SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 1391 PITTSBURG DISPATCH, THE

A REVIEW OF SPORTS, Prospects of the Baseball Season, Judging From the Exhibition Games Played.

FEATURES OF OLD GALVIN'S CASE.

An Estimate of the Battle Between George Dixon and Cal McCarthy and the Former's Career.

SMITH'S TALK TO FITZSIMMONS. Farrell and Daly-The Local Football Season and Its

Lessons.

With a slight exception in pugilism, the sporting affairs of the week have been unusually dull, and when this is the case there is often considerable difficulty to find something interesting enough to talk about. From now on I suppose the national game will take precedence of everything else, although during the week those of us who think most about it have read little concerning it because of the vital and grave questions of a general nature that have absorbed everybody's attention and almost all the newspaper space. But the season of 1891 has begun; I don't mean the championship season of course, but the playing season, for there have been lots of games during the week. Some of the games played have reminded us of the controversy of last year. In this I reter to the Boston games on Fast Day. From the reports of these contests we learn that the attendance at the two games played was very large. Some reports have the attendance at the two games, that is, the Association and League games, as low as between 13,000 and 14,000. Other reports have the figures higher. Some reports also have the attendance at the Asso-ciation game much higher than the atlendance at the League game. Now, I don't hesitate to say that there is considerable stretching of imagination in these reports. I am prompted to this opinion because of the far has the public a right to interfere with the falsity of figures from Boston last year. But while I make this statement I am quite free admit that the public enthusiasm throughout the country in the national game is gradually getting back to its old stand-Already there is considermore interest in the game ably than there was long before the season closed last year. I don't think that anybody will this, because the fact is so apparent. tion games before the champio nship Exhibition games before the championship senson opens are, as a rule, very tame affairs, and there is, generally speaking, little or no enhanism connected with them. But during the last few days we have seen that very much interest indeed has been manifested in the ex-hibitions going on, particularly in the contests in which League clubs have been interested. It may be true that nothing very definite can be deduced from these arms in the way of It may be true that nothing very definite can be deduced from these games in the way of proving the playing strength of the teams, but they can give us an idea of the public interest in the game. None of us will conclude that Boston is considerably superior to Brooklyn simply because in one game Boston, to use the common phrase, "wiped up the diamond" with Brooklyn; and none of us will conclude that the common phrase. that the games in Florida give us any correct idea as to the respective merits of the Pitts-burg and Cleveland Clubs. But still, I repeat, there has been considerable interest shown in there has been considerable interest shown in these games. In mentioning or referring to the general situation, I may also remark that there is still some "war" talk abroad. I don't know the reason of this, because in **my** way of think-ing it is very difficult to find any more indicathe reason of this, because in my way of think-ing it is very difficult to find any more indica-tion of a war in base ball than it is to find a war between Italy and the United States. Indeed, it would be difficult to find how the Association could make what may be correctly termed war on the National League. There may be a little kicking still going on among the unalcontents, but "a wai" exists only in the imagination of

If Jimmy is still the hero he used to be, well and good; if his day has gone, then mone of us can complain if he is released when that lact is demonstrated. I also wish to point out that Galvin is a fine example for other players to follow. It has only been his long career of hon-esty and willingness to work for the interests of his club that has secured for him such a hold on sublic sentiment. those who desire to give undue importance to A Very Quiet Week. If baseball affairs in general have been quiet, fairs of the local club have not been lively. The public has heard very little indeed regard ing the local players who went South a few days ago, 1 don't know, at least I am not pre-

The Duty of Minor Leagues. pared to say, whose fault it is, that so little has been told to the public concerning the club Since the American Association broke away from the national agreement I have noticed that several writers and others have been claimduring the week, but I do know quietude at this stage is very bad policy for the club's ining and are still claiming that minor league terest. Before we barely have time to turn ourand amateur leagues should "not take sides" selves round the opening day will be here, and and should pay "no attention to the fight," and "play with either the Association clubs or with in the meantime no chance whatever is given the public to familiarize itself with the team the clubs of the League." The parties who ar I have known periods in the club's history when gue in this strain forget one very important news and gossip concerning it would certainly have been daily before the public. The offifeature: indeed, the vital factor of the matter. have been daily before the public. The offi-cials of the club would have taken precious good care of this. But in the present instance we have our champions taken away and tem-porarily buried down at Jacksonville and few if any of us know correctly how things are going. Well, as I have just said, this is very bad busi-ness for the club. The monotony of the week has been broken a little by the appearance on the scene of Maul, Laroque and "Phenomenal" in no The question is not that of taking sides with either the League or Association. It is the question of taking sides with either the na-tional agreement or its would be destroyers. This is a very important question in baseball. If an amateur ball ciub should have just as much respect for the violators of the national agreement as for the faithful adherents of that agreement then I should contend that the latter should look upon that amateur club as a very dangerous enemy. The case is a very simple one. The American Association breaks from the national agreement as the salvation of the game. Now let an amateur club go and identify itself with the rebels and what con-clusion can we come to? Why, no other than this: That the amateur club in question is aid-ing in the perpetuation of opnosition to the national agreement, and a conflict of this kind is not merely against the National League, but against every club in the country that uphoids the national agreement. Annateur clubs should, therefore, think well over the matter before leading their ald toward demolishing the national agreement. The question is not that of taking sides with the scene of Maul, Laroque and "Phenomenal" Smith. I use the word "phenomenal" in no disrespect to Mr. Smith; I use it merely as a term to distinguish him from the very many other Smiths. Now that these three men have been sent to Florida it would seem that they are to stay with the club. But on this point I am very, very skep-tical, indeed. If we are to have Baldwin, Btrat-ton, Staley and Galvin as pitchers, I fail to see why Smith will remain; and if Mr. Smith's to is to be case with the Pittshure club it is lot is to be cast with the Pittsburg club it is

the national agreement. The County League.

see why Smith will remain; and if Mr. Smith's lot is to be cast with the Pittsburg club it is reasonable to expect that one of the other, our; will be dispensed with. Of course, I am still of opinion that the law will not force Bald-win from us, but I cannot help thinking that if there is a desire among club officials to retain Smith there must us a concurrent desire to re-lease some other pitcher, and I cannot avoid the conviction that that some other pitcher is Galvin. Of course, these are only supposi-tions, but they are built on what seems to me a fact: the fact that the club will not keep fire pitchers. The appearance of Laroque also prompts speculation, because it is not likely that both he and Maul will be retained. Pres-tident O'Neil has a very high opinion of La-roque's abilities as a player, and doubtless is much reason for this opinion. Laroque, I believe, is a very good man, and the fact that he has gone to Florida means that there is nothing definitely settled yet as to whether or not he will be kept on the team. When the team returns home, the matter will be dealt with definitely, and then, I expect, efforts will be made to secure purchase money for the re-leased players. This will only be fair. A Few Words About Galvin's Case, While talking about amateur clubs, I am reminded of the County League. In some parts of the county there is undoubtedly a very strong desire to have the League soundly formed; but I am inclined to think that there is not all the enthusiasm regarding the proposed League that there ought to be. I am well aware that it is difficult to organize and carry out successfully a semi-amateur league, and this fact shows that enthusiasm is all the more necessary. I am not inclined to say whether or not financial success awalts a Whether or not infancial success awaits a County League here, but i am prepared to say that a County League will be a great benefit to baseball generally. There are plenty of good players to form the League, and it would be considerably better for these young men to be A Few Words About Galvin's Case.

There is every reason to believe that the considerably better for these young men to be regularly engaged in the game than only to be engaged at long intervals. That a County League is needed there is no doubt, and I feel just as certain that if the promoters would get to work and arouse a general enthusiasm re-garding it, it will be a success in every sense of the word. baseball public of Pittsburg was highly satisfied when Jimmy Galvin was signed to play with the new club. And if he had not been signed there would have been considerable dissatisfaction. Now, there are many things suggested by these features to which I have just referred

Dixon and McCarthy.

and the most prominent is the question: How Well, the long-expected battle between management of a ball club? I deal with this George Dixon and Cal McCarthy is now a thing question because it is a fact that Galvin was of the past. It is now a matter of history that sugned to play with the club simply because the public desired it. Well, now I am going to contend that the public should, indeed, be very careful in what I may call "sticking" up for an McCarthy was easily defeated and never had any show of victory. Had the mon fought, as arranged, at Hoboken some time ago, I think careful in what I may call "sticking" up for an old player, be he a favorite or anything else, and while I am contending this I want it under-stood that I am in no way opposed to the re-tention of Galvin. To deal with the matter clearly let us cite a supposed case. A player has been a member of a club for a long time and there comes a stage when the officials of the club taink the player's usefulness has al-most exhausted itself. It is determined to re-lease the player. The public then steps in and in a wery emphatic manner demoastrates in that McCarthy would have made a better stand: but while I think this, I do not for a moment think that he would have won. I wish to be very frank on this point, because when they met at Hoboken I thought McCarthy would be met at Hoboken i thought McCarthy would be the winner. But they met and did not fight. This statement, I trust, will show that there is no desire on my part to conceal the fact that had they fought two or three weeks ago I ex-pected McCarthy to win. Since that time I have had nothing to say on the matter. But I repeat that Dixon would have defeated Mc-Carthy had they fought at Hoboken, so that lease the player. The public then steps in and in a very emphatic manner domonstrates in favor of the retention of the player. The public clamor is bowed to by the club officials, and I contend that from that point on the officials of the club are not responsible for the entire work of the club. The public is responsi-ble, but when reverses come the public will have none of the responsibilities; they must then be shouldered by the officials of the club. I argue that this is not fair. Those who are to be re-sponsible for the work of the club should by all means have the ausolute selection of the Carthy had they fought at Hoboken, so that my opinion on the fight, even, was not a correct one. There needs little to be said regarding the battle of Tuesday night. McCarthy was outfought from the start, and at no stage of the cortest did McCarthy have the best of it. In reading carefully the various accounts of the battle, it seems to me that McCarthy was not so much outfought by superior generalship on the part of Diron as he was over-matched by all means have the absolute selection of the all means have the absolute selection of the players; besides, as a general thing, those who have the management of a club know a great deal more about ball players than the public does. But it is difficult to convince a large por-tion of the public on this point. We all know that not a day goes past without the public putting together on paper a very much better team than the one actually in harbes. I mean the part of Dixon as he was over-matched by the part of Dixon as he was over-instiched by strength and vigor on the part of the colored man.Dixon soondiscovered that he had sufficient power to rush McCarthy all round the ring; he did this and allowed him no rest, and very soon McCarthy's science was of no avail. In almost every round McCarthy was sent to the floor, but I am not disposed to believe that he was procked down in every instance. McCarthy is team than the one actually in harness. I mean knocked down in every instance. McCarthy is knocked down in every instance. McCarthy is quite tricky, and doubtless he often found it convenient to slip down with very little provo-cation. Of course this can be done despite Queensberry rules. Well, to make a long story short, Dixon simply thumped and chased McCarthy about until the latter had no more wind left in him. And now comes the question

s Dixon an extraordinary man at his weight have failed to find any proof of this in his scord, even taking in his last success. Dixon's Career.

Mark, I am not contending that Dixon is not

a good man for his ounces, but I have yet to rn that he is extraordinary. His career doe not show that he is a wonder, because he ha had some remarkably tame encounters. His

had some remarkably tame encounters. His first contest with McCarthy was one he ought to have won, because McCarthy fought a very long time with only one hand and then managed to secure a draw. No matter how we look at this battle we don't find any glory in it for Dixon. His con-test with Wallace in England was a burlesque, and there was nothing above the extraordinary in his late fight with Murphy. I will no doubt be asked why did he defeat McCarthy so easily. In answering this, there are two facts to bear in mind. One is that since Dixon fought Mc-Carthy the first time he has been improving, and the other is that McCarthy in as been de-teriorating. There is no doubt in my mind on this point. McCarthy is vastly inferior to-day compared with what he was when he first inset Dixon, and had he not met with an accident on that occasion, he would have won. Well, I have never held McCarthy up as a wonder, and I fail to see any more reason for terming Dixon one than in the case of McCarthy. The former is a useful and plucky little glove fighter. What he would be in a 24-foot ring with nature's weapons only I don't know. The Middle-Weight Championship. second him.

The Middle-Weight Championship.

It is not unlikely that during the next few days we will have lots to talk about regarding the middle-weight championship. Some tim ago I pointed out in this column that as soon as Fitzsimmons arrived in this city he would be definitely challenged to fight for the middleweight championship of the world, either un der prize ring rules or under Queensberry rules. The man who will challenge him is Ed Smith, of Denver, now in this city, and the challenge, I am told, will be so liberal that it will be difacult for the Australian to decline it.

Smith's challenge is to be to the following ef fect: He will fight Fitzsimmons to a finish with fect: He will fight Fitzsimmons to a finish with gloves or bare fists, under any rules, for \$1,000 a side and any purse that may be offered by any club. A challenge of this kind has the ring of businees and fair play about it; in it can be;seen the desire to fight for glory as much as can be seen the desire to fight for money. Time and time again I have argued that as soon as a lat-ter-day puglist gams a victory and lays hold of something called a championship title, that man carefully avoids all known good fighters. This has been the custom for years, and whether it is the custom in other countries or not I don't know, but it is a fact that as soon as puglists come here from other countries they pugilists come here from other countries they fall in line here. I say it as a fact, not through any disrespect, that while our champions, real or alleged, have all kinds of excuses to offer or alleged, have all kinds of excuses to offer against meeting first-class men, or men thought to be good, they without hesitation undertake to meet any recognized and bons fide "duffer." I am not at all insinuating that fitzsimmons will decline to make a match with Smith, but I am pointing out what has heretofore been the custom.

Ed Smith's Claims.

Bo far it has been the objections of Fitzsin mons and others that the man who challenged them had no record and was without reputa tion. Of course later pugilism has come to a stage where there is more or less force in this reputation idea. Pugilism, or our alleged pugilism, is now almost ontirely a business. chiefly a show business and we all know what that means in the way of getting attractions. But Ed Smith has had a much busier career a a puglist and a much more puglistic one than Fitzsimmons. Smith has fought his way up under may difficulties, and despite the fact of his recent defeat by Godfrey, I am inclined to think that he will win his next battle, no mat ter whom he fights. Smith's record is one about which Fitzsimmons, I think, will not grumble very much. And Smith will pledge himself to fight at 154 pounds or at 158 pounds, himself to fight at 154 pounds or at 158 pounds, just as Fitzsimmons requires. Smith is only a middle-weight, and has never, as far as I know, in this country been within 25 pounds of his weight when in a contest. Why, he was heavier when he fought Godfrey than he is now. Well, I trust that if Smith's challenge is issued in proper form that Fitzsimmons or Hall will respond to it its more than the proper form that Fitzsimmons or Hall will respond to it like men who wish to do business. I am not one who believes that Fitzsimmons will abso-lately decline to meet any middle-weight, but it may be that he will try to defor the meet-ing of a good man as long as possible. He may urge his expectation of meeting Pritchard as a plea for delay in the Smith matter, but Pritchard will not meet Jem Smith until next Angust and sorial Fitzimmons will not be Pritchard will not meet Jem Smith until next August, and surely Fitzsimmons will not be disposed to wait that long. But if Fitzsim-nons will fight Fitchard for all the money de-sired. In a word, then, Fitzsimmons cannot reasonably decline to make a match with Ed Smith for the middle-weight championship without forfelting his claim to the title. If

Fitzsimmons so declines 1 fully expect that Smith will by all means claim the title of champion and then another argument will ome up. To-Morrow Night's Event.

To-morrow night's contest between Pat Farrell and Jim Daly at Philadelphia, is one in which much Pittsburg interest is centered Pittsburg has never been famous for great boxers and many people are wondering whether or not Farrell will land our city to the front in that respect. I am not in a position to express a definite opinion on the matter at present be-cause I don't know what Farrell is. He may

be a wonder and he may be an ordinary per-former. All I can say is to repeat what I said who suffer from a low or impoverished state of the blood. To avoid LA GRIPPE. last week. If he is a good fighter he will de-feat Daly. He will be well looked after in the purify and vitalize the blood with contest as Ed Smith and Jack Fogarty are to During the week I have been looking care fully round to see if any indication of acavity among the scullers could be observed. I have noticed little to encourage, and it seems to me that outside of a few centlemen who have more SARSAPARILLA

that outside of a few gentlemen who have more or less professionally been in the business for years, noboly cares about it. This is a great pity because there is no branch of sport more entertaining and generally speaking better than rowing. A few weeks ago I thought that one or two good races would be arranged, but the prospects now are less flattering than then. McLean has stated that under no circumstances will be come to the United States to row. If be should again defeat Stansbury and still in-sist in carrying out this intention it will be a pity in many ways. It is really about time we had a race in this country between Americans This medicine acts with unfailing potency upon the stomach, liver, kidneys, and bowels, eleansing, soothing and invigorating bits in many ways. It is really about time we had a race in this country between Americans and Australians. So far all the sacrifices have been made by the rowers of this country as far as making matches with Australians have been concerned. We know what our soullers have done in Australia against the Australians, but we don't know what the Australians will do in America against the Americans. McLean or Stansbury may be quite different men when in the United States. At any rate it is only fair that they should give Americans a chance on their, the American's, own waters. If they come to this country they can rely on two things, viz, fair play and a race. I teel confi-dent that they would have no reason to com-plain of their treatment if they would only pay us a visit. them, and by maintaining the health of these blood-making, blood-purifying organs, it expels from the life-current every trace of epidemic poison, and enables the system to resist the influence of LA GRIPPE. To relieve and cure what are known as the dangerous after symptoms, take

us a visit. The Football Players. The local football season is fast drawing to close, and a few remarks regarding it may not be out of place. While none of us can truly say the season has neen a successful one we can certainly argue that it has not been a failure by

any means. There have been many difficulties to cope with and they have been overcome. But football in Pittsburg has been somewhat Its effect is to remove debility, to restore promptly and permanently the general different from the football in other citles. We health of the body, to tone up the nerves, have had a very long season and we also have had two parties, that is, an Association and a Rugby party. And the season just ending is and make the weak strong. Ask for AYER'S Sarsaparilia, and AYER'S only. the first real football season we have had in this city. So that, altogether, football has been Don't be persuaded to take any other. much more a success than many people antici pased. The Rugby players opened the season C. Evicz, 14 E. Main street Chillionthe

pated. The Hugby players opened the season here, and the manner in which they did had much to do with making the game as popular here as it was. A more energetic lot of fellows I have never seen than these who composed the Rugby football team here. What they did in their first season is sufficient to prompt us with a hope of a great season next fail. The Association players have done very well, include consulation that fast that they or ran-O., writes: "I was a great sufferer from a The Association players have done very well, indeed, considering the fact that they organ-ized aleague late in the season and have had to contend against very bad weather. The League has demonstrated the fact that associ-ation football can be a "go" in this section, and that there are a large number of good players in Western Penusylvania and Eastern Ohio. Some of the clubs have fallen by the wayside, but there is nothing extremely ducurant of the

but there is nothing extremely discouraging in this, bearing in mind that this is the first sea this, bearing in mind that this is the first sea-son. There are soveral other clubs quite ready to fill up the breaches, so that there need be no thought of a general collapse. Those who have the League's interest at heart should see that as speedily as possible plans are laid for the re-organization of the League at an early date next season. If this is done the clubs can be on the field early, and this will be a great thing. The average this season will certainly af-The experience of this season will certainly af-ford a good lesson for future guidance.

Hall and Fitzsimmons.

Just a few words relative to a contest between Hall and Fitzsimmons. Judging from the announcement which appeared in yesterday's DISPATCH regarding these two men, it seems as if they will come together. The backer of Fitzsimmons evidently means business when he requests the selection of a responsible stakeholder, and it may, therefore, be safe to antici-pate that something definite will be done. Of course, if a match is made between Hall and Fitzsimmons, there will be no prospect of a contest between the latter and Ed Smith for some time to come. But Smith can challenge the winner. PRINGLE.

LA GRIPPE

With its headsche, backache, sneezing,

fever, prostration, soreness of the stomach,

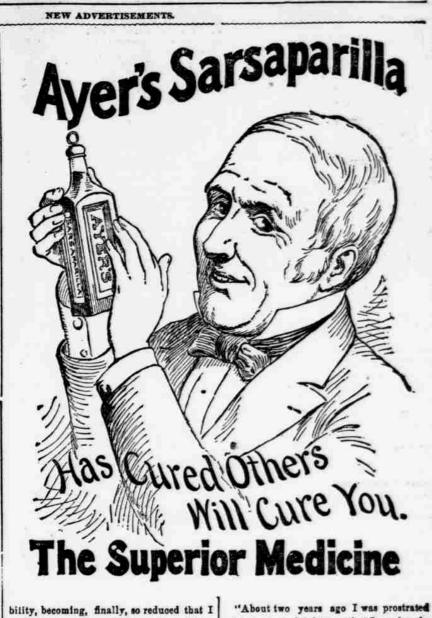
throat and lungs, and symptoms of pnen-

monia-seeks for its victims among those

AYER'S

AYER'S

SARSAPAR ILLA



was unfit for work. Nothing that I did for with nervous debility, so that I was hardly the complaint helped me so much as Aver's able to do anything. No doctoring did me Sarsaparilla, a few bottles of which re- any good. Finally, I tried Ayer's Sarsastored me to health and strength. I take every opportunity to recommend this medi- that my health is as sound as ever."-J. B. low condition of the blood and general de- cine in similar cases."

parilla, and three bottles restored me so Mann, Peoria, Ill.

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