

## MATHEWSON ON PITCHING

PITCHING IN A PINCH: Or, Baseball from the Inside. By Christy Mathewson. Illustrated. G. P. Putnam's Sons. \$1.

"In most big league games," says Christy Mathewson, "there comes an inning on which hangs victory or defeat." Certain intellectual fans call it the crisis; college professors interested in the sport have named it the psychological moment, big league managers mention it as the "break," and pitchers speak of it as the "pinch." It is about that heart-breaking moment that the famous pitcher writes the chapter from which his book takes its title. Another tells about "playing the game from the bench," and what wonders McGraw can achieve from that vantage point when those spectators who know less about baseball than they think they do are convinced that he has "laid down." Umpires and close decisions, coaching, honest and dishonest sign stealing, big league pitchers and their regularities, jinxes, Spring training, and base running are other subjects about which Mr. Mathewson writes, with an accompanying illustrative stream of anecdote and reminiscence that makes his book a sort of panorama of the National game for the last half-dozen years. Lovers of baseball will find much entertainment in the book, for it will give them such a view of how the game looks to the men who play it and of how those men look to one another as they can get nowhere else. Besides, Mr. Mathewson uses his pen with cleverness and tells a story remarkably well.

## CATHEDRALS OF ENGLAND

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCHES OF ENGLAND. By Helen Marshall Pratt. Illustrated. Duffield & Co.

Much study has gone into the preparation of Miss Pratt's careful and thoroughly informed handbook on English cathedrals. That it has been, in part at least, a labor of love is evident in a thousand little touches that prettily lighten and decorate the very concise text. Four brief chapters preface the body of the book, for the purpose of making clear the establishment and officers of the cathedral and the manner in which the cathedral fabric was reared, and of explaining the characteristics of the various architectural styles and the artistic values of the stained glass. Afterward a chapter is devoted to each of the thirty-two cathedrals of England, setting forth succinctly and in logical order the most interesting features of their architecture, antiquities, and history. The book is the result of the author's absorption for eight years in her subject, half of that time having been spent in the study of the cathedrals themselves and the remainder in investigation of their history and antiquities. A glossary of a dozen pages and an extensive bibliography are added to the text. Travelers and students will find the volume a very satisfactory handbook. There are over a hundred excellent illustrations from photographs and paintings.

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