



FROM A RARE OLD PAINTING

## On The Trail of Armour Demon Athletes

It was in the summer of 1919 that I had occasion to visit Chicago, and as I was working at that time on my since celebrated book, "Baseballists of the Past" and remembered hearing of the famous battery of 1906-07-08 at Armour's Institute, I decided to look up these two men in the hopes of getting some good material for my book. I experienced no difficulty in locating them, as the first policeman I asked was able to give me the desired information and directed me to the home of "Billy" Trinkaus, Jr.

I found him sitting on the front steps peacefully smoking while his wife was just starting out for her day's work. As soon as I had explained that I myself had been somewhat of an athlete at Prairie Grove College, I was received most cordially and offered a cigar, for which I considered myself most honored. I at once explained my mission.

"Now," said I, "if you are anxious to get to work, don't let me keep you as I can get back

to talk to you a little while this evening.

"You nearly insult me, sir," he answered, "by using the term anxious in such a connection, but I will overlook the matter this time.

"My wife is a stenographer, and I find I can live quite comfortably on the seventy-five per which she earns."

"Do you ever think of going into base ball again?" I asked.

"No," he said, "I feel that I am too old for that sort of thing any more."

"Can you tell me any incidents in your career to use in my book?" was my next question.

"Well, if you really want something important," and his chest swelled out proudly, "you might mention that I earned an 'A' in all departments of athletics."



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