

NINETEENTH CENTURY NOTES

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The 19th Century encompasses baseball's birth and growth to adulthood. Often dismissed as quaint by the casual fan, it is a period rich with the varied flavors of baseball they know. We couldn't have the game of today without the game of yesterday, in which the past is everywhere present.

In *Inventing Baseball: The 100 Greatest Games of the 19th Century*, a project of SABR's 19th Century Committee and is seeking writers for games to be included. Some of the nation's top experts (all members of the 19th Cen-

tury Committee) selected the hundred games that mattered, were thought great in their day or, with the benefit of historical

process as several hundred games were considered and debated.

The games chronicled in this book trace the game's evolution from base ball to baseball through rule changes, strategic innovations, development of stars and early versions of America's Teams. They also demonstrate that some of the well-known events of the modern game have antecedents and parallels in an earlier time. The 1919 Black Sox Scandal is presaged by the 1877 Louisville Gambling

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Chairman's Corner by Peter Mancuso

For most baseball fans the 2010 season is upon us. We, however, are truly the lucky fans; baseball never leaves us, its' history is always there. We have: new (old) games to exam-

ine (Greatest Baseball Games of the 19th Century), a new fact about a long-forgotten player or team (The Pioneer Project), a chance to vote for an overlooked legend (Overlooked 19th Century

Baseball Legends Project), an opportunity to gather and exchange our research and interests among likeminded friends and colleagues (Frederick Ivor-Campbell

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incident, have emerged as great through recent studies. This was not an easy

Inventing Baseball (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

Scandal; an early effort by John McGraw to bring Charlie Grant to the majors by claiming he was an American Indian has parallels to Bill White's appearance for Providence in 1879; Jackie Robinson's struggles to establish himself in Organized Baseball had an earlier version in Fleet Walker's travails in the 1880s.

A modern fan may not even recognize many of the games on our list as baseball. But that could also be said of the game's players at various stages of the 19th Century. One of the effects of this book is to chronicle the succession of those changes. Chronologically, the selections begin with an 1833 game between the Olympics and Camdens that was very much a gentlemanly contest in the old style. Its importance was primarily formative: It was the first documented effort to apply concepts such as innings, batting orders and runs to the notion of a "stick and ball" game. The book documents the continuation of this progress well into the 1840s with the rise of the Knickerbockers.

By the 1860s, "base ball" had taken hold, being played on college campuses and in touring exhibitions. Union prisoners at the Salisbury camp in North Carolina formed teams for a July 4

game in 1862. It was also in the 1860s that for the first time an entrepreneur got the bright idea to fence off a field and charge admission to a ballgame.

Following the war, the stylistic modifications continued and accelerated. The first avowedly all-professional team formed in Cincinnati. For the better part of two seasons it traveled from coast to coast, enduring several close calls but running up an undefeated record before that streak was ended in June of 1870 by the Atlantics of Brooklyn. In 1871, the first association of professional players organized for the purpose of conducting a championship series. This was the National Association and it lasted for five seasons before being supplanted in 1876 by the National League.

Through all of this time, indeed into the 1890s, the actual rules of play underwent more or less constant modification. Pitching distances extended from 45 to 60 feet, rules for what constitutes an "out" were adjusted, and fielder's gloves came into existence. The story of the great 19th Century games repeatedly reflects the unceasing change that characterized the era.

The story is not, how-

ever, largely one of equipment and rules. Like all good stories, it is very much about people. In these stories you will meet characters of the stripe of Tony Mullane, the ambidextrous pitching dandy. You'll meet John Lee Richmond, whose first big league pitching performance was a no-hitter delivered on the day before he attended his own college commencement. You'll meet Hoss Radbourn, who won either 59 or 60 games in 1884 but who may have been more proud of the home run he hit in the 18th inning to break up a tie game in 1882. You'll meet Jim Creighton, probably baseball's first "star," the circumstances of whose 1862 death have become baseball legend. You'll meet Hugh "One Arm" Daily, who overcame his handicap to pitch a no-hitter in 1883, and who a year later struck out 19 opponents in a single game. You'll meet Al Spalding – not the executive but the fresh teen from Rockford, Ill. – stepping up to lead his small-town club to victory over the touring Washington club...and in so doing altered the very course of his life.

When we speak of "great" 19th Century games, a central tenet of our reference is to "meaningful" ones. That includes games that show

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Inventing Baseball (cont.)

(Continued from page 2) baseball's progression as a part of its society. That progression was often of the "two steps forward, one step back" variety. In no other area is that experience more obvious than in the area of integration, largely, although not entirely, racial. As early as 1867, "colored" teams formed and contested their own championship. 1869 brought the first known instance of integrated competition. In 1879, Bill White became the first black to play in a major league game; his experience, however, consisted of just one ballgame.

The game's failure to serve as a role model in the turbulent racial atmosphere of the late 19th Century was merely one illustration of the mixed success it had in dealing with social ills. Gambling was another. As early as 1865, players arranged for the fixing of a game. In 1877, four members of the Louisville National League team were banned for life because evidence surfaced that they had conspired to throw games.

The following list has the games that will be included in *Inventing Baseball: The 100 Greatest Games of the 19th Century* that still need writers. If you are interested in joining this effort

please contact Bill Felber at bfelber@att.net.

Open Game List:

- 1833– Olympics v. Camdens
- 1839– Cooperstown Legend Game
- 1851– Knickerbockers v. Gothams
- 1858– Portland v. Tri Mountains
- 1859– Amherst v. Williams
- 1860– Excelsiors Tour
- 1862– Excelsiors v. Unions
- 1862– Union POW Game
- 1865– Eckfords v. Mutuals
- 1866– Athletic v. Danville
- 1867– Excelsiors v. Uniques
- 1867– Excelsiors v. Harvard
- 1869– Cincinnati v. Troy
- 1869– Cincinnati v. NY Mutuals
- 1870– Mutuals v. Chicago
- 1875– Boston v. Atlantics
- 1875– Princeton v. Yale
- 1878– Providence v. Boston
- 1879– Bill White's One Game
- 1879– Chicago v. Worcester
- 1880– Providence v. Buffalo
- 1881– Troy v. Worcester
- 1881– Chicago v. Providence
- 1882– Louisville v. Baltimore
- 1882– Cincinnati v. Chicago
- 1883– Chicago v. Toledo
- 1883– Cleveland v. Philadelphia
- 1883– Philadelphia v. St. Louis
- 1884– Providence v. Philadelphia
- 1884– Chicago v. Boston
- 1886– Baltimore v. Pittsburgh
- 1887– Detroit v. St. Louis
- 1888– Pittsburgh v. Indianapolis
- 1889– Boston v. Cleveland
- 1891– New York v. Boston
- 1892– Bumpus Jones Debut
- 1892– Boston v. Cleveland
- 1894– Boston v. Baltimore
- 1894– Boston v. Cincinnati
- 1899– Cleveland v. Cincinnati
- 1900– Buffalo v. Detroit

For exact dates and reason for the game's significance drop an e-mail to bfelber@att.net.

Chairman's Corner (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

19th Century Base Ball Conference), and, now, a new undertaking to help our fellow members and others in their research (How to Do 19th Century Baseball Research).

Greatest Baseball Games of the 19th Century, a book project, is nearing an important milestone, a publisher-ready book prospectus. Editor-in-Chief, Bill Felber will give you the latest update. See Bill's piece for details and how you may become a contributor to this book.

The Pioneer Project, another book project, begun by Peter Morris with the help of Jan Finkle and involving the assistance of more than a score of our committee members, is reaching its final publication stages. The project takes the pre-professional era of baseball and breathes new life into the players and teams of that important phase of its development.

The Overlooked 19th Century Baseball Legends project committee has assembled the 2010 slate of candidates on which our committee

members will vote. [You must be a full Nineteenth Century Committee Member to vote – so Potential Members should upgrade on the Members Profile section of the SABR website before June 1st.] Committee Chairman Joe Williams presents the profiles of each of the ten players on the 2010 ballot in this issue.

The Frederick Ivor-Campbell 19th Century Base Ball Conference is April 17th at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, NY. As I write this column (mid-March) we have fewer than ten spaces left. By the time you see this, the conference may well be filled, so please call or email me if you would like to attend, on the chance that there is still space left.

NEW! How to Do 19th Century Baseball Research will be a subset of a larger SABR initiative headed by Andy McCue, Mark Amour and Tom Ruane to take the SABR publication "How to Do Baseball Research," (Gerald Tomlinson, Ed., 2000) and create a new version at the SABR web-

site, including a separate "chapter" on researching 19th century baseball. Bob Bailey and I believe that this contribution warranted the status of a full Nineteenth Century Committee project, complete with project chair and sub-committee. We visualize a project that initially focuses on four resource areas: 1) on-line newspaper archives, 2) census data and city directory websites, 3) bibliography of 19th-century baseball books, and 4) national sports publications on microfilm and other miscellaneous sources. The project committee chairman will manage a small sub-committee who will solicit, receive and organize information to create and maintain the "How to Do 19th Century Baseball Research" portion of the website. If you want to get off the bench and into the game, please contact me about joining this new sub-committee.

Best Regards, Peter Mancuso

Toledo and Fleet Walker by John Husman

Toledo's baseball history is long and rich and includes some significant records and firsts. Several of these were achieved barely after professional baseball was established in the city. In just Toledo's second season, 125 years ago, the city fielded its first major league team. That team included the first black man to appear

in a major league baseball game as well as a record-setting pitcher.

Well over a century later, on Sunday, April 15, 2007, Jackie Robinson Day was observed across America as individual players and all of Robinson's Dodgers honored Robinson by wearing his retired number 42. The date marked the sixtieth anniversary of

Robinson's major league debut, an event referred to by many sources as "breaking the color barrier." Robinson's career in major league baseball was stellar and significant and it began baseball's integration in the twentieth century. But he was not the first black man to play major league baseball.

Toledo and Fleet Walker (cont.)

That honor belongs to Moses Fleetwood “Fleet” Walker of the 1884 Toledo club. Fleet Walker was a student and baseball player at Oberlin College and the University of Michigan, where he studied law. He signed to play professionally with the Toledos of the Northwestern League in 1883. The Toledo club won the league’s pennant that year, and, due to that success, was admitted to the major league American Association for the 1884 season.

Race nearly denied Fleet Walker an opportunity to play in Toledo. The executive committee of the Northwestern League met at Toledo’s Boody House on March 14, 1883. During the course of the meeting, a motion was made by the representative from the Peoria, Illinois club that “no colored player be allowed in the league.” This action was made specifically to expel Walker. After a bitter fight, the motion was defeated. Later in that season, Walker encountered Chicago’s Adrian “Cap” Anson for the first time. Manager Anson announced that his club would not take the field with Walker in the lineup for an exhibition game in Toledo. Toledo manager Charlie Morton had planned on resting his star catcher that day but played him in right field daring Anson to risk forfeiting a share of the gate receipts. Anson purportedly responded, “We’ll play this here game, but won’t play never no more with the nigger in.” Some historians believe that this incident was the beginning of an effort to segregate baseball which wasulti-

mately successful.

It was on May 1, 1884 that a black man first appeared in a major league baseball game. Fleet Walker was in the lineup when Toledo visited Louisville. Walker, a fine defensive catcher, played 42 games for Toledo that



Fleet Walker

season and was joined by his brother, Welday Wilberforce Walker, an outfielder for five games later in the year. Walker’s career has long been documented and recognized by baseball historians and does not, in any way, diminish the accomplishment of Mr. Robinson. Robinson battled the prejudice of people that were not yet born when Fleet Walker took the field. But both baseball pioneers were subjected to abuse from fans, the press, players who did not want to take the field against them and even their teammates. From the latter group, Walker

may have had the worse experience from at least two fellow nineteenth century players who were open segregationists. One was outfielder Curt Welch who played both the 1883 and 1884 seasons as Walker’s teammate. The other was Toledo’s work horse pitcher in 1884, Tony Mullane.

Tony Mullane pitched in 67 of the 104 games the Toledos played in 1884, winning 36 and losing 26. Both marks remain as Toledo single season records. It is unlikely that Mullane’s standards will ever be approached, let alone surpassed. Fleet Walker was often Mullane’s catcher and worked under an unbelievable handicap with his battery mate. David W. Zang described the relationship between Mullane and Walker in his definitive work, Fleet Walker’s Divided Heart, Walker’s biography. He told of a secret, held by the pair, until revealed by Mullane decades later when he said:

He [Walker] was the best catcher I ever worked with, but I disliked a Negro and whenever I had to pitch to him I used to pitch anything I wanted without looking at his signals. One day he signaled me for a curve and I shot a fast ball at him. He said, “I’ll catch you without signals, but I won’t catch you if you are going to cross me when I give you signals.” And all the rest of that season he caught me and caught anything I pitched with-

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Toledo and Fleet Walker (cont.)

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out knowing what was coming.

Mullane's testament to Walker's catching skills is significant as he worked with many catchers during his 13 year major league career. Walker's own career included five more minor league seasons after his Toledo experience, ending in 1889. His professional baseball career ended as did integration in the game at all professional levels. The resulting segregation would last until Jackie Robinson's appearance near the middle of the twentieth century.

The Toledos of 1884 were in much faster company than they had been the previous season. The team had its troubles from the very beginning, losing their first eight games at Louisville, St. Louis and Cincinnati and coming home with a 1-8 record. The first major league game in Toledo was played on May 14, 1884. The opponent and the outcome were the same as the season's opening game: Louisville 9 Toledo 6. About 2500 ladies and gentlemen witnessed the game at League Park, located on the north side of Monroe Street between 13th and 15th streets. The first major league win in the city came on May 17, 12-6 at the expense of St. Louis.

The Toledos struggled through the first half of the 104 game season winning only 18 and losing 34. They fared much better and gained some respectability during the second half when they posted a 29-23 record that in-

cluded a fast finish of 15 wins in the final 18 games. The team finished eighth in the 12 team circuit, 27 ½ games behind the pennant-winning New York Metropolitans.

There were two major reasons for the Toledos second half turnaround. The first was a result of action by the club's board of directors in securing new talent. The board supplemented the roster with four regular position players in mid-August. Added to the strengthened lineup was resurgence by ace pitcher Anthony J. "The Count" Mullane. Mullane recorded all seven of his season's shutouts during the second half. During a remarkable stretch from September 8 through October 4 he pitched all of the Toledos 15 games, winning 11, losing two and tying two. Both ties were the result of games being called because of darkness, not uncommon in the nineteenth century, especially late in the season, as games were started late in the afternoon. Mullane was stunning in the two ties. In the first, at Toledo's League Park, he gave up four singles in a 10-inning, 1-1 gem. The second was even better. At Brooklyn, he again surrendered four hits while shutting out the opposition over ten innings. His support was nil as he and his mates had nary a hit. For the season, Mullane amassed 567 innings pitched. Tony Mullane went on to a stellar 13-year major league career. He had five consecutive 30-win seasons, completed 93%

of the games he started, played every position but catcher, and batted .243 as a switch-hitter. His 284 wins are the most of any pitcher not in the Hall of Fame. Several other 1884 Toledos went on to successful big league careers. Center fielder Curt Welch played outfield for ten years and has been credited by some as inventing the "circus catch." Catcher Deacon McGuire played a record 26 major league seasons after getting his start as Fleet Walker's backup. Pitcher Hank O'Day pitched seven major league seasons, managed two more and umpired for 35 campaigns.

Moses Fleetwood Walker's 1884 season was not more of a success than his team's. He batted .263, third best on the team and 23 points above the league average, but was plagued by injuries all season long. Catching in Walker's day was brutal work. The only protective equipment regularly employed was a mask. Gloves had not yet come into common use though Walker occasionally used ordinary lamb-skin gloves. According to researcher Jerry Malloy, "G. L. Mercereau, the team's batboy, recalled the sight of Walker catching barehanded, as was common in those days, with his fingers split and bleeding. Catchers would welcome swelling in their hands to provide a cushion against the pain." Because of his injuries, Walker was released by the Toledo team on September 22. His release followed a nearly

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Toledo and Fleet Walker (cont.)

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three-week period during which his injuries prevented him from playing. The *Evening Bee* commented:

To his fine work last year much of the success of the Toledo club was due, as none will deny. This year, however, he has been extremely unfortunate, having met with several accidents which kept him disabled a large part of the time. During his connection with the Toledo club, by his fine, gentlemanly deportment, he made hosts of friends who will regret to learn that he is no longer a member of the club.

Walker's release was also coincident with the team's arrival in Richmond. It was the Toledos first visit to the Virginia city which was the source of the following letter to manager Charlie Morton written September 5, 1884 and printed in Toledo's *Evening Bee* on September 18.

Manager Toledo Base Ball Club:

Dear Sir: We the undersigned, do hereby warn you not to put up *Walker*, the Negro catcher, the evenings that you play in Richmond, as we could mention the names of 75 determined men who have sworn to mob Walker if he comes to the ground in a suit. We hope you will listen to our words of warning, so that there will be no trouble: but if you do not, there certainly will be. We only write this to prevent much blood shed, as you alone can prevent. Yours truly.

Bill Frick,

James Hendrick,
Dynn Dunn,
Rob Roseman.

Because the 1884 Toledos were not a financial success, the club folded after just one American Association season. Toledo re-



**Fleet Walker
Statue**

joined the circuit, again for only one season in 1889. The city also had teams with major league status in 1923 and 1939. In the former year, the Toledo Tigers represented the city in the Negro National League. In 1939 the Toledo Crawfords, managed by Hall of Famer Oscar Charleston, were entered in both the American and National Negro Leagues.

Recent research has revealed another player, who some claim, is the first black man to play major league baseball. He is William Edward White who had a one game major league career

with the Providence Grays of the National League on June 21, 1879. White was a player for Brown University in Providence at the time, and for unknown reasons, filled in for the Grays at first base for just a single game. A group of historians, headed by Peter Morris of The Society for American Baseball Research (SABR), uncovered some interesting facts while searching for Mr. White's biographical information in 2003. Morris discovered that William Edward White was the son of Andrew J. White, a bachelor from Milner, Georgia, and his mulatto housekeeper, Hannah White. It follows then, that William Edward White would be the first black man to have appeared as a player in baseball's major leagues as he was one-quarter black. The problem with the claim is that Mr. White was not known to be black at the time. Subsequent research, some by this author, clearly indicates that Mr. White lived his life as a white man.

Moses Fleetwood Walker with the Toledos of the 1884 American Association is, without question, the first black man to play major league baseball openly as a black man. His brother, Welday, who is almost a footnote in the record books, became the second when he joined the Toledos briefly at mid-season. Jackie Robinson, the best player and the most widely known of these black players became the third, 63 years later.

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Toledo and Fleet Walker (cont.)

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The accomplishments of Fleet Walker and Jackie Robinson are significant and were extremely difficult for both of them. They both met racial hatred and prejudice head-on, but in different times. Robinson's experience, unlike the Walkers', led the way for the lasting integration of professional baseball in America.

Moses Fleetwood Walker returned to Toledo as a member of the International League's Syracuse Stars on June 10, 1889. He found baseball far different in Toledo. Besides being members of the International League, the Toledo club was playing at Speranza Park, near where St. Vincent Hospital is now. Toledo was in an early race for the league lead just behind Syracuse. *The Blade* noted

the catcher's return in its game account – "Walker, of the Toledos of old." Fans saw a great game that day with Syracuse winning 1-0 on a ninth inning score that Walker enabled with a hit. Walker's professional baseball career ended on August 23 when he was released by Syracuse. He was the last black man to play in an upper echelon integrated league until the Robinson era.

19th Century Overlooked Legends Project – And the 2010 Candidates are.... by Joe Williams

The 19th Century Baseball Legends Project Committee presented ten outstanding candidates last year with Pete Browning ultimately winning in a close vote. The same can be said for the ten candidates the committee is presenting for the 2010 vote. There are seven holdovers from the 2009 ballot and three newcomers. The roster of candidates represent eras from pre-Knickerbocker base ball through the middle of the Deadball Era.

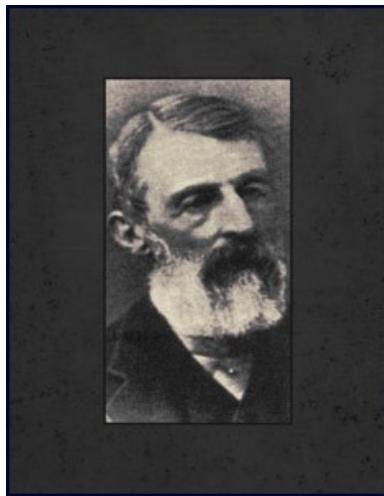
Drum roll please. And the 2010 candidates are...

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 pastime. 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 in-

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19th Century Overlooked Legends Project (cont.)

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clude nine players per team, the nine inning game, ninety feet between bases, forty-five feet from the pitching mound to home plate 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.

Bob Caruthers

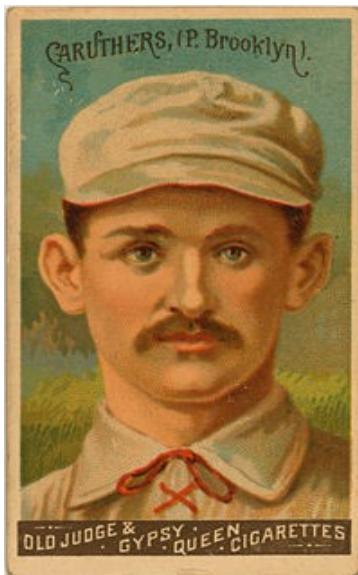
Born: January 5, 1864, Died: August 5, 1911

Played: 1884-93

Position: Pitcher and Outfield

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 breakup, 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.

George Van Haltren

Born: March 30, 1866, Died: September 29, 1945

Played: 1887-1903

Position: Outfield

St. Louis born "Rip" Van Haltren became a baseball star in Oakland, California as a young man. The news of his pitching exploits traveled to the East and Pittsburgh signed him in 1887. After his reluctance to join the team, he was traded to the Chicago White Stockings for the then 252-game winner Jim McCormick. Van Haltren played three seasons in Chicago, the first two starting 42 games as a pitcher, going 24-20, and playing the outfield in 84 games. In 1889, the lefty did not pitch and played 134 games in the field. He had an outstanding year as a hitter, scoring 126 times and batting .322 with a .416 on-base percentage. In 1890, Van Haltren joined the Players' League, going 15-10 as a pitcher and batting .335

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19th Century Overlooked Legends Project (cont.)

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in 92 games. From 1891-1893, he played in Baltimore and Pittsburgh before being bought by the New York Giants. The mustached Van Haltren became a popular player in



New York for the next decade. By 1893, he was primarily a center-fielder and a leadoff hitter and would continue to play almost every day until he broke an ankle in 1902. When his major league career was over, he had accumulated 2,544 hits, 1,642 runs, 161 triples, 1,015 RBI, 583 stolen bases with a .316 batting average and an on-base percentage of .386. He scored over 100 runs eleven times and batted .300 twelve times. Van Haltren, an outstanding defensive stalwart with a tremendous throwing arm, finished in the top ten in hits, triples, runs, batting average, stolen bases, total bases and on-base percentage a grand total of 42 times. He managed and continued his ball playing career in the Pacific Coast League until 1909.

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.

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

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19th Century Overlooked Legends Project (cont.)

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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

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

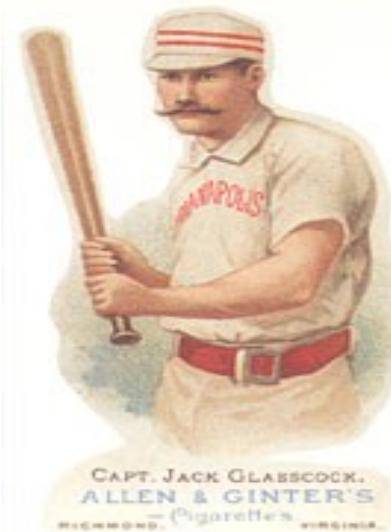
Considered by many historians as the greatest defensive shortstop of the Nineteenth Century, "Pebbley Jack" played the majority of his career without a glove. He received his nickname for his dutiful inspection of the field for pebbles and tossing them away to avert bad hops during the game. He led

games, assists, double plays, put-outs, 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.

Bobby Mathews

Born: November 21, 1851, Died: April 17, 1898
Played: 1869-77, 79, 81-87
Position: Pitcher

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



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

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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 existence, 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 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 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 be-



came 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

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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.

Harry Stovey

Born: December 20, 1856, Died: September 20, 1937

Played: 1880-93

Position: Outfield and First Base

Stovey was a great all-around player and one of the game's first power hitters. He finished in the top four in home runs ten times, leading the league in five of those seasons. In 1883, he set the single season record with 14 homers. When he retired in 1893, he was the all time leader in home runs with 122 and was third on the list as late as 1920. Stovey's other offensive numbers include 347 doubles, 174 triples, 908 RBI, over 500 stolen bases (records are not available for six of his seasons so he may have stolen more than 800 bases) and 1,492 runs in 1,486 games, including nine seasons of 100 or more runs. Besides home runs, he led the league in over twenty other offensive categories, including extra-base hits five times, runs scored and triples four times, slugging per-

centage and total bases three times, stolen bases twice and RBI once. Stovey's first three seasons



were with Worcester of the National League. In 1883, he became a member of the Philadelphia Athletics of the AA, spending seven seasons with the team which included the pennant that first season and four seasons hitting .300 or better. In 1890, he joined the Boston Reds of the Players League and led them to the pennant. He then spent the next three seasons playing for the Boston Beaneaters (1891 and 1892 NL champion), Baltimore Orioles and the Brooklyn Grooms.

Deacon White

Born: December 7, 1847, Died: July 7, 1939

Played: 1868-90

Position: Catcher and Third Base

White, nicknamed "Deacon" for his virtuous life and his leadership on the field, was one of baseball's first superstars. He began his playing career with the Forest City Baseball Club of Cleveland in 1868 and was still with the team when the first National Association game was played. In the first inning of that first game, he doubled off Bobby Mathews for the first "major league" hit. Consider to be the first catcher to move up under the batter, White was the premier catcher of the 1870s. Playing without a glove, he caught more games (409) than anyone else during the decade while being one of the game's most feared hitters. White won two batting titles (.367 in 1875 and .387 in 1877) and three RBI crowns (1873, 1876 and 1877). In 1873, White



became a member of the Boston Red Stockings that went on to win the championship in 1873, 1874 and 1875. The famed "Big Four" of Ross Barnes, Cal McVey, Al Spalding and White moved onto the Chicago White Stockings in 1876 to win the first NL pennant. In 1877, he returned to Boston as a first basemen and won another pen-

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nant. From 1878 to 1880, he played for Cincinnati, forming a battery with his brother Will, before joining Buffalo for five seasons. By 1882 he was a regular third baseman and a member of the second famous "Big Four" with Dan Brouthers, Hardy Richardson and Jack Rowe. In 1886, the Buffalo franchise was purchased by the owner of the Wolverines, bringing the "Big Four" to Detroit. In 1887, the Wolverines, with White hitting .303 at the age of 39, won the NL pennant and defeated St. Louis of the American Association to become world champs. White finished his career with Detroit in 1888, Pittsburgh in 1889 and Buffalo of the Players' League in 1890. White's career

totals include 1,140 runs, 2,066 hits, 977 RBI, a .312 batting average and just 221 strikeouts. Like Dahlen, White appeared on the Hall of Fame's 2009 Veterans Committee ballot for pre-1943 players but failed to gain election.

Others receiving strong consideration but did not make our top ten include Lave Cross, Dick McBride, Dickey Pearce, Al Reach, Jimmy Ryan and Joe Start.

Voting Process

The voting process will be quite simple. Sometime in June, every 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 2010. There will also be an opportunity to submit one or two names to the subcommittee for consideration in 2011. The votes will be tabulated by subcommittee member Bob Gregory in July and the winner will be announced in Atlanta during the convention.

The 19th Century Legends Project Committee consists of Charles Faber, Bob Gregory, Ralph Peluso and Joe Williams. To request a copy of the preliminary list of candidates or other questions, please feel free to drop Joe an email at jwilliams22@snet.net.