

PASTIMES.

A Close and Exciting Contest Between the Chicago and Hartford Clubs.

The Home Club Wins the Game, and Consequently the Championship.

Home and Foreign Riflemen Shoot a Stragglng Match in Washington.

Result of the Running Races at Louisville Yesterday.

BASE-BALL.

AT LAST.

In 1869 the Excelsior Ball Club of Chicago, by hiring Lex and one or two other outside players, made themselves virtually a professional organization—or, as we should say now-a-days, a "semi-professional club." That year they first made a formal attempt at the championship of the country, and came no nearer it than to be beaten 20 to 0 by the triumphant Cincinnati Red Stockings under Harry Wright's management. In 1870 the first professional ball club of Chicago was organized by a few gentlemen, and the Wood-Hodes-Pinkham-Meyerle-Craver-McAtee-King-Duffy crowd represented Chicago for a year, and, after suffering several defeats in the East, had vitality enough left to defeat the Cincinnati Reds in two hardly-fought battles, and thus fulfill the purposes of their organization. But they failed to reach the championship, which was then held by Cincinnati. In 1871 the Chicago Club comprised such choice spirits as Zettlein, Hodes, Foley, Simmons, Pinkham, McAtee, Wood, etc., and it would almost certainly have won the flag but for the Great Fire, which caused their disbandment and gave the pennant to the Athletics. In 1873 and 1878 Chicago had no club, but in 1874 one was organized with Malone, Zettlein, Devlin, Force, etc., as features. It ended fifth in the race, Boston holding first place. Again in 1875 the Chicago Club picked its flint and tried again, this time with Zettlein, Higham, Devlin, Warren White, and the like. How they ended the season is too fresh in the minds of readers to be alluded to. Every baseball amateur knows what sort of a team was gotten together for 1876, and very few but remember just how they have battled along until at last the question of the championship hung on a single game.

That game was the one played yesterday with the Hartford Club, and in it the champions were to a degree "playing on velvet;" they won everything if they won, and lost nothing to speak of if they lost. But they won, and now, despite every combination, every abuse, every unfairness, they have played themselves fairly to the front, and so clearly so that nothing can throw off the grip they have on the flag. The game was in some respects a very good one, and, in the main point of interesting the crowd, hardly surpassed by any contest of the year. It was won and lost twice, and resulted in a victory through the nervy, hard, hung-on, and intense play of that rugged, skilful, and intense player, Anson, who has won more games this year than any other man in the business. His work at the bat won the game, while a couple of extraordinary catches by Addy—and one of them was fairly impossible until taken—prevented the other side from tying. The history of the game is quite short. Barnes led off with a fair-lead for two bases, and came home on outs by Anson and McVey. This run gave a lead, which was held until the sixth inning, when Cummings hit well into right field, and York sent him all the way home with a high one, which Hines, when perfectly well, would have reached, but which on this occasion went for a two-baser. Cassidy aided very much by a sharp bouncer past second, and York scored, making the figures 2 to 1 against Chicago. In the next inning, however, the great trouble of the campaign blossomed out and carried grief to the backers of the Dark Blues. Anson led off with a terrific hit between left and centre for three bases, and scored on McVey's bouncer, which came so badly to Ferguson that he could not handle it in time. Peters shot one over into right field and McVey reached third, but failed to come home when Peters started for second, the latter being put out on the play. White's contribution was a dropper into left field, on which he reached second, while McVey scored. Hines added a line drive into left field, being his third clean hit of the game, and Spalding, who was about "due for a hit," lent the ball a bump which dropped it over between York and Remsen, and White scored. After Glenn had retired, Addy hit well to left for a base, and Barnes sent a hot one to Cary, which was too sharp for that player, and the bases were full when the side should have been out. Anson, coming to bat a second time in the inning, put in a beautiful line drive near the left foul line for two bases, letting in Spalding and Addy, and leaving the Chicago score at 7, which was the figure at the close. The Hartford, having been retired for blanks in the sixth, seventh, and eighth innings, went into the last with 5 to tie, and by five safe hits, aided by a walk of White's and a palpable error of the umpire's at home plate, scored four runs, when Remsen hit a short fly to Glenn, and the game was over, and the Chicago were champions of the year. The two catches made by Addy off Cummings and York in this inning were extraordinary bits of fielding. Following is the score:

Chicago.	T	R	B	P	A	E
Barnes, 2 b.....	5	1	1	2	4	0
Anson, 3 b.....	5	1	2	3	0	0
McVey, p.....	3	1	2	0	3	1
Peters, s. a.....	5	0	2	0	0	0
White, c.....	5	1	2	5	0	2
Hines, c. f.....	4	1	3	2	0	0
Spalding, l. f.....	4	1	1	0	0	0
Glenn, 1 b.....	4	0	1	3	0	0
Addy, r. f.....	4	1	2	2	0	0
Total.....	41	7	15	27	13	3
Hartford.						
Remsen, c. f.....	5	0	0	1	0	0
Burdock, 2 b.....	4	0	2	4	3	1
Higham, c.....	5	1	2	0	2	1
Ferguson, 3 b.....	4	1	1	1	4	1
Cary, s. a.....	4	1	2	1	5	1
Cummings, p.....	4	1	1	0	2	1
York, l. f.....	4	1	1	4	0	0
Mills, 1 b.....	4	1	1	0	0	0
Cassidy, r. f.....	4	0	2	0	0	0
Total.....	38	0	12	27	10	5

RUNS SCORED.
Innings— 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Chicago.....1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—7
Hartford.....0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 4—6

RUNS BARNED.
Innings— 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
Chicago.....1 0 0 0 0 4 0 0 0—5
Hartford.....0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 3—5

Two-base hits—Barnes, 1; Anson, 1; White, 1; Hines, 1; York, 1.
Three-base hits—Anson, 1.
Total bases on hits—Chicago, 31; Hartford, 13.
Bases on errors—Chicago, 2.
Total on bases—Chicago, 7; Hartford, 5.
Wild pitches—McVey, 1; Cummings, 1.
Time of game—Two hours.
Umpire—M. Walsh, of Louisville.

NOTES.
Yesterday's game left Chicago with 87 games won in the championship series, which now consists of 50 games. The Hartford Club has won 26, and has 10 more to play. Granting, for calculation's sake, that they win all the remainder, and it appears that they can then reach only 30 games won, so that at the best they cannot catch up. Which the same is very gratifying to the Chicago ball man, who has been for seven years waiting to see his club in front.
The brilliant plays of yesterday's game beside those noted above were a double by Barnes and Glenn and a long fly well taken by Hines. Peters and Glenn deserve credit for their steady effective play, and McVey's delivery was by no means badly punished, comparing his experience with that of Cummings.
The same clubs play again this afternoon.