



Why a history of baseball? An intrinsically interesting human activity Keri, 48



An human activity for which we have a unusually complete record, both statistical and anecdotal. See RETROSHEET

*American League 1927*

2

	POS	Player	AB	BA	HR	RBI	PO	A	E	DP	TC/G	FA	Pitcher	G	IP	W	L	SV	
<b>N. Y.</b> W-110 L-44 Miller Huggins	1B	L. Gehrig	584	.373	47	175	1662	88	15	108	11.4	.992	W. Hoyt	36	256	22	7	1	
	2B	T. Lazzeri	570	.309	18	102	213	398	18	60	5.6	.971	W. Moore	50	213	19	7	13	
	SS	M. Koenig	526	.285	3	62	262	423	47	76	6.0	.936	H. Pennock	34	210	19	8	2	
	3B	J. Dugan	387	.269	2	43	93	196	19	15	2.8	.938	U. Shocker	31	200	18	6	0	
	RF	B. Ruth	540	.356	60	164	328	14	13	4	2.4	.963	D. Ruether	27	184	13	6	0	
	CF	E. Combs	648	.356	6	64	411	6	14	0	2.8	.968	G. Pipgras	29	166	10	3	0	
	LF	B. Meusel	516	.337	8	103	249	15	14	1	2.1	.950	M. Thomas	21	89	7	4	0	
	C	P. Collins	251	.275	7	36	267	56	8	1	3.7	.976							
	2B	R. Morehart	195	.256	1	20	101	175	16	27	5.5	.945							
	C	J. Grabowski	195	.277	0	25	197	47	4	3	3.6	.984							
OF	C. Durst	129	.248	0	25	47	1	1	0	1.4	.980								
<b>Phi.</b> W-91 L-63 Connie Mack	1B	J. Dykes	417	.324	3	60	816	49	10	59	10.7	.989	L. Grove	51	262	20	12	9	
	2B	M. Bishop	372	.277	0	22	211	342	19	48	5.4	.967	R. Walberg	46	249	17	13	4	
	SS	J. Boley	370	.311	1	52	182	318	26	49	4.6	.951	J. Quinn	34	207	15	10	1	
	3B	S. Hale	501	.313	5	81	152	247	16	46	3.2	.961	H. Ehmke	30	190	12	10	0	
	RF	T. Cobb	490	.357	5	93	243	9	8	2	2.1	.969	E. Rommel	30	147	11	3	1	
	CF	A. Simmons	406	.392	15	108	247	10	4	2	2.5	.985	S. Gray	37	133	8	6	3	
	LF	W. French	326	.304	0	41	190	6	9	2	2.2	.956							
	C	M. Cochrane	432	.338	12	80	559	85	9	11	5.3	.986							
	OF	B. Lamar	324	.299	4	47	148	9	8	1	2.1	.952							
	OF	Z. Wheat	247	.324	1	38	105	8	2	1	1.9	.983							
2B	E. Collins	225	.338	1	15	124	150	10	31	5.1	.965								
SS	C. Galloway	181	.265	0	22	115	150	15	20	4.6	.946								
1B	J. Foxx	130	.323	3	20	258	15	7	10	8.8	.975								
<b>Was.</b> W-85 L-69 Bucky Harris	1B	J. Judge	522	.308	2	71	1309	71	6	79	10.2	.996	H. Lisenbee	39	242	18	9	0	
	2B	B. Harris	475	.267	1	55	316	413	21	68	5.9	.972	S. Thurston	29	205	13	13	0	
	SS	B. Reeves	380	.255	1	39	194	296	41	36	5.5	.923	B. Hadley	30	199	14	6	0	
	3B	O. Bluege	503	.274	1	66	185	337	21	20	3.7	.961	F. Marberry	56	155	10	7	9	
	RF	S. Rice	603	.297	2	65	258	12	7	2	2.0	.975	G. Braxton	58	155	10	9	13	
	CF	T. Speaker	523	.327	2	73	278	12	10	5	2.5	.967	T. Zachary	15	110	4	7	0	
LF	G. Goslin	581	.334	13	120	356	8	17	3	2.6	.955	W. Johnson	18	108	5	4	0		

A remarkably complete record and an impressive body of amateur scholars. Keri, xxiv, 19-20, 212-214

## Christy Mathewson

### MATHEWSON, CHRISTOPHER (Big Six)

TR 6'1½"

Brother of Henry Mathewson.

B. Aug. 12, 1880, Factoryville, Pa. D. Oct. 7, 1925, Saranac Lake, N. Y.

Manager 1916-18.

Hall of Fame 1936.

No-hit game vs. STL N, July 15, 1901.

No-hit game vs. CHI N, June 13, 1905.

1900	NY	N	0	2	.000	5.40	5	1	1	30	35	14	15	0	0	1	.000	0	5.57	4
1901			20	17	.541	2.41	40	38	36	336	288	97	221	5	0	1	.000	0	0.00	2
1902			14	17	.452	2.11	34	32	29	276.2	241	73	159	8	1	0	1.000	0	0.00	2
1903			29	12	.707	2.26	45	42	37	366.1	321	100	267	3	1	0	1.000	2	0.00	3
1904			34	12	.739	2.03	48	46	33	367.2	306	78	212	4	2	0	1.000	0	1.93	2
1905			32	8	.800	1.27	43	37	32	339	252	64	206	8	3	1	.750	2	1.57	6
1906			21	12	.636	2.97	38	35	22	266.2	262	77	128	5	1	0	1.000	1	1.80	3
1907			23	13	.639	2.00	41	36	31	315	250	53	178	8	1	0	1.000	2	4.70	5
1908			35	11	.761	1.43	56	44	34	390.2	285	42	259	11	3	1	.750	5	1.30	12
1909			24	6	.800	1.14	37	33	26	275.1	192	36	149	8	2	0	1.000	2	0.82	4
1910			27	9	.750	1.89	38	35	27	318.1	292	60	184	1	2	1	.667	0	1.42	3
1911			24	13	.649	1.99	45	37	29	307	303	38	141	5	2	0	1.000	3	0.00	8
1912			23	12	.657	2.12	43	34	27	310	311	34	134	0	1	2	.333	4	2.57	9
1913			25	11	.694	2.06	40	35	25	306	291	21	93	4	3	0	1.000	2	2.20	5
1914			24	13	.649	3.00	41	35	29	312	314	23	80	5	3	0	1.000	2	3.68	6
1915			8	14	.364	3.58	27	24	11	186	199	20	57	1	0	0	-	0	8.22	3
1916	2 teams		CIN	N	(1G 1-0)		NY	N	(12G 3-4)											
"	total		4	4	.500	3.01	13	7	5	74.2	74	8	19	1	1	2	.333	2	2.41	6
17 yrs.			367	186	.664	2.13	634	551	434	4777.1	4216	838	2502	77	26	9	.743	27	2.41	83
			4th		8th	5th				9th			6th	3rd						

#### WORLD SERIES RECORD

1905	NY	N	3	0	1.000	0.00	3	3	3	27	14	1	18	3						
1911			1	2	.333	2.00	3	3	2	27	25	2	13	0						
1912			0	2	.000	1.57	3	3	3	28.2	23	5	10	0						
1913			1	1	.500	0.95	2	2	2	19	14	2	7	1						
4 yrs.			5	5	.500	1.15	11	11	10	101.2	76	10	48	4						
			4th	2nd		7th	5th	2nd	1st	2nd			8th	1st						

## Henry Mathewson

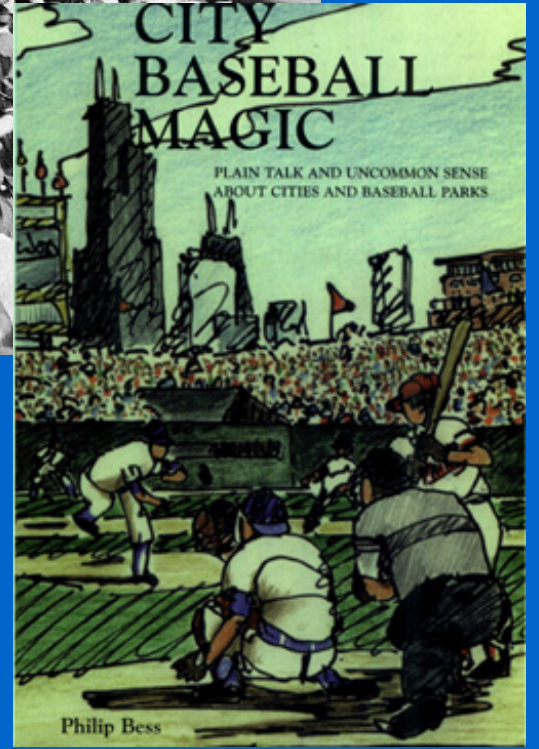
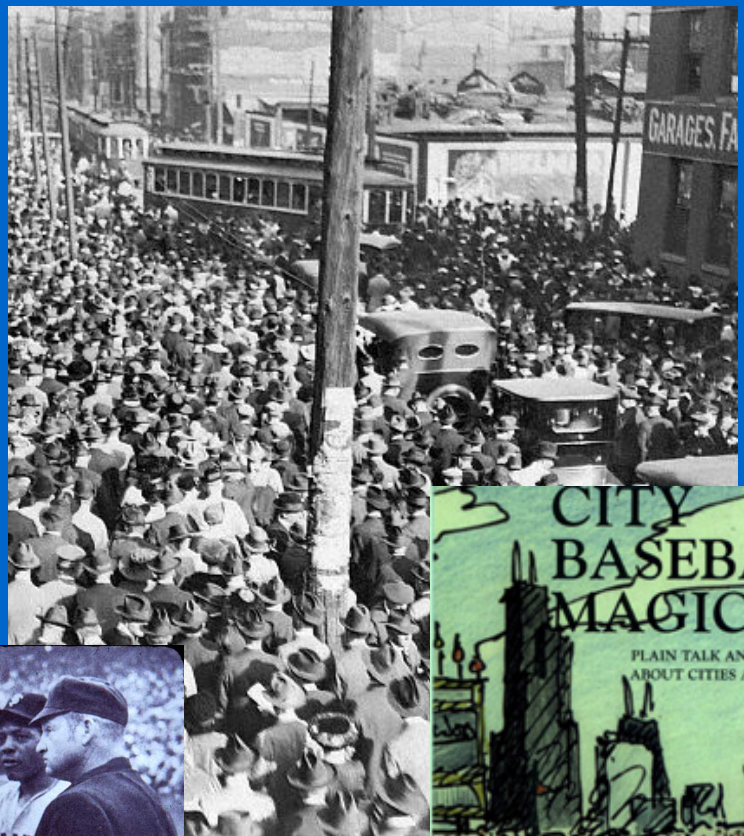
### MATHEWSON, HENRY

TR 6'3" 1

Brother of Christy Mathewson.

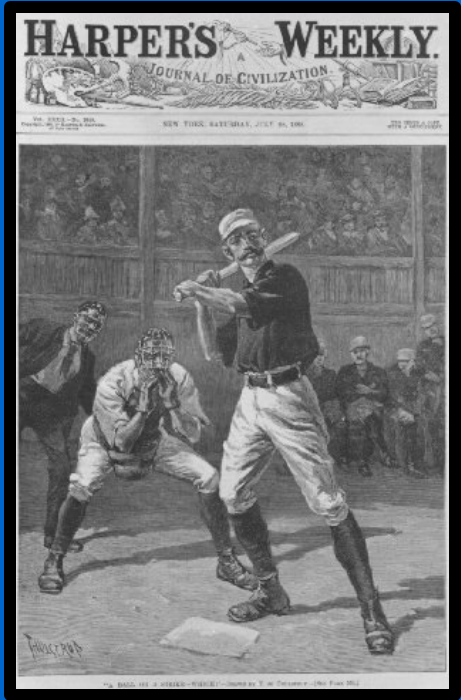
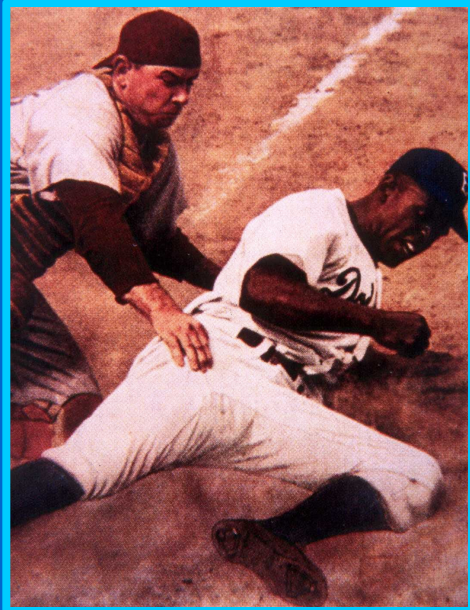
B. Dec. 24, 1886, Factoryville, Pa. D. July 1, 1917, Factoryville, Pa.

What do you value in the game?





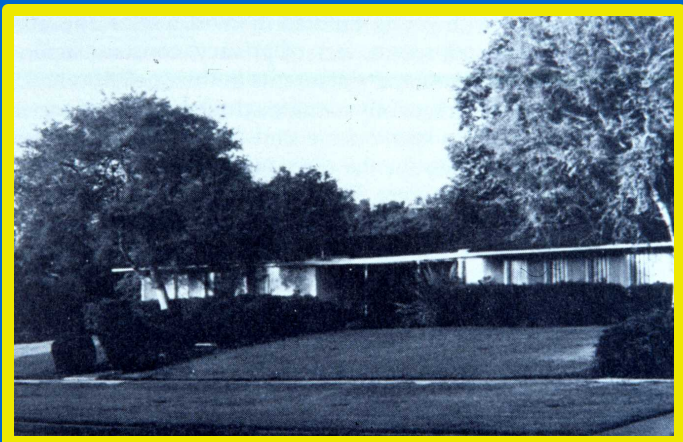
A Social  
and  
Cultural  
History of  
the Game:  
my  
approach



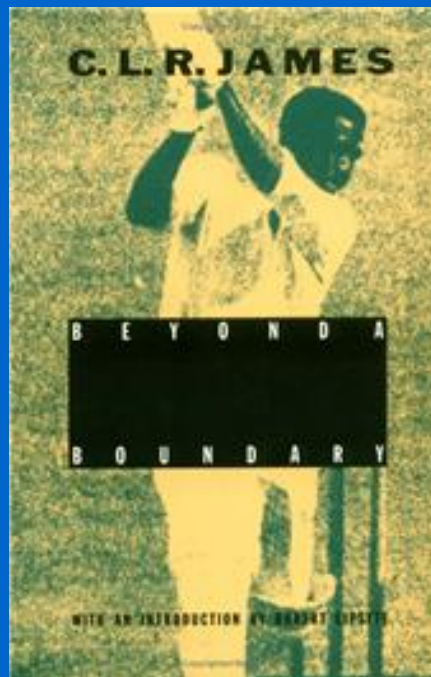
# A Public Thing in a Private Society: my course and the 1994 strike



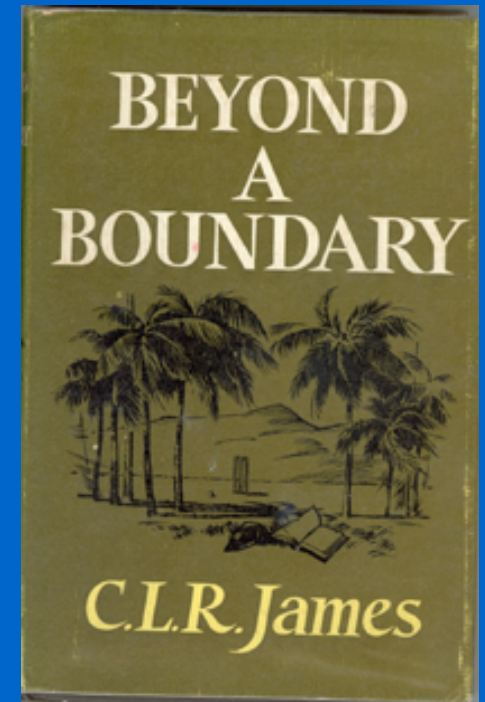
*Opening Day in Cincinnati is always one of the biggest days of the year. Cincinnati streets are jammed in this 1958 picture as fans head for Crosley Field. Note the electric-powered buses still working the Cincinnati streets at that time.*

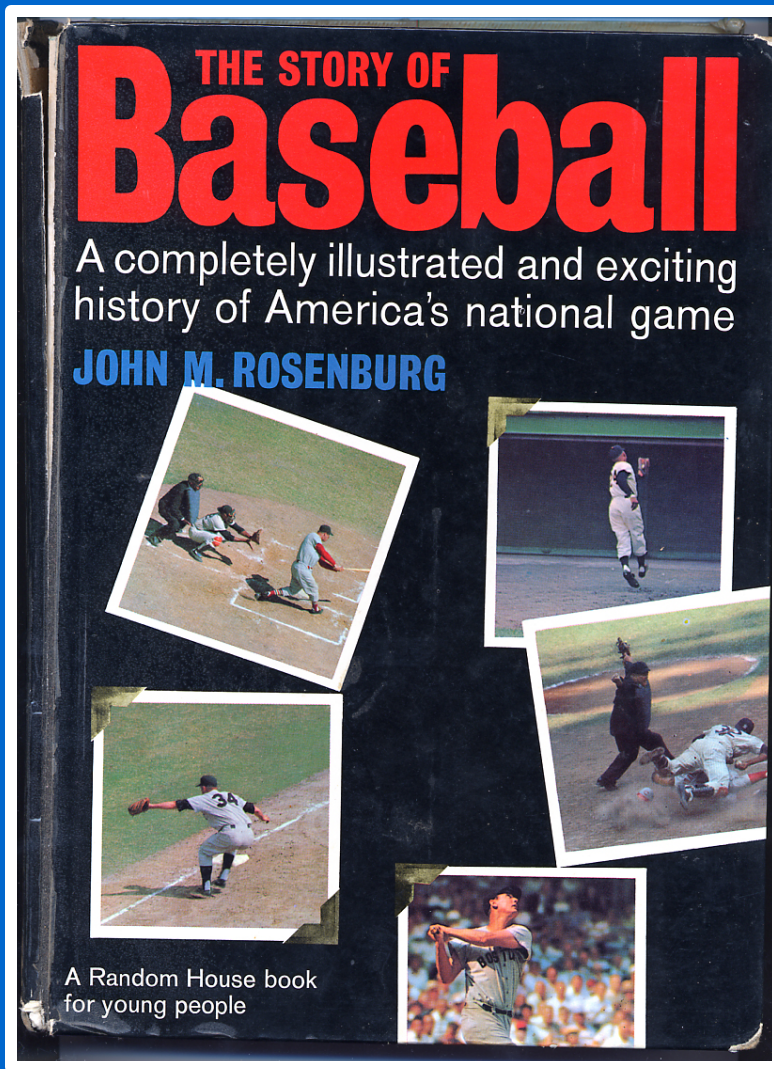


I haven't the slightest doubt that the clash of race, caste and class did not retard but stimulated West Indian cricket. I am equally certain that in those years social and political passions, denied normal outlets, expressed themselves so fiercely in cricket (and other games) precisely because they were games. Here began my personal calvary. The British tradition soaked deep into me was that when you entered the sporting arena you left behind you the sordid compromises of everyday existence. Yet for us to do that we would have had to divest ourselves of our skins. From the moment I had to decide which club I would join the contrast between the ideal and the real fascinated me and tore at my insides. Nor could the local population see it otherwise. The class and racial rivalries were too intense. They could be fought out without violence or much lost except pride and honor. Thus the cricket field was a stage on which selected individuals played representative roles which were charged with social significance. (James, 66)

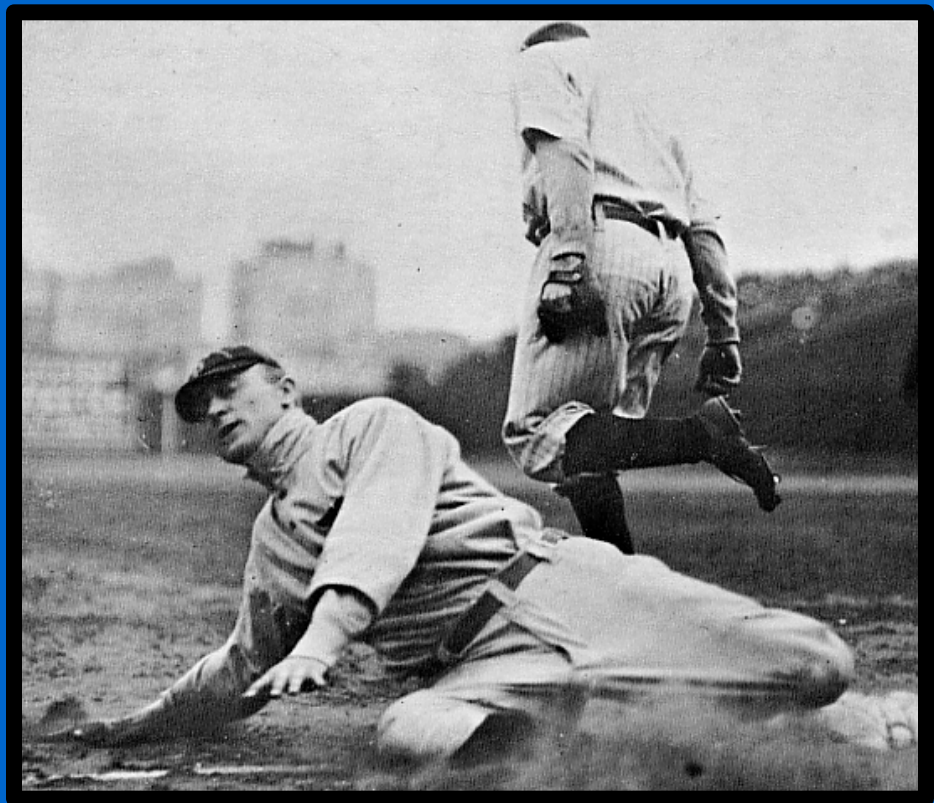
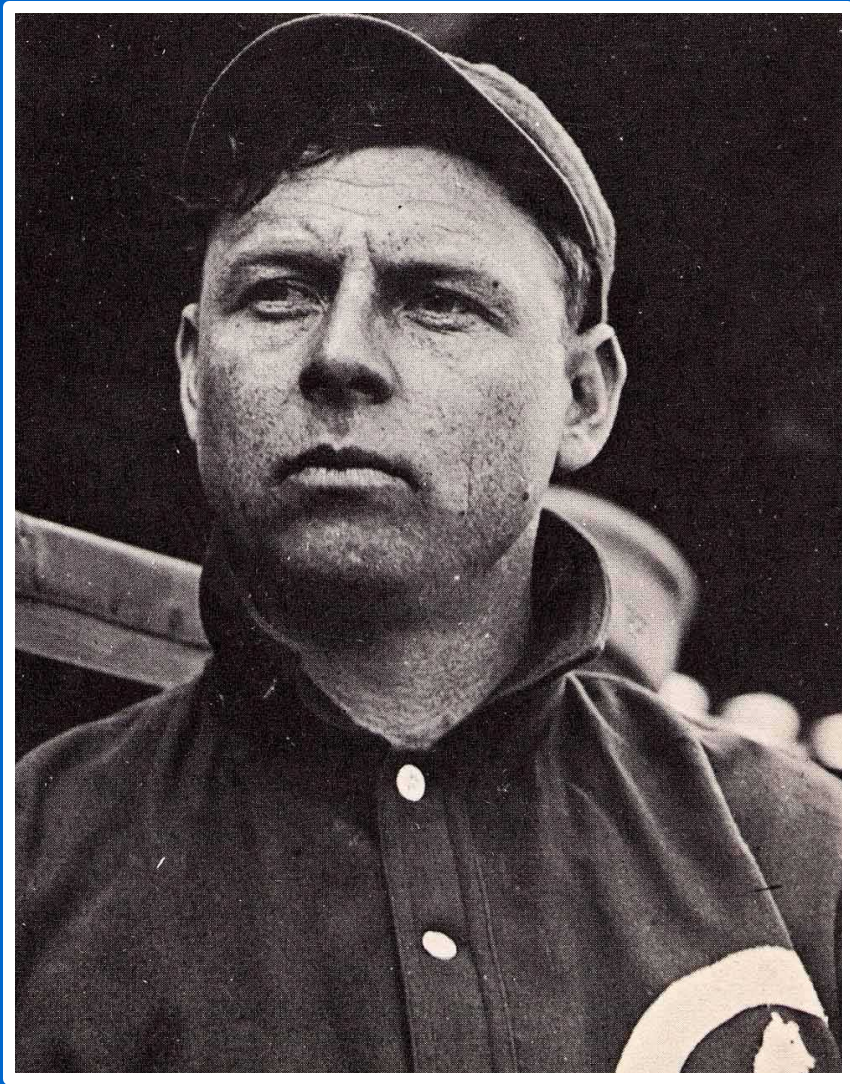


A Window on the  
Public World: c.  
L. R. James on cricket:  
“What do they know of  
cricket who only cricket  
know?”

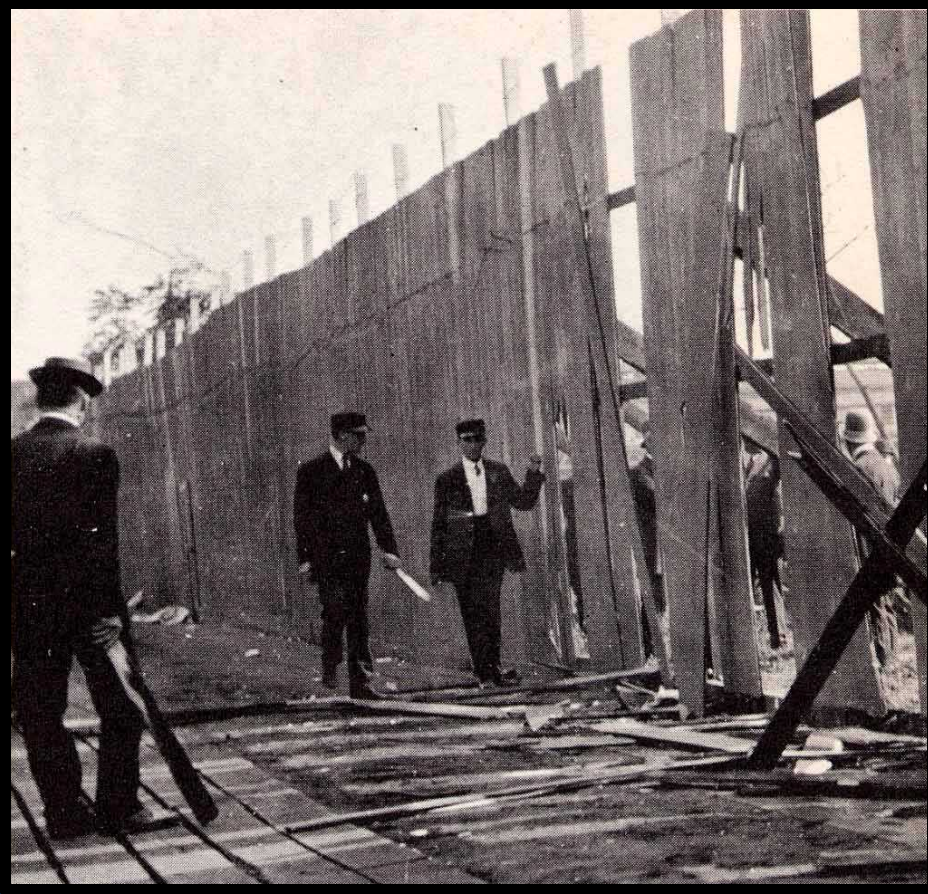




*A window on the (public) world:* a brief personal account of one fan's experience with the game.

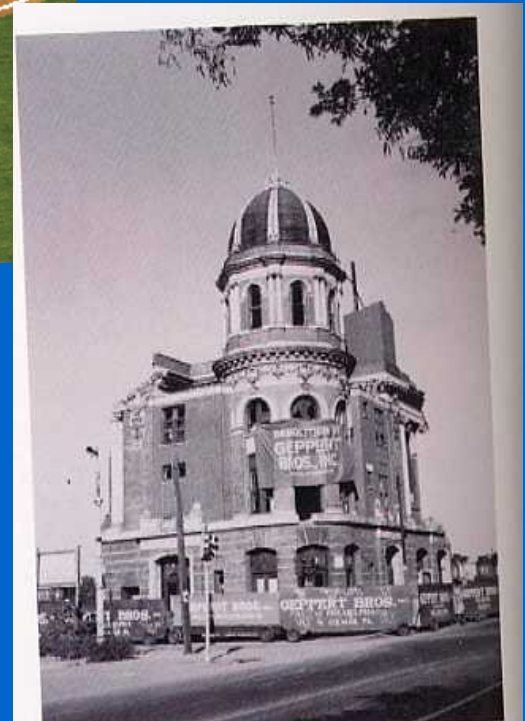


Two scenes from the 1908  
World Series at the Polo  
Grounds in New York City

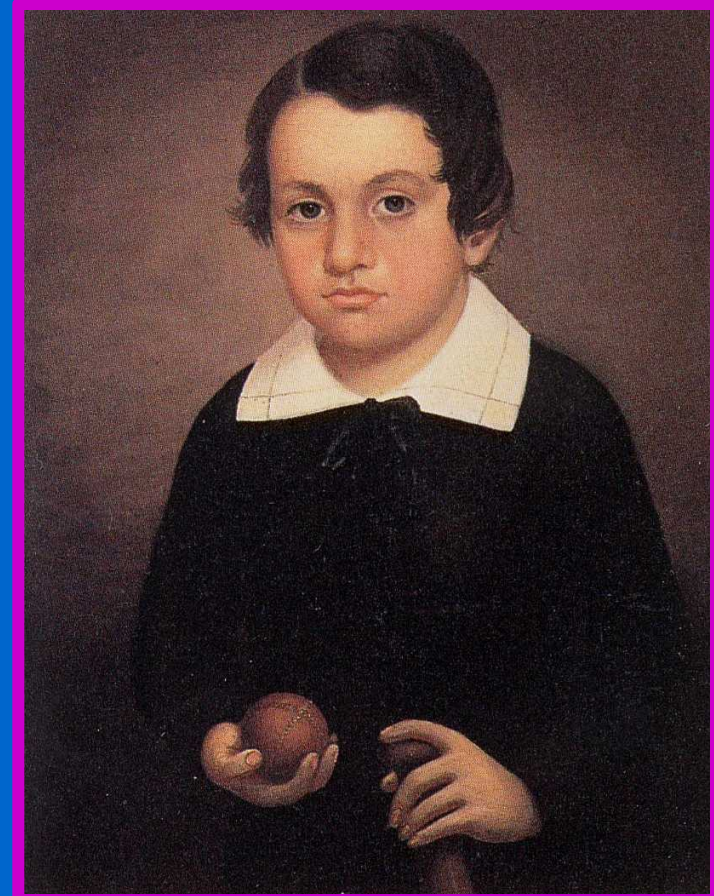








**Is timing everything? When did the baseball craze begin?**



**Baseball as a child's game:**

woodcut from the 1820s and painting c. 1845

Origins: Immaculate conception,  
evolution, revolution?



Base Ball on Boston Commons  
- 1834 Book of Sports

Elysian Fields, Hoboken, 1840s



Cooperstown, New York, 1839?



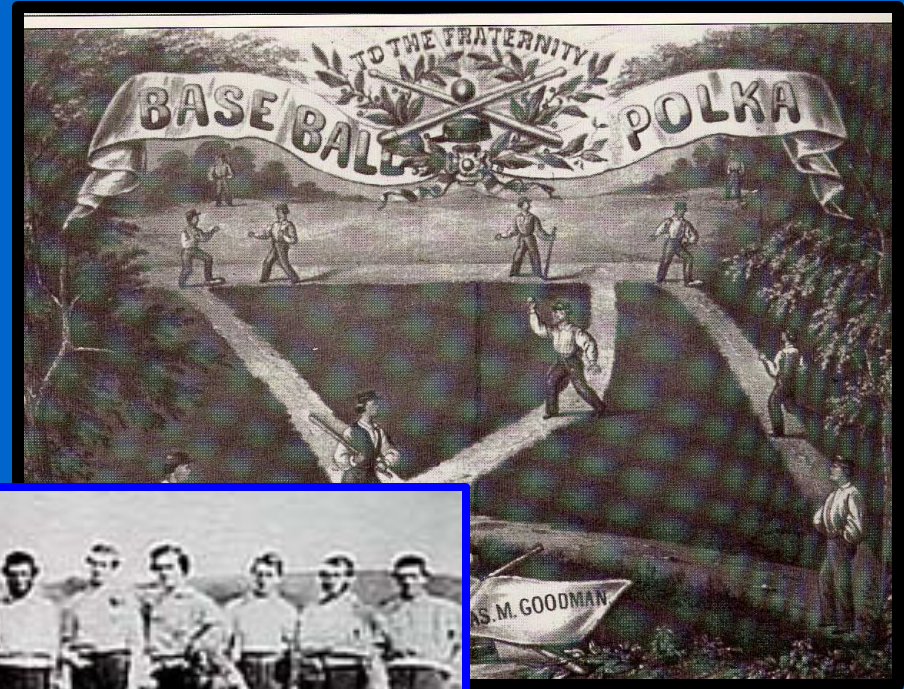


THE AMERICAN NATIONAL GAME OF BASE BALL  
GRAND MATCH FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP AT THE ELYSIAN FIELDS, HOBOKEN, N. J.

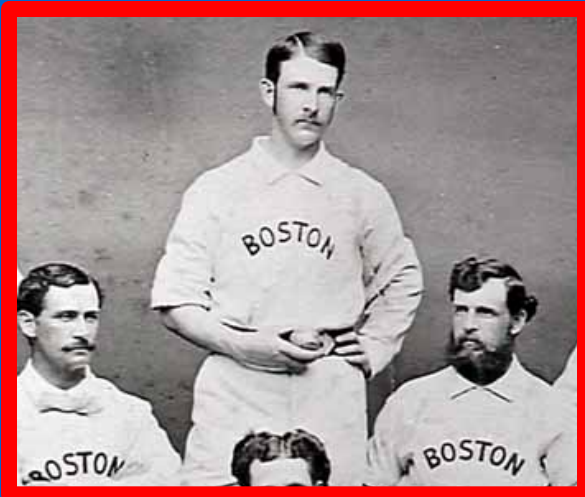
Burns on evolution of a city game

# THE BASEBALL FRATERNITY

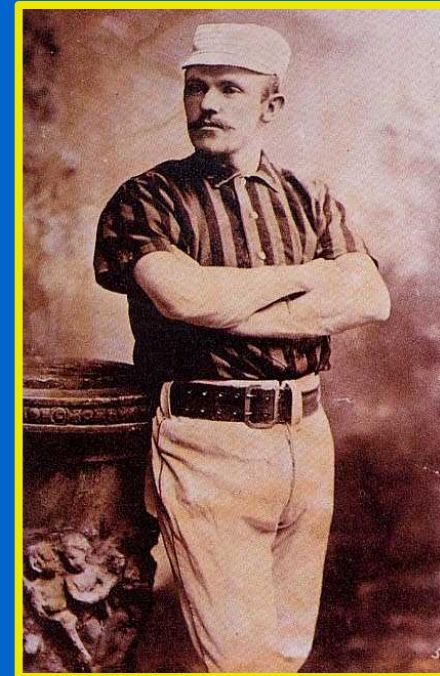
Baseball absorbed and preserved civic/political and social/creative energies disappearing in politics and work during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century (market revolution)



Knickerbockers-Excelsiors 1859

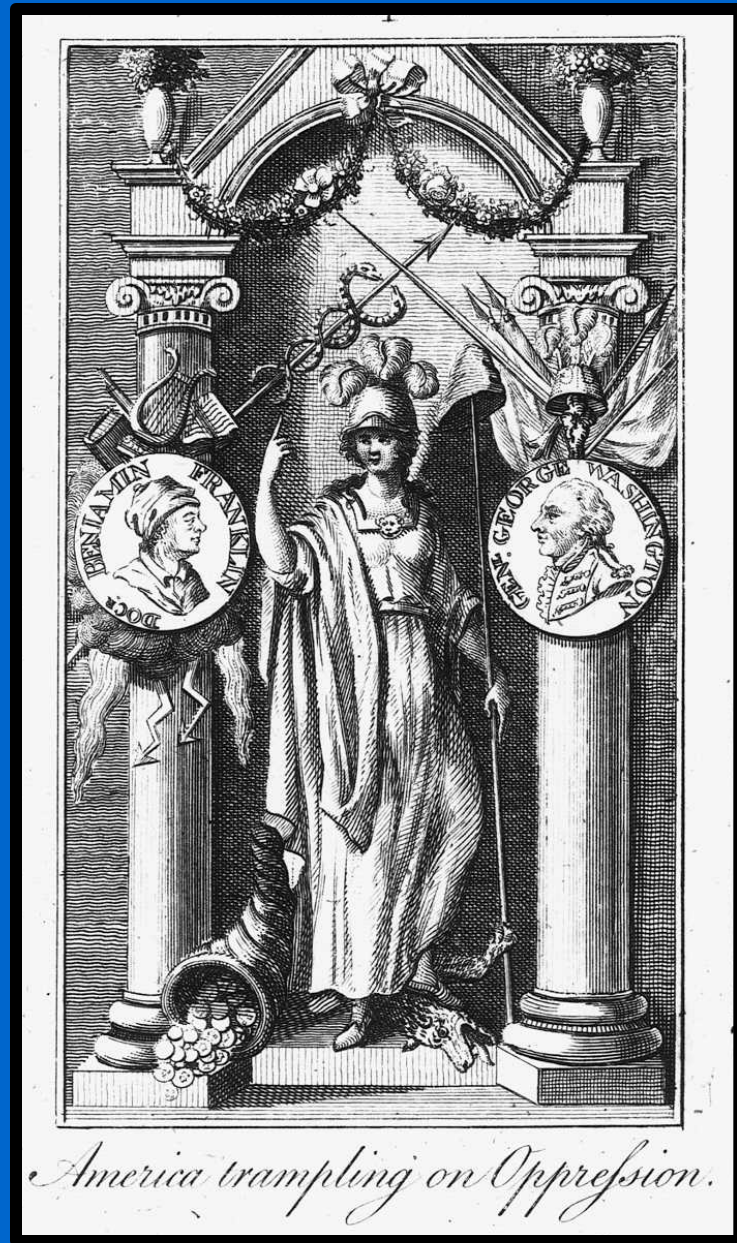
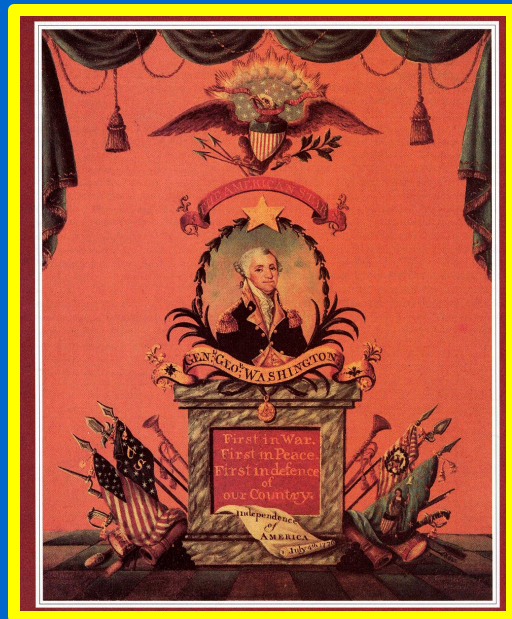


**HONOR, GLORY,  
FAME**  
(SOCIALITY,  
CRAFTSMANSHIP)





Revolutionary Americans saw themselves as virtuous republicans overthrowing a corrupt monarchy.





After the Revolution, they struggled to square their civic ambitions with economic growth.

# REPUBLICANS

Turn out, turn out and save your Country from ruin !

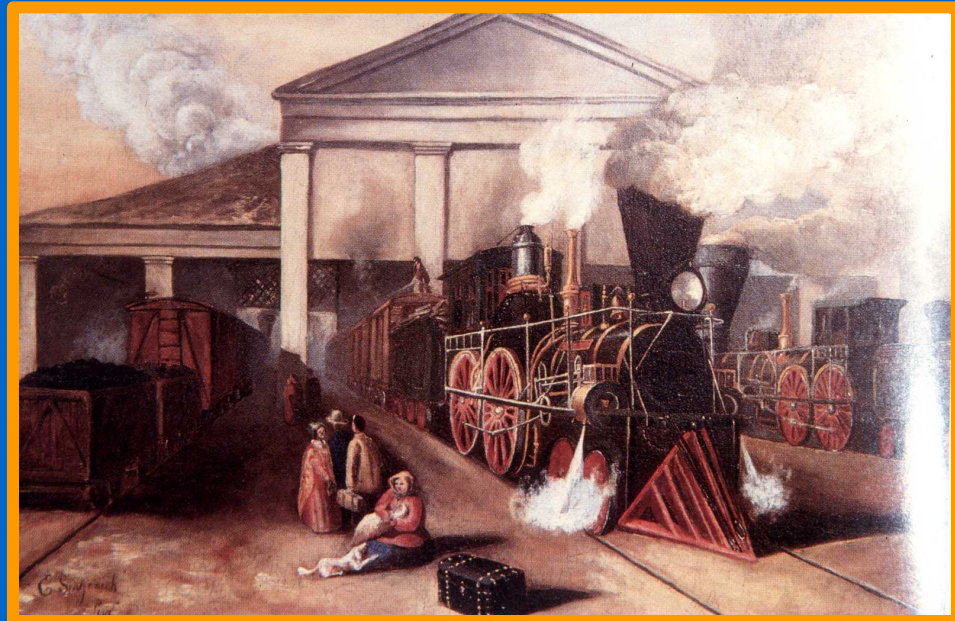
From an *Emperor*—from a *King*—from the iron grasp of a *British Tory Faction*—an unprincipled banditti of British speculators. The hiring tools and emissaries of his majesty king George the 3d have thronged our city and diffused the poison of principles among us.

**DOWN WITH THE TORIES, DOWN WITH THE BRITISH FACTION,**

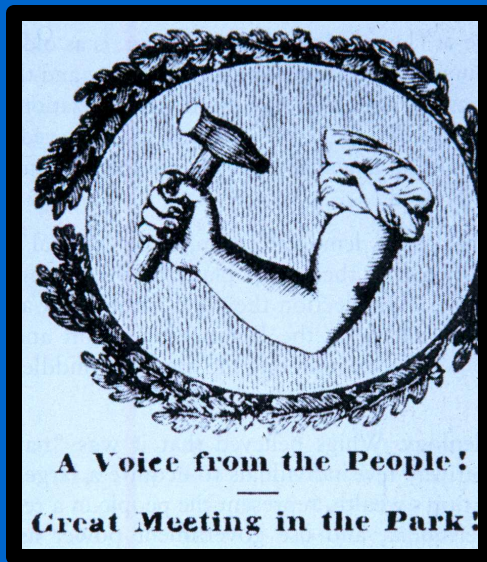
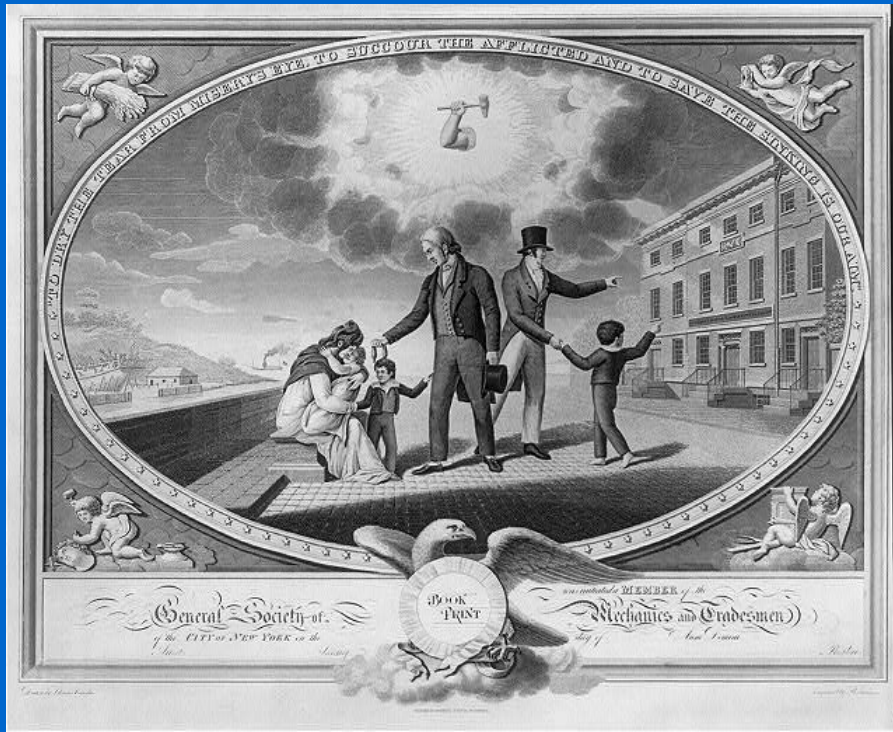
Before they have it in their power to enslave you, and reduce your families to distress by heavy taxation. Republicans want no Tribute-liars—they want no ship Ocean-liars—they want no Rufus King's for Lords—they want no Varick to lord it over them—they want no Jones for senator, who fought with the British against the Americans in time of the war.—But they want in their places such men as

*Jefferson & Clinton,*

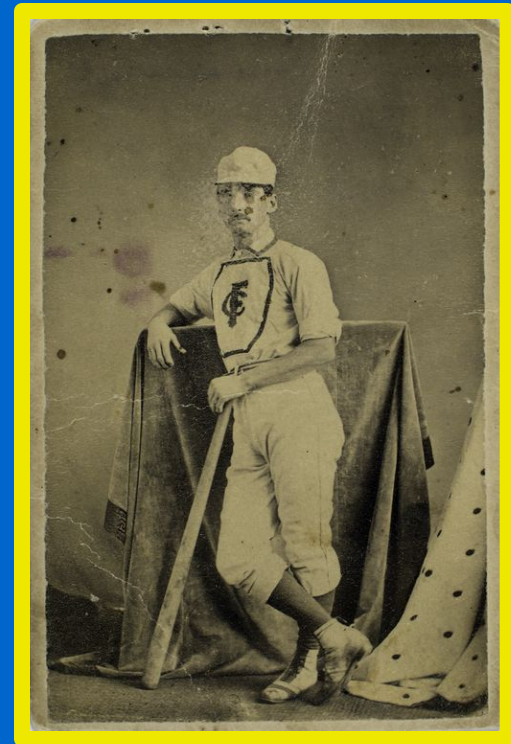
who fought their Country's Battles in the year '76

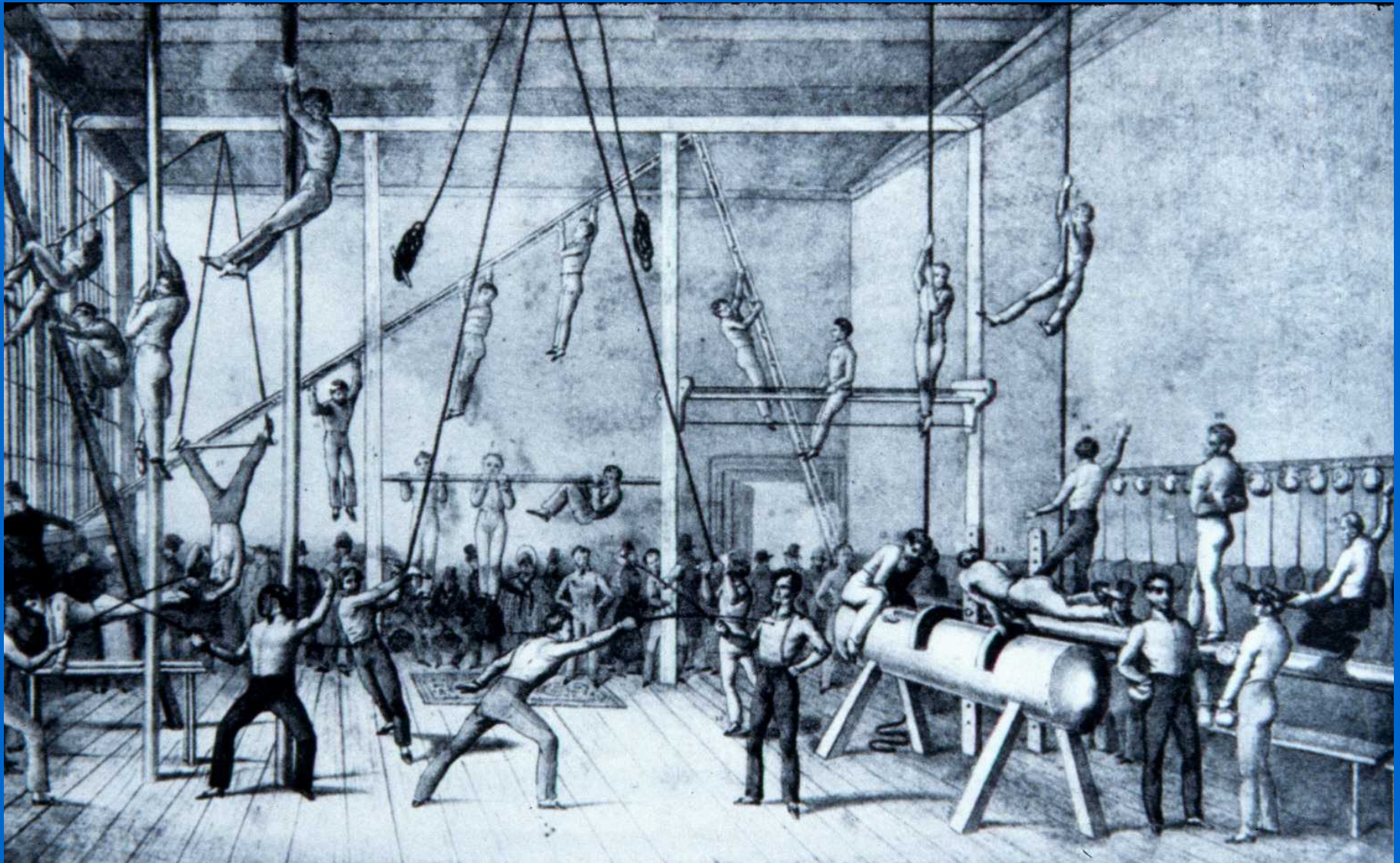






Even as market development divided wage earners from entrepreneurs, both sides laid claim to republican virtue.



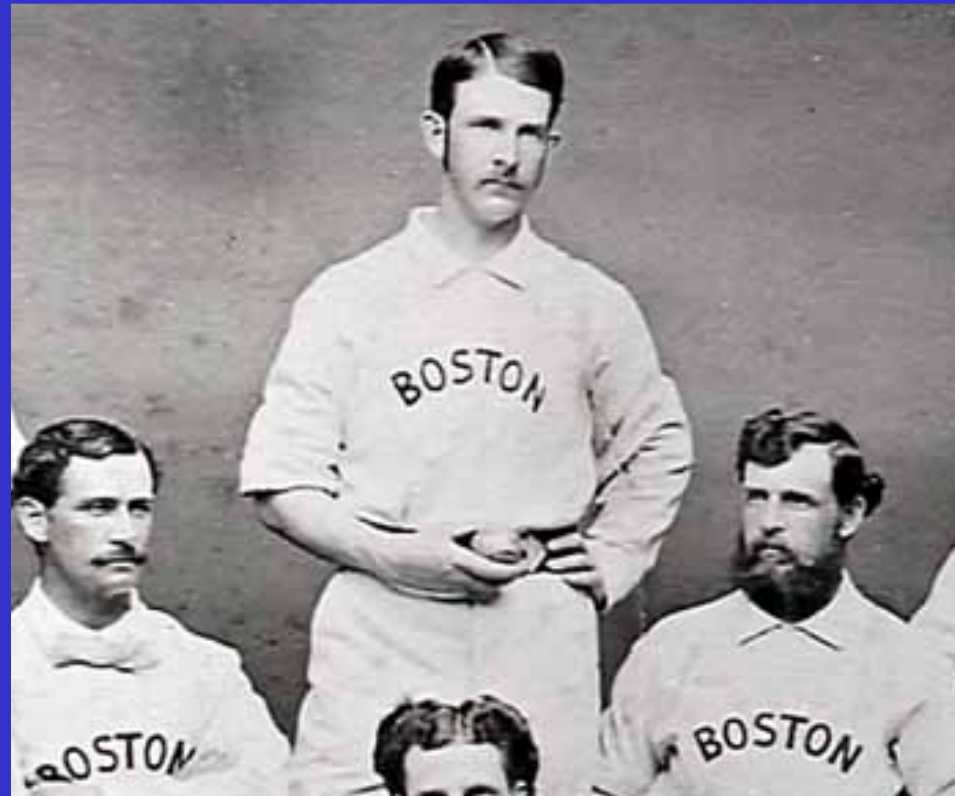


The Turnverein (the gymnastic clubs of immigrant Germans) emphasized "the duty of each and every association to instruct its members in...the various political questions" and to promote "earnest political agitation." They became centers of political discussion.

The successful tours of the Brooklyn Excelsiors, crisscrossing upper New York state and on to Philadelphia and Baltimore, inspired Albert Spalding - and countless other young men - with the hope “that they might win for their cities a glory akin to that which had been achieved for [Brooklyn].” Rader, 11

## The Cash Value of Civic

**Pride:** from the '69 Reds through Hulbert to Schott and Lindner (“we need public subsidies so we can show how much we love our city?”) civic pride and loyalty have been essential to the game’s popularity and profitability



Spalding seen here as a member of the Boston team of the National Association of Professional Base Ball Players (NAPBBP) (known simply as “the Bostons”)



**CLERKS  
AND  
ARTISANS:  
Staking a  
Claim to  
Civic Life**

Traditional carpenter's trio, the job printer Croker stands with five young employers (including a woman), at the painter Ring's business, the boss is nowhere to be seen as his employers stand in a clump, brooding above is the brick manufactory whose employees have no public presence.

# Bank clerk Alexander Cartwright and the Knickerbockers



Base Ball Club

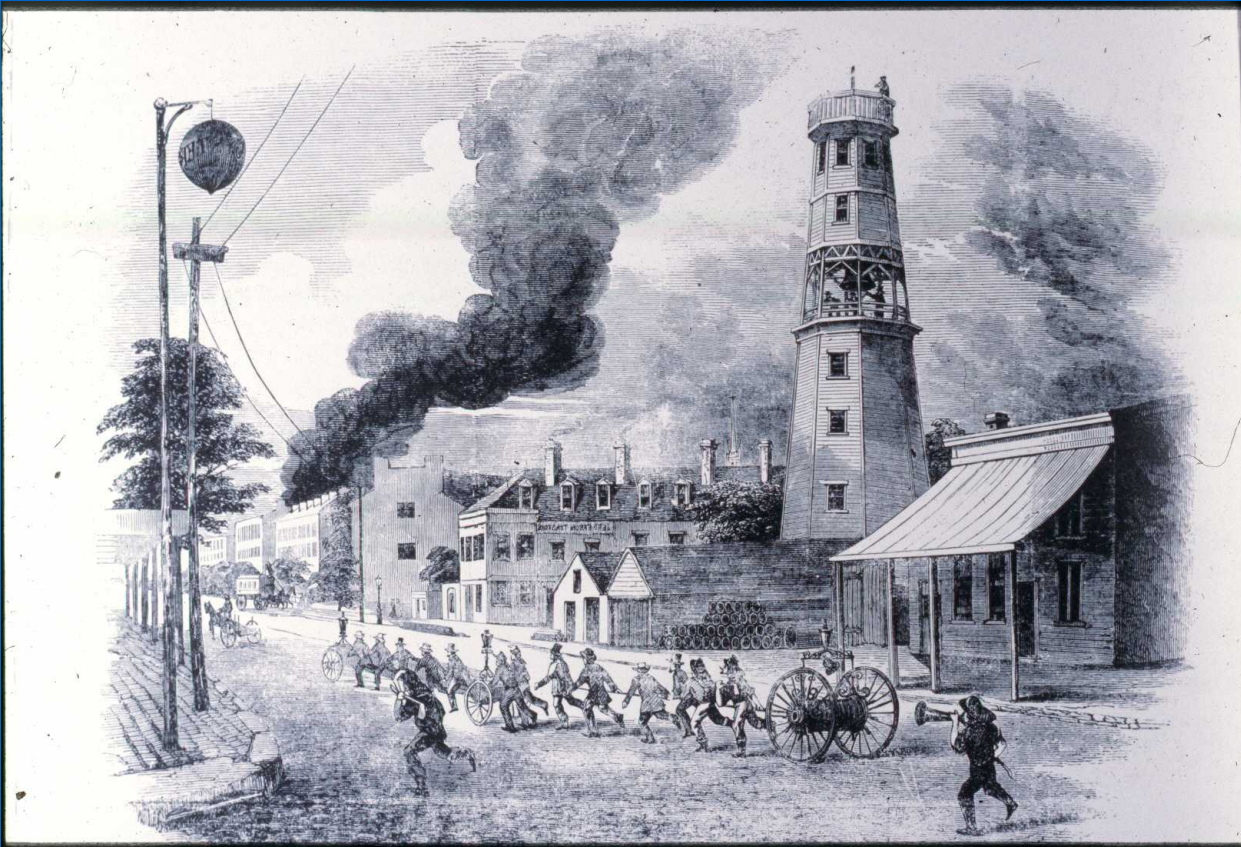


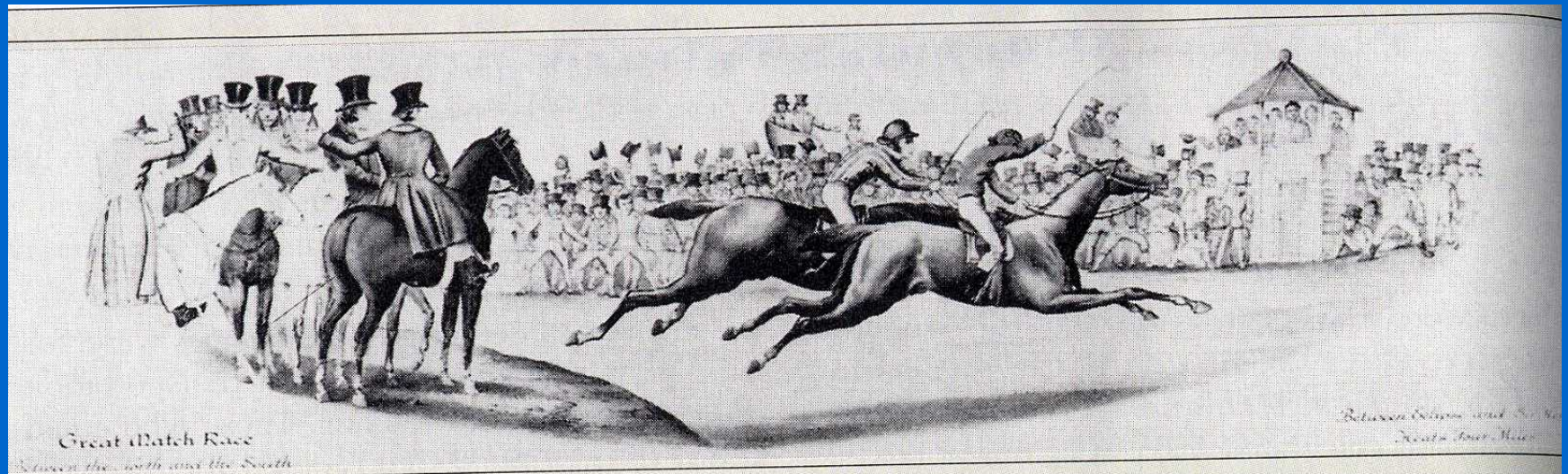
# CHAMPIONS OF AMERICA.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1865, by CHAS. H. WILLIAMSON, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States, of the Eastern District of New York.

*Work deposited Mr 12<sup>th</sup> 1865  
S. J. ...*

The rough and ready Brooklyn Atlantics – best team of the 1860s





**THE ECLIPSE-HENRY MATCH RACE**  
Match races” between famous horses were a popular feature of early nineteenth-century horse racing. This famous 1823 race on Long Island, New York, pitted prize-winning horses from the North and the South against one another. American Eclipse, the northern entry, won. *(Private collection)*

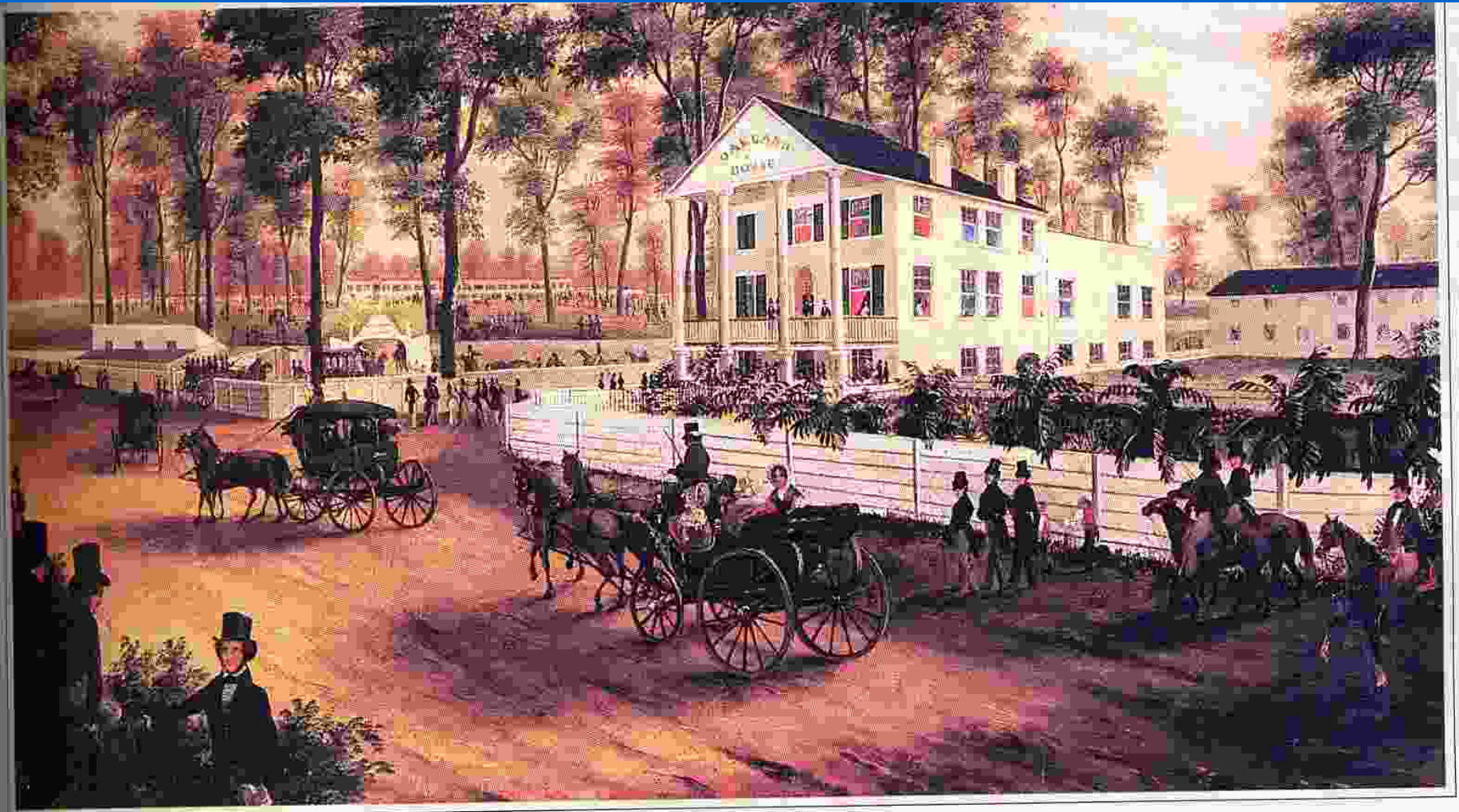
The all-star games of 1858, held on Long Island’s Fashion Race Course charged a fifty-cent admission a portion of which went to a fireman’s fund for widows and orphans

# The dives of the sporting crowd, like Kit Burns's Sportsman Hall

which featured Jack the Rat who for a dime bit off mouse heads (rats were a quarter) horrified the genteel. While the sporting crowd thrived ("start with a dog fight as a curtain raiser," one old New Yorker recalled, "continue with a cock fight,

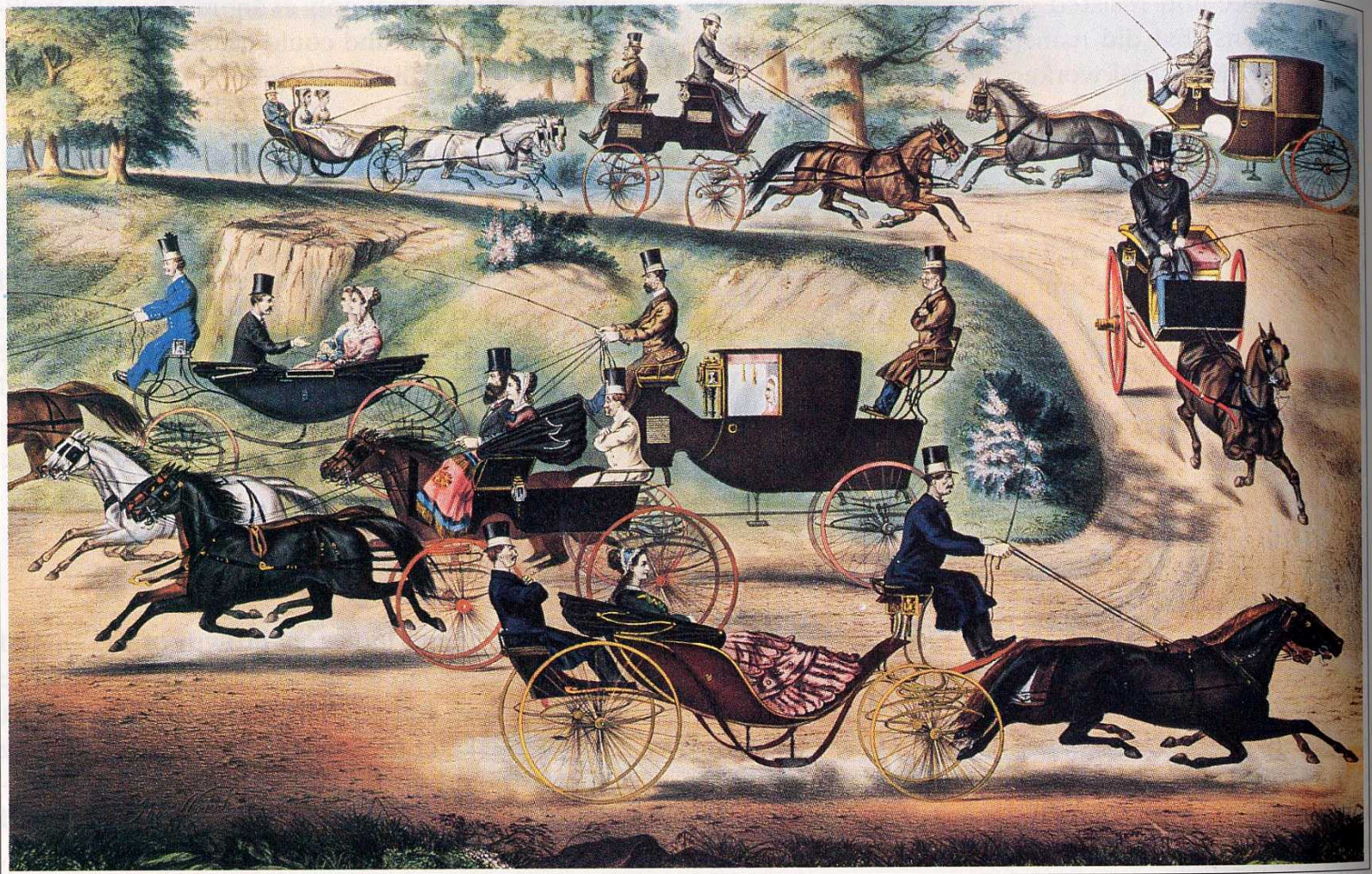


then rat baiting, next a prize fight, then a battle of billy goats, and then a boxing match between two ladies, with nothing but trunks on...I think you have a night's entertainment that has enough spice...to fill the most rapacious needs"), the recreational needs of the genteel went unsatisfied. Before the creation of Central Park, one genteel observer recalled, there "was no place within the city limits in which it was pleasant to walk, or ride, or drive, or stroll...no pleasant garden where one could sit and chat with a friend, or watch his children play...."



### **OAKLAND HOUSE AND RACE COURSE**

This 1840 painting by Robert Brammer and August A. Von Smith portrays an early race course in Louisville, Kentucky, which provided entertainment to affluent white southerners. (*Oakland House and Race Course, Louisville, 1840. By Robert Brammer and August A. Von Smith. Collection of The Speed Art Museum, Louisville, Kentucky. Purchase, Museum Art fund, 56.19*)



*The ball player, Porter's Spirit of the Times explained in 1857, "must be sober and temperate.*

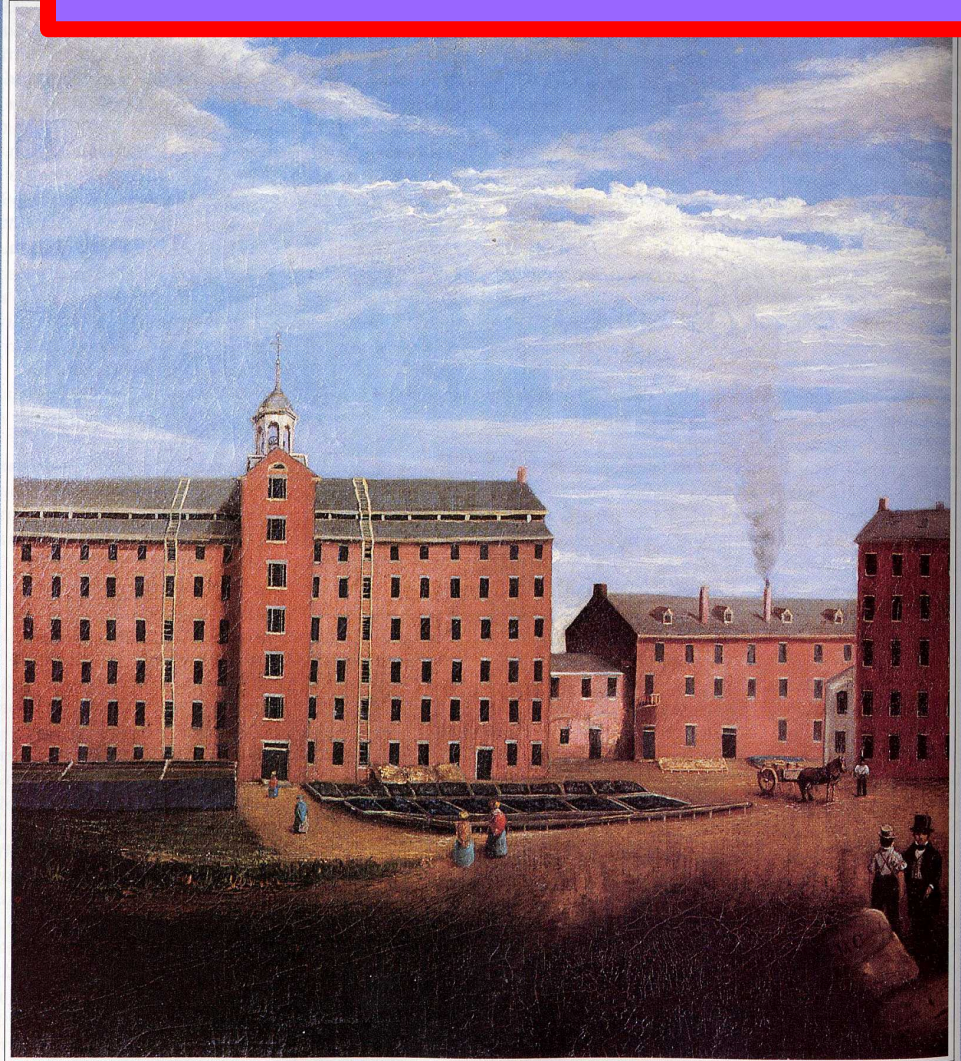
*Patience, fortitude, self-denial, order, obedience, and good-humor, with an unruffled temper, are indispensable.*



Such a game...teaches a love of order, discipline, and fair play." Baseball kept young men "out of a great deal of mischief," the Brooklyn Eagle editorialized in the 1860s, preventing "them from hanging around [fire] houses, stables, and taverns." The game should be endorsed by every clergyman, Henry Chadwick argued, as "a remedy for the many evils resulting from the immoral associations [that] boys and young men of our cities are apt to become connected with."

“Let us go out and fill our lungs with oxygen. The game of ball is grand....It’s our game, the American game. It will take our people out of doors, fill them with oxygen, give them a larger physical stoicism, tend to relieve us from being a nervous, dyspeptic set.” - Walt Whitman

# The Great Incarceration



## TIME TABLE OF THE LOWELL MILLS,

Arranged to make the working time throughout the year average 11 hours per day.  
**TO TAKE EFFECT SEPTEMBER 21st, 1853.**  
 The Standard time being that of the meridian of Lowell, as shown by the Regulator  
 Clock of AMOS SANBORN, Post Office Corner, Central Street.

**From March 20th to September 19th, inclusive.**  
 COMMENCE WORK, at 6.30 A. M. LEAVE OFF WORK, at 6.30 P. M., except on Saturday Evenings.  
 BREAKFAST at 6 A. M. DINNER, at 12 M. Commence Work, after dinner, 12.45 P. M.  
**From September 20th to March 19th, inclusive.**  
 COMMENCE WORK at 7.00 A. M. LEAVE OFF WORK, at 7.00 P. M., except on Saturday Evenings.  
 BREAKFAST at 6.30 A. M. DINNER, at 12.30 P. M. Commence Work, after dinner, 1.15 P. M.

### BELLS.

**From March 20th to September 19th, inclusive.**  
*Morning Bells.* *Dinner Bells.* *Evening Bells.*  
 First bell, ..... 4.30 A. M. Ring out, ..... 12.00 M. Ring out, ..... 6.30 P. M.  
 Second, 5.30 A. M.; Third, 6.20. Ring in, ..... 12.35 P. M. Except on Saturday Evenings.  
**From September 20th to March 19th, inclusive.**  
*Morning Bells.* *Dinner Bells.* *Evening Bells.*  
 First bell, ..... 5.00 A. M. Ring out, ..... 12.30 P. M. Ring out at, ..... 7.00 P. M.  
 Second, 6.00 A. M.; Third, 6.50. Ring in, ..... 1.05 P. M. Except on Saturday Evenings.

### SATURDAY EVENING BELLS.

During APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, and AUGUST, Ring Out, at 6.00 P. M.  
 The remaining Saturday Evenings in the year, ring out as follows:

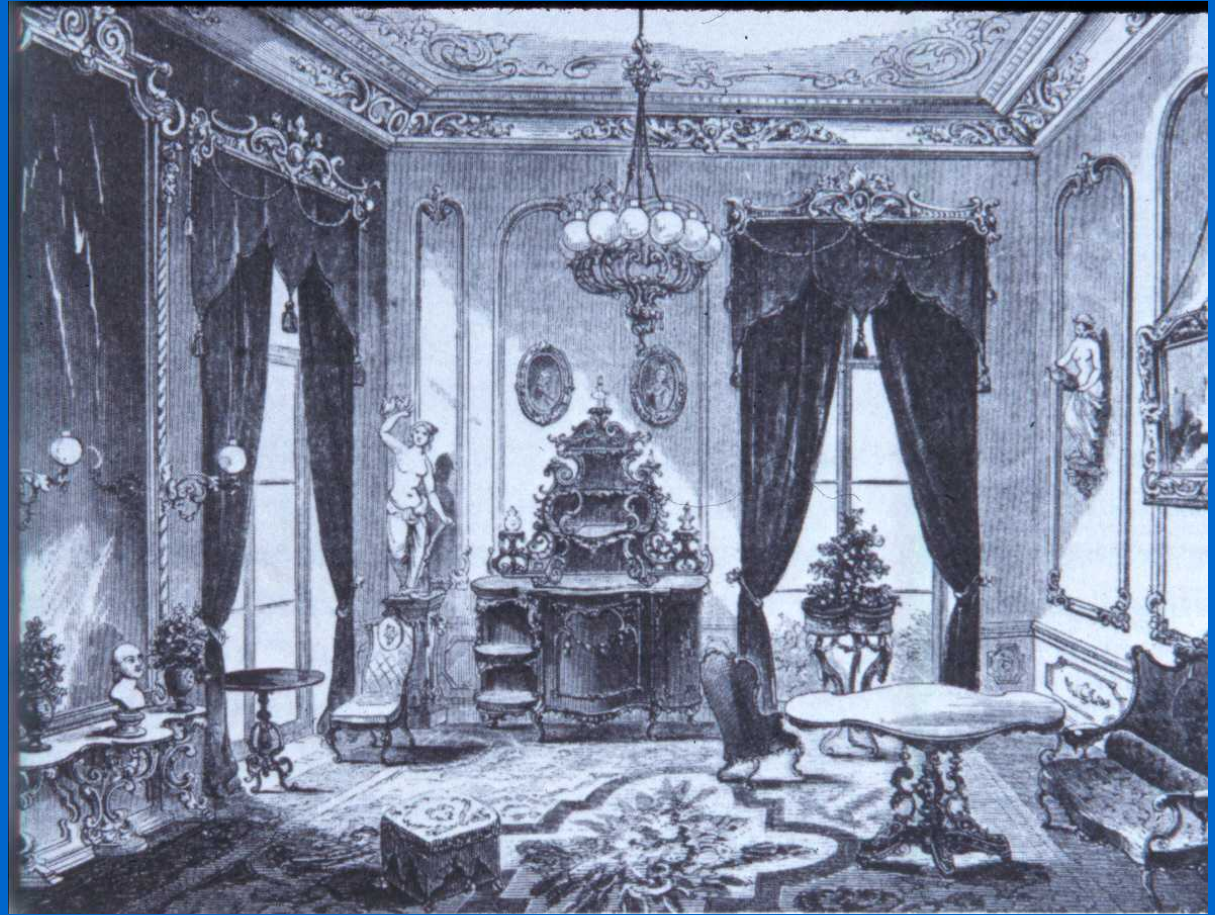
SEPTEMBER.		NOVEMBER.		JANUARY.	
First Saturday, ring out 6.00 P. M.	Third Saturday ring out 4.00 P. M.	Third Saturday, ring out 4.25 P. M.	First Saturday, ring out 4.25 P. M.	Fourth " " " 4.35 " "	Fourth " " " 4.35 " "
Second " " 6.45 " "	Fourth " " " 3.55 " "	Fourth " " " 4.55 " "	Second " " " 4.55 " "	Third " " " 5.00 " "	Third " " " 5.00 " "
Third " " 5.30 " "		Fourth " " " 5.10 " "	Fourth " " " 5.10 " "	Fourth " " " 5.15 " "	Fourth " " " 5.15 " "
Fourth " " 5.20 " "					
OCTOBER.		DECEMBER.		FEBRUARY.	
First Saturday, ring out 5.05 P. M.	First Saturday, ring out 3.50 P. M.	First Saturday, ring out 4.45 P. M.	First Saturday, ring out 4.45 P. M.	Second " " " 4.55 " "	Second " " " 4.55 " "
Second " " 4.55 " "	Second " " " 3.55 " "	Third " " " 5.00 " "	Third " " " 5.00 " "	Third " " " 5.10 " "	Third " " " 5.10 " "
Third " " 4.45 " "	Third " " " 3.55 " "	Fourth " " " 4.00 " "	Fourth " " " 4.00 " "	Fourth " " " 5.15 " "	Fourth " " " 5.15 " "
Fourth " " 4.35 " "	Fourth " " " 4.00 " "				
Fifth " " 4.25 " "					
NOVEMBER.		JANUARY.			
First Saturday, ring out 4.15 P. M.	First Saturday, ring out 4.10 P. M.	Third " " " 5.35 " "	First Saturday, ring out 5.25 P. M.	Second " " " 5.30 " "	Second " " " 5.30 " "
Second " " 4.05 " "	Second " " " 4.15 " "	Fourth " " " 5.45 " "	Second " " " 5.35 " "	Third " " " 5.45 " "	Third " " " 5.45 " "
			Fourth " " " 5.45 " "	Fourth " " " 5.45 " "	Fourth " " " 5.45 " "

YARD GATES will be opened at the first stroke of the bells for entering or leaving the Mills.

SPEED GATES commence hoisting three minutes before commencing work.

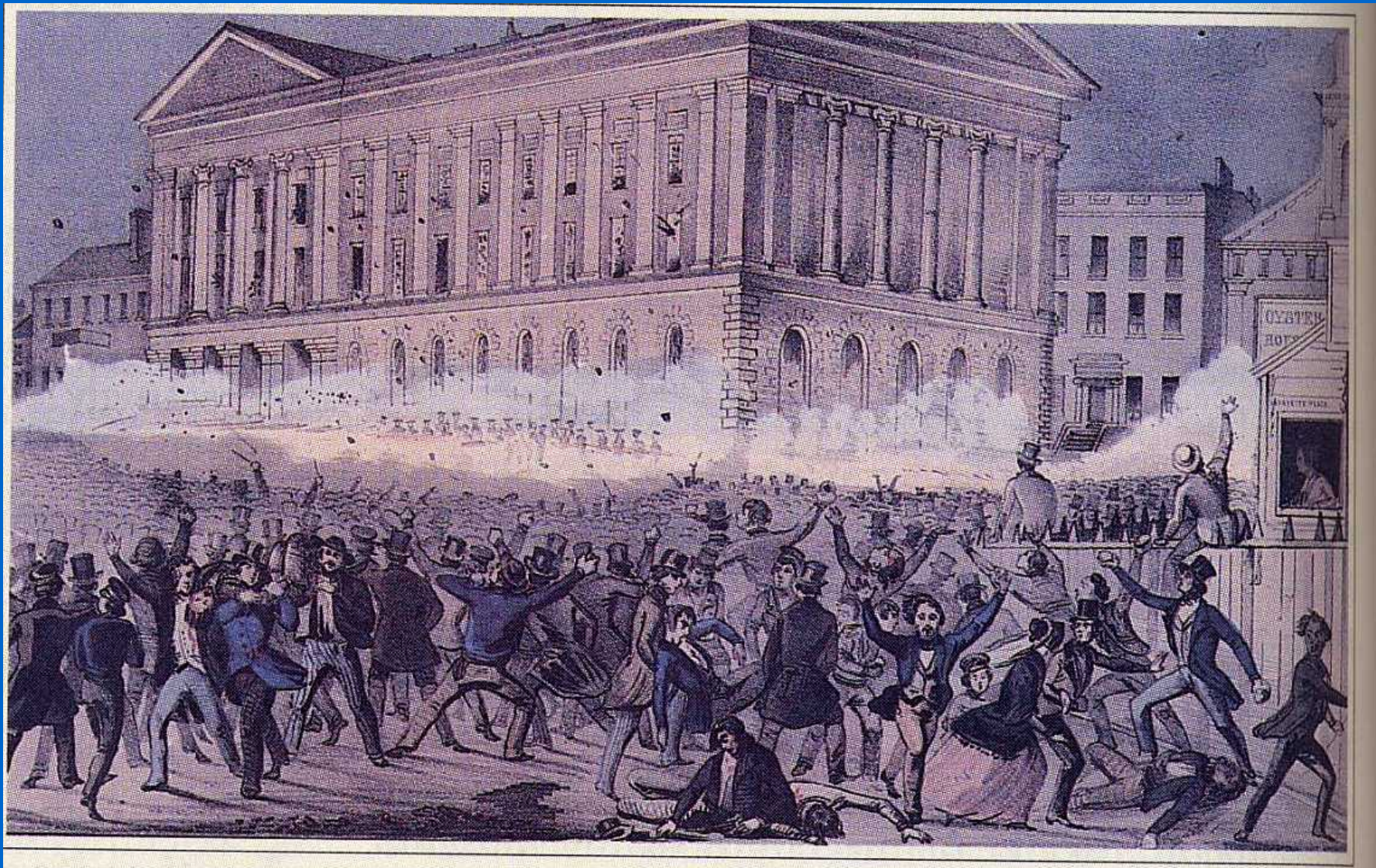
The textile mills at Lowell, Massachusetts

The  
emerging  
ideal of  
bourgeois  
domesticity



Fork for Every Purpose. Place forks for individual service. Where size or design varies, different patterns, several examples are shown. *Top row (l. to r.):* medium or dinner fork, pie fork, fish fork, salad fork, pastry fork, oyster fork, lobster fork, terrapin fork, berry fork, mango fork. *Middle row (l. to r.):* oyster cocktail fork, fish fork, terrapin fork, fruit fork (hollow handle), oyster cocktail fork, oyster fork, lobster fork, salad fork (small), salad fork (large). *Bottom row (l. to r.):* ramekin fork, lettuce fork, berry forks (four styles), oyster forks (four styles), oyster fork-spoon.

“A Parlor View of a New York Dwelling House” (1854). A “fitting abode of a man of refinement,” a place “where a lady of elegant manners and educated taste might appropriately receive her guests.”



The Astor Place Riot, 1846: What provoked the first firing of US troops into a group of working-class civilians?

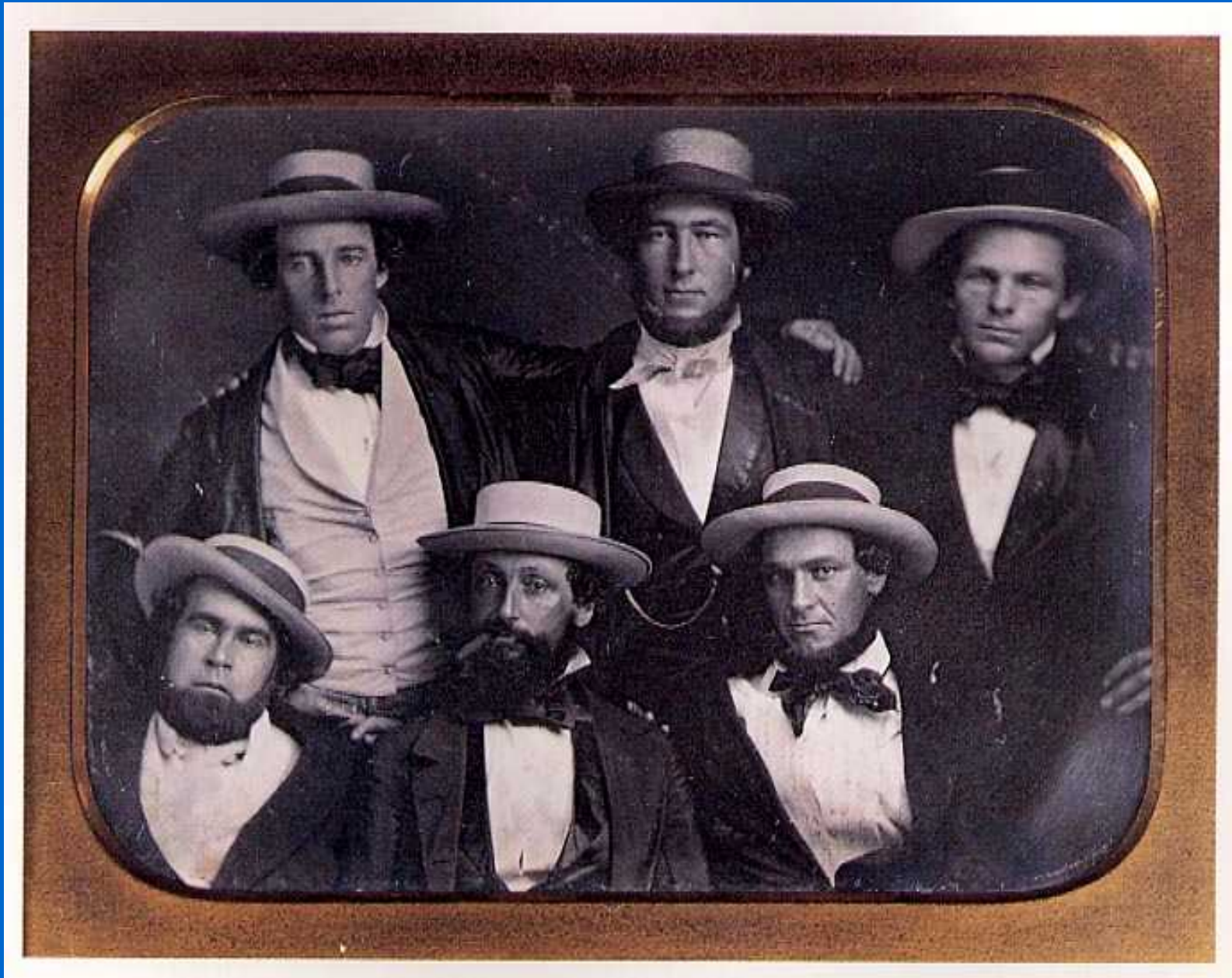


“A Genteel Family Audience Leaving a Matinee” (1866) Note that the poor are literally marginalized at the left, begging for alms and that the policeman and the attendant at the right insure order and are ready to serve.

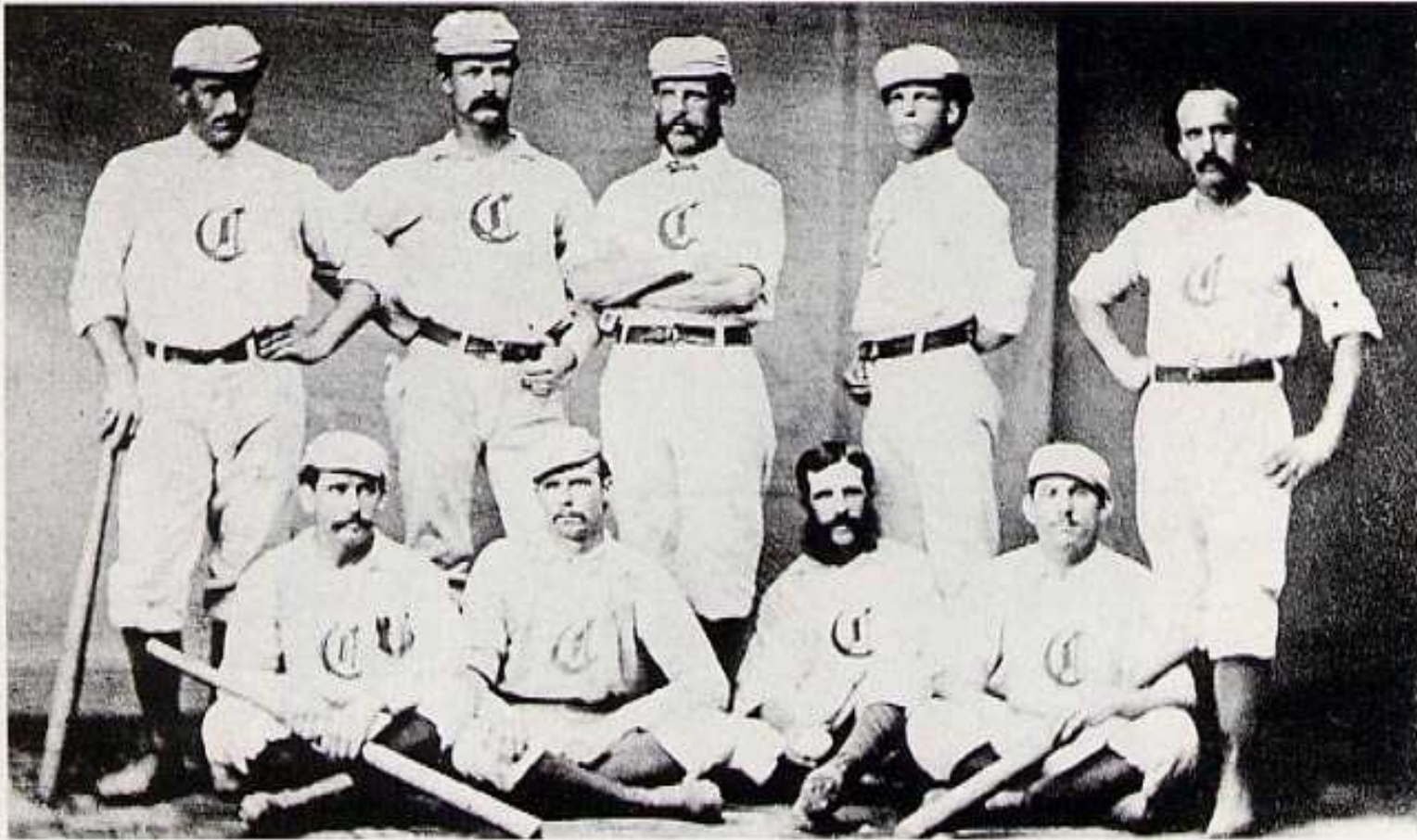
# Baseball and Politics: A Natural Connection?



# Bank clerk Alexander Cartwright and the Knickerbockers



Civic pride has remained a crucial element in the marketing of the game – setting up an essential tension within the culture of baseball



THE 1869 RED STOCKINGS: BASEBALL'S FIRST PROFESSIONAL TEAM.

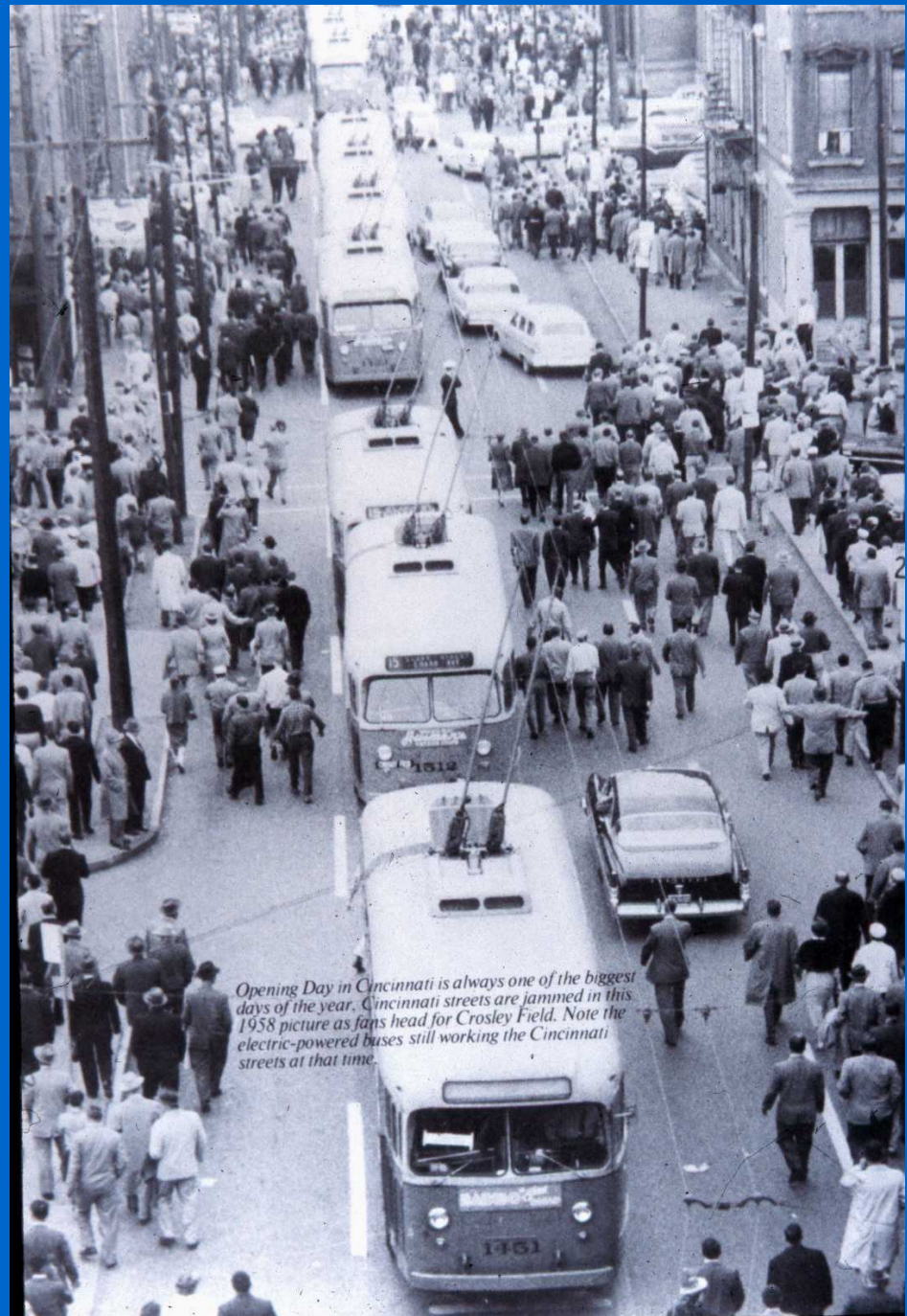
## Knickerbockers-Excelsiors 1859





# Public Festivals in a Privatizing Society

## Reds Opening Day Parade from the 1950s



*Opening Day in Cincinnati is always one of the biggest days of the year. Cincinnati streets are jammed in this 1958 picture as fans head for Crosley Field. Note the electric-powered buses still working the Cincinnati streets at that time.*

*The ball player, Porter's Spirit of the Times explained in 1857, "must be sober and temperate. Patience, fortitude, self-denial, order, obedience, and good-humor, with an unruffled temper, are indispensable.*



Such a game...teaches a love of order, discipline, and fair play." Baseball kept young men "out of a great deal of mischief," the Brooklyn Eagle editorialized in the 1860s, preventing "them from hanging around [fire] houses, stables, and taverns." The game should be endorsed by every clergyman, Henry Chadwick argued, as "a remedy for the many evils resulting from the immoral associations [that] boys and young men of our cities are apt to become connected with."





Circa 1845

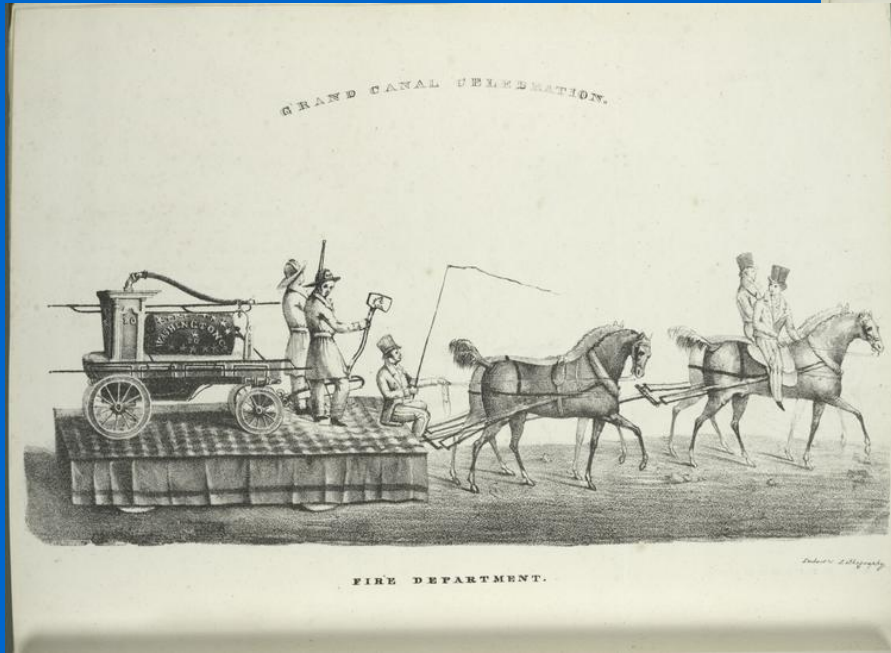
“Suffer no one to dictate imperiously what line of conduct you are to pursue,” artisans told themselves soon after the Revolution, “but at the same time let no one be sacrificed on the alter of public opinion for a cordial and liberal expression of his sentiments.” Printers praised their craft as “one of the most deadly engines of destruction that can possibly be arrayed against the encroachments of despotic

power.” Honest producers and competent citizens, artisans embodied the combination of independence and responsibility that the Revolution promised. In mechanics’ institutes, civic parades and projects, artisans proclaimed their central role in public life. “Less respect to the consuming speculator, who wallows in luxury,” New York artisans toasted themselves, “than to the productive mechanic, who struggles with indigence.” The “mechanics are the bone and sinew of the nation,” a Cincinnati artisan added, without which “society would sink into savage barbarism.”



*Seal of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen, NYC (1785)*





THE  
OLDE  
FIRE  
LADDIES

# THE OLDE FIRE LADDIES

BISHOP & REYNOLDS

BY

HERBERT ASBURY

BY  
HERBERT  
ASBURY

AUTHOR OF

THE GANGS OF NEW YORK



ALFRED A.  
KNOPF

ALFRED A. KNOPF PUBLISHER NEW YORK



*(Continued from reverse)*

Though in no sense a formal history, Mr. Asbury's account begins with the first recorded fire in New York—the burning of a Dutch trading ship off the Battery in 1613—and traces the progress of fire-fighting from the days of the Worshipful Fire Wardens and the Battle Watch of Stuyvesant's time to 1865. Much of the book deals with the period preceding the Civil War, when the New York fire-engines were the gaudiest vehicles in Christendom, manned by the foremost men of the city and glorified by such names as Old Turk, Big Six, Hay-Wagon, Shad-Belly, Old Maid, Black Joke and Dry Bones. Here are stories of the Great Fires of 1776 and 1835, and the Slave Plot of 1741, of the Tea Water Wells, of George Washington's adventures as a fireman, and of the man whose exploits gave birth to the fantastic legend of Mose the Bowery Boy—here identified for the first time as a gigantic fireman named Moses Humphrey, who closed a spectacular career by becoming an intimate of the King of the Sandwich Islands and the father of thirty children.