PAST-SEASON NOTES OF THE NATIONAL GAME.

some Interesting Figures Showing Curlous Results in League Pennant Fight -Louisville's New Pitcher Detroit's Second Baseman.



CLOSE study of the work of the various teams shows some remarkable facts. They (the teams) for years have been divided into two distinct and almost opposite classes, namely, the strong finishers and the Among the latter

are the Philadelphias, the Cincinnatis, the Pittsburgs, and the Brooklyns. Of the former are the Clevelands, the Baltimores and the New Yorks-the latter team having a reputation in that respect equaled by no other, except the Clevelands. The Bostons' peculiarity is their invincibility at home compared to a rather weak showing on the road.

The Bostons, Cincinnatis and Baltimores are the three great conquerors. It is almost an Augean task to beat either of them on their own ground. The New Yorks are moderately strong upon the home diamond, but miserably weak upon the Eastern circuit. Their "long suit" is the case with which they have always triumphed over the western six, both in New York and in the latter's own territory. Another peculiarity of the Giants has been the ease and grace with which they have submitted to the Philadelphia team's antagonism. The Quakers have been ever since Philadelphia had a team, the hardest foe for the Giants to face.

It is readily seen the New Yorks' percentage of victories over the western clubs, as compared to their work against their eastern rivals, was .625 in 1894, .682 in 1895 and .609 in 1896. In the meantime the West has been growing stronger collectively each year and getting nearer and nearer to an equal footing with their cis-Allegheny competitors.

In 1894 the East won 446 games and the west .336. In 1895 the East dropped to 416 games and the west went up to 367. Last year the latter advanced still further until the east had only 406 games to its credit and the west had 372. This makes a gain of 38 games on the average by the west over the east in three years in a series of 792 contests. These figures show that the western half of the league is growing in strength much more rapidly than is the east.

## Some Famous Plays.

Get three or four old-timers together and it is impossible to keep them out of the reminiscent mill. Many a good yarn is thus turned out of memory's hits that never came the other day. and Arthur Irwin declared: "I remember one game at Buffalo, when the bases were full and nobody out. King Kel. caught the whole outfit napping. He just caught the man off second and in turn nailed the runners at third and first. That is a feat I never saw equaled."

"When I was behind the bat for New York," said Capt. Ewing, "I figured in as queer a double play as I ever saw. By a quick throw to Arthur Whitney I caught a man off third. Whitney turned and slammed the ball to Danny Richardson, and the runner on second, who had become confused, was also re-

Pitcher William Magee.

William Magee of South Boston, who nas been signed by the Louisville club, is a South Boston boy, and a very promising ball player. He is a fine looking fellow, with complexion and color like a girl, and pretty blue eyes. He is only 21 years old, and is 5 feet 10 inches tall, and weighs in condition 154 pounds. He has lived in South Boston ever since he was a little boy. He used to play with the Jubilees, of



South Boston, and started out as catcher, but afterward in the summer of '94 went with the Medfords as a pitcher. He had great success. When the New England Association was formed in the early part of '95, he was signed by the Committee on Players. and afterward assigned to Fitchburg, where he did good work. When that club disbanded in the middle of the summer, he went to the Brockton club, under John Irwin, and was reserved at the end of the year. This year he did good work, pitching in 33 games and winning in 19, although with a losing club. His bettery partner was Shea, who has just gone to New York, but there is no string on his release, as there is on Shea's. He ranked as the fourth best pitcher in the league. He is a right-handed

and is sure to be a success, as he takes the best of care of himself.

A New Recipe for Pitchers.

Four years ago, after his season with the Brooklyns, Billy Hart, the popular twirler of the St. Louis Browns, and who is spending the winter at his home at Bond Hill, thought his arm was gone. He had pitched some good ball for the Brooklyns that year-1892-but in one of them had the misfortune to dislocate one of the muscles of his pitching arm. This threw him out of his engagement. Hart returned to this city and went to work in the "Times-Star" composing room as a type-setter, he being an expert at that work. At first his arm felt sore after he had put in a day at the monotonous task of carrying type from the case to the "stick." Gradually this soreness wore off, and before the summer of 1893 was over his pitching arm felt as good as ever. That fall Manager Watkins came to Cincinnati and induced Hart to sign him and pay him a princely sum for a contract with the Sioux City team. Hart had some misgivings about his mann, Alexander's elder brother, arm, but before the season of 1894 was far advanced Hart demonstrated that the world of magic, and when he his arm was as good as ever. And he died, June 8, 1887, in Carlsbad, Gerattributes the recovery of his pitching power to the monotonous and incessant Herrmann made his first bow before a motion of his arm when setting and distributing type.

Detroit's New Second Baseman.

Harry Steinfeldt, the new second baseman, has signed a Detroit contract and sent it to Mr. Vanderbeck. The deals for the purchase of the player fell boy's father, however, insisted upon his through when it was discovered that he had not been properly reserved and it by way of a compromise, the brother is thought that Detroit can secure him without buying him outright or going to the cost of the draft. It will be remembered that Galveston has reserved "Steinhoff" and no Steinfeldt appears on the official list.



HARRY STEINFELDT.

Harry Steinfeldt, as he is called in the Lone Star State, where he outranks all the second basemen, is but 21 years of age. He is 5 feet 11 inches in height and weighs 174 pounds. He played his first professional engagement with Houston in 1895. He was with that team a month and when it disbanded he joined the Fort Worth and finished the season. This year he played hopper. Some one spoke of the dis-heartening experience of waiting for feldt led the Texas League in second basemen, having 573 chances, and his fielding average being .989. He batted 320 this year, and has the making of a very good hitter. He is fast and from all reports covers a great deal of ground around the second bag.

Minor Leagues Galore.

Next season promises the usual crop of new minor leagues, together with the old ones that were able to exist through the season of 1896. The Western league, Western association, Eastern league, Southern league, Atlantic league, Interstate league, Texas league, Atlantic association, New England league, and Virginia again. A Kansas State league, with Wichita, Leavenworth, Coffeyville, Independence, Atchison, Topeka, Emcities from is one of the proposed new clubs in South Carolina and Georgia, already has been mentioned. A Wisconsin State league is another proba-The following cities are being considered: Janesville, Sheboygan, Racine, Wauseon, Appleton, Oshkosh, Fond du Lac, Stevens Point and Portage. The Monongahela league in Pennsylvania, with five clubs, is still another. A Central league, with Arkansas, Indian territory and northern Texas cities, is still another. The prospects are that before the spring sets in there will be How many will live?

Tribute to Lyons.

league who can bat as hard and conthird basemen in the league who do not is a lot of high-class playing left is Denny's make-up.

Mullane a Miller.

Tony Mullane will play with St Paul next season. He says that the various paragraphs that have been going the rounds of late are wrong, that he has no intention of umpiring, and that his pitching days are not yet over as stated. Nevertheless Mullane was at the league's Chicago meeting and sounded Nick Young on the prospect. for a league umpire berth.

In France there is one student of medicine to every 7,776 of its people.

PROF. HERRMANN NEVER HAD ANY EQUALS.

His Place on the Stage Will Therefore Remain Unfilled - A Sketch of this Re-Poor.



HE late Prof. Alexander Herrmans, the famous prestidigitateur, was born in Paris, France, in 1844. He came of a family of great prestidigitateurs, his father, S. Herr-mann, being the most famous magician of his day

and a great favorite of the Sultan of Turkey, who was wont to send for a single entertainment. Carl Herralso achieved great fame many, left behind a fortune. Alexander public audience when only eight years old, at a performance given by his brother in St. Petersburg, Russia, Even at that early age his dexterity, ingenuity and presence of mind were phenomenal, and his brother was most anxious to benefit from his genius. The education being well attended to, and, engaged two competent tutors to accompany the young prodigy on the

THE NATIONAL GAME, pitcher. Magee is a modest fellow, THE KING OF MAGIC, PILGRIMS TO FRIEDRICHSRUH. They Came from All Parts of the World

to Pay Homage to Bismarck. "All about Friedrichsruh you see evidences of the love borne," writes George W. Smalley, the famous correspondent, on "The Personal Side of Bismarck," in the Ladies' Home Jourmarkable Man's Life - He Died | nal. "There come, of course, multitudes who care first of all to rec the great man. They come from all over Germany, and not a few from other parts of the world, the United States included. It is an event to witness his reception of them, the homage they offer him, which is so evidently in great part personal, for it is no longer as if he were the all-powerful minister and ruler of Germany. These pilgrimages are honorable to human nature and especially to German human nature. But what struck me especially in such of these demonstrations as I have seen was the mood in which Prince Bismarck received them. To him they were tokens of friendship: he clearly liked to think of these strangers as friends. Some of them had been his comrades in the battlefield, or the senate house. You saw how fraternal was the feeling with which he grasped their hands. The light came into his eyes, and I have seen tears come into theirs. There was between them a tie which both recognized, and it was because the Prince's recognition of it was so heartfelt, so human and tender, that the hearts of these veterans of war and peace overflowed."

The New Armenian Patriarch.

Mgr. Malachias Ormanian, the new Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople, is described as a very popular man, a fine scholar, being able to preach in journeys from city to city and country | four languages, and a moderate man



THE LATE PROFESSOR HERRMAN.

to country: For six years Alexander remained with his brother, and then his parents insisted upon his being sent to the University at Vienna. At the age of sixteen he again joined his league will be in the business brother, and together they made a tour of the world. They appeared in New York September 16, 1861, at the Academy of Music, on which occasion the porta and Junction City to choose six subject of this sketch made his New York debut. After working with his bodies. The Southeastern league, with brother for some time Alexander started out on his own account, and was a success from the first. He went to Europe, where he appeared in the bility, with a circuit of eight clubs. principal cities, and also toured Brazil he returned to the United States, after having appeared for one thousand consecutive nights at the Egyptian Hall, London, Eng. Since that time he had made this country his home, having been naturalized in 1876, at Boston, Mass. His career as a magician had since been one of unbounded success. He finally caught the managerial fever, and organized a vaudeville company, half a dozen more added to this list which included some of the best performers of Europe, as well as this country. Under the title of Herrmann's Transatlantiques this organization Three hundred per cent batters are toured the country, but, while good few and far between. Denny Lyons has business was done nearly everywhere. batted around that mark ever since he Prof. Herrmann found it impossible, played in fast company. There are with the high salary list of the com some third basemen who can play a pany, to keep it going with a profit, faster fielding game than Denny, but and the enterprise was abandoned. He there is not a third baseman in the also became lessee and manager of the Broad Street Theater, Philadelphia, sistently as he can. There are several Pa., and afterwards he secured Herrmann's Theater, New York City, now know how to play the base as well as called the Savoy. At another time he the Cincinnati boy. If he is turned started to erect a theater in Brooklyn. loose by the Pittsburg club he will not N. Y., but when the work was partially drift back into a minor league. There completed he abandoned it. His wife, Adelaide Herrmann, who had been his stage assistant since their marriage, survives him. He was a poor man when he died. In his career he earned at least three millions of dollars.

The Queen's Return Present.

Queen Victoria, in return for the gifts brought to her by Li Hung Chang from the emperor of China, is going to send to that ruler a jeweled miniature portrait of herself, by Mrs. Corboulf-

Lord Salisbury turns the scale at 252

in politics, equally acceptable to the Armenian community and to the porte. He is son of a Constantinople apothecary, and is 55 years of age. He studied at the University of Rome, taking the degree of doctor in theology, philosophy and canon law. He broke away from the Roman Catholic church when the crisis came among the Armenians, 20 years ago, over the election of Bishop Hassoun, who was later made a cardinal by Leo XIII., as patriarch of the Armenian Catholics, and entered the Gregorian community.



MGR. MALACHIAS ORMANIAN.

He was afterward made bishop of Ezeroum, holding that see from 1880 to 1887; subsequently becoming professor of philosophy at the academy of Etchmiadzin, and then becoming rector of the Patriarchal Seminary at Armash and Abbot of the monastery of Our Lady there.

John Morley on Dogs. John Morley is fond of dogs, espe cially of a diminutive fox-terrier which is frequently seen at his heels on the Thames embankment or in Battersea Park. This recalls the fact that when in the heat of a political canvass an opponent denounced Mr. Morley as a dog, the orator and statesman replied: "I have known dogs who for fidelity, friendship, affection and devotion would contrast most favorably with some human beings."

## MURDER MYSTERIES.

SOME CRIMES THAT ARE PUZ-ZLING THE OFFICERS.

The Tragedy of the Pump House May Never Be Fully Explained-The Death of a Galveston Painter an Unfathomable Crime-Other Mysteries.



HEN Night Pumper Smith of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy pump station at Osceola, Iowa, went to the pumphouse the other night he found the lock badly battered and broken and upon

opening the door ae found the lifeless body of a woman lying upon a grain door in the building. The body was badly bruised and battered and covered with blood, and the woman's hat was found lying near by. There was a ghastly wound on her temple and one hand badly bruised, as if crushed in trying to ward off a blow. The woman was Mary Gilfillan, aged about 30 year... She came from Bradford, Ill., about two weeks before. She was married, but had separated from her husband. She obtained work as a waitress in the Howe hotel and was seen to leave the house about 8 o'clock that evening. A waitress in the hotel says she heard Mrs. Gilfillan make an appointment with an unknown man The authorities are in search of a man named Wolverton, who is thought to know something about the crime.

The night clork and a waiter of the hotel are held under guard as witnesses. The woman leaves one child, a boy of 4 years old. The victim was a very attractive looking woman.

Mystery of a Dead Man.

The body of an unknown man was found under the bushes two miles east of East Chicago, Ind., the other day. There was nothing on the body to identify the man, nor can it be ascertained who he is. There were no signs of a struggle and but slight truises on the body. Indications are that the death took place two or three weeks ago. The man was about 30 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches in height and weighed about 160 pounds. He had a light mustache and was clothed well, except that his hat, coat and vest were missing. Deputy Coroner Crawford received a postal card inquiry two weeks ago asking if a "dead man had been found under the bushes," and an effort will be made to ascertain the connection of the writer with the decedent.

Saginaw Woman Is Missing. Considerable excitement prevails at Saginaw, Mich., over the mysterious disappearance of Miss Annie Dawer recently. Miss Dawer, who is about 35 years of age, was guardian and companion to Mrs. Inez Hill Hanley, half sister of Arthur Hill, the wealthy lumberman of that place, which position she had held for nine years. They had just returned to Saginaw from Milan, Italy, and Miss Dawer had been settling her affairs, having resigned as guardian to Mrs. Henley. The woman with whom Miss Dawer boarded claims she left her lodgings in the best of spirits about 11 o'clock the day of her disappearance and has not since been seen. Foul play is suspected. She had considerable money on her person.

Murdered Man Found in the Bay.

The body of Samuel Martin, a painter, was found floating feet upward in the bay at Galveston, Texas, last week When the body was landed it was found that the front of the skull was crushed in by some heavy blunt instrument, and around the neck was a rope, to the end of which was attached a heavy iron grate, indicating that Martin had been murdered, then weighted down and thrown overboard. Martin was 40 years old and married. He left home Tuesday evening, Dec. 14, saying to his wife that he was going to make a "stake" for Christmas. He borrowed a boat and had gone out in it. A few



days afterward the boat was found bottom up with a hole in it. His wife and the public were of the opinion that he had been accidentally drowned. Martin was well known in labor circles, and was a member of Galveston Painter's union, No. 716. The union is determined to run down his murderer. The police have in custody William Hansen. a companion of Martin, who avows his innocence.

Foul Play Feared.

The body of Mike Martin, who with his partner, Charley the Swede, disappeared two weeks ago was found on the beach near where their boat came ashore at Charlevoix, Mich., last week, Martin's nose was broken as if by a blow with an oar and it is thought that the Swede, whose name is not known. quarreled with Martin and knocked him overboard and then skipped out. Martin had told friends that he was Alexander the Great,

afraid his partner would some time kill

A Woman Murdered at Memphis Friday morning was ushered in with horrible murder at Memphis, Tenn., Mrs. Frank Watson, 25 years of age, was found dead in her residence on Pearce street. Her husband is under arrest, but has not confessed to the crime. Watson and his wife have had frequent quarrels of late. A babe a few months of age was found in its mother's blood, where it had lain all night

A New York Mystery.

An Italian stabbing affray is puzzling the New York police. Antonio Zanone, an Italian barber, was stabbed and fatally wounded by Luigi Catalone, a laborer, in a dark hall of the tenement house, at No. 237 Elizabeth street, a iew minutes after midnight the other morning. Zanone ran a barber shop at No. 10 Spring street. He has been in this country a little over two years. He is married, is a member of a number of Italian societies, and being handsome and prosperous has been regarded one of the lights of the Italian colony. Zanone spent the evening previous with three friends, who occupied a rear apartment on the third floor of the tenement where the stabbing occurred, Shortly before midnight the four men visited the saloon in the basement of the tenement. A few minutes later they returned to their rooms and played cards. About ten minutes after 12 o'clock a knock was heard at the door. The door being opened, a stranger appeared and requested a few words with Zanone. Unsuspicious, he went into the hall, which was dark and narrow, closing the door after him. In a few mo-



ANTONIO ZANONE.

ments the friends were startled by a ery of pain.

"By the Virgin, I am stabbed," came the cry in Italian. The three friends rushed into the hall, to find their comrade unconscious and bleeding on the floor. The strange visitor had disappeared. A policeman was called and the wounded man was taken to the hospital. It was found that his wounds, two in number, deep and jagged, were in the region of the heart and fatal.

After Waterloo.

Never has the impression which the sight of Napoleon made upon me at the moment when destiny was about to pronounce between the world and him ceased to be present to me; his look, once so formidable and piercing, had lost its strength and even its steadiness; his face, which I had often seen, now beaming in kindness, now molded in bronze, had lost all expression and all its forcible character; his mouth, compressed, contained none of its ancient witchery; his very head no longer had the pose which used to characterize the conquerer of the world, and his gait was as perplexing as his demeanor and gestures were undecided. Everything about him seemed to have lost its nature and to be broken up; the ordinary pallor of his skin was replaced by a stronger pronounced greenish tinge which struck me."-Memoires of Baron Thiebault.

The Philippine Insurrection. The latest reports from the Philippine Islands represent the insurrection there as rapidly spreading. The insurgents are estimated at fifty thousand, and they have been reinforced by deserters from the native troops. The Spanish captain-general has been obliged to withdraw the garrisons from the smaller islands, and to concentrate them on the island of Luzon for the defense of the city of Manila, the suburbs of which have been repeatedly raided by insurgent bands. Spain has decided to send out twenty-five thousand more troops, and until these reinforcements have reached the islands no extensive operations against the rebels are probable.-Ex.

Exhaustion of Natural Gas. Recent statistics show that the supply of natural gas in the United States fell off one-half from 1888 to 1895. The decline has been less in Ohio and Indiana than in Pennsylvania, the product in the last-named state being worth more than nineteen million dollars in 1888, and less than six million dollars in 1895. Owing to the adoption of less wasteful methods, the falling off has not been so rapid since 1891, but it still amounts to an average decline of five per cent every year.

"Grads," in Hock A New York clergyman who re-cently conducted a Sunday morning service on Blackwell's island learned that there are at present fifteen college graduates wearing the "stripes" in that penitentiary.

The present ameer of Afghanistan is Abdur Rahman Khan, who ascended the throne in 1880 It is a little known fact that Afghanistan once had a Greek emperor, it being comprised within the limits of the territory conquered by