

# Harley Parker, "The Doctor is In"

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"Parker is pretty - as pretty as the first flush of a June morn and as shapely as a peachblow vase filled with violets and many-hued pansies. But the Senators hopped upon him in a way that made his eyes hang out until they interfered with the base runners."  
- Chicago Tribune on Parker's Major League debut, July 12, 1893

A journeyman pitcher a little over a century ago, Harley "Doc" Parker's major league career was brief - 18 games spread out over four seasons. But he played professional baseball for nearly a decade and was known for playing hurt and holding out (he missed nearly two full seasons in his prime over \$100 at first and later not wishing to relocate because of the weather.)

One of the last pitchers to play without a glove, the good doctor is probably best known for having two of the worst complete games in early baseball annals.

## July 25, 1894

Grand Rapids Rippers at Kansas City Blues  
Exposition Park, Kansas City, Missouri

KANSAS CITY.									
	A.B.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.			
Stallings, r. f.....	9	4	3	1	0	0			
Nicholl, c. f.....	9	0	6	4	0	0			
Herron, l. f.....	8	4	4	4	0	0			
Beard, s. s.....	9	6	6	0	3	0			
Klusman, 1b.....	7	5	4	13	0	0			
Niles, 3b.....	8	5	4	1	7	0			
Manning, 2b.....	6	2	2	3	4	0			
Donahue, c.....	7	3	3	1	0	0			
Daniels, p.....	6	4	6	0	2	0			
<b>Totals....</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>			
GRAND RAPIDS.									
	A.B.	R.	H.	O.	A.	E.			
Wright, c. f.....	4	1	0	3	1	1			
Carruthers, 1b.....	5	3	3	12	0	0			
Carroll, r. f.....	5	3	5	1	0	3			
George, l. f.....	4	1	0	2	0	3			
Baker, l. f.....	1	0	0	1	0	1			
Callopy, 3b.....	5	1	0	1	2	1			
Spies, c.....	3	1	1	3	0	0			
Wheelock, s. s.....	4	0	1	1	0	1			
McClelland, 2b.....	4	0	1	3	4	2			
Parker, p.....	4	0	0	0	1	0			
<b>Totals....</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>			
Innings....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Kansas City.....	9	1	0	3	7	3	6	9	30
Grand Rapids..	2	0	3	0	1	0	3	0	1-10

Earned runs—Kansas City 10, Grand Rapids 8.  
Two-base hits—Klusman, Beard 3, Daniels 3, Herron 3; Donahue, Carroll 2. Three-base hits—Nicholl, Herron, Niles, Manning. Home runs—Nicholl 2, Beard, Carroll 2, Spies, Callopy. Stolen bases—Stallings. Bases on balls—Off Daniels 4, off Parker 3. Wild pitches—Parker 2. Passed balls—Spies. First ou errors—Kansas City 7.

On July 25, 1894, in a Western League game where, interestingly enough, the pitcher's box had been moved back a few feet to "increase hitting", the Kansas City Blues hammer the unfortunate Parker for 38 hits, including 11 doubles, four triples and three home runs in a 39-10 win over Parker's visiting Grand Rapids Rippers. Every one of the Blues collect at least two hits, while three players, Sam Nicholl, Ollie Beard, and pitcher Pete Daniels, have six safeties each. The "good" news for Parker is that only 19 of the 39 runs are earned as the Rippers commit 12 errors behind him.

"(The Blues) hit him at will yesterday, for singles, doubles, triples and home runs. It was a slugging match, the like of which had never before been seen in a professional game at Exposition Park, and while the Rustlers did some very sloppy fielding, there was world of free, sharp and hard hitting."  
-Kansas City Star

"It is quite evident a detailed report of the game would fill a book bigger than a summer novel."  
- Detroit Free Press

## June 21, 1901

Cincinnati Reds at Brooklyn Dodgers  
Washington Park, Brooklyn, New York

### OFFICIAL SCORE.

#### BROOKLYN VS. CINCINNATI

Game Played at Washington Park  
on Friday, June 21.

CINCINNATI.													
Name.	a.	b.	r.	lb.	t.	b.	s.	h.	s.	b.	p.	a.	e.
Dobbs, c. f.....	4	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0
Harley, l. f.....	4	1	3	3	0	1	2	1	0	2	1	0	0
Beckley, 1b.....	4	0	1	1	0	0	9	1	0	0	9	1	0
Crawford, r. f.....	3	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	3	0	0
Magoon, s. s.....	4	0	1	1	0	0	2	5	3	0	0	0	0
Steinfeldt, 2b.....	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	7	2	0	3	7	2
Irwin, 3b.....	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Peltz, c.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	0
Parker, p.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>5</b>				

BROOKLYN.													
Name.	a.	b.	r.	lb.	t.	b.	s.	h.	s.	b.	p.	a.	e.
Keeler, r. f.....	5	5	5	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dolan, r. f.....	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sheckard, l. f.....	5	3	3	4	0	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
Daly, 2b.....	5	2	2	2	0	1	5	2	0	0	2	0	0
Dahlen, s. s.....	6	3	4	6	0	2	2	2	0	0	2	2	0
McCreery, c. f.....	5	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
Farrell, 1b.....	6	3	3	3	0	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
Gatins, 3b.....	5	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
McGuire, c.....	4	2	3	4	0	1	4	0	1	4	0	1	0
Kennedy, p.....	5	2	3	3	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>				

Score by Innings.									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Cincinnati .....	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0-3
Brooklyn .....	1	1	4	1	7	1	6	0	-21

Earned runs—Cincinnati, 1; Brooklyn, 12.  
Home run—Keeler. Two base hits—Keeler, Sheckard, Dahlen (2), McGuire. First base on errors—Brooklyn, 3. Left on bases—Cincinnati, 4; Brooklyn, 7. Struck out—By Kennedy, 3. Bases on balls—By Kennedy, 2; by Parker, 2. Double plays—Parker, Steinfeldt and Beckley; Steinfeldt and Beckley; Daly and Farrell. Wild pitch—Parker. Time of game—1 hour and 48 minutes. Umpire—Mr. Dwyer. Attendance—1,900.

As for the other game, the headline says it all.

Would Not Be Called a  
Glittering Success

A month shy of seven years hence, Parker is responsible for one of the worst pitching performances in Major League Baseball history. In his first start of the season for the Cincinnati Reds, and the last appearance of his major league career, Parker gives up 21 runs on 26 hits and two walks in eight innings of work. The 26 hits are a post-1900 major league record, later tied by Detroit's Allan Travers in 1912, and the Philadelphia A's Hod Lisenbee in 1936.

The 21 runs and the 55 batters faced by Parker are both National League marks. The Dodgers' 26 safeties that afternoon include five doubles, a home run and 20 singles. Cincinnati manager John McPhee leaves Parker in for the entire game. By the eighth inning the Dodgers quit running the bases, as "they allowed themselves to be retired without attempting to run out the hits, which were fielded slowly and painfully by the tired and weary Cincinnati."

## "Doc" Parker [2 of 7]:

The following morning, McPhee, who would compile a 79-124 (.389) mark as the Reds' manager in less than two seasons, quickly releases Parker, ending his major league career at the age of 27.



Jay Parker.

According to his World War I draft registration card, Harley Park Parker is born on June 14, 1874, in Theresa, New York. His younger brother, Jay Parker had an extensive pro career, including a one-game stint with the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1899.

Both Parkers are standouts in the Chicago semipro ranks when a 19-year-old Harley catches the attention of Chicago Colts' manager Cap Anson and is signed to major league contract.

Making his major league debut against the Washington Senators on July 11, 1893, Parker allows three runs on five hits, one walk and a wild pitch in two innings of relief of starter Willie McGill in a 15-5 Colts' win.

The following year, pitching for Grand Rapids in the Western (A) League, he is 15-18 with a 6.23 ERA. In 278 2/3 innings, he yields 498 hits and 387 runs, of which 194 were unearned (50 percent). Several newspapers note that Parker has a pitching motion that will "incapacitate" him in the future.

In 1895, Parker has his best season in the major leagues, finishing 4-2 with Anson's Colts, with five complete games and a 3.68 ERA. His performance is such that Anson expresses high hopes for Parker the following season.



Harley "Doc" Parker  
1899 Minneapolis Millers

Unfortunately for Anson and the Colts, Parker stumbles out of the gate to a 1-5 record, with a 6.16 ERA that includes a 19-4 complete game loss to the New York Giants. Sent back to Grand Rapids in late June, the now officially-recognized medical doctor continues to have problems, winning only one of seven decisions. Transferred in-league on August 8 to the Minneapolis Millers, Parker turns his season (and maybe his career) around by going 11-2 and leading the Millers to the Western League title.

### PARKER MAY STAY AT HOME.

#### Baseball Pitcher Wants Half of the Money Paid for His Release.

Harley Parker, the baseball pitcher, may not be seen in professional ranks next season.

He demands a half of the \$200 recently paid to the Chicago club for his release. If his demand is not granted, Parker and his brother will organize a local team.

he receives half of the \$200, he will stay home and that he and his brother Jay will organize a local team. In addition, with the Western League adopting a much lower salary scale than the previous year, Comiskey sends him a contract calling for a monthly salary of \$175. Parker returns the contract unsigned and says that unless he receives more money he will not play.

And he didn't, at least for much of the next two seasons.

In June of 1897, Kansas City is in last place in the Western League with a 12-32 record when team president E.H. Manning trades pitcher Jack Barnett to St. Paul for a disgruntled Parker, who currently languishes on the team's reserve list. Parker says he will not pitch for Kansas City, "because of the climate."

Still property of the Colts, Parker is sold in the off-season to Charlie Comiskey's St. Paul's Saints for a reported \$200. Parker informs the Colts that unless

### Strike Among the Barnstormers

There was a strike yesterday among the Chicago players who have been "barnstorming" in the southern part of the State. The team got in on Thursday night from Danville, where it played that afternoon. Yesterday morning the men all reported to the Union Depot, being advertised to play at Joliet, but seven of the ten men refused to go. They claimed they had been unfairly treated in the division of receipts. J. Ryan, the manager of the expedition, tried hard to persuade the malcontents to go aboard the train, but they refused, unless they were given what they thought was a fair share of the money already made on the trip.

The strikers were Friend, Donahue, McCormick, Connor, Moran, Ball, and J. Parker. The only men who stood by Manager Ryan were Jimmy Ryan, Harley Parker, and Umpire Tindill. The latter boarded the train, and rode off in the direction of Joliet. But the Colts' barnstorming expedition of 1897 is dead.

## "Doc" Parker [3 of 7]:

On August 16, 1898, after being out of baseball for almost two years, Parker begins his road back to playing pro baseball when Kansas City loans him to the Minneapolis Millers, where he signs for a five-week salary of \$350. He goes 5-4 in the final month of the season and the Millers buy his release from Kansas City for \$500.

### TWO PITCHERS RELEASED.

#### Dr. Harley Parker and Jack Fifield No Longer With Minneapolis.

Pitchers Dr. Harley Parker and Jack Fifield are no longer members of the hard hitting Minneapolis ball team.

Fifield, the stocky little twirler secured from Philadelphia by Manager Wilmot, has pitched his last game for the Millers. Fifield may be able to pitch winning ball, but since joining the team his work has been far below the standard set by Menefee and Friend. This seeming indifferent work created a suspicion in the minds of the management that the little fellow was working for his release.

The climax came Sunday afternoon. For nine innings Wilmot watched the twirler renege on easy fielding chances and pitch commonplace ball, and as soon as the game was over he notified him he could return to Philadelphia. Fifield will probably leave for the East tonight or Tuesday.

With Doctor Parker it is different. The doctor-player was not released, but some time last week deliberately took French leave, and it is believed returned to his home in Chicago. His recent work on the slab was not satisfactory to Wilmot, and as he refused to concede to several requests made by the manager his regular turn was taken away from him. This led Parker to believe he was not receiving fair treatment, and Saturday he left the team.

In 1899, he is 12-9 with two shutouts when he leaves the team on August 12 for his home in Chicago. Disgruntled with some of his moundmates who "would only go on the slab when they felt like pitching," Parker - noted by the press as always a willing worker - is also frustrated after losing seven of his last nine decisions prompting his departure.

Harley Parker was disgusted with his support yesterday, and announced after the game that he had had enough and would return to Chicago last night. Parker evidently cooled off, for he was sitting round the hotel this morning, joking with the boys. It was discouraging, however, to lose his first game on account of miserable support.

Returning to Minneapolis in 1900, Parker is 12-15 in his last full season.

In parts of four major league seasons, Parker is 5-8 with 13 complete games in 14 starts and a 5.90 ERA. He has one shutout, a seven-hitter against the St. Louis Browns on September 20, 1895, and one save in 134 innings of work. In eight minor league campaigns, he is 69-76 with 126 complete games and five shutouts.

As a medical doctor he was a well-known nerve specialist, but other specialty fields over the years were also mentioned. He was also a highly-respected billiard competitor and instructor. Several newspaper accounts claim he trained two champions - Welker Cochran and Calvin Demarest.

In 1911, he became the principal owner of the Grand Rapids entry in the Central League, but facing financial problems, he turns the franchise back over to the league in June.

On July 18, 1911, Parker is named as a temporary umpire in the American League where officiates 28 games and is best known for throwing Philadelphia Athletics' pitcher Eddie Plank out of a game on August 19. He did not work as an umpire again after the 1911 season, opting to return to Chicago and begin his medical practice

and teach billiards.

Harley Park Parker passes away on March 3, 1941, in Chicago at the age of 68

## PARKER CHRONOLOGY

January 26, 1890

Harley Parker is on a list of 300 players who wish to play in the National League.

July 9, 1893

Pitching for the Rivals, a semipro team in Chicago, Parker allows only five hits and one earned run in an 8-3 win over the Whittings before "a large and noisy crowd" at North Park.

June 16, 1893

Back with the Rivals, Parker strikes out six and allows seven hits in an 8-3 win over the Lake Views.

March 22, 1894

Parker signs with the Western League's Grand Rapids Rippers.

September 7, 1894

Pitching for Grand Rapids, Parker allows 31 hits in a 29-10 loss to Sioux City in a game stopped after seven innings.

### Sioux City Cornhuskers at Grand Rapids Rippers September 7, 1894

#### SELLING HIS PLAYERS.

#### Manager Ellis Disposes of a Man and Loses a Game.

Harley Parker was pounded hard and often by the Sioux yesterday who hit him for forty-nine bases. The terrible slaughter evidently discouraged Manager Ellis and he began at once to sell his players. He traded off Henry Kilben, one of the best players in the club, for crazy "Bumpus" Jones who cannot pitch a ball my better than Watkins, Walters, Boorum or Walsh, all of whom were tried by Grand Rapids and found wanting. It is not known how much Ellis received to boot, but it is evident that Manager Watkins of the Sioux club gave him several bills of large denomination. The score of the game yesterday was as follows:

Sioux City..... 0 0 8 0 2 7 0-29  
Grand Rapids..... 1 3 0 1 5 0 0-10  
Earned runs - Grand Rapids, 2; Sioux City, 13. Two-  
base hits - Caruthers, Hoagiever, Marr, Camp, Stewart,  
McCauley. Three-base hits - Hoagiever, Genins, McCauley,  
Kraus. Home runs - Genins. Double plays - Stewart,  
O'Rourke and McCauley, Spies and Callagy. Stolen bases  
- Hoagiever 3, Sewart 2, McCauley, O'Rourke, Whelock.  
Bases on balls - Off Hart 7, Parker 3. Struck out - Hart 1,  
Parker 1. Pused balls - Spies 2, Kraus 4. Umpire - Mc-  
Donald. Time - Two hours

# Doc Parker

Year	Team	League	Level	W-L	Finish	Age	W-L	GP	GS	CG	SHO	INN	HITS	BB	SO	ERA	
1893	Chicago Colts	NATIONAL	MLB	56-71	9 of 12	19	0-0	1	0	0	0	2.0	5	1	0	13.50	
1894	Grand Rapids Rippers	Western	A	62-64	5 of 8	20	15-18	45	30	22	0	278.2	498	85	60	6.23	
<b>1895</b>	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>2 Leagues</b>	<b>A-B</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>11-12</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>--</b>	
	Grand Rapids Gold Bugs	Western	A	38-86	8 of 8	21	2-2	6	5	2	0	35	-	-	-	--	
	Jacksonville/Springfield	Western Assoc	B	34-59	[1]	21	9-10	19	19	17	0	-	-	-	-	--	
1895	Chicago Colts	NATIONAL	MLB	72-58	4 of 12	21	4-2	7	6	5	1	51.1	65	9	9	3.68	
1896	Chicago Colts	NATIONAL	MLB	71-57	5 of 12	22	1-5-1	9	7	7	0	73.0	100	27	15	6.16	
<b>1896</b>	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>Western</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12-8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>179.0</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>--</b>	
	Grand Rapids Yellow Jackets	Western	A	45-94	8 of 8	22	1-6	7	7	7	0	63.0	79	17	14	--	
	Minneapolis Millers	Western	A	89-47	+1 of 8	22	11-2	13	12	12	2	116.0	113	33	37	--	
1897	Dalys/Auburn Park	Chicago City	Amt	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
1898	Oak Park	Chicago City	Amt	-	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--	
1898	Minneapolis Millers	Western	A	-	-	24	5-4	11	11	9	0	85.0	71	17	28	--	
1899	Minneapolis Millers	Western	A	-	-	25	12-9	26	24	21	2	215.0	226	57	49	--	
1900	Minneapolis Millers	American	A	-	-	26	12-15	30	27	25	1	242.0	252	57	63	--	
1901	Louisville Colonels	Westdrn Assoc	A	-	-	27	1-3	4	4	4	0	35.0	36	9	10	--	
1901	Cincinnati Reds	NATIONAL	MLB	-	-	27	0-1	1	1	1	0	8.0	26	2	0	15.75	
1901	Buffalo Bisons	Eastern	A	-	-	27	1-7	8	8	7	0	69.0	76	18	18	--	
<b>Major League Totals</b>							<b>4 seasons</b>	<b>5-8</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>134.1</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>5.90</b>
<b>Minor League Totals</b>							<b>8 seasons</b>	<b>69-76</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>*1,138.1</b>	<b>*1,351</b>	<b>*293</b>	<b>*279</b>	<b>--</b>

\*Denotes incomplete total; +Denotes league champion; [1] Jacksonville moved to Springfield August 18; disbanded August 22

**ML Debut: July 11, 1893, at Westside Grounds, Chicago, Illinois:** relieved Willie McGill at the start of the eighth inning; allowed three runs on five hits, one walk and one strikeout in two innings in Chicago's 15-5 win over the Washington Senators.

**ML Finale: June 21, 1901, at Washington Park, Brooklyn, New York:** started on the mound for the Cincinnati Reds; pitched a complete game, allowing 21 runs, 14 earned, on 26 hits, two walks and one wild pitch in a 21-3 loss to the Brooklyn Dodgers.

## "Doc" Parker [4 of 7]:

August 20, 1895

Parker signs with the Chicago Colts ... he accuses Jacksonville President Kent of trickery in releasing him earlier ... he says he asked for his release on July 1 but did not leave the team until August 7 ... Parker claims that he just received a letter from Kent, dated August 15, suspending him and fining him \$500 ... but the postmark on the envelope is August 18, or three days after the team had disbanded and no longer had control over its players.

May 20, 1896

Pitches a complete game 20-hitter in a 19-4 loss to New York.

June 22, 1896

The Chicago Colts send Parker and Monte McFarland to Grand Rapids of the Western League.

June 24, 1896

Makes his first start for Grand Rapids, losing 8-5 to Indianapolis.

August 8, 1896

Transferred to Minneapolis

August 14, 1896

Parker shuts out St. Paul 12-0 on three hits.

October 1, 1896

Parker, on one day of rest, pitches seven inning in relief of Frank Figgemeier and picks up his 12th win of the year as Minneapolis beats Indianapolis 13-11 to win the Detroit Free Press Cup

December 1896

Parker hangs out his Doctor's Shingle.

## No-Hitter Unions at Auburn Chicago, Illinois September 19, 1897

Dr. Harley Parker administered a pill to the Unions which they could not swallow yesterday. It was made up of all kinds of curves and shoots, sandwiched in with fast and slow ones which they could not gauge. The heavy-hitting Unions did not get a single hit and a set of nine pills for all their exertion. Sixteen of the stalwart sons of Africa stood up and batted, but batted at what they did not know. The game was called by Umpire Tindill. The Unions got but one man away from first base, he was caught by a brilliant pick-up by Johnson. Fred Miller was in attendance at the game. The fielding of Jones, Smith, Johnson, and Cassabone, the batting of Johnson, and Parker's pitching were the features. The score:

Auburn	R	H	P	A	E	Unions	R	H	P	A	E
Banghart, cf	1	0	0	0	0	Buckner, p	0	0	0	1	0
Usher, rf	2	0	0	0	0	Reynolds, lb	0	0	1	0	1
Hornes, lb	1	2	8	0	0	Holland, ss	0	0	5	1	1
Beng, ss	0	2	0	1	0	Hopkins, 2b	0	0	5	3	0
Snail, 3b	1	1	0	2	0	Hyde, 3b	0	0	2	0	0
Parker, p	0	2	0	1	0	Jones, lf	0	0	3	0	0
Johnson, 2b	0	2	1	3	0	Smith, cf	0	0	3	0	0
Andrews, lf	0	2	0	0	0	Joyner, rf	0	0	3	1	0
Cassabone, c	0	1	1	1	0	Moore, rf	0	0	0	0	0
						Footes, c	0	0	7	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>

Auburn Parks.....0 0 3 0 1 0 0 1 0 0  
 Unions .....0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 Base on Balls—Auburns, 5; Unions, 3. Struck Out—Auburns, 3; Unions, 16. Time of Game—1:45. Umpire—Tindill.

## "Doc" Parker [5 of 7]:

February 15, 1897

Parker informs Chicago Colts that unless he receives a half of the \$200 recently paid to the club for his release, he will stay home and he and his brother Jay will organize a local team.

February 27, 1897

Due to that fact that only a couple of team made money during the 1896 season, the Western League adopted a much lower salary scale ... Parker's name with St. Paul indicated a monthly salary of \$175 per month ... Comiskey sends him a contract with that amount and Parker returns it unsigned stating that unless he received more money he will not play.

April 8, 1897

Parker and his brother Jay agree to play for the Dalys, Chicago's amateur championship team in 1896.

April 22, 1897

Parker debuts with the Dalys, losing a 10-7 decision to Rockford.

May 12, 1897

Several members of the Cincinnati team, including Heine Peitz and Eddie Burke, are visiting Parker for treatment of sore arms.

June 9, 1897

Kansas City is in last place in the Western League with a 12-32 record when team president Manning trades pitcher Jack Barnett to St. Paul for the disgruntled Harley Parker, who is currently on the team's reserve list.

October 24, 1897

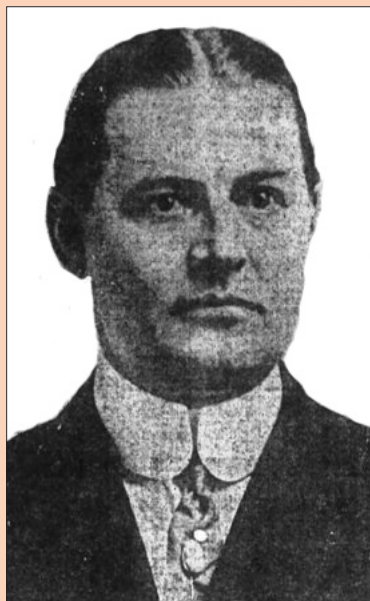
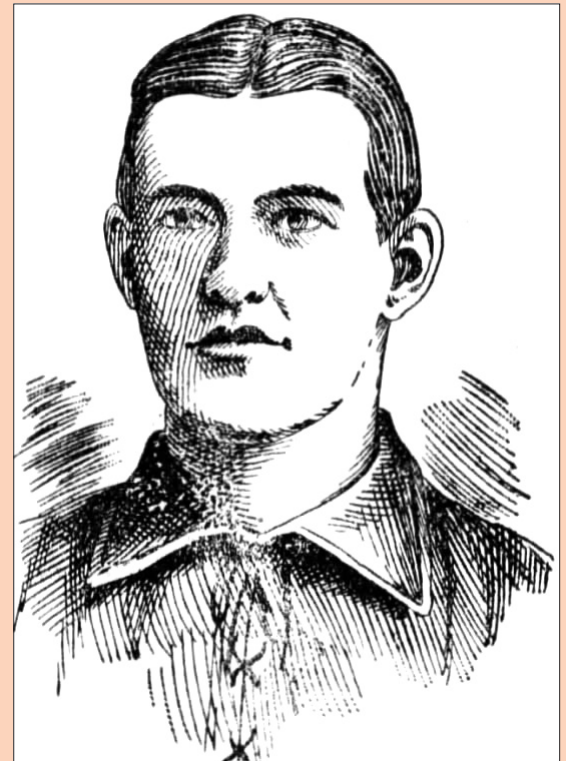
Kansas City places Dr. Harley Parker on their reserve list.

December 29, 1897

A defiant Harley Parker blames St. Paul manager Charles Comiskey for all recent troubles in the Western League and the circuit's salary limit ... he says he will not pitch for Kansas City, because of the climate, or St. Paul and he feels there are other ways for a ballplayer to earn his living besides selling himself to some magnate's league.

January 1898

Parker says that he will not play for Kansas City this coming spring and he intends on going to the Klondike in the spring to look for gold.



August 16, 1898

After sitting out for almost two years, Parker is loaned by Kansas City to the Minneapolis Millers, with whom he signs for a five-week salary of \$350.

December 13, 1898

Minneapolis buys Parker's release from Kansas City for \$500.

August 12, 1899

Parker leaves the Millers for his home in Chicago ... pitcher Daniel Friend had led a revolt of sorts among his Miller moundmates where several other "twirlers" would only go on the slab when they felt like working ... Parker, noted by the press as always a willing worker, grew frustrated after losing seven of nine decisions and left the team.

April 28, 1900

Minneapolis is 3-7 and in last place in the American League when Parker makes his first start for Wilmot's Millers against the Kansas City ... Parker strikes out three and allows only five singles in a 2-1 win in Lexington Park.

**"Doc" Parker [6 of 7]:**

May 10, 1900

Parker has a no-hitter after seven innings and finishes with a five-hitter in a 4-2 win over Buffalo.

May 18, 1900

Parker fails to strike out a batter, but allows only five hits and the Millers play their first errorless game of the season in a 16-0 win over Detroit.

February 7, 1901

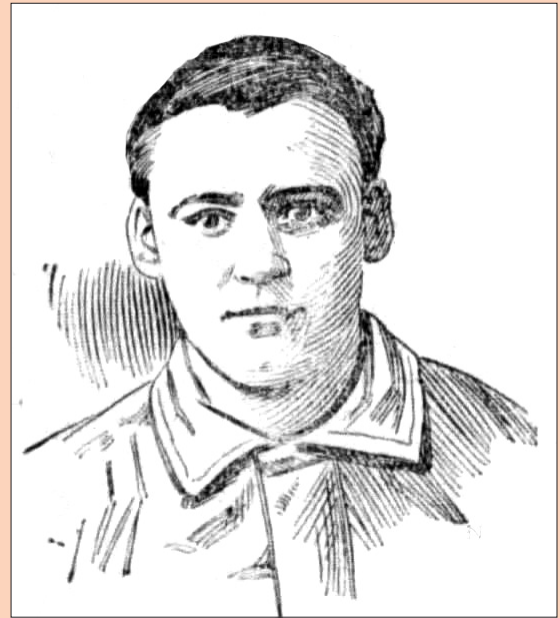
Parker signs his contract with the Minneapolis Millers.

April 10, 1901

The Boston Americans announce that they have signed pitcher Doc Parker.

April 15, 1901

The Boston Americans deny they have signed pitcher Doc Parker ... Parker says he might follow Wilmot, a close personal friend, to Louisville ... Parker later says that he didn't want to sign with Boston.



May 16, 1901

Parker says he has accepted terms with the Cleveland Americans ... Parker later changes his mind and signs with the Louisville Colonels.

June 3, 1901

Parker, 1-3 with the Colonels, is released.

June 13, 1901

Parker is said to have signed with the Cincinnati Reds.

June 21, 1901

In his final major league appearance he starts on the mound for the Cincinnati Reds; pitched a nine-inning complete game, allowing 21 runs, 14 earned, on 26 hits, two walks and one wild pitch in a 21-3 loss to the Brooklyn Dodgers.

June 22, 1901

Parker is released by the Cincinnati Reds ... it is first reported that Louisville has claimed him.

Dr. Harley Parker is back in Chicago and says that he is through with professional baseball. "I thought I was still fast enough," declared the M. D. to a Chicago writer Monday, "but Brooklyn made me look like 30 cents in bad money. I'm a sure-enough 'has been,' the worst of the bunch. I guess."

June 25, 1901

Parker returns to Chicago saying that he is through with professional baseball.

July 4, 1901

Returning to Chicago, Parker is pitching

for the Spaldings semipro team against Aurora when he is overcome by heat in the sixth inning and is carried off the field.

July 24, 1901

Parker signs with the Buffalo Bisons of the Eastern League.

September 3, 1901

Final game - with his shoulder swollen and his arm black and blue, Parker allows three runs in the bottom of the eighth inning and drops a 5-4 decision to Montreal.

September 12, 1901

Parker leaves the Buffalo Bisons on short notice saying his mother is ill.

**Final Professional Game**  
 Montreal Royals at Buffalo Bisons  
 Buffalo, New York  
 September 3, 1901

	A.	B.	R.	B.H.	P.O.	A.	E.
<b>BUFFALO.</b>	4	0	1	2	0	0	0
Gettman, c. f.....	4	0	1	1	3	0	1
Hayward, s. s.....	5	1	2	2	3	0	1
Halligan, 1. f.....	5	0	2	2	1	2	0
Clymer, 2b.....	4	1	2	2	1	2	0
Carey, 1b.....	5	0	0	13	0	0	1
Andrews, 3b.....	4	0	2	0	2	0	0
Parker, p.....	4	0	1	0	4	0	0
Speer, c.....	3	1	1	7	0	1	1
Hooker, r. f.....	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>37</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>MONTREAL</b>	<b>A.</b>	<b>B.</b>	<b>R.</b>	<b>B.H.</b>	<b>P.O.</b>	<b>A.</b>	<b>E.</b>
Raub, r. f.....	4	1	1	0	0	0	0
Sheehan, 3b.....	3	2	1	3	5	1	0
Delahanty, 1. f.....	3	1	2	1	0	0	1
Odwell, c. f. & 2b.....	4	1	2	4	3	1	1
Dooley, 1b.....	4	0	0	12	0	1	0
Johnson, 2b.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Joyce, c. f.....	3	0	0	4	1	0	0
Gordon, c.....	3	0	1	0	2	0	0
Quinlan, s. s.....	3	0	0	3	3	2	2
Felix, p.....	4	0	0	0	4	0	0
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>32</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>
Buffalo .....	1	0	0	1	1	0	1-4
Montreal .....	0	0	2	0	0	3	0-5
Earned runs, Buffalo 1, Montreal 2; left on bases, Buffalo 9, Montreal 5; first base on balls, by Parker 2, by Felix 2; struck out, by Parker 5; three-base hits, Delahanty, Clymer; two-base hits, Clymer, Andrews; sacrifice hits, Hooker, Quinlan; stolen bases, Hayward, Raub 2, Dooley; double plays, Quinlan to Dooley, Sheehan to Odwell to Dooley; hit by pitcher, by Parker 2, by Felix 1; passed balls, Speer; umpire, Kelley; time of game, 1:45; attendance, 500.							

## "Doc" Parker [7 of 7]:

September 13, 1904

Parker is playing for Oak Park, a semipro team in Chicago, when teammate and second baseman Albert Edward Johnson dies on the field after being hit in the chest while attempting to catch a line drive.

1905

The head baseball coach at Northwestern baseball, he guides the team to a 7-9 record.

November, 1910

Parker opens a "thirst parlor" in Chicago ... he is also in discussions to become an owner of the Grand Rapids baseball club ... in drawn-out discussion with team owner Bert Annis.

January 5, 1911

Parker becomes the owner of the Central League's Grand Rapids franchise ... the sale does not include any of the team's 14 reserved players, who with Parker's permission, revert to South Bend.

March 17, 1911

Parker sells a half interest of the Grand Rapids franchise to Monroe Durham a Grand Rapids attorney.

May 29, 1911

Unable to raise enough money to pay for a new stadium, Parker sells a portion of the Grand Rapids franchise to a local stock company ... Parker signs 18-year-old Grand Rapids product Wally Pipp, but releases him before the season starts.

June 20, 1911

Unable to make a profit, Parker gives up the team to local interests ... the players' payroll is missed and the finances are in such bad order it takes several weeks to remedy the situation ... it is opined one of the mistakes Parker made was relying too heavily on Chicago semipro players.

July 18, 1911

Parker is named as a temporary umpire in the American League.



September 18, 1920

Parker's 18-year-old daughter Rosemary and her boyfriend Thomas Seese elope to Evanston and are married by Justice John F. Boyer.

March 4, 1941

Parker passes away in Chicago at the age of 66.



March 4, 1922

### **FORMER PITCHER IS SUED BY WIFE; CRUELTY CHARGE**

Dr. Harley Parker, bone specialist with offices at 31 North State street was named as defendant in a suit for divorce filed in the Superior court yesterday by Attorney Edmond L. Mulcahy on behalf of Mrs. Rose Parker, 4731 Malden street.

In her bill, Mrs. Parker asserts that Dr. Parker who is known as an expert billiard player and former pitcher for the Chicago Cubs, is a habitual drunkard and charges that on many occasions since their marriage on January 10, 1899, he has beaten and kicked her.



DR. HARLEY PARKER.

### **HARLEY PARKER DIES; FORMER CUB PITCHER**

CHICAGO, March 4—(I.N.S.)—Old time baseball fans today mourned the death of Dr. Harley Parker, 66, once a pitcher for the Chicago Cubs and Cincinnati Reds. Dr. Parker, a nerve specialist, pitched for the Chicago team managed by Cap Anson, and later played with Cincinnati in the early 1900s. He also was a billiard teacher, and among his pupils was Welker Cochran, three-time winner of the three-cushion championship. Funeral services will be held Thursday.