitting – for the playing accomplishments of George Davis and

Pulliam decreed that the Giants had to surrender the contract-jumping Davis to the Chicago White Sox. Dahlen went on to shortstop a pennant-winning Giants team in 1904 and a World Series champion the following season. Davis, mean-

the abilities of the two men. Davis, for example, was decidedly the better hitter for average. During the best ten-years (1893-1902) of his career, George posted a .327 batting average. Dahlen, meanwhile, batted a respectable .291 over the same pe-

Davis
August 3, 1870, Cohoes, NY
5'9", 180 lbs
1890-1909
2,372
1,545
2,665
453
163

Category
Born
Height & Weight
Major League Career
Games
Runs
Hits
Doubles
Triples

Dahlen
January 5, 1870, Nelliston, NY
5'9", 180 lbs
1891-1911
2,444
1,590
2,461
413
163

Bill Dahlen were almost interchangeable, with the two being about the closest thing to virtual twins that the game has ever seen. Consider the biographical and statistical parallels in the boxes on this page.

In addition to their offensive prowess, both Davis and Dahlen were exceptional defensive players. New York manager John McGraw secured Dahlen's services from Brooklyn after National League President Harry

while, was the infield anchor of the White Sox World Series champs of 1906. The two also share a common failing: an inability to manage successfully in the major leagues. Davis went 107-139 (.435) in parts of three seasons at the Giants helm, while Dahlen was 251-355 (.414) in four campaigns as the Brooklyn skipper.

Care, of course, must be taken not to overtax the twin metaphor. There were necessarily differences in

riod, but with extra-base hit totals (405) comparable to those of Davis (417). Davis was also a slightly more prolific base stealer than Dahlen. Bill, however, rated the edge with the glove. In his prime, Dahlen was the game's premier defensive shortstop, with extraordinary range and a strong, accurate arm. *Total Baseball* estimates that Dahlen's fielding skills saved his teams a remarkable 352 runs over the course of his

(Continued on page 3)

Davis & Dahlen (cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

career. Davis was also a first-rate defensive shortstop, lacking only Dahlen's range on the left side of the diamond. Originally an outfielder, then a third baseman, George did not make the switch to short until his eighth season. But a shift to the middle of the diamond was a master stroke, putting Davis's sure hands, strong arm, and baseball intelligence to maximum advantage. For the remainder of his career, Davis would excel at shortstop, leading the league in fielding percentage on four separate occasions.

For all the similarity in their playing achievements, there was one department where the two men would not be confused: disposition. Here, George Davis and Bill Dahlen were polar opposites.

A clean, scientific-type player in a raucous baseball age, Davis was a mild-mannered man who rarely kicked about umpiring decisions. Davis was also intelligent, articulate, and possessed of considerable personal courage. Twice during his playing career – in rescuing a floundering swimmer in rough surf in 1894 and during a tenement fire in 1900 – he had risked his own life to save those of total strangers. Despite these attributes,

Davis was regarded coolly by the New York sporting press and Giants fans. Personal ambition in the form of willingness to collaborate with hated Giants owner Andrew Freedman and reputed instigation of the clubhouse coup that displaced Giants manager Buck Ewing estranged Davis from many in the baseball world. Davis also had a quiet mercenary streak, jumping from the Giants to the White Sox for more money in 1902, and then breaking his two-year Chicago contract to jump back to the Giants the next season for still more money, a maneuver which threatened to undo the fragile peace agreement just reached between the National and American Leagues and one which brought the wrath of the game's establishment down on Davis. As these and other controversies swirled around him, Davis appeared visibly unmoved, his amiable and placid demeanor unruffled. In all, George Davis was a player of standout ability but, otherwise, a colorless, enigmatic figure about whom anecdotes were a rarity.

Colorless was not a descriptive that would have been applied to Bill Dahlen.

Lackadaisical about practice, abrasive with opposing players and teammates alike, and disrespectful of authority, particularly when it took the form of an umpire or Cap Anson, his field skipper for eight seasons in Chicago, Dahlen was not known as "Bad Bill" without reason. A drinker, racetrack regular, and all-around hell-raiser, Dahlen, with Bill Lange and like-minded teammates, formed the Colts' notorious "Dawn Patrol." As he grew older, Dahlen moderated his off-field activities, but never lost the prickly personality of his youth. Still, he abided Manager John McGraw during his years in a New York uniform, and was a vital component of those early Giant championship teams.

Once removed from baseball, George Davis and Bill Dahlen lived out their lives in obscurity. Davis worked various jobs in St. Louis until 1931, when he and his wife Jane relocated to her hometown, Philadelphia. Soon, Davis's mind began to fail. After several hospitalizations, he was committed to Philadelphia State Hospital, a warehouse for the incurably demented. Davis died there in 1940 and was buried in an unmarked grave the following day. Meanwhile, Dahlen and second wife Jeannette lived

Chairman's Corner (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

2014 Chairman's Awards were presented to four Nineteenth Century Committee members for their recent contributions to our committee and related projects. This year's recipients of the specially inscribed 1880's Burlingame model replica bat from the Phoenix Bat Company were: **Bill Ryczek** for his prominent editorial duties in completing the second volume, *Baseball Founders: of the Pioneer Project*; **Marty Tangel** for his initiation and organizing of a wreath laying ceremony and vintage baseball pitching demonstration last October at the gravesite of baseball pitching pioneer Jim Creighton in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, NY on the sesquicentennial of Creighton's death; **Joanne Hulbert** and **Trent McCotter** for their respective roles in securing, converting and making available (via the SABR on-line archives) the re-

search notes on the 19th century American Association teams, compiled between 10 and 20 years ago by members of this Committee. Now, get your calendar and pen.

Frederick Ivor-Campbell 19th Century Base Ball Conference: We are now accepting 20-minute research presentation proposal abstracts. Include title, 100-300 word abstract on any 19th century baseball topic and contact information. Deadline 1/31/14; email: peter-plus4@earthlink.net or mail: Peter Mancuso, 6970 Ely Road, New Hope, PA 18938. Jury results late February 2014.

Within the next few weeks: 19th Century Baseball Book Annotation Project. Watch your SABR emails from our Nineteenth Century Committee for a link to this live on-line project. See the announcement

below.

Deadball Era vs. 19th Century All-Star Game Simulation. The ballot for the selections is on pages 12-16 of this Newsletter. **See article and ballot** in this issue.

2014 Frederick Ivor-Campbell 19th Century Base Ball Conference registration information and form available in Winter issue of this newsletter. Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY, **April 11 & 12, 2014** (2015 Ivor-Campbell Conference April 17 & 18).

Overlooked 19th Century Base Ball Legend Primaries: Watch for email linking our members to the 2014 slate of Primary Candidates and 2015 nominees which is scheduled for a mid-February distribution. **See article in this issue.**

Annotation Project Plans

Although, still a proposed project, we are moving forward to present to our Nineteenth Century Committee membership a prototype example of what could be the future of collective on-line baseball research. If you love reading 19th century baseball books or books about 19th century baseball you may find this sample project most appealing.

In the weeks ahead, our entire membership will be receiving an email from our Nineteenth Cen-

ture Committee through SABR that will provide a link to a website designed and maintained by our fellow committee member and Baseball Hall of Fame curator and Project Coordinator, **Tom Shieber**. By linking to the website you will find instructions on how to access the chosen 19th century baseball book that Tom will have already seeded with sample annotations (critical or explanatory notes added to the text). From there you will have the option and

ability to jump right into the annotation process and become part of this prototype research project.

Look for the email announcement titled "19th Century Baseball Book Annotation Project" from our Nineteenth Century Committee in the weeks ahead. I hope all of you will visit the link to the book annotation website and that some of you will join the research and the fun behind the research while becoming the "World Experts" on the chosen 19th century baseball book.

Research Sources— 19th Century Sporting Papers

In a recent exchange on the Nineteenth Century listserv (19cBB@Yahoogroups.com), committee member John Thorn posted a listing of sporting papers being published in 1887 throughout the country. Below is the list:

From Rowell's American Newspaper Directory, 1887, the nation's sporting papers:

ARKANSAS. -Little Rock. Clipper, weekly.

CALIFORNIA. -San Francisco, Breeder and Sportsman, weekly.

ILLINOIS-Auburn. American Chess Review, monthly.

-Chicago, American Field, weekly.

-Chicago, Dunton's Spirit of the Turf, weekly.

-Chicago, Horseman, weekly.

-Chicago, Sporting and Theatrical Journal, weekly.

-Chicago, American Liveryman and Horse Owner, monthly.

-Chicago, Western Sportsman, monthly.

INDIANA

-Indianapolis, Western Sportsman and Live Stock News, weekly.

LOUISIANA

-New Orleans, Bicycle South, monthly.

MASSACHUSETTS

-Boston, Bicycling World, weekly.

-Boston, L. A. W. Bulletin, weekly.

-Boston, Referee, weekly.

-Boston, Rifle, monthly.

-Springfield, Wheelmen's Gazette, monthly.

MISSOURI

-Kansas City, Dramatic and Sporting Echo, weekly.

-St. Louis, Sporting News, weekly.

-St. Louis, American Wheelman, monthly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

-East Rochester, Star Advocate, monthly.

NEW YORK

-Albany, Forest, Forge and Farm, monthly.

-New York, American Angler, weekly.

-New York, Clipper, weekly.

-New York, Forest and Stream, weekly. Quarterly.

-New York, Good Times, weekly.

-New York, *Illustrated Sporting World, weekly.

-New York, Kennel and Gun, weekly.

-New York, Spirit of the Times, weekly.

-New York, Sporting World, weekly.

-New York, Sportsman, weekly.

-New York, Turf, Field and Farm, weekly.

-New York, Wheel and Recreation, weekly.

-New York, American Canoeist, monthly.

-New York, American Kennel Register, monthly.

-New York. American Yachtsman, monthly.

-New York International Chess

Magazine, monthly.

-New York. Outing, monthly.

-New York. Sporting and Turf Record, monthly.

-New York, Fur, Fin and Feather, bi-monthly.

OHIO

-Cincinnati, American Sportsman, weekly.

-Cincinnati, Trap and Trigger, monthly.

PENNSYLVANIA.

-Philadelphia, Sporting Life, weekly.

-Philadelphia, American Athlete, weekly.

-Pittsburgh, Sports Referee and

Dramatic Journal, weekly.

-Williamsport, Board, weekly.

ONTARIO

-St. Thomas, Canadian Wheelman, monthly.

-Toronto, Canadian Sportsman and Live Stock Journal, weekly.

Deadball v. 19th Century All-Star Competition

By Bill Lamb

At the 2014 SABR convention in Houston, we hope to stage a simulated fantasy baseball game between the Deadball Era all-star team recently selected by the Deadball Era Committee and a team of late-19th century greats to be chosen by members of this committee. The game will be conducted under the auspices of the SABR Games and Simulations Committee and supervised/umpired by G&S Committee leaders. The purpose of this note is to familiarize those who wish to cast a ballot for the 19th Century team with some of the guidelines for voting.

Conduct of the Deadball-19th Century all-stars fantasy game will involve the use of highly detailed player performance cards. The G&S Committee leadership has generously agreed to create these cards for us, once the team rosters have been submitted to them. The Deadball squad, -- eight regulars, three reserves, and a five-man pitching staff, all to be managed by John McGraw -- was unveiled at the convention in Philadelphia last month and holds few surprises. As might be expected, the Deadball lineup includes Cobb, Wagner, Speaker, Walter Johnson and Christy Mathewson. In preparing the player performance cards for these players, the G&S will utilize only their stats during the Deadball Era: the 1901 through 1919 seasons. What Wagner did before

1901 or what Cobb did after the 1919 season will not be included. In addition, the card data are confined to player performance for only one team over a five season-minimum period. This does not affect the one-team players but someone like Deadball reserve player Eddie Collins, the Deadball Committee will have to choose between his Philly and Chicago stats.

The five-year minimum with one team requirement has much greater effect on the selection of the 19th Century all-star team. Given insufficient data, the G&S can only provide player performance cards for late-19th century players, with the 1880 season being the approximate starting point. This eliminates pioneer greats like George Wright, and Al Spalding from all-star team consideration. The fluidity of player movement post-1880 is also problematic. Consider, for example, the case of Hall of Famer Dan Brouthers. During his outstanding career, Dan had only one stretch where he played for the same team five years running: Buffalo (NL) 1881-1885. Because a Brouthers player performance card will be limited to Brouthers' tenure with Buffalo voters are asked to confine their evaluation of Brouthers to his 1881 to 1885 seasons with Buffalo when assessing whether or not to choose him as the 19th Century all-star

team first baseman.

To provide all-star team voting a little more broader scope, an elastic definition has been given to the "same club" requirement. Players with teams that remained in the same municipality but changed leagues (like 1889 AA Brooklyn-1890 NL Brooklyn or 1889 NL NY Giants-1890 PL NY Giants) will be deemed to have played for the "same club" for all-star team voting purposes.

As with the Deadball squad, voters are asked to select a starter at each field position; a three-player bench of position players; a five-man pitching staff, and a manager. To assist in the evaluation process, a list of proposed candidates is attached hereto. In each case, the five-year minimum for the player has been specified on the ballot. Kindly focus your attention on the candidate's performance during those seasons, and not over his entire MLB career. A space for a write-in vote is provided at each position.

In the final analysis, the object of this exercise is to add an interesting and enjoyable event to the docket of the 2014 SABR convention. The participation of those who choose to join the project is much appreciated. Submittal instructions are on the ballot. Please submit your ballot by December 31, 2013.

The four-page ballot is found on pages 12-15.

John J. Lawlor: The Gloveless Wonder

by Bob Mayer

John Joseph Lawlor was born in Canada on August 17, 1869. He was one of seven children of Daniel and Margaret Lawlor who had emigrated from Ireland around 1865 with their first child Margaret. John and his older brother William were both born in Canada before the Lawlor family moved to the United States around 1873. He grew up and attended school in North Adams, Massachusetts. Most folks began calling him 'Jack' at an early age.

I first came across Jack's name on a photograph of the 1892 Middletown Asylum Base Ball team while researching the Wallkills BBC. Because there were three of the Wallkills players from their 1887 team in that photograph, I decided to research the team further. Fortunately, in addition to playing for the Asylum team, Jack had a long career associated with professional baseball and I was able to track his whereabouts as well as his continued link to the State Hospital in Middletown.

I was also fortunate to locate quite a number of photographs of Jack with uniforms from several of his minor league clubs. For this I will

thank Jack's grandson Joe Lawlor (still a Middletown resident), Tony Kissel who studies early baseball around Utica, NY, John



John Lawlor

Degnan, the Middletown and Wallkill Precinct Historical Society and Albert G. Spalding for copies of their photos.

In 1891, Jack and two other North Adams men, Jack Dooley and Ed Ryan were invited to play baseball for the State Homeopathic Asylum in Middletown, New York. So the three lads made the move, and Jack also took a job as a Hospital Attendant for the summer. Dooley found a job as bartender, and Ryan as a laborer. Lawlor would continue to work at the State

Hospital (Asylum) through 1909, and again briefly in 1921.

Jack became the star center fielder for the Asylum Base Ball Club, and the team won 13 of 20 games that year. In the winter, both Lawlor and Jack Dooley went down to Tampa Florida to play ball in the Florida State League. When the team folded both came back to Middletown. In 1892 the team really clicked and in June, Alfred Lawson, the originator of the Tampa team, requested a spot with the Asylum team. Although reluctant, Manager Wilbur Cook took Dooley's recommendation and Lawson pitched the next seven straight victories for the team. Unfortunately, Lawson had arranged for a team to go England for baseball exhibition games and tried to get several of the Asylum men to join the overseas trip. When wind of this got out, Lawson was thrown off the team, and fortunately, none of the men left with him.

The team ended up winning 22 of 24 games for the season. Their only two losses came at the hands of the National League's New York Giants (2-1 and 5-4). Lawlor was awarded the Conglomer-

(Continued on page 8)

John Lawlor (cont.)

(Continued from page 7)

ate Gold Medal for the best general record during the season. In 1893 John married Maria Garland (1872-1962) of Middletown and a son John Jr. was born.

Maria's parents, Michael and Catherine Sullivan Garland had also emigrated from Ireland. That year, the Asylum team won 19 games and lost 6.

In 1894, two more young men from North Adams joined the Asylum team, Art Madison and Jack Chesbro. Chesbro would pitch for the team that year and lead them to a 21 and 7 record.

Lawlor and Madison lived in the Annex Building situated behind the Main Building. Chesbro and Chris Genegal, the team's power hitter, lived in Pavilion Building #2. All four men would go on to professional baseball teams and both Madison and Chesbro would play in the Major Leagues. Chesbro, who still holds the post 1900 record for games won in a single season (41), was voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1946.

Somehow during 1894,

Lawlor also found time to play a number of games for the Springfield Ponies in the Eastern League. In 1895, John was recruited by Gloversville of the New York State League. He was bat-

but it wasn't quite the same.

In 1896 Jack and Maria had a second son, Daniel. Jack again played with the Syracuse Stars, but in 1897 he stayed home for the summer, playing locally with the Asylum BBC as well as their new softball team. Softball was just getting popular, having first appeared on Thanksgiving Day in 1887 at the Farragut Boat Club in Chicago, and games were played indoors at the new Armory in Middletown. By 1898, Jack got

the itch again to play professional ball so he hooked up with Canandaigua in the New York State League. Chris Genegal had played the prior two years with the Canandaigua team, and had led the league in base hits in 1897. Lawlor batted .283 for the team in 1898. In 1899 a daughter Catherine was born (Catherine ultimately became Mrs. Frank Kearns). Jack again moved on, this time to Cortland, NY. The Cortland Wagonmakers were also in the NYS League and Jack



1905 Asylum Reunion Game

ting .347 when the team folded. He then bounced around the Eastern League from Springfield to Syracuse then to Rochester where he was released after only one game. Upon coming back to Middletown, he took a position with Clinton's Casino Cafe and moved into a house at 31 Canal Street. The Asylum team had lost eight of their starting players to Minor League contracts in 1895, so it was a rebuilding year. Jack managed to play a few games with the team,

John Lawlor (cont.)

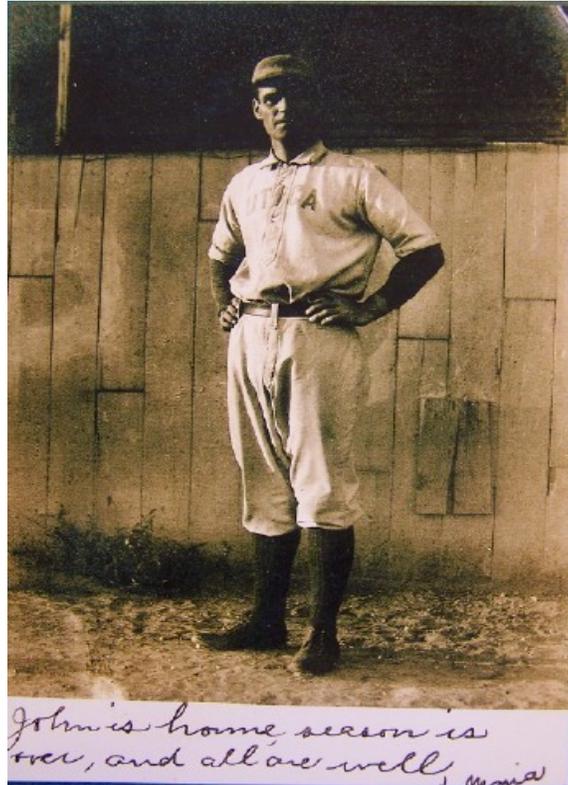
batted a solid .312. The following year saw him move once more to the Troy Washerwomen where he batted .300.

In 1901 Jack joined the Utica Pent-Ups in the same league, and seemed to have found a home. He played with Utica for two years batting .328 and .281. Although in 1903 he played for the Newark Sailors in the Eastern League (batting .283), Jack's third son Joseph was born in May and he returned to Utica where he was named Manager in 1904. As Player/Manager for nearly three years he played somewhat less and batted .265, .248 and .205 while the team finished last, next-to-last, and next-to-last. However, these results are not particularly due to Jack's management style. The team consistently finished in those same two positions in the eight team league for many years.

It was about this time that John and Maria moved to 28 Knapp Avenue in Middletown.

At the end of 1906, Jack played briefly with a semi-pro team in Canton, NY. Over the next four years Jack continued his Player/Manager role, initially with Yonkers of

the Hudson River League. When the league folded af-



Lawlor with Utica 1906

ter only two weeks, he traveled all the way to Kansas with the Topeka White Sox and then the Leavenworth Convicts teams managing and batting .276. Somehow, John still managed to play a few games at home with the Middletown Athletic Club late in the season. In 1908, Jack was back in the New York State League with the Elmira Colonels and batted .330, pretty impressive for a 39 year old. In 1908, Jack and Chris also played with the Middletown Athletic

Club as they defeated both the NY Giants, and the Brooklyn Dodgers.

In 1909 he went down South to manage the Macon (Georgia) Peaches in the Sally League, and also hit .191. The following year he managed the Richmond Colts in the Virginia League (.199 average), and ended up finishing the year with Meriden, Mississippi. Sadly, in 1910 John Jr. passed away at age 16.

I don't know Lawlor's whereabouts in 1911 and 1912, but I wanted to add that back in 1905, Jack reunited with some of the best players on the Asylum BBC for a reunion game against the Cuban X Giants, one of the best Black Professional teams. The game was played on September 29th at the old Asylum grounds and Happy Jack Chesbro, Tuck Turner, Art Madison, Chris Genegal and several others beat the Giants 4 to 0 behind Chesbro's pitching.

In the above photos, you can see that Jack is wearing a glove. In fact, he was one of the last players in professional baseball to play the field without wearing a glove and was known as the "Gloveless Wonder".

Origins to Co-Host 2014 NYC Baseball Symposium

The 2014 NYC 19th Century Baseball Interdisciplinary Symposium's scheduled for November 15, 2014 at John Jay College in Manhattan will be co-hosted by SABR's 19th Century and Origins Committees.

The symposium will be covering over six decades of 19th century New York City baseball history (including the five boroughs and nearby New Jersey) with the additional participation of local and regional historians, academicians and other 19th century experts. This aim is to enlarge and enhance our collective understanding of the 19th century game in NYC and its particular place in 19th century NYC life.

Over the approximate six decade span, circa 1840 to 1900 there is a near equal split between the pre-professional era and the openly professional era. This chronological partition offers a natural opportunity to organize the symposium program in a way that will likely benefit its participants.

The one-day Saturday event, (with optional Friday and Sunday activities being planned), will offer approximately eight hours of other programming including a luncheon with keynote speaker, panel discussions and individual presentations examining these two NYC Baseball Eras.

In any event this format is hardly set in cement, yet there seems to be a growing consensus that it offers a natural approach for both Nineteenth Century and Origins Committee planners and participants, affording both groups a somewhat sharper image of how the program might be organized and presented and ultimately giving its audience a more informative and understandable history of 19th-century NYC baseball and the environment in which it evolved.

The NYC symposium is intended to be a prototype for a series of subsequent 19th century baseball interdisciplinary symposia in other cities. We urge Nineteenth Century and Origins Committee members interested in organizing a symposium in this series

in their respective cities to join the planning committee of this 2014 NYC effort as well as urging them to attend the NYC program in November 2014. Even if you join in as an observing member you will no doubt benefit from discovering what ultimately worked and what ultimately did not. To join in the active planning or to be an observer member contact either Bill Johnson, bill.johnson@gmail.com or Peter Mancuso, peter-plus4@earthlink.net.

The 2014 NYC 19th Century Baseball Interdisciplinary Symposium Planning Committee currently contains the following members from the Nineteenth Century and/or Origins Committees: Bob Bailey; David Dyte; Irvin Goldfarb; Donald Jensen; Bill Johnson, Chair-Origins; Peter Mancuso, Chair-Nineteenth Century; Larry McCray, Founding & Emeritus Chair-Origins; George Thompson; John Thorn and John Zinn.

Darowski Assumes Overlooked Legend Chair

Adam Darowski has been named Chairman of the 19th Century Overlooked Legend Committee. Chairman Joe Williams has stepped down after five years of service.

In these last five years under Williams' leadership the Overlooked Legends Committee has taken the concept of identifying,

recognizing overlooked 19th century baseball legends from an idea to a SABR-wide annual selection process. The Committee has conducted five elections all the while soliciting and increasing the input of our Nineteenth Century Committee membership in the process.

The 2014 Overlooked 19th Century Baseball Legends selection process will follow the newly ex-

panded 2013 process which included a January primary/ nomination process for 19th Century Committee members, the annual general election in the Spring and the announcement and publication of the election results at next Summer's SABR 44 convention in Houston, Texas.

Adam can be reached at adarowski@gmail.com.

Committee News & Notes

The 19th Century-produced book *Inventing Baseball* is available in paperback and e-pub versions. To obtain a Kindle version use this link:

<http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00DZZGLI2>

and the paperback:

<http://amzn.com/1933599421>

Cecilia Tan, SABR Publications Director asks that members of the Committee to review the book on Amazon? They don't have to have bought it from Amazon to post a review just having bought something from Amazon in the past allows you to log on. Amazon removes reviews by authors and contributors of a publication.

Reviews on Amazon is the number one factor that helps books sell, both e-books and the paperbacks. Amazon will link the two pages together in the next 2-3 days so that either one that is reviewed will show up on both.

You can also check out today's John Thorn's MLB blog "Our Game" where he posted his Introduction to "Inventing Baseball". It is a most stirring piece on why he and others have such a fond and strong appreciation of 19th Century Baseball.

-Committee member Kevin McCann has published a reprint of Edward Ashenbach's 1911 book *Humor Among the Minors: True Tales from the Baseball Brush*. Ashenbach was a player and manager in the minor leagues from 1890 until 1911 and was briefly a scout for the Cincinnati Reds in 1911. In addition to a reproduc-

tion of the original book, this new edition contains a biography of Ashenbach and his playing statistics. It also has an index that wasn't available in the original, which will be a benefit for researchers.

The book is a 5 x 8 case laminate hardback and 314 pages. It's available online at

<http://braybreepublishing.com/books/humoramongtheminors>.



-Mario Torres asks for help concerning the following: Ed Delahanty hit 4 home runs in a game at Chicago on July 13, 1896. The second of these 4 home runs flew over the 40 foot screen erected over the rf bleachers at West Side Grounds. This was supposedly the longest homer hit on the grounds that season. Do you know much about this home run? Where did it actually land? How many feet did the ball travel? I am really intrigued because this home run was hit a long way to the opposite field. Whatever info you have would be greatly appreciated. Contact at: mft1960@att.net.

-David Block reports on a baseball find in Scotland: The combined efforts of two accomplished SABR researchers on both sides of the Atlantic produced this discovery. Bruce Allardice found evidence in several U.S. newspapers that American-style baseball was being played in Scotland in 1870, and reported his findings to Protoball. Joe Gray in Britain followed up Bruce's work by digging into Scottish newspapers to uncover important details about this early and previously unreported baseball episode. The result is the revelation of what could be the earliest formally established baseball club outside of North America. Here is a link to the write-up Joe Gray posted to a British baseball website:

<http://www.baseballgb.co.uk/?p=16856>

-*Base Ball Founders: The Clubs, Players and Cities of the Northeast that Established the Game*, the companion title to " of the Pioneer Project is currently available and may be ordered directly from McFarland Publishers. The book is edited by many Committee members including Peter Morris, Bill Ryczek, Jan Finkel, Len Levin and Richard Malatzky.

-Jim Gates reports that University of Maryland archivist Anne Turkos has announced that one of their digitization projects is now available. They have scanned the baseball constitution and rule books from 1871 to 1910 and they are available via this web site:

<http://www.lib.umd.edu/univarchives/baseball>

NINETEENTH CENTURY ALL-STAR TEAM BALLOT

FIRST BASE:

- Cap Anson, NL Chicago, 1880-1897
- Jake Beckley, NL/PL Pittsburgh, 1888-1896
- Dan Brouthers, NL Buffalo, 1881-1885
- Charles Comiskey, AA St. Louis, 1882-1889
- Roger Connor, NL/PL New York, 1883-1891
- Dave Orr, AA New York, 1883-1887
- Write-In Selection _____

SECOND BASE:

- Cupid Childs, NL Cleveland, 1891-1898
- Nap Lajoie, NL Philadelphia, 1896-1900 [Note: Lajoie was selected as the Deadball Era all-star team starting second baseman, but he also meets the eligibility criteria for election to the 19th Century team.]
- Bobby Lowe, Boston NL, 1890-1900
- Bid McPhee, AA/NL Cincinnati, 1882-1899
- Fred Pfeffer, NL/PL Chicago, 1883-1891
- Hardy Richardson, NL Buffalo, 1880-1886
- Write-In Selection _____

SHORTSTOP

- Bill Dahlen, NL Chicago, 1891-1898
- George Davis, NL New York, 1893-1900
- Jack Glasscock, NL Cincinnati, 1880-1884
- Hughie Jennings, NL Baltimore, 1893-1898
- Herman Long, NL Boston, 1890-1900
- John Montgomery Ward, NL New York, 1883-1889
- Write-In Selection _____

THIRD BASE:

- Jimmy Collins, NL Boston, 1895-1900
- Lave Cross, AA/NL/PL Philadelphia, 1889-1897
- John McGraw, AA/NL Baltimore, 1891-1899
- Billy Nash, NL/PL Boston, 1885-1895
- Deacon White, NL Buffalo, 1881-1885
- Ned Williamson, NL/PL Chicago, 1880-1890
- Write-In Selection _____

CATCHER:

- Charlie Bennett, NL Detroit, 1881-1888
- Buck Ewing, NL/PL New York, 1883-1892
- King Kelly, NL Chicago, 1880-1886 [Note: Kelly played more games in the outfield but caught often enough to be listed on the ballot as a catcher, an all-star team position that benefits more from his candidacy than the outfield does. But voters are at liberty to select Kelly as an outfield write-in selection, if they so choose.]
- Deacon McGuire, AA/NL Washington, 1891-1899
- Wilbert Robinson, NL Baltimore, 1892-1899
- Chief Zimmer, AA/NL Cleveland, 1887-1899
- Write-In Selection _____

OUTFIELD [Select three (3), irrespective of left/center/right fielder designation.]

- Pete Browning, AA Louisville, 1882-1889
- Jesse Burkett, NL Cleveland, 1891-1898
- Ed Delahanty, NL Philadelphia, 1891-1900
- Hugh Duffy, NL Boston, 1892-1900
- Billy Hamilton, NL Philadelphia, 1890-1895
- Billy Hamilton, NL Boston, 1896-1900
- Willie Keeler, NL Baltimore, 1894-1898

(Outfielders continued on next page)

Outfielders (cont.)

- Joe Kelley, NL Baltimore, 1892-1898
- Bill Lange, NL Chicago, 1893-1899
- Tip O'Neill, AA St. Louis, 1885-1889
- Jim O'Rourke, NL/PL New York, 1885-1892
- Jimmy Ryan, NL/PL Chicago, 1885-1900
- Sam Thompson, NL Philadelphia, 1889-1898
- Mike Tiernan, NL New York, 1888-1899
- George Van Haltren, NL New York, 1894-1900
- Write-in Selection _____

RESERVE PLAYERS: [Three (3) Write-In Selections]

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

PITCHERS: [Select Five (5)]

- John Clarkson, NL Boston, 1888-1892
- Pud Galvin, NL Buffalo, 1880-1885
- Bill Hutchison, NL Chicago, 1889-1895
- Tim Keefe, NL/PL New York, 1884-1892
- Jim McCormick, NL Cleveland, 1880-1884
- Sadie McMahan, AA/NL Baltimore, 1890-1896
- Tony Mullane, AA/NL Cincinnati, 1886-1893
- Kid Nichols, NL Boston, 1890-1900
- Charlie Radbourn, NL Providence, 1881-1885
- Amos Rusie, NL New York, 1890-1898
- Jack Stivetts, NL Boston, 1892-1898
- Mickey Welch, NL New York, 1884-1892

Pitchers continued on next page

Pitchers (cont.)

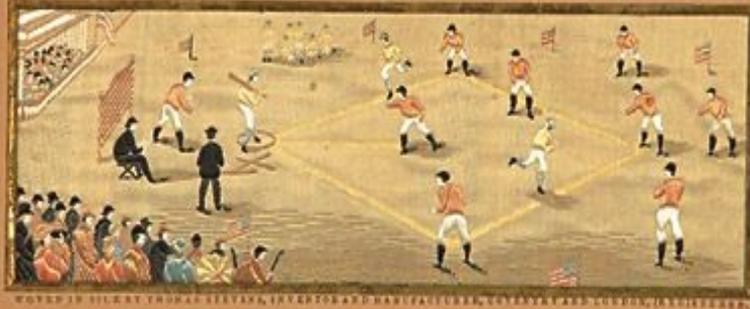
- Will White, AA Cincinnati, 1882-1886
- Jim Whitney, NL Boston, 1881-1885
- Cy Young, NL Cleveland, 1890-1898
- Write-In Selection _____

NON-PLAYING MANAGER OR CAPTAIN [No eligibility pre-conditions, but the manager/field captain will not play in the SABR convention fantasy game unless he has also been selected to the 19th Century all-star team at a position.]

- Cap Anson, NL Chicago
- Charles Comiskey, AA St. Louis
- Ned Hanlon, NL Baltimore/Brooklyn
- Jim Mutrie, AA/NL New York
- Harry Wright, NA/NL Boston, NL Providence, NL Philadelphia
- Write-In Selection _____

Completed all-star team ballots can be e-mail to me at wflamb12@yahoo.com or mailed via US Mail to Bill Lamb, 4 Mudgett Avenue, Meredith, New Hampshire, 03253.

Please submit your ballot by December 31, 2013.



MOVED TO SILE BY THOMAS STEVENS, INVENTOR AND MANUFACTURER, COVENTRY AND LONDON, (ENGLAND)

The First Innings.