

# LUCK IN BASEBALL

Freak Plays by Which Games Have Been Decided.

## PUT THE BALL IN HIS POCKET.

Cliff Carroll's Funny Stunt That Let in the Winning Run and Enraged Christ von der Ahe—A Hit That Put Two Balls in Play at the Same Time.

In the American Magazine Hugh S. Fullerton writes of freak plays that have won great baseball games. Following is one of the most remarkable stories:

"Among the abnormal incidents that figured in the earlier history of the national game, perhaps none is as well known to old timers as the one which happened to Cliff Carroll on the St. Louis grounds when he was a member of the famous 'Browns.' Perhaps you have wondered why baseball players have plain shirt fronts and why so few players have breast pockets. Cliff Carroll is the reason. He was running forward to take a base hit on the first bound.

"The ball bounced crooked and hit him on the chest. He grabbed at the ball hastily, and as he crutched he shoved it down into the handkerchief pocket on his shirt front. The runner Mack Carroll tugging and straining to tear the ball out of the pocket, and instead of stopping at first he sprinted on to second, while Carroll, still trying to dislodge the ball, ran to second. The batter passed the fielder and turned for third with Carroll in pursuit. At third Carroll stopped and tried in vain to release the ball, and the runner kept on across the plate and scored the winning run.

"Chris von der Ahe, who at that time was at the head of the euphonics, Von der Ahe, Muckenfuss and Dödelbeck, which operated the club, was furious and ordered all pockets removed from baseball shirts. Other teams followed, and the pockets never have been restored except by a few players who are willing to risk the repetition of the accident."

"A curious story is this one of a game where two balls were in play at the same time:

"Perhaps the strangest freak play was one made by Frank McNichols on the Logan Square grounds in Chicago. The Logan Square team, then owned by Jimmy Callahan, had persuaded McNichols, a ball player of major league caliber, to play first base against the Quenters, another strong team, and the score was tied in the ninth inning. The Quenters had runners on second and third with two out, and a base hit meant probable defeat for the Logans and loss of the city championship.

"Matty Fitzgerald, a well known umpire, was officiating alone from behind the pitcher's slab. His blouse was dilled with extra balls, and in stooping to fight along the plate as the pitcher wound up he allowed one of the spare balls to fall to the ground behind him. The batter hit a hard line drive that seemed aimed at the pitcher's ankles.

"Fitzgerald leaped aside to avoid being hit, the batter ball struck the ball on the ground, and the two balls rolled toward the shortstop, the other toward the second baseman. Each player thought the ball rolling toward him was the one in play, and each dashed forward, made clever running stops at the same instant and threw to first base at the same time.

"The shortstop threw high and to the left of McNichols; the second baseman threw low and to his right. McNichols, with his left hand stretched high, caught one ball in his mitt, and with the other hand he caught the low throw, and Fitzgerald, after scratching his head an instant, called the batter out and refused to allow either of the runs that crossed the plate on the play to be recorded."

The following might be called the story of the base hit that never came down:

"Of all the good luck freaks that I ever heard recounted the best was that which happened to Frank Labell when he was playing with St. Paul in the old Western league. In those days baseball on Sunday was not permitted within the corporate limits of St. Paul, and a Sunday park had been erected outside the city's jurisdiction.

"The ground was extremely small and was enclosed by a high fence. So small was the inclosure that batters hitting the ball hard against the fences were compelled to sprint to first, because if the ball happened to rebound directly to the fielder he could throw a slow runner out. As it required about four hits or their equivalent in errors to field a run, small scores were the rule.

"In the ninth inning of this game, Milwaukee had two runs the advantage, and there were runners on first and second, with Labell at bat. St. Paul's only logical hope was for a home run over one of the high fences. Labell hit a hard line smash to right field against the fence. The runner on first was a slow man, and the fielder squatted, expecting the ball to rebound to him and to whirl and force the slow man at second base, ending the game.

"But the ball didn't rebound. It impaled itself on a wire nail about ten feet up the fence, and while the Milwaukee outfielders were gazing at a ball that circled the bases and won the game."

Fame only comes when deserved, and then it is as inevitable as destiny, for it is destiny.—Longfellow.

# BOARDED AN ICEBERG.

The Floating Island That Wrecked a Ship Saved Its Crew.

Curious indeed was the experience of the crew of the German ship Hansa with an iceberg. The Hansa struck an ice island in latitude 52 degrees a little before midnight in a freezing gale. The impact carried her bow far up on the berg and imbedded it firmly in the ice. Her back was broken by the force of the collision and before morning was wrenched away from the forward part by the battering seas and sank.

When the Hansa struck the boats were lowered, but only one escaped being swamped after pulling away from the doomed ship. It was soon found, however, that this boat was leaking and that no amount of balling would keep it afloat more than a few hours, so the mate in command made for the berg and succeeded in climbing up on it to a place of temporary safety. From the broken timbers of the Hansa's bow the castaways built a rude shelter and snared seals birds to eke out the scanty supplies they had been able to save from the ship.

As the ice island drifted farther south into warmer waters and began perceptibly to sprinkle the shipwrecked men were a prey to constant fear that the melting mass might turn turtle any time and precipitate them all in the sea, from which it had so providentially saved them. Also they feared it might "calve" and the part breaking away from the main bulk might carry them with it to destruction. The constant grinding and groaning of the great ice raft filled their hearts with constant terror, and the deserted seas added to their despair.

But the berg held together for eight months, and the Hansa's men traveled 750 miles before they were finally picked up in latitude 41 degrees, suffering from frostbites and hunger, but otherwise no worse for their long exposure.—New York Press.

## WEST POINT CADETS.

Their Education Costs the Government About \$3,500 Each.

The selection of West Point as the place for the National Military academy was due to its advantages from a military viewpoint, for its rugged beauty and its severe climate were calculated to be beneficial in the foundation of that sort of character so essential to a successful officer.

The academy was formally opened on July 4, 1802, with ten cadets and five officers as instructors. Its success is said to be due to the administrative ability of General Sylvanus Thayer, who became its superintendent in 1817 and served as such for sixteen years. This officer is known as the "father of West Point."

A cadet's education costs the government about \$3,500. All cadets are on the same footing. The pay of a cadet is \$300 per year and one ration per day or commutation thereof at 30 cents per day. The total is about \$700.50, to commence with his admission to the academy. Immediately after his admission the young man must spend \$100 for uniforms.

After graduation the cadet is eligible to the rank of second lieutenant and is appointed to whatever branch of the service his record entitles him. Those who are highest in class honors are generally appointed to the staff or general staff.—Leelle's.

## Polite and Tactful.

The mayor of a French town had, in accordance with the regulations, to make out a passport for a rich and highly respectable lady of his acquaintance, who, in spite of a slight disfigurement, was very vain of her personal appearance. His native politeness prompted him to gloss over the defect, and after a moment's reflection he wrote among the items of personal description, "Eyes dark, beautiful, tender, expressive, but one of them missing."

## A Scotch "Bull."

General Wade constructed military roads in the highlands of Scotland. An obelisk was constructed to commemorate his achievements on which was inscribed the following "bull," intended to distinguish between natural tracks and made roads:

Had you seen these roads before they were made you would lift up your hands and bless General Wade.

## She "Hoped" For Their Happiness.

The Newly Wed—Edith did the happiest thing at our reception, and I'll never forgive her. Cousin Jane—Why, what could it be? The Newly Wed—She addressed Charles in the most pitying manner and said, "I hope you'll be happy." The way she uttered that word "hope" was positively unbearable.

## The Misery of It.

Reporter—It's a terrible sensation, isn't it, Mrs. Yippery, to be bound and gagged? Victim (of burglarious visitation)—Why, it's simply awful, young man! For more than half an hour I couldn't talk a word.—Chicago Tribune.

## Assuming That.

Brown—What reason have you for hating Blank? Smith—Well, you see, he's a relative of mine, and— Brown—Yes, yes, I know, but what other reason?—Harper's Bazar.

## Willie's Question.

"Pa, was Job a doctor?" "Not that I know of." "Then why do people have so much to say about the patients of Job?"—Boston Transcript.

## Swelled the Account.

The well known Paris theater manager Dolligny relates in his reminiscences an encounter he had with the elder Dumas which furnishes an illustration of the novelist's willness. Dolligny produced Dumas' drama, "Kean," with the rather peculiar stipulation that the author should receive one-third of the gross receipts when these exceeded 3,000 francs and nothing at all if they fell below that figure.

Dumas, who was always hard up, came late one evening to get his share. "Luck is against you again," said the manager. "You don't get anything tonight. Here is the account." Dumas glanced at it and went away in a few minutes he came back and said:

"Just look over the account again and then pay me 1,000 francs. The ticket that I just bought for 3 francs brings the total up to 3,000 francs and 50 centimes."

## Described the Situation.

"When the Russian emigrants try to say Halifax it sounds like something much worse," said an officer on board a steamship that puts in at the port of Halifax on her return trip from Holland. "They call it 'Hello' far from Halifax when the vessel broke a shaft, and we were obliged to put in at a port that was nearer to us for repairs. It was a bad break and likely to delay us, and the captain's temper was considerably ruffled. As we steamed into the little port some of the emigrants, thinking we had reached Halifax, spread the news among their fellows, and one of them who had learned a little English came running to the captain: "'We-in-a-Hello!' he inquired eagerly."

"That's just what we are!" roared the captain.—New York Press.

## Spelled the Bird's Flight.

During a campaign meeting a speaker, noted for his eloquent discourses, was expounding the praises of his favorite candidate for mayor.

"This man," he shouted, "is the one who can most fittingly govern this haven for the oppressed, with its countless myriads of happy homes, their verdant lawns and flowers seen glinting in the sunlight."

"Widely outstretched arms and gazing fervently upward, he exclaimed in a passionate voice:

"If I had the pinions of a bird I would fly to every ward and precinct in this wonderful city and disseminate the glad tidings that—"

Then a voice from the back of the room piped out:

"You'd be shot for a goose before you had down a mile!"—Kansas City Journal.

## Prices in the Tenth Century.

Money values in the tenth century were very low, according to our ideas, but as the purchasing power of money then equaled from eight to twenty times what it is today one must hasten a comparison writes Charles W. Hall in the National Magazine to athletes at the time a horse was worth 120 shillings, an ox 30 pence, a cow 20 pence, a sheep 5 pence, a hog 8 pence, a slave 20 shillings, making a slave worth eight oxen, and these prices, except in times of famine, appear to have changed little under the Norman in 1156 wheat sold at 18 pence the quarter of eight bushels, and in 1231 it brought only 24 pence, but in 1024 seed wheat sold at 3 shillings a bushel, barley at 2 shillings and oats at 1 shilling per bushel.

## Gladstone's Signs.

Gladstone is the inventor of the abbreviation for million which is much used in England. Since "m" was already reserved for a thousand he made a million sign out of it by curling the tail of the "m" over the body of the letter and once declared that posterity might be more grateful to him for this than for his political work. He was much added to labor-saving devices and was proud of his system of recording responses to invitations. When an invitation was sent the name was marked in his list with a minus sign. In case of acceptance another stroke made it a plus sign, while refusal was marked with a sign of equality. A circle about a plus sign showed that an acceptance had been recalled.

## Ox Bones.

Ox bones have a considerable value. The four feet of an ordinary ox will make a pint of best foot oil. The thigh bone is the most valuable, being useful for cutting into toothbrush handles. The fore leg bones are made into collar buttons and parasol handles. The water in which the bones are boiled is reduced to glue, while the dust which comes from sawing the bones is turned into food for cattle and poultry. Exchange.

## No Desire to Be a Widow.

"I know that I'm not good enough for you."

You wouldn't be if you were the best man that ever lived, but I've found that these good men die young, and I don't look well in black.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

## Sure Thing.

"Do you believe she will love me long?"

"Well, I know she won't love you short."—Baltimore American.

## Began Soon.

Mrs. Crusty—Do you remember our first quarrel? Mr. Crusty—Let me see. Was that going into the church or coming out?

An obstinate man does not hold opinions—they hold him.—Butler.

## METHOD IN BUSINESS.

One Busy Executive's Plan For Keeping His Papers in Order.

Often executives use portfolios on their desks for keeping important matters before them, but if they have many matters the portfolio becomes bulky, papers are lost and the desk is littered. With a flat top desk a portfolio is an impossibility.

Recently a business man who was a firm believer in the portfolio idea worked out a variation of it which handled his matters very satisfactorily. He bought a four drawer flat file cabinet, which sat beside his desk. He could pull all of the drawers out part way and drop papers in them as he worked, thus keeping them off his desk and putting them where they would be taken care of.

The top drawer was labeled "Today," the next one "Tomorrow," the third one "Next Week" and the last one "Next Month." When he reached a paper he wanted to take up next day he dropped it in the second drawer and followed the same idea with the other drawers with reference to time. Each morning his stenographer emptied the "Tomorrow" drawer into the "Today" drawer, and when the man started the day he took the contents of the "Today" drawer and placed them on his desk. Once a week, Monday morning, the stenographer emptied the "Next Week" drawer into the "Today" drawer and on the last day of the month emptied the "Next Month" drawer.

The scheme worked admirably well in his case and with a few variations to meet particular conditions will solve many vexing problems.—Business.

## BISMARCK'S REVOLT.

The Quarrel and Retort That Parted Him From the Kaiser.

The emperor's quarrel with Bismarck is a matter of history, and it started owing to the chancellor having a private interview with a certain political personage unknown to his majesty. The Kaiser, hearing of this, wrote to Bismarck telling him that he expected to be informed of all such interviews before they took place. The prince's reply to the letter was a verbal one and was spoken to the emperor's private secretary. "Tell his majesty," it ran, "that I cannot allow any one to decide who is to cross my own threshold."

When the message was delivered to the Kaiser he drove around to the chancellor's place and asked him what the discussion in question was about. In excited tones the prince declared that he could not subject his intercourse with political personages to any restraint, nor would he allow any one to control the passage to his private apartments.

"Not even when I as your sovereign command you to do so?" shouted the emperor, enraged.

"The commands of my sovereign," coldly replied the chancellor, "end at the drawing room of my wife."

## Killed Him With Kisses.

M. de Langy was a courier of the time of Louis XV., whose supreme court so irritated certain ladies of the court that they resolved to inflict upon him a novel punishment. Feigning one day to be overcome by the beauty of his face and person, they fell upon him en masse, hugging and kissing the wretched dandy until he cried for mercy. Deaf to his entreaties, the ladies continued their merciless caresses until the object of their mock love, who indeed was but a sorry weakling, in endeavoring to break away from their clutches broke a blood vessel and died a few days later.

## A Mob.

A mob is usually a creature of very mysterious existence, particularly in a large city. Where it comes from or whether it goes few men can tell. Assembling and dispersing with equal suddenness, it is as difficult to follow to its various sources as the sea itself, nor does the parallel stop here, for the ocean is not more fickle and uncertain, more terrible when aroused, more unreasonable or more cruel.—Dickens.

## This as the Mist.

Scene, a town in the north on a very misty day.

Sandy McKay (coming out of a public house and meeting his minister face to face)—Look, sir, it's an awful delectin' thing, this mist, D'ye ken (impressively), I wandered in there the no, thinkin' it was the grocer's.—London Telegraph.

## Ambiguous.

"Papa, Arthur—Mr. Jinx is in the parlor and asked me to ask you if you would mind stepping down there for a few minutes, he has something important to ask you." "Sure! Tell him I'll have my boots on in just a minute."—Houston Post.

## Made to Order.

"I just know I'm going to have a fearful headache."

## A Diagnosis.

"My dear sir, 'is this son of yours yet speak of adolescent?" "Oh, no, sir, he's just a little queer in his head."—Baltimore American.

A spot is most seen on the finest cloth.—German proverb.

## Goethe as a Joker.

On an occasion when Goethe was sitting at the court of Saxe-Weimar with his friend Duke Charles Augustus one of the court ladies, when about to retire for the night, found her candle suddenly extinguished just before she reached her bedroom door. Taking no notice of the occurrence, she groped along in the dark, but to her astonishment could not find the door handle. Again and again she felt her way along the wall, but with the same result. At last she made up her mind to go to the duchess for advice.

The latter, however, was already asleep, and no help was to be had from her. The poor lady did not care to take any one else into her confidence for fear of being laughed at and so spent some hours in vain search, only to find at last that Goethe and the duke himself had with their own hands taken the door off its hinges some time earlier in the evening and carefully walled up the entrance to the room.

## Bounded That Way.

Miss Brown was giving an elaborate description of a blacksmith's preparatory to teaching Longfellow's poem to her pupils:

"Now, children, we are going to learn a poem today about some one who works very hard. He is very large and has great arms that can lift such heavy things. His face is blackened with soot that comes from his great blazing fires. And he wears a dirty black apron, and he has a fire that glows, oh, so red, and whenever he makes anything he puts it into his fire and then pounds it with a great big hammer, which makes the loudest clanging noise and makes the sparks fly about in every direction. Now, who can tell me what I have been describing?"

"A little maid who had listened to these vivid details with eyes twice their natural size sprang to her feet and said in an awed whisper:

"The devil!"—Housekeeper.

## Curious Choice of a Wife.

Some years ago an English curate surprised his parishioners by marrying a widow considerably older than himself. The astonishment was still greater when the cause was known. The curate had become engaged to a young girl whose frivolous conduct soon led him to regret the step. He offered a settlement for his release, but it was refused. He endeavored in every way to break the engagement, but without success.

"Is there nothing I can do to escape this?" he exclaimed one day in despair.

"Yes," remarked the girl's mother, who was present and who had been the prime mover in the marriage negotiations, "by marrying me."

The curate decided if he had to marry one of the two he preferred the mother and accepted her. The young girl soon married a wealthy stockbroker.

## Nature Teaches Inventors.

"We get our hints from nature," the inventor said. "Take, for instance, the hollow pillar, which is stronger than the solid one. The wheat straw showed us the superior strength of the hollow pillar. Solid, the wheat straw would be unable to support its head of grain. Where did man get his idea for carriage springs? From the hoots of the horse, which, like the springs derived from them, are made from parallel plates. Scissors were got from the jaws of the tortoise, which are natural scissors; chisels from the squirrel, who carries them in his mouth; adzes from the hippopotamus, whose ivory are adzes of the best design; the plane from the bee's jaws, the trip hammer from the woodpecker."

## The Gordian Knot.

The Gordian knot was said to have been made of thongs used as a harness to the wagon of Gordius, king of Phrygia. Whoever loosened this knot, the ends of which were not discoverable, the oracle declared should be ruler of Persia. Alexander the Great cut away the knot with his sword until he found the ends of it and thus in a military sense at least, interpreted the oracle, 330 B. C.

## His Own Crafty Way.

Fusibly—Human nature is a funny thing. It was said I had quit drinking, and everybody I met asked me to take something glassy—and you couldn't accept? Poor fellow! Fusibly—Oh, yes, I accepted every time. It was I who started the reformation story, you know.—Boston Transcript.

## Must Conform.

Without the slightest compunction the copy reader changed the quotation and made it read thus:

"A fool and his money are parted soon."

"It sounds beastly," he said, "but the higher English demands it!"—Chicago Tribune.

## Heavyweight Scotsmen.

On an average, Scotsmen are the heaviest men in the United Kingdom, then Welshmen, followed by Englishmen and Irishmen last.—Cardiff Western Mail.

## The Jury.

Citizen—What possible excuse did you fellows have for acquitting that murderer? Jurymen—Insanity. Citizen—What! The whole twelve of you?

## Regardless of Microbes.

"She has the prettiest mouth in all the world!" "Oh, I don't know! I'd put mine up against it any time."—Exchange.

Spends no strength in worry. You need it all for duty.—Aston.



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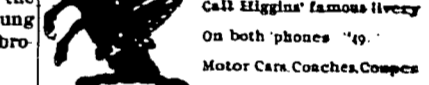
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