

WHITE SOX HURLER RELEASED BY BLUME



HERMAN HANDSCHU

ARMY MAN IS FATHER OF MODERN BASEBALL

Gen. Doubleday, Gettysburg Hero, Given Credit for Present Scientific Game.

The origin of baseball is as much a matter of dispute as the Darwinian theory of evolution. Men have died in the conviction that the game grew out of the American "old cat." Others have clung to the notion that it came of the English "rounders." Cooperstown, N. Y., celebrated recently the belief that baseball was born within its limits 79 years ago, its father having been Abner Doubleday, then a schoolboy, later a general at Gettysburg. And Cooperstown is justified by an official verdict rendered in 1907 by a commission including Nick Young of eternal National league fame among its members.

Credit to Doubleday.

Credit goes to Doubleday because he brought order out of confusion and started the national pastime in the way which makes it today the most highly scientific of field games. He made the first diagram of player's positions. He substituted for throwing the ball at the runner the present method of putting a batsman out. His eleven men to a team is nothing against his claim as a founder.

Perhaps nobody would be more surprised than General Doubleday at the development which have followed his first steps toward baseball. The tricks and manners of the game, no less than the infinite variety of the pitchers' curves and the treasure poured daily into the boxoffices, should excite his amaze should he be called back. The establishment of the diamond has grown truly worthy of its strategic founder, and it might well insure Cooperstown a still living place on the map of popularity even though the "Leatherstocking" tales and author were to pass into oblivion.