

ITS DIFFICULTIES.

What the Players' League Has Before It.

A STEEP AND TIRESOME ROAD.

W. I. Harris Points Out Reasons for His Belief That the Brotherhood Has a Lot of Snags Ahead of It.

To achieve a permanent success the National Players' League has got to travel along a steep and tiresome road, blocked with many difficulties.

There is a possibility that in those cities where large profits are made, if there should prove to be any, the friction in the wheels of management would not be so noticeable as it is apt to cause trouble, but even in those cities there will be jealous and bickering that the wisest heads in the new movement will find themselves unable to allay.

The method of management outlined is experimental. If it does not work it will have to be changed. It will be changed, but it will be a difficult task and a long task to inaugurate reforms when once the new League gets a start.

The rock on which the new League may have its first wreck will be the method of dual management by players and capitalists.

There will be strife among the four, and there will be strife between them and the directors, who will represent the capitalists.

If the public flock to the games of the Players' League, and the National League is deserted, and money flows in as most of the players fondly imagine it will, this strife I speak of will not do great harm.

Without serious opposition the Players' League clubs in New York, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia and Brooklyn could make money. With a divided patronage they might make a little if they had any advantage in the division of the receipts.

The list in Buffalo, Cleveland and Pittsburgh may not be so large, but it will not be less than \$40,000. Can these cities support two ball clubs? No. Can they support one properly? Well, it's doubtful.

Another factor is the capitalists. Will they stick in poor paying cities? If they do not, a mere handful of the Brotherhood to obtain cities to take their places that can support \$40,000 ball teams? Will the players who are not capitalists be satisfied to see those who are reap the lion's share of the profits, if there are any? Will they be discontented when they find that they cannot purchase stock?

These and a hundred other questions might be asked, and then not exhaust the subject. The players will not have a bed of roses to lie on. They will have a fierce opposition to fight in brains and money. If they are wise, if they are harmonious, if they stand by each other, if the capitalists stand by them, if they change their methods of management, they may perhaps in four or five years build up a structure that will stand and will pay profits, but there will be a pile of money lost in the operation.

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ley. We were married at St. George's, Bloomsbury, London, on April 14, 1884, as this certificate will show.

Here Miss Pedley produced a paper which proved to be the wedding certificate of Edward John Henley, aged 24, and Kate Grace Pedley, aged 21 years.

"It was an elopement, and a romantic one, too. Mr. Henley's father, who is editor of The Edinburgh Scotsman, and my husband's brother, William Henley, one of the foremost sculptors and poets in England, assisted us. My parents were opposed to the marriage on account of my youth. You see, I was only 16 years of age, and didn't have my own way. So we made my age 21 years on the certificate.

"We first met at the Gaiety theatre, London, where we were both playing in 'Bluebeard and Ariel,' in which my husband made a great success in his imitations of Irving. I played a singing fairy, and we fell in love with each other. We lived happily together for six or eight months, when we came to America.

"My husband accepted a position with the 'Deacon Brodie' company. He refused to permit me to act, and I was idle for a long time. However, I was happy enough until we reached Washington, when various disagreements arose, the result of Mr. Henley's dissipated habits. When things became unbearable I returned to England.

"My husband remained in America, playing various engagements. He returned to England after a short time, and was engaged by the Kendalls to play the heavy part in 'The Ironmaster.' There was no reconciliation between me and Mr. Henley went back to America without having seen me."

Miss Pedley will sue for divorce, she says. Henley is alleged to have married Miss Hampton in Chicago last summer, when they were playing in "The Spider's Web."

A Knock Down for the Officer.

He was an army officer, with headquarters in the Phelan building; she is the wife of a prominent business man in the east; the other he is the business man who just arrived from the east. The officer saw her in the elevator, and, veteran as he is, surrendered at a single glance.

One evening he was late; the seats at the table were all occupied, and he noticed with dismay that in his chair was a stout old gentleman, who was paying a fatherly attention to the lady, who did not seem to accept his kindness in the spirit in which it was offered.

"Excuse me, sir," he said, "but do you know the lady on whom you forced your attention this evening?" "Why—I—I know her. I saw her to-night for the first time."

"Well, sir, your impudence is amazing," cried the officer, "and may be excused only on the score of your age. That lady is under my care, sir."

"Indeed; permit me to thank you for your kindness. The lady is my wife." The respect I have for the army is my reason for withholding the officer's name.—Del Monte Wave.

Coming Down to a Fine Point.

There is a good story told of the economical qualities of two well known and wealthy gentlemen living in the east part of town that is a good lesson for these recklessly extravagant persons who are not possessed of the true spirit of economy.

"What made you blow out the candle?" inquired the caller. "Oh, we can talk in the dark as well as in the light, and it saves the candle," was the reply.

They continued their conversation for a short time, when the host heard some mysterious sounds coming from the direction of the caller's chair and inquired what his friend was doing.

"Why," was the reply, "it's dark in here and no one can see me, so I thought I would take off my pants to save the wear on them." —St. Joseph News.

Next.

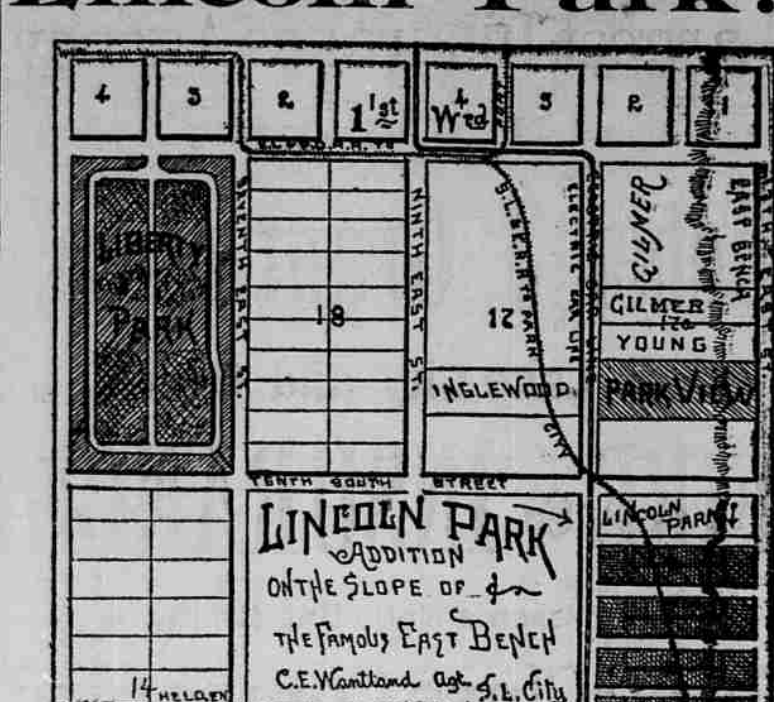
If tongues were all attached to brains, How thankful we should be! If "hogs" were barred from railway trains, How thankful we should be!

If cats would only sleep at night, How thankful we should be! If money would not get so tight, How thankful we should be!

If women would not talk forsooth, If ladies hats were less uncouth, If weather clerks would tell the truth, How thankful we should be!

If fishermen would stick to facts, How thankful we should be! If men would sit between the acts, How thankful we should be!

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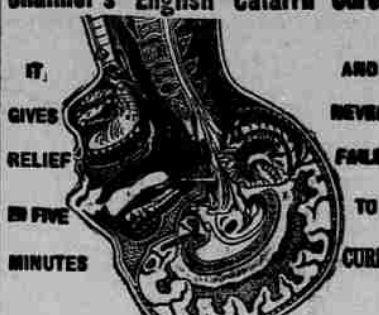
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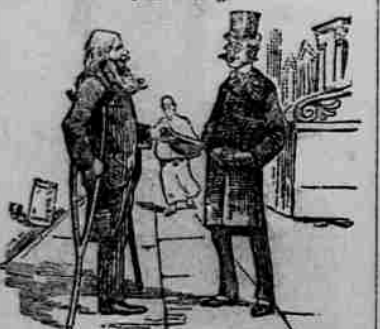
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"Why, my dear man, you have a decided advantage over me in having only one foot to get cold; good day."—Time.

SHE SEEKS A DIVORCE.

The Interesting Story of Grace Pedley and Her Marital Woes.

Grace Pedley, a member of the London Gaiety company, which recently began an engagement in New York, was not originally bound to visit this continent at this time, but was moved to come principally by a desire to "even up" with her husband, who, she alleges, is Edward J. Henley, now playing in "Hands Across Sea" in California.