

# FRANK MORDAUNT GOOD AT BASEBALL IN NO. 13

**Educated in Brooklyn Public School—Fifty Years on American Stage**

## MARKHAM IN PRIVATE LIFE

**He Fenced, in Earnest, With Forrest and Played With Many Stars—A Friend of Lincoln.**

Arthur Tisdale Markham, who was professionally known on the stage as Frank Mordaut, and who died at a habitarium in Virginia, on Monday last, had many friends and admirers in Brooklyn. Mr. Markham was born in Burlington, Vt., about sixty-five years ago, and was educated at old Public School No. 13 in South Brooklyn. He was one of four brothers, all of whom have achieved distinction in their respective walks of life, viz.: Charles C. Markham, artist, who painted portraits of Horace Greeley, William C. Kingsley, Hugh McLaughlin, and many prominent Brooklynites who have since passed away; Henry Bela Markham, a silk merchant of Broadway, Manhattan, and a resident of Orange Mountains, New Jersey; and George Markham, formerly of the firm of Markham & Johnson, photographers, and also at one time connected with the diamond house of George Rumlill, Broadway and Warren street, Manhattan. Only two of the brothers are left—Charles C. and Henry.

Arthur Tisdale Markham went on the stage at an early age and had an intense love for his art. Gifted with many personal attractions, physically, he was equally endowed with the highest qualities, mentally.

He made his first professional appearance on the stage when he was only 20 years of age, and was adopted at once as a public favorite. His debut was not that of a novice, because he had been one of the leading spirits of an East side New York dramatic organization, and as an elocutionist and reciter he was deservedly popular some time before he essayed the legitimate drama.

It was along in the sixties that he entered on that active career which covered a period extending over nearly a half century, and which included in the dramatic annals of the period many of the brightest exponents of the American stage.

He selected the name of Frank Mordaut as his professional title, because, as he naively explained, "if I fail no one will know it and it will not make any difference. And if I succeed it will be all right."

Mr. Markham first appeared in Laura Keane's Company at Miss Keane's theater in Broadway, near Prince street, where Joe Jefferson, E. E. Sothern and other dramatic stars shone with great brilliancy during Miss Keane's management. The theater was subsequently rechristened as the Olympic and was the scene of George L. Fox's first appearance in his famous part of Humpty Dumpty.

Mr. Markham went from Laura Keane's to other theaters, and had already won a reputation for himself when that wonderfully successful London production, "The Duke of Moko," was announced for representation at Niblo's Garden, New York. Mr. Markham was standing one evening in the lobby of that famous old theater and the curtain nearly ready to

selections was William Knorr's beautiful poem "Why Should the Spirit of Moriam be Proud," an especially favorite of the great President.

When the late Fanny Davenport came from Paris some decades ago, she brought with her Victorian Sardonic's drama of "La Tosca," which C. P. Upton, presently written for her by the author. She looked about to find an actor who would be capable of filling the part of Scarpa. It was ultimately decided that Mr. Markham was the man. Word was sent to him in California where he was at the time, and he came East for that purpose. Competent critics say that he created the part and that all performances of the play thereafter were based on his model.

He was also associated with Mary Anderson, Kentucky's beautiful woman and charming actress. He played with marked success the title role in Mrs. Stowell's drama of "Wingman," the "Barbarian," to Miss Anderson's "Pardie." Miss Anderson visited Brooklyn with Mr. Markham on one occasion, and it was the intention of the actress to have her portrait painted by the actor's brother, Charles C. Markham. The subject chosen was "Evyadne Clinging to the Cross." Miss Anderson's father-in-law and manager, Dr. Griffin, had his heart set on having Miss Anderson's portrait painted abroad. "You must wait until you get to London," he said, and so the child, and her portrait was painted by Sir Frederick Leighton, president of the Royal Academy.

The late Colonel William B. Slinn said some time before his death that Mr. Markham was the best leading man that ever played in the United States.

Mr. Markham had, in fact, supported nearly every prominent actor at one time or another in the United States for the last forty-five years. His last part of prominence was that of the Southern general, in Mrs. Leslie Carter's production of "The Heart of Maryland." Mr. Markham had not been in good health for some time past. Several seasons ago he undertook the management of two theaters in Manhattan, the Herald Square and the Parkham, and he also played the leading parts in some of the plays produced at those establishments. The task was too great a one. He broke down, and nervous prostration was the result. His funeral took place from 10 West Thirty-eighth street, Manhattan, on Thursday morning last, and was conducted by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of which he was a member. He was also a member of the Players Club.

## Among the Schools.

Erasmus Hall Notes.

The first issue of the Erasmusian was published Wednesday, with a frontispiece photograph of the Dramatic Society cast which took part in the school play given in June.

The number contains an original story, "The Story of a Girl," by Grace Weber, 3A2. This story won the first prize, a gold medal, in the term essay contests of last June, and the winner, because of this story and other clever literary work, has been appointed to a position on the editorial staff of the Erasmusian. The editorials contain greetings to the new teachers and new pupils of the first year, an article on the Ray system of self-government as conducted in the 3A classes, and various reminders of school duties.

For the past week pupils have been much disappointed at not being able to see the library, but not the disappointment is more than compensated by the pleasure of the library in the new building. Miss Kingsbury has all the books arranged and ready for reference in the most beautiful room in the building, which Richard Young said, on his visit to the school on Monday, was the finest library room in the country.

The room, the entire first floor of the tower is finished in weathered oak, with all burnishings and cast catalogue to match. A gallery extends around three sides, while a stained glass window fills the street side of the room.

The boys debating society met Wednesday in Room No. 13. A vote was taken to limit the membership of the club to twenty members of the great debating

# THE BROOKLYN

their desks then of the No. 13 school, and followed by New York City, and so on in the kindergarten. Miss Thomas said the games and songs were preparing the little children for the more elaborate work of the other departments.

Mrs. Chabwick, Mrs. Baldwin, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Eschland and Mrs. Yorker, as patrons, spoke strongly for Froebel Academies, and urged the younger mothers to band together, as has been done in former years, for the mutual helpfulness and the continuing strength of the school. Group conferences will be held from time to time during the year.

## Brooklyn Training School for Teachers.

On Wednesday, October 17, 1906, a general meeting of the Senior B students was held in their regular classrooms. The subject under discussion was "Nature Study," interesting experiences were related, and helpful plans given. Miss Smith, the head of the science department, presided.

At the weekly exercises of the departmental classes of the Model School, Miss Cappell gave a very interesting lesson such as were given long ago. The children sang their geography facts in a number of old-time textbooks to illustrate her remarks.

In the annual report of the president of the Brooklyn Teachers Association the work of the past year is detailed, and the plans for the year 1906-07 are set forth. A great number of interesting extension courses are offered, some in continuation of last year's work and many new branches. The following are the names of the instructors in these classes: Frederick H. Sykes, Ph.D.; C. P. Upton, Professor Green, Mr. Little, Assistant Superintendent, Andrew W. Edson, Dr. F. W. Chandler, Professor G. A. Carteaux, Professor G. S. Collins, Professor J. Herbert Low, Professor Willis Broughton, Miss Evelyn Griswold, Miss Mary Peckham, Miss Anna S. Fisher, Edward N. Reser and J. New-ton Gray.

William J. Morrison has been re-elected chairman of the entertainment committee.

## LYNCH LAW FOR NEGROES.

**Southern Man Would Destroy Every Black Guilty of Assault on White Women.**

To the Editor of the Brooklyn Eagle:

Your expression in a recent issue about child-stealing has my entire sympathy. An Atlanta newspaper expresses astonishment thus: "Strange talk for a responsible newspaper to indulge in." I feel sorry for the paper that said that you.

You must know that Atlanta has just gone through a storm and the winds have been temporarily driven back into their caves. The preachers, with their impractical religious talk, have frightened most of the newspapers into saying silly things, and this one, soared up to condemning lynching, has indulged in trying to "hang your hide on a pole" for your natural sound talk when you said: "Child stealing is almost the blackest of crimes. . . . No sympathy would be felt for a kidnapper were he lynched in the streets of this city. . . . He should be destroyed on sight, as man would destroy a dangerous animal."

By its criticism of you, one would suppose, if a cherished, chaste, sweet darling of its bosom were caught unprotected in some secluded place and ravished by a brutal negro fiend, and the editor were to come upon the devil, he would appeal to his friends, who had helped catch and identify the brute, to give him over to the law. Don't you believe a word of it. They'd lynch him so quick it would make a witness head swim.

There may be a few weak-minded sons of a sorry class, with enough in them to be given to the criminal to the law, but there is not a respectable editor of a family circulated paper, not a governor in the South, and I think very few with pure white blood, who would not stand aside if a lynching were not

BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE, NEW YORK SUNDAY OCT. 21, 1906, P. 19

The Brooklyn actor for the latter...  
 brother and suddenly died in Boston, and  
 he had been called to cast city.  
 Mr. Markham responded to the man-  
 a man's request although he did not have  
 a line of the play. The audience was  
 not in waiting little they of what was  
 taking place both before and behind the  
 scenes. The actor lost no time now  
 cast but went right to work. The  
 "Gleaners" took charge of him and they  
 made him fit the part to a T, so far  
 as appearances were concerned and  
 mature and the actor did the rest.  
 The substitute, he was not an under-  
 study was about the same size as the  
 actor who usually filled the part. With  
 regard to the work itself he did not  
 text to him.  
 But he went on the stage at practically  
 five minutes notice and played the part  
 with marvelous success. Young, hand-  
 some and with a clear, distinct enun-  
 ciation, he scored an instantaneous hit.  
 Subsequently he played in juvenile parts  
 with the distinguished tragedienne, Mello-  
 dramatic actress, and the notable "Co-  
 mille" in America—Mathilda Heron. Miss  
 Heron paid the young actor the unusual  
 compliment of always insisting that he  
 should come out with her on the stage in  
 response to curtain calls, and she in-  
 troduced him to the audience as "my  
 boy."

Before adopting the drama as a pro-  
 fession, Young Markham had been a  
 member of the famous Excelsior Baseball  
 Club of Brooklyn, which was known as  
 "the gentlemen's sons."

That organization was famous all over  
 the United States, and even the mention  
 of its name in these times is considered  
 sufficient to thrill the hearts of many  
 Brooklynites of days gone by. "Joe"  
 Leggett was catcher, "Uncle" Harry  
 Golhems—may his shade never grow  
 less—was center fielder, and Arthur Mark-  
 ham—"Frank Mordani"—was left fielder.  
 In that position he was known all over  
 the country for his excellent fielding.  
 Young Markham used to catch the ball  
 always on the fly instead of on a re-  
 bound, which was the custom in those  
 days. Later on the rule was changed,  
 and of course, the active outdoor exercise  
 that helped to develop the mettle of  
 every individual member of the nine, in-  
 tended to make young Markham capable  
 of taking care of himself in case he  
 should encounter or run against any auto-  
 crat of the stage.  
 And it was well that he had had just  
 that course of physical training, because  
 it was very long afterward that it was  
 his fate to meet America's great tra-  
 gedian, Edwin Forrest, then at the  
 height of his dramatic power.

Forrest had been in the habit of  
 handing those whose destiny it was to  
 meet him in opposing roles—that prac-  
 tically "left nothing to be desired," so  
 far as the acting was concerned, but  
 which was pretty hard on the actor who  
 faced the proud monarch of the stage.  
 This was especially made manifest in  
 such roles as required displays of ten-  
 acing and physical energy. Forrest was  
 robust. It was give and take with him  
 for all he was worth. Up to that time  
 he had never known any antagonist to  
 do any more than to make a mere pre-  
 tence when he met him. That was all,  
 but when he met young Markham, to use  
 a popular phrase, it was a "horse of  
 another color."

When Forrest made a lunge, the young  
 actor did the same and the acting con-  
 tinued all over the stage. It was a  
 spectacle fit for the Gods. And strange to  
 say Forrest was not offended by the  
 young actor's temerity. He liked him for  
 his courage and that liking grew into pro-  
 found respect for the handsome young  
 fellow, and it is a matter of record that  
 Mr. Markham was the first man that ever  
 tackled the tragedian and at his own  
 name. It is said that after that when  
 Edwin Forrest met Mr. Markham on the  
 street, he would take of his hat to him.  
 Subsequently young Markham played at  
 the Chestnut Street Theatre, Philadel-  
 phia, and was the recipient of one of the  
 greatest testimonial benefits ever given  
 in the Quaker City.

Mr. Markham was a personal friend of  
 Abraham Lincoln, and used to be a fre-  
 quent visitor at the White House. He  
 was called upon many times by Mr. Lin-  
 coln to recite for him and among other

He has been meeting the most  
 charmingly, and the proprietors as  
 they are called. The black and white  
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The members of  
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The thirty-fifth an  
 marriage was celeb  
 and Mrs. Charles F.  
 home 279 South Nind  
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 settled in New Yor  
 moved to Pittsburgh.  
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 macher came to Br  
 have lived here e  
 macher belongs t  
 Saengerbund and n  
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 serenaded Mr. and M  
 day night. A large  
 present.

All societies assen  
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The Moltke Verein,  
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Mr. Fromm Quotes Figures to Show  
 Reduction in That Item  
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To the Editor of the Brooklyn Eagle:  
 The editorial, "The Decrease in Build-  
 ing," in last night's Eagle was read with  
 much interest.  
 Pardon me for striking a discordant  
 note in the general hue and cry in re-  
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 the building trades, claimed by some as  
 due to market manipulations, but which  
 is actually due, at least in the greater  
 part to demand caused by excessive  
 building throughout the United States.  
 There is at least one branch of the  
 building trades wherein prices are  
 less than they were a year ago. I re-  
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 compared to the entire cost of building,  
 the heating is about 10 per cent. of the  
 total investment, but at this time of  
 year many owners would install heating  
 plants in old buildings if they did not  
 think prices were so high. It is true  
 that pig iron has reached \$20.50 per ton,  
 which is the highest price it has touched  
 since 1902-03—\$25 a ton.  
 It is almost impossible to obtain deliv-  
 eries of iron for the last quarter of 1906,  
 and many of the furnaces have sold out  
 their capacity for the first quarter of  
 1907. Despite this condition of the raw  
 material market, as reflected in the daily  
 market reports, great forbearance is be-  
 ing shown by the manufacturers of ma-  
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 steam and hot-water heating industry.  
 Actual figures in this line—compared to  
 those of 1902-03 show the following re-  
 sults:  
 Radiators, reduction of 12 1/2 per cent.  
 Pipe, reduction of 30 per cent.; cast iron  
 fittings, reduction of 14 per cent.; boilers,  
 increase of 12 per cent.  
 Compared with the low prices of one  
 year ago there will be found a reduction  
 of from 2 1/2 per cent. to 7 1/2 per cent. on  
 each of these items, except in the item  
 of labor, which has increased 5 per cent.  
 As the item of labor is only 15 per cent.  
 of the total cost of a heating outfit for  
 an ordinary cottage house of two or  
 three flat buildings, this increase in labor  
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 When the manufacturers of heated ar-  
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