

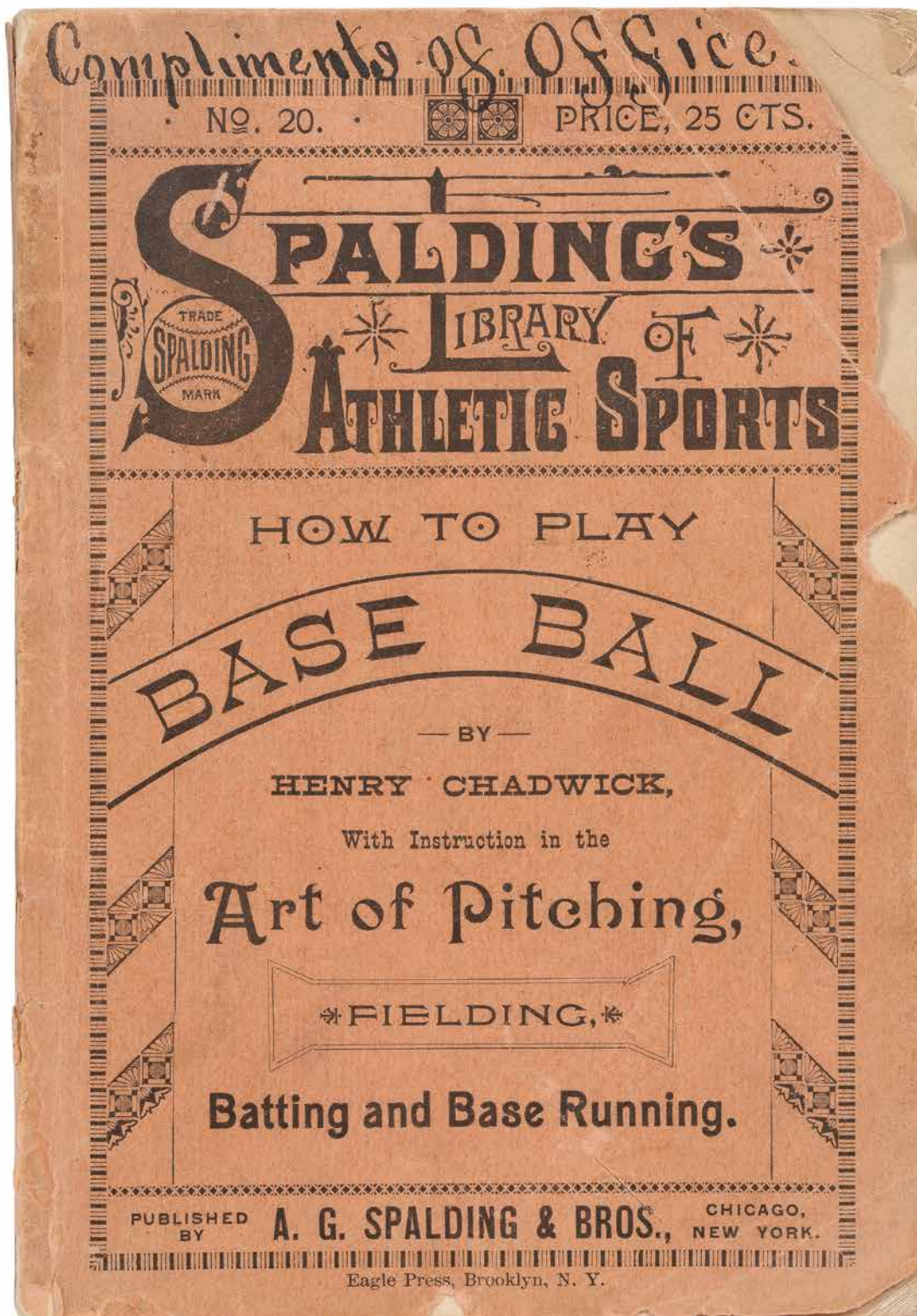
Inscribed to "Cap" Anson

Henry Chadwick; Adrian Constantine Anson

How to Play Base Ball

New York: A.G. Spalding & Bros. 1889

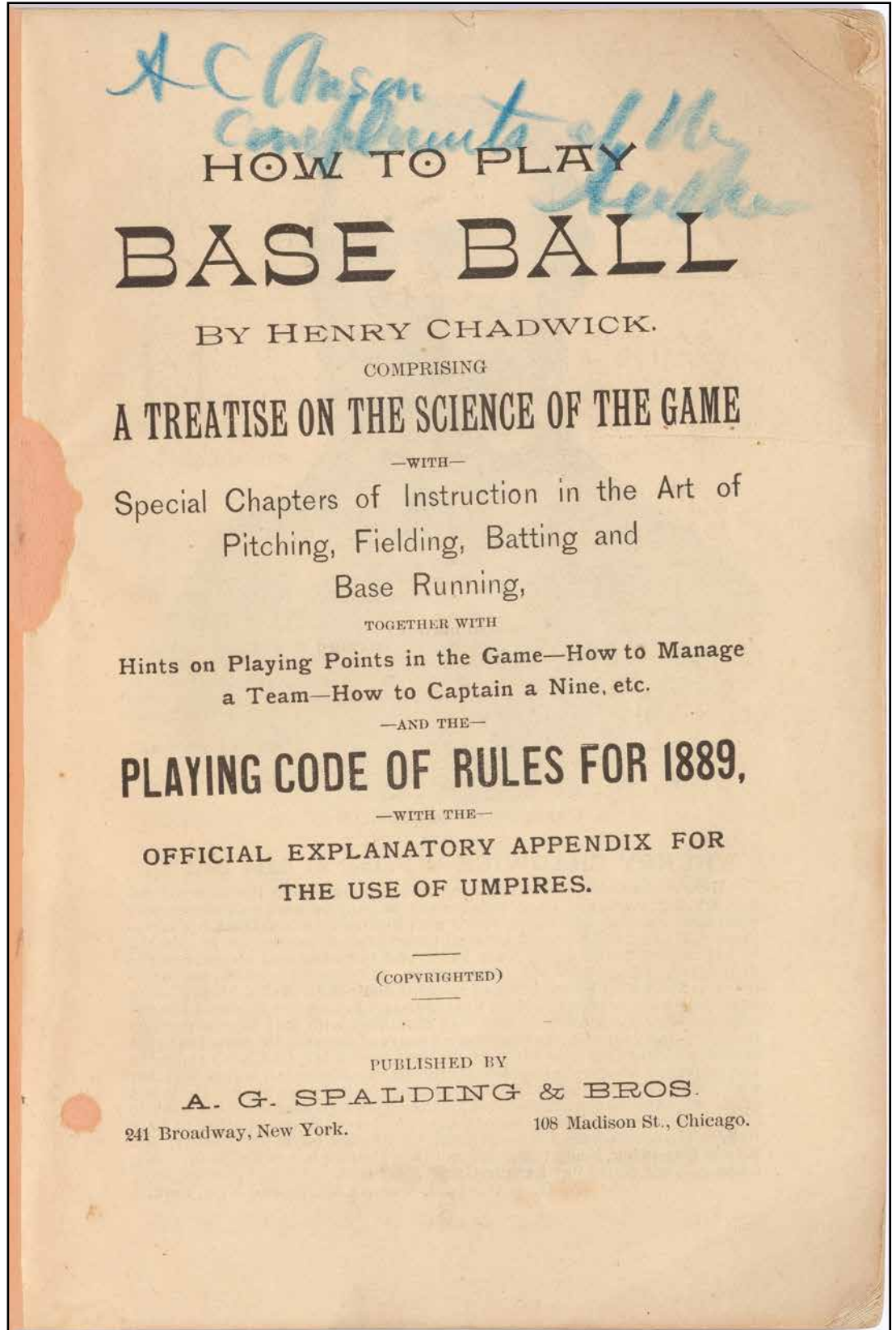
\$7500



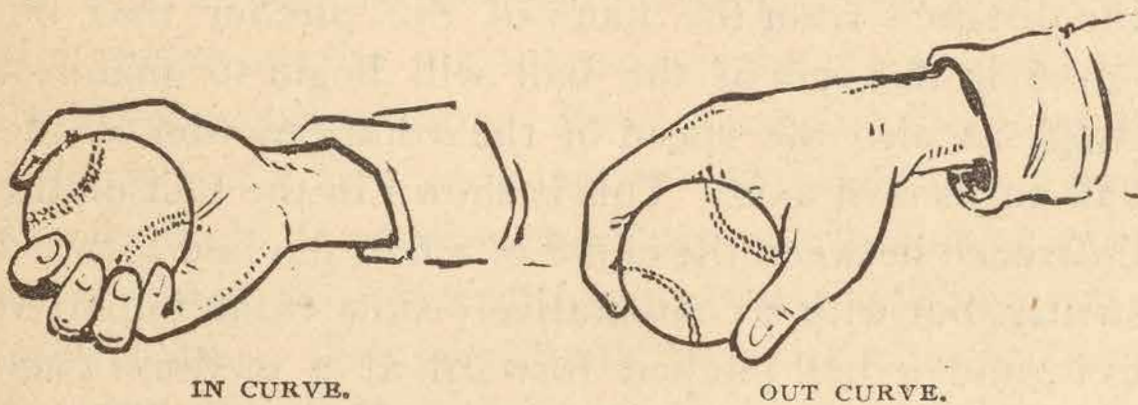
First edition. Spalding's Library of Athletic Sports, No. 20. 12mo. pp. [1-3] 4-192 [193-196 (ads)]. Four pages of publisher's ads at the back. In the original printed wrapper, with "Compliments of Office" written in ink on the front wrap, most likely by Chadwick. Inscribed by Chadwick on the title page: "A C Anson / Compliments of the Author." Modest dust soiling and rubbing, the front wrap is chipped at the upper right corner with a partially split diagonal crease, light stain to the back wrap and final two advertisement leaves, about very good.

A nice association copy inscribed to Adrian C. Anson, first baseman for the Chicago Cubs, then known as the "White Stockings," and considered one of the greatest players of the era. Anson led the team to six National League pennants in the 1880s, and was one of baseball's first great hitters.

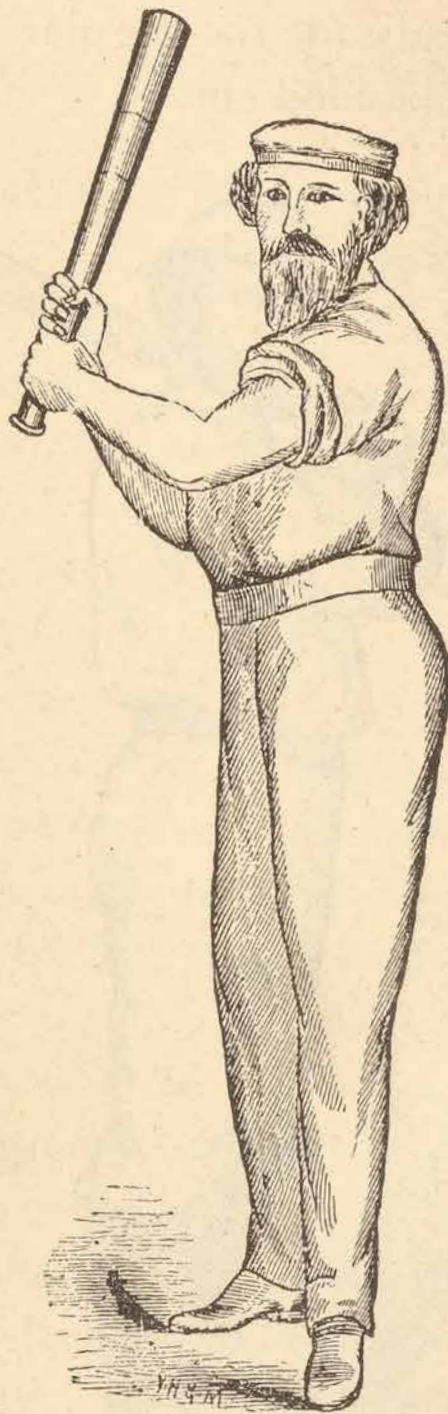
A scarce first edition of Chadwick's classic manual, with a great association. *OCLC* locates only two copies. [BTC#438408]



The methods of grasping the ball when about to curve it are shown in the appended cuts:



The effect of the bias given the ball in causing it to make a curve to the right or left, is governed by the speed of the delivery, as well as the rapidity of the rotary motion of the ball on its own axis. Thus, as the speed of the forward motion of the ball relaxes, the bias given it begins to take effect, and just as the rotary motion is rapid or moderate, so is the curve greater or lesser. The great point in curve pitching is to combine with the power of curving the ball that of controlling its direction so as to send it in over the home base, and within the legal radius as occasion requires. It is comparatively easy work to send a ball in fast, and at the same time to curve it to the right or the left; but the great point is at the same time to direct it over the home base. Whenever a pitcher possesses sufficient command of the ball to admit of his sending in a swift curved line ball just where he wants it to go, he becomes "a bad man" for any batsman to face, provided, of course, that with such command of the ball he also knows how to avail himself of skillful strategy in his pitching.

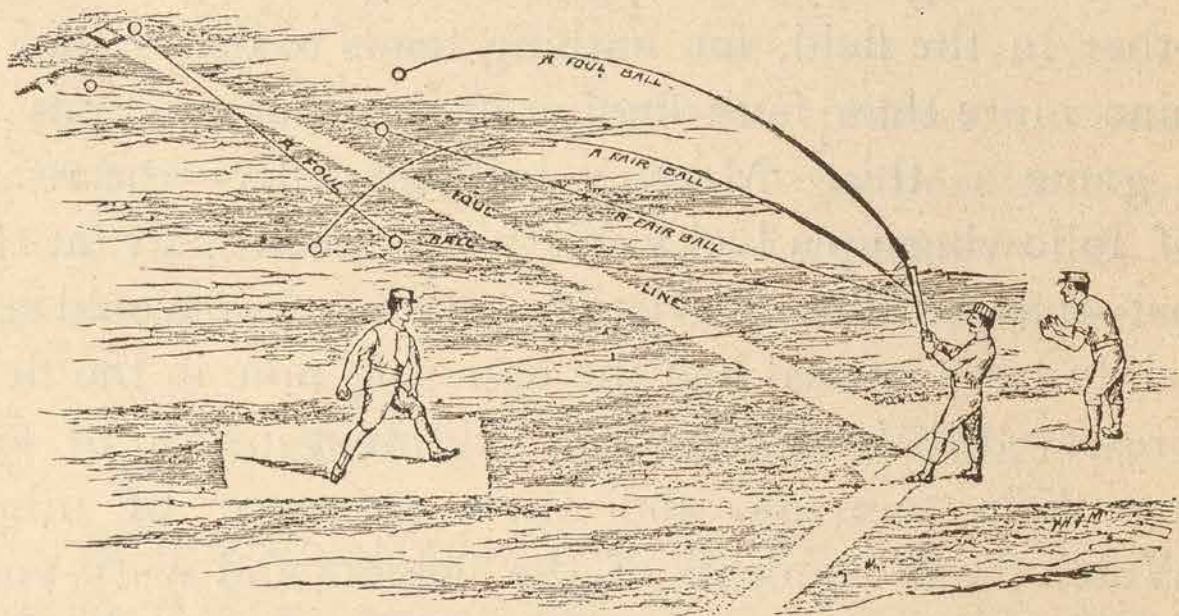


STANDING IN GOOD FORM.

possible. The correct position for a batsman is to stand well on his right foot, having his left foot touching the ground lightly, thereby making his right the pivot foot. By this means he will gain a body swing to give additional force to the swing of his arms in batting. In holding the bat he should keep it poised

FOUL AND FAIR BALLS.

The important difference between balls hit high from the bat and those hit almost directly to the ground, as applicable to the rule defining fair and foul hit balls, is frequently lost sight of, alike by players and spectators. If a ball be hit up in the air it becomes "fair" or "foul" according to its falling on "fair" or "foul" ground. But if it be *hit direct to the ground*, it becomes "fair" or "foul" according to its *final stoppage* on "fair" or "foul" ground before passing either first or third base. The appended diagram illustrates the difference above referred to.



Under the new rules a ball batted to the ground which touches or rolls over first or third bases is a *Fair* ball. To be *Foul* it must pass to foul ground before touching or passing over or by either first or third bases.

THE OFFICIAL
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ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR 1888.



NO. 1. SPALDING'S OFFICIAL LEAGUE BALL, To Clubs,
 as adopted by the National League for ten consecu- Each. Per Doz.
 tive years, including 1888; each ball wrapped in tin
 foil and put up in a separate box as represented in
 the above illustration, and sealed in accordance with
 the latest League regulations. Warranted to last
 a full game without ripping or losing its elasticity
 or shape. BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS; NONE
 genuine without trade mark on each box and ball.. \$1 50 \$15 00

If you cannot obtain this ball from your local dealer, send \$1.50 to us, and
 we will send it to you prepaid.

CHICAGO. A. G. SPALDING & BROS. NEW YORK.