

EASTERN COLLEGE BASEBALL REVIEWED.

FIRST of all it should be said that from the discussions which follow, are eliminated those colleges which do not enforce adequate rules covering scholarship and amateur status, such, for examples, as Georgetown, Holy Cross, Fordham and Manhattan. The limitations of space also preclude proper recognition of certain smaller institutions, where the ethics are all right, but the teams of relatively less importance.

The general standard of play for 1900 has been, taking the college baseball season as a whole, somewhat better than that of 1899. At one or two colleges, and on the part of individual observers here and there, exceptions may be taken to this general proposition, but to one who has observed many past seasons, and many games by many teams during the season just closed, it seems not to be difficult to maintain.

The important games of the year, with few exceptions, showed good form by the losers as well as by the winners. In the Yale-Princeton, the Brown-Yale, the Brown-Harvard, and the Princeton-Georgetown series, the quality of baseball was unusually high. The Yale-Harvard series was not quite up to the stand-

ard of the others named, but was still superior to that of the similar series in 1899.

For the fourth time in five years, the Princeton team won its Yale series, and for the first time on record won it in straight victories. For the first time since 1893, it failed to win its Harvard series, the result being a tie, one game for each team. Harvard's refusal to play a deciding game in so important a series (the Harvard *Bulletin* alluding to the Princeton game of May 26th, as "the first of the championship series") has caused much adverse criticism, some of it by Harvard men themselves.

IN accordance with the writer's custom of many years, the leading twelve college nines are grouped in three classes of four each, as follows:

I.—1, Princeton; 2, Brown; 3, Harvard; 4, Yale.

II.—5, Dartmouth; 6, Pennsylvania; 7, Williams; 8, Cornell.

III.—9, Wesleyan; 10 Lehigh; 11, Lafayette; 12, Amherst.

The Princeton nine played twenty-five games with college teams, losing only three—one to Georgetown, one to Brown, one to Harvard.

Paulmier, sub. fielder.

Hutchinson, 3b. Meier, s.s. Scott, sub. p. Kafer, c. Green, sub. c. Chapman, lf. Bradley, coach.



Watkins, c.f. Burke, r.f. Hillebrand, Steinwender, 2b. Pearson, 1b. Hutchings, sub. 3b.
pitcher and captain.

Princeton Baseball Nine.

In the last, Hillebrand pitched; in the others, substitutes occupied the box. Against Harvard, Princeton made 9 runs to 6; earned 5 runs to 1; made 14 hits for 21 bases as against 10 hits for 16 bases; made 3 errors to 6; and stole 5 bases to 3. Against Yale, Princeton made 14 runs to 7, earning 6 runs to Yale's 2; made 20 hits for 25 bases against Yale's 17 hits for 25 bases; made 6 errors to 7; and each team stole 8 bases. In the Yale-Harvard series of three games, Harvard made 13 runs to 17, earning 2 to Yale's 4; made 24 hits for 30 bases as compared with Yale's 31 hits for 39 bases; accepted 90.9 per cent. of her chances to Yale's 91.2 per cent.; yet she won the series because her fewer hits were better bunched and her errors came at relatively unimportant intervals.

The title "Championship" really means nothing. It is not intended to cover the general intercollegiate field, and when used by Harvard, Yale or Princeton, is simply a distinguishing mark of the importance which attaches to these series over all other games.

Although the Princeton-Harvard series remained unsettled, the general view seems to be in favor of the superiority of the former, The writer has submitted the question to members of college teams which have met both Princeton and Harvard, and without a dissenting voice this opinion has been confirmed. Princeton had a little the better battery, and was a heavier hitting team. Harvard had the stronger outfield, but Princeton's infield was superior, Harvard men have declared their nine to be "not inherently strong," but it has proved the best Crimson team since '93. Its weakest point has been the lack of spirit on the part of a few men on the team.

Brown won her series with Yale and Harvard, both of the latter presenting their best teams, and is clearly entitled to second place. Yale fielded better than Harvard, and quite as well, if not better than Princeton, but most of her men were wretched batsmen and disgracefully poor base-runners.

THE second group is headed by Dartmouth. She won her two games against Brown, whereas Williams was badly beaten by the

Providence men, and Pennsylvania could only win one game. Dartmouth's showing against Harvard was at least as good as Pennsylvania's, and far better than that of Williams. Pennsylvania's was one of the streakiest teams in the field; she nevertheless played some excellent games, notably the first Brown game and one against Georgetown. The only Eastern series which she clearly won was that with Lafayette.

Williams tied with Dartmouth at one game each, and defeated Wesleyan and Amherst for the Tri-College Championship; but she was badly beaten by Brown and Harvard.

Cornell was weaker than usual, feeling keenly the loss of men like Charlie Young and Miller. She lost her Princeton series by a wide margin, but her Pennsylvania series resulted in a tie.

Wesleyan secured second place in the Tri-College league, gave Brown about the worst defeat the latter had during the year, and played two close games against Yale. Lehigh is satisfied. She knocked out her ancient enemy, Lafayette, by two games to one, and beat Yale 10—8. Amherst hangs desperately on at the bottom of the list, her work having been no better than for several seasons past. She has played a few close games, but some of them have not even afforded good practice for her opponents. The team was quite a disappointment. It is curious letter work should not result where the initial material is so excellent.

Stillman, p.
Wendell, r.f. Kendall, 1b.

Fincke, 2b.
Clark, 3b. Devens, 1.f.



Photo by Pach Bros., N. Y.

Laughlin, c.f. Reid, c., Coolidge, s.s.
and capt.

Harvard University Baseball Nine.

AN Eastern All-College nine and its substitute or second team could be:

First team.		Second team.	
Hillebrand (Pr.)	Pitcher	Washburn (B.)	
Kafer (Pr.)	Catcher	Reid (H.)	
Kendall (H.)	First base	Pearson (Pr.)	
Collier (Penn.)	Second base	Quinby (Y.)	
McCarten (D.)	Third base	Crane (B.)	
Meier (Pr.)	Shortstop	Coolidge (H.)	
Loughlin (H.)	} Fielders {	Pingree (D.)	
Clark (B.)		Tirrell (Wes.)	
Russell (Wms.)		Cook (Y.)	

From 1894 to 1898 the proportion of strong outfielders to the total number of good college baseball players was very marked. This year, however, the outposts are nearly all filled by weaker men, while the infields have greatly improved. This is particularly true at Yale, Harvard and Princeton, where the infielders are surer, quicker and better in team play than in a number of years. The consolidation of all of their outfield squads, however, would not furnish one high-grade trio, and for that reason four of the six places on the All-Collegiate teams are filled from the smaller colleges.

Princeton's men were the poorest in many years, Watkins the best in fielding and throwing, being a very weak batter. Yale's only first-class man was Cook. Harvard's best was probably Loughlin, who, although weak in batting during the early part of the year, has fielded finely throughout. Wendell, a son of Prof. Barrett Wendell, is a player of marked promise. Pennsylvania had an excellent fielder in White, but he was too weak in batting to be considered for an All-College nine. Huston was much below his form for 1898 and 1899.

Russell, of Williams, was probably the best outfielder of the year. He covered large territory, was a sure catch, a beautiful thrower either to the bases or the plate, and a timely and accurate place-hitter. Much the same may be said of Brown's captain, Clark, whose home-run settled that great fourteen-inning game with Yale.

Tirrell, of Wesleyan, has worthily upheld the name and fame of his two brothers of '94 and '96. He has dropped but one fly-ball this year, and has saved his pitchers from many a long hit. Pingree, of Dartmouth, has played a fine fielding game, and is a heavy hitter and fast base-runner.

HILLEBRAND is once more the best pitcher of the year, and closes an unparalleled record. He has represented Princeton in every football and baseball game played against Yale during his college course, and has seen six victories out of the eight contests. No other athletes, excepting Gill of Yale (1885-89) and Newell of Harvard (1890-94), can approach

this record. Gill played on five football teams and rowed on three crews, helping to win six victories for the Blue. Newell competed on four football teams and three crews, but only one of each proved victorious.

Of the other college pitchers, Washburn of Brown and Stillman, the Harvard freshman, have shown the nearest approach to Hillebrand's form, each being credited with occasional displays of the highest skill. Washburn was hit hard in the second Princeton and first Pennsylvania games, but he was tired and lame. Stillman has been very erratic, pitching a four-hit and ten-strike-out game against Princeton on one occasion, and being hammered all over the greensward on the next. He has good curves and sometimes better control than Hillebrand. His speed seems to be the valuable factor.

Robertson of Yale is a curious combination of strength and weakness. His curves are practically *nil*, but he usually opens the game with effective speed. With him "nothing succeeds like success," and until a chance combination of hits and errors brings on a crisis, he is the embodiment of strength. Once the crisis comes, however, he promptly embarks on a great holiday balloon ascension, considerably putting waist-high balls over the plate, carefully restrained as to speed.

Lufkin of Wesleyan is one of the best pitchers of the season. He has held Brown down to three hits, and has kept those of other strong teams well scattered. Wilder, his running mate, is a freshman pitcher of rare promise. He has quick curves, excellent speed and a good head.

Plunkett of Williams tore the muscles of his elbow early in the year, so Bent has been the best pitcher for the Purple. He has good speed and fair curves. Varney has been Dartmouth's most reliable pitcher. He has very sharp curves, and, for a left-handed man, good control. Cornell, Lafayette and Amherst have been weak in the box.

Among the catchers, Kafer and Reid are easily the best, the latter being as good as the veteran Princetonian in all but two respects. He has not batted so well in the big games, and he lacks Kafer's never-say-die spirit. Flavell of Pennsylvania, Whittemore of Brown and Inglis of Wesleyan; follow in the second class. The last-named has made the greatest improvement, and there are no better men in the colleges, save Kafer and Reid. Brown of Dartmouth, although a freshman, has made his mark in sure backstop work and clean, hard hitting. Edwards of Williams catches and

throws well, but, unfortunately, is a very weak batsman.

FIRST basemen are, as usual, a problem this year, but for a diametrically opposite reason. In bygone days it was hard to select the best among so many strong hitters. This season, however, the difficulty is to find one who has batted up to the mark. All of them field well, notably Kendall of Harvard, Pearson of Princeton, Sharpe of Yale and Risley of Williams; but some of the college first basemen this year come perilously near meeting the unique description made by a popular writer, of a certain player who "couldn't fall out of a boat and hit the water." The situation isn't quite so desperate, but it is 100 to 1 that a weaker lot of hitters have not guarded the first corner of the diamond in many years. In giving the place to Kendall, therefore, with Pearson as substitute, it should be remembered that the mantles of such former players as Kelly, Rodman, Letton, Bustard, Goeckel, *et al* are something of a misfit. Of the present incumbents not yet named, Detmers of Brown and Hancock of Dartmouth have each done good work. Robertson of Cornell is also an excellent fielder.

OF the second basemen, Collier of Pennsylvania is easily the shining light, and would have made any college team in the country. He was the star of the Pennsylvania team, with a voracious maw for all kinds of infield hits, a sure aim, a deadly eye, and base-running of speed and judgment, Quinby, with a trace of the unsteadiness of his brothers of '95 and '96, has surpassed their records, especially in the big series. Against Princeton he made 4 hits for 10 bases, and accepted 14 out of 16 chances; against Harvard, 5 hits, 16 chances and 3 errors, all of the latter occurring in the last part of the third game. Steinwender has played hard, snappy and high-class baseball for Princeton. Fincke's work for Harvard has been fair, but he has not been able to cover as much territory as have the other men named. Bacon of Brown has been strong in all but his throwing. Other men, such as McNaughton of Wesleyan, and Street of Williams, have done efficient, although uneventful, service.

The man who ought to lead the third basemen is Terrell of Wesleyan. The man who does lead them is McCarten of Dartmouth. A beautiful fielder and thrower, a reliable batter and a keen, heady base-runner, this young man has fairly earned his place. Terrell's work

has lost some of its gilt-edge for some other reason than inability—probably lack of wholeheartedness. Hutchinson of Princeton is the fastest man on sharp baseline hits, and is a very pretty fielder, but is too weak at the bat. Clark of Harvard is erratic and Guernsey of Yale lacks force and dash. Crane is the best man, excepting Lauder, who ever played the place for Brown.

THE shortstops are quite good this year, Meier getting the call on his superb hitting. He can play any position in the field acceptably, and has been a diamond indeed for Princeton. Coolidge is the best shortstop Harvard has had since '93, but French, the Dartmouth captain, and Heffernan of Williams are about as good. All of them, with Anderson of Wesleyan thrown in, are of unusually high grade. Indeed, I have never seen five such shortstops on the college field in one season. Orbin of Pennsylvania was brilliant, but not sure, and was weaker than the others in hitting. Camp of Yale has played four years of good baseball, fully up to the high standard of the Blue, and retires with general respect for his wholesome, manly personality.

The season as a whole has been enjoyable, fair weather, keen interest, exciting episodes and, as a rule, clean sport, predominating. There has been far too much talking by the players in the field, and now and then, under the stress of circumstances, home audiences have overstepped the bounds of courtesy in attempting to "cheer out a victory," but generally the sport has been good and the standards high, and the college baseball season of 1900 leaves chiefly pleasant recollections to true sportsmen.

YET it leaves also a deep regret among college men that nothing definite has been done by university faculties to put an effectual stop to the "muckerish" coaching and occasional foul play which, although of not common occurrence, yet happens often enough to very much disturb university men who have been graduated long enough to be without unreasoning partisanship.

College baseball needs, sorely, a second umpire to rule on foul play, and some ruling by university faculties that will deal severely with the player who behaves in an unsportsmanly manner. It is very easy now to check rowdy behavior before it becomes general; but if it is not checked, this splendid college game will surely fall into disrepute, as the professional game has.

CHARLES EDWARD PATTERSON.