

## Jerry McCormick

Jerry McCormick was signed in the fall of 1887 after playing with Toronto in 1887. He had previously played in the majors with Baltimore of the American Association in 1883, and then Philadelphia and Washington in the Union Association in 1884. McCormick started every pre-season game for the Whites in center field except for the last one of their trip in Dubuque (where he started at 3b, with Hines in center field). Prior to the game on opening day, he fell in the outfield during pre-game practice and wrenched his shoulder so badly that he was going to miss a month. The Globe Democrat reported on May 4 that he was released along with Pete Sommers. He signed with Easton in early June and had a successful season with them.

An article in the Sporting News on May 9 presents an expanded version of the story: *“McCormack, the Whites centre fielder, has been released. It was the intention of Manager Loftus to release Mac as soon as the club returned from its recent trip up North, and his name was omitted from the score card in last Saturday’s game. Mr. Loftus told him that he was not to play that afternoon, but McCormack put on his uniform and went onto the field to practice with the balance of the team. He was out in centre, and a long fly being knocked out there, he made the attempt to get it, and in doing so slipped and fell on his shoulder and slivered his shoulder blade. One of the best surgeons in the city was called in to attend to the man, and President Von der Ahe paid the doctor’s bill.”*

It seems odd that McCormick would start every pre-season game at a position as critical as center field, and then be released right as the season started. The Globe-Democrat lists him as starting in center field in the lineup published for the game on April 28, with Hines in right and Burch in left. That lineup also included Beckley, Nicholson, Herr and Alcott as the infield. Crooks ended up starting at third base, with Kenyon in center after the injury to McCormick. McCormick, one of the more experienced players signed in the off-season, never played in a regular season game. Whether he would have had he not gotten hurt is unknown.

### Spring stats for the Whites

Date	Opponent	Pos.	AB	R	BH	2B	3B	HR	SB	BB	K
3/25/1888	Browns	cf	4	0	0				0		
3/27/1888	Browns	cf	4	0	0				0		
3/28/1888	Browns	cf	4	1	1	1			0		
3/29/1888	Browns	cf	4	0	1				0		
4/1/1888	Prickly Ash	cf	4	1	2	1			0		
4/7/1888	Browns	cf	4	0	2				0		
4/8/1888	Browns	cf	4	1	1				0		
4/12/1888	Kansas City	cf	4	1	1						
4/15/1888	Browns	cf	4	1	0				0		
4/16/1888	Bloomington	cf	5	1	0				0		

4/17/1888	Bloomington	cf	4	1	0						
4/18/1888	Bloomington	cf	4	1	0						
4/19/1888	Peoria	cf	4	1	1						
4/20/1888	Peoria	cf	3	1	0						
4/21/1888	Davenport	cf	3	0	0			0			
4/22/1888	Davenport	cf	4	0	0			0			
4/23/1888	Rockford	cf	4	1	2						
4/24/1888	Rockford	cf	5	1	1			0			
4/25/1888	Dubuque	cf	4	0	0			0			
4/26/1888	Dubuque	3b	2	0	0			0			
<b>Totals (3 G)</b>			78	12	12	2	0	0	0	0	0

HBP: 1; recorded 32 putouts with 3 assists and 1 error

#### **JOHN M'CORMACK**

of the Western Association team, is 26 years of age and, for a young man, has seen some heavy work on the ball field. Four years ago he played infield positions well for the old Boston Unions, and three years ago he guarded third base for the Baltimores. Last season he did good work for the Toronto Club of the International League, and has won praise for his liveliness and quickness in general as a fielder. He has attracted some well-merited attention as a hitter. He will help to make up the infield of the White Stockings.

President Von der Ahe is rapidly adding to his already long list of new players. His agent in this city signed two contracts. One was with James McCormick, who played third base for Baltimore in 1884, and who was with the Toronto Club this season. McCormick is noted as a hard hitter and a brilliant fielder. McCormick is to receive \$1,500. The second contract was with Bart Cantz, one of the Newark Club catchers. Cantz is a good general player, a strong thrower to bases, and formerly caught for Knouten, who is now with the St. Louis Club. Cantz's contract calls for \$1,700, of which \$300 is in advance.

The Sun (New York NY), November 20, 1887

keep up their play, it will take pretty good ball to beat them in the race. In practicing before the game, McCormack fell and badly wrenched his shoulder. Kenyon was sent out to take his place, and distinguished himself by making a pretty drive to center for three bases. The Milwaukeees will improve

Globe Democrat game report April 29, 1888 for game May 28, 1888

—McCormack, the Whites outfielder, injured himself so badly Saturday before the game that he will not be able to play again for a month. Kenyon will cover centre field in his place. McCormack's shoulder-blade was badly wrenched.

St. Louis Republican, Monday, April 29, 1888

JAS. McCORMICK, the outfielder of the Whites, and Pete Somers, pitcher, were given their releases last evening. The Whites have now fifteen men under contract.

Globe Democrat May 4, 1888

McCormack, the Whites' centre fielder, has been released. It was the intention of Manager Loftus to release Mac as soon as the club returned from its recent trip up North, and his name was omitted from the score card in last Saturday's game. Mr. Loftus told him that he was not to play that afternoon, but McCormack put on his uniform and went onto the field to practice with the balance of the team. He was out in centre, and a long fly being knocked out there, he made the attempt to get it, and in doing so slipped and fell on his shoulder and slivered his shoulder blade. One of the best surgeons in the city was called in to attend the man, and President Von der Ahe paid the doctor's bill. Mac will be in condition to play ball in a short time, and he would make a fair man for one of the minor leagues.

The Sporting Life May 9, 1888

Jerry McCormick, of last season's Torontos, has been released by the St. Louis Whites. He broke his shoulder blade.

The Buffalo Commercial May 9, 1888

the Island by a score of 9 to 4.  
—McCormick who played with the Torontos last season have been released by the St. Louis Whites, on account of physical disability resulting from an accident.  
—Tiernan's batting is probably more

Democrat and Chronicle (Rochester NY) May 13, 1888

Cincinnati... 27 20 | Louisville ... 10 34

**Base Ball Notes.**

**McCormick** of St. Louis, has been signed by Easton.

A hundred fouls were struck in the Allentown-Binghamton game on Tuesday.



The Butte team is looked upon at home, at least, as being a strong one, and the players are all expected to give a good account of themselves before the season is over. J. E. McCormick, city ticket agent of the Northern Pacific, will manage the team and play short, and the club is most fortunate in having such an experienced man at the head of it. "Mac" gave up professional ball playing some time ago in order to follow his present calling, but when a team was organized here the old feeling came over him again, and he was induced to take charge of the team and devote as much of his spare time to it as possible. He has played in the eastern, interstate, Pacific and Dakota leagues, and has always finished the season with high honors. He has a fielding average away above the general run, and can cover every inch of ground between second and third base if necessary. He goes after everything and gets nearly everything he goes after. He is a quick and clever fielder and a lightning thrower. He is also a good hand with the stick and can knock out base hits as often as anybody.

Anaconda Standard May 14, 1892 - Not sure if this is Jerry McCormick