

THE NATIONAL GAME.

THE GREAT GAME.

Thursday morning, the Fourth of July, there was a game of base ball in this city between the lawyers and the newspaper men. Now the latter were much the better players, but the knights of the red tape had their juggles with them and they juggled and jollied the local "Gaths" and Joe Howard's. This is how they played the game:

They knocked the ball with precipes
And purloined bases with perfect ease.

They opened green bags and issued writs,
And scared the reporters out o' their wits.

They did 'nt PLAY, but scored on fudge,
Pressing in for umpire a partial judge.

They downed the scribes by hocus pocus,
Taking their best players by habenas corpus.

They often had their eyesight blurred,
Then they rested and just demurred.

They reached after balls, pro confesso,
And missing said, "wot t' hell?" even jes'so.

They even resorted to attempts to quash,
And some other schemes that wouldn't wash.

They made the reporters truly despondent,
The way they acted the cruel respondent.

They entered the diamond animo furandi,
And when accused put forth an alibi.

They were oft at wits' end and took a stay
When undecided how to play.

They each took an oath and became an
affiant,
And trod upon rules, bold and defiant.

They now and then submitted a brief,
And McCandless was the lawyers chief.

They tried to score by common pleas
And worked the umpire with cough and sneeze.

Thus did the lawyers seek to win,
But the legal ruse was a little thin.

True it is that the records may show,
That the lawyers did the reporters throw.

But the record, 'tis said was amended,
And the scribes desire judgment suspended.

They will take the case to a higher court
And wait to hear the final report.

In the meantime they may even the score
By making some of the lawyers sore.

LINCOLN AT HOME.

No game Friday—rain.

†—†

Last Saturday's game was the best game played so far this season. The Quincys were here and they played good ball, as did the Lincoln boys. McGreevy did the twirling for the Quincys and Kimerer for the Lincolns. It was a wonderful game considering the condition of the grounds. Ward gave Lincoln the worst of two decisions which undoubtedly is accountable for their defeat. Score 1 to 0.

†—†

About 500 fans went down to Cortland Sunday to witness the game between Lincoln and Quincy. They did not play Friday on account of rain and Sunday's game was as Buck said "a match game." Great excitement prevailed when at the beginning of the sixth inning just as Buck was going to bat a gray-whiskered gentleman—Constable Savage of Beatrice—stepped out and informed the boys that they couldn't play ball any more and to consider themselves under arrest. Buck wanted Mr. Constable to read his warrant and the constable wanted all the boys to line up and then he would accommodate them. The boys instead of lining up made a break for the fence, climbed over and ran about three blocks to where the train was standing. By the time Mr. Savage and his whiskers reached the train the boys were safely locked in the baggage car. While the constable from Beatrice stood gazing at the car the train pulled out amid cheers and yells of derision from the fans. There will probably be no more Sunday games at Cortland. The score at the time Mr. Savage kindly interfered was 5 to 1 in favor of Quincy but it is doubtful if the game will count although the Quincy management claim it. Leitman was in the box for Lincoln and Cap-

linger for Quincy. The boys all pleaded guilty and paid their fines last Monday which settled the matter.

†—†

The game played Monday was a miserable exhibition of ball playing all the way through. Barnes pitched for Lincoln and McGreevy for the Quincys. Neither team seemed to have enough life in them to eat a hearty meal—probably they had not yet fully recovered from Sunday's experience. However Lincoln won by a score of 5 to 4.

†—†

The Lincoln boys were defeated Tuesday by the Rockford team by a score of 7 to 6. It was a very close and interesting game. It took eleven innings for the Rockfords to do the act, and although they should have won easily it was nip and tuck all through the game. Gragg pitched for the locals and Dolan for the visitors. The feature of the game was Snapper Kennedy's phenomenal fielding.

†—†

Wednesday's game was a pitcher's battle on the part of Underwood and Kimerer with honors in favor of Kimerer, although our boys touched up Underwood for only five safe hits. Rockford gave their pitcher miserable support which gave Lincoln the game. Score 4 to 1.

†—†

Rockford and Lincoln played two games Thursday afternoon with honors even, both winning a game. The first game was a poor exhibition of ball playing, although Barnes pitched a fine game and Horton did nearly as well although the Lincoln boys were under obligations to him for nine runs in the fourth inning. Score 9 to 2.

†—†

The second game resulted in a victory for the Rockfords by a score of 12 to 5. Leitman pitched the first four innings for Lincoln but was hit hard. Gragg was then substituted and although he is capable of pitching fine ball he did not do a great deal better than his predecessor. Dolan pitched for Rockford.

Omaha to day.

Manager Brackett is with his team on their present trip.

Von der Ahe refuses to let McDougal go. Quincy wanted him.

McGreevy was the happiest man in Lincoln Saturday evening.

Holland make a double play unassisted during last Tuesday's game.

The St. Joes have signed a new catcher named Johnson from Milwaukee.

Umpire ward gave Lincoln the best of two or three close decisions Tuesday.

Mertes made a wonderful one-hand catch of a high fly in Saturday's game.

Quincy would make a mistake not easily remedied should they release McVey.

Buck needs a car load of ginger for the team and two or three barrels for himself.

Thomas, Peoria's winning pitcher, is a crackerjack, but the question is how long can he hold out.

Captain Larocque, of the Quincys, is the loudest mouthed and most insulting player that ever played in Lincoln.

Leitman made his first appearance in a Lincoln uniform Sunday and he did very well, although he needs more practice.

Manager Nicol now has a good team—much better than when they were here before. Last but not least they all play together.

Manager Brackett, of the Quincys, has settled the little difficulty between Veach and himself for a time at least by paying Mr. Veach \$25.

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—Sign of the Red Dude.—

Manager Ebricht, of the Lincolns, used to be a carpenter. Any one would know that from the good timber he picked out for the Lincoln team.—Rockford Star.

If Larocque would play ball with his hands and give his big, coarse mouth a rest he would, no doubt, be a valuable acquisition to the almost perfect Quincy team.

The Western association meeting which was to have been held in Lincoln but transferred to Omaha was held in that city yesterday, too late for particulars in this issue of THE COURIER.

The whole Lincoln team have fallen into the disgraceful habit of kicking against the umpire's decisions. It does no good and does not speak well for the gentlemanly players that we are supposed to have.

It cost Manager Ebricht and his ball players just \$1 and costs for playing ball at Cortland Sunday. The Quincy team got the same thing, the attorney for the local players entering a plea for them. The arrest of the players cost the Lincoln club in all about \$100.

The Lincolns got out easy. They plead not guilty to playing ball and proved it by the umpire. Quincy was doing the playing.—Quincy Herald. Although the above was, no doubt, printed as a joke it is nevertheless true. The Lincoln boys should have been discharged.

Dave Rowe has won for himself the title of miscreant. He has done precisely the same thing in Omaha that he did in Lincoln—we had a good team and Rowe killed it. Omaha this season has had a strong team, but Dave Rowe, rascal that he is, has destroyed the team's usefulness. A few more Rowe's and there wouldn't be any base ball.

Had they arrested the boys Sunday it would have taken all the available funds in Gage county to prove that our boys were playing ball. It would have been impossible. And as for Buck he did a very foolish thing when he ran up the track for a couple of miles. He was in no danger. It would have been perjury to have convicted Buck of playing ball.

Umpire Ward came very near being mobbed Saturday afternoon and it would have been a good thing. He deliberately robbed Lincoln of the game and to make matters worse he admitted afterwards that his decisions were unfair. His decision of a foul ball was rank enough but when he called Buck out on second for interfering with the ball it was evident that had some one with a little nerve started after him the audience one and all would have followed. He is, without doubt, incompetent, and his head should fall into the basket with a dull and sickening thud.

And it came to pass that one Dave Rowe spake unto Manager McVittie saying: "The attendance is small, aye smaller, what shall we do to be saved?" And McVittie spoke unto Rowe saying: "Pay me, I am the agent and I will caltch the players unto me and discipline them." Whereupon Dave grew exceedingly warm and cried: "Have I not done well to pay myself? What hast thou done for me? If I pay for the two parks am I not doing well?" And McVittie said: "Forgive me brother I know not what I do. I have no boarding house but I have a scheme," and he spake very low saying: "We will fine the players all their salary, we won't pay them anything. Could anyone but me think of a scheme like that?" And Dave cried out long and loud, as he smote his brother on the ear, "we are saved, Hurrah for Guttenburg! I am king!"

The Quincy Herald's report of Sunday's game at Cortland is well worth reading, inasmuch as it is strictly humorous. "There was a great hurrah at Cortland yesterday. Cortland is three miles out from Lincoln. The people there, after deducting the penitentiary convicts will number very few. However, they are opposed to Sunday ball playing. They have been threatening to put a quietus on the sport, claiming that they did not propose to have a noisy delegation of several hundred come from Lincoln and disturb their Sunday devotions. Consequently, yesterday at the end of the fifth inning the game was stopped by the police of Cortland and both clubs were put under arrest. The players of both teams jumped the fence and ran for the cars. They all got in the baggage car, the door was locked and the train started up and left the police behind."

THOMAS.