

played, though on a poor field. Being very much interested in athletic sports, he subsequently expressed his readiness to provide for the purchase and preparation of a suitable athletic field for University sports. The sum given by him for this purpose amounted to twenty-five hundred dollars. With this money, the twelve and one-half acres now known as McCook Field was purchased from ex-Governor Robinson, and the northwest corner was graded, sub-drained and fenced, and the grand-stand was built. The generosity of Governor Robinson also should be recognized in this transaction, as he accepted in payment for the tract a sum--twelve hundred dollars--equal to about half its real value. A resolution of the Board of Regents of October 16, 1891, thanks ex-Governor Robinson for his 'gift of six acres of ground to be used as athletic grounds'."

One more quotation in this line will surely be enough. This is from the December issue of the Oread Magazine, of 1919, Tradition Number.

"McCook Field was added to the campus in the early nineties. It was the gift of John J. McCook of New York City who was asked to deliver a commencement address at K. U., about 1890. He was given an honorary degree at the time and likewise witnessed a game of baseball, played under the umpirage of Professor M. W. Sterling. That same night the announcement was made that McCook had given \$1500 to be used for an athletic field. Later he contributed \$1,000 to complete the fund found to be necessary. There is still some doubt as to whether it was the degree or the game that won the field. McCook said he was highly pleased with the athletic spirit of K. U.; no one recalls exactly what he said about the degree."

Now, Dr. Allen, I have positively no recollection of having umpired a baseball game during this period, and I now enter an absolute disclaimer of any intent on my part to manage the "umpirage" of the game in question in such a way as to loosen the purse strings of Colonel McCook.