

Base Ball

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of pepper. If any of the above articles are offered for sale it is hoped that they will be stopped, and information given to Alexander Reid, who will pay the necessary charges.

These meager glimpses of colonial life help to give us a little better view of conditions then. These fading pages of the *Boston Chronicle* come as a message from our ancestors of some six or more generations ago, and throw just a little more light on their struggles and in that they assume almost a sacred character.

BASE BALL

When we stated the other day that we were unacquainted with that kind of game which the boys call "base ball," we erred most grievously. Little did we know when we wrote that "base ball" is but another name for "two-cornered," or "three-cornered," or "four-cornered cat!" Guess we know that game! Guess we followed it as a profession for ten years of our juvenile existence! Guess we know how to knock a common yarn ball with a round bat clear over the top of a very small tree! Guess we know how to catch a ball with the best of 'em!

Don't know "old cat"? Come not at us with your "base ball" lingo, which a southern Buckeye doesn't understand. Come not at us with the barbarous designations borrowed from the literature of some bald-headed Dutchman, or wrested from the idiom of a crazy Saxon. Call things by their right names. Say "cat" to us and ten thousand glorious reminiscences will leap from the home of remembrance, and then gloriously in the twilight of our age. Say "cat" to us and dare us out on the green sward of this corporation and we'll fling aside this old pen, rush downstairs, and show the "base ball" clubs of this city that they are perfect kittens yet in the game of "old cat."

P. S. We are sadly mistaken. We confess after having examined the play at the depot grounds yesterday afternoon, that "base ball" is not "old cat" by a jug full. It is simply "town ball" with the variations. Sorry we made a mistake.—*Iowa State Register* May 30, 1866. (In the newspaper collection of the Historical Department of Iowa.)

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