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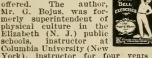
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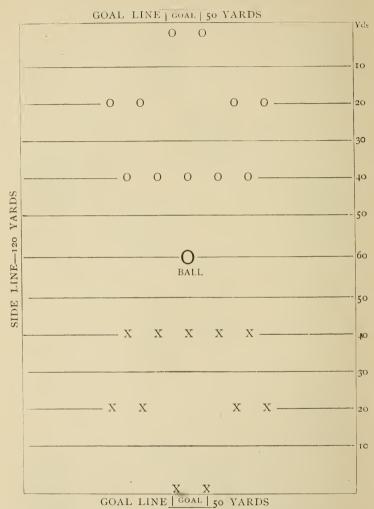


DIAGRAM OF PLAY AND FORMATION FOR STARTING PLAY.



SPALDING'S ATHLETIC LIBRARY
Group XI. No. 170.

# PUSH BALL

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION
OF THE GAME

WITH THE

OFFICIAL PLAYING RULES



PUBLISHED BY THE

AMERICAN SPORTS PUBLISHING COMPANY
21 WARREN STREET, NEW YORK





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### ORIGIN OF PUSH BALL

The game of push ball was originated by Moses G. Crane, of Newton, Mass., in the early nineties. As the father of three Harvard foot ball players, Mr. Crane saw many matches at Cambridge. "If the ball were only made large," he used to say; "yes, large enough so that a player on one side could not see who was on the other, you would then have a chance to interest spectators in watching the whole game and in introducing much merriment, as well as skill." So he talked it over with some of the members of the Newton Athletic Association.

"Why don't you make a large ball, Mr. Crane?" he was told, "and we will use it with the foot ball teams!" So, in the early fall of 1894, orders were given for a hemisphere of wood six feet three inches in diameter, upon which to lay out and fit the cover and the bladder. As it was not possible then to weave such a monstrous sphere of canvas, a leather cover was substituted. Four of the largest hides were obtained from New York. Instead of rawhide lacings, steel belt hooks were used. The building of the first ball was very expensive, materials alone costing Mr. Crane about \$175. It was completed late on Thanksgiving Day, 1894, but too late for exhibition on



HARVARD PUSH BALL TEAM.

that day. The following Saturday, however, the bladder was inflated and taken down to the foot ball grounds of the Newton Athletic Association.

Such a huge object attracted much attention at the time. It was as large as a small elephant, brownish or tan colored, with six seams or zones crossing horizontally. Several of the sections were spliced because the hides were not long enough to reach entirely around the ball. The belt hooks were small, about an inch and a half apart, and numbered 1,768 (as counted by a committee of three at the N. A. A. fair in 1895). The bladder was made of rubber cloth and cemented together in horizontal sectors. Yet the entire ball was a nice piece of work, serviceable, handy and light (about seventy pounds). It was found to be very elastic when tightly blown. Shortly after Mr. Crane's death in 1898 the leather cover was removed and sold; and the bladder being of rubber, decayed.

### HISTORY OF THE GAME

The game of push ball was devised by Edwin Crane and William C. Johnson, with the advice of several football players of the N. A. A. During the first season, 1894, all sorts of methods were tried. Three matches were played at Newton Centre, the following N. A. A. athletes taking part at one of the best games:

Centre, Clifford Kimball; right guard, Walter H.



PUSH BALL AT HARVARD.

Seaver; left, Charles Bryant; right end, Mitchell; left end, William C. Johnson; right forward or tackle, Frank M. Johnson; left forward or tackle, T. Percy Treadwell; back and captain, George F. Skelton; substitutes, Henry Fobes, Augustus L. Wakefield.

The following year the ball was introduced at Cambridge, where Mr. Crane was attending college. Two teams were mustered and drilled from Cambridge Manual Training School, and a match game was played in late September. Then as some interest was aroused in Harvard over the new ball, it was taken to Soldiers' Field and introduced to the students. Perhaps the lateness of the season prevented the upper classes from leaving their foot ball elevens to take up the new sport enmasse. But there were quite a number among the entering class who responded to a call for candidates. Practice in the features of the game was begun in earnest and two teams organized. R. A. Leeson was chosen captain of the Freshman team, E. R. Crane of the College team. So much enthusiasm was provoked that the Graduate Manager of Athletics, Mr. Fred A. Moore, consented to a public exhibition game between the halves of the Harvard-Brown foot ball game where four thousand people attended.

The next exhibition game was held on November 3, 1895, between the halves of Harvard-University of Pennsylvania game which amused over twenty thousand



A SPALDING PUSH BALL.

people. It was a match game between the Newton Athletic Association eight and the Harvard eight. The following was the line-up:

Newton A. C.	HARVARD.
W. E JohnsonLeft End.	Ward.
TreadwellLeft Forward	d
Bryant Left Guard	Cushing.
KimballCentre	Crane, Captain,
SeaverRight Guard	lHardenbrook.
F. M. JohnsonRight Forwar	d Blake.
MitchellRight End:	Burrage.
Skelton, CaptainFull Back.	Burnham,
Smith	G. Adams.
Smith WakefieldSubstitutes	···· Herschel.
Forbes	Hitchcock.



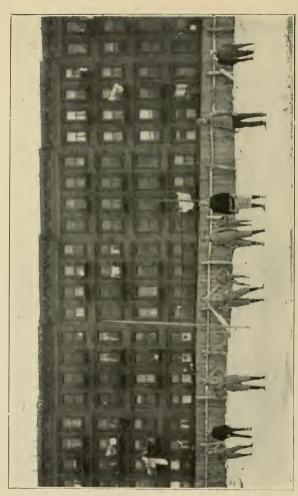
THE FIRST PUSH BALL TEAM IN NEW YORK CITY.

### PUSH BALL IN NEW YORK

The story of the introduction of the game of Push Ball into the city of New York will always be interesting, and now that the game has every chance of having a great future and becoming popular in America, many amusing features in connection with the first game of push ball that was ever attempted on Manhattan Island will cause many of those who are connected with the enterprise to smile.

During the autumn of 1902 the papers of New York City published interesting gossip on push ball, and W. Carsey, manager of Equitable Park, decided that he would introduce the game to the sport loving people he would introduce the game to the sport loving people of New York, feeling confident that the game was an attractive one, and, in addition would also have the credit of having been the first promoter to present the game.

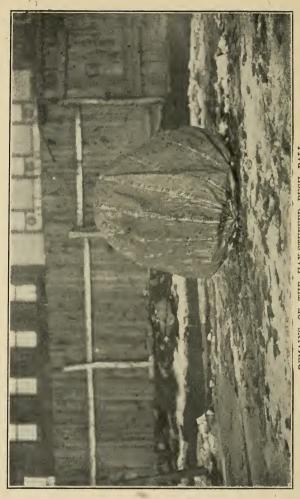
Although much had been written about the new game in a general way, when it came down to actual facts, there was a lack of knowledge as to just what a push ball was like, no one seeming to know the dimensions, and what rules, if any, governed the game. Manager Carsey, much to his chagrin, after having his advertising



LINE-UP FOR PUSH BALL AT EQUITABLE PARK, NEW YORK,

out, found it impossible to obtain an official push ball in time for this match. However, being an inventive genius, and seeing that an official ball could not be secured just then, in no way deterred him from going on with his schedule, and as a result he decided that he could make a push ball. All he knew about the ball was that it was to be a large ball, about six feet in diameter, and after the matter was fully discussed by the executive committee of the park, it was decided to call in the services of a shoemaker, whose shop was nearby, and one of the employes was sent forthwith to purchase a bale of hav. A bale of hay struck Carsey as being about the size of a push ball, and that it certainly would be heavy enough. Plenty of canvas was secured and the sewing up of the bale of hay into a ball was proceeded with some little difficulty. Nevertheless, a pretty good looking ball was produced, not a perfect sphere, by any means, but one good enough for the purpose.

The game was to be played on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1902, between the Metropolitans and the All Americans. The ball was made out in the field and looked substantial enough to stand many onslaughts from the opposing teams. When it was finished, however, it was found that owing to its size, six feet in diameter, the ball could not be brought through an ordinary door, and in consequence it had to be left on the



REMAINS OF THE HAY-STUFFED PUSH BALL.

field over night. During the evening it rained considerably, and in the morning the interior of the ball, which consisted of hay, had changed considerably, and when the game was started the ball, in addition, absorbed much of the rain water that had accumulated around the field in pools. The result was that the teams that played in this game on a muddy field realized that instead of playing with a ball that should have weighed 50 pounds, they were shoving around something which struck them as weighing nearly 500 pounds. The game was played, however, but it could hardly be considered a success from a spectacular point of view at least. After the first half the contestants became so tired that the contest was called a draw, after the Metropolitans had scored a goal. It is only fair to give Manager Carsey of Equitable Park the credit of organizing the first push ball team on Manhattan Island, and on another page we reproduce a photograph of the team and the ball.

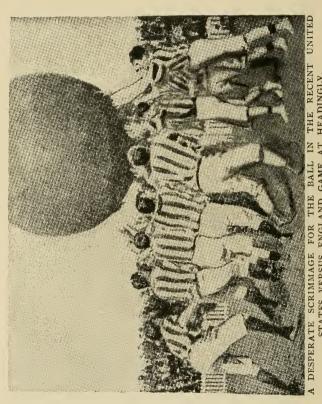


THE DEFENDING TEAM WAITING TO RECEIVE THE FLYING CHARGE. Photo by The Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News, London, Eng.

## PUSH BALL IN ENGLAND

There is every indication that the game will occupy a permanent place among the sports of America, and also in England. In an issue of the Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News of London, published in October, 1902, a report is made of a game that was played at the Crystal Palace, the scene of many great athletic events in London. The extract is as follows:

"The Crystal Palace, that favorite demonstration ground with the introducers of new games, was on Saturday the scene of the first public exhibition, in London, of push ball, a game brought from the United States by Mr. E. V. Hannagan. Teams of eight a side met on the polo grounds at the Palace last week, and a somewhat one-sided match resulted in Anerley beating the Crystal Palace by 13 points to nil. The ball which measures in circumference 17 feet by 16 feet 6 inches has to be pushed over the goal line, between the posts, which constitutes a goal (three points), or outside the goal posts, which counts as a try (two points). Four periods of ten minutes each, with intervals of three minutes, are played. The team having the push-off can either line up against



HEADINGLY, STATES VERSUS ENGLAND GAME AT YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND.

the ball or retire to not more than fifteen yards and make a flying rush."

This was the first public exhibition of push ball in London, and was between a team brought over from the United States by Mr. E. V. Hannagan and a team of Englishmen. The ball used in this public exhibition in London was not exactly like the Spalding official ball that is used in America, and the rules are a great deal different from ours; in fact, our rules make the game a scientific one, for it combines all of the good points of our American foot ball game, and as such, trick plays form an important part of the game, and with schoolboys and colleges will become particularly popular, owing to the fact that it lacks brutality, because in an ordinary game it would be well nigh impossible for a player to be injured in any way, unless by a malicious assault of an opponent.



Photo by The Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News, London, Eng.

HOW THE BALL IS RAISED AND "LIPPED" OVER OPPOSING SIDE. THE TWO MEN ON LEFT FOLLOW THE BALL TO GET IT AWAY.

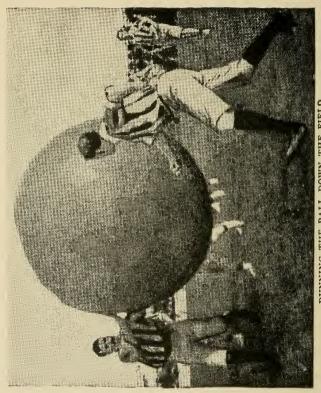
## HOW PUSH BALL IS PLAYED

The game is played on a level field, 140 yards in length and 50 yards in width, and the ground is marked 10 yards apart, as in foot ball. Where the game is played indoors, and no doubt it will become popular in armories, the floor space can be greatly lessened. Instead of having 10 yards marked out on the floor, it can be anything from 2 yards to 5 yards.

A team is composed of eleven players on a side, divided as follows: Five forwards, two left wings, two right wings and two goal-keepers. This formation must be taken when the ball is put in play. After the ball is in play the players can assume any position on the field within the rules.

In scoring, a team that shoves the ball under the cross bar and between the goal posts shall score 5 points; lifting or throwing the ball over the cross bar scores 8 points, and a safety counts 2 points. The principal object of the game is to push the ball and keep it in action until such time as you cross your opponent's goal.

The official ball is the Spalding ball.



RUNNING THE BALL DOWN THE FIELD.

The opening play in any match is very spectacular. The teams line up, as shown in our diagram, five men on the twenty-yard mark, four men on the forty-yard mark and the two goal keepers on the goal lines. At the referee's whistle all start for the centre of the field, where the ball has been placed. It is in this play that the best men will come in. No doubt the fastest men in the team will be the forwards, and to a certain extent it will be a good deal like water polo. The forwards will be backed up by the wings, who will not be as speedy men, but stronger, and the goal keepers will be naturally the strongest men on the team. Strength and pushing qualities will be appreciated.

Already many tricks have been developed in the few games thus far played in this country. In a flying wedge, for instance, an illustration of which we show on another page, this particular play is brought into the game on a second penalty for a foul, and the team that has been penalized is behind the ball bracing it, but cannot move the ball. The team that has been given the penalty of having the flying wedge will line up at least 50 yards the other side of the ball, and at a given signal the team will get under way, going at full speed. Of course, if the team hits the ball head on, so as to speak, it will be utterly impossible for the team to gain a bit with the ball, owing to the fact that the team has been penalized and is

bracing it like a stone wall. The result is that the clever captain of the other side is enjoying the privilege of the flying wedge and will not run direct to the ball as the other team would like, but instead he will run his team zigzag and hit the ball on the side from the right to the left, thus bringing it away from the brace that has been made by the opposing team. Many tricks are possible when near an opponent's goal, for in pushing the ball above the cross bar, extra points are allowed. In this way it will be the play of the opposing team to get the ball in the air so as to roll or push the ball across the heads of the opposing team. This can be done by the team breaking up, as shown in our illustration; two men on shoulders holding the ball in mid-air.

The sensational play introduced in the game that was played in England was that of stealing the ball from the opposing team and running it down the field for a goal. This play is accomplished by eight of the team making a box and tackling the members of the opposing team, thus blocking or boxing up the team and giving to three of the forwards, supposed to be the fastest men on the team, a chance to run with the ball. Immediately after the game is started the players may obstruct their opponents by the body and may tackle and hold. As in foot ball, however, for tripping, kicking or tackling below the knees, the referee will have the power to penalize ten yards.

The referee is supreme official and decides all the points in the rules and exercises his judgment on points not set forth in the rules. He has an assistant, appointed by himself, who is to watch for fouls and fouls only, as, of course, it would be utterly impossible for the referee to see what is going on at both sides of the ball, and as a result the referee will be called upon to take the report from his assistant and decide accordingly. There is a linesman whose duties are practically the same as a linesman in foot ball, also scorers and timekeepers.

The game now being in its infancy, it behooves the clubs who are now playing the game, to have competent officials, men who are determined to see that the rules are lived up to, and rough play must be prohibited. For any rough play, a penalty of ten yards is given. If a second penalty is given within the ten-yard line, the flying wedge is not necessary and the team that is penalized loses the goal and it is given to the opposing side.





PUSH BALL ON YALE FIELD.
From Yale Alumni Weekly.

## OFFICIAL PUSH BALL RULES

#### THE FIELD.

The field shall be a rectangular space 120 yards in length and 50 yards in width and shall be marked as shown in the diagram. The outside boundry shall be marked by heavy white lines on the floor or ground.

#### THE BALL.

The ball shall be the Spalding Official Push Ball.

#### GOALS.

The goals shall consist of two upright posts 18 feet in height placed in the ground 20 feet apart, with a cross bar 7 feet above and parallel to the floor or ground.

#### TEAMS.

Teams shall consist of eleven men as follows: Five forwards, two left wings, two right wings and two goal-keepers.

## OFFICIALS.

The officials shall be one Referee, one Assistant Referee, two Linesmen, one Timekeeper and one Scorer.

#### DUTIES OF THE REFEREE.

(1) The referee shall blow his whistle when the ball has crossed either of the side lines and shall order the ball placed

#### SPALDING'S OFFICIAL PUSH BALL GUIDE.

25 feet from the side line in the field of play on a line parallel to the point where the ball left the field of play. The players shall line up 20 yards back of the ball, play to be resumed at the whistle of the referee. The referee shall be sole judge of the plays, and for any kind of rough play shall, in his discretion, penalize the opposing teams 10 yards.

- (2) The referee decides all questions not definitely falling to the other officials.
- (3) The assistant referee shall be appointed by the referee and shall assist him in deciding questions of foul play, and shall report same to the referee.

## DUTIES OF THE LINESMEN.

(1) The linesmen shall, under the supervision of the referee, mark the progress of the distance gained. They shall remain outside the field of play and measure the distance with a rope. The linesmen shall indicate the placing of the ball and the positions of the players.

## DUTIES OF THE SCORER.

(1) The scorer shall be appointed by the referee. He shall keep an accurate tally of all points made and announce same at end of each half.

#### DUTIES OF THE TIMEKEEPER.

- (1) The timekeeper shall be appointed by the referee. He shall note when the game starts and blow his whistle at the expiration of 30 minutes' playing time in each half.
- (2) Time consumed in stoppages shall be deducted only on order from the referee.

### TIES.

In case of a tie, the referee shall stop the game, announce a tie,

## SPALDING'S OFFICIAL PUSH BALL GUIDE.

then order the game continued until one team scores two or more points.

#### SCORING.

Pushing or shoving the ball under the 7-foot cross bar between the goal posts shall count 5 points; lifting or throwing the ball over the 7-foot cross bar shall count 8 points, and a safety shall count 2 points. The object of the game is to push or carry the ball between the goal posts or over the cross bar of the opponent's goal.

#### METHOD OF STARTING PLAY.

The ball shall be placed in the center of the field at the beginning of each half and after each goal is scored, and play shall be started at the sound of the whistle of the referee. The teams shall line up as follows: Two goal-keepers on the goal lines; two left wings and right wings on the 20-yard lines, the five forwards on the 40-yard lines.

#### THE GAME.

- (1) The ball shall be out of bounds only when it has completely crossed either of the side lines.
- (2) After each goal is scored, the ball shall be put in play at the center and the teams shall change goals.
- (3) Two halves of 30 minutes' duration shall be played, with 10 minutes' rest.
- (4) Before the ball is in play no player shall interfere with an opponent.
- (5) No player shall be allowed to have projecting nails or iron plates on his shoes or wear upon his person any metallic or hard substance that in the judgment of the referee is liable to injure another player. There shall be nothing in this rule to prevent players from using cleats made of leather.

(6) A player once removed from the game cannot again play in that game.

For the second penalty, the team giving the penalty shall be accorded a flying charge and the penalized team shall stay back of the ball until the opposing side strikes the ball, and the penalized team may line up against and brace the ball.

In a flying charge the team given the privilege can start as far back as they want to and can run to the ball at any angle.

Penalties shall be numbered one and two.

For the first penalty ten yards shall be given.

For the second penalty, a flying charge; and on penalties the referee shall rotate as above, except when the second penalty is given within the 10-yard line.

If a distance penalty is given within 10 yards of an opponent's goal, the team that has gained the penalty shall be given a goal and score 5 points. The ball shall then be put in play in the centre.

#### A SAFETY.

(1) A safety shall be scored when the ball is pushed across the opponents' goal line, not between the goal posts. After crossing the goal line the ball is dead. The ball is then brought out to the center on the 50-yard line, and the team scoring the safety has a free rush, lining up 10 yards back of the ball. The members of the team whose goal line has been crossed are to line up on the goal line and not to leave until the referee blows his whistle.

Whenever the referee gives a distance penalty and the distance gained would carry the ball nearer to the goal line than 10 yards, the ball shall be put in play on the 10-yard line.

## PUSH BALL ON HORSEBACK

The first game of push ball played in America on horse-back was at the Durland Riding Academy, 3 to 17 West 66th Street, New York, on Tuesday evening, December 30, 1902. The game of push ball on horseback has been played in other countries, particularly in Australia and France.

The teams which played at Durland's were designated "Red" and "Blue," four men playing on each team. The ball was placed in the middle of the tanbark and the riders lined up near the goal posts, about 50 yards apart. At the command, "go," both teams rode for the ball, and then began a very interesting game. It was push and shove from time to time and the riders frequently urged their horses for more speed. The game itself developed into a case of horsemanship, and at times the horses were wedged against the ball like a stone wall so tightly that it was utterly impossible for either side to gain an inch. However, when manœuvring was tried the Reds worked the ball sideways and secured the first goal in about 31/2 minutes. In the second half neither team scored, the final score being I goal to o. The match was refereed by Baron Paul Vietinghoff, who stated that he witnessed the game in Berlin and introduced it at Durland's Academy.

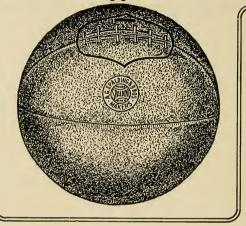


ST. LOUIS



PARIS 1900





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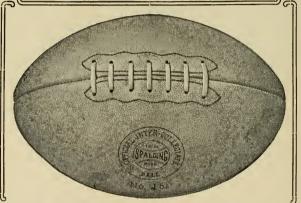
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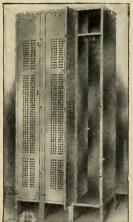
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in one locker

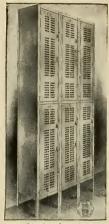
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Referees' Horns . 50	Skates, Ice . 28, 32, 33	Toques	46
Rings, Exercising . 66	Skates, Racing . 26	Trapeze, Single .	66
	Skates, Rink, Ice . 31		
	Skate Rollers 40	Trapeze, Adjustable	20
740 11 1119 211111111	Skates, Roller 39, 40	Trunks	
Rubber Discs 17	Skates, Tubular . 26	Umpires' Whistle .	50
Rubber Mouthpiece 8	Skate Sundries 26, 32, 33	Uniforms, Indoor .	42
Scabbards for Skates 26	Skate Straps 33	Vaulting Poles and	
Score Books, Basket	Skis 47	Standards	49
Ball 44	Sleeve Bands, College 21	Volley Ball	51
Seven-foot Circle . 50	Snow Shoes 47	Water Polo Ball .	51
Shin Guards, Rugby 7	Snow Shoe Sandals 47	Whitely Exerciser.	68
Shin Guards, Ass'n 11	Standards, Vaulting 49	Waist Reducer .	56
Shin Guards, Hockey 38	Standards, Volley Ball 51	Wands, Calisthenic	63
Shin Guards, Polo . 41	Starter's Pistol . 50		63
Shirts 20	Sticks, Hockey 36, 37	Wands, School	
Shirts, Basket Ball 45		Weights, 56-lb.	56
Shirts, Ass'n F't Ball 12	D droine,	Wrestling Machine.	
Shirts, Sleeveless . 20	Sticks, Polo 41	Wrist Supporters .	13
Shoes, Basket Ball 45	Steel Tapes 50	Wrist Machines .	66
Shoes, Bowling . 19	Stockings 15	Y. M. C. A. Trousers	20

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## Who are alling + Bran?

Albert G. and J. Walter Spalding commenced business March 1st, 1876, at Chicago, under the firm name A. G. Spalding & Bro., with a capital of \$800. Two years later their brother-in-law, William T. Brown, came into the business, and the firm name

was then changed to A. G. Spalding & Bros.

The business was founded on the Athletic reputation of Mr. A. G. Spalding, who acquired a national prominence in the realm of Sport, as Captain and Pitcher of the Forest City's of Rockford, Ill. (1865-70), the original Boston Base Ball Club (Champions of the United States, 1871-75), and the Chicago Ball Club (1876-77), first Champions of the National League. He was also one of the original organizers, and for many years a director, of the National League of America, the premier Base Ball organization of the world. Mr. Spalding has taken an important part in Base Ball affairs ever since it became the National Game of the United States at the close of the Civil War in 1865. The returning veterans of that War, who had played the game as a camp diversion, disseminated this new American field sport throughout the country, and thus gave it its national character.

Base Ball Goods were the only articles of merchandise carried the first year, the total sales amounting to \$11,000. Gradually implements and accessories of Athletic Sports were added, until the firm now manufacture the requisites for all kinds of Athletic Sports. Originally the firm contracted for their supplies from outside manufacturers, but finding it impossible, by this method, to keep the standard of quality up to their high ideals, they gradually commenced the manufacture of their own goods, and by the acquisition from time to time of various established factories located in different parts of the country, are now able to, and do manufacture in their own factories everything bearing the Spalding Trade-Mark, which stands the world over as a

guarantee of the highest quality.

There are over three thousand persons employed in various capacities in A. G. Spalding & Bros.' factories and stores located in all the leading cities of the United States, Canada and England. A capital of over \$4,000,000 is employed in carrying on this business, and the annual sales exceed the total combined annual sales of all other manufacturers in the world making a similar line

of goods.

A. G. Spalding & Bros. have always taken a leading part in the introduction, encouragement and support of all new Sports and Games, and the prominence attained by Athletic Sports in the United States is in a very great measure due to the energy, enterprise and liberality of this progressive concern. They were the pioneers, and in fact the founders, of the Athletic Goods Trade in America, and are now universally recognized as the undisputed Leaders in the Athletic Goods line throughout the world.

The late Marshall Field of Chicago, America's greatest Merchant, speaking of the business of A. G. Spalding & Bros., said: "I am familiar with its early career, growth and development, and when I compare its unpromising outlook and the special field for its operations that existed at its inception in 1876, with its present magnitude, I consider it one of the most remarkable mercantile successes of the world."

The millions of Athletes using them, and the thousands of Dealers selling them, attest to the High Quality of Spalding's Athletic Goods, and they must determine the future history of this concern.

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