

THE NATIONAL GAME.

THE EXCELSIOR UMPIRE.

The crowd was gathering thick and fast
As from outside inside passed
A man who stood up strong and proud,
And in a brave voice shouted loud,
"Play Ball!"

His brow was sad; his eyes beneath
Flashed like a falchion from its sheath,
And like a silver clarion rung
The accents of that well known tongue;
"One strike!"

In many an eye he saw the light
That warned him how to shape the fight;
Beyond the spectral bleachers shown,
And from his lips escaped a groan;
"One ball!"

"Let up on that!" one bleacher said;
Another yelled: "We'll punch your head!"
And forty yelled, "Go soak your hide!"
And loud that clarion voice replied:
"Two balls!"

"Oh stay," a small boy gayed, "and rest
Your weary head upon this breast."
A tear stood in the bright blue eye
As now he answered with a sign:
"Two strikes!"

"Beware the pine tree's withered branch;"
"Beware the awful avalanche!"
These were the grand stand's words, and he
Braced up and shouted lustily:
"Three strikes and out!"

"....." the bleachers yell.
"..... Well!"

§ † | | § § * † † slam
† † § * † † | | | d—!

There at the home plate, cold and gray,
Lifeless, but beautiful he lay;
And from the sky serene and far,
A voice fell like a falling star:
"Next!"

—W. J. Lampton.

Ye gods! Can it be true, or do I dream;
Did we only win one from the Lincoln team?
—Dave Rowe.

Say, it's great fun to do the Omahas.
Two straight games from the pork
packers.

Wasn't Tuesday's game a cuckoo and
Wednesday's game a la la, but say, what
do you think of Thursday's game, dis-
gusting wasn't it? But it was a corker.

The Omahogs were taken in charge
by Undertaker Roberts under the
direction of D. Rowe who still survives.

Late news from Omaha yesterday
conveyed the information that the ball
team, arrived home unhonored, unpaid
and unsung.

The Omaha club arrived Tuesday
morning, each member thereof wearing
a "do us or we'll do you" expression and
a cataract in his left eye. Perhaps that
is why they couldn't hit the ball. Al-
though it could not be verified it was
reported that they came up with the
intention of winning at least two games.
Subsequent events proved that they
were laboring under a delusion of some
sort.

Tuesday was a great Jay for ball and
the grounds were in the best of con-
dition, and the game was, without
doubt, the best one played here this
season. Gragg pitched for the home
team and Baltz for the visitors. Score
7 to 3. Attendance 1,275.

Wednesday's game was but a repetition
of Tuesday's game as far as winning
was concerned. Neither Darby nor Kim-
erer pitched what could properly be
called good ball. The game was called
in the fifth inning on account of dark-
ness. Score 10 to 7. Attendance 1100.

Thursday's game was by far the best
one of the series. Kimerer and Egan
did the twirling. Some people insist
that had Barnes pitched the game would
have been ours, and although it was
Barnes' day Buck put in Kimerer. He

says Kimerer needs practice. Lincoln's
costly errors won the game for Omaha
and they were tickled to death, and
justly so, it is an honor to win from
Lincoln on their own grounds. The
attendance was large.

Rockford plays here the Fourth.
The Clarkson team played at Crete
yesterday.

Gee Whiz! We annihilated 'em right,
didn't we?

Snapper Kennedy plays ball from
start to finish.

Burkett leads the batting average in
the National league.

Kid Speer's hitting qualities are no
longer of an inferior brand.

Shortstop Griffin has been laid off by
the Des Moines management.

President Hesse, of St. Joseph, has
designs on Pitcher Lou Johnson.

Armstrong, the Quincy catcher, has
been laid off for insubordination.

President Kent has signed a new um-
pire in Robert Burnes of Rockford.

Great pitchers are those fellows,
Hawley and Hart, of the National league.

The Herpolsheimers were very much
defeated at Wahoo Monday. Score 26
to 1.

Rockford has a new pitcher in Howe,
of Brainerd, Minn. He is said to have
great speed.

Kid Mohler of the Des Moines team is
an all around player and he plays from
the word go.

Whisky is stronger than beer. That's
how Peoria came to do up Quincy.—
Quincy Herald.

Arthur Preston will, it is said, sign
with St. Joe if he can secure his release
from Louisville.

The only redeeming feature in Mon-
day's game was the fact that it lasted
but seven innings.

We done the Omahas with neatness
and dispatch. Will we do the same
when Quincy comes?

Matt McVicker didn't do a thing to
the Globe's "hit me for a hat" sign dur-
ing last Monday's game.

Billy Clingman, the Cincinnati boy
with the Pittsburg team, is playing a
phenomenal game at third.

"The fans who have insisted that
Gragg has seen his day are now silent."
—Rockford Register Gazette.

McPhee, of Cincinnati, is, without
doubt, the greatest second baseman that
ever played on a professional diamond.

Manager Brackett, of Quincy, is ex-
pecting a new pitcher from St. Louis.
Will he send Abbey back to Chicago?

Jack Glascock, the well known short
stop, who was recently released by
Louisville, has joined the Washingtons.

Van Dyke and Hoover, both of whom
played with Lincoln in 1887—our first
professional team—are with Jackson-
ville.

Umpire Haskell's decisions last Tues-
day were as rank as the democratic
party's promises to the laboring men in
1892.

"Yes, it is true that Lincoln has a
knack of getting players that can play
ball, I used to play in Lincoln myself."
—Dave Rowe.

It is reported that "Kid" Fear has
been suspended from the Western
league for quitting the Omaha team last
year without permission.

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ever offered for the money

At \$7. \$8. and \$10.

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In Shaffer, Ulrich, Hutchison and
O'Brien, Omaha has a quartette of
kickers that are, by reason of long
practice, proficient in the art.

"The Lincoln fans are so madly in love
with their team that they have learned
'Maud' and are reciting it to the play-
ers."—Omaha World-Herald.

Deveney, who has been playing short
for Jacksonville, has been fined \$25 and
sent to the bench without pay for an
indefinite length of time.

Phil Knell has signed a Cleveland
contract. It was thought that when
Knell joined the Cleveland Mike Sul-
livan would be released, but such is not
the case.

Shaffer's coaching creates a good deal
of amusement for the audience. The
Omaha team, as a whole, causes
much amusement for the Lincoln boys.
Eh, Buck?

"All is not gold that glitters." The
Quincy papers, one and all, roast their
\$200 pitcher to a turn. He costs them
about \$25 a game, yea verily, it is true,
they have an elephant on their hands.

George Stultz, the pitcher lately re-
leased by Kansas City, and Andrew Por-
ter, who played with Des Moines last
year have been signed by the St Joe
management.

Omaha's new ball grounds were open-
ed for the first time yesterday. It is
said they are a great improvement over
the old grounds, inasmuch as they are
much larger and contain better accomo-
dations.

President Freedman last week offered
President Robison \$10,000 in cash for
Left Fielder Burkett and Short Stop
McKean. His offer was refused. This
is one of the largest offers for base ball
players on record.

"Umpire Snyder received a request for
his resignation Wednesday and acted
promptly. There were many points
about the game of which he was said to
be uninformed, hence the resignation."
—Des Moines Record.

The Lincoln team left with Dave
Rowe's aggregation yesterday morning
for Omaha, where they will play three
games. They will visit Des Moines for
a series of three games and upon return-
ing home will play Peoria, Jacksonville
Quincy and Rockford respectively.

While most all the other clubs in the
association have been, and are, chang-
ing players Lincoln has not, so far, made
a single change, no new players signed;
all the boys playing the positions they
assumed at the beginning of the season
and every one of them playing ball that
cannot help but make "Me Lord"
Ebright feel proud of them.

The Des Moines Review commenting
on their club says: "The Des Moines
ball club should either brace up or quit
trying to play ball. If they win a game
they think that is enough glory and
they lose ten on the strength of it."
The Des Moines team is playing in
hard luck, that is all; I have no hesi-
tancy in saying that Manager Traffey
has one of the best teams in the associa-
tion, and they play good ball. Last but

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of base ball games and club stand-
ing in the Western Association
every day

**ALL THE LEADING DAILIES,
WEEKLIES and MAGA-
ZINES of THE DAY.**

**Frank DuTeil, 1020 O St.
—Sign of the Red Dude—**

not least, they take their defeat good
naturedly, which goes to prove that
they are, one and all, gentlemen.

To the base ball fans of this city who
are bemoaning the fact that we do not
have Sunday ball in Lincoln I would
give the assurance that "every cloud has
a silver lining." Is it not a fact that we
have prize fights occasionally, right in
the heart of the city? Don't we have
"Dutch dances" every Sunday evening
where you can purchase intoxicants of
every description at the usual price?
And are not the noise, music, etc., heard
for blocks around, enchanting to the
ear? But that is not all. Have we not
one of those old time beer gardens within
a half mile of one of our prominent
normal colleges, where people of every
degree, high and low, congregate and
drink beer to their heart's content?
Truly, this city of colleges, universities
and churches impresses one with its
moral aspect, especially of a Sunday.

The St Joe people are excited over
Sioux City again clamoring for admis-
sion to the Western association; in fact
Sioux City would like to buy St.
Joe's franchise. It is said that the
Saints are in a bad condition financially,
but President Hesse of St Joe says:
"We were the first of any team in the
association to advance dues to President
Kent. We are paid up to July 1 and
owe no man a cent. The St Joe team is
in a good financial position, in fact there
is no team in the Western association
better off than we are. Green eyed
envy is at the bottom of the whole mat-
ter." It is said that J. F. McKee, of
Rockford, one of the magnates of the
Western association, is at the bottom of
the whole thing aided by Dave Rowe;
but I predict that nothing will come of
it. The Sioux City Tribune is author-
ity for the statement that there is talk
of Indianapolis going to the National
league and should that be done there
is a possibility that Sioux City will take
Indianapolis' place in the Western
league. It says too, that it is reported
that Dubuque may take Jacksonville's
place soon in the eastern half of the cir-
cuit. This is all bosh. The Western
association will finish the season just as
it started, reports to the contrary not-
withstanding.

—THOMAS

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