

THE DETROITS,

THE LEADING CLUB IN OUR GREAT NATIONAL GAME.

Portraits of "Deacon" White and the Rest of the "Big Four"—The Pitcher of the "Pretzel" Curve and the Left-Handed Pitcher.

The great interest in our national game centers this season in the Detroit (Mich.) baseball club, who now leads in the race for the championship of the National League, which includes the present champions, the Chicago, also clubs from New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, St. Louis and Kansas City.

The Detroit club now consists of fourteen men, who are said to be the strongest combination of players and heaviest batsmen ever brought together. The organization created considerable of a stir last fall by buying out the Buffalo club and retaining four of the best players, Brothers, White, Richardson and Rowe, now famous as the big four. Much of the success of the present nine is due to this quartet.

No player in the country is better known than Dennis Brothers, their first baseman, who stands six feet two inches high, and weighs 207 pounds. Dennis was born at Sylvan Lake, N. Y., twenty-eight years ago. He began playing ball in 1876 with the Actives of Wappingers Falls, N. Y., as a pitcher. In 1878 he filled the same position for the Stottsville, of Stottsville, N. Y. April 1879, he started in to pitch for the Haymakers, of Lansingburg. The club disbanded May 30. He then entered the National League as first base and change pitcher for the Troy City club, playing out the season. In 1880 he began the season with the Baltimore club, which disbanded in June. Then he took a dose of Hop Bitters as first baseman. That club threw up in July, and he went back to the Troys, playing the remainder of the season of 1880. Although making a fair pitcher, he was more effective in other positions, and he gave up twirling. He signed with Brooklyn as right fielder in 1881. But May 30 left that city and went to Buffalo as left fielder, playing fifty games in that position. Then he took first base and kept it up to the time the "Big Four" went to Detroit.



BROTHERS, 1B.

James L. White, or "Deacon White," is a name famous in baseball history. He was born at Canton, N. Y., Dec. 2, 1818. He stands five feet eleven inches, and weighs 170 pounds. His baseball career has been checked and interesting. He first played with a club at Canton, N. Y., in 1836, and then with the Monitor club, of Corning, N. Y., in 1837. In 1838 he was with the Forest City, of Cleveland. The following year that team became a professional club, and White played with them during the seasons of 1839, 1840, 1841 and 1842. He went to Boston and remained during 1843, 1844 and 1845. In the centennial year he, with Spalding, Barnes and McVey, transferred themselves to Chicago, being the first big four. He staid in the Garden City that season, but returned to Boston and played in 1847. In 1848-49 the Cincinnati (Lugue) club had his services. He took a rest during the first part of 1850, but went to Cincinnati in August and finished the season. In 1851 he joined the Buffalo club, and did great work for them until he left them for Detroit. The deacon is said to figure as a Sunday school teacher or superintendent during the winter months, but it does not seem to injure him as a ball player any.



WHITE, 3B.

Harding Richardson, another of the "Big Four," is as good an all-round player as there is in the country. He has filled every position in the in and outfield, besides pitching and catching. He was born in Clarksboro, N. J., in 1855, is five feet eight and one-half inches high and weighs 178 pounds. His first work on the diamond was with the Gloucester City (N. J.) club, in 1875, as third base and change catcher. He joined the Crickets of Binghamton, N. Y., in July, 1876, and played there until 1878, when he signed with the Utica (N. Y.) club and won the Clippor gold medal for best general field work. In 1879 he went to Buffalo, staying there until the exodus to Detroit.



RICHARDSON, 2B.

Another of the quartet is John C. Rowe, who was born near Harrisburg, Pa., in 1857. He is 5 feet 8 1/2 inches high, and weighs 170 pounds. He first appeared at Jamesville, W. Va., in 1877, finishing the season at Milwaukee. In 1878 he played in Georgia; in 1879 at Rockford, Ill., from there going to Buffalo where he remains until the change to



ROWE, S. S.

Detroit. Sam Thompson, the right fielder, is a Hoosier by birth, and has developed most astonishing hitting ability. He is six feet two inches high, and weighs 207 pounds. He was born at Danville, Ind., in 1850, and played his first game in 1868, as first baseman with a local team. He was with the Evansville in 1864, and in Indianapolis the following season, going to Detroit in the fall, when that city purchased the former aggregation.



THOMPSON, R. F.

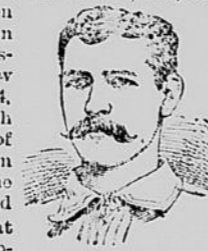
Charles B. Baldwin, the left-handed pitcher, first made his appearance at Grand Rapids in 1883. He did not make a success, and the following year again tried to



BALDWIN, P.

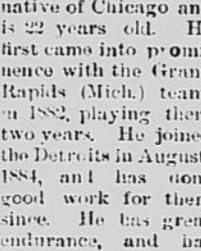
puzzling ambitious batsmen at Hastings, Mich., during the period from 1879 to 1882; but in 1884 he signed for more victims to strike out, and went to Milwaukee, where he stayed until Detroit captured him.

Charles Bennett, the leading catcher, has been before the public as a player for a decade. He was born at New Castle, Pa., and stands five feet eleven inches. He began playing with the Nesliannocks, of New Castle, Pa., in 1874, and continued through to the latter part of 1876 as third baseman and catcher, when he went to Detroit and joined the Zenias, at that time a semi-professional club, the rivalry between it and the Cass club being intense. In 1877-78 he caught for the Milwaukee, and 1879-80 play with the Worcester League team. The Worcester people, not understanding his value, allowed him to slip, and he again signed with Detroit in 1881, where he has been ever since.



BENNETT, C.

Edward Hanlon, the center fielder, is noted for wondrous running capabilities. He is a very fleet base runner and a great cause of worry to catchers. He is 27 years old and is a New Englander by birth. He made his debut with the Rhode Island club, of Providence, and joined the Rochester (N. Y.) team in 1878 as third baseman. Subsequently he went to Albany, being a member of that city's famous crew in 1879. Next he joined Cleveland, in 1880, and a year later he transferred himself to Detroit.



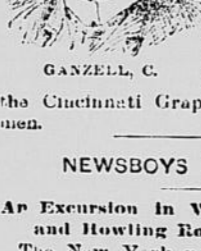
HANLON, C. F.

Charles Getzeln, one of the pitchers, is a native of Chicago and is 22 years old. He first came into prominence with the Grand Rapids (Mich.) team, in 1882, playing there two years. He joined the Detroit in August, 1884, and has done good work for them since. He has great endurance, and has participated successfully in numerous double inning games. The Chicagoers describe the course of the ball from his hand to their bats as a "pretzel curve."



GETZELN, P.

Ganzell, the now famous catcher of the club has had a curious career. He was engaged by the Philadelphia club but was allowed to leave them on account of his incompetency. He then joined the Detroit and, as since proved a phenomenal catcher.



GANZELL, C.

NEWSBOYS LET LOOSE.

An Excursion in Which Pandemonium and Howling Rome Are Nowhere. The New York newsboy's lot is not a happy one at best. From rough usage at the hands of his parents, when he is burdened with any, to the rougher treatment of his own set in the streets he acquires a warlike spirit which tears only the "cop" and the police justice. Might is right with him, and he is docile only when dealing with a customer or in the presence of a stronger antagonist. There is one day in the year though when all restraint is removed and he, or several hundred of them, are allowed to let themselves loose.

This red letter day in the newsboy's life is on the occasion of the excursion granted him each year by John H. Starin. It came off the other day, and the programme varied little from previous years. First the largest double-deck barge in the harbor of New York is made ready at a dock early in the morning, but no earlier than the boys begin to swarm toward it. Each gain has secured a free ticket days before the event, on his proving that he was an all-wool newsboy and at least a yard in length. A squad of police are on hand to prevent bloodshed, and keep the boys from going in swimming off the dock. There are from 500 to 800 of them, and the pandemonium they keep up could not be described. After an hour or so of waiting the order is given to go on board, and then a scramble commences to get them in line so as to get them on board Indian file. Those not possessing tickets are waded out, leaving 350 to go on board. In the meantime a band of nine brave musicians have taken their lives in their hands and trusted themselves to the mercy of the boys later on. But they are a green band, they have never furnished music to a newsboy's excursion before, and it is likely that Starin has not money enough to secure their services again, at least he has never yet been able to hire the same band twice.

Well, the boat starts, so does the band and so do the boys' lungs, the latter to announce to all New York that the tenth annual excursion of the newsboys is in progress. The first subject to engage the boys' attention is the band, who are playing "Mikado" airs. The 350 resolve themselves into a musical committee to instruct the band as to their wishes. "None of your bifalutin music, give us jigs and 42 waltzes or we'll throw you overboard." In the way their request is put. The band find it politic to obey and the boys dance in pairs. Waltzing is what they called it, though wrestling would be the better name. Then a strong man rolls out on the deck

the first of eleven barrels of yellow paper bags. Each boy receives a bag containing a bun, a spice cake, two doughnuts, a sandwich and two sections of the destructive bakers' pie. These are disposed of as follows: The pie is first gobbled, the sandwich follows, and then the doughnuts. Then trouble begins for the band.



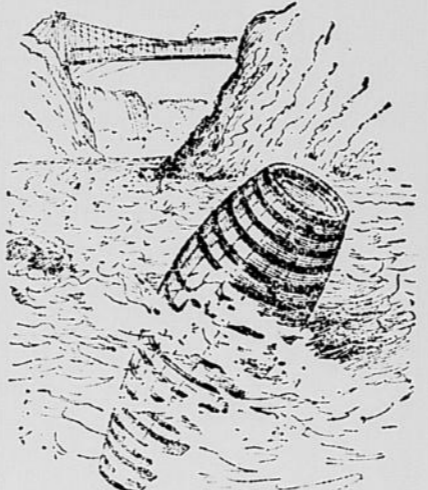
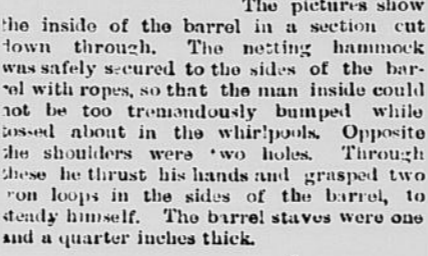
TRUBLE FOR THE BAND. The rest of the lunch is stowed in the pockets or beside the shirt, the paper bag is inflated and burst, then pressed into a wad and thrown into the yawning openings of the musicians' brass instruments. From that time until the boat lands the air is full of flying buns, doughnuts and even chunks of pie. Before the boat touches the landing 100 boys are overboard to get ahead of it by swimming. How the boys spend their time on shore must be imagined. For a half hour before the boat starts to return the whistle is blown at intervals, but notwithstanding that precaution it is found by actual count that some half dozen boys are left to find their way back to New York as best they can. Two policemen accompany the expedition to preserve the peace. And a strong man is towed in a rowboat after the barge, to pick up the boys as they fall or are thrown overboard by their companions.

The Cooper Who Shot Niagara Rapids in a Barrel.

Four men have passed through the Niagara whirlpool rapids and come out alive. In 1861 the little steamer Maid of the Mist passed through. The crew consisted of her captain, Robinson, and two other men. By little less than a miracle the occupants of the craft shot the rapids and all came out alive. The boat had been sold, and this was her captain's way of delivering the goods.

In 1883, Webb, the English swimmer, lost his life in attempting to pass the rapids. It was left for a bank young Philadelphian to accomplish the feat in a barrel. Graham is 31 years old, and has spent much of his life knocking about the world. He has been all around it, for one thing. He is of slight build, dark complexioned and thin. He is of an adventurous turn of mind. At the time Webb lost his life Graham was in England. During the excitement at that time it occurred to him to try the experiment which has just resulted successfully. Being a cooper, the idea of making the trip in a barrel suggested itself.

He went to Buffalo two months ago, and began working on the barrel. He made it all with his own hands. It is seven feet high, and egg-shaped, somewhat. It whirled through the rapids big end up. The small end was weighted with lead, to keep it down. In the center was suspended a hammock of strong cord netting. It was long and narrow, so as to admit of a man's moving about comfortably in a sitting or half-standing posture. The resemblance of its shape to that of a coffin will be suggested to the most careless observer. The pictures show the inside of the barrel in a section cut down through. The netting hammock was safely secured to the sides of the barrel with ropes, so that the man inside could not be too traumatically bumped while tossed about in the whirlpools. Opposite the shoulders were two holes. Through these he thrust his hands and grasped two iron loops in the sides of the barrel, to steady himself. The barrel staves were one and a quarter inches thick.



A hole was left in the top. Into this Graham crept, put the lid up, and fastened it. This lid is shown in the illustration and looks like the cover of a butter lidkin. There was an air hole. He was rowed out in a boat from the ancient landing of the Maid of the Mist, below the falls, and was dropped overboard. He quickly passed under the two bridges, the cantilever and the suspension. He had a plug out of the top of the barrel, and saw them as he passed under. From the time the barrel was set afloat till it was picked up at Lawiston, below the rapids, was just thirty-two minutes. Graham was fearfully shaken up. He says he intends now to make some money out of the experience.

SCENES AT LONG BRANCH.

SKETCHES OF WHAT IS TO BE SEEN DURING THE SEASON.

Many Hotels, Cottages and Gambling Houses—Pretty Girls in Shell-Shaped Chairs—The Boss Dude in Paradise. Raid on Phil Daly's.

Of the four great seashore resorts near New York city, Coney Island is the place for day excursionists, Ocean Grove and Asbury Park the gathering place of those whom other people call poor and pious, Long Branch is the spot where wealthy Hebrews and summer guests from points outside of New York city congregate, while Newport is where the blue bloods, the self-styled aristocracy of New York city have cottages during the four warm months which are called the season.

The chief features of Long Branch are the hotels and cottages and the gambling houses. It is getting the fashion now for a central dining room, kitchen and restaurant to be built, with a limited number of lodging rooms attached. Clustered all around it are cottages, so called; in reality, ornate and large houses of wood. These are usually built without kitchens. The proper thing, that is to say, the fashionable thing, to do is to rent or own a cottage near the central restaurant and take your meals there.



SHELL CHAIRS.

Such a group of hotels and cottages is the Elberon, with the Francklyn cottage, where Gardiel died. Such is the Hollywood, the most gorgeously decorated, perhaps also one of the most expensive, hotels in America. This establishment belongs to the property of Mr. John Hoey. A limited number of splendidly finished and furnished cottages are in this group. They are remarkable in coloring and woodwork. Upon the porches of these cottages are to be seen the chairs made in imitation of the shape of a sea shell that you observe in the picture. They are a foreign fashion born wed from French watering places. They are made of cane and willow, and shelter one occupying them from rain and draft. East Indian Bamboo lounges, with a little pocket in them to hold a glass and bottle, are also among the Hollywood porch furniture. It suggests delicious laziness unparelleled.

At the best of times, even from Saturday night to Monday morning, there are three women to one man at Long Branch, as at all watering places.



DUDE IN CLOVER.

The marriageable young man who is there, who has plenty of clothes and money to pay his board, may be considered to be in paradise. Sweet girls flock around him. They look up to him and adore him when he is there; they dream about him and sigh for him when he is not. He has nothing to do but change his clothes four times a day and look bored and a little melancholy, as though he had secret sorrow. He will be as great a man as a turbaned Turk in his own haven.

The gambling houses have been mentioned. The most splendidly furnished and most renowned one in the United States is here, to make use yet once more of a Long Branch superlative.



PHIL DALY'S.

It is called the Pennsylvania Club house, because it is said to have been started, in the first place, for the accommodation of rich Philadelphians. However that may be, fortunes made all over the country are lost here, and the relentless "per cent." on them goes to fill Phil Daly's already bursting coffers. He built a Roman Catholic chapel with some of his wealth last year, as if to pacify the Lord a little while getting the devil's help constantly. But somehow people of any denomination do not take kindly to his meeting house. He has openly defied the law many years, and no attempt has

ever been made to raid his house till the other day. It was done then by the aid of a callow young theological student who played amateur detective. He was so awfully set up over it that he burst into the gambling room at the head of some policemen, and brandished a revolver and cried in a loud voice: "I take the credit of this. This is mine."

He was a very meek and lowly young Christian, indeed. Daly and some of his gentlemen were arrested, but the plucky old gambler showed fight and succeeded in making confusion enough for the customers to get away under cover of it. They were well known New York men who did not want their names in the papers. But the gambling goes on apace same. Phil Daly's men all wear dress suits.

One feature of Long Branch is that day excursionists have no show at all there. No merry go round, with monsters on which to ride, no monster posters, elephants, barded women shows, or any of the nickel entertainments dear to the hearts of children and rustic rovers are there. Long Branch is so high toned as to be very dull for these.

A driveway runs along the bluff, which is not very well kept up, however. The fashionable part of Long Branch, as every other place, is the west end, from the West End hotel ending with the Elberon cottages. It is not a very great space, but it thinks it is very great.

THE OLDEST AMERICAN CITY.

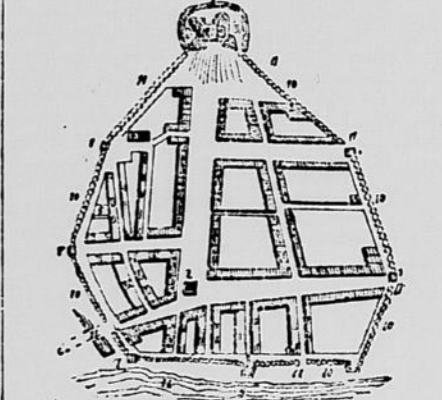
Albany, N. Y., Celebrates the Bi-Centennial of Its Incorporation.



DUTCH CHURCH, 1615.

When, in 1609, Hendrik Hudson left Holland, it was with the intention of finding a northwest passage to India and China, but the nearest he came to the object of his search was Albany, N. Y. As he entered New York harbor, Coney Island, even, had no attraction for him. China or "bust," seems to have been his motto, for he even gave the island of Manhattan the cold shoulder, and sailed up the Hudson till his craft, the Half Moon, was stuck in the mud. The present city of Hudson marks the spot. From here the mate and four sailors paddled up as far as Albany, but finding only Indians, they turned back. Had Hudson's mariners continued on to the present Troy, they would have seen enough of the celebrated landmarks thereabout to have led them to the belief that the Flowery Kingdom could not be far away.

On Hudson's return to Europe the announcement of his discoveries aroused the terpsire of the old Dutch merchants and they filed out several expeditions to investigate the new land. These navigators explored the American coast from Massachusetts to Virginia pre-empting the whole territory. They would have commended their explorations and laid claim to the remainder of the undiscovered earth, but for the fact that it did not pay, it did not return what their descendants call "book." So they turned to the more profitable calling of trading with the natives. That is exchanging cheap gin and trinkets for the valuable skins and furs collected by the Indians. As Albany was at that time the great meeting ground of the various tribes, it was chosen as the most suitable site for a trading post.



MAP OF ALBANY, 1625.

1. The fort.
2. Dutch church.
3. Lutheran church.
4. Lutheran cemetery.
5. Dutch cemetery.
6. Stadthaus.
7. Block houses.
8. Great gun.
9. Stockades.
10. Six city gates.

In 1630 Killian Van Rensselaer, a pearl merchant of Amsterdam, organized a company that secured a tract of land extending back forty-eight miles from the river and south on both sides of the river for twenty-four miles. Killian was the largest shareholder in this company, and it was not long after that he squeezed out the others. In the same way other patroons, as they were called, staked off tracts of land on the Hudson, living as feudal lords.

In 1614 the town was captured by the English, and in 1690 Governor Dougan granted a charter for a city to the people of Albany. This is the event of which the bi-centennial is now being celebrated.

Senator Edmunds' Recollections.

Senator Edmunds is beginning to wear the look of a man who no longer doubts. During the early part of the winter he was apparently worried, but the recent reports from Vermont indicate that the opposition to him there is illusive and will amount to nothing when the legislative session next winter. It appears to be generally agreed in that state that it would be a great mistake to retire this veteran and supply his place with an inexperienced man. Mr. Edmunds has many enemies. He is dogmatic, cold and not given up to any remarkable extent to the pursuit of ardent friendships. He has always refused to help any of his constituents to get an office, and has never used one of the methods employed by similar politicians to make himself popular. Washington letter.